



Flathead National Forest

650 Wolfpack Way

Kalispell, MT 59901

Web: <http://www.fs.usda.gov/flathead>

Twitter: <https://twitter.com/FlatheadNF>

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News Release

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FAMILY FORESTRY EXPO KICKS OFF ON MAY 2nd

Kalispell, MT –April 25, 2016 - The Family Forestry Expo is an annual, weeklong event that offers hands-on exposure to the role forests play in our everyday lives. This year the Family Forestry Expo is scheduled for May 2nd through May 7th, with the theme of “Forests-Landscapes of Many Uses.”

Nearly 1,200 local fifth grade students from 28 schools stretching from Eureka to Charlo will visit Expo between May 2nd and 6th and learn about natural resource topics. The students visit stations that provide educational presentations about fisheries, aquatic/riparian systems, archaeology, wildlife, fire, backcountry ethics, plant identification, and forest management. The program is curriculum based and the field stations compliment classroom study.

This year eight classes will tour the Stoltze mill; the remaining classes will have the opportunity to take part in a portable sawmill demonstration and visit stations representing lumber manufacturing.

On Saturday, May 7th, families are invited to share in expo activities from 9am to 3pm at the Trumbull Creek Educational Forest, located about two miles north of the junction of US Highway 2 and Montana Highway 40, just west of Columbia Falls, Montana.

The Saturday family-oriented event features a short forest walk that offers educational stations and demonstrations along the way. Each station provides information and hands-on activities that allow participants to learn about the many uses of our forests, private and public. A grand stand show will be presented at 10:30 a.m. and 1:30 p.m. and feature logging equipment demonstrations, the Forest Service Spotted Bear Ranger District mule pack string, and a logging sports demonstration by Flathead Valley Community College logging sports team. Various exhibits featuring local organizations, businesses and agencies that deal with natural resources will be on display. Between 11:00 a.m. and 1:00 p.m. a free logging camp lunch will be provided, compliments of Family Forestry Expo.

The Family Forestry Expo event takes place through the dedicated involvement of over 20 diverse organizations such as local service clubs, forest industry, government natural resource agencies, conservation groups, professional societies, local businesses, many interested individuals and numerous local donations.

For more information please call 758-5218 or visit www.familyforestryexpo.org and www.facebook.com/familyforestryexpo.

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