



# Forked River Mountain Views

*Newsletter of the Forked River Mountain Coalition*

*www.frmc.org*

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

Below are just some of our accomplishments for 2012, and some of our future goals for 2013 and beyond.

### 2012 Accomplishments

- ✓ Acquired over 5 acres of environmentally sensitive land adjacent to our Cedar Creek Preserve. The preserve now has a total of 16 acres, and the grand total of all the land protected in our preserves stands at over 106 acres.
- ✓ Working with Coalition partners, continued to assess the habitat management needs of a very rare plant species. The Bog Asphodel is found nowhere else but in the New Jersey Pinelands.
- ✓ We were awarded a \$3,000 grant from Barnegat Bay Charities to help with acquisition and stewardship efforts in this important area of the Barnegat Bay watershed.
- ✓ Volunteers removed 43 tons of trash during the Nineteenth Annual Spring Cleanup. To date, more than 539 tons (over one-million pounds) of debris has been removed from the vast Pinelands forest surrounding the Forked River Mountains.
- ✓ Sponsored an Eagle Scout project at our Cedar Creek Preserve to improve public access and enhance habitat for certain flowering plants.
- ✓ 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.

### 2013 Goals

- ❖ Acquire more land. Precious little time remains if we are 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 2013. 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 16, 2013.** Scheduled work includes posting signs, painting trail blazes and clearing brush along our hiking/nature trail. Some advance work ahead of the cleanup is also necessary. We will meet at Wells Mills County Park, Route 532, Waretown at 9:00 am and will return around 1:00pm. If you would like to lend a hand please call 609-971-1635.

**Field Day, March 30, 2013.** Scheduled work includes general clean-up and maintenance at our Oak Leaf and Cedar Creek Preserves. Some advance work ahead of the cleanup is also necessary. We will meet at Lacey Township Municipal Building, 818 Lacey Road, Forked River at 9:00 am and will return around 1:00pm. If you would like to lend a hand, at either field day, please call 609-971-1635.

**Annual Cleanup, April 21, 2013.** Meet at Lacey Township Municipal Building, 818 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 43 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, 2013.** 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.

**Blueberry Festival, June 29, 2013.** Help out at our educational exhibit at Historic Whitesbog Village, Route 530, Browns Mills. Available Shifts: 9am-12pm, 12pm-2pm and 2pm-4pm. Call 609-971-1635.

## 2013 Calendar of Events

Field Day  
March 16, 2013, 9 am ~ 1 pm  
Wells Mills Park

Field Day  
March 30, 2013, 9 am ~ 1 pm  
Lacey Town Hall

Annual Cleanup  
April 21, 2013, 9 am ~ 1 pm  
Lacey Town Hall

Annual Meeting  
May 25, 2013, 10:00 am  
Double Trouble State Park

Cedar Creek Canoe Trip  
May 25, 2013, 10:30 am ~ 3 pm  
Double Trouble State Park

Treefrog Hike  
May 31, 2013, 7:30 pm~ 9:30 pm  
Webb's Mill

Barnegat Bay Festival  
June 2, 2013, 9 am ~ 4 pm  
Wanamaker Complex

Blueberry Festival  
June 29, 2013, 9 am ~ 4 pm  
Whitesbog Village

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