

**PHOTOS FROM GAINESWAY GREENWAY 2010-2012
and adjacent areas of the Gainesway Neighborhood
(Lexington-Fayette County, Kentucky, U.S.A.)**

by

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posted at bluegrasswoodland.com



Baptist Temple on Armstrong Mill Rd by bridge over W Fk of Hickman Creek; 2010 Apr 28.



Flooded West Fork of Hickman Creek, below bridge on Armstrong Mill Road; 2010 May 02.



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Sunny day, mowed grass, dogwood blooming—all is well on Willowood; 2010 Apr 25.



Native grapevine consuming alien honeysuckle! Behind Greentree Road, 2012 Oct 05.



Roughleaf dogwood and Miami mist planted at entrance to Winding Drive, 2010 Apr 29.



Miami-mist under edge of roughleaf dogwoods, a successful native planting; 2010 Apr 29.



Roughleaf dogwood in fruit (blue berries are less common); 2012 Aug 26.



Old spillway-dam, upstream of public greenway on Willowood Rd; 2010 Apr 23.



Eroding bank below dam, just upstream of public greenway; 2010 Apr 23.



Elizabeth Bullock, with CDP Engineers; in creek below dam, 2011 Jul 14.



Sycamore that fell into creek after storm, finally removed thanks to LFUCG; 2011 Jul 14.



Dammed pool between Willowood Rd and Armstrong Mill Rd; 2010 Apr 10.



High flood stage over old dam, between Willowood Rd and Armstrong Mill Rd; 2010 May 02!



Flooded shed at edge of garden next to public greenway; 2010 May 02.



High water over dam, looking up to Armstrong Mill Rd; 2010 May 02.



Family of ducks, 2010 May 20.



Growing boys and girls make mama proud—and snapping turtles hungry; 2010 May 20.



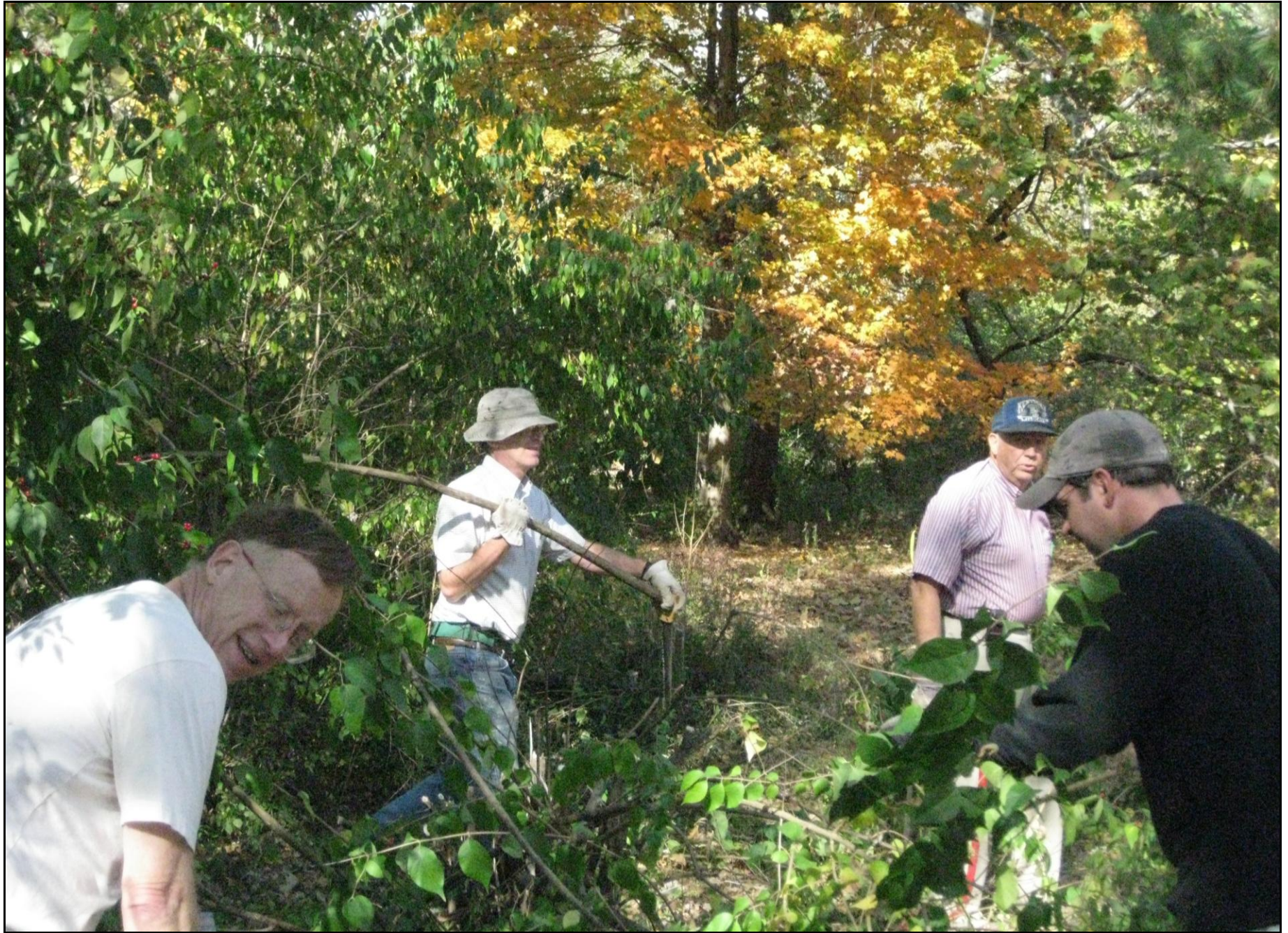
Diana Rast, neighborhood president, with volunteers removing honeysuckle; 2010 Oct 23.



