



## School Forest Annual Report

Please submit before June 30 to:  
School Forest Program, DNR - Forestry  
500 Lafayette Road, St. Paul, MN 55155-4044  
Or e-mail to: [amykay.kerber@dnr.state.mn.us](mailto:amykay.kerber@dnr.state.mn.us)  
School Year: 2007-2008

School Forest Name: **Dean Makey School Forest**  
School Forest Site Coordinator: **Chris Hanson**  
Address: **12149 Knollwood Drive**  
City: **Baxter** State: **MN** Zip Code: **56425**  
Phone: **218-454-6665** Fax: **218-454-6687** Date: **June 2008**  
E-mail: [chris.hanson@isd181.org](mailto:chris.hanson@isd181.org)

### School Forest Numbers and Support

Please indicate the estimated number of people participating for the entire school year in all school forest activities:

Teachers = ~17  
Students = ~1300

Resource Professionals = 8  
Volunteers = ~20

Did your School Forest host a Field Day?  Yes  No

Did a DNR Forester assist you with any school forest activities?  Yes  No  
If so, who? **Dean Makey**, [dean.makey@dnr.state.mn.us](mailto:dean.makey@dnr.state.mn.us) 218-833-8700

Please list any other natural resource professionals who assisted you with school forest activities and how they helped you.

**Dean Makey**, DNR forester- Maintenance work on trail signs. Numerous outdoor Classroom presentations. Year round tree planting maintenance. Work to secure grants and volunteers. Assist teachers in planning and implementing forest programming. Volunteer at *Race for the Cure* public running and charity event working at forest parking lot running a water/aid station. Continuously update forest map to reflect new work in school forest.

**Minnesota Conservation Corp (MCC) crew and Dean Makey** completed 1.5 acres of mechanical site preparation for 6<sup>th</sup> grade tree planting, donating 150 hours of labor plus equipment.

**Kent Montgomery**, Community –Based Conservation Coordinator. The Nature Conservancy, Central Minnesota Office: 7163 Bear Road, Cushing, MN 56446 [kmontgomery@tnc.org](mailto:kmontgomery@tnc.org) 218-575-3032 - Trail & parking area mowing and maintenance, chair school forest committee meetings, coordinate and align school forest activities, secure grants and volunteers, work as a volunteer to coach student athletes using the forest, and provide natural resource expertise as needed to support classroom visits.

**Gary Carson**, NR Instructor at Central Lakes College. -Secured grant from Central Lakes College with **Dean Makey and Kent Montgomery** for construction of wetland board walk on school forest property.

**Gary Carson**, NR Instructor at Central Lakes College, **Jake Frie**, County Forester, **Tim Quincer**, Wildlife Specialist, **Marty Anderson**, Wildlife Specialist.- lead learning stations at School Forest Forestry day.

**Pam Perry**, DNR non-game wildlife specialist - School Forest Management Committee member providing input for planning and programming.

Please list any changes to your site, school forest committee, teaching staff, etc. the School Forest Program should know about.

November 2007 saw an operating levy referendum fail for Brainerd ISD 181. Significant staff and budget cuts were made for the 2008-09 school year. Many teachers participating in school forest activities are shifting teaching assignments, potentially affecting established school forest activities. With the school forest adjacent to the school, transportation reductions will not be a factor in middle school use of the school forest. In some ways, the local school forest could become more important as other field experiences are curtailed.

### Class Visits to School Forest

Please fill in one entry for each visit, event, or activity that happened in your school forest. Please feel free to attach additional pieces of paper.

Date: **all (academic) year** Leaders: Kari Roberts Grade(s): 5-8th  
Activity Description: Nature hikes with after school children's program

Date: **all (academic) year** Leaders: Ken Perry Grade(s): 5-8th

Date: **7-07** Leaders: Emily Lanin Grade(s): All ages- Community Event  
Activity Description: Local 5 km Running event ("Race for the Cure") around the school forest and using public access parking lot as a water stop with school forest personnel volunteering. 500+ participants.

Date: **8-07 through 10-07** Leaders: Chris Hanson, Charity Meyer Grade(s): 5-8th  
Activity Description: Cross Country running practice

Date: **9-07** Leaders: Brenda Sannes Grade(s): 5th  
Activity Description: "Writer's walk" (descriptive writing project)

Date: **9-07** Leaders: Betty Harrison Grade(s): 6th  
Activity Description: Tree identification and leaf/tree project

Date: **9-07** Leaders: John Zemke Grade(s): 6th  
Activity Description: Tree identification project

Date: **9-07 and 5-08** Leaders: Chris Hanson Grade(s): 7th  
Activity Description: Bud capping effectiveness annual study + release cutting

Date: **9-07** Leaders: Tim Edinger Grade(s): 5th  
Activity Description: Team building nature hike, ecosystem game

Date: **9-07** Leaders: Dalen Hodge Grade(s): 8th  
Activity Description: Orienteering

Date: **10-07** Leaders: Robin Halvorson and team teachers Grade(s): 6th  
Activity Description: Grade level "Forestry Day". Demonstration and activity stations on many aspects of forestry. Coordinated with local DNR professionals.

Date: **10-07 and 5-08** Leaders: Dalen Hodge Grade(s): 8th  
Activity Description: Bud capping and release cutting project

Date: **10-07** Leaders: Kathryn Almen Grade(s): 5th  
Activity Description: Nature hike and descriptive writing assignment

Date: **11-07** through 1-08 Leaders: Mary Claire Ryan, Kent Montgomery, Diane Meyer  
Grade(s): 6-8th  
Activity Description: Cross country skiing practice

Date: **12-07** through 5-08 Leaders: Thomas Sanford Grade(s): 5-8th  
Activity Description: Minnesota Deer Hunters' Association "Forkhorns" club activities

Date: **4-08** Leaders: Robin Halvorson, Thomas Diemert Grade(s): 6th  
Activity Description: Arbor day/ planting of 1000 trees on 1.5 acres; 7 classes for approximately 200 students and teachers participated with the planting.

Date: **5-08** Leaders: Terri Ebinger Grade(s): 5th  
Activity Description: Nature hike and scavenger hunt

**Date: 9-07 and 10-07** Leader: Dean Makey Grades: 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup>  
Activity Description: Short class presentations on deer browse protection and release cutting

Date: **3-08** Leader: Chris Hanson Grade: 7<sup>th</sup>  
Activity Description: Attend School Forest Conference, develop online school forest map, gather and share classroom school forest resources and ideas.

Date: **2-08 and 4-08** Leaders: Dean Makey, Robin Halvorson, Thomas Diemert Grade: 6th  
Activity Description: Tree planting project planning and classroom presentations on project implementation

Date: **5-08** Leader: Dean Makey Grade: 4<sup>th</sup>  
Activity Description: 4 Cub Scouts with parents planted 50 tree seedlings as part of "Forester" activity badge requirements