



## School Forest Annual Report 2010-2011 School Year

Please submit before June 30 to:  
[amykay.kerber@state.mn.us](mailto:amykay.kerber@state.mn.us)

School Forest Name: Dean Makey School Forest  
School Forest Site Coordinator: Chris Hanson Date: 6-13-11  
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](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 ~15 Resource Professionals 2  
Students >1400 Volunteers >10

Would your School Forest like a FREE set of classroom field desks?

Yes No  Already Have a Set

Did a DNR Forester assist you with any school forest activities?  Yes No

If so, who? Dean Makey, DNR Forester, 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: updated and replaced trail maps (digital files and physical maps posted on trails). Coordinated tree planting project and monitored deer browse protection for recent seedling plantings. Assisted with Forestry Day and other classroom projects, including bud capping and release cutting. Prepared poster-size wall maps of school forest for teachers.

**Gary Carson**, NR Instructor at Central Lakes College with **Natural Resource college students**, **Jake Frie** and **Ryan Simonson**, Crow Wing County Foresters, and **Evan Ingebrigtsen**, NRCS Technician, and **Dean Makey** led learning stations during 5<sup>th</sup> grade Forestry Field Day.

Parent volunteer – Wildlife Biologist.

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

Faded/worn trail maps posted at intersections were replaced. Tree seedlings were interplanted to improve the density of management areas. Stand improvement was completed to improve the growing conditions of planted seedlings. Trail maintenance was completed.

## **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 add additional visits/activities.

Date: Fall, spring Leaders: Dale Carry, Forestview Middle School groundskeeper and crew

**Activity Description:** School grounds crew mows and clears trails.

**Number of staff involved:** 4

Date: June 26, 2010 Leaders: Emily Lanin & Susan G. Komen Race for the Cure staff

**Activity Description:** 5k fun run/walk/race and local cancer fundraising event circumnavigated the school forest and used the public forest access/parking lot as a water stop/aid station.

**Number of volunteers involved:** 50+

**Number participants:** 456 runners + a few hundred walkers.

Date: Aug.-Oct. 2010 Leaders: Chris Hanson, coach Grade(s): 5-8

**Activity Description:** Cross Country running practice. 3x week on forest trails.

**Number of adults involved:** 2

**Number of students/youth involved:** 35

Date: Fall, 2010 Leaders: Robin Halverson & 5<sup>th</sup> grade teachers Grade(s): 6

**Activity Description:**

Forestry Day event for all 5<sup>th</sup> graders with learning stations and activities run and presented by volunteers and forest professionals.

**Number of adults involved:** 20

**Number of students/youth involved:** 530

Date: September, 2010 Leaders: Kathryn Almen, teacher Grade(s): 6

**Activity Description:**

Senses walk (sight, hearing, smell, touch, feel) Descriptive writing assignment with similies of a walk through the woods.

**Number of adults involved:** 1

**Number of students/youth involved:** 60

Date: Fall, 2010 Leaders: Dalen Hodge, Sandy Loney, teachers Grade(s): 8

**Activity Description:**

Created a butterfly garden (to be registered on national database)

**Number of adults involved:** 2

**Number of students/youth involved:** 15

Date: Fall, 2010 Leaders: Michele Albright, teacher Grade(s): 6

**Activity Description:**

I take my reading/lang. arts classes out on the trails. We usually take an Autumn Haiku Hike in September or October. We walk out to the observation deck and write our poems. It's about 60 kids, no volunteers, and just me for the teacher.

**Number of adults involved:** 1

**Number of students/youth involved:** 60

Date: Sept. & Oct., 2010 & April & May, 2011 Leaders: Layne Danielson, teacher Grade(s) 5

**Activity Description:**

Helping with maintenance of planted trees (mechanical release around planted trees). Science curriculum: tree identification, forest walk, ecology "eco walk".

**Number of adults involved:** 2

**Number of students/youth involved:** 120

Date: October, 2010 & April, 2011 Leaders: Robin Halverson, teacher Grade(s): 5

**Activity Description:**

Release cutting around student planted seedlings in designated areas.

**Number of adults involved:** 2

**Number of students/youth involved:** 120

Date: Oct., 2010 and May, 2011 Leaders: Dalen Hodge, teacher Grade(s): 8

**Activity Description:**

2 days of Norway pine planting management: bud capping and release cutting work.

**Number of adults involved:** 1

**Number of students/youth involved:** 160

Date: Oct., 2010 & May, 2011 Leaders: Chris Hanson, teacher & Dean Makey, forester Grade(s): 7

**Activity Description:** Bud capping and release cutting pine seedlings in designated areas in fall and removed caps in spring. One site of white pine is used as a study plot to determine the effectiveness of bud capping. Students gather and analyze current year's data to compare with past years to investigate effectiveness of human interventions on tree growth/success.

