

Finger Lakes National Forest Forest Happenings!!

Caring for the Land and Serving People

Fall Happenings 2013

For man, autumn is a time of harvest, of gathering together. For nature, it is a time of sowing, of scattering abroad.

~Edwin Way Teale



Teeter Pond (Sept. 2013)

Please Welcome...Tim Noon



Tim arrived on the Forest August 12th, so is still relatively new, however has jumped in with

both feet into his new position as a Natural Resource Specialist. He left a position as Forester and Project Leader for the Region One Timber Strike Team in Missoula, MT. Tim began working for the Forest Service in 2003 and has a B.S. in Forest Resources Management from the University of Montana (2004) and an A.A.S from Paul Smiths College in New York in Recreation Management (2002). We are extremely happy to have Tim on board and this vacancy finally filled permanently. Don't hesitate to stop in and introduce yourself!

We bid a fond farewell to...



Sherise Foster...

We couldn't be more proud to announce that Sherise will be moving on to a new position as a Customer Service Representative on the Cherokee National Forest in Tennessee. Sherise started with us in November 2010 coming out of Job Corp – hard to believe it's been that long! She will be greatly missed here on the forest! So, if you want to see that smiling face or hear the southern charm – stop in before the end of October!

Brian Emerson...

Brian has now returned to his home unit - Mark Twain National Forest - after completing a 120-day detail. He provided a great deal of support to the District and took on quite a bit so the District Ranger could focus on another project. We will surely miss his quiet leadership and his presence in the office!

Firewood Quarantine in Effect

Firewood Permits are available for purchase. The 2 cord minimum still applies for \$20.00, or you may purchase up to 10 cords for \$10.00 per cord. Only dead and down timber may be removed. The annual permit is good until December 30, 2013.

Make sure you have your permit in your possession and you are properly recording each load of firewood.

To avoid the spread of non-native and invasive insects that might be living in your firewood, do not transport your firewood outside the local area. Schuyler County has been quarantined by the State of NY. Wood cut within Schulyer County cannot be transported out of the county.

Recreation...

Camping

Our developed campgrounds were fairly busy this past summer and will be fairly popular with hunters in the late fall.

For tents and RV's up to 23 feet long: *Blueberry Patch Campground* is available for \$10.00 a day.

For horseback riders: *Backbone Horse Camp* is "Horse User Only" through the Columbus Day Holiday weekend.

Potomac Group Campground is available by reservation only, pre-paying through www.recreation.gov or by calling 1-877-444-6777.

Please remember to bring your own water.

As always, the National Forest is open to camping, unless posted closed.

Any pastures with livestock present are closed to camping.

Trail Boardwalk Replacement

Our ongoing project to repair and replace boardwalks got a great boost this summer when a Youth Conservation Corps (YCC) trail crew came out from Vermont for two weeks.

The boardwalk from Teeter Pond south to Searsburg Road was replaced. The crew also did some water diversion work on Backbone Trail and Interloken at the southern end.



In total the YCC Crew replaced roughly 45 - 16' sections of boardwalk - - WOW!

This was the first time (in quite a while) that we have had a YCC crew on the Forest - - we really appreciate the amount of work this group accomplished and the total experience of working with them. Hopefully they will be coming back!

Finger Lakes Trail Relocation

The Finger Lakes Trail relocation is on track for early October. The new segment takes hikers off an existing section of the Interloken Trail that is also used by horse riders. Volunteers from the Cayuga Trail Club will be doing the work. This is in compliance to both the Finger Lakes NF Land and Resource Management Plan and

criteria for the Finger Lakes Trail (North Country Trail) to be a “footpath” only.

Wildlife / Timber...

Where in the world is Paul Widowski (Wildlife Biologist)??

Paul is currently at the Federal Law Enforcement Training Center (FLETC) where he is receiving training to become a Reserve Federal Law Enforcement Officer (LEO). This is not only a great opportunity for Paul, but the Forest as well. Once his training is complete – Paul will have the same authority of a Federal Law Enforcement Officer, just working on that capacity on Forest as a part time basis. This will greatly help support out current LEO (Mike Klingensmith) who would needs to travel from the Green Mountain National Forest if the need arises.

2014 Fishing Derby Reminder

The 2014 Fishing Derby will occur on **Saturday, May 10th**. Due to the many requests we will begin 1 hour earlier and start fishing at **8:00am**. Another change that may be happening is **REQUIRED** pre-registration. Over the past few years the number of participants has been close to 100, if not over. For those that have attended when the number get that high – it is very close fishing, and we have growing concerns about kids getting hurt. If we choose to go to a pre-registration system it will be well advertised in the local papers.

Disease Resistant Elms

As mentioned in the summer edition, recent field checking of the elm trees planted in three riparian areas were found to have an excellent survival rate, estimated around 95%.



The majority of trees planted look like this one after the hot, but wet summer. An additional Elm was also planted at our office – stop by and check it out!

Range

Cows will be soon headed off the pastures and returning home from “summer camp.” Until that occurs, continue to be mindful of the gates and make sure they are closed.

A busy summer has transitioned to an exciting fall on the pastures. In addition to this year’s normal grazing season, there have been numerous projects. Mowing and spraying contracts have taken place on many of the pastures helping to restore native plants and improve forage.

