





Michigan Coalition for Clean Forests Adopt-a-Forest Fall 2004 Newsletter

Can we help?

-  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

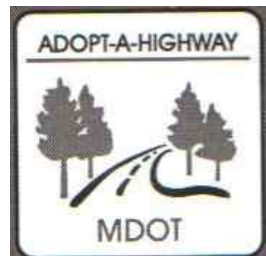
Many illegal dumpsites are now covered with piles of leaves and soon will be under mountains of snow.

Are you thinking “out of sight, out of mind”? Think again.

Many program strides are made during the winter months.

ADOPT-A-HIGHWAY

The Lansing Motorcycle Club, a very active group in Adopt-a-Forest, also participates in the Adopt-a-Highway program. The stretch of M-55 west of Reedsburg Dam State Forest Campground is one of their designated areas. They are so dedicated to the Adopt-a-Forest program that they requested “Michigan Coalition for Clean Forests” designated as the sponsor on the signs for a two mile area. Thanks for the continued support and hard work LMC!



DTE Energy®



The new Adopt-a-Forest signs, donated by DTE Energy, have arrived! If you have adopted at least 640 acres (one square mile) and would like a sign posted in your area, contact us at cleanforests@cleanforests.org. We will also replace damaged signs. All signs must be approved by the local land manager before posting.

Thanks to DTE Energy for their continued support. These signs will highlight our program for many years to come.

We're Counting on You...

Volunteers have reported removing 650 truck loads of trash from 89 square miles of public land so far in 2004. This amount includes nearly 4,000 scrap tires. In addition, fifty-five percent of all trash removed from public land was recycled—that's great!

Make sure your efforts are counted. If you haven't submitted a progress report, one is enclosed for your convenience.

Join us in the 21st Century

We would like to save postage and send this newsletter to you twice a year by e-mail. Please drop us a note at cleanforests@cleanforests.org with "Newsletter" and your name in the subject line. If interested, we can also send notification of volunteer projects in your area. If you would like to be taken off the mailing list, type "Remove" and your name in the subject line.



Automatic Vehicle Locators

Many Conservation Officers have been tracking trash using their patrol unit's tracking device, an AVL. Officers are able to "drop a marker" when they see trash piles on public lands. This signals the system to print a map which can later be sent to program managers for cleanup by volunteers.

Conservation Officers continue to make contact with violators whenever proof of dumping is found.



Tile Donation

In our last fall newsletter, we told you that *Terrapin Tile* made a special edition tile to commemorate 2004 as the 100th Anniversary of State Forests. Terrapin Tile has since made a \$325 donation to the Adopt-a-Forest program from tile proceeds. They also donated various tiles for fund raisers and as thank you gifts to volunteers and partners. For further information about Terrapin Tile, visit their website at www.terrapiintile.com

Spread the Word

Did you know that your State Legislators are usually in their home districts and conduct office hours on Mondays and Fridays? If you haven't yet, MCCF encourages you to contact your Legislators and share your concerns about illegal dumping.

STRATEGIC PLAN Item # 13:

"Monitor media contacts and determine which had biggest impact"

Update: We're compiling a list of 2004 media contacts (radio, television, newspapers, organization newsletter highlights, etc.).

If you are aware of media coverage the Adopt-a-Forest program received, please make sure to send us a copy with your progress report.

CONGRATS!

In October 2003, USDA Forest Service, Hiawatha National Forest received an *Honor Award* from the U.S. Department of Agriculture "for exemplary effort in coordinating a multi-agency partnership to address health and safety issues for employees and forest users resulting from illegal trash dumping on the Hiawatha National Forest."



No Butts About It

- It takes 10 years for one cigarette butt to biodegrade.
- Cigarette butts tossed out carelessly are often the cause of forest fires.
- There are over 176,000,000 pounds of discarded butts in the United States each year.

Source: No Butts About It Litteer Campaign

Welcome to our new Trash Team members...

Chris Frederick
USFS, Baldwin Ranger District

Teresa Salveta
Michigan Association of Conservation Districts

Kathy Ryan, Huron Pines RC&D