

Ohio Department of Natural Resources

Division of Forestry

Annual Work Plan

For

Maumee
State Forest

For the Period of

Fiscal Year 2013
(July 1, 2012 to June 30, 2013)



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June 18, 2012
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June 25, 2012
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Table of Contents

	<u>Page</u>
I. Strategic Plan.....	1
II. Summary of Strategic Plan Actions.....	2
Bullet Statements: Actions that directly support Strategic Plan Goals & Objectives	
III. Forest Overview.....	2
History & Description	
IV. Resource Management.....	3
Silvicultural Practices (Scheduled Harvests, Cruising, Marking, TSI, etc.)	
Merchandising	
Minerals	
Invasives	
Boundary	
Licenses/Leases	
Insects & Disease	
Utilization & Marketing	
Land Management Grants	
Research	
Summary (2-3 year projects)	
V. Maintenance.....	7
Buildings	
Infrastructure (water, wastewater, utilities)	
Vehicles & Equipment	
Roads	
Signage	
Residences	
Dams	
Capitals Projects	
Summary (2-3 year future projects)	
VI. Recreation.....	9
Trails (APV, hiking, bridle, backpack, etc.)	
Campgrounds	
ATV Areas	
Shooting Ranges	
Recreational Grants	
Summary (2-3 year future projects)	
VII. Wildland Fire.....	10
Suppression	
Preventions	
Prescribed fire	
Inter-Agency Fire Crew	
Training	
Fire Department Contacts	

FireWise
FEPP/FFP
Fire Grants
Summary (2-3 year future projects)

VIII. Law Enforcement.....	12
Philosophy/Purpose	
Training	
Equipment	
Patrol Priorities	
Special Projects	
Other Duties (VFD's, FEPP, Court, Boundary, etc.)	
Summary (2-3 year future projects)	
IX. Employee Development.....	14
Employee Lists/Vacancies/Table of Organization	
Training (tuition reimbursement, etc.)	
Safety	
Other Employee Development	
X. Public Information/Outreach.....	15
Planned Events	
Partnerships	
Volunteers	
Interpretive Programs	
Summary (2-3 year future projects)	
XI. Budget.....	17
Operational Budget (personnel, maintenance)	
Revenue	
Summary (2-3 year projected budget)	
XII. Other Programs.....	18
Northwest Ohio Windbreak Program	
Windbreak Arboretum and Tree Improvement Area	
XIII Forest Map/Compartment Map.....	19

OHIO DIVISION OF FORESTRY

I. STRATEGIC PLAN *(Effective 2008)*

Our Vision: Ohio's state forests will be the best managed forest lands in the country, and will be widely recognized as such.

To fulfill this vision, the Ohio Division of Forestry commits to meeting five objectives. We will:

- Manage forests to ensure the health and sustainability of forest systems
- Produce high-quality forest products that contribute to local communities
- Provide recreational opportunities that are compatible with sustainable forest management.
- Provide unique forestry education sites and promote outreach and long-term research
- Maintain a highly trained and well equipped work force

To fulfill these objectives, the Division of Forestry will develop and implement strategies and plans that allow us to accomplish the following goals by 2012:

- Manage forests to ensure the health and sustainability of forest systems
 - *Implement a proven, verifiable approach to sustainable management*
 - *Manage for site-appropriate, native forest systems and species*
 - *Maintain long-term forest productivity through conservation of soil, water, and forest resources*
 - *Retain or promote stand- and landscape-level wildlife habitat*
 - *Assess the distribution and impact of non-native invasive species*
- Produce high-quality forest products that contribute to local communities
 - *Base State Forest harvest volumes on the goals and guidelines for each forest system, current stand and forest-wide inventories, and science-based silviculture*
 - *Develop marketing strategies to capture the maximum value of forest products*
- Provide recreational opportunities that are compatible with sustainable forest management
 - *Develop a comprehensive recreation plan for the state forest system*
 - *Build recognition for unique and varied recreation opportunities on state forests*
- Provide unique forestry education sites and promote outreach and long-term research
 - *Support forest research with an emphasis on sustainable forest management (silvicultural, prescribed fire, native systems, etc.)*
 - *Develop opportunities to showcase forest management practices to the general public, private landowners, and forest industry*
- Maintain a highly trained and well equipped work force
 - *Develop a training, continuing education, and/or certification standard for all division staff*
 - *Inventory and evaluate equipment and facilities and develop maintenance and replacement schedules*
 - *Develop equipment and facilities budgets based on current and projected needs*
 - *Ensure all staff have appropriate health and safety training*

