

Pennsylvania Forest Stewards News



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Resources for Your Use

As forest landowners and interested private forest stakeholders, you have access to many folks who academics and natural resources professionals can't reach. We are exceedingly grateful for the contributions you make spreading the forest stewardship message. In recent months, we've been trying to acquire/create resources to assist you in your outreach.

Forest Story Cards (Heritage Set)

In recent years at the new PA Forest Stewards basic training, we've used Forest Story Cards to foster dialogue and help members of the new class get to know each other. Forest Story Cards were created by Dr. Sanford "Sandy" Smith and use 53 pictures, plus one wild card that serve as a starting point for a conversation around things people love about their land, things they're concerned about, and things they hope will happen in the future on the land. If a picture is worth a thousand words, these Forest Story Cards serve as a point to elicit those thousand words about a person's land or interest in land. As any recent PA Forest Steward will tell you, the instructors often have trouble getting the group to stop talking.

In conjunction with a joint project with Cornell, we recently updated the Forest Story Card set to include some heritage images that hopefully evoke conversation around what people love and are concerned about, and really get them thinking through to the future of the land. We've now made a set of Forest Story Cards for every PA Forest Steward household and service forester to use in their outreach. Those who attended one of the three recent Communicating Forest Stewardship Effectively workshops received their set of story cards. We'll bring sets to the Annual Meeting and other events where we'll hope to share them with the rest of you.

We also made enough copies to create a traveling container of about 30 sets for use at larger events. If you have an upcoming woodland owners' association meeting or other event and would like to use this tool to foster conversation around forestland, we have them available for loan. You will have to give them back so we can share them with others! We'll ship them out to you or coordinate a pickup. Contact Allyson if you're interested in borrowing the Forest Story Cards to use at your next event.

Laptop and LCD Projector

you get called upon to give presentations to groups. Perhaps you have your own resources, or have good connections to those who do (e.g., Cooperative Extension offices or Bureau of Forestry Service Foresters). We've now acquired a smallish laptop and petit LCD projector for your use as you do your outreach. We'll ship these out or coordinate a pickup so you can use them for your next talk. Contact Allyson if you'd like to borrow the laptop and projector for any of your events or programs.

Green Fire Video

And don't forget we've got a public viewing license for the film, *Green Fire*, about the life of Aldo Leopold and how he came to be the father figure of land stewardship. We've had several groups use it for their woodland owners' group programming, and it's gone outside our network to others who happened to catch it in passing. The video is about 70 minutes long and is very engaging. We have found it is really easy to have a discussion about stewardship and the land ethic as part of the program using the video. If you have an interest or opportunity to show *Green Fire*, consider borrowing the new computer and projector as well. Just let Allyson know.

As part of your outreach, some of



Need a Nametag?

With the new volunteers of the 2012 Class, we'll be making another order of PA Forest Stewards nametags. If you've misplaced yours, or it didn't stand up to your use, and would like a replacement, please let us know. We'll be happy to include your name in our order. Please contact Allyson as soon as you can so we have a complete list.

Regional Foci for PA Forest Stewards News – Northwest, You're Up!

Just a gentle reminder for those of you in the northwest region of Pennsylvania... Your region is responsible for an article in the July/August issue of the PA Forest Stewards News. Bob Slagter (slags@zoominternet.net) and Blaine Aikin (blaine@fi360.com) are taking the lead in compiling the region's piece. Please contact them if you have items of interest to share.

And heads-up to the North Central region! You're on tap for the September/October newsletter.

Please contact Walt and Marie Petrick (mariepetrick@hotmail.com) or Linda Finley (lfinley@gmail.com) with your items for that future newsletter.

We're looking forward to hearing from you all!

Dates for Your 2012 (and 2013) Calendar

July 27, 2012 - PA Forest Stewards In-service Training, Wildlife Habitat "Bus" Tour, Michaux State Forest.

July 28, 2012 - PA Forest Stewards Annual Meeting, Dave and Judy Twining's Tree Farm, Carlisle.

September 21-23 and October 5-7, 2012 - PA Forest Stewards Basic Training, Camp Krislund, Madisonburg.

October 5, 2012 - PA Forest Stewards In-service Training, Forest Soils, Camp Krislund, Madisonburg.

May 3-4, 2013 – 2013 Private Forest Landowners Conference: the Future of Penn's Woods, Blair County Convention Center, Altoona.

Contact Forestry Extension

Forestry Extension
Penn State School of Forest Resources
416 Forest Resources Building
University Park, PA 16802
(814) 863-0401
(800) 235-9473
Jim Finley: fj4@psu.edu
Allyson Muth: abm173@psu.edu
<http://extension.psu.edu/paforeststewards>

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Pennsylvania Forest Stewards
416 Forest Resources Building
The Pennsylvania State University
University Park, PA 16802