



News You Can Use August 2015

produced for the PFA by Versant Strategies
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Elk Watch Ramble Canceled

Due to the recent passing of Ralph Harrison, who hosted the annual Elk Watch Ramble on his property in Elk County, the Elk Watch scheduled for September is canceled. If you missed Ralph's obituary, you can read it [here](#). Those of you who participated in past yearly camp-out adventures will have fond memories of these events. Over his career Ralph received many awards for his conservation efforts. He also wrote several books on Pennsylvania's elk population and Elk County.

Ag Progress Days

Visit us at [Ag Progress Days](#) on August 18-20 and see the brand new PFA exhibit. We are located in the Joseph Harrington conservation building at the end of East 5th Street in the APD [complex](#). Hope to see you there!

PFA Annual Meeting Reminder

Yes, we will continue to remind you of the PFA's Annual Meeting scheduled for **October 17 at the Doubletree Resort in Lancaster**. This is your opportunity to relax and catch up with friends while enjoying a great program. The details are all there in your summer edition of *Pennsylvania Forests* which you should have already received. If you did not receive your copy, call us at 1-800-835-8065!

Pipeline Infrastructure Task Force Meets

The newly appointed [Pipeline Infrastructure Task Force](#) met early last month for its organizational and introductory meeting. In his opening comments, DEP Secretary John Quigley stated that "Governor Wolf wants this industry to succeed and recognizes that the infrastructure Challenge is a major one and we need to work together to find the win-win opportunities to connect these wells to markets". The Task Force will be assisted by 110 members of 12 Work Groups appointed with the Task Force. Secretary Quigley indicated that the Task Force is expected to produce a draft report by November 2nd followed by a public comment period. The next meeting of the Task Force is scheduled for August 27, 2015.

First Secretary, Current Secretary Celebrate DCNR's 20th Anniversary

Together, John C. Oliver III and Cindy Adams Dunn celebrated the 20th Anniversary of the Department of Conservation and Natural Resources and its past accomplishments on July 22, 2015. Former and retired employees of DCNR and friends and supporters of the agency joined in the celebration at the Rachel Carson State Office Building in Harrisburg.

PFA Face Book Page Passes Milestone

Richard Lewis, PFA Board Member, informs us that PFA passed another communications milestone on July 30, 2015, when PFA achieved over 800 "likes" or followers on the PFA Face Book Page. Thanks, Richard, for managing that social media!

EPA Reminds DEP of Pennsylvania's Commitment to the Chesapeake Bay

The Director of EPA's Chesapeake Bay Program Office sent a letter recently to DEP reminding the agency that EPA can take action to assure Pennsylvania's nutrient and sediment reduction goals are met if Pennsylvania does not act. EPA also reminded DEP that Pennsylvania has 530 days to meet 2017 Clean Water Milestones.

Chesapeake Forest Champion Contest

The Alliance for the Chesapeake Bay and the U.S. Forest Service are soliciting nominations for the annual [Chesapeake Forest Champion](#) awards. Nominations must be received by August 12. The contest is open to landowners, community groups, nonprofits, forestry and natural resource professionals, schools, businesses, and various other groups who work to conserve and restore the trees and forests in the Chesapeake Bay watershed. Winner will be recognized at the Chesapeake Watershed Forum in Shepherdstown, WV on September 25.

PFA and PFFMA Representatives to Meet

Representatives of your association will meet in the near future with representatives of the Pennsylvania Forest Fire Museum Association to discuss how the two organizations might be able to collaborate on issues of mutual interest. A similar meeting was held earlier this year with representatives of the Pennsylvania Tree Farm Committee. The focus of these discussions is to identify ways to strengthen the overall forestry program in Pennsylvania by making more efficient use of limited resources.

