

**Roane-Jackson
Wetland Construction Workshop
March 28 and 29, 2012
LeRoy, West Virginia**



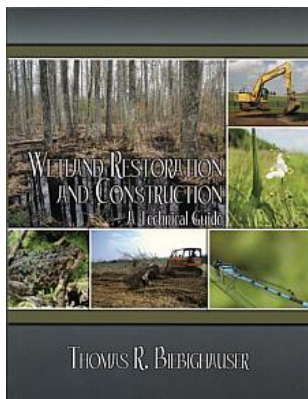
This wetland was built for the Roane-Jackson Workshop in 2009

Hosted by: Roane-Jackson Technical Center, International Union of Operating Engineers Local 132, Center for Wetlands and Stream Restoration, Sheltowee Environmental Education Coalition, PARC (Partners in Reptiles and Amphibian Conservation), Bat Conservation International, Waste Management, Inc., WV Division of Natural Resources, WV Forestry Association.

About the Workshop: Isolated wetlands provide vital habitat to many species of amphibians, reptiles, birds, and mammals. Unfortunately, a majority of these ecosystems have been lost due to draining and filling throughout North America. These landscape modifications are now affecting recovery efforts for endangered species, reducing water quality, increasing flooding, and reducing ground water supplies. Fortunately, it's now possible to construct isolated wetlands that look and function similar to natural wetlands, with desired hydro-periods, aquatic vegetation, and animal life.

This hands-on workshop is designed for individuals interested in learning how to use practical, low cost techniques for restoring and building wetlands for wildlife. Participants will see how wetland projects can be planned in forested and open areas, on private and public land, and even on school grounds to benefit plants, animals, and people. Attendees will discover how to select the locations for building wetlands, test soil ground water and soil texture, choose appropriate construction techniques, work with heavy equipment operators, and establish native plants. A large excavator will be used to build an ephemeral wetland (vernal pond), from soils that are high in clay, and to modify an existing pond with a high dam into a wetland.

Who Should Attend: Biologists, consultants, engineers, foresters, educators, energy producers, developers, planners, landscape architects, private land owners, and NGOs.



Cost: \$100.00. Includes a bag lunch and beverage on March 28 and 29, hand-out materials, and a signed copy of the book **Wetland Restoration and Construction - A Technical Guide** by Thomas R. Biebighauser.

Location: The Roane-Jackson Technical Center, approximately 10-miles East of Ripley on Route 33 or 12-miles West of Spencer on Route 33. We plan to meet at the Forestry Building, located at the East, not gated entrance to the Roane-Jackson Technical Center.

Instructors: **Tom Biebighauser** has restored over 1,400 wetlands in 18-States and 2-Canadian Provinces. He teaches practical, hands-on wetland restoration workshops across North America where participants learn about restoration and drainage by becoming involved in the design and construction of naturally appearing and functioning wetlands. Tom has developed highly successful and inexpensive techniques for restoring and repairing wetlands on mined lands, steep slopes, mountain ridges, large valleys, timber sale areas, and at schools. He's written three books about restoring wetlands **A Guide to Creating Vernal Ponds in 2003**, **Wetland Drainage, Restoration, and Repair in 2007**, and **Wetland Restoration and Construction Technical Guide**, that was just released. You can view some of the wetlands he has restored by visiting:
www.wetlandsandstreamrestoration.org

John Fichtner is a Forestry instructor at the Roane-Jackson Technical Center. He has taken the lead in building eight wetlands on a mountain ridge near the school. John has taught hundreds of students about the many benefits of wetlands and their role in sustainable forest management.

George Thaxton teaches students how to use and maintain various types of heavy equipment for the International Union of Operating Engineers. He will be operating the large excavator needed for wetland construction.

Transportation Request: If you plan on driving a 4WD vehicle we would like to ask for your help transporting participants up the mountain on a dirt road to the worksite. However, if it's wet please be prepared to walk to avoid damaging the road.

Lodging is available in Ripley

- Holiday Inn Express 304-372-4444
- McCoys Inn 304-372-9122
- Quality Inn 304-372-5000
- Super 8 304-372-8880

Questions? Contact John Fichtner at (304) 372-7335 ext. 38, or email Tom Biebighauser: tombiebighauser@gmail.com

What to bring: Rubber boots; warm clothes, work gloves, a rain-suit, and hard hat if you have one (we'll have plenty of extras). Please also bring waders and a net if you have them (these are optional). You will be working outdoors in the forest, away from a restroom.