II. Summary of Strategic Plan Actions

Bullet Statements: Actions that directly support Strategic Plan Goals & Objectives

- Monitor and inventory forest stands to assess the health and productivity.
- Conduct a timber harvest that restores an Oak savanna remnant in Compartment C3 on Maumee State Forest. (Planned for Summer/Fall 2012)
- Continue wetland restoration work in the Muck Farm area of Maumee State Forest aided by funding from the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative (GLRI).
- Based on inventory data, continue pine plantation harvest thinning.
- Continue to provide recreational opportunities at Maumee (hiking, hunting, APV/snowmobile, horse riding, SUP's) and ensure the protection of the natural resource by assessing conditions, proper maintenance and repairs when necessary.
- Complete proposal to expand parking lot and trail mileage within the Maumee State Forest APV and Snowmobile Area. (APV trail expansion was completed and parking lot expansion is in progress and planned to be completed by late Summer 2012)
- Continue to develop and promote the Stewardship Trail and assist partner agencies/universities with research studies.
- Maintain a highly trained staff by conducting monthly safety meetings, offering training opportunities in the areas of forest management, firefighting and law enforcement.

III. Forest Overview

History & Description:

A Brief History: Northwest Ohio's topography and natural features are a result of the last glacier to pass through this area about 18,000 years ago. As the Wisconsin glacier began its retreat from Ohio, a glacial lake was formed across the northwestern corner of Ohio. As the water level fell, irregular sand beaches and a portion of the lake bottom were exposed. This area, with its poorly drained soils ranging from yellow blow sand to dark muck soil, became known locally as the Oak Openings Region. The entire 3,100 acres of Maumee State Forest lies within the Oak Openings Region. Elevation of the land varies less than 29 feet over the entire forest area.

The Maumee State Forest purchase unit came about as a post-World War II initiative to increase the number and acres of state forest and forest parks in Ohio. In 1945, the Division of Forestry published "A Twenty-year Plan for establishing a More Adequate System of State Forests and Forest parks in Ohio." The plan called for seven more State Forests or Forest parks. Acquisition of land for Maumee State Forest was initiated in 1946. Most of the land that makes up the present forest was purchased between 1946-1953.

In 1948, the first plantations were started in abandoned farm fields. By 1954, drier old fields had been planted to pine plantations and wetter field areas to hardwoods. The forest was self-supporting for several years from the sale of Christmas trees.

Maumee State Forest is located 15 miles southwest of Toledo in northwestern Ohio with portions in Fulton, Lucas and Henry counties. The forest covers 3,100 acres.

Maumee State Forest is managed under the multiple-use concept including but not limited to, timber, wildlife habitat, forestry research, demonstration of good forest management, soil and water protection, recreational use and unique natural features.

During the spring and fall fire season, the forest crew encourages prevention and assists in the suppression of wildland fires. The spring is also the time of planting seedlings on private farmland through the Northwest Ohio Windbreak Program.

10. **Resource Management**

Silvicultural Practices (Scheduled Harvests, Cruising, Marking, TSI, Restoration projects etc.):

Following is a listing of compartments that will be inventoried or contain restoration projects this year.

State Forest	Compartment	Total Acres	Work
Maumee	C3/C4	177	Wetland Restoration Through GLRI Grant (Continuation)
Maumee	C3	19	Hardwood harvest restoring oak savanna remnant Inventory pine plantations for possible thinning and salvage of red pine. This compartment moved up in priority from previous cruise schedule based on visual observations of red pine decline and mortality.
Maumee	A7	40	
Maumee	B1	80	Inventory pine plantations for possible thinning harvest.

GLRI Grant Project 2009. In 2009, the Oak Openings Region partners joined efforts to obtain grant funding from the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative (GLRI). The Nature Conservancy (TNC) took the lead role by heading up and administering the grant request of approximately 1.4 million dollars from US EPA. ODNR Division of Forestry was granted \$201,531 over three years as sub-recipient of TNC. This grant project will concentrate on performing wet site restoration work in the Muck Farm Area in Henry County. This grant project intends to treat 50 plus acres of wet site habitats including wet sedge meadows, buttonbush swamps and wet woods through canopy reduction/removal and invasive species control. Project details include the following;

- Restore and expand existing wet site habitats within a 177 acre area in the vicinity of Road 2 in Washington Township, Henry County.
- Directly treat 50 plus acres of wet sedge meadow/buttonbush swamps/wet woods by canopy reduction/removal and invasive species control.
- Initial treatments will primarily be heavy equipment mechanical treatment and chainsaw work. Follow-up treatments by herbicides, controlled burning and mowing.
- Upland areas adjacent to wet site habitats may receive treatments to enhance rare species needs of basking, nesting, foraging, etc.