Fallen leaves of sugar maples, possible remnants from the original woodland; 2010 Oct 23.



Idyllic autumnal scene, hard work, and community togetherness; 2010 Oct 23.



Pausing for a break, or listening to a bad joke? Doug Rigsby at left; 2010 Oct 23.



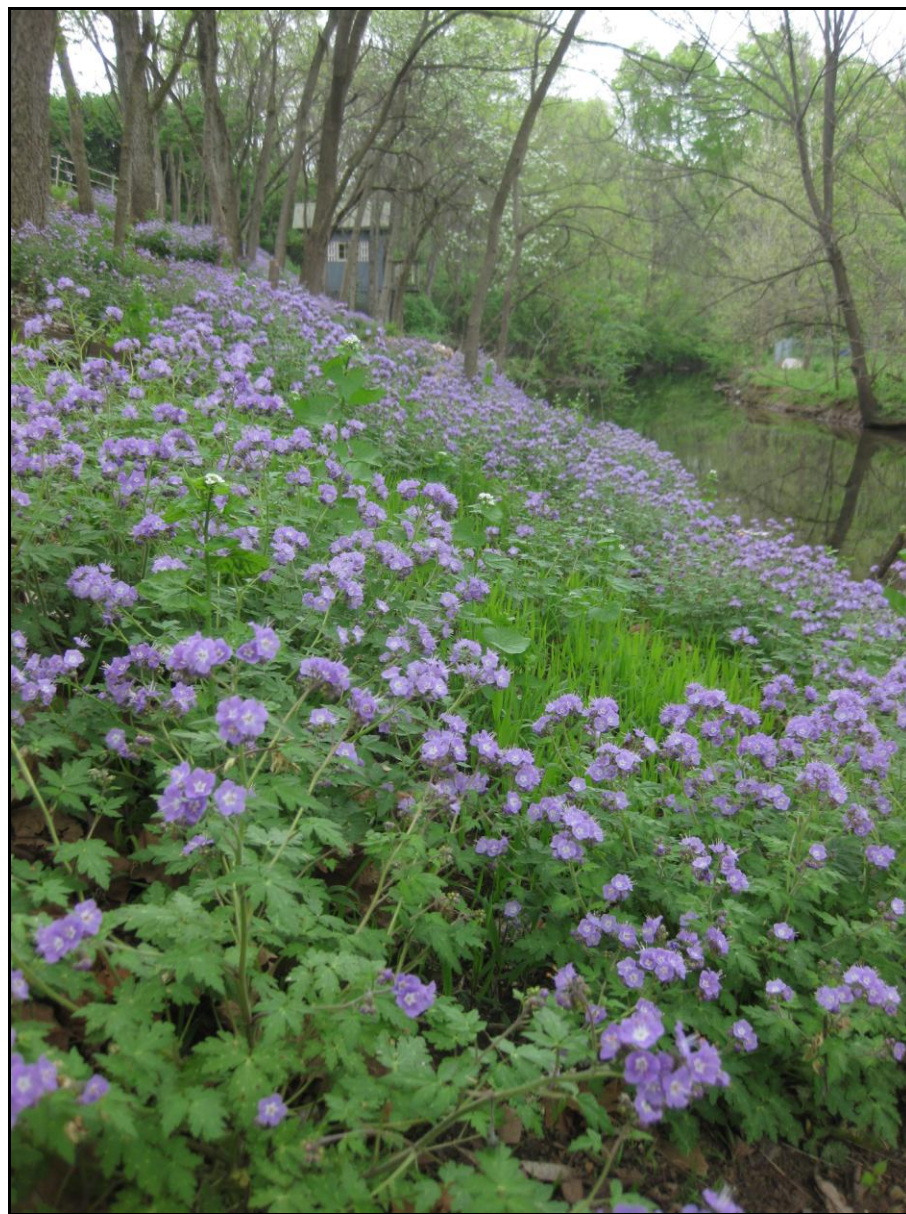
Elaine Landry, Jackie & Bob Cooper, Doug Rigsby, Diana Rast & Rachel King; 2010 Oct 23.



