



Melissa Velez-Morales

From: Masser, Michelle
Sent: Thursday, September 29, 2016 10:13 AM
To: Harris, Laura
Cc: Melissa Velez-Morales
Subject: FW: NJDEP Press Release - 22nd Annual Fall Festival - Saturday October 1st
Attachments: Fall Forestry Festival -- P89.pdf

Correspondence

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From: Rogers, Joseph [mailto:Joseph.Rogers@dep.nj.gov] **On Behalf Of** Pflugh, Kerry
Sent: Thursday, September 29, 2016 9:33 AM
To: Pflugh, Kerry <Kerry.Pflugh@dep.nj.gov>
Subject: NJDEP Press Release - 22nd Annual Fall Festival - Saturday October 1st

Dear Municipal Clerk;

Please see the attached NJDEP Press Release concerning the upcoming Fall Festival to be held at the NJDEP Forest Resource Education Center

If you have any questions, please contact me directly.

Regards,

Kerry Kirk Pflugh
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New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection
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DEP NEWS RELEASE

New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection

Chris Christie, Governor
Kim Guadagno, Lt. Governor
Bob Martin, Commissioner



IMMEDIATE RELEASE

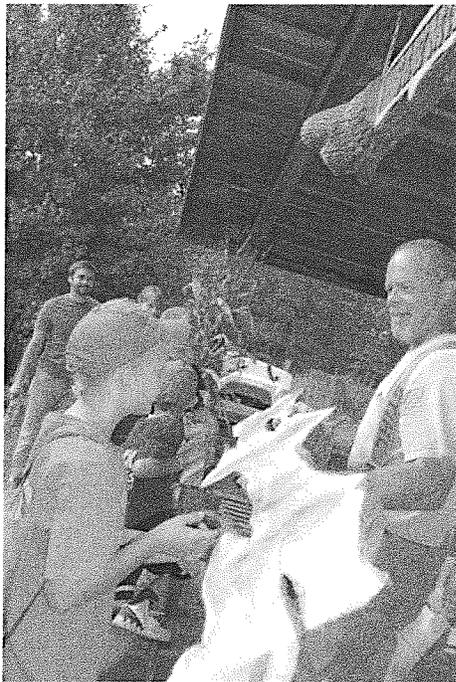
September 27, 2016

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22ND ANNUAL FALL FORESTRY FESTIVAL TO BE HELD SATURDAY, OCTOBER 1ST

POPULAR DEP EVENT FEATURES NATURE HIKES, CRAFTS AND DEMONSTRATIONS

(16/P89) TRENTON –Outdoor enthusiasts and fans of all things arboreal will gather again on October 1 at the Department of Environmental Protection’s Forest Resource Education Center in Jackson for the 22nd Annual Fall Forestry Festival.



The festival will be held from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., rain or shine. Admission and parking are free.

“Each year, this Fall Festival offers something for everyone during a great time of year,” said DEP Assistant Commissioner for Natural and Historic Resources Richard Boornazian. “From the casual tree observer to the most experienced forester, this is a wonderful event to both appreciate the importance of trees in our lives and the role that they play in New Jersey’s great outdoors.”

“This festival is also a great time for birders, scouting organizations, arborists and anyone who revels in our forests and woods,” added State Forester John Sacco. “There is much to learn about our forests and trees and this event is here for people to gain a better understanding.”

Visitors will get the chance to meet Smokey Bear, take a hayride, visit the New Jersey Tree Nursery, or join one of the many guided hikes scheduled throughout the day. Professionals in the natural resource field will also be on hand to give tips on water and soil conservation, composting, beekeeping, invasive insects and diseases, maple sugaring, managing your backyard forest, and more.

Acorn planting, as well as pumpkin painting and birdhouse building are just a few of the hands-on experiences for children, teens, and parents to enjoy. Plans are in place for demonstrations of the center’s sawmill and the utilization of logs from storm and/or insect damaged trees from around the state to be milled into lumber.

On the forest safety side, fire wardens will be on hand showcasing firefighting tools and equipment, as well as demonstrating how homeowners can make their property “firewise.”

“When people live right on the edge of the forest, we have to consider the possibility of fire impacting homes,” said State Fire Warden Bill Edwards. “We will be providing information on firewise gardens, which is the practice of making smarter landscaping choices to best protect our homes from wildfires.”

In 1994, the Department of Environmental Protection’s Forest Resource Education Center in Jackson hosted the first Fall Forestry Festival, drawing attention to the work the center does in educating the public about forest stewardship — managing New Jersey’s forest resources so that we have healthy trees and forests, clean air and water, and places to learn about and enjoy the outdoors.

Food and beverage will be available for purchase at the Festival. Sturdy hiking shoes and insect repellent are encouraged.

For driving directions to the Forestry Festival, call the Forest Resource Education Center (FREC) at 732-928-2360 or visit www.forestrycenter.nj.gov.

The Forest Resource Education Center (FREC), operated by the DEP’s State Forestry Services, is committed to providing exceptional conservation education programs that promote benefits of trees and forest stewardship to all age groups at no cost. It is the sole public facility in NJ focused on forestry education. Located on nearly 900 acres, the FREC also offers miles of trails for hiking, biking and nature watching.

The Toms River, which runs through the FREC, is regularly stocked with trout to provide an exciting fishing experience for anglers. For more information, please visit the FREC’s website at: www.state.nj.us/dep/parksandforests/forest/njfs_frep.html.

Many programs may fulfill requirements for scouting badges. To be added to the scout mailing list, email the FREC at forestrycenter@gmail.com

The New Jersey Forest Tree Nursery, co-located on the same property, grows 300,000 seedlings yearly for reforestation efforts across the state. The Nursery has grown and distributed more than 220,000 tree seedlings for the Tree Recovery Program, providing them to New Jersey residents to replace trees lost in Superstorm Sandy. It also provides trees and seedlings for Arbor Day events and also boasts seedlings that flew in space on the Shuttle Columbia in 1997.

To learn more about the New Jersey Forest Tree Nursery, please visit their website at: http://www.state.nj.us/dep/parksandforests/forest/nj_forest_nursery.htm

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