Articles of Interest

Following are articles specific to your interests:

- 08-06-2015 [Deadline looms to sign up for gypsy moth program](#)
County residents worried about the gypsy moth caterpillar have just over a week to sign up for the county's mitigation program to deal with the insects. Since starting the program and promoting it at a meeting in July, people interested in insect spraying have been calling gypsy moth coordinator Keri... - [Wilkes-Barre Citizens' Voice](#)
- 08-06-2015 [Urban forest works best if it's diversified](#)
August 6, 2015 When it comes to the health of trees in the City of Warren, diversification is key. That's part of the message from Tom Frair, the city's arborist, who oversees the health of trees in the cit. more »» - [Warren Times Observer](#)
- 08-06-2015 [Planting milkweed helps monarch butterflies](#)
TROY - Judy Warn of Troy walks over to her flower garden and points to a single plant with a small orange flower. "It's taken a while to get established," she said. The plant is one of the many varieties of milkweed, and is called Butterflyweed. By growing the plant in her garden, Warn is seeking to do her part to help... - [Towanda Daily Review](#)

- 08-05-2015 **['What's the Buzz About Wild Bees?'](#)**
Among all the pollinators, honeybees get the most publicity, deservedly, because of the problems around their survival. Claire Kremen's research at the University of California, Berkeley, looks at diverse pollinators — not just bees, but also birds, moths and many insects — and the... - [New York Times](#)
- 08-03-2015 **[Outdoors notices: Aug. 3, 2015](#)**
Hiking • Forbes State Forest in Westmoreland County will have a free half-mile Boggling Bog hike to see the Spruce Flats Bog atop Laurel Mountain at 6 p.m. Aug. 14. Meet at the Laurel Summit State Park parking lot. Pre-register at 724-238-1200 or rchristie@pa.gov.... - [Pittsburgh Tribune-Review](#)
- 08-03-2015 **[How greenery can improve people's lives](#)**
Q: How is that being around trees and other plants can help us feel good? — AMY MOLA, GREENVILLE, SOUTH CAROLINA A: Trees are known to improve air quality by capturing six common air pollutants and toxic gases: ground-level ozone, particulate matter, carbon monoxide, nitrogen oxides, sulfur dioxide and lead. In fact, a single tree... - [Wilkes-Barre Citizens' Voice](#)
- 08-03-2015 **[Allegheny Mountain Woodland Association workshop to provide tips on invasive plants](#)**
Allegheny Mountain Woodland Association will hold an invasive plant program, "Thinking Holistically About Managing Invasive Plants on Your Farm and in Your Woods" at 9:30 a.m. Saturday at Ebensburg Borough Building, 300 W. High St. The workshop will present current philosophical and practical approaches to... - [Johnstown Tribune-Democrat](#)
- 08-03-2015 **[Thompson treats first eastern hemlock to combat pest](#)**
WARREN — This week, Congressman Glenn Thompson, R-Pa., applied a chemical treatment to the first eastern hemlock tree to suppress the hemlock woolly adelgid. He joined staff of the Allegheny National Forest, USFS Northern Research Station; the Pennsylvania Chapter of the Nature Conservancy; and members of... - [Bradford Era](#)
- 07-28-2015 **['It's going to be worse': Gypsy moth damage up for 2015, expected to continue](#)**
Cyclical by nature, damage from gypsy moth caterpillars this year approached the recent record for acres of trees affected in New Jersey. In Pennsylvania, experts say that based on recent defoliation surveys 2016 is not expected to be any better. "It's going to be worse," said Terry Brady, spokesman for the Pennsylvania... - [Easton Express-Times](#)
- 07-27-2015 **[Invasive beetle costs Pittsburgh-area power companies plenty](#)**
A pest the size of a grain of rice is causing big problems for utilities. "I think our biggest challenge has been trying to make sure that we don't spend our entire budget on removing dead ash trees," Jenny Arkett, manager of vegetation management for Duquesne Light Co., said about... - [Pittsburgh Tribune-Review](#)
- 07-24-2015 **[Fewer gas wells drilled in state's forests](#)**
Marcellus Shale gas drilling and development in Pennsylvania's forests slowed significantly in 2014, according to a report released Thursday in Harrisburg to the state Natural Gas Advisory Committee, reflecting market conditions. The Department of Conservation and Natural Resources report shows 47 new... - [Pittsburgh Post-](#)

[Gazette](#)

