

**A REAFFIRMATION OF THE  
TENNESSEE DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT AND CONSERVATION  
NATURAL AREA REGISTRATION AGREEMENT  
TO PROTECT OAK RIDGE BARRENS**

This agreement is between the Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation, hereafter referred to as the Department, Tennessee Citizens for Wilderness Planning (TCWP), and the City of Oak Ridge, Tennessee. The parties desire to reaffirm their commitment to the Oak Ridge Barrens Natural Area to commemorate the Fifteenth Anniversary of the signing of original agreement in 1988.

It is mutually understood that the purpose of this agreement is to continue to protect as a registered state natural area, a cedar barrens of approximately 5.76 acres located on City-owned Greenbelt west of Jefferson Middle School in the City of Oak Ridge, Anderson County, Tennessee.

This agreement is designed to aid the Department in its efforts to protect and conserve the scenic, natural, and aesthetic values of the land described on the attached map as authorized by the Tennessee Natural Preservation Act of 1971 (TCA 11-14-112).

Oak Ridge Barrens is an area of grassy clearings interspersed with groves of cedar trees, occupying approximately 5.76 acres, referred to as parcel 585.03 in the City of Oak Ridge (see attached map). The thin cherty soil overlying a limestone outcrop supports a variety of cedar barren- and cedar glade-related grasses and herbs, including the prairie goldenrod, which is known from only three other locations in the state. The site has been degraded somewhat by off-road vehicles and dumping of trash, but still possesses the flora and visual appearance of a cedar barren.

The Department, TCWP, and the City of Oak Ridge understand that this agreement involves no change of title or transfer of ownership rights. Violation of this agreement carries no penalty.

The Department agrees to arrange for or provide technical management assistance to TCWP or any other cooperator with the City of Oak Ridge that is involved in the management of this area, and to any agency of the City of Oak Ridge that requests assistance related to this area. The Department will also provide informational signs and other management-related materials as funds are available.

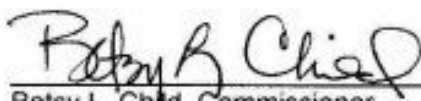
The TCWP agrees to manage the described land in a manner which will perpetuate or enhance the cedar barren conditions that currently provide a favorable environment for the rare and/or significant plants that occur there. The City of Oak Ridge will cooperate with TCWP in maintaining the described land in a manner commensurate with the level of management of other green belt areas. Dumping, off-road vehicles use, and the encroachment of non-native plant species are the primary threats to the integrity of this area.

TCWP agrees to keep the City of Oak Ridge informed of its management activities and to submit any plans for significant activities, such as trail development, for the review and approval of the City Manager or his/her designee.

The parties make no representations as to the condition of the described land or to the risk of injury to any person going to the area. The designation of this land as City of Oak Ridge Greenbelt allows free access to this land by any private citizen or representative of the parties to this agreement.

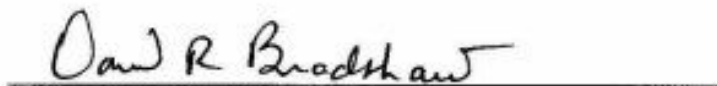
It is understood that this agreement will remain in effect as long as the affected land remains under present ownership, and may be modified at any time by agreement between the Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation, the City of Oak Ridge, and Tennessee Citizens for Wilderness Planning. This agreement may be canceled by any of the parties alone, giving thirty (30) days notice to the others.

TENNESSEE DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT AND CONSERVATION

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Betsy L. Child, Commissioner

5/2/03  
Date

CITY OF OAK RIDGE, TENNESSEE

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
David R. Bradshaw, Mayor

5/2/03  
Date

TENNESSEE CITIZENS FOR WILDERNESS PLANNING

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Cynthia M. Kendrick, President

5/2/03  
Date

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, in 1988 the City of Oak Ridge (the City), the Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation's (TDEC) Division of Natural Heritage, and the Tennessee Citizens for Wilderness Planning (TCWP) entered into an agreement titled *Tennessee Department of Conservation Natural Area Registration Agreement to Protect Oak Ridge Barrens* (the Agreement); and

WHEREAS, the Oak Ridge Barrens is a natural area comprised of Parcel 585.03, approximately 5.76 acres, located within the Oak Ridge city limits; and

WHEREAS, in January 2003, the TCWP issued a document titled *Oak Ridge Barrens Natural Area: History, Significance, and Management* that describes the natural area's history, educational, and scientific value, and the steps necessary to enhance the ecological integrity and continued protection of the area; and

WHEREAS, the City's Environmental Quality Advisory Board and TCWP recommend a reaffirmation of the Agreement by the signatories in order to commemorate the Fifteenth Anniversary of the date the Agreement was signed; and

WHEREAS, TDEC and TCWP are desirous of continuing the cooperative Agreement; and

WHEREAS, the cooperative Agreement has been beneficial to City residents and visitors to the community; and

WHEREAS, the City Manager recommends continuation and reaffirmation of the Agreement.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MAYOR AND COUNCILMEN OF THE CITY OF OAK RIDGE, TENNESSEE:

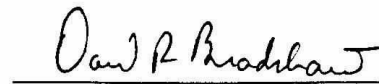
That the recommendation of the City Manager is approved and the City of Oak Ridge reaffirms its commitment to the *Tennessee Department of Conservation Natural Area Registration Agreement to Protect Oak Ridge Barrens* in honor of the Fifteenth Anniversary of the signing of the Agreement.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the City of Oak Ridge commends the Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation's Division of Natural Heritage, the Tennessee Citizens for Wilderness Planning, and the City staff for their roles in preserving and maintaining the Oak Ridge Barrens as a natural resource area for the community.

This the 7th day of April 2003.

APPROVED AS TO FORM AND LEGALITY:

  
City Attorney

  
Mayor

  
City Clerk





FIGURE 1