

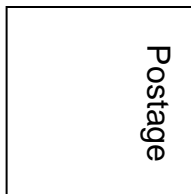
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Owen-Putnam State Forest
2153 Fish Creek Road
Spencer, IN 47460

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In A Nutshell

Owen-Putnam State Forest

Newsletter 2012



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Property Manager: Bill Gallogly
Forest Resource Specialist: Rob Duncan
Office Manager: Ruthie Speas
Intermittent Laborer: Norm Carlson
Intermittent: Dan Reynolds

For more information on the DNR and its Properties, visit the DNR website at:
www.dnr.IN.gov

Welcome to the 9th annual issue of *In A Nutshell*. In A Nutshell is being sent to you and other adjacent landowners as part of our "good neighbor" program.

Through our newsletter we hope to point out some of the wonderful recreational opportunities available to you, as well as, keep you informed of what we are doing here at Owen-Putnam State Forest.

Hope you enjoy this issue!



Ruthie Speas, Office Manager

Attention Woodland Owners

Ralph Unversaw, District Forester provides forest management for private woodland owners in Owen and Monroe counties.

His office is located at the Owen-Putnam State Forest.
2153 Fish Creek Road
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(812) 829-2462
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Would you prefer to receive the newsletter by email? Contact us at

owensf@dnr.in.gov

From the Manager

Bill Gallogly

Greetings from all of us at Owen-Putnam State Forest I hope everyone is enjoying the beautiful weather that we have been experiencing so far this spring. All of the flowering trees are coming alive and the plain and dullness of the winter forest is "springing" to life. As we look to all of the beauty that Mother Nature provides we sometimes forget the other side of Mother Nature. I recently had the opportunity to see an area that was visited by one of nature's most destructive events, a tornado. I am referring to the Henryville, In. area that was devastated by a tornado in early March. Before coming to Owen-Putnam State Forest I worked my first 18 years at Clark State Forest a property about four times larger than Owen-Putnam. The forest office is about one mile north of Henryville and luckily missed the destruction of the tornado. However the path that the tornado did take brought it over several thousand acres of forest land and left it totally devastated. Much of the timberland is left unusable and will be for many years to come. The scar left from that day will take quite awhile to disappear from the hearts and minds of the people it affected and from the forestland. I bring this subject up because no one knows when or where Mother Nature will decide to bring her more destructive behaviors. I encourage you to stop by and visit Owen-Putnam State Forest and see the beauty she has to offer here, so close to home. A great time to visit will be on Saturday, April 21st when we will be holding our annual open house from 9:00am to 1:00pm. Ralph Unversaw, District Forester for Owen and Monroe counties, will be leading a tree identification hike starting at 1:15pm. I hope to see all of you at our Open House.

Have a great and safe year.

Resource Management (Rob Duncan, Resource Specialist)

The Indiana Division of Forestry has actively managed its state forests with a multiple use philosophy for over 100 years. Prior to state ownership, forested lands had usually been farmed, pastured or excessively harvested. Through proper forest stewardship, past abuses can be improved and the forest returned to a more productive state that allows for timber production and non-timber uses such as wildlife habitat, public recreation and forest conservation.

Resource management has been very busy for Owen-Putnam the last few years. Among the many jobs we do and the educational trainings we attend here are some of the highlights of our accomplishments since our last newsletter.

During the summer of 2010, with the help of the YHCC (Young Hoosier Conservation Corp.) we performed invasive species control on Garlic Mustard in our Horseman's campground and processed 75 ricks of firewood to heat our property boilers. They also pruned 20 acres of saplings planted by property staff between 1998 and 2003 through a grant from the Hardwood Forestry Fund.

James Dye, our temporary forester, inventoried 1217 acres across 13 tracts of state forest during the summer of 2010. The information collected will be used to create management plans that will guide future activities on these tracts.

Dan Reynolds our temporary laborer completed 430 acres of timber stand improvement (TSI) during 2010 and 412

acres in 2011. The TSI he performed is designed to improve timber quality and production and to enhance wildlife habitat. In fiscal year 2009/10 we sold 883,285 board feet of timber across 427 acres for \$200,659. Of which, \$30,077 was given to the Owen county government who dispersed it to county and local fire departments as part of a cooperative agreement that benefits both agencies. In fiscal year 2010/11 we sold 914,979 board feet of timber across 437 acres for \$157,393 with \$17,240 given to Owen County.

Since the spring of 2009 harvest operations have taken place in compartment 8 tracts 1, 2, 3, 5, 6 on Timber Ridge lane, compartment 4 tract 9 on Ruble road, compartment 8 tract 4 on Powell Redbud lane, compartment 5 tract 7 on Hale Hill road, compartment 4 tract 16 on Keene road and compartment 6 tract 2 on Atkinsonville road. Keep in mind, active timber harvests are "restricted areas" and are closed to the public for safety reasons.

We plan to sell approximately 600,000 bd. ft. of timber by the end of June 2012. These sales will occur in compartment 7 tract 4 on Hale Hill road, compartment 10 tract 1 on Romine road, compartment 4 tract 2 near Rattlesnake campground and compartment 2 tract 3 on Oak road.

Information on past timber sales and management guides for future timber sales is available for public viewing and comment at the following Internet address:

<http://www.in.gov/dnr/forestry/3631.htm>



Owen-Putnam State Forest is a wonderful place to just get away. Hike through some of the best hardwood forests. Enjoy deer, squirrel and turkey hunting. Horseback ride by a 50-foot sandstone bluff or enjoy the cool shallow waters of Fish Creek on a hot summer day. Please come out and picnic in our newly built shelter house next to Fish Creek campground.

Facilities: (6,595 Acres)

- 25 Class C (Primitive) Camp Sites
- 15 Class C Horse Camp Sites
- Fishing
- Hunting
- Hiking Trails
- Horse Trails
- Mountain Bike Trails

2012 Open House
Saturday, April 21st 9:00am -1:00pm

If you ever wanted to know how a state forest operates this will be an excellent time to find out. Several foresters will be on hand to answer all of your questions. Also, if you need advice in managing your woodland property, Ralph Unversaw will be available to discuss your woodland management needs. Light refreshments will be available and we will be giving away Indiana grown tree seedlings. So mark your calendars and we look forward to visiting with you.

Changing with the Seasons

Trees--especially hardwoods--undergo many changes over the course of the year. These changes are adaptations to meet the tree's needs and in response to the harshness of the climate.

During the winter, the temperature drops and the sun rides low on the horizon. Both the ground and water lie frozen. The broadleaf trees stand bare. The trees don't grow or reproduce. They are dormant.

In the spring, the temperature increases, melting off the snow. There's plenty of water in the ground and the sun shines brightly. It's a time of bounty that trees put to good use to develop, grow, and produce flowers and leaves.

Summer brings hot, sunny weather, but it's often a time of drought. Trees take this time to store reserves using photosynthesis to stabilize the new tissue that has developed.

When fall comes around, fruit ripens and trees start preparing for the arrival of winter. Days grow shorter and the sun loses some of its strength. Leaves can no longer carry out photosynthesis and start to display their festive fall colors. When winter arrives, trees become dormant and the cycle begins again. Life can be pretty tough on a tree! A tree's annual rings reveal the events that have occurred in our environment.