

Rothrock State Forest District

2024 ACTIVITY PLAN

The mission of DCNR Bureau of Forestry is to conserve the long-term health, viability and productivity of the Commonwealth's Forest and to conserve native wild plants. One of the ways the bureau carries out this mission is through the [State Forest Resource Management Plan](#) (SFRMP), a document that guides the management of the 2.2 million-acre state forest system. The SFRMP is updated approximately every 5 years and includes an extensive public engagement process.

One of the policies in the bureau's strategic plan ([Penn's Woods: Sustaining Our Forests](#)) includes, "Public participation will be an integral part of the management of state forest lands." The purpose of this Activity Plan is to communicate to the public about upcoming management activities, projects, and events that will be conducted to implement the SFRMP on Rothrock State Forest. This document will be revised at the start and middle of each calendar year to provide sufficient time for public review, questions, and feedback. The bureau is committed to considering the views and perspectives of the public and stakeholders and strives to accommodate public interests in planning management activities and decision making. We encourage comments or questions regarding planned or proposed activities be directed to the state forest district conducting the activity.

For questions, comments, or more information about this plan, please contact:

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RECREATION

Projects:

- **Pine Hill Picnic Area** - A new CXT Latrine has been delivered to the Pine Hill Picnic Area. Site challenges have popped up and engineers are working on a solution. We hope to have a new latrine installed and operational by summer.
- **Musser Gap Parking Area** – A new CXT Latrine has been installed in the parking area at Musser Gap. The unit will hopefully be open to the public once final work is completed and an occupancy permit is obtained.
- **Campsite #5 (Crowfield Road) Improvements** – Creating pull-through driveway and adding a tent pad.
- **Campsite #9 (Beidleheimer Road)** – new campsite construction to replace Campsite #4 on Bear Meadows Road. Campsite #4 will be converted back to its original intent which was trailhead parking for Detweiler Trail and the Midstate Trail.
- **Laurel Run Bridge Construction** – Install first bridge on Laurel Run Trail in Trough Creek Division with assistance from the Friends of Trough Creek State Park
- **SST Bridge Replacement** – Replace SST bridge across Detweiler Run with assistance from the PA Outdoor Corp and the Standing Stone Tail Club.
- **Tsuga Trail** – Complete finishing work on the roughed in Tsuga Trail, adjacent to the Colerain Road Trailhead.
- **Frew Road Kiosk and Parking** – Install kiosk and improve parking lot along Frew Road for Rocky Ridge Natural Area access.
- **Galbraith Kiosk** – Install second kiosk at the trailhead in Galbraith Gap Parking Lot.

Organized Events

Rothrock State Forest will serve as the venue for **14 organized events and numerous authorized group activities in 2024**. Events requiring Special Activities Agreements and Commercial Activity Agreements will be limited to one event per weekend and three weekends per month. The event free weekend is listed below. Currently, between May through August there are three weekends available for a new organized events to occur.

Events will not simultaneously occur during big game hunting hours (with one exception, the Transylvania Epic Mountain Bike Race, during Spring Turkey Season).

- January 20th, Greenwood Furnace Snowfest and 5-Miler, Trail Run
- April 21st, Seasons of Rothrock – Whipple Dam, Gravel Ride
- May 5th, Greenwood Furnace Trail Challenge, Trail Run
- May 12th, Rothrock Trail Challenge, Trail Run
- **May 18th and May 19th, No Events**
- May 21st to May 25th, Transylvania Epic Mountain Bike Race
- June 1st, Rothrock Grit, Gravel Ride
- **June 15th and June 16th, No Events**
- June 22nd, Seasons of Rothrock – Greenwood Furnace, Mountain Bike Race
- **July 6th and July 7th, No Events**
- July 13th and July 14th, Ironstone Ultra, 100k Trail Run
- July 26th, Soggy Bottom Moto Fest, Adventure Motorcycles
- July 27th, Wilderness 101, Mountain Bike Race
- **August 10th and August 11th, No Events**
- August 25th, Transylvania Epic Gravel Race
- **August 31st and September 1st, No Events**
- September 22nd, TSE Gravel Series - Trough Creek
- October 27th, Tussey MountainBack 50, Ultramarathon
- December 8th, Seasons of Rothrock – Tussey Mountain, Mountain Bike Race

TIMBER MANAGEMENT

The Forest District's Resource Management staff completed the second 10-year harvesting period (2013 -2023) and once again met the goal specified for even-age management as designed by the Bureau of Forestry's Comprehensive Harvest Allocation Model (created in 2003). This accomplishment demonstrates the value of a successful working forest in meeting the needs of many differing and sometimes competing forest uses.

