

## **Nominations for DCR Employee of the Year 2011 Award**

**Tim Rayworth**, Northeast Region, Member DCR CCC Program Committee

Working with Friends of Upton State Forest, Upton Memorial School Third Grade Teachers, Hopkinton Staff and the DCR CCC Program Committee, Tim has developed and implemented a local history program about the Civilian Conservation Corps at the CCC Camp at Upton State Forest.

Third graders are welcomed to the camp for a "Day in the Life of the CCC". Tim's program is based on tools that would have been used by CCC enrollees in the course of their work. He worked with third grade teachers to develop curriculum so that students are introduced to the history of the CCC during the school year. That is followed by a visit to the classroom by Tim and a CCC alumnus where Tim shows a power point program about the Great Depression and the CCC program. Following his presentation, the children can interact with the alumnus to ask questions about his experience as a CCC enrollee. Finally, the children come to the camp. They are divided into teams with each team wearing a different color shirt. During the day, they visit several stations that each teaches a different aspect of the CCC. This includes a costumed interpretation inside the historic Headquarters building. There are displays of artifacts and photos from the period when the Camp was open and Tim reviews and reinforces what the children have learned. Another station is run by Fire Control where the children see the tools and Indian Can pumps used to fight forest fires. Each student gets a chance to use the pumps. Not only do they learn how heavy and difficult it was to use the cans, they thoroughly enjoy getting wet and making sure their friends get wet too! At the two-man saw station, there is a demonstration of how to use the saw and assisted by volunteers and staff each student gets to try it. At the volunteer service station, there is an annual service project, where students do a task that will benefit the park. This year they painted picnic tables. In other years, they planted gardens and put out mulch. The last station is a camp tour that explains the layout of the camp, talks about daily life and includes a visit to a bog where they see beaver and identify other natural resources.

When this program is going on the camp comes to life and the energy and appreciation of the students is huge. Tim's knowledge and initiative has been the driving factor in making this program so successful. He showed good judgment when he developed the program, because if the time comes that there is not enough staff and volunteers to staff each station, it can be self-guided with teachers and parents giving direction.

In addition to the third grade program, Tim is a member of the DCR CCC Program Committee. He has done extensive research about the CCC, using that knowledge at events and programs. He built a CCC play camp for young children that can be disassembled and moved to events at various CCC parks.

Whatever Tim does whether it is about the CCC or about any of the resources available in DCR parks throughout the Northeast Region he brings knowledge, initiative and professionalism to bear.