- Annual goal is to complete initial treatment on approximately 15-20 new acres each year.
- Project work dates are December 15, 2010 to December 31, 2013.

Oak Savanna Restoration. As part of the Division of Forestry efforts to recognize, enhance and restore globally rare ecosystems within the state forest system, a timber harvest will be conducted on Maumee State Forest to restore an oak savanna remnant. There is a 19 acre oak savanna remnant in Compartment C3 a few hundred feet south of the old Migrant Rest Center Facility. This area contains several oak trees with large crowns, very large diameter and appeared to have grown and developed in an open grown savanna type or pasture setting. Over time, smaller younger trees, primarily red maple have occupied the understory. This harvest will remove most understory trees less than 18-20 inches in diameter, leaving all the larger open grown oak trees scattered within this area. In the future, management options such as mowing, herbicides and prescribed fire will be used to maintain this area as an oak savanna ecosystem.

Pine Plantation Harvest Thinning. Pine plantations in Compartments A7 and B1 are scheduled to be inventoried/cruised for a possible thinning harvest or salvage harvest. As noted in the chart above, priorities within the cruising and inventory schedule have been changed to address management concerns. The primary concern for moving up inventory and cruising in Compartment A7 is to address observations of red pine decline and mortality.

Merchandising:

Logs salvaged from storms or right-of-way clearing operations will be graded and be offered for sale to the public through the sealed bid process.

Minerals:

There are no current mineral issues or extractions on Maumee State Forest.

Invasives:

In Fall 2008, the ODNR, Division of Forestry and Natural Areas/Preserves teamed up to cut several acres of buckthorn in the Muck Farm Wet Prairie. Beginning in July 2009, Recovery Conservation Corps (RCC) crews spent considerable time in the Muck Farm continuing to cut back the invasive buckthorn.

In 2009, 2010 and early 2011, Ohio Woodland Job Corps crews spent considerable time eliminating invasives in the Muck Farm area (Compartment C3) as well as treating invasives and unwanted maple in Compartment A2, A5 and A6 pine plantations.

More invasive control work continued into FY 2012 with an additional round of Ohio Woodland Job Corps crews and with the GLRI wetland restoration project.

Boundary: (Approximately 24 miles of boundary)

There are approximately 24 miles of boundary line on Maumee State Forest. Approximately 20% of the known boundary will be repainted with yellow paint. Signage and boundary markers will also be checked and replaced as necessary.

Licenses/Leases:

At present, The Division of Forestry has working agreements or leases with the following agencies:

- Division of Natural Areas and Preserves - Manage 40 acres in Compartment C-3 (Muck Farm).
- Henry County Commissioners – 13 acres in Compartment C-4. Henry County Commissioners sublease the facility to Lutheran Home Service, Family and Youth Services Inc. LHS operates the facility for the care and treatment of children with Asperger's Disorder. (This area was previously leased to the Ohio Department of Youth Services as the Maumee Youth Center)
- Henry County Commissioners – 15 acres in Compartment C3. Henry County Commissioners sublease the facility to Rural Opportunities Inc. for a migrant rest center, transitional housing, emergency shelter, training and education. (This area was previously leased to Ohio Bureau of Employment Services as a migrant rest center.

Insects & Disease:

Cooperate with the Ohio Department of Agriculture, OSU Extension, APHIS and USDA Forest Service with their monitoring and research efforts of the Emerald Ash Borer.

Monitor for Gypsy Moth activity on the forest.

Cooperate with USDA Forest Service in their research effort to bring back and establish resistant ash and elm trees in Ohio and surrounding states.

Utilization & Marketing:

Pine and hardwood trees that have died or fallen and contain merchantable logs will be salvaged and be sold by local manager's sale.

Firewood permits will be issued on a request basis for downed trees along roadways, firelanes and facilities.

Land Management Grants:

Partner agencies with in the Oak Openings Region applied for and received a Great Lakes Restoration Initiative (GLRI) grant. The Nature Conservancy was the lead applicant and submitted the application on behalf of the partners. The Maumee State Forest portion of the grant is \$201,531 and provides funding to restore 50 or more acres of wetland type habitat over a 3 year period. (See page 3 "GLRI Grant 2009" for more information)

In partnership with OBCI (Ohio Bird Conservation Initiative), the Division of Forestry received a \$5000 grant from NWTF (National Wild Turkey Federation) in June 2012. The grant is for "Oak Openings Habitat Restoration at Maumee State Forest". The project objective is to improve oak forest habitat by reducing maple encroachment, invasive species control and using TSI

measures favoring long term oak dominance. The project is planned for the fall and winter 2012 in Compartments A3 and C4.