Additionally, the Forest hosted a Construction & Maintenance Crew (C&M) from the Allegheny National Forest. This crew completed mastication work to reduce non-native invasive shrubs in riparian areas, pasture mowing and pond dredging.

Pond Dredging

In addition to the dredging completed in Mielty pond, the Allegheny crew installed a tire trough system that will improve water quality and aid in the restoration of riparian vegetation around the pond.



Dredging in progress...



Dredging completed...

After dredging, the pond was rather slow to refill – the lack of rain didn't help much!



So, with the support of the Lodi, Ovid, Interlaken, and Romulus Volunteer Fire Departments working together, they pumped

close to 13,000 gallons of water into the pond in over an hour.

The pond refill served as a training exercise for the departments in addition to giving Mother Nature a boost.

What's that fence for...

During the late summer, a contract was completed to fence the new Butternut Seed Orchard. The fenced area is located in the Cook Grassland along Searsburg Road, and will be ready to receive seedlings in the years to come.

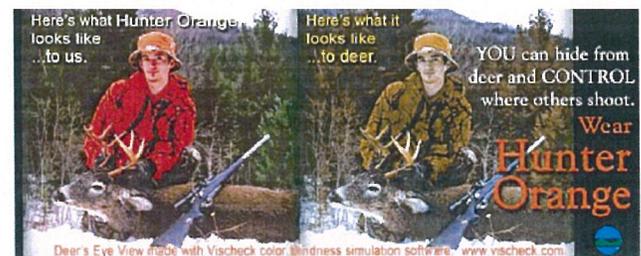


Seed and scion (branch end) clippings that were collected last winter are currently being grown at the Oconto River Seed Orchard in Northern Wisconsin. It is expected that the seedlings will stay there for two years before they are ready to transplant back here to the new Seed Orchard.

Forest Service Regional Geneticist, Paul Berrang will likely return to the Forest this winter to continue seed and scion collection.

Safety Tip...

Hunter Orange Facts



While not required by law in NY State, more than 80 percent of big game hunters, as well as two out of three small game hunters, wear hunter orange.

Hunter orange prevents other hunters from mistaking a person for an animal, or shooting in your direction.

Hunters who wear orange are seven times less likely to be shot. For example, during the past 10 years, not one person who was wearing hunter orange was mistaken for game and killed in NY. On the contrary, big game hunters who were involved in firearm related incidents were not wearing hunter orange.

Information taken from the NY DEC Website.

Green Tip... "G.O.O.S" Paper

G.O.O.S. Paper = GOOD on ONE SIDE

This might be printing goofs, a sheet with only one side used, mail ... the list is endless.

Use it for much more too ... doodle paper, drawing & coloring, lists & notes - anything you could ever need!

Here are some facts...

- It takes 1.1 tons of recycled paper to make 1 ton of new paper - - Use Less Paper!
- Paper makes up about 38% of landfill volume.
- The average office worker generates about 200 pounds of paper each year.
- Office paper use grows about 20% every year.

By saving paper, you'll end up saving money too!

Setting margins to 0.75 inch has saved Penn State over \$123,000 each year!



From the Ranger...

"Life isn't a matter of milestones but of moments."

~ Rose Fitzgerald Kennedy

On September 12, Brian and I, had the pleasure of interacting with 30+ Foresters from the Country of India. The Maxwell School at Syracuse University, hosted the group, a mix of mid to senior level Indian Forest Service Officials who had the desire to learn more about the United States approach to forestry.

Of course doing a presentation for 30+ visitors, can be nerve wracking. However, the Q&A session afterwards and the tour of the Forest is what made the day. It's amazing how similar we all are, regardless of what our nationality may be. I hope they learned as much from me as I did from them!



Finally, I would be remiss if I didn't say a HUGE thank you to the local VFD's who helped fill Mielty pond. You all don't get enough credit for what you do!

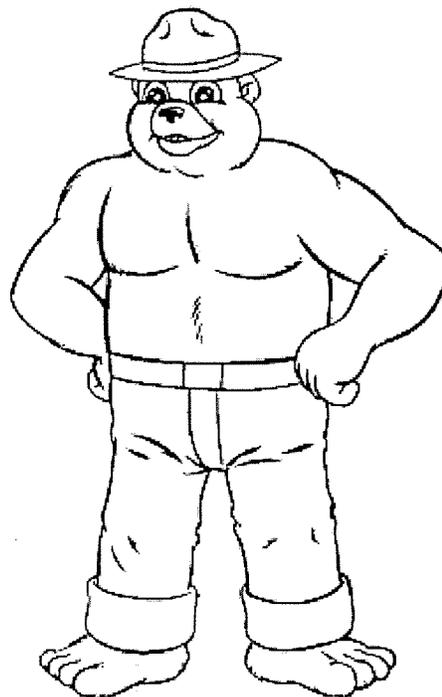
Thanks!!!!!! - Jodie



Can you fill in the missing letters to finish the words?

1. fo__e__ts
2. b__c__et
3. m__tc__e__
4. s__fe__y

5. pr__ve__ti__n
6. __ni__a__s
7. ox__g__n
8. c__mp__i__e



ANSWERS
1. forest 2. bucket 3. match
4. safety 5. prevention 6. animals 7. oxygen 8. compete