



## Flathead National Forest

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## Media Release

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### **Celebrate Montana Forest Products Industry Week**

The public is invited to celebrate Montana Forest Products Industry Week on October 20 at the Glacier High School Commons in Kalispell. This free event will feature an opening ceremony with dignitaries from 1:00-1:30 p.m. This will be followed by an open house until 5:00 p.m. during which visitors can view over a dozen displays showcasing local forest products supplied and manufactured in the Flathead Valley. Tours of Glacier High School's biomass heating facility will also be available from 1:30-3:30 p.m.

The 62nd Montana Legislature passed House Joint Resolution 6, "A Joint Resolution of the Senate and the House of Representatives of the State of Montana Establishing Forest Products Industry Week." The resolution designates the seven-day period beginning on the third Sunday of October each year to acknowledge the important role of the forest products industry in creating jobs for Montanans, sustaining forest communities, and as integral to the management of forests around the region.

The forest products industry is invaluable to the state. There were \$325,000,000 in forest product sales in 2010 and the industry provides over 6,800 jobs, including approximately 500 professionally trained logging contractors. Over 480 million board feet of lumber, harvested from state, federal, tribal and private forest owners, were milled in 2010.

The Kalispell event is being organized by the Department of Natural Resources and Conservation, F.H. Stoltze Land and Lumber, the Kalispell Chamber of Commerce, the Montana Logging Association, the Natural Resource Conservation Service, Plum Creek, and the Flathead National Forest, with support and assistance from Glacier High School.

In addition to the organizers, Algae Aquaculture Technologies, John Jump Trucking Inc., Johnson Brothers, Northwest Management Inc., RBM Lumber, the Society of American Foresters, Western Building Centers, and Women in Timber will have representatives and displays at the open house.

A state-wide factsheet is available online at <http://www.montanaforests.com/currentissues/>.

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