



ENVIRONMENTAL AND PUBLIC PROTECTION CABINET

Ernie Fletcher
Governor

Capital Plaza Tower
500 Mero Street, 5th Floor
Frankfort, Kentucky 40601
Phone: (502) 564-5525
Fax: (502) 564-3354
www.environment.ky.gov

LaJuana S. Wilcher
Secretary

NEWS RELEASE

Contact: Leslie Isaman
(502) 573-2886

PADUCAH MAN RECEIVES VOLUNTEER STEWARD AWARD FOR WORK AS MONITOR OF PURCHASE AREA NATURE PRESERVES

Award presented annually by Kentucky State Nature Preserves Commission

FRANKFORT, Ky. (Dec. 13, 2005) – Robert Dunlap, an amateur naturalist who monitors three state nature preserves in the Jackson Purchase of western Kentucky, has received the 2005 Volunteer Steward Award presented by the Kentucky State Nature Preserves Commission (KSNPC).

Dunlap, of Paducah, began volunteering for the commission in 1998 as preserve monitor for Metropolis Lake State Nature Preserve in McCracken County. He also has assisted in monitoring conditions at Axe Lake Swamp State Nature Preserve in Ballard County and Three Ponds State Nature Preserve in Hickman County. Dunlap's dedication and service have been of great benefit at all three natural areas.

As a naturalist, Dunlap has identified previously unknown native plants, flowers, land snails and fresh water mussels at the three preserves.

KSNPC's mission is to protect Kentucky's natural heritage by: (1) identifying, acquiring and managing natural areas that represent the best-known occurrences of rare, native species, natural communities and significant natural features in a statewide nature preserve system; (2) working with others to protect biological diversity; and (3) educating Kentuckians as to the value and purpose of nature preserves and biodiversity conservation. The commission inventories Kentucky for significant natural areas and protects the best examples in a state nature preserve system.

Information can be obtained by mail (KSNPC, 801 Schenkel Lane, Frankfort, Ky. 40601-1403), telephone (502-573-2886) or Internet (www.naturepreserves.ky.gov).

-30-