

Action Plan
Friends of Weiser State Forest-Haldeman/Greenland Tracts
Effective October 2010-June 2013

INTRODUCTION

The Friends of Weiser State Forest-Haldeman/Greenland Tracts formed in October 2010. This formation was to provide volunteers at the forest additional facets by which to contribute to the conservation and preservation of the forest and its resources.

Friends formed as a chapter of the Pa Parks and Forests Foundation (PPFF). PPFF is a private, non-profit organization that works to develop resources which complement the Department of Conservation and Natural Resources (DCNR).

This document is an Action Plan for the Friends, and it is a working document to guide projects and development, and is open to be evaluated annually and reassessed. The mission and the goals were developed after analyzing the strengths and weaknesses of the group, the challenges they will face, as well as the needs of the forest.

MISSION STATEMENT

The Friends of Weiser State Forest-Haldeman and Greenland Tracts-are dedicated to improving and maintaining the state forest for all trail users to enjoy, and in promoting appreciation of our woods and wildlife.

RESOURCES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

Friends-

To organize and determine projects and programs that meet the mission statement; to guide volunteer time and efforts, and to raise funds for these purposes.

Board of Directors-

To support the Friends membership and establish policy for the group. To spearhead fundraising efforts.

District Forester or appointed person

To provide support and guidance; to serve as ex officio board member.

PPFF-

To provide education, support, and guidance in the operation of a non-profit group, specific to the mission and vision.

Volunteers-

General volunteers asked to assist with specific projects.

Money-

The vehicle to fund the projects.

Forestry Staff-

To provide cooperation or accept help with projects specific to the mission and vision.

OUR STRENGTHS AND CHALLENGES, opportunities and threats:

Strengths <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Diversity of background and interests• Motivation• Part of network of PPF friends.• Dedication to the group.• Willingness of volunteers• Enthusiastic attitude	Weaknesses <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Time constraints• New organization.• Not well known or established.
Opportunities <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Pa is focusing on outdoor recreation.• Can partner with existing organization.• Commitment from DCNR to support friends groups.• Available training through PPF and Pa Recreation and Parks Society, as well as IMBA, Equine Council, etc	Threats <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Time• Competition for resources.• Support for groups could change.• Budgetary shortfalls

Skill Set:

Website design

Lobby/legislative skills

Cooking

Communication

Trail building

Organization

Leadership

Hard worker

Experienced landscaper

Enthusiasm

OUR GOALS:

1. Raise revenue for needed projects.
 - a. Horse rides
 - b. Grants
 - c. Donations
 - d. Opening day food sales (trout, deer, turkey, etc)
 - e. Events
2. Rehabilitation of damaged trails and new trail construction
 - a. Erosion and drainage repairs
 - b. Decrease trail steepness where needