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## NEWS RELEASE

### TDOT Commissioner, Shelby County Mayor, and TVA's VP of Natural Resources & Real Property Services join Living Lands & Waters at "Floating Press Conference"

**Memphis, TN/March 2014** -- Next Tuesday, March 11th from 10:00am-11:30am Living Lands & Waters will be opening their barge doors to host their second ever "floating press conference" celebrating the volunteerism and partners involved in their 2014 McKellar Lake/Mississippi River Cleanup! In true LL&W fashion, participants will travel to and from this event via boat, and also have the opportunity to jump into some "hands-on" activities themselves!

"We're really happy to be back cleaning up McKellar Lake. We're overwhelmed by the support of the community, the spring breakers from across the country, and the sponsors who've helped make it happen!" said Chad Pregracke, Founder and President of Living Lands & Waters.

After a full tour of the barge, a short speech by Chad will kick off the events! Other key speakers include Mark H. Luttrell Jr.--Shelby County Mayor, Mrs. Rebecca Tolene--VP of Natural Resources & Real Property Services of the Tennessee Valley Authority, and Commissioner John Schroer of the Tennessee Department of Transportation.

As the press conference concludes, media and other attendees are invited to stay for lunch and dine with the current spring break volunteers, and to join in on the adventure itself--working side by side our volunteers and crew! An optional 15-minute boat tour (weather permitting) will also be offered for those interested. Casual, weather sensitive attire is encouraged, as well as long pants and comfortable, close toed shoes!

#### Tentative Agenda:

10:00am	Meet Participants at Boat Ramp <b>Martin Luther King Park- 498 W Mallory Avenue Memphis, TN 38134</b>
10:00-10:15am	Participants board boats & travel to the barge
10:15-10:30am	Barge Tour
10:45am	Press Conference Begins
10:45-11:05	Speakers
11:05-11:15	Q&A
11:15-11:30	Participants board boats & travel back

To learn more about Living Lands & Waters, visit our website at <http://www.livinglandsandwaters.org>. Members of the press may schedule an appointment to interview a crew member by calling or emailing Natalie Linville-Mass at (309) 786-5142 or [Natalie@livinglandsandwaters.org](mailto:Natalie@livinglandsandwaters.org).

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**About Living Lands & Waters** – Chad Pregracke started Living Lands & Waters in 1998 as a not-for-profit organization dedicated to the beautification and restoration of America's major rivers and to the education of people about environmental issues. From his single boat beginning, LL&W has grown to an internationally known organization with a fleet of barges and workboats. LL&W engages thousands of volunteers each year in river cleanups, hands-on environmental education workshops, the Great Mississippi River Cleanup, Adopt-a- River-Mile programs and the Million Trees Project.

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