Our work is done!—The huge pile of honeysuckle was later chipped; 2010 Oct 23.



Inspecting and tidying up; Doug, Diana and Elaine; 2011 Apr 17. Plants at left are native willows, started for later propagation and riparian restoration, using live stakes. Most of these species are not available from local nurseries (*caroliniana*, *eriocephala*, *interior*, *nigra*).



Neighbors on Armstrong Mill Rd: Dana Bart, mother and Gaston. Upstream, another resident, David Taylor, has done some remarkable honeysuckle removal. The biennial purple phacelia, seeded there a decade earlier, finally flourished in abundance, also wild oats; 2012 Mar 31.





Guard rail on Armstrong Mill Road, and purple phacelia on bank; 2012 Mar 31.



Another idyllic scene in spring; within unmowed “pods” of wildness; 2012 Mar 31.



Roadside bank before restoration; 2010 Apr 28.



Roadside bank after initial restoration, with planted phacelia and gromwell; 2012 Mar 31.



Endangered gromwell (*Onosmodium hispidissimum*) making seeds; 2012 Aug 26 (+ next 2).







Restored riparian zone near bridge, now mostly native plants; 2012 Aug 26.



The poke grew thick, with large clumps of early wild rye (*Elymus macgregorii*); 2012 Aug 26.







The early wild rye (*Elymus macgregorii*) was undescribed in botanical science until the year 2000, when I published the name together with Ralph Brooks, who studied the species earlier. It is one of the commonest grasses in woodlands of the central Bluegrass, on rich moist soils.



The orange (or spotted) jewelweed is an annual that colonizes fresh alluvium; 2012 Aug 17.





Left: lowland coneflower (*Rudbeckia laciniata*); 2012 Aug 26. Right: lowland bergamot (*Monarda* sp. nov.); 2012 Jun 05. Gainesway Greenway is now home for these riparian herbs, much reduced regionally by two centuries of woodland clearance and intensive farming.



Doug, Elaine and Diana inspecting our proposed demonstration site; 2012 Oct ??