Marked and sold, potentially active.

- Conklin and Coopers Gap Roads (two age buffer, overstory removal, shelterwood): A 158-acre timber sale on Sand Hole Ridge was marked in the summer and fall of 2020 and sold in the spring of 2021. The stands have excellent tree regeneration and areas of the overstory have seen repeated defoliation by oak leaf roller and anthracnose, as well as spongy moth. Overstory removal and two age buffer treatments will release tree regeneration while a shelterwood treatment will be implemented to encourage tree seedling establishment. There are no plans of fencing these treatment areas. Haul roads and landings were constructed in 2021 and harvesting was completed in January 2024. Sale retirement activities will occur in the spring 2024.
- Harrys Valley Area: (overstory removal, two-age, and shelterwood): A 281-acre sale area along both sides of Harrys Valley Rd in proximity to the two-existing deer exclosure fences. This area was marked in late spring and sold in November of 2023. The area was showing signs of mortality and dieback of the overstory trees from recent stresses that include sponge moth defoliation, frost / hail damage, and anthracnose. The sale is currently being harvested and the contract expiration is April 2027. Additional deer fencing is not anticipated. As part of the retirement work haul roads and landings will be seeded for wildlife and erosion control. Recreational trails in the area will be cleared and improved.
- Laurel Run Road (1st-stage shelterwood, overstory removal, group selection): A 115-acre timber sale is planned along Laurel Run Road, within the Rudy Ridge Landscape on the north-side of Laurel Run between Beidler Road and Sand Knob Shale Pit in Jackson Township, Huntingdon Co. The sale will incorporate primarily 1st-stage shelterwood and group selection treatments along with a component of overstory removal harvest in an area with extensive advanced regeneration. The goal will be to begin the process of successfully regenerating multiple forested stands, particularly stands with a large component of dying eastern hemlock. Marking will be completed by early spring with the sale then going out for competitive bid. An herbicide project to control barberry has been completed on this site.

- Seeger Road near Greenwood Tower: Approximately 175-acres of overstory removal and two-age buffer treatment has been awarded for bid. This is the second sale to be planned for the mountain-top flat, aimed at establishing young, early successional forest habitat for species such as ruffed grouse, turkey, deer, and songbirds. This sale could become active as early as spring of 2024.
- Crowfield/Boal Gap Roads: (Crowfield Habitat 1 timber sale) an approximately 340- acre timber sale is located between Crowfield and Boal Gap Roads. This sale will include 119 acres of two-age treatment in the road buffer while the remaining 221 acres will be overstory removal. Most of the trees are of low quality on this site, so the focus of this project is to improve the wildlife habitat through the implementation of this timber harvest. The logging activity will effectively open the canopy to allow more sunlight to reach the forest floor which will stimulate many new trees, shrubs, and forbs to germinate. This should result in a flush of new growth that will greatly benefit many types of game and non-game species of wildlife. All trees have been harvested for this sale contract. Sale retirement work, which includes the grading of roads/landings, seeding, and mulching will take place in the spring of 2024.

Marked but not yet sold.

- Laurel Run Road: (overstory removal) An approximately 70-acre timber sale is be planned inside two deer fence exclosures that are close to Laurel Run Road. These two fences were treated with a shelterwood harvest about 6 years ago. Following the previous treatment, the regeneration has responded very well, and it is now time to remove the overstory. An additional 82 acres has been included with this sale along Pine Swamp Road. This additional area will focus on removing dead and dying trees. This sale will likely be sold in the spring/summer of 2024 so the sale could be active as early as fall/winter of the same year.

Proposed (not marked yet)

- Spruce Mountain Trail: A 155-acre overstory removal has been proposed for the bench along the Spruce Mountain Trail in the Greenwood Division of the Rothrock SF. This area is accessed through a gated haul road near the Conklin and Spruce Mountain Road intersection. Goals for this treatment area include improving forest health and wildlife habitat. Marking this sale will continue in the spring of 2024. The sale could be placed for bid in the summer with timber harvesting in the fall or winter of 2024. There are currently no plans to use deer fencing on this sale area.

