



Forked River Mountain Views

Newsletter of the Forked River Mountain Coalition

Vol. 1 No. 1

Clean Up

"Provide dumpsters and they will come." That's exactly what 110 volunteers did on the morning of Sunday, April 24, 1994. Young and old worked (and we mean worked) side by side for nearly three hours. The result - 23 tons of trash and illegally dumped debris was collected and removed from the woods around the Forked River Mountains. After the clean up we met on the mountain for some refreshments and to take in the sights.

The clean up was a cooperative effort between the Coalition, the Ocean County Parks Department and the Pinelands Preservation Alliance. A lot of planning and organization went into this event and we had all hoped for a good turn-out but we just never expected such an overwhelming response.

The clean up would have not been such a huge success if it were not for the donations of help and equipment provided by the following businesses and organizations to which we offer our thanks: Ocean County Landfill Corp., Ocean County Department of Solid Waste, Brick Wall Corp., Jersey Central Power & Light Co., Lacey Used Auto Parts, Ciba-Geigy Corp., The Township of Lacey and Joseph Brunetti Construction Company. As for the 110 volunteers who gave it their all on that day, the only thing left to say is THANK YOU.

Other Activities

Other activities of the Coalition for the first four months of 1994 include:

✓ Monitoring development applications for such things as resource extraction sites, a forestry operation in the vicinity of threatened and endangered species and a proposed major subdivision as well as

several others.

✓ A round-table meeting with representatives of the Pinelands Commission, Green Acres Program, Division of Fish & Game, Division of Parks & Forestry, NJ Conservation Foundation and The Nature Conservancy to discuss, in a general sense, the goals of our grass-roots initiative, possible funding sources (and processes) for acquisition, alternatives and strategies. A follow up meeting is planned for the fall.

✓ A VIP tour to help familiarize representatives of our federal legislators with the uniqueness - and vastness - of the Forked River Mountain area. Senators Bradley and Lautenberg and Congressman Saxton each sent a representative to take a first hand look at the area and hear the Coalition's goals and concerns.

Activities planned by the Coalition for the remainder of this year include developing a slide show for presentations and talks, constructing a table top display for use as a portable exhibit and future mailings to keep all of you that have expressed an interest and support for the mountains informed of important events and our progress.

*If you would like to know more about the Forked River Mountains or what you can do to help preserve this rich wilderness, contact the Forked River Mountain Coalition
by calling:
609-971-1635
or writing:
P.O. Box 219
Forked River, NJ 08731*

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