



News for Immediate Release

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Weiser State Forest Opens New Office and Welcomes New District Forester

Harrisburg – The Department of Conservation and Natural Resources' Forest District 18 office is now open at the new Weiser Resource Management Center in Aristes, Columbia County.

"This new building is the ideal location for our work managing the state forest, as well as interacting with visitors as they take advantage of the great hiking, biking, hunting and paddling opportunities in the district," DCNR State Forester Dan Devlin said.

In addition to the new office, Devlin noted the Weiser State Forest District will have a new manager. Tim Ladner will replace prior district forester Mark Deibler who retired in July.

"I am looking forward to working through the challenges of a brand new facility at the Weiser Resource Management Center and leading the Weiser State Forest District into the future." Ladner said.

The former district office was located in Cressona, Schuylkill County. Devlin noted the new location is in a more central spot for the district which has more than 28,000 acres of state forest land on 14 tracts in Dauphin, Berks, Carbon, Columbia, Northumberland and Schuylkill counties.

The new 10,000-square-foot office building and 6,000-square-foot garage will serve as the work location for clerical workers, forest managers, foresters, rangers and maintenance workers.

It was designed with "green" features, which include low-flow toilets, natural lighting and the first large-scale wood pellet furnace to be used by the Bureau of Forestry. It will heat both the office and maintenance facilities. The new office is being considered for a Silver LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) rating.

The office will feature future lobby-area displays interpreting forestry and conservation.

The facility is very close to the popular Roaring Creek tract of Weiser State Forest. Recreational activities at Roaring Creek include hiking, hunting, fishing, canoeing,

kayaking, electric powered boating, wildlife watching, nature study and cross-country skiing.

The new address for the building is 16 Weiser Lane, Aristes, PA 17920. The phone number is 570-875-6450.

The park's new manager, Ladner, is currently assistant district forester in the Delaware State Forest District. Prior to that, he worked as a service forester in the Buchanan State Forest District and has several years of experience in both consulting in forestry and the forest industry; timber harvesting; and procurement. Ladner will begin his new role Oct. 19.

For more information about the Weiser State Forest District, visit www.dcnr.state.pa.us and choose "Find a Forest."

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