



# Forked River Mountain Views

Newsletter of the Forked River Mountain Coalition

[www.frmc.org](http://www.frmc.org)

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## A LOOK BACK. . . A LOOK AHEAD. . .

Below are just some of our accomplishments for 2018, and some of our future goals for 2019 and beyond.

### 2018 Accomplishments

- ✓ On September 19, 2018 the Ocean County Board of Chosen Freeholders unanimously passed a resolution to acquire nearly 8000 acres of land surrounding the Forked River Mountains.
- ✓ Volunteers removed 18 tons of trash during the 25th Annual Spring Cleanup. To date, more than 690 tons (well over one-million pounds) of debris has been removed from the vast Pinelands forest surrounding the Forked River Mountains.
- ✓ Hosted an annual meeting of stakeholders with representatives from over a dozen agencies and non-profit organizations to discuss ongoing open space acquisition efforts as well as land stewardship and management needs within the Forked River Mountain area.
- ✓ Sponsored and participated in a variety of educational events, like the Barnegat Bay Festival and Pine Barrens Jamboree, to promote a greater awareness about the importance and significance of the Forked River Mountain area.
- ✓ Continued to publish our newsletter, "Forked River Mountain Views," and update our website to report on our activities and educate the public about conservation and stewardship efforts in the area.
- ✓ Conducted general cleanup and maintenance along our hiking/interpretive trail and at our four main preserves. The total of all the land protected in our preserves stands at just over 106 acres.

### 2019 Goals

- ❖ Acquire more land. Yes, even with the recent county announcement, there is still more land that must be acquired in order to protect the entire Forked River Mountain area as open space.
- ❖ Continue plant and wildlife studies. We must understand the habitat requirements of threatened and endangered species if we are to ensure their survival here and elsewhere.
- ❖ Continue to seek grants that will support our acquisition and stewardship activities.
- ❖ Continue work on a comprehensive trails system for the Forked River Mountain area. Eventually over 20 miles of hiking, interpretive, mountain biking, horseback, cross-country skiing and motor vehicle trails are possible.
- ❖ Sponsor additional Eagle Scout projects to support conservation and stewardship activities.
- ❖ Maintain and expand our web site to bring you all the important information and news you need to know about the Forked River Mountains and the Coalition.
- ❖ Conduct the annual spring cleanup, our annual canoe trip and treefrog hike and participate in the Barnegat Bay Festival, Pine Barrens Jamboree and other educational events to promote greater awareness about the importance and significance of the Forked River Mountain area.

But we can only realize our goals with your help. If you are not currently a member of the Coalition and would like to join, or if you are a member and have not yet renewed your membership, simply complete the registration form provided. Be sure to mark the appropriate box and return the form along with your membership dues for 2019. Please help support the grass-roots initiative to permanently protect the Forked River Mountains and the vast wilderness that surrounds them.

## VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

### **Field Day, March 30, 2019.**

Location: To Be Determined

Time: 9:00 am to 1:00 pm.

For more information visit our website  
at [www.frnc.org](http://www.frnc.org) or call 609-971-1635.

**Annual Cleanup, April 14, 2019.** Meet at Lacey Township Municipal Building, 818 W. Lacey Road, Forked River. Arrive between 8:30am and 9:00am. Return between 12:30pm and 1:00pm. Last year volunteers helped to clean up 18 tons of trash. Please help make this year's clean up another success. Bags and gloves will be supplied. Volunteers with four wheel drive vehicles are especially needed. If you would like to help please call 609-971-1635.

**Barnegat Bay Festival, June 2, 2019.** Help out at our educational exhibit at the Wanamaker Complex, on the Toms River, in Island Heights. Available Shifts: 9am-12pm, 12pm-2pm and 2pm-4pm. Call 609-971-1635.

## 2019 Calendar of Events

### Field Day

March 30, 2019, 9 am ~ 1 pm

Location: TBD

### Annual Cleanup

April 14, 2019, 9 am ~ 1 pm

Lacey Town Hall

### Annual Meeting

May 14, 2019, 7 pm ~ 8 pm

Jakes Branch County Park

### Annual Canoe Trip

May 25, 2019, 9 am ~ 3 pm

William J. Dudley Park

### Treefrog Hike

May 31, 2019, 7:30 pm~9:30 pm

Webb's Mill

### Barnegat Bay Festival

June 2, 2019, 9 am ~ 4 pm

Wanamaker Complex

For more details visit our  
website at [www.frnc.org](http://www.frnc.org)