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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Keith MacAdam Endowment Established for Kentucky Nature Preserves

Funds will benefit trails on Kentucky State Nature Preserves

FRANKFORT, Ky. (March 15, 2018) - The family of the late Keith MacAdam and the Kentucky State Nature Preserves Commission (KSNP) are pleased to announce the establishment of the "Keith MacAdam Endowment for the Kentucky Nature Preserves" in his memory through the Blue Grass Community Foundation.

The \$250,000 endowment fund will generate \$10,000 each year exclusively for the management of trails on State Nature Preserves. The KSNP system includes over 60 nature preserves throughout the state, from the 3000-acre Blanton Forest

State Nature Preserve in Harlan County, the Commonwealth's largest old-growth forest, to the 40-acre Logan County Glades State Nature Preserve in Russellville.

KSNP is involved with another 80 natural areas through its management of the Kentucky Heritage Land Conservation Fund program. There are over 100 miles of hiking trails in the system for passive recreation, such as birding and photography.

"It is very gratifying to know that there are people like the MacAdams who both appreciate Kentucky's natural beauty and also give back to their community," said Zeb Weese, Director of Kentucky Nature Preserves. "Many folks don't realize the effort required to keep hiking trails safe and accessible, from repairing erosion damage to removing safety hazards. We largely depend on volunteers to help us maintain trails on many areas, from Boy Scouts to church groups. This funding will help us to better coordinate this work and to buy materials to repair stairs and other infrastructure."

Mr. MacAdam, who held a Doctorate in Physics from Harvard University, was retired from the University of Kentucky Department of Physics and Astronomy, where he taught, conducted research in atomic and molecular physics and helped create an astronomical observatory for UK students and the public. His family describes him as a man who loved hiking and taking photographs of the natural environment.

To donate to the Keith MacAdam Endowment for the Kentucky Nature Preserves, please go to <https://www.bgcf.org/donate-now>. Information on the nature preserves, including trail maps and directions, may be found at <http://naturepreserves.ky.gov>.

Go to <http://heritageland.ky.gov> to learn about KSNP's other natural areas, funded through the Kentucky Heritage Land Conservation Fund and the sale of nature license plates.

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