



School Forest Annual Report 2012-2013 School Year

Please submit before June 30 to:
laura.duffey@state.mn.us

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

School E-mail: chris.hanson@isd181.org

Summer/Home Email: chanson@brainerd.net

School Forest Support

1. Site Assistance: What help has your School Forest received this year?

X	Type	Name/Organization	What was contributed?
	DNR Forester	Dean Makey	Volunteer time, planning, leadership
	Other Natural Resource Professional		
	Volunteer	Many parents	Time, supervision
	Grant	MN Middle School Assoc.	\$500 for trail cameras/supplies
		Michael Pagelkopf	Classroom set of field desks
		MN DNR	School forest signage
	Other	Brainerd Nordic Ski Club	Trail maintenance, ski trail grooming

2. Did you get DNR seedlings?

Yes No

3. Would your school like a FREE School Forest training for teaching staff?

Yes No Already had one!

4. Do you have a School Forest webpage?

Yes No If yes, what is the URL?

(kind of...)

<http://forestviewtrailcameras.shutterfly.com>

<http://www.isd181.org/education/components/scrapbook/default.php?sectiondetailid=9112&>

(NOTE: school website will likely change this summer...)

5. Do you want help from DNR School Forest staff with your School Forest committee?

Yes- (If needed!) No Not sure

6. Do you have a School Forest stewardship or management plan?

Yes **X**

No

Not sure

7. Tell us what's going on at your School Forest. Have there been any changes, happenings, or improvements with your Site, Committee, or Teaching Staff?

Continued maintenance of trails. Trails widened by Ski Club volunteers.

Student Field desks and DNR signage donated. Increased # of activities and teacher involvement (see below)

School Forest Activities

Include activities done by other teachers and community groups

Sept 2012 – 5th Grade “Forestry Days”; approx. 500+ students & teachers

Fall 2012 All grade 3 teachers (24) in-service in the school forest

Sept 2012 - Loney – 8th grade- 150 students - 1. nature walk to enhance observation skills, collect data ~ 1 day 2. Metric Measurement Lab ~ 2 days

Early October – Sannes - Grade 5 Language Arts - Descriptive writing in three parts, stopping at 3 locations within the school forest.

Fall & Spring 2012-2013 – Lang - 6th grade - 120 students - Poetry walk. Use the images, sounds, and reactions to write poetry. On the last day of school we go on a bubble gum walk. Students collect pine cones, dried weeds, acorns, etc to make a sculpture.

October 2012 – Halverson & Makey – 523 students - visits by Kindergarten classes to School Forest; see their “K Trees” in the Kindergarten Grove and learn about trees

October 2012 – Halverson & Makey – 540 students - visits by 3rd Grades to School Forest; use School Forest for learning activities, such as tree identification

October - H. Danielson - Grade: 5 - Walking and observing on trails. Used the deck as a home base to write nature poetry.

Oct 2012 –Hanson and Hodge- 300 students – bud capping/mechanical release work

Oct.- Nov 2012 –Hanson - 31 students – Trail camera field study

November 2012 – L. Danielson – 5th grade classes, 120 kids – release work

November 2012 – Harrison – 5th grade classes, 60 kids – release work

November 2012 – Halverson – 5th grade classes, 120 kids – release work

November 2012 – School Forest Committee meeting @ Forestview MS

February – Linder - grades 5, 6, 7 - 300 students - Physical Education classes X-C skiing & snow shoeing on trails.

February 2013 – Makey – attended DNR’s School Forest Conference

March 2013 – School Forest update at Forestview Science Teacher’s meeting

Spring 2013 – Hanson’s and Hodge’s classes – remove bud caps

Spring 2013 – Makey – adjust tree shelters on pine

May 2013 – Halverson – 5th grade classes, 120 kids – planted tree seedlings

May 2013 – Harrison – 5th grade class, 30 kids – planted tree seedlings

May 2013 – Harrison – 5th grade class – reinstall blue bird houses

Spring 2013 – Makey – maintenance of informational and directional trail signs

Summer 2013 – Makey – monitoring of tree seedling growth and health concerns

June 2013 – Race for the Cure ~ 1000 runners and walkers circumnavigate school forest and use SF parking area as water stop

June-Aug. 2013 – Cross country running program weekly running sessions on school trails – 20 athletes & coaches

All year – Community – 3 Geocaches placed – 55 documented “finds” as of 6/25/13

All year – Community – Trails for nature walks and fitness- hiking, running, mountain biking, and cross-country skiing. Unknown number of visitors.

Total # of people who used the School Forest in 2012-2013:

Teachers	<u>~38</u>
Students	<u>~1900</u>

Visit Highlights

Date: Fall 2012

Leaders: Robin Halverson, Grade: Kindergarten

Activity description: This year, all Kindergarten classes got a classroom tree. Then we started something called “Kindergarten Grove” where we have a plot for each school and we plant the tagged tree from each class with the year and teacher. When they come to Forestview in 5th grade, they can see their tree from Kindergarten.

Date: Fall 2012

Leaders: Robin Halverson, Grade: 3

Activity description: This year, for the first time, we trained all grade 3 teachers with activities to teach in the school forest, with each trained teacher doing a new lesson outside in the school forest.

Oct. - Nov. 2012

Leaders: Chris Hanson, Grade: 7

31 students submitted “research proposals” for a field study using 3 trail cameras. Completed a study investigating effects of different food attractants to wildlife, specifically white-tailed deer. Images and results posted @ <http://forestviewtrailcameras.shutterfly.com>

Please submit this form before June 30 to: laura.duffey@state.mn.us (preferred)

Or mail a paper report to: School Forest Program, MN DNR 500 Lafayette Rd, St. Paul, MN 55155-4044

mndnr.gov/schoolforest