- Two areas in the Greenwood Division are in the early planning stages for a final removal treatment. The areas include the deer fence near the Coopers Gap and Kettle Road intersection as well as the two deer fences near Conklin Road at the Indian Trail. Seedling development will be assessed in 2024 to determine when a silvicultural treatment will be planned.
- Krise Valley Road: An approximately 125-acre timber sale is planned to occur on Krise Valley Road toward the end closest to SR322. The focus of this sale will be to remove the dead and dying trees on the upper slope and ridge top, while the lower slope portion (closer to the Krise Valley Rd.) will be treated with a shelterwood. This sale will likely be sold in the summer/fall of 2024 and could potentially be active in late 2024/early 2025.
- Brady Road: Approximately 200 acres of Tussey Mountain along the Brady Road east of Seven Stars is in the early planning stages for salvage removal treatment. The chestnut oak overstory was killed by anthracnose and oak leaf roller years back and the stand is showing early signs of seedling development. A sale proposal will be written in the spring of 2024.
- Kepler Road Area: (SALVAGE - overstory removal, two-age): An approximately 130-acre sale area is being laid out along the north side of Kepler Road in proximity to the intersection with Route 26 at Pine Grove Mountain. This area is showing signs of mortality and dieback of the overstory trees from multiple years of spongy moth defoliation. The sale is currently being scouted and boundaries determined. It's anticipated that the site will be marked late 2024.

Regeneration projects

- The removal of two deer fence enclosures along Coopers Gap Road near the county line is in the planning stage. Harvesting was completed in 2018 and conifers were planted in both fence areas. Planted and natural seedlings have entered the sapling stage and the fences can be removed.
- Deer enclosure fence removal project is planned for a fence along PA Furnace Road. This fence has been installed since 2011. The area inside of the fence was harvested in 2017 and the resulting tree regeneration has reached a height that is out of reach of deer browsing. Protection from deer is no longer needed and the fence will be removed in 2024-25.
- The removal of two adjacent deer fence enclosures along Beidleheimer Road, near the Alan Seeger picnic area, are in the planning stage. Harvesting was completed inside these fences in 2019 and natural seedlings have entered the sapling stage, therefore, the fences can now be removed.

- The removal of two separate deer fence enclosures along Crowfield Road are in the planning stage. These fences are approximately 1 mile apart, but both are situated adjacent to Crowfield Road. Harvesting was completed inside these fences in 2019. Since that time, the natural seedlings have entered the sapling stage, therefore, the fences can now be removed.

RESTORATION AND HABITAT PROJECTS

- An effort is being made this year to continue re-evaluating the conditions of the various permanent herbaceous openings (PHO's) to see if they are still viable and what work is needed to improve them for the future. Work will then begin to mow, reseed, and improve them over the next few years as time, funds, and workloads permit. They will also be known from now on as Special Wildlife Management Areas (SWMAs).
- The Greenwood Division of the Rothrock SF has approximately 50 wildlife openings established in the mid-1970's aimed at habitat improvement for wild turkey and ruffed grouse. Unfortunately, these openings were planted with invasive shrubs. Ten openings have been identified for continued maintenance while the remaining ones will be treated for invasives and allowed to regenerate naturally with trees. Those openings will eventually become part of the surrounding stand.
- A mowing project has been completed on approximately 20-acres in the Locke Valley Tract near Shade Gap. This project mowed invasive shrubs in reverting fields to improve wildlife habitat. Herbicide application in early spring of 2024 will target re-sprouting plants. Once invasive plants are controlled, native grasses will be established to benefit both game and non-game animals.
- A stream habitat improvement project is planned for Laurel Run, upstream from the 2019, 2021, and 2022 project areas. Habitat improvement structures, consisting of primarily large woody debris (LWD) will be installed at various locations for over 1,000 feet of stream. These structures will provide shelter and hiding cover for brook trout and create vital young of the year habitat areas in addition to stabilizing stream bed and banks and reducing erosion. This work will take place over two weeks in early fall.

ROAD AND BRIDGE PROJECTS

- Spring 2024 – 7744 tons of 2A limestone will be placed on Treaster Kettle Road
- Spring 2024 – 5041 tons of 2A limestone will be placed on Rag Hollow Road
- 2024 – Act 26 Bridge Maintenance Project - contractor will begin working on 6 different bridges across the district conducting structure repairs, sealing wooden structure parts, improving scour

protection, caulking concrete joints, replacing guiderail, etc...

