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# Knowledge Farm

[www.knowledgefarm.org](http://www.knowledgefarm.org)

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## Current Newsletter

Knowledge Farm

### Newsletter

March 18, 2005

Fresh Air Photos



[\(click photo for larger image\)](#)

## **Mission** - Modeling Diversity - Part V

### In this issue

- Taking a stab at a mission statement
- Wendell Berry - two poems ([go to poems now](#))
- CAT Ferry photos

### Mission Statement - draft

KnowledgeFarm is an independent journal without attachments to commerce or politics. We believe in creativity and learning as the basis for making a difference. Our mission is to create a polyculture of information as a "seedbed"

for learning about how to save the planet. Our target audience is anyone, young or old, who is curious about connections between disciplines that breed knowledge.

The thoughts underlying KnowledgeFarm are these:

1. Diversity is the root system of sustainability.
2. Farming is a process of cultivating and harvesting.
3. These are facts, both literally and metaphorically.

One inspiring polyculture example is [9-Mile Prairie](#) near Lincoln, Nebraska where 392 species of plants and 80 species of birds thrive in a mutually supportive manner. KnowledgeFarm aspires to demonstrate this kind of richness.

We believe the process of acquiring knowledge succeeds best when there is a diversity of information and ideas; knowledge has greater depth and endurance when it spans across disciplines.

● **Feedback** - [Feedback about mission statement](#)

### Wake of CAT Ferry - Maine to Nova Scotia - July 2004



[Click on a photo to see enlargements](#)



● **Web Link** - [See the CAT ferry](#)

## Wendell Berry - two poems

### The Peace of Wild Things

When despair for the world grows in me  
and I wake in the night at the least sound  
in fear of what my life and my children's lives may be,  
I go and lie down where the wood drake  
rests in his beauty of the water, and the great heron feeds.  
I come into the peace of wild things  
who do not tax their lives with forethought  
or grief. I come into the presence of still water.

And I feel above me the day-blind stars  
waiting with their light. For a time  
I rest in the grace of the world, and am free.

### **The Vacation**

Once there was a man who filmed his vacation.  
He went flying down the river in his boat  
with his video camera to his eye, making  
a moving picture of the moving river  
upon which his sleek boat moved swiftly  
toward the end of his vacation. He showed  
his vacation to his camera, which pictured it,  
preserving it forever: the river, the trees,  
the sky, the light, the bow of his rushing boat  
behind which he stood with his camera  
preserving his vacation even as he was living it  
so that after he had had it he would still  
have it. It would be there. With a flick  
of a switch, there it would be. But he  
would not be in it. He would never be in it.

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Wendell Berry is the author of more than forty books of essays, poetry and novels. He has worked a farm in Henry County, Kentucky since 1965. He is a former professor of English at the University of Kentucky and a past fellow of both the Guggenheim Foundation and the Rockefeller Foundation. He has received numerous awards for his work, including an award from the National Institute and Academy of Arts and Letters in 1971, and most recently, the T.S. Eliot Award.

● **Book Link** - Books by Wendell Berry

### **Upcoming**

The Newsletter will not publish the week of March 25.  
We will be visiting the largest tallgrass prairie preserve on earth - 29,000  
acres owned by the Nature Conservancy, located 17 miles NW of  
Pawhuska, Oklahoma.

● **Web Link** - Oklahoma Prairie