

Michigan Coalition for Clean Forests Adopt-a-Forest Fall 2005 Newsletter

Need to contact us?

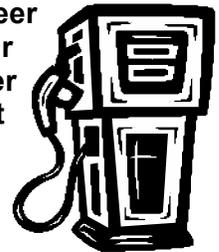
☎ Call the DNR at 989-275-5151 or USFS at 1-800-821-6263;

✉ E-mail us at cleanforests@cleanforests.org;

📄 Send a note to Adopt-a-Forest, 8717 North Roscommon Rd,
Roscommon, MI 48653; or

🌐 Find us at www.cleanforests.org

Soaring gas prices are making it more difficult to volunteer to clean up illegally dumped trash. If you itemize on your taxes, your mileage may be tax deductible at 14 cents per mile. To find out more, contact your tax preparer or visit www.irs.gov and refer to Publication 526, *Charitable Contributions* [pages 4 and 5].



FINAL NOTICE

Conservation Officer Nick Torskey (Oscoda) suggested that we post trash sites that have been investigated and flagged for cleanup.

A new NOTICE was created stating that the site is under investigation and asking citizens to call the RAP Hotline with information leading to the arrest of illegal dumpers.

These signs contain the DNR logo and law enforcement shield and are printed in red ink on heavy-duty outdoor paper.

Hopefully past and present dumpers will notice these signs and realize we're actively looking for them.

Sneak PEAK...

Be watching next spring for an Adopt-a-Forest poster picturing a Conservation Officer standing over a trash pile in Crawford County. It's entitled "Be Constructive, Not Destructive" and targets people who dump construction materials on public land. Approximately 70 percent of all piles include materials from construction or remodel jobs.

Two Birds with One Stone

Strategic Plan Item # 37, "Identify grant sources" and Item #38, "solicit volunteer grant writer..."

Welcome to Ms. Heather Frank from Eckerman, MI as our volunteer grant writer. Heather has been identifying grant sources and collecting information pertaining to our program. She's already started working with Wal-Mart to fund a local cleanup for the *UP Clean Forest Coalition* and has begun writing a grant to obtain cameras to catch illegal dumpers red-handed.

We're looking forward to continuing work with Heather and appreciate her commitment.



We have access to a new table-top display board through our partner, Project Learning Tree. If you would like to see the AAF program highlighted at a function, tell us about it at www.cleanforests.org

Power Plants



- ♦ A mature tree can take in and give off as much as 500 gallons of water in a summer's day.
- ♦ A strategically planted mature tree can offset a ton of CO2 over its lifetime and prevent 6 times as much from entering the atmosphere, because it reduces the amount of energy needed to run air conditioners.
- ♦ The evaporation from one large tree produces the same cool feelings as 10 air conditioners running 20 hours a day!

Source: ForestBytes, Arbor Day 2003



Glad We Got to Know You!

The GM UAW Job Banks program was a huge success this year. The Job Bank loaned us Tom Selbig as a FULL TIME volunteer this summer. Tom's work with us is coming to an end and we're sad to see him go.

Tom removed 100+ trash sites from Crawford, Roscommon and Kalkaska Counties since he started with us in May.

He filled approx. eight 20-yd dumpsters with trash removed from public land as well as four 40-yard scrap metal dumpsters. He worked with community groups such as the Grayling High School, National Guard, Corrections Crews, metal recyclers, and township officials.

One of Tom's first accomplishments was getting **USATrailers** in Grayling to donate a trailer to the program and **Grayling Township** to donate the license plate.

Tom also worked all summer on statewide trash maps and kept us organized with the AVL initiative. He recently worked on cleaning up a trespass site in Kalkaska County and also talked at the statewide Communications Assistant meeting to let them know what he was working on.

We appreciate Tom's tireless efforts and hope he'll come back to visit us even after his work here is done.

Field of Dreams

Tidbits from the field (where the real work gets done):

♣ Boy Scout Troop #223 and Cub Scout Pack #222 from Algonac, Michigan really cleaned up when thirty-seven scouts and leaders scoured an area in St. Clair County. They even found proof of dumping! We appreciate their efforts.

♣ The Clinton County Family Court crew and their leader, Jim Armantrout, made a big dent in the trash problem in Cheboygan and Otsego Counties. They also worked on trail maintenance in the Pigeon River Area. Visitors and critters are very thankful for their continued support.

♣ The Lansing Motorcycle Club continues to clean up sites throughout the year. Broken ribs and rotten canned goods can't even slow this group down.

If your group is not listed and you work hard year after year to keep Michigan clean, we haven't overlooked your efforts. We have received 80 progress reports for the 2005 season and they're still coming in. We wish we could list them all.

**THANKS TO ALL OF OUR VOLUNTEERS AND
PARTNERS FOR A GREAT SEASON
IN THE WOODS!**

More than 2 million tons of used electronics are disposed of each year. Based on current disposal rates, Americans will have also discarded up to 154 million computers by 2005.

Manufacturing one desktop computer requires fossil fuels and chemicals that amount to at least 9 times the weight of a computer.

Safely recycling and reusing electronics helps keep substances like lead and mercury from harming people or the environment.

Source: www.plugintorecycling.org