Registration Limited: Registration will close when 30 have signed up for the class. Once paid, your registration fee cannot be refunded. Please find a substitute if you are unable to

attend. We are sorry, but no scholarships are available. The Sheltolee Environmental Education Coalition (SEEC), a nonprofit, 501(c)3 organization is collecting the registration fees.

Registration: To pay by check, please complete the registration form and include a check for \$100.00, made payable to SEEC. To pay by credit card please visit <http://wetlandworkshop.eventbrite.com> . Do not mail this form if you pay by credit card. Your payment must be received in advance for you to attend. We will send you a receipt for your records, and your check will be returned if the workshop has filled.

Please see the Agenda on the next page



Restored wetland in Bath County,
Kentucky

Wetland restored in Randolph
County, West Virginia



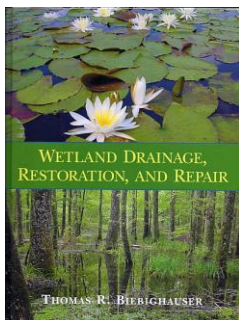
AGENDA

Roane Jackson Wetland Construction Workshop
Roane-Jackson Technical Center
9450 Spencer Road
LeRoy, West Virginia 25252

Wednesday, March 28, 2012

We plan to examine a variety of constructed wetlands for plant and animal life, and then design wetland projects in the field.

- 8:30 am Registration opens at Forestry Building, Roane-Jackson Technical Center
- 9:00 am Restoring Wetlands in Fields, Forests, and Urban Areas. Presentation by Tom Biebighauser
- 10:00 am Investigation of wetlands constructed in a large forested area at the Roane-Jackson Technical School that includes sampling of aquatic vertebrates and invertebrates.
- 12:00 pm Lunch provided in the field
- 12:30 pm Exercise involving the use of simple soil sampling tools and a construction level to design wetland restoration and construction projects. One site we design will be constructed on Thursday.
- 3:30 pm Soil texture and groundwater wetland construction techniques exercise
- 5:00 pm Supper, on your own
- 7:30 pm *How They Pulled the Plug*, a presentation on wetland drainage by Tom Biebighauser, Roane-Jackson Forestry Building



Note: Tom Biebighauser will have signed copies of his book **Wetland Drainage, Restoration, and Repair** for sale at the author's discounted price of only \$39.00/copy, cash or check please. This volume contains amazingly detailed stories of how our wetlands were drained, and how people are working to bring them back.

Thursday, March 29, 2012

We plan on establishing a naturally appearing ephemeral wetland on a mountain ridge overlooking the Roane-Jackson Technical Center from soils high in clay. The wetland will be designed to provide habitat for wood frogs, spotted salamanders, American toads, Eastern box turtles, and wood ducks. We also plan on using an excavator to transform a pond with a steep and high dam into a wetland.

- 8:00 am Meet at the Roane-Jackson Technical Center Forestry Building, carpool to the worksite in 4WD vehicles
- 8:30 am Prepare for wetland construction
- Safety discussion
 - Pre-work conference with the dozer operator for discussing the construction of the wetland
- 8:45 am Building a new ephemeral wetland
- Tree and shrub removal
 - Topsoil removal
 - Groundwater dam/core construction
- 12:00 pm Lunch provided in the field
- 12:30 pm Wetland construction continues
- Natural dam construction, slope considerations
 - Spillway construction
 - Spreading topsoil
 - Large and small woody debris placement for herps, birds, and invertebrates, and for controlling motor vehicles
 - Controlling erosion with wheat and straw
 - Planting native species
- 1:30 pm Transforming a pond into a wetland
- Lowering the dam
 - Creating gradual slopes
 - Creating pit and mound topography
 - Improving the spillway
 - Adding large woody debris
 - Planting native species
- 4:00 pm Adjourn
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**Roane-Jackson Wetland Construction Workshop
Registration Form** (Use when paying by check)

Name: _____

Organization: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

I plan on bringing a 4WD SUV and am willing to transport participants to the worksite
Yes _____

Mail this form with check made payable to *SEEC* to:

Tom Biebighauser
Sheltoewe Environmental Education Coalition
3415 Sugar Loaf Mountain Road
Morehead, KY 40351

606-356-4569

tombiebighauser@gmail.com

Please do not mail this form or a check if you pay Eventbrite by using a credit card

Space is limited to the first 30 who register, so don't miss out! Registration fees are nonrefundable. You may find someone to replace you if you are unable to attend.
