

NEWS RELEASE: Oct. 5, 2009

**Prescribed burn planned at Riverbluff Cave property today**

The Greene County Resource Management Department will conduct a prescribed burn at 11 a.m. today on the Riverbluff Cave property, weather permitting. The burn, rescheduled from Friday due to high winds, is part of an ongoing glade restoration project on approximately five acres of the property.

Matt Forir, cave specialist at Riverbluff Cave, said occasional burning help clear invasive species and encourage the return of native grasses to the thin, rocky soil of the glade.

“Native grasses are a lot less wear and tear on the land, and a lot easier to maintain,” said Forir. “Our ultimate goal is to return this property to a typical limestone glade, which is what it looked like 100 years ago, before the land was disturbed.”

Today’s prescribed burn will be supervised by Greene County Resource Management and the Springfield-Greene County Park Board. Proper authorities have been notified and a Greene County Highway Department water truck will be on scene. The burn will also provide prescribed burn training for representatives of numerous agencies.

The Riverbluff Cave property is at 2327 W. Farm Road 190, south of Springfield. For more information call Matt Forir, cave specialist at Riverbluff Cave, at 417-883-0594; or Jenny Fillmer Edwards, Greene County Public Information Officer, at 417-829-6019 or 417-379-5713.

###