Research:

Work with the US Forest Service with the Elm tree research project. The planted Elm trees are hoped to be resistant to Dutch Elm Disease. There are currently 15 trees planted in the research project that began in the summer of 2003.

Work with USDA Forest Service on the resistant ash plot establish in 2007 at the Maumee Tree Improvement Area. Approximately 300 ash trees were planted with origins ranging from Europe, China, Eastern US and Western US.

Also assist outside agencies facilitate research projects on Maumee such as EAB forest ecology, floral/fauna studies, wet prairie studies, vernal pool studies, Fraxinus seed studies, Sirex wood wasp studies, salamander research. Box turtle/blandings turtle/spotted turtle studies and Lepidoptera studies.

Summary (2-3 year projects)

The next 2-3 years will focus on restoration and invasive control work on wetland areas and oak savannah remnants. Pine plantation thinning harvests will also continue over the next few years.

Due to the emerald ash borer, many ash trees are now dead or dying on Maumee State Forest. Dead ash trees that pose a hazard will need to be dropped. This will be ongoing for the next 1-2 years.

Ongoing projects also include the continuation of partnership with groups such as APV riders, Ohio Horse Council Groups, Watershed Agencies, Metroparks, Oak Openings Regional partners and local Scout groups.

V. Maintenance

Buildings:

Perform general maintenance, routine cleaning and repair to buildings and structures located on the forest. Buildings/structures include:

1. Headquarter Building
2. Block Storage Building
3. Refrigeration Trailer
4. Storage Barn
5. APV Latrine
6. (3) Information Kiosks (Stewardship Trail, APV area and Henry County Bridle Trail)

Lock-Out-Tag-Out and Confined Space procedures will be followed in identified areas. Confined Space's at Maumee State Forest include the APV Latrine on Road 2 and the hydraulic lift vault in the HQ building.

Have fire extinguishers annually inspected.

Regular maintenance and mowing by forest crew will be performed at the Windbreak Arboretum, Tree Improvement Area, APV Area, Forest Headquarters, Camp Trail parking area and the Stewardship Trail.

Infrastructure (water, wastewater, utilities):

Gas pipelines, transmission lines, and telephone right-of-ways are found throughout Maumee State Forest. Right-of-way activities are closely monitored to insure that Best Management Practices are used to minimize erosion and work with the industry personnel to minimize the aesthetic impacts of their work.

Vehicles/Equipment:

Continue the preventive maintenance, timely service and repairs to the unit's fleet of vehicles and equipment. Vehicles and Equipment include:

1. 2009 Dodge Crew Truck
2. 2008 Ford Patrol Truck
3. 2003 Ford Cargo Van
4. 2002 Freightliner Transport Truck
5. 1998 Chevy Pickup
6. 1998 International Dumptruck
7. 1973 Fire Engine/Pumper
8. (4) tractors
9. (1) bulldozer
10. (2) equipment trailers
11. (1) mini-excavator

Annual equipment requests will continue to request the replacement of our 1973 International fire engine chassis, 10 foot brush hog wing mower and equipment trailer.

All vehicles will have annual inspection by the District's vehicle inspector or by the State Highway Patrol Vehicle Inspector. Inspect state and FEPP fire vehicles on loan to local fire departments.

Roads:

There are no paved or maintained forest roads within Maumee State Forest. A network of state, county and township roads offer good general access to Maumee State Forest. There are 66 miles of firelanes (limited access roads) within Maumee State Forest. These are inspected, mowed and cleared of downed trees at least once (usually 2-3 times) during the fiscal year.

Through the ODOT Cooperative Roadway Program, the HQ and APV Area parking lot was repaved in 2009.

Signage:

Conduct annual inspection of forest signs, repairing, painting and/or replacing as necessary.

Approximately 67 signs had been installed/replaced/repaired/repainted in FY 12.

Residences:

There are no state owned residences located on the forest. There are however, numerous rural residential and farmstead homes throughout the Maumee State Forest area.

Dams:

There are no dams located on the forest.

Capitals Projects:

The development or major renovation of systems, buildings and facilities (recreation and administrative) is addressed through a capital improvement plan. These projects are distinct from the day-to-day operations of the Division and State Forests, which are funded through a biennium operating budget. Following are projects currently funded or that have been proposed for consideration in future years on Maumee State Forest.

