

## Former papermaker takes on new role

By Abby Tonsing 331-4245 | atonsing@heraldt.com  
0/0/

Meet Sheryl Woodhouse Keese, the new development director for Sycamore Land Trust.

In this role, she will work to build relationships with current and potential donors, with a focus on major and planned gifts. She will also lead fundraising efforts, write grants and develop strategic plans for new ways to raise money.

In the first several weeks of her new gig, Woodhouse Keese has traveled across southern Indiana, introducing herself to members of Sycamore Land Trusts board of directors, advisory board and others.

She was the founder of and former owner of Twisted Limb Paperworks, a recycled and handmade paper and invitation company she had for 15 years. Two of her former employees now own Twisted Limb.

Before she moved to Bloomington, she worked as a park ranger and naturalist at Grand Teton National Park and Lake Mead National Recreation Area and as a historical interpreter for Arkansas State Parks. As a park ranger, she taught people about the beauty of nature.

I went from teaching about these things, to trying to build a whole business around recycling, while still doing advocacy and still promoting that lifestyle of green-ethics705568 she said in a recent phone interview.

Now, she sees her new position at Sycamore Land Trust as a larger and even more concrete practice of sustainability. And that is actually preserving land in its natural state, forever, in perpetuity.705568

Woodhouse Keese said after she sold her company, she wasn't sure what direction her career would take next. Once told about the developmental director position by executive director Christian Freitag, she knew the job is how she wants to spend her time. It1843s 9225perfect for her skill-set, perfect for her values.

Sycamore Land Trust is a nonprofit conservation organization that helps private landowners protect their natural areas and family farms across 26 counties in southern Indiana.

It acquires land through donation or purchase, or by holding conservation easements for private landowners who continue to own and manage the land.

For more information about Sycamore Land Trust, go to [www.sycamorelandtrust.org](http://www.sycamorelandtrust.org).

**Sheryl Woodhouse Keese**