- 2024 – Ongoing design – structure replacement at the intersection of Martin Gap Road and Gessler Run Road. Culverts failed in 2021 and roadway currently is weight restricted at 3 tons.
- 2024 – Install underdrain along Colerain Road near campsite, Treaster Kettle near pipeline, and Beidlehiemer Road.
- Summer 2024 -- Regrading and shaping the DSA that has been placed in past years on Stone Creek Road, PA Furnace Road, Kepler Road, Fink Road, Tar Kiln Road, and Laurel Run Road

PRESCRIBED FIRE

Currently, there are no areas in consideration for prescribed fire treatments within the Rothrock State Forest.

INSECT, DISEASE, AND INVASIVE PLANT TREATMENTS

- Insect and disease monitoring and reporting will continue in 2024 and will focus on the priority list provided by the Division of Forest Health. Report forms will be forwarded to Forest Health Area Specialist from the District I&D coordinator for ground truthing and possible control efforts for reported insect and disease problems. Aerial survey flight(s) will be conducted in late June/early July to detect possible problem areas as well. On the ground surveys will continue to take place to monitor insect and disease problems and populations.
- Egg mass surveys for *lymantria dispar* or spongy moth (formally known as gypsy moth) were conducted in the fall of 2023. These surveys are necessary to assess the district's need for a spray program for 2024. Since the district has a building population, spray blocks have been proposed for the 2024 program for approximately 16,000 acres of Rothrock State Forest. These spray blocks are located along Tussey Mountain in the Stony Point Division east to Route 322 in the Whipple Dam and Greenwood Divisions of the Rothrock. Spraying on the Rothrock is slated for the month of May, weather dependent. The Bureau of Forestry will again have a sizable spray program, around 300,000 acres across multiple counties. This program will be conducted on public land only, as private lands are no longer included in the Bureau of Forestry's spray program. Egg mass counts will resume in the fall of 2024, to assess the need for a program in 2025.
- Treatment efforts for invasive plants will continue in 2024. Highest priority for control is given to new infestations that are smaller in size where eradication is still a possibility. Japanese Angelica Tree, Oriental Bittersweet, and mile-a-minute vine are just a few species slated for ongoing treatment. Surveys for additional infestations will continue as will control efforts to prevent larger areas from expanding. Foresters continue pre-emergent treatments for Japanese stiltgrass leading into timber sale areas.



- The invasive spray project conducted on the Locke Valley tract in the fall of 2017 will continue to be surveyed to determine the current success, retreatment of needed locations, and direction of future treatments. The invasive spraying is the first step in restoring the riparian buffer of Craig's Run for wildlife habitat improvement, namely for species such as woodcock and ruffed grouse. The district has completed a 22-acre contract mowing in heavily infested areas. A follow-up herbicide application is planned for the spring of 2024 to treat resprouting invasives.
- A pesticide treatment for hemlock wooly adelgid is in the works for Bear Meadows Natural Area in 2024. Specifically, imidacloprid in tablet form will protect large hemlock trees along the Jean Aron path. These trees are designated with blue flagging. District personnel will conduct this treatment as weather permits in the winter 2024.

NATURAL GAS, OIL, AND OTHER GEOLOGIC RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT

- Presently, there are no natural gas and or oil development activities taking place or immediately planned within the Rothrock State Forest.

TOWER AND RIGHTS-OF-WAY PROJECTS

- First Energy: Mowing and herbiciding vegetation control work on high voltage transmission lines.
- Valley Rural Electric Coop – Vegetation control work.
- Dominion Pipeline – vegetation control work
- Texas Eastern pipeline – vegetation control work and the company will be rebuilding seep collection and associated treatment system at the Entrekin station once an agreement is completed.

OPPORTUNITIES FOR PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT

- The Rothrock State Forest in collaboration with Clearwater Conservancy, Rothrock Trail Alliance, Penn State Outreach, and Shaver's Creek Environmental Center hosted a "Walk in Penn's Woods" event. The walk was in Centre County along Musser Gap Trail through Penn State's Musser Gap Greenway and Rothrock State Forest. A "Walk in Penn's Woods" event will likely occur in 2024 as well. Check back with the Walk in Penn's Woods website, for upcoming details.
<https://sites.psu.edu/walkinpennswoods/>
- **Be sure to check our [Facebook Page](#) for the most up to date information related to the Rothrock State Forest, activities, and events.**

SPECIAL PROJECTS

- **Shared-use, single track, natural surface trail construction** - Rothrock Trail Alliance, a

committee of Clearwater Conservancy, in collaboration with Rothrock State Forest is planning to begin the expansion of the shared-use, single track trail system in Rothrock State Forest. Construction of 8 miles of trail in the Musser Gap area should begin this year, with plans to connect to Hubler Gap and Whipple Dam in the future.