Listing of funded project & status (or ones recently completed):

- New Operations Service Center - 1986
- Renovation APV Area - 1990
- New Paved Parking Lots - Headquarters and APV Area – 1994/2009
- Block building overhead garage doors replaced - 2001

Listing of projects proposed for future considerations:

- State forest storage building replacement
- Furnace/central air replacement
- Hydraulic Lift Replacement

Summary (2-3 year future projects):

Maintenance on the forest, facility and equipment is an important part of everyday functions. Regular maintenance and repairs are needed to maintain equipment at Maumee SF. The forest crew performs the majority of the maintenance and repairs.

VI. Recreation

History, Opportunities and Maintenance;

Bridle: There are two bridle trail areas on Maumee: Lucas County (3 miles) and Henry County (5 miles) bridle trails. The bridle trails will be inspected at least twice each year. The trails will be mowed and downed trees cleared as needed. Will continue working with Volunteers and OHC groups to maintain the bridle trails.

Hiking: There are over 66 miles of firelanes/hiking trails (limited access roads) on the forest. These will be inspected, mowed and cleared of down trees at least once this year. We will promote and maintain the Stewardship Trail kiosk and trail system.

APV and Snowmobile: There are approximately 6.5 miles of APV and snowmobile trails. The original trails were established in 1972. These trails will be inspected for downed trees quarterly or after major wind events. Grading and clearing of downed trees will be performed as needed or as ground conditions will allow. Trails will be remarked as needed.

In the Spring of 2009, the Division of Forestry formed a partnership with the volunteer group “The Toledo Trail Riders”. A Volunteer Agreement was made and they performed volunteer work days in June 2009, April 2010, October 2010 and June 2011 by pruning back protruding vegetation, picking up trash and checking trail markers.

In the Fall of 2009, the APV trails on the west side of Road 2 were redesigned/rerouted in order to create a trail system which maintains speed. The redesigned trail system includes increased number of mild turns and less number of lengthy straight-a-ways.

The APV trails took a direct hit from the June 5, 2010 tornado. Both the east and west sides had continuous, severe blockage of the trail. Salvage logging operations removed downed trees and large branches. With help of volunteers (Toledo Trail Riders) and forest crew/OWJC crew, the trails were re-opened in October 2010.

In the Spring of 2011 a proposal was made to expand the Maumee APV and Snowmobile trails as well as the parking area. This proposal was based on user requests and subsequent direction from ODNR administration. The proposal was to add an additional 2 miles of trail and to expand in size the APV parking area. This proposal was open for public comment at the FY 2012 Maumee Open House. In the Fall of 2011 a little under 2 miles of new trails were established bringing the total trail length to approximately 6.5 miles. Parking lot expansion was initiated in the Spring of 2012 and is expected to be completed by late summer 2012.

Hunting: All areas of Maumee State Forest are open to public hunting as outlined by ODNR Division of Wildlife rules and regulations.

Miscellaneous Use: Berries, nuts and mushrooms may be gathered and removed from Maumee State Forest as on all state forestland. Geocaching is permitted. A special use permit must be obtained to place a geocache on Maumee State Forest.

Recreational facilities, trailheads, picnic areas and other places where forest visitors congregate will be periodically inspected for hazard trees. Trees identified as possible hazards to users will be removed by the forest crew. Inspect all culvert crossings. There are 12 bridge/culvert crossings on the forest. The final wooden bridge was replaced by a culvert in FY 2008.

Recreational Grants:

Grant funding through ODNR’s Office of Trails has been ongoing through the National Recreational Trails Program (NRTP) to assist with a projects and maintenance in the Maumee APV and Snowmobile Area.

Summary (2-3 year future projects):

Various types of recreational opportunities are available on Maumee State Forest. An APV and Snowmobile Area (6.5 miles), two bridle trail areas (8 miles total) and hiking/fire trails (66 miles) are maintained components of the forest system.

VII. Wildland Fire

Suppression:

Aggressively suppress wildland fire starts within the forest.

When requested, support area fire departments in their suppression efforts with equipment, personnel and planning.

Prevention:

Participate in at least 3 parades and/or fire prevention programs with Smokey Bear as requested and as time and budget allow.

Provide general fire prevention information and handouts to the local fire departments, educational institutions and the general public.

Provide use of Smokey Bear costume for those sponsoring genuine fire prevention events and activities.

Prescribed Fire:

In Fiscal Year 2004, prescribed fire was used on 18 acres of Maumee Forest for fuel reduction, resource management and habitat enhancement. In FY 06, prescribed fire was used on 2 sites for a total of 6.5 acres. In FY 2012 multiple brush piles were burned in the Muck Farm Area. In FY 2012 2013, the following sites will be considered for prescribed burning, as weather, workload, available workforce and budget allow:

1. Road 3 Clearcut
2. Lupine Site
3. Stew Trail Demo Area
4. Muck Farm and adjacent GLRI restoration areas (brush piles and landscape).
5. Compartment C3 Oak Savanna restoration area.

