



News You Can Use September 2015

produced for the PFA by Versant Strategies

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Please visit us on our Web site at <http://www.paforestry.org/>

New PFA Display

The new PFA display was unveiled at the September Board meeting. Thanks to Dave Alerich who snapped a photo and sent it to us for the newsletter!



PFA Annual Meeting Reminder – Sign Up Now!

If you haven't signed up yet for the PFA's Annual Meeting scheduled for **October 17 at the Doubletree Resort in Lancaster**, take a moment to sign up now! This is your opportunity to relax and catch up with friends while enjoying a great program. The details and registration form were included in the summer edition of *Pennsylvania Forests* but if you

misplaced that information, contact the PFA office for registration information. Questions? Contact the PFA office at thepfa@paforestry.org or call us at 1-800-835-8065!

Joint Meeting Held

Representatives of PFA and the Pennsylvania Forest Fire Museum Association met on Friday, August 28th, in Harrisburg to discuss opportunities for additional collaboration to enhance the voice of Pennsylvania forestry. It is expected that additional discussions will occur in coming weeks.

PFA Moves Forward on Tree Farm Issues

Following a request from the Pennsylvania Tree Farm Committee that PFA consider assuming the administrative leadership for the Tree Farm Program, and action by the PFA Board at its early summer meeting, PFA is moving forward with a review of Tree Farm administrative obligations. A final determination on how and when PFA can assume those obligations will be made following receipt of any new information from the National Tree Farm Program office later this month.

Rachel Reyna Appointed to SAF Board of Directors

Congratulations to Rachel Reyna, PFA Board member and Chief of Rural and Community Forestry for DCNR, on her appointment to the Board of Directors in the Society of American Foresters (SAF). Reyna will represent District 7, replacing Kurt Gottschalk who passed away earlier this summer. Reyna has been a member of SAF since 1993. She holds a master's degree in forest resources from Penn State, a bachelor's degree in forestry from Louisiana State University and has received several awards including SAF's Young Forester Leadership Award in 2013.

Live Elk Cam!

Last month we announced the cancellation of the Elk Ramble due to the sad passing of Ralph Harrison who traditionally hosted this annual PFA event. Still interested in seeing elk in Pennsylvania forests? Check out the PA Game Commission's [announcement](#) about its Live Elk Cam with details on how to view these magnificent creatures during the bugling season.

PFA Appointment to the Sustainable Forestry Initiative Implementation Committee

Earlier this summer, PFA received a request from the Sustainable Forestry Initiative (SFI) Implementation Committee to select from its membership a non-industrial, private forest landowner member to represent PFA. At the PFA Board of Directors held earlier this month, Mark Ott was appointed to fill this position on the SFI Implementation Committee which is housed as a non-board committee of the Pennsylvania Forest Products Association and which meets quarterly. Thanks to Mark Ott for accepting this position and representing the PFA.

Dr. Donald Eggen Honored

The Forest Health Manager for the DCNR Bureau of Forestry, Dr. Donald Eggen, was recently honored for leadership and accomplishments in forest health and aviation safety at the 2015 Gypsy Moth Program Managers Meeting, sponsored by the U.S. Forest Service's Forest Health Program.

State Budget Woes Continue

Following 14 attempts to override the veto of specific line items in Governor Wolf's veto of the state budget bill, which failed along party line votes last month, Pennsylvania enters September with little optimism for resolution of the budget stalemate. Decision-makers may be prodded toward resolution in the near future as more and more organizations, including

legislative caucuses and school districts, come closer to exhausting the revenues available to them.

Environmental Policy Conference Scheduled

The PA Environmental Council will host an Environmental Policy Conference on October 13th in Harrisburg. The conference will be held at the Harrisburg Hilton from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Interested persons should contact PEC at 412-481-9400 for details.

PA State Museum to Host Special Program

The State Museum of Pennsylvania in Harrisburg will host a special program on September 15 on "Pennsylvania's Conservation Heritage Considered: A Special Preview and Panel Discussion" starting at 12:15. The program will include a preview of WITF's new short documentaries on Pennsylvania conservation legends Gifford Pinchot and Mira Lloyd Dock followed by a panel discussion.

DCNR Offering Conservation Partnership Grant Workshops in November

In partnership with the PA Recreation and Park Society, DCNR will again be offering free, in-person grant workshops at six locations across Pennsylvania in November. Attendees will be provided in-depth information on projects eligible for DCNR grant funds and related information. Visit DCNR's [Calendar of Events](#) webpage to register.