RESEARCH

- Researchers from Penn State University continue conducting a multi-year project called the Deer-Forest Study on the Rothrock, Bald Eagle, and Susquehannock State Forests. This study looks at better understanding the role of deer in context of the many challenges that PA forests face including invasive species, insect outbreaks, soil acidity, tree diseases, and even deer themselves. The goal of this study is to help forest and wildlife managers better manage deer and the forests. This is a cooperative project with researchers from PSU, US Geologic Survey, PA Game Commission, and DCNR Bureau of Forestry. This study area is 25-40 square miles in size and is in the north-eastern most part of the Rothrock State Forest. 2024 is the eleventh year of this research project.
- Riparian buffer research and demonstration site located at Rock Springs (Ag Progress Days) has been proposed by DCNR-BOF, Centre County Conservation District and Penn State staff. This partnership between the 3 entities will focus on establishing a conservation cover (grasses, pollinators, etc.) in a traditional buffer and a multifunctional buffer. Once this cover has been established, seedlings and shrubbery will be planted. Research results will determine if the seedlings/shrubbery can survive the competition from the cover plants and if invasive plant growth will be prohibited/delayed. Progress has been made in establishing the new buffer demonstration site (mapping, mowing). Planting of the traditional buffer demonstration element and herbicide application to control invasive species was completed spring 2021. Work on this project continues in 2024 with the planting of native tree and shrub specie planned for this spring.
- Leading Ridge Experimental Watershed – established in 1958, ongoing research by Penn State University. This is the longest researched watershed in the country. Much applicable research has been published from this project. Future research is to include a better understanding of water, nutrient, and sediment export in streams based on historical changes in a forested landscape.

EMERGENCY RESPONSE/SAFETY

November of 2023 Fire Forester Zach St. Laurent took an opportunity to relocate closer to family when he accepted a fire forester position in the Cornplanter Forest District. We appreciate all of Zach's work during his time here in Rothrock and wish him the very best in his newest endeavors in Forest District 14.

BUREAU OF FORESTRY

January of 2024, we welcomed new “Fire” Forester Steve Hoy to the district. Steve or as he would prefer ‘Hoy’ is new to the Bureau of Forestry but not to fire. After receiving his associate degree in forestry technology from Penn State Mont Alto, Hoy moved to Colorado to begin his career in wildland fire, initially on a fuels crew in Del Norte and then with a position on the Roosevelt Interagency Hotshot Crew in Fort Collins, Colorado. In 2014 he moved back to Pennsylvania to start a family and has worked the last years for Penn State as the orchard manager for the Pennsylvania/New Jersey Chapter of TACF.

Hoy will be the main contact for everything wildfire related. Feel free to reach out to him at the district office.

58 Wildfires that impacted 74.75 acres were responded to in 2023.

A major arsonist case was worked in Huntingdon County with charges filed.

Again, nearly 75 Wildland Firefighters were trained in the district at various levels.

Forest Fire Wardens received requested and required training in the district in 2023.

The district sent 3 fire wildland firefighters as single resources on 4 western wildfires as part of the mutual aid program with the US Forest Service.

MAJOR ACCOMPLISHMENTS FROM PREVIOUS YEAR

- General Trail Maintenance and Enhancements: Every year, numerous miles of trails are maintained and improved throughout the Rothrock State Forest. This work ranges from brush cutting, blazing, signage, trail tread improvements, dead tree removal, relocations, etc. This work is completed by staff, volunteers, and recreation clubs such as Nittany Mountain Biking Association, Friends of Coopers Gap, Standing Stone Trail Club, Mid-State Trail Association, and Rothrock Trail Alliance and several others.
 - In addition to their other numerous trail maintenance efforts, NMBA replaced damaged puncheons on Three Bridges and Lower Trails.
 - A kiosk was built and installed at the Shingletown Gap trailhead by Alice Gipe for her Girl Scout Gold Award project.
 - The Friends of Coppers Gap, in addition to their regular maintenance of all the trails in the Coopers Gap area, finished a reroute of Indian Trail that connects to Shittaka Trail. They also completed a trail segment connecting sassafras trail around the Rag Hollow and Kettle Road Intersection.
- Campsite improvements were made to campsite #3 (Pine Swamp Road), Campsite #2

(Colerain Road), and Campsite #1 (McGuire Road). Improvements included: site leveling, stoning, and adding new tent pads, fire rings, and lantern posts.