Inter-Agency Fire Crew:

Maumee staff members will be allowed to participate in the Division's Inter-Agency Fire Crew program as workload and budget allows.

Training:

Provide fire related training sessions for our Division personnel.

Provide basic wildfire training and information as requested. In January 2007, the six hour basic wildfire course "Fundamentals of Wildland Fire Suppression" was conducted at Liberty/Washington Township VFD.

Fire Department Contacts:

Update the Fire Department Information Sheets at least one time per year.

Maintain Cooperative Agreements for Wildfire Suppression. Current agreements are with the following fire departments:

1. Delta Community
2. Liberty/Washington Township
3. Monclova Township
4. Providence Township
5. Spencer Township
6. Springfield Township
7. Swanton
8. Whitehouse

Distribute new information on fire program or host meeting for all departments within the Fire Protection District. In Spring 2012, Forest Officer began introducing and training VFD's on the new online fire reporting system.

Investigate all Fire Reports within fire district as received by the VFD's.

FireWise:

Continue to promote the FireWise program within the Maumee Fire Protection Area.

FEPP/FFP:

Continue to complete annual inspections of federal property within our fire protection project. The following is a list of FEPP Equipment in The Maumee Fire District:

1. Mack R-9 Tanker – Delta Community
2. Mack R-9 Tanker – Swanton
3. AM General 2.5 ton 6x6 Cargo Truck - Swanton
4. Chevy 4x4 1200 Gallon Tanks Truck – Whitehouse
5. Mack R-9 Tanker – Providence Township
6. (2) Portable Pumps – Maumee State Forest
7. Hose Reel booster – Maumee State Forest
8. 83 Gallon Tank – Maumee State Forest

Continue to promote the participation of fire departments in the Federal Excess Property Program (FEPP) and Fire Fighters Program (FFP).

Fire Grants:

Promote grant opportunities to area fire departments.

The GLRI 2009 grant received through TNC, provides funding to cover costs with wetland restoration management practices such as prescribed burning to control invasives and woody competition.

Summary (2-3 year future projects):

Wildfire suppression is a responsibility that has been traditionally associated directly with the Division of Forestry. Our staff and volunteer fire departments suppress fire on our state forestland. We support volunteer fire departments with technical assistance and heavy equipment on larger fires and multiple fire situations. In order to keep wildfire losses to a minimum, we maintain close contact with and provide training to fire departments in our area.

The Maumee Fire District encompasses parts of Fulton, Lucas and Henry counties. Within this area are nine fire departments. Eight of the nine fire departments are volunteer departments and are eligible for financial assistance for wildfire suppression through Cooperative Agreements.

VIII. Law Enforcement

Philosophy/Purpose

State forests currently have 9 fully commissioned law enforcement officers plus 2 commissioned managers. The purpose of retaining commissioned officers is to enforce the Forest Rules that are depicted within the Ohio Administrative Code. One very important aspect of the Law Enforcement program is that of resource protection. Forest Officers protect property boundaries from encroachment, recreation resources from undesignated use, guard against timber theft and watch for signs of watershed degradation. Specific law enforcement policies and procedures are delineated within the Division of Forestry's Law Enforcement Manual

Training:

The Forest Officer will attend annual In-Service training, weapons re-qualification, first responder training (CPR and First Aid) and other mandatory training as required by the Ohio Revised Code, Ohio Peace Officers Training Academy regulations, Ohio Department of Natural Resources and Division of Forestry law enforcement policies.

Non-mandatory training will be offered to the officer as workloads and the budget allows.

Equipment:

Officer will be afforded all equipment listed in the Division's Law Enforcement manual.

Officer will be provided a patrol vehicle with a MARCS radio system, MCT, overhead light bar, siren and other equipment as listed in the Division's Law Enforcement manual.

No major equipment purchases/requests are anticipated.

Patrol Priorities:

1. Respond to emergencies and requests for help and give assistance within Officer's training and capabilities.
2. Protect and assist forest visitors through routine patrol and incident investigation.
3. Issue warnings or citations as warranted for Ohio Revised Code and Forest Rules violations.
4. Investigate assigned wildfire reports and issue warnings or citations for Ohio Revised Code Chapter 1503.18 violations.
5. Assist in special projects with other forests and other ODNR Divisions.

Special Projects:

Request special projects as needed to address specific issues/problems to maintain a safe and enjoyable experience for the forest visitor.

