



Michigan Coalition for Clean Forests Adopt-a-Forest Spring 2006 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

Spring has come and gone and it's already June. The summer months will be over before we know it. We realize that your time is valuable.

That's why we want to extend an EXTRA BIG THANKS to those of you who dedicate time and effort to keeping Michigan's forests clean of illegally dumped trash. Without your working on physical cleanups and spreading the word about the program, our forests would be trashed--literally!

Be Constructive, Not Destructive!

The new poster has arrived! It depicts a Conservation Officer standing over a trash pile and says..."Help us help you. Trashing illegal dumpers on public land is our business; please make it yours. Dispose of trash legally or pay for it later."

Many major lumber stores have agreed to hang these posters.

If you would like a supply to post around your town, feel free to contact us.

The poster can also be viewed on our website at www.cleanforests.org

Special Cause License Plate

Senator Michelle McManus recently proposed a Bill to sponsor a Special Cause License Plate.

Michigan vehicle owners would have the option of purchasing the license plate (most likely with a tree on it) for an additional \$35 fee; \$25 of which would be directed to the Adopt-a-Forest program.

Stay tuned for further information.

Proper Pruning...

A great feature has been added to www.arboday.org It's a fun way to learn the basics of shade tree pruning.

You can watch pruned and unpruned trees "grow" side by side and even use pruning tools to try your hand at improving an unkept tree.

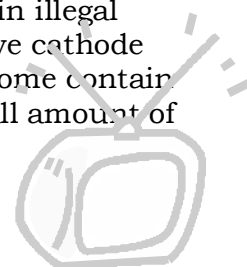
To get started, simply go to arboday.org/pruning



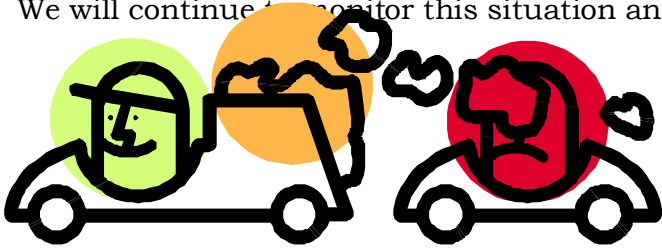
The Federal Communication Commission has mandated that all broadcasting be digital by February, 2009 to "free up parts of the scarce and valuable airwaves."

This means that many older model televisions will become obsolete without converter boxes.

We anticipate a marked increase in illegal dumping of TVs (most models have cathode ray tubes that contain lead and some contain liquid crystal displays with a small amount of mercury).



We will continue to monitor this situation and



REMINDERS for a SUCCESSFUL CLEANUP

- ◆ Tarp your load! Flying debris from the back of trucks and trailers can cause accidents and makes a big mess.
- ◆ Trailers registered in Michigan now require permanent license plates. Please make sure your trailer is road-worthy with current plates.
- ◆ Dumpsters left at cleanup sites for extended periods always attract additional trash. Please have dumpsters removed as soon as possible after a cleanup.
- ◆ The price of metals is very high. Many reclaimers and recycling plants are willing to pay for scrap metal found on public land. Many are even willing to place a dumpster on-site and remove it at no cost. Do not pay to dispose of metals. Look under “Scrap Metal” in your Yellow Pages to locate a recycler near you.
- ◆ Many groups have been finding potentially hazardous waste (like full 55-gallon drums). PLEASE leave hazardous materials on-site and contact your local project manager. Household generated items such as aerosol and paint cans can be removed and merged with the general trash.

Emmet County
Household Hazardous Waste Collection
 July 29, 2006 and September 30, 2006

An appointment is required for safety reasons. Anyone wishing to participate should contact the Emmet County DPW at 231-348-0660.

To find a HHHW Collection in your area, visit the DEQs webpage at: www.michigan.gov/deg under “waste” then “Hazardous and Liquid Industrial Waste” then “Household Hazardous Waste Collection.”

keep you apprised of any changes.

STRATEGIC PLAN Action Item #17:

“Develop information packet to help local municipalities facilitate community-wide cleanups.”

We understand that the best way to control illegal dumping on public land is to increase options for legal disposal. This includes programs such as community cleanups, recycling stations and curbside pickup.

If you have experience in setting up a community-wide cleanup and would like to give input on a guide to help communities get started, please contact Ada Takacs at 989-275-5151, Ext. 2049 or at takacs@michigan.gov.

Most of your time would be participating in short toll-free conference calls after reviewing materials mailed to you.



Empty Pockets

The Department of Natural Resources allocates limited funding on a PRE-APPROVED basis for disposal of trash that has been dumped on state land.

The good news: many major cleanups were completed this year. The bad news: we have spent our annual funding.

The Michigan Coalition for Clean Forests continues to solicit donations from corporations and alternate funding sources. Many volunteer groups garner local support or find a way to merge trash with their curbside pickup.

There are currently 1,073 trash sites on state and federal land. You can view a list of sites in your area at www.cleanforests.org under “Interactive” and “Search Dumpsite Database” or contact us for a list.

If you volunteer to clean up a site, please make sure to fill out a progress report.

Statistics from progress reports are useful when working with the media and competing for funding.