

# The Rockcastle Karst Conservancy

Membership Application Form  
Apply online at: [www.rkci.org](http://www.rkci.org)

Date

Name - Please print clearly

Street

City, State & ZIP

Email Address

Telephone

## Membership Categories and Dues: (circle membership type)

### Memberships For Individuals - Voting

Individual Member	\$15/year
Sustaining Member	\$5/month min
Direct withdrawal available through paypal (visit <a href="http://rkci.org">rkci.org</a> for more info)	
Life Member	\$300/one time

### Memberships for Organizations or Individuals - Non Voting

Supporting Member	\$50/year
Benefactor Member	\$1,000/one time
Additional Donation	\$ _____

Dues expire on April 1 of each year.

Make checks payable to Rockcastle Karst Conservancy.

### Mail completed form and payment to:

Rockcastle Karst Conservancy  
1044 Vacationland Drive  
Cincinnati, OH 45231

## How can you help?

You are RKC's connection to protecting Kentucky's interior. Through your donations, membership and involvement we are able to acquire and preserve additional properties. Join today, find out about fund raisers and stay informed by logging onto <http://www.rkci.org/>.



## Rockcastle Karst Conservancy

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



# Rockcastle Karst Conservancy



Protecting Kentucky's Interior

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

## What is Karst?

Karst is best described as a limestone region, including sinkholes, underground streams, and caverns. These underground conduits were formed by rain water dissolving the limestone over thousands of years.

Twenty percent of the land in the United States is classified as karst including most of Kentucky. Karst regions contain some of the largest and most productive underground water reservoirs (aquifers). Did you know that 25% of the nation's drinking water comes from karst aquifers?

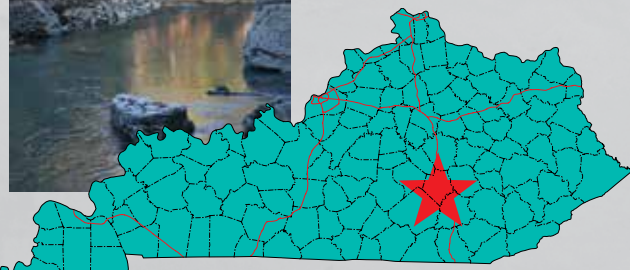
## Why do Karst areas need our help?

Karst areas are being increasingly threatened by development and above ground pollutants. Surface water flows into caves and sinkholes very quickly, receiving very little filtration. This water, and the impurities it carries often travel great distances underground, contaminating wells, springs, and aquifers.

Encroachment threatens the entire non-renewable ecosystem of karst environments and all who depend on their natural resources. In addition to a variety of bat species, caves are home to unique and diverse cave adapted species such as the blind cave fish and blind crayfish. Caves also contain delicate formations (speleothems) which take thousands of years to form but can be destroyed in a moment.

## Who is the Rockcastle Karst Conservancy?

RKC is a local volunteer organization dedicated to protecting Kentucky's karst environments and supporting access to caves in the Rockcastle County Region. We manage each cave resource to support continuing enjoyment by the community through wise stewardship and ownership.



## Our Cave Preserves

Rockcastle Karst Conservancy is proud to own four Cave Preserves and manages a fifth Preserve for its owner.

### Great Saltpetre Cave Preserve

consists of over 300 acres of karst land and is home to multiple caves. The most impressive of these is the Great Saltpetre Cave itself which appears on the Kentucky State Seal. This historically significant cave was used for saltpetre mining during the War of 1812 and has been a regional center piece for generations. An annual open house keeps the community connected to the cave.



### Misty Cave Preserve

in Jackson County consists of 14 acres with two known caves. The larger of the two caves is Misty Cave, a beautiful wild cave and significant bat hibernacula.



### Skylight Preserve

contains two pit entrances into Pine Hill Cave including the dramatic 138 foot drop into Skylight Dome.



### Corn Hole Cave Preserve

in Rockcastle County is leased by RKC. It is a 50 acre karst preserve and is connected to one of the largest cave systems in the area.



### Sloans Valley Cave Preserve

has two public entrances into the extensive Sloans Valley Cave Complex, the fourth largest known cave in Kentucky. The popular Crockett entrance was once known as Garbage Pit or Greenhouse.



## Our Mission.

*Supporting access to caves and protecting Kentucky's karst environments in the Rockcastle County Region.*

**For more information or to help us acquire our next Cave Preserve see [www.rkci.org](http://www.rkci.org).**