Assist other forests with special projects as workloads and the budget allows.

Other Duties (VFD's, FEPP, court, boundary, etc.):

Law enforcement activities at Maumee State Forest will be accomplished primarily with the Maumee Forest Officer with assistance with other Division Forest Officers, as well as other agencies such as: County Sheriff's, Ohio State Highway Patrol, ODNR Division of Parks and Wildlife. The following duties will be accomplished as time and workload allows:

1. Contact each court within the Maumee Fire Protection Area to update court information annually.
2. Maintain contact with Lucas County Juvenile, Henry County Juvenile, Fulton County Juvenile, Eastern District Court (Fulton Co.), Napoleon Court (Henry Co.), Sylvania Court (Lucas Co.) and Maumee Court (Lucas Co.).
3. Maintain contact with Fulton, Lucas and Henry County sheriff's offices, as well as with State Highway Patrol Post 48.
4. Conduct annual highway vehicle safety inspections on 7 unit vehicles.
5. Annually inspect all highway and forest signs, repairing and/or replacing as necessary.
6. Annually inspect all gates, repairing and/or replacing as necessary.

Summary (2-3 year future projects):

Enforcement of the fire laws, forestry rules and statutes are necessary for the protection of the resources, facilities, residents and visitors. Enforcement activities are accomplished through patrol of the forest by the Forest Officer.

IX. Employee Development

Employee List/Vacancies/Table of Organization:

Don Schmenk	Forest Manager
Andrew Philpot	Forest Officer 2
Dean Druschel	Equipment Operator

Training (tuition reimbursement, etc):

Provide or participate in Defensive Driving, CPR and First Aid training.

Provide a minimum of 36 hours of training for the Forest Officer as mandated by the F.O.P. contract. This will be accomplished through in-service training sessions at the Ohio Peace Officer's Training Academy (OPOTA), annual weapons qualifications, scenarios and other training.

The Forest Manager and Equipment Operator will keep their pesticide Commercial Applicator License and CDL license updated through training and license renewal.

Safety:

Hold periodic safety meetings for the employees.

Employees will be provided with one pair of safety toe work boots.

Conduct annual inspection of lock out/tag out tool boxes.

Other Employee Development:

Employees will be allowed to participate in professional development and educational training programs as workloads and the budget allows.

X. Public Information/Outreach

Planned Events:

2012 Windbreak Planning Meeting with SWCD's	July 11, 2012
Open House for Maumee State Forest	July 24, 2012

Partnerships:

Partnerships with recreational users are continuing. The Fulton County Chapter of the Ohio Horse Council (OHC) donated a culvert that was installed to upgrade and reroute a bridle trail crossing in Henry County. Ohio Trails Partnership events have been held at Maumee Forest in May, 1999; June, 2002 and June, 2004 to raise funds and awareness for Ohio Trails. The Lucas and Fulton Co. OHC assisted with a trash pick up in Spring, 2004. In December 2005, the Henry County OHC donated material and labor to install a split rail fence at the newly enlarged bridle trail parking area in Henry County. Two Eagle Scout Projects have recently been completed at Maumee: In October 2006, the construction and installation of a new information board at the APV Area trailhead, and in February 2008 the construction and installation of a new information board, hitching post and mounting platform at the Henry County bridle trail area. In June 2009, April 2010, October 2010 and June 2011, the Toledo Trail Riders did volunteer work on the trails in the APV Area.

The following is a partial list of agencies/constituents/partners of Maumee State Forest:

Toledo Trail Riders
Fulton County OHC
Henry County OHC
USDA Forest Service
USDA APHIS
Tri-County Rural Electric
Swan Creek Watershed Committee
Green Ribbon Initiative
Bowling Green State University
Michigan State University
Toledo Metro Parks
Ohio State University
Ohio State University Extension Service
ODNR Division of Natural areas and Preserves
ODNR Division of Wildlife
ODNR Division of Parks
Boy Scouts of America
State Highway Patrol Post 48
County Sheriff in Fulton, Henry and Lucas Counties
9 Cooperating Fire Departments in Fulton, Henry and Lucas Counties
17 Soil and Water Conservation Districts in northwest Ohio
Ohio Department of Agriculture
Oak Openings Region Conservation Planning Partners
The Nature Conservancy at Kitty Todd
Ohio EPA Bowling Green
4 Townships – Swan Creek, Swanton, Providence and Washington Township
3 Counties and County Commissioner Offices – Fulton, Henry and Lucas Counties
Pathstone Inc.
LHS - Lutheran Social Services
Toledo Naturalist Association
Ohio Lepidopterists

Volunteers:

Individual or group volunteering is handled on a case by case basis. A volunteer agreement form must be completed for volunteer projects. Volunteer Agreements have been or are currently maintained with the following groups:

1. Fulton County OHC 2009-2011
2. Henry County OHC 2007-2008
3. Toledo Trail Riders 2009 – 2013
4. Cub Scout Pack 254. 2007-2008
5. Swanton Area Community Coalition 2011

The number of Volunteer hours performed on Maumee State Forest in recent years: FY 10: 70 hours, FY 11: 128 hours and FY 12: 16 hours.

