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WATeR WORKS

August 2016

MARK YOUR CALENDAR FOR WATeR'S NEXT ANNUAL MEETING—NOVEMBER 10TH

THE COMMUNITY CHURCH AT TELLICO VILLAGE

Our speaker will be Dr. Jefferson Chapman who will present interesting archaeological information and pictures concerning investigations made on the Tellico Project before the lake was established.

REPORT FROM WATeR'S WATER QUALITY IMPROVEMENT COMMITTEE

WATeR's Water Quality Improvement Committee, chaired by Bill Waldrop, reports that the PCB levels in Tellico Lake are on the decline and feel that this should no longer be a concern in the safe eating of fish. However, the committee's opinion somewhat conflicts with the opinion of the Tennessee Dept. of Environment and Conservation. Although TEDC admits that PCB levels are trending downward, they prefer to see additional data over time. WATeR will continue to work with TDEC to eliminate the warning of eating fish from Tellico Lake. Bottom feeding catfish continue to be the only fish of concern.

Waldrop says "The PCBs are adhering to the sediment at the bottom of the lake and are being covered over and isolated by fresh sediment that is deposited over time. So the fish are being isolated from the contaminated PCBs. Until recently, The Fish Consumption Advisory for Tellico Lake included mercury concentrations in fish flesh as a reason for issuing this advisory. However, testing of fish over the past several years has proven consistently below the safe limit; thus, demonstrating that mercury is not a concern".

WATeR continues to be actively involved in the testing of streams that flow into Tellico Lake. In addition to testing, they are working with local agencies to encourage farmers to use Agriculture Best Management Practices to keep cattle away from these streams and the lakeshore.

MEMBERSHIP STILL AVAILABLE FOR 2016

If you know of someone who supports WATeR mission of improving water quality and/or supports our beautiful 30 mile East Lakeshore National Recreation Trail, please print out the attached membership form and pass it along. The success of our projects depends on the support of our members.

Click [HERE](#) for the application.