Seasonal Rhythms
Spring and summer are my favorite times of the year, that rapid pace of the semester snowballing into the graceful rhythm of the summer. It’s the time where I get to spend more time outside doing the things I enjoy in the sunshine. Finding time to play, laugh and rest.

And while this has not been the spring any of us envisioned and at times it has been crazily overwhelming. What I will remember is taking time to laugh with my team and helping each other. They are part of what makes it such a special place to work. Here are a few highlights of our COVID spring.

- Amy Turner, Director

Image

**Blazing Trail**

Marking trails is a blend of science and art.

Armed with guidelines that included instructions for how many paces before and after a curve a trail marker should be placed and formulae for determining maximum and minimum distances between markers, Michele and Joe Dombrowski took a walk on the Domain Perimeter Trail.

In just two weeks the Dombrowskis installed over 2,000 2”x4” reflective aluminum blazes as replacement for the painted trail markers.
Sharing Greens

Just as the University Farm salad crop was peaking in March, the Governor’s stay-at-home order was delivered.

Under normal conditions student’s pack 90% of the farm’s produce for use by McClurg dining hall and Stirling’s coffee shop.

Without student aid or the product outlet of McClurg, the farm staff responded quickly and creatively.

Field Studies

While definitely not business as usual, the spring mantra for Sewanee Headwaters Initiative Research Coordinator, Kevin Fouts, is TCeB (Taking Care of Essential Business)
or in this case, conducting essential research.

The main focus of the early summer continues to be the dam removal study at Brushy Lake.

Wild Ride

Initially planned to coincide with students’ return from Spring Break, my first week, March 23rd, instead coincided with the “bonus week” of Spring Break followed by a new virtual-learning plan and an order for students to not return to campus for the health and safety of all.
I arrived on campus for keys and a brief orientation and to receive all the trappings of a new, remote work experience.

Then came the tornado.