Several Community Service Workers as assigned by Fulton County Court have completed trash pickup project on Maumee State Forest.

Interpretive Programs:

The Stewardship Trail offers a self guided tour of forest management practices on the forest. In FY 2006 this demonstration area was developed and opened at Maumee State Forest. Outside input for the Stewardship Trail was requested and received from woodland interest groups, SWCD's and OSU Extension. On May 20, 2006 a grand opening was held for the new demonstration area called "The Stewardship Trail at Maumee State Forest". The Stewardship Trail is a self-guided walking tour through a section of the forest providing examples of a variety of forest management techniques including emerald ash borer management. The trail consists of 18 different stops. Visitors can choose from a one mile or two mile hiking loop through the forest and will encounter a range of management treatments including pine thinning, pine clearcuts, prescribed burns, wildlife management areas, invasive species, insect/disease trees, riparian corridor and emerald ash borer ash salvage logging areas.

Educational programs dealing with forestry related topics, such as forest management, tree planting, and fire prevention are given to students and interested groups on a request basis. Various schools and groups visit the forest to learn about forestry and the forest environment.

Summary (2-3 year future projects):

Information and Education about forest resources in Ohio is an ongoing component of the Division of Forestry. An Open House will be held yearly at Maumee State Forest.

XI. Budget

Operational Budget (personnel, maintenance):

SFY 2012

Budget DNR150015 Maumee Region

500	Payroll-Fund GRF			\$221,294
510	Personal Services- Fund 5090 25% per quarter			\$250
	Misc Prof Development			\$250
520	Supplies & Maint- Fund 5090 25% per quarter			\$66,000
	General Operating			\$0
530	Equipment			\$0
550	Subsidies			\$0
570	Capital			\$0
590	Settlements & Bonds - Refunds			\$0
591	Debt Service			\$0
			Total	\$287,294

Revenue:

	<u>FY 2009</u>	<u>FY 2010</u>	<u>FY 2011</u>	<u>FY 2012</u>
Special Use Permits	\$ 250	\$150	\$200	\$125
Firewood Permits/Bid	\$ 340	\$690	\$580	\$210/\$770
Salvage Logs Sales	\$1,566	\$830	\$8,923	\$2,729
Timber Harvests	\$30,215	\$0	\$137,921	\$0
Windbreak Program	<u>\$74,164</u>	<u>\$61,312</u>	<u>\$32,619</u>	<u>\$33,025</u>
Totals	\$ 106,535	\$62,982	\$180,243	\$36,859

Summary (2-3 year projected budget):

Budgets will remain very tight for the next two fiscal years. This will present a challenge for managers to find new ways to keep the day to day operations at an acceptable level.

XII. Other Programs

Northwest Ohio Windbreak Program

The Northwest Ohio Field Windbreak Program is an interagency effort to plant field windbreaks in 17 counties in northwest Ohio. The Maumee State Forest crew plays an important part and spends considerable time with the program. Primary roles and goals include:

- Plant field windbreaks in 17 participating counties each year.

- Apply spring and fall herbicide treatments to control competitive herbaceous vegetation.
- Work with landowners who seek technical advice.
- Obtain and provide cold storage of seedlings for the windbreak program
- Maintain Windbreak Arboretum. Provide current information and demonstrations on windbreak tree and shrub species.

Windbreak Arboretum and Tree Improvement Area

Nearly 5 acres are set aside for demonstration and research plantings. The windbreak arboretum was established in 1990 on approximately 2.5 acres to demonstrate various tree and shrub species commonly used for windbreaks plantings in Northwest Ohio.

The 2.5 acre Tree Improvement Area is primarily designed for research plantings of various species. Currently the U.S. Forest Service has two experimental plantings in place:

- American elm trees having known resistance to Dutch elm disease (DED), were planted by the USFS Delaware Laboratory in 2004.
- An experimental planting of native and Asian ash species was completed by the USFS Delaware Lab to determine resistance to the emerald ash borer in Fall 2007.

MAUMEE STATE FOREST

COMPARTMENT MAP

