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Sent: Thursday, May 25, 2006 8:12 PM  
To: pabiodiv@webmail.upb.pitt.edu  
Subject: PABIODIV: June 28 Forest Symposium

## 2006 Forest Symposium

Please join us on Wednesday, June 28, 2006 for a Forest Symposium: "The Forests of the High Allegheny Plateau: Can Management of the Allegheny National Forest Anchor a Healthy Ecosystem and Local Economy in the Future?"

The Symposium is open to the public and will be held at the Holiday Inn Ballroom in Warren, PA from 8:30 am to 4:15 pm. (Directions are given below.)

Space is limited, so advance registration is strongly encouraged: \$17 in advance, \$20 same day, \$10 for students with a valid student ID. (The registration fee covers the cost of lunch and coffee breaks.)

To register, please call 866-564-6972 (toll free) or online at <http://www.paconserve.org>

The Symposium will examine conservation issues and themes with applicability to the forested landscapes and communities of the Allegheny Plateau. The Symposium will also raise awareness of how the draft Environmental Impact Statement/ Allegheny National Forest (ANF) Plan is dealing with these issues, and how the management of ANF will have broad implications for the health of this ecosystem and communities.

Attendees will gain an understanding of the Allegheny National Forest Plan and how the public can influence good management on the 500,000 acre forest, as a key landscape influence on the Allegheny Plateau.

Mark Anderson will give the keynote address. Mr. Anderson is currently Director of Conservation Science for Eastern U.S. Conservation Region for The Nature Conservancy, providing ecological analysis and developing landscape-scale assessment tools for conservation efforts across eight ecoregions.

### Symposium Agenda:

- 8:00 - 8:30 a.m. Registration
- 8:30 - 8:45 Welcome and Introduction: Dennis McGrath, President, Western Pennsylvania Conservancy
- 8:45 - 9:30 The Forests of the Allegheny High Plateau: Why they are important; Why protection at large scales is necessary. Mark Anderson, Director of Conservation Science for Eastern U.S. Conservation Region, The Nature Conservancy
- 9:30 - 10:15 Key Industries of the region and impacts on communities and the Forest Don Masisak, Deputy Director of Enterprise/Economic Development, North Central Regional Planning and Development Commission
- 10:30 - 12:00 Land Management Issues on The Allegheny Plateau 1) Habitat diversity - Rita Hawrot and Beth Brokaw, Ecologists, Western Pennsylvania Conservancy, 2) Forest Vegetation Management - Jim Finley, Professor of Forest Resources, Assistant Director of Extension, Penn State Forest Resources Extension - Recreation and Special Areas
- 12:00 Noon - 1:00 pm Lunch

Afternoon Session

- 1:00 - 1:30 Forest Fragmentations Issues

- 1:30 - 2:15 Large Landowner and Land Manager Panel --Dan Devlin, Assistant State Forester, Bureau of Forestry; Rich Cramer, Gameland Management Group Supervisor, PA Game Commission; Blaine Puller, Forest Manager, Kane Hardwoods; Dave Straub, Vice President, PA General Energy Company

- 2:30 - 3:30 The Draft Allegheny National Forest (ANF) Management Plan -- William Connelly, Chief Planner, Allegheny National Forest; and ANF staff panel Brad B. Nelson, Andrea Hille, Cat Woods, April Moore, Robert White, Robert Wetherell

- 3:30 - 4:15 Wrap-up

Special Thanks to our Sponsors:

- \*Allegheny Hardwoods Utilization Group
  - \*Allegheny National Forest
  - \*Friends of Allegheny Wilderness
  - \*PA Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, Bureau of Forestry
  - \*Penn State Forest Resources Extension
  - \*The Nature Conservancy
  - \*US Forest Service Northern Research Station, Warren, PA
  - \*Western Pennsylvania Conservancy
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DIRECTIONS to Holiday Inn, Warren: 210 Ludlow Street, Warren, PA 16365      814-726-3000

\*Located at the Junction of US Routes 6 and 62. Traveling Route 6 East or West, use the Ludlow St. Exit.

\*From Pittsburgh Follow I-79 to I-80 East to Exit 3 (Barkeyville). Follow Rt. 8 North to Rt. 62 North.

\*From Erie: Follow Rt. 19 South to Rt. 6 East to Warren.

\*From Buffalo: Follow I-90 East to Erie, PA and exit on Rt. 19 South to Rt. 6 East to Warren.

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