2015 Tree Farm Winner Announced

Alan Walters of Sycamore Hill Tree Farm in Ohio was selected as the [winner](#) of the 2015 Tree Farmer of the Year contest. Read more about his decades-long efforts to transform his 150-acre hilly, heavily wooded property into the award winning property it is today. Walters is also hosting an event on his farm on September 19 from 9 a.m. until 2 p.m. for visitors to enjoy over 50 presentations and hikes that day. RSVP for this event at ohtf2015@gmail.com or by calling (614) 212-3309.

PFA Dues Increase

The PFA Board has been discussing and reviewing proposals for a dues increase over the course of several Board meetings and has voted to initiate an increase which will be effective January 1, 2016. More specific information on dues increases will be forthcoming in future editions of the newsletter and in the *Pennsylvania Forests* magazine. One major increase will affect the Lifetime Membership category which will rise from \$500 to \$1,000. Why wait? Convert to a Lifetime Membership now and save on the dues increase. Your dues support the Association's focus on improving the health and productivity of our forest resources. Thank you.

Articles of Interest

Following are articles specific to your interests:

- 09-10-2015 [PDA: Second Berks County Township in Two Weeks Tests Positive for Spotted...](#)
(Press Release)
- 09-10-2015 [Bald Eagle State Forest expands to more than 197,000 total acres](#)
Bald Eagle State Forest expands total acres Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources Secretary Cindy Adams Dunn applauded the Bureau of Forestry and ClearWater Conservancy officials Wednesday in the expansion of Bald Eagle State Forest to more than 197,000 acres.... - [State College Centre Daily Times](#)

- 09-10-2015 [**Live Streaming Pennsylvania Elk and Elk State Forest**](#)
The last native Pennsylvania elk is believed to have met its demise at the hands of hunters in 1877. The Pennsylvania Game Commission began the reintroduction of elk in Pennsylvania by bringing in Rocky Mountain elk during a thirteen year period from 1913-1926. These animals were brought... - [Erie Times-News](#)
- 09-10-2015 [**Hike planned at Forbes forest**](#)
A Forbes State Forest naturalist is scheduled to lead a hike to Beam Rocks at 10 a.m. Sept. 19. Participants are asked to meet at the Burma Trailhead. For more details or to register, email rachristie@pa.gov or call 724-259-2201. - [Somerset Daily](#)
- 09-09-2015 [**Game Commission to Host Tours**](#)
(Press Release)
- 09-09-2015 [**Mt. Lebanon turns to archers in controlling deer population**](#)
Mt. Lebanon will start culling deer with archers later this month, seeking to supplement them with sharpshooters and applying for grants to sterilize deer as well. The board of commissioners approved some form of all three deer-control methods discussed Tuesday night.... - [Pittsburgh Tribune-Review](#)
- 09-09-2015 [**Elk cam live-streaming from Pennsylvania elk range**](#)
A live stream from a camera in the heart of the Pennsylvania elk range is available through the website of the Pennsylvania Game Commission at www.pgc.state.pa.us. The elk cam, which has already offered looks at some heavily antlered bull elk, was installed on State Game Lands 311 in Elk County with help from the... - [Harrisburg Patriot-News](#)
- 09-09-2015 [**Here's how one little program makes a big difference for conservation: James R. Grace**](#)
0 Reddit By James R. Grace While the clock is ticking on the Land and Water Conservation Fund, Congress has a chance to save it. You may not have heard of a small, but vital federal program, but you have surely benefited from it, whether you enjoy the great outdoors or not.... - [Harrisburg Patriot-News](#)
- 09-08-2015 [**PGC: Elk Cam Goes Live**](#)
(Press Release)
- 09-08-2015 [**PGC: Why Should I Pay More for My Hunting License?**](#)
(Press Release)
- 09-03-2015 [**DEP News for September 3, 2015**](#)
(Press Release)
- 09-03-2015 [**Public Comment Period Still Open on Pennsylvania's Wildlife Action Plan**](#)
(Press Release)
- 08-28-2015 [**Warning to Lehigh Valley: Prepare for the ash borer**](#)
Since the first confirmed sighting of the emerald ash borer in Pennsylvania eight years ago, the tree-killing beetle has spread virtually everywhere in the state — except, it seems, the counties of the Lehigh Valley and a handful of other places. But experts say the invasive Asian pests, which have killed scores of... - [Allentown Morning Call](#)

