

Massachusetts Forest and Park Friends Network Conference Agenda

Saturday, October 24, 2009
Union Station, Worcester, MA

9:00 a.m. - 9:30 a.m.

Registration and Morning Refreshments

9:30 a.m. - 9:45 a.m.

Welcoming Remarks

Mike Toomey, Friends Network Facilitator, Douglas State Forest
Mike Ryan, FN Facilitator, Friends of the Fells Reservation
Claudia Hurley, FN Facilitator, Friends of Robinson State Park
Ellen Arnold, FN Facilitator, Friends of Upton State Forest
Sharl Heller, FN Facilitator, Friends of Myles Standish State Forest

9:45 a.m. - 10:00 a.m.

Off-Highway Vehicle (OHV) Management Update

Sharl Heller, Friends of Myles Standish State Forest
Ellen Arnold, Friends of Upton State Forest

10:10 a.m. - 10:50 a.m.

Keynote Address: *The Hidden Forest Corners of Massachusetts*

Robert T. Leverett, Cofounder & Executive Director, Eastern Native Tree Society (ENTRS);
Cofounder and President, Friends of Mohawk Trail State Forest. One of the Nation's
foremost experts on northeastern old-growth forests.

Massachusetts is the 3rd most populated state in the nation. The land has a long history of human habitation. Yet, forest gems exist in little known places that rank with the best in the Northeast. Bob Leverett and other forest researchers with the Eastern Native Tree Society search for the exceptional forests and document them. Join us as Bob takes us on a PowerPoint tour of some of these special forests and discusses the need for a new forest paradigm for Massachusetts that recognizes and protects these special forests.

10:50 a.m. - 11:10 a.m.

Update on the DCR Forest Visioning Process

Claudia Hurley, Friends of Robinson State Park
Mike Ryan, Friends of the Fells Reservation

11:10 a.m. - 11:20

Morning Break

11:20 a.m. - 11:45 a.m.

Friends Groups Working in Partnership With DCR—Matching Grants and Programming

Conrad Crawford, MA Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR) Director of Partnerships

11:45 - 12:00 p.m.

Massachusetts Forest and Park Friends Network Volunteer of the Year Award

Presenter: Mike Toomey

Friends Groups in Action

Power Point Presentation of friends groups activities in 2009: Mike Ryan

12:00 p.m. - 1:00 p.m.

Lunch with Focus Group

Focus Groups

- 1) Off-Highway Vehicle Management Strategies, facilitated by Sharl Heller and Ellen Arnold
- 2) Forests for the Future, facilitated by Claudia Hurley and Mike Ryan
- 3) Partners, facilitated by Conrad Crawford and Mike Toomey
- 4) Independent Networking (for those not interested in focus topic)

1:00 p.m. - 1:30 p.m.

Focus Group Summaries

1:30 p.m. - 2:00 p.m.

The CCC Legacy in Our Parks

Alexander (Alec) Gillman, DCR Interpretive Services and Coordinator, DCR Civilian Conservation Corps Program Committee.

2:00 p.m. - 2:30 p.m.

An Introduction to the Office of Cultural Resources

Patrice Kish, Director, DCR Office of Cultural Resources

2:30 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.

Park Watch

Curt Rudge, Bureau Chief, DCR Ranger Services

3:00 p.m. - 3:30 p.m.

Legislative Guest (TBA)/Concluding Remarks