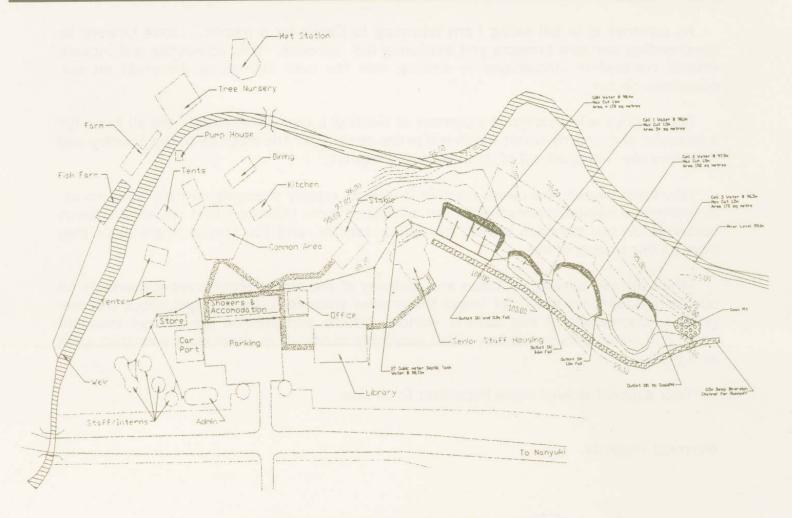


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Map Showing Proposed Combined Sewage and Wastewater System April 2002

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Dear Friends,

As summer is in full swing I am returning to Kenya for a month. I look forward to shepherding our new projects and assessing our old ones. This newsletter will include several worthwhile innovations in dealing with the ever increasing demands on our education center.

Soon Kenya will undergo the process of electing a new government. We all hope for a peaceful and orderly result which will prove positive for the stability of the country and therefore the management of its wildlife and habitat.

Whenever I watch the news, whether it reflects rapidly changing climate patterns or, or manmade habitat destruction, I am convinced more than ever that we must refocus ourselves on our precious planet, our fellow species, and the crucial importance they have on our quality of life.

While the self-serving excesses and gluttony of the recent stock market scandals fill our daily papers we must not forget the articles shunted to back pages about the ever greater destruction of our natural world. Nature and wildlife are always innocent victims of greed and corruption which inevitably winds up in developing countries such as Kenya.

Your support is even more important to us now.

Warmest Regards,

Stefanie Powers

NEWS FROM KENYA:

School Visits The number of school groups has increased by approximately 20% from this time last year, which indicated a marked improvement in attendance for 2001.

Library Work at the education center library continues nonstop comprising of the reading and assessing of all new materials, as well as weekly shelf arrangements and maintenance of the books. The staff and function of the library is also to assist our education coordinators by making them aware of the changing inventory and its potential uses in our programs. Since the introduction of our remedial programs the library and its staff are also involved in crafting the questionnaires and grading the papers once the students have completed the tests. An extensive book order was placed with the Natural History Book Service in the U.K. and has recently arrived, creating a great deal of activity in distributing them to our rural libraries.

Rural Libraries Annual repair work has been completed at the Ken Norris Library at Wathituga and the JL Foundation Library at Ngenia.

Remedial Study Program In 2001 the JL Foundation approved a grant for us to develop a remedial study program for the purpose of assessing the comprehension level of our at both the education center and at our rural The tests are either, given to a class or group after a lecture, or the groups return home with the tests and the results are sent to us at a later date. This program is greatly assisting us in adapting and modifying our lessons and it has revealed many helpful aspects of the evolution of our education programs as well as the students themselves.

Mt. Kenya Trip Our senior lecturer, Peter Maina, recently completed his long anticipated climb of Mt. Kenya. He spent five days at the Mt. Kenya National park, and made valuable observations of the condition of the flora and fauna in the park.

Permaculture After receiving a grant from the JL Foundation in May, work was begun on our permaculture / wetlands project. We are fortunate to have a remarkable botanist in Kenya who has been assisting in establishing large scale permaculture / wetlands for farms practicing intensive growing methods, as well as for restaurants and private institutions. Her name is Dee Raymer. The purpose of permaculture is multidimensional, at the same time as it conserves water by completely recycling grey water, it provides for wetlands which attract many forms of insect and bird life formerly lost due to over use of insecticides. By employing natures own methods and translating them to adapt to a given site and source, water recovery can be accomplished at an astonishing rate. This can very well be one of the most important lessons we will be able to demonstrate. The need for pure water in the not too distant future has been predicted by most authorities to be one of the most critical issues the world will face. Dee has visited our site and laid out the path for the effluence ... water and the design work was completed in April. Because of our proximity to the Nanyuki River, which is a vital water source for the whole of our district, we have sent our plans to the Ministry of Health where they are awaiting approval.



Environmental Report

In 1898 Sir William Crookes called on science to save Europe from impending starvation. The crux of the problem was the lack of nitrogen. By 1840 it was discovered that adding nitrate fertilizers would boost food production for increasing populations. The world embraced nitrogen as the panacea for feeding the masses and the only equation that was in play was the greater the population the greater the use of nitrates. Just add a bit more was the common thinking, never bothering to understand or even investigate the downside.