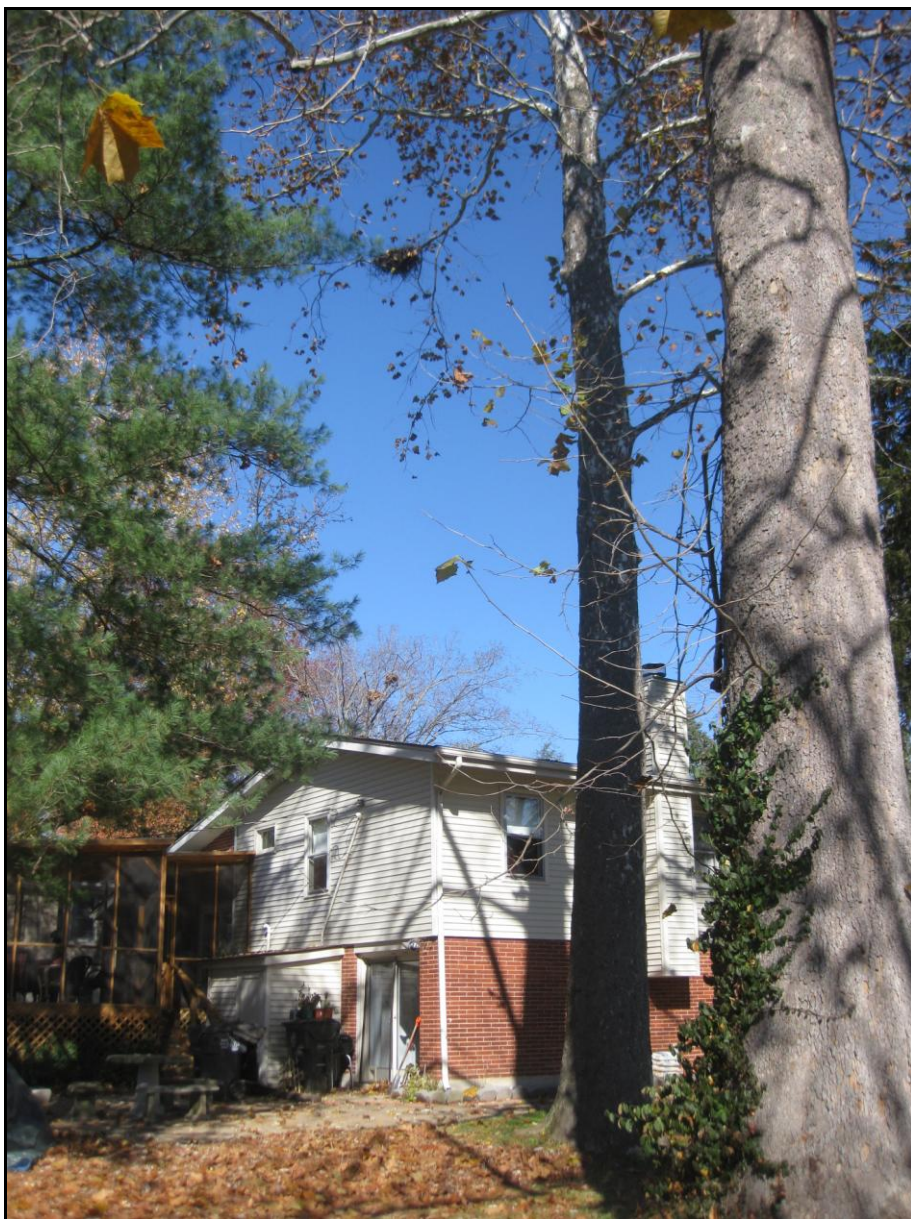
Working on our 20 × 10 foot demonstration site; downstream from the dam; 2012 Oct 16.





We rearranged rocks along the base of the slope, then installed three rows of 16 inch coir roll. We planted river oats (*Chasmanthium*) between rolls, sandbar willows through the lowest roll, reed-grass (*Phalaris*) at the water's edge, covering all with matting; 2012 Oct 16/Nov 13.





Nest of yellow-crowned night herons appeared in spring of 2012; photos here 2012 Nov 13..

Below: from Florida, http://farm7.staticflickr.com/6107/6876141418_7a7c1ac0a6_z.jpg



