



## **News for Immediate Release**

**Sept. 20, 2013**

### **DCNR Appoints New Manager at Rothrock State Forest District**

**Harrisburg** - The Department of Conservation and Natural Resources today named Mark C. Potter as district forester of the Rothrock State Forest District in central Pennsylvania.

"Mark has served admirably in a variety of prior posts with DCNR, and his interpersonal skills will be a strong asset in working with district employees, area residents and state forest visitors," DCNR Acting Secretary Ellen Ferretti said. "He brings a wealth of technical and administrative skills to the forest district."

Potter will oversee a forest district based in Huntingdon that includes portions of Huntingdon, Centre and Mifflin counties. He will oversee natural resource management, personnel coordination, infrastructure maintenance and fire prevention and suppression. He also will manage service foresters who provide support, direction and technical assistance to private forest landowners.

Rothrock State Forest District includes state forestland totaling 96,956 acres. The Rothrock State Forest is named for Dr. Joseph Trimbel Rothrock, a Mifflin County native recognized as the "Father of Forestry in Pennsylvania." His 1895 appointment as the first forestry commissioner in the newly-formed Division of Forestry in the Department of Agriculture led to creation of the present Bureau of Forestry.

"I am looking forward to future years on the Rothrock State Forest and, with the help of a great staff, continuing to showcase a 'working' forest that is also a statewide and even nationwide destination for recreation," Potter said. "I intend to maintain and build upon the strong relationships the Rothrock has with many of our stakeholders, and to explore additional opportunities to expand what the Rothrock has to offer."

Potter, 42, succeeds Jason A. Albright, who was named assistant director of the Bureau of Forestry.

Rothrock's new district forester began his career with the bureau in 1999, working as a forest technician and then management forester at the Bald Eagle State Forest District, based in Laurelton, Union County. He served the past six years as a Rothrock assistant district forester. Before joining the bureau, Potter worked eight years as a consulting forester in the private sector, and three years as resource management technician with the Mifflin County Conservation District.

A native of Kennett Square, Chester County, Potter holds a bachelor's degree in forest science from Pennsylvania State University.

For more information on Rothrock and Pennsylvania's other 19 state forest districts, visit [www.dcnr.pa.us](http://www.dcnr.pa.us) (click "Find a Forest").

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