



United States Department of Agriculture

Forest Service

Allegheny National Forest

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News Release

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Minister Creek Trail Reopens; Several Beaches Closed



Warren, Pa. (July 10, 2015) – The Allegheny National Forest’s Minister Creek Trail has reopened for public access. The trail was closed due to extensive damage from a severe storm in late June. Crews immediately began working to assess the damage and remove the trees. “This was a massive undertaking to clear out all the downed trees,” said Bradford District Ranger Rich Hatfield. “We could not have accomplished this clean-up without all the hard work from the Allegheny National Forest employees.” Hatfield also asked anyone using the trails to watch for overhanging branches that could come down.

The ANF also announced that the beaches at Twin Lakes, Loleta and Kinzua are temporarily closed due to e-coli in the water. Currently, the only beach that is open for

swimming is at Kiasutha. The water will be retested and will reopen as soon as the tests results are within normal limits.

Additional information can be found at the Allegheny National Forest’s website:

<http://www.fs.usda.gov/allegheny/>.

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The U.S. Forest Service is an agency of the U.S. Department of Agriculture, with a mission of sustaining the health, diversity and productivity of the nation’s forests and grasslands to meet the needs of present and future generations. The Forest Service’s Eastern Region has 17 national forests

and one national tallgrass prairie located throughout 20 Midwestern and Eastern states. We're spread from Maine to Minnesota and from Maryland to Missouri. For more information, visit www.fs.usda.gov/R9.

The U.S. Forest Service manages 193 million acres of public land, provides assistance to state and private landowners, and maintains the largest forestry research organization in the world. The public lands that the Forest Service manages, contribute more than \$13 billion to the economy each year through visitor spending alone. Those same lands provide 20 percent of the nation's clean water supply, a value estimated at \$7.2 billion per year. The agency has either a direct or indirect role in stewardship of about 80 percent of the 850 million forested acres within the U.S. and includes 100 million acres that are urban forests where most Americans live. For more information, visit www.fs.usda.gov/.

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