- Initial construction of Tsuga Trail, a small loop trail located out of the Colerain Parking Lot, was completed. Finishing work is planned to be completed in 2024.
- Various regeneration projects that were listed from last year were completed as described.
- Many outreach and educational programs in Centre and Huntingdon Counties were conducted in 2023. Some of these programs included Tree City USA and Arbor Day programs, local school Family Science Fairs, School FFA programs, Centre and Huntingdon County Envirothon and STEM Educational Programs.
- CFM major accomplishments for Centre County in 2023 included:
 - Landowner property visits/evaluations totaled 67, covered over 400 acres and consisted of many Forestry practices including invasive control, tree planting, wire deer enclosure fencing installation, habitat improvement, riparian buffer installation, et. al.
 - Phase 3 of the Ag Progress Days Riparian Buffer Demonstration was completed in 2023. This phase included installing a 7-foot-high deer exclusion fence. Routine maintenance of previous tree, shrub and grass mixes was also performed on multiple occasions. Phase 4, installation of livestock crossing and fencing, is scheduled for completion in 2024.
 - Reviewed/approved 5 Multifunctional Riparian Buffer Plans consisting of 21.5 acres.
 - Evaluated 10 properties consisting of 51.34 acres for possible riparian buffer installation projects.
 - Reviewed/approved 4 NRCS CAP 106 Plans consisting of 698.5 acres.
 - Reviewed/approved 2 Golden-winged Warbler Plans consisting of 88.3 acres.
 - Site inspected/approved 9 NRCS EQIP practices consisting of 537.3 acres.
 - Inspected 6 previously installed deer fence enclosure projects encompassing 220.0 acres.
 - Reviewed/approved 3 Tree City applications.
 - Reviewed/approved 8 Multifunctional Riparian Buffer Plans consisting of 25.15 acres.
- CFM accomplishments for Huntingdon County in 2023 included:
 - Numerous landowner property visits/evaluations/phone conversations consisting of information and education on sustainable forestry practices including invasive plant control, forest health concerns, timber harvesting, tree planting, habitat improvement, riparian buffer installation, forest management plan development, etc.
 - Reviewed and approved 7 Forest Management Plans / Conservation Planning Activity (CPA)106 Plans consisting of approximately 1,100 acres.
 - Huntingdon County Envirothon Administration: 5 Schools, 13 Teams, and 65 Students
 - Arbor Day / Earth Day Huntingdon Borough assistance on Sustainable Forest Management and Forest Health Concerns



- Reviewed / approved 4 Riparian Buffer Projects and Planting Plans consisting of approximately 21 acres and many more acres planted by conservation partners throughout the county.
 - Assisting with Chesapeake Conservancy's "Rapid Stream De-Listing" Riparian Buffer Program in Huntingdon County
 - Stone Valley Community Charter School "Natural Resources" Field Day presentation
 - Huntingdon County FFA "Natural Resources Nature Event" presentation
 - Assisted USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) staff with property visits and assessments for federal funded Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP) practices.
 - Multiple Forest Stewardship Plan updates for forest landowners.
 - Reviewed/approved Huntingdon Borough Tree City application.
 - Reviewed/approved Juniata College Tree Campus application.
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- 20 forest-fire prevention and other educational programs were completed by our Forest Fire Wardens and employees across our service area. Support of Staff and the District's Forest Fire Wardens (volunteers) are critical to this programming and their hard work and dedication is truly appreciated.
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- Under the Department's Mutual Aid Agreement with the US Forest Service, three staff members provided wildfire suppression assistance multiple times to various western states.
 - Through the Volunteer Fire Assistance Grant program \$2,660 dollars was awarded to one local Fire Company to help with wildfire response.
 - Spring 2023 – Spread 12,375 tons of 2A limestone on Brady Road from the intersection of Colerain toward the PA Furnace/Brady Intersection in the Stony Point Division.
 - Spring/Summer 2023 -- build up the base on Trough Creek Drive, through Trough Creek State Park (adjacent to the ball field) with 4 minus stone and top with 2A limestone.
 - 2023 – Installed underdrain along Tram Road, Treaster Kettle Road, Greenlee Road, Conklin Road and Brady Road as time permits.
 - 2023 – Paving and bank stabilization project at Whipple Dam Forestry Headquarters was completed.
 - 2023- Demolition of Jack Mtn. Ground Cabin through contract process through the Bureau of Facility Design and Construction.