

The Environmental Studies Program presents

Rural Land Use - What Happens When Private Markets Plan? The South Cumberland Plateau Land Rush

Dr. Daniel Carter
University of South at Sewanee

Thursday, February 17, 2011, 4:00pm
Olin 110

Dr. Carter is currently an environmental policy post-doctorate fellow with the University of South at Sewanee. He is currently researching forest fragmentation in the South Cumberland Plateau, a scenic area in Southeast Tennessee that recently experience a sudden land rush between 2005 and 2008 as timber companies sold thousands of acres to development interests. As a result, developments were platted over thousands of acres of traditional recreational land in areas of steep karsts topography, no public sewer service, and limited water resources. Nonetheless, land sold at a premium and in abundance up until the recent economic crisis. Now the South Cumberland Plateau, like many regions in the U.S. is left with unfinished and poorly planned developments, lawsuits, and foreclosures with very little population growth to show for it. Dr. Carter will explore the political and economic feasibility of the conservation tools often offered as solutions to forest fragmentation in contrast to the current paradigm found in many rural areas of letting private markets plan land-use.

Marketing piece found in the Orlando Sentinel newspaper.

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