



## 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@state.mn.us  
**School Year: 2009 - 2010**

School Forest Name: Dean Makey School Forest  
School Forest Site Coordinator: Chris Hanson Date: June, 2010  
Address: 12149 Knollwood Drive  
City: Baxter State: MN Zip Code: 56425  
Phone: 218-454-6665 Fax: 218-454-6687  
E-mail: 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 15 Resource Professionals 4  
Students ~2000 Volunteers 5

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@state.mn.us](mailto:dean.makey@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.

**John Latimer**, Public Radio KAXE's official Staff Phenologist, assisted with a bird club outing to the school forest.  
**Dean Makey**, DNR Forester: updating and replacement of map and informative signs along trails; outdoor classroom presentations; assist teachers with planning and implementing forest programming; assist with updating forest map and maintaining records of management activities; maintenance of tree plantings, including watering, deer browse protection, and mechanical release.  
**Gary Carson**, NR instructor at Central Lakes College, **Jake Frie**, Crow Wing County Forester, **Jim Chamberlin**, Crow Wing SWCD Forestry Technician, **Kent Montgomery**, School Board member, and **Dean Makey** led learning stations during 5<sup>th</sup> grade Forestry Field Day.

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

There is some discussion about new signage declaring the trails closed to foot traffic when groomed for Nordic skiing.

## 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: July, 2009 Leaders: Emily Lanin Grade(s): All-community event

Activity Description:

July, 2009 – Annual 5 km running race (Susan G. Komen Race for the Cure) circumnavigated the school forest and utilized the school forest public parking lot for a water stop/aid station. Over 500 runners/walkers participated.

Date: 8/27/09 Leaders: Dean Makey Grade(s): None

Activity Description:

Dean Makey led School Board members and District 181 staff on tour of school forest, including trails, tree planting sites, and new, wetland observation deck.

Date: 8/09 to 10/09 Leaders: Chris Hanson / Charity Meyer Grade(s): 5-8

Activity Description:

32 cross country running practice 3 -5x/week on forest trails and hills.

Date: 11/09 and 5/10 Leaders: Chris Hanson Grade(s): 7

Activity Description:

155 students bud capped red and white pines for deer browse protection. Continued browse protection effectiveness study. Also did fall release cutting of competing brush. Removed bud caps in the spring.

Date: 9/09 Leaders: Carol Lang Grade(s): 6

Activity Description:

195 students did "Poetry Walk" (fall) and/or a "Bubble Gum" walk in spring. (Students use "gum" as glue to attach interesting forest artifacts for a writing exercise.)

Date: 9/09 Leaders: Ken Perry Grade(s): 8

Activity Description:

Earth science observation activity - 172 students.

Date: 9/09 Leaders: 5<sup>th</sup> grade teachers Grade(s): 5

Activity Description:

Forestry Day: demonstration and activity stations on forestry coordinated with local natural resource professionals; 535 students and teachers participate.

Date: 10/09 Leaders: Jen West Grade(s): 5

Activity Description:

61 students did nature walk, poetry nature writing, and a leaf art project.

Date: 10/09 Leaders: Jay Sannes Grade(s): 7

Activity Description:

160 students did classification (tree and plant) activities.

Date: 10/09 Leaders: Dalen Hodge Grade(s): 8

Activity Description:

3-day navigation/topographic/orienteering activities (175 students).

Date: 10/09 Leaders: Helene Danielson Grade(s): 6

Activity Description:

Used trails for nature observation and gathering sensory details for writing descriptive essays. (60 students)

Date: 10/09 Leaders: Betty Harrison Grade(s): 5

Activity Description:

Science classes completed mechanical release cutting work on recently planted trees. (60 students)

Date: 11/09 and 5/10 Leaders: Dalen Hodge Grade(s): 8

Activity Description:

175 students capped and uncapped pines planted by students in recent years to protect against winter deer browsing. Also did release cutting around young pines.

Date: 11/09 – 2/10 Leaders: Mary Claire Ryan and staff Grade(s): 6-8

Activity Description:

Nordic Ski practice held on trails (dryland until snow, then on trails groomed by Brainerd Nordic Ski Club with MN DNR Grant in Aid funding after snowfall). 15 skiers. Frequent (weekly) use by High School ski team as well.

Date: 12/09-3/10 Leaders: - Grade(s): -

Activity Description:

Community member use of groomed nordic ski trails. (Unknown #)

Date: 3/10 Leaders: Ken Perry Grade(s): 6-8

Activity Description:

2 different birding/phenology field trips with school birding club (10 students)

Date: 4/10 Leaders: Dave Herath Grade(s): 7

Activity Description:

157 students used school forest and its biota for rate/ratio unit project.

Date: 4/10 Leaders: Dalen Hodge Grade(s): 8

Activity Description:

Nature walk-175 students.

Date: 4/10 Leaders: Robin Halverson Grade(s): 5

Activity Description:

120 students did release cutting work on recently planted trees.

Date: 4/10 Leaders: Dean Makey Grade(s): 5

Activity Description:

**Brainerd Public Utilities** completed 1 acre of mechanical site preparation for 5<sup>th</sup> grade tree planting, donating ½ day of “brush hog” equipment and operator with Dean Makey supervising the project work.

Date: 4/10 Leaders: Robin Halverson Grade(s): 5

Activity Description:

500 trees planted on Arbor Day. (120 students)

Date: 4/10 Leaders: Kirk Lingenfelter Grade(s): 7

Activity Description:

155 students did biotic/abiotic factor activity.

Date: 4/10-5/10 Leaders: Chris Hanson Grade(s): 6-8

Activity Description:

10-15 track runners use trails for long distance training.

Date: 6/10 Leaders: Chris Hanson Grade(s): 7

Activity Description:

155 students involved in nature walk/scavenger hunt on school trails. Activity based out of new observation deck.

Date: 6/10 Leaders: Robin Halverson Grade(s): 5

Activity Description:

Science students completed watering of tree seedlings they had planted earlier in the spring. (120 students)

Date: All school year Leaders: Mary Lindner Grade(s): 5-6

Activity Description:

P.E. class activities including hiking, running, snow shoeing, and Nordic skiing. 150 students.

Date: All year Leaders: - Grade(s): -

Activity Description:

10+ Staff and community (unknown #) use of trails for nature and fitness walks/running.