

## *A Special Recognition*



**Tyler Alley Sykes**  
1971 – 2002

To honor the memory of Ms. Tyler Sykes, the first trail scheduled for completion in Spring 2003 at the Couchville Cedar Glade State Natural Area (Tennessee) will be dedicated in her name. Tyler Alley Sykes was a young, energetic conservation biologist committed to rare plant protection in Tennessee and Kentucky. She contributed significantly to the protection of Tennessee coneflower in Middle Tennessee, and was instrumental in securing grant funds to expand Couchville in 2002. She began her short professional career working as an ecologist for the Division of Natural Heritage and then worked for the Cookeville Field Office of the US Fish and Wildlife Service before unexpectedly succumbing to an illness. She is greatly missed by friends and colleagues. She was a member of the Board of Directors of the Tennessee Exotic Pest Plant Council.

## Organizational Summary of the Southeast Exotic Pest Plant Council (SE-EPPC)

**Organization:** Southeast Exotic Pest Plant Council (SE-EPPC)

**Type:** Regional with state chapters: 1) Florida 2) Tennessee 3) North Carolina 4) Georgia 5) Kentucky 6) Mississippi. Alabama (forming), South Carolina (affiliate: represented by the South Carolina Native Plant Society)

501C3 non-profit: Group exemption status enables SE-EPPC to add or remove state chapters annually by letter to the IRS. New state chapters are given provisional status for 1 year and must submit bylaws for approval by the SE-EPPC Board.

Incorporated in Tennessee.

**Governing authority:** Bylaws that provide governing authority to the Board of Directors. The Board of Directors meets quarterly with one representative from each state chapter, four officers, past president, and liaisons to federal agencies. State chapters are required to have a Board of Directors that meets regularly. Minutes of SE-EPPC board meetings and state chapters are posted on the SE-EPPC web site.

**Established:** 1999 – Oak Ridge, Tennessee at 1st annual symposium.

**Membership:** 580 members through state chapters, 47 members at large (not represented by state chapters).

**Activities:** Annual symposium; SE-EPPC News (in transition from hardcopy newsletter to electronic web base news updates); Wildland Weeds (quarterly magazine published by Florida EPPC contains SE-EPPC news); Web site: [www.se-eppc.org](http://www.se-eppc.org); Web list serve; Electronic SE-EPPC Vegetation Management Manual (under construction).

**Committees:** Executive Committee (officers), Membership Committee, and Budget Committee

**Mission:** To raise public awareness about the spread of exotic plants into the Southeast's natural areas.

To provide a focus for issues and concerns regarding exotic pest plants in native plant communities of the Southeast.

To facilitate communication and the exchange of information with all interested parties regarding any and all aspects of exotic pest plant management and control.

To provide a forum for all interested parties to participate in meetings, workshops, and an annual symposium, and to share the benefits from the information provided by SE-EPPC.

To serve as an educational, advisory, and technical support council on all aspects of exotic pest plants.

To initiate action campaigns to prevent future introductions of exotic pest plants.

To facilitate action campaigns to monitor and control exotic pest plants that impact native plant communities in the Southeast.

### SOUTHEAST EXOTIC PEST PLANT COUNCIL BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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US Forest Service  
presently vacant