

Forked River Mountain Views

Newsletter of the Forked River Mountain Coalition

Vol. 5 No. 2

***** Just a Reminder *****

Forked River Mountain Cleanup

*Where: Wells Mills County Park
Route 532
Waretown*

*When: Sunday, April 19, 1998
Arrive Between
8:30 am and 9:00 am
Return Between
12:30 pm and 1:00 pm*

*** Optional Hike Afterwards***

***For more information or to pre-register call
(609) 971-1635.***

Annual Meeting Set

*A special **Thank you** to the dozens of individuals who recently joined or renewed their membership with the Coalition. This support will enable the Coalition to continue our grass-roots initiative so we can all realize our goals of preserving the Forked River Mountains and the vast wilderness that surrounds them.*

Members of the Coalition will be able to participate in the fourth Annual Meeting and election of members to the Board of Trustees. The Annual Meeting is scheduled for May 25, 1998 at 9:30 a.m. at Double Trouble State Park. If you are a member of the Coalition, you will receive a written notice of the election about a month before the Annual Meeting.

If you are not currently a member of the Coalition but would like to join, or if you are a member and have not yet renewed your membership, simply complete the registration form in this newsletter. Be sure to mark the appropriate box and return the form along with your \$15 membership dues for 1998.

Join Us in the Great Outdoors. . .

Here are three exciting opportunities to learn more about the Forked River Mountains and view the areas unique flora and fauna. . .

Barnegat Bay Festival

The Second Annual Barnegat Bay Festival will be held on Saturday, May 16, 1998. The festival is a cooperative effort of non-profit organizations and government agencies dedicated to maintaining the health and quality of the Barnegat Bay and its vast watershed covering most of Ocean County. The festival is designed to heighten environmental awareness about the natural resources of the watershed and the impact of human activities on these resources. Nearly two dozen activities are being planned.

The Forked River Mountain Coalition and the New Jersey Conservation Foundation, will present a program entitled: Exploring the Forked River Mountain Reserve. The program will begin with a slide presentation about the Forked River Mountains and this vast Pinelands wilderness. Afterward we will hike into the forest to explore a pristine Pinelands stream and an Atlantic white cedar swamp.

Open space conservation in the Pinelands compliments efforts to protect Barnegat Bay because many of the streams and rivers that flow into the bay originate in the Pinelands. The Forked River Mountain area contains the headwaters to three major tributaries of Barnegat Bay, including the Cedar Creek, Forked River and Oyster Creek.

There is a limit of 40 persons for our program so pre-registration is necessary. The rain date is Sunday, May 17, 1998. For additional information call (732)506-5313.



Canoe Trip

The Forked River Mountain Coalition in cooperation with the Ocean County Parks Department will sponsor our fourth annual canoe trip down Cedar Creek on May 25, 1998. We will depart Double Trouble State Park at 10:00 am and return approximately 3:00 pm. The cost is \$5 per person. There is a three (3) person limit per canoe.

Bring lunch, drink, insect repellent, sun tan lotion, hat or sun glasses. Long pants and sneakers are recommended. No alcohol.

We will provide canoes, life preservers and transportation back to Double Trouble State Park.

Persons who are interested in attending should complete and return the registration form in this newsletter or call (609) 971-1635 for more information.



Treefrog Hike

If you would like to try your luck at discovering an endangered Pine Barrens Treefrog join us on the evening of Friday June 5, 1998. We will meet at the Bamber Village Store at 7:30 pm and return around 9:30 pm. The Bamber Store is located at the intersection of Lacey Road and Dover Road about 5 1/2 miles west of Parkway exit 74.

There will also be an opportunity to view several unique plants during the hike including, sundews pitcher plants and endangered curly-grass fern.

The cost for this program is only \$5 per person. You must provide your own transportation. Long pants and boots are recommended, bring insect repellent. Persons who are interested in attending should complete and return the registration form in this newsletter or call (609) 971-1635 for more information.



Pine Barrens Treefrog

* Treefrog illustrations from *A Field Guide to the Pine Barrens of New Jersey*, by Howard Boyd, Plexus Publishing, Inc. Medford, NJ

**Support the
Forked River Mountain Coalition**



\$10

Caps	\$5
Mugs	\$5
Tote Bags	\$10
Tee Shirts	
 Sweat Shirts	 \$15

***** NEW *** Mouse Pads \$5 *****

**Available at : Odd-it-Tees, 405 Route 9, Forked River, NJ 08731
Telephone: (609)693-Tees**

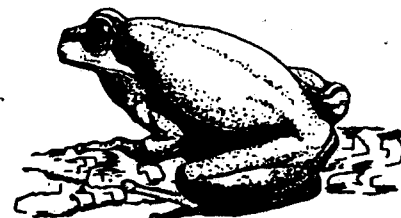
Critter Corner. . .

Pine Barrens Treefrog (*Hyla andersonii*)

The Pine Barrens treefrog is a stout bodied little frog averaging about 1 ½ inches with a broad rounded head, long thin legs and well developed toe-discs. It is easily distinguished by a bright green dorsal color and a lavender side stripe bordered in white. The underside and belly are white and males have purple-gray throats. The limbs have a light line between the legs and feet, giving the impression that the frog is wearing gloves.

This species of treefrog is found in proper habitat in Florida and South Carolina as well as New Jersey. In this state, the treefrog has a discontinuous range restricted to the Pine Barrens, which is the northernmost and largest population known. The Atlantic white-cedar, a dominant bogland tree species, provides the prime habitat requirements. Pine Barren treefrogs are known to breed in vernal pools within the floodplain of white cedar bogs and swamps and pitch pine lowlands during May, June and July. They return to a terrestrial habitat after the breeding season. Currently very little is known about the Pine Barrens treefrog in its nonbreeding habitat.

In New Jersey the Pine Barrens treefrog is considered an Endangered species. This status designation reflects the pollution and destruction of the fragile habitat for which this treefrog is named. Many of the previously known breeding locations have given way to man's encroachment. Housing developments, recreational land use, insecticide spraying, and the use of defoliant along roadways and power lines are examples of such habitat destruction. This species can be considered an indicator of a healthy environment. Large tracts of land must be set aside as a natural preserve if the Pine Barrens treefrog is to be ensured of a future. With your help, our acquisition and conservation efforts will make sure the Pine Barrens treefrog will always have a home in the Forked River Mountains wilderness.



Pine Barrens Treefrog

All contributions are tax-deductible. Thank you!

Forked River Mountain Coalition
P.O. Box 219, Forked River, NJ 08731

Please make checks payable to:
and mail to:

- I have enclosed membership dues of \$20.00 (individual) \$35 (family) Please circle: New Renewal
- I have enclosed an additional contribution of \$_____.
- I would like to volunteer, please contact me.
- Please send information on how to include the Coalition in my will.

E-Mail Address _____

Phone () _____ Day () _____ (eve) _____

Address _____

Name _____

Membership Application



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