Today the over use of nitrates in agriculture, industry and the internal combustion engine has successfully introduced pollutants into our water supply, our lakes, rivers and oceans, and has opened a virtual Pandora's Box of problems. Not the least of which has caused and continues to be the major cause of wildlife,

birdlife aquatic life extinction.

Contributing to the litany of polluting products are the ever present highly toxic pesticides whose virulence increases generation by generation, as the 'bad' insects successfully mutate and their natural predators are killed off. Ever notice your car windscreen when traveling at night in a rural area? Hardly any bugs impede our vision, because most of them no longer exist, nor do the other life forms that feed on them and up and up through the food chain.

A great part of our work in wildlife protection and conservation is in habitat conservation. As increasing populations of humans misuse fertilizers and pesticides they render their farms and homestead gardens unusable. The very use of nitrate and phosphate fertilizers demands increasing volumes of both as nature can no longer do without them.

We are seeing large areas of once fertile farmlands ... unusable due to over use of nitrogen fertilizers. But there is a light at the end of the tunnel, in fact there are several lights and some of them are coming from rediscovering old methods and applying them in a new and progressive way.



THE NEEM TREE

—an affordable and environmentally friendly source of pest control

The Asian population that came to colonial Kenya to build the railways brought with them Neem trees for their medicinal properties. It was soon discovered that the pods from the trees could be ground to produce a powder that would ward off pests from plants, when made into a liquid and sprayed on crops, pests tended to drop off and either died or were picked up by predators thus allowing for the food chain while protecting vital food growing.

Today in parts of Kenya's fertile highlands, large tracts of land are factory farming produce for immediate export to the United Kingdom and Europe. These enterprises are a welcome relief for a large population seeking unskilled employment. Twenty four hours a day crews pick, wash, pack, weigh, label and load the next day's vegetables for large UK outlets such as Marks & Spencers. The EEC (European Economic Community) is enforcing strict requirements concerning all pesticides, chemical fertilizers and genetically modified crops. "It's like living under a magnifying lens' one farmer told me, but it is causing everyone to rethink and refocus on alternative products.

We have used Neem on our model farming plot at the foundation's education center and have had remarkable results. Local small scale farmers are joining the large farms in using Neem over the more expensive chemicals. It is a movement in its infancy, but it promises hope. We have brought Neem to our rural schools to use on the small plots they have and to disseminate the products within the community.

It has been said that the gold of the future will be water. We are all seeing evidence of this on a daily basis. As our weather patterns no longer bring us the promise of reliability we experience water shortages as never before. It must come as no surprise that we are now experiencing ... long been predicted, and we recognize that it is a result of human and industrial impact on our environment. We must now plan for the future and that plan must include water reclamation as never before. Many of the large farms are employing permaculture wetlands as a form of reclaiming grey and sewage water and returning it to clean H2O by using nature's own methods. With the help of the JL Foundation's generous grant we are constructing a grey and sewage water wetland permaculture at our education center. What is it exactly? It is a combination of plants, sand and gravel beds that naturally filter the water.



Stefanie Powers lecturing to students and villagers about the use of Neem



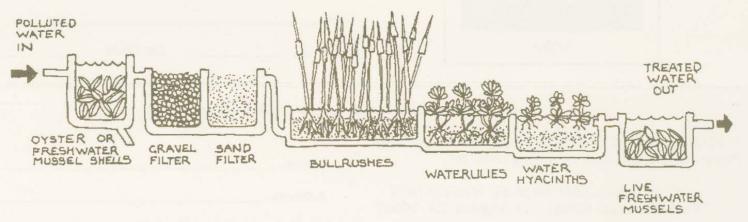
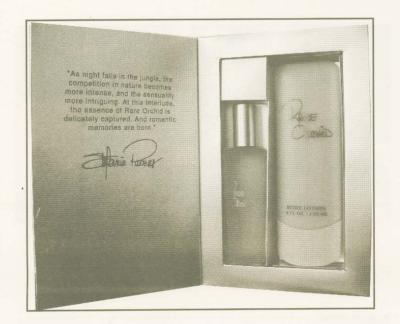


Fig. 7.9 Biological cleansing of grey water. A series of ponds can be set up to act as a water filtration system. As grey water enters the first ponds, coarse materials (broken shells, gravel, sand) cause precipitation of solid particles. Water-cleansing plants absorb nutrients in the

water and filter biological pathogens and heavy metals. (After Seidel, Happel and Graue, Contributions to Revitalisation of Waters, Max Plancke Institute, W. Germany).



Stefanie Powers Signature Fragrance

"As night falls in the jungle, the competition in nature becomes more intense, and the sensuality more intriguing. At this interlude, the essence of Rare Orchid is delicately captured. And romantic memories are born"

For a \$40.00 donation to the William Holder Wildlife Foundation was will receive

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