

GROWTH & CONSUMPTION: ARE WE LOVING THE OZARKS TO DEATH?

Thursday
October 18, 2012

7-8:30 p.m.

Auditorium
Springfield
Conservation
Nature Center

- World population of 7 billion
- U.S. population of 311 million
- Missouri population of 6 million
- Population in 35 southwest Missouri & Ozarks counties of 1.3 million

Population growth in the Ozarks is exploding, primarily from an influx of people moving here. This increase stresses habitat, water and wildlife; creates more waste; and contributes to declining air quality. People also are moving out of the city into farmland, woods and bedroom communities, reducing green space and land available for local food production.

Beyond the sheer number of people, though, is the growth in consumption. To put it more simply, all of us are buying more stuff—which experts say is a more serious threat to our current lifestyle than the increase in our numbers.

What are the limits of growth and consumption in the Ozarks? Do we have enough water? When do our natural systems start to collapse? What's the big picture globally? Finally, what actions can we take to reduce the problem? Learn the answers from our speakers, **Dr. Janice Greene**, Missouri State University, and **Mike Kromrey**, Watershed Committee of the Ozarks. Our moderator is **Dr. Wendy Anderson**, Drury University.

To “prep” for the presentation, we suggest watching Annie Leonard’s “The Story of Stuff” and “The Story of Bottled Water” on YouTube.

For more information, call 417-581-4018.