- 07-23-2015 [**Trees falling victim to disease, insects**](#)
Disease and insects are killing trees in Washington and Greene counties. Some of the issues plaguing trees have been exacerbated by the recent weather. This can be seen quite prevalently in Colorado blue spruce trees. According to retired forester and Waynesburg resident Bill Wentzel, blue... - [Washington Observer-Reporter](#)
- 07-22-2015 [**2 Local Keep PA Beautiful Affiliates Receive Community Tree Planting Grants**](#)
(Press Release)
- 07-22-2015 [**How Walking in Nature Changes the Brain**](#)
A walk in the park may soothe the mind and, in the process, change the workings of our brains in ways that improve our mental health, according to an interesting new study of the physical effects on the brain of visiting nature. Most of us today live in cities and spend far less time outside in green,... - [New York Times](#)
- 07-22-2015 [**State outlines gypsy moth suppression program**](#)
Cost of spray could nearly double in 2016 BY JARRAD HEDES
jmhedes@tnonline.com Gypsy moths wreaked havoc on trees in Carbon County this spring. Around 75 residents impacted by the devastation turned out Tuesday night to hear how the state's aerial pesticide spraying program can help their cause... - [Lehighon Times News](#)
- 07-21-2015 [**EPA Threatens to Act Unless Pennsylvania Makes Progress in Meeting Clean...**](#)
(Press Release)
- 07-20-2015 [**Amid concerns for their health, bees find a powerful buffet in an unlikely urban oasis**](#)
A bulldozer rumbled atop a massive construction-rubble landfill nearby as Sam Droege and Thom Wilson went bee-hunting beneath high-voltage power lines slicing across northeastern Baltimore. Every few steps he took, Droege — a wildlife biologist with the U.S.... - [Baltimore Sun](#)
- 07-20-2015 [**House bill takes another swing at Sunday hunting**](#)
So there's another push to potentially expand Sunday hunting in Pennsylvania. HB1374 was introduced June 24 by state Rep. Frank Farina of Lackawanna County. If passed, the bill itself would not expand Sunday hunting. Rather, it would transfer the regulation of Sunday hunting from the Legislature to the... - [Lancaster Intelligencer Journal](#)
- 07-16-2015 [**Areas of high risk for Lyme disease expand, including in Pennsylvania**](#)
NEW YORK — The geographic areas where Lyme disease is a bigger danger have grown dramatically, according to a government study published Wednesday... - [AP](#)
- 07-16-2015 [**West Penn Power to spend \\$1 million on ash tree removal**](#)
Ash trees have long stood tall across Centre County, but they're meeting an ugly demise. Emerald ash borer, an insect native to eastern Asia, has caused the destruction of ash trees, headaches and cost money for everyone else. West Penn Power announced Wednesday the continuing efforts of its Emerald... - [State College Centre Daily Times](#)
- 07-14-2015 [**PFBC: S.O.S. - Save Our Susquehanna! Contributions Approach \\$10,000**](#)

(Press Release)

- 07-14-2015 **[Pennsylvania Lumber Museum sees boost in visitors after construction](#)**
With the close of the state budget fiscal year in June, the Pennsylvania Lumber Museum near Galeton was found to have doubled its attendance since remodeling last year. The Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission's year-end inventory showed that more than 9,600 people visited the museum between July 2014 and... - [Bradford Era](#)
- 07-13-2015 **[Tree Pittsburgh looks to branch out with first symposium](#)**
Since 2007, more than 1,400 Allegheny County residents have taken a step beyond their love of trees through Tree Pittsburgh's Tree Tenders program. They normally operate as little bands of volunteers in their own neighborhoods, helping Tree Pittsburgh arborists mulch and prune young... - [Pittsburgh Post-Gazette](#)
- 07-13-2015 **[Debate heats up as forest bill goes to Senate](#)**
The debate on how to achieve healthy national forests is continuing as the Resilient Federal Forest Act of 2015 is now moving to the U.S. Senate. "It is not a protection of the forests but (the act) does have good qualities," said David Sublette, chairman of the Sierra Club's Pennsylvania... - [Oil City Derrick](#)
- 07-13-2015 **[Pennsylvania's only national forest yields secrets among hemlocks](#)**
The light in a healthy hemlock forest is much different than in any other forest — diffused and velvety soft with no harsh edges. The forest feels dark, cool and dense. An insect infestation has killed many of Pennsylvania's hemlock forests, reducing them to sickly shadows of what... - [Indiana Gazette](#)

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.