

# Leaves

## Newsletter of the Michigan Forest Association

6120 South Clinton Trail, Eaton Rapids, MI 48827

Phone & FAX 517-663-3423

Volume XXVIII

E-mail [miforest@acd.net](mailto:miforest@acd.net)

July, 2010

Web site: [www.michiganforests.com](http://www.michiganforests.com)

Number 6

### Association News

**Register Now for Annual Meeting Aug 13 & 14, 2010. LAST CHANCE!** The 2010 annual meeting will be at the Cole Canoe Base near West Branch. Cole Canoe Base is a Boy Scout camp on the Rifle River.

Revenue from harvest of timber is an important and significant part of the camp's budget and has been for many years. We will visit their managed forest with camp manager and forester Gus Chutorash. We will also see some of their streambank restoration work on the Rifle River.

Camp staff will conduct basic canoeing instructions in a pond to help MFA members refresh their skills or learn from scratch. Cole Canoe Base will furnish canoes and their transport. Alternate on-land tour of a local rail fence factory will be available for those who don't wish to paddle.

Reservation form has been sent in previous mailings; it and motel list are available on the web site, or write or call the MFA office. See address and phone number above. Some campsites will be available at the camp

**Teacher Workshop in Northern Lower Peninsula.** MFA is partnering with Trees for Tomorrow Camp in northern Wisconsin to conduct forest-related workshops for teachers in northern Lower Michigan. Planning is underway now for a pilot project in the summer of 2011. Our teachers have a heavy responsibility for educating the next generation of forest users and policy makers. We, too, have a responsibility and that is to help the teachers understand what's going on out there in the woods.

**Wanigan trailer is still popular.** Coming events are: **Genesee County Fair**, week of August 16, **SumMore Fest**, Southfield, August 28 – 29, **Woods 'n Waters Outdoor Weekend**, Imlay City, September 10 – 12, and the **Livingston County Family Field Day**, Howell, September 18. To transport the trailer you need a ¾-ton pickup or equivalent. It must have electric brake hookup, as the trailer is heavy. We'll be needing lots of help! To volunteer, give a call to the MFA office or drop us an e-mail at [miforest@acd.net](mailto:miforest@acd.net). We can pay mileage for people who tow the trailer for MFA. If you can't volunteer for a shift, stop by and say hello.

### WILDLIFE NEWS

**Gladwin Man Guilty in Wolf Killing.** A Gladwin man was sentenced in District Court in St. Ignace for killing a wolf last muzzle-loader season. He will pay \$500 in fines and costs plus \$1,500 in restitution. Also, he will forfeit his hunting privileges for one year.

DNRE listserve

**Wolf Pup Captured and Released in Northern Lower Peninsula.** The Department of Natural Resources and Environment (DNRE) has reported trapping, tagging and releasing a wolf pup in Cheboygan County. DNRE is hoping to catch and release an adult wolf after attaching a radio-collar to it. This effort is aimed at gathering information on distribution, activities and population numbers in the Lower Peninsula. The pup was a male and weighed 23 lbs.

DNRE listserve



**Wolf pup in Cheboygan County**

## Forest Health

**Fungal Infections in White Pine in Northeast.** A condition called white pine needle cast is affecting pines in Maine. Needles first turn yellow, then brown and then fall prematurely. (Can this also be showing up in Michigan?)  
The e-forester

**Giant, Poisonous Weed Spreading.** Giant hogweed has been found from Vancouver Island to Toronto and in New York and Pennsylvania. The plant's sap is toxic, causing skin irritation when exposed to sunlight and temporary or even permanent blindness if it should enter the eye. It grows in wet soils on roadsides and streambanks, often crowding out native plants.  
The e-forester



Giant Hogweed

## Legislation

**New York Law Bans Movement of Firewood.** New York has a ban on moving firewood more than 50 miles from its point of origin. Firewood haulers are required to have a certificate of origin for any wood they are carrying. The law provides for a \$250 fine for violators. Blank certificates can be obtained online. This is evidently an effort aimed at preventing the spread of insects and diseases. We should hope it works.  
The Northern Logger and Timber Processor

## Alternative Energy

**Looking for a good boiler to convert...** The Southeast Michigan Resource Conservation and Development Council is offering a grant of \$62,600 to an institution interested in converting a boiler to accommodate wood fuel. They are looking for a boiler system between 500,000 and 4 million Btu per hour. Application deadline was July 26. Contact Jessica Simons, Natural Resources Specialist, Southeast Michigan RC&D Council, 7203 Jackson Road, Ann Arbor, MI 48103-9506, 517-851-2372.

**UP Paper Mill Launches Renewable Energy Project.** Verso Paper has announced the start of a renewable energy project at its paper mill in Quinnesec, near Iron Mountain. This is part of a three-pronged effort to reduce overall energy consumption, generate more energy from renewable biomass and cut costs. More information is available at [www.versopaper.com](http://www.versopaper.com).  
Great Lakes Innovation & Technology Report

**Scientists, Senators Concerned about EPA Rules.** Over 100 scientists signed a letter expressing their concerns about the EPA's "Tailoring Rule" and other policies that equate emissions from biomass energy with fossil fuel emissions. The letter went to chairs and ranking members of three Senate committees. It stated that biomass has an important role in our nation's renewable energy policy and that EPA regulations are impeding the existence and potential development of renewable biomass energy sources.  
The e-forester

**Michigan Forest Biomass Inventory.** A system for inventory of Michigan forest biomass is under development at Michigan Technological University and Michigan State University in cooperation with the Michigan Economic Development Corp. and the Michigan Forest Products Council. The inventory system will incorporate information on soils, land cover data, transportation networks, political boundaries and ownership and will also look at the potential of forest-based biomass to support the state's expanded renewable energy goals.  
Michigan Biomass

## Miscellaneous

**Invasive Species Course for Teachers.** Free for teachers at any grade level, this two-day course is sponsored by the Inland Seas Education Association. The 77-foot schooner Inland Seas will sail from Suttons Bay July 12. For more information, contact the Inland Seas Education Association at 231-271-3077.  
Michigan Science Teachers Ass'n.

**Woody Biomass/Timber Harvesting and Processing Exposition.** Sponsored by Sustainable Resources Institute, Inc., Michigan Association of Timbermen, Michigan Institute for Timber Resource and Educational Excellence, Michigan Department of Natural Resources and Environment and US Forest Service Wood Education and Resource Center, this exposition will take place on August 18 and 19 near Traverse City. Find more information by e-mail to [jandaust@timbermen.org](mailto:jandaust@timbermen.org) or by phone at 906-428-4409.  
Mich. Assoc. of Timbermen