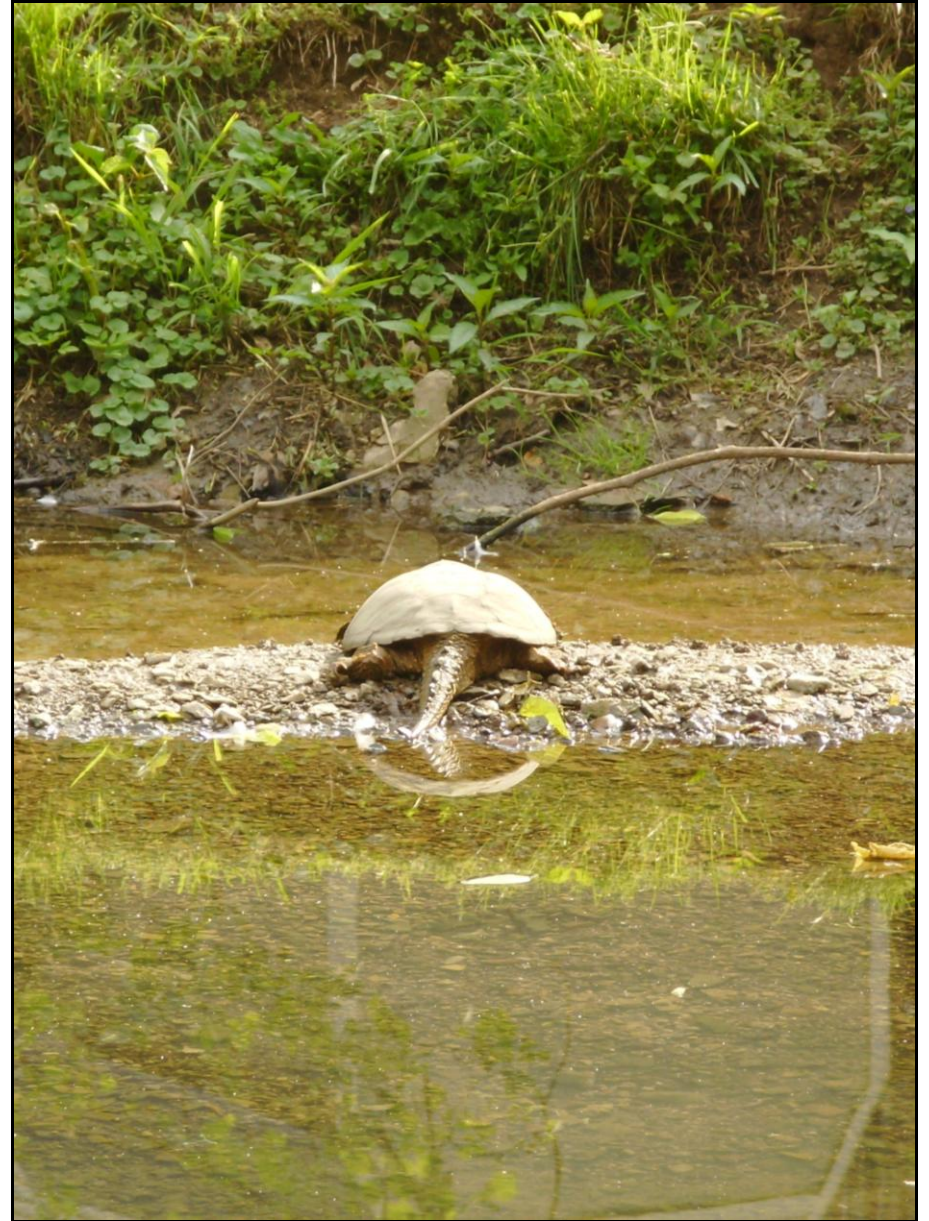
Identification of the yellow crowned night herons was confirmed by Brainerd Palmer-Ball. This species is a threatened species in Kentucky. Photos here by Andy Sprinkle, 2012 Aug 24. These photos show an adult near the nest in the large sycamore next to the greenway.



Juvenile birds from the nest, just three months old; photos by Andy Sprinkle, 2012 Aug 24. Three or four chicks survived, but will they return in 2013, given potential for human disturbance? The ancestors of these birds used to nest in the UK Arboretum until about 1985.



Cooper's hawk on Andy's fence; this species is often seen along the creek; 2012 <Aug 25.



Snapping turtle in creek, no doubt looking for errant ducklings; photos by Andy, 2012 <Aug 25. These turtles have been known to lay eggs in gardens up to 50 feet from the creek. They are the commonest turtle species in Lexington, sometimes travelling overland to new waters.



Water-snake (*Natrix sipedon*); photo by Andy, 2012 <Aug 25. “Superficially resembling a copperhead, this variable snake can be reddish, brownish, or light gray. Dark crossbands are nearly always present but are harder to see in adults that sometimes darken with age resulting in a plain dark brown or even black snake. These aquatic snakes nearly always make a hasty retreat into water when approached” (Moore & Sloane, <http://fw.ky.gov/pdf/kysnakebook.pdf>)



Screech owl; photo by Andy, 2012 <Aug 25. This is the smallest species of owl in Kentucky, easily overlooked but with a distinctive, surprising whinnying call in spring and summer. I once saw a family sitting on a branch by the creek—they took off horizontally at high speed.



The garter snake is our friend, eating slugs and bugs in the garden. Common in urban areas...
“Although harmless, it may sometimes bite if picked up and/or release a smelly musk that some people may find offensive” (Moore & Sloane, <http://fw.ky.gov/pdf/kysnakebook.pdf>).