**Number of adults involved:** 2

**Number of students/youth involved:** 150 (capping/release cutting); 33 (study/data analysis)

Date: 2 days in Oct., 2010 Leaders: Jay Sannes, teacher Grade(s): 7

**Activity Description:** Scientific classification activities and practice.

**Number of adults involved:** 1

**Number of students/youth involved:** 150

Date: Nov., 2010 - March, 2011 Leaders: N/A Grade(s): N/A

**Activity Description:** Public use of Nordic ski trails groomed by Brainerd Nordic Ski Club using School District #181 and MN DNR Grant-in-aid funds.

**Number of persons involved:** (estimate) 5-15 daily on proper "snow" days.

Date: Nov. 15, 2010 – Feb.11, 2011 Leaders: Brainerd School Nordic Ski Coaching staff Grade(s): 5-12

**Activity Description:** Forest trails (dryland and snow-covered) used at least 2x weekly for Nordic ski practice for the middle and high school Nordic ski teams.

**Number of adults involved:** 7 (Coaches and volunteer parents)

**Number of students/youth involved:** 56

Date: Dec. 21, 2010 Leaders: Brainerd School Nordic Ski Coaching staff Grade(s): 5-12

**Activity Description:**

Interschool competitive Nordic Ski race (Little Falls and Brainerd).

**Number of adults involved:** 8 Coaches/school staff and 10+ volunteers

**Number of students/youth involved:** ~100 student athletes

Date: Jan., 2011 Leaders: Dalen Hodge, Builders Club advisor and parent volunteers Grade(s): 8  
**Activity Description:** Coordinated fundraising with school Builders Club (30+ students) and built wooden benches to be placed on forest trails.  
**Number of adults involved:** 3  
**Number of students/youth involved:** 7

Date: All school year Leaders: Leah Brown, PE teacher Grade(s): 5-6  
**Activity Description:** Physical education classes: Winter - Cross country skiing, snowshoeing; Fall and Spring - running, hiking  
**Number of adults involved:** 1  
**Number of students/youth involved:** 300

Date: April, 2011 Leaders: Robin Halverson, teacher Grade(s): 5  
**Activity Description:** Tree seedling planting  
**Number of adults involved:** 2  
**Number of students/youth involved:** 120

Date: May, 2011 (twice) Leaders: Ken Perry, teacher Grade(s): 8  
**Activity Description:** Bird watching  
**Number of adults involved:** 2  
**Number of students/youth involved:** 1

Date: May, 2011 Leaders: Betty Harrison, teacher Grade(s): 5  
**Activity Description:** Mechanical release cutting around planted tree seedlings.  
**Number of adults involved:** 2  
**Number of students/youth involved:** 120

Date: May, 2011 Leaders: Owen Trout, coach Grade(s): 6-8  
**Activity Description:** Track practice/distance workouts. Used trails 3 or 4 times to train long distance runners.  
**Number of adults involved:** 4  
**Number of students/youth involved:** 7-20 (the entire team of 120 once did the distance workout!)

Date: May 11, 2011 Leaders: Kirk Lingenfelter, teacher Grade(s): 7  
**Activity Description:** Used school forest for food web species survey. Identified and understood food webs by observing diversity of organisms.  
**Number of adults involved:** 1  
**Number of students/youth involved:** 149

Date: May, 2011 (2 days) Leaders: Robin Halverson, teacher Grade(s): 5  
**Activity Description:** Removal of tree shelters and tree regeneration surveys using plot sampling.  
**Number of adults involved:** 2  
**Number of students/youth involved:** 30

Date: May, 2011 (2 days) Leader: Chris Hanson, Community Education  
**Activity Description:** "Trail Running 101" Community Education class. Adult participants trained for local 10km and half marathon trail race on Forestview School Forest trails.  
**Number of participants involved:** 16

Date: Spring, 2011 Leaders: Dalen Hodge, teacher Grade(s): 8

**Activity Description:**

3 days of orienteering - map and compass style

**Number of adults involved:** 1

**Number of students/youth involved:** 160

Date: June 2, 2011 Leaders: Tim Peabody, teacher Grade(s): 6

**Activity Description:**

“Bubble Gum Walk” - Nature walk and observation activity on the Forestview Trails.

**Number of adults involved:** 8

**Number of students/youth involved:** 130

Date: May – June, 2011 Leaders: Nate Jensen & Steve Jobe, coaches Grade(s): 6 - 7

**Activity Description:** Use of trails for physical conditioning by soccer team (LAYSA).

**Number of adults involved:** 2

**Number of students/youth involved:** 14

Teacher/staff comments:

- Awesome resource. The signs are very helpful. The gazebo is a nice stop! Tremendous asset for our school!
- I XC skied in the school forest 1-2 times per week from mid-Dec. through early March. I love the school forest and am so thankful we have this jewel right here on our school grounds.
- Awesome opportunity for staff and students! Beautiful trails and well maintained!
- Great opportunities to see different species because of the diversity of the habitats.

Please submit before June 30 to:  
[amykay.kerber@state.mn.us](mailto:amykay.kerber@state.mn.us) (preferred)  
Or paper reports can be mailed to:  
School Forest Program, MN DNR  
500 Lafayette Road, St. Paul, MN 55155-4044  
[mndnr.gov/schoolforest](http://mndnr.gov/schoolforest)