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Forest  
Service

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## News Release

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### For Immediate Release

#### **Wayne NF recognizes partners in annual celebration**

ATHENS, OH – The Wayne National Forest held its annual Partnership Recognition Day on Friday, August 13, 2004. “We wanted to take an opportunity to celebrate all the things our partners have helped us accomplish in the last year,” explained Mary Reddan, Forest Supervisor for the Wayne National Forest, who presided over the ceremony.

Reddan said that attendance at the event was impressive as people gathered to take part in this annual tribute to the people who help make a difference on the Wayne National Forest. She noted that “It really does take a large body of people to run a Forest and the Wayne is very fortunate to have that large body of people: employees, partners and volunteers.”

The program included a formal ceremony as well as a reception. The highlight of the program was the acknowledgement of the many partners who contributed to the Lake Vesuvius project, which won the national *Rise to the Future* award from the Chief of the Forest Service, Dale Bosworth. This national award involved a myriad of partners, many of whom were acknowledged by Forest Biologist Becky Ewing.

Recognition was given for a variety of other projects and events. They ranged from abandoned mine reclamation to trail maintenance to fishing events. Gary Willison, the Watershed Group Leader for the Wayne National Forest, gave recognition for projects such as Job’s Gob Pile, Monday Creek, Kimble Creek, and Big Four. John Crockett, Assistant District Ranger of the Athens District, and Dan Kincaid, Athens District Ranger, gave recognition for other achievements on the Athens unit such as outstanding fire management at the Big Bailey Prescribed Burn.

Over 100 individuals were recognized at the ceremony incorporating a multitude of organizations. These organizations included but were not limited to the US Army Corps of Engineers, Hocking College, Northeastern Research Station, Ohio University-Institute for Local Government Administration and Rural Development, the Monday Creek Restoration Project, the Ohio Department of Natural Resources, Ohio University Southern Campus, the National Forest Products Lab, Athens County Highway Engineers, the Hocking Valley Motor Cycle Club, the Miami Valley Outdoor Club, the National Off-Highway Vehicle Conservation Council, Inc., Camp Ohio, Southeast Natural Gas, Ward Twp. VFD, Ward Twp. Trustees, the Ohio Department of Transportation, the Federal Highway Administration, Buckingham Coal Company, The Nature Conservancy, The Trust for Public Land, and the Buckeye Trail Association.



Each year employees of the Wayne National Forest look forward to being given an opportunity to commend their partners for their assistance and dedication to the management of the Forest. The ceremony was a celebration of the many successes that were made possible by the partners of the Wayne National Forest.



Caption:  
Recipients of the Rise to the Future Award gather at the Nelsonville office of the Wayne National Forest to be recognized for their contribution to this national award.