- 08-28-2015 [**New climate change study for Pennsylvania predicts good and bad effects for farmers**](#)
A state-mandated report on the effects of climate change in Pennsylvania says farmers should prepare for drastic changes to agriculture, both good and bad. The report says climate change would bring more favorable conditions for such agricultural pests as weeds and insects.... - [*Lancaster Intelligencer Journal*](#)
- 08-28-2015 [**Is the drought killing California's giant sequoias?**](#)
Sixty feet from the top of a giant sequoia named Kong, biologist Anthony Ambrose studied the foliage around him. Dense clusters of green leaves grew like shaving brushes from the branches, cones clustered like Indian clubs. Topping out 25 stories above the ground, Kong was spectacular, an ancient... - [*Los Angeles Times*](#)
- 08-27-2015 [**PA Climate Impacts Assessment Report Shows Threats to Human Health, Water and...**](#)
(Press Release)
- 08-26-2015 [**Lady loggers: Unique venue features AXE Women at Somerset County Fair**](#)
AXE Women member Alissa Harper prepares to cut a log with a crosscut saw Tuesday at the Somerset County Fair grandstand. Harper, along with fellow AXE member Laurette Russell and Michelle Morse (not pictured) demonstrated a variety of lumberjack skills that included log running, ax throwing and... - [*Somerset Daily*](#)
- 08-26-2015 [**'All hell is breaking loose': Nearly 150 Pa. firefighters help battle western wildfires**](#)
Near Umpqua Lighthouse State Park in Oregon, firefighters set up camp about two miles from wildfires in the area. That's where Charles Choplick, logistics and finance chief for the division of forest fire protection at the bureau of forestry, found himself earlier... - [*Harrisburg Patriot-News*](#)
- 08-24-2015 [**Save the land: Pennsylvania has a lot to gain from a federal fund**](#)
Unless Congress acts next month, Americans can say goodbye to the nation's most valuable conservation funding source over the past half-century. Anyone who cares about parks and open space needs to impress on lawmakers the importance of reauthorizing the Land and Water... - [*Pittsburgh Post-Gazette*](#)
- 08-24-2015 [**Upper Pottsgrove officials ahead of curve in saving trees**](#)
A tiny beetle has the ability to wipe out an entire breed of prevalent trees in our region, and Upper Pottsgrove Township officials are prepared to do battle. The township board of commissioners last week voted unanimously to look into having foresters from the Pennsylvania Bureau of Forestry mark all the... - [*Pottstown Mercury*](#)
- 08-24-2015 [**Pennsylvania Fire Wardens mark 100 years**](#)
Safety and education highlight day-long Owl Creek event By DONALD R. SERFASS dserfass@tnonline.com The 100th anniversary of the Pennsylvania Forest Fire Wardens was celebrated in Tamaqua's Owl Creek section Saturday by focusing on the aspects of the job that have made the wardens indispensable for a century.... - [*Lehigh Times News*](#)
- 08-23-2015 [**Send children outside: Nature is the best training ground for STEM careers**](#)
Outdoor environmental education cultivates curiosity and discovery in children, the fundamental building blocks of STEM (science, technology, engineering and math) literacy, and it encourages students to make science a part of everyday life. The

need to prepare students for STEM jobs is a regular refrain at... - [Pittsburgh Post-Gazette](#)

- 08-23-2015 [Heritage Corridor trail heads to Luzerne County](#)
Another piece of the Delaware & Lehigh National Heritage Corridor trail could be closer to completion. The D&L organization has a funding promise from Luzerne County for a 1.4-mile section of trail. Now it is waiting on a decision from the state regarding a grant application.... - [Scranton Times](#)
- 08-23-2015 [Target Shooters Bring Mayhem to National Forests](#)
Recreational target shooters call it “trigger trash” — tons and tons of refrigerators, car parts, televisions, sofas, bowling pins and other unwanted junk that shooters haul onto pristine federal woodlands and shred with gunfire for sheer enjoyment. The abuses are scarring forest lands from the Carolinas to the Pacific... - [New York Times](#)
- 08-20-2015 [PDA: Clean and Green Property Tax Relief Program Assists Farmers, Other Rural...](#)
(Press Release)
- 08-18-2015 [Best places to camp in Pennsylvania](#)
"Colton Point State Park, Tioga County. It's rustic but sits right on the edge of Pine Creek Gorge (aka, the Grand Canyon of Pennsylvania) and is adjacent to tens of thousands of acres of Pennsylvania state forest land with miles of dirt roads and trails to explore. One of my most favorite... - [Harrisburg Patriot-News](#)

Questions? Contact the PA Forestry Association at thepfa@paforestry.org or 1-800-835-8065. The PA Forestry Association is located at 116 Pine Street, 5th floor, Harrisburg, PA 17101. The newsletter is produced for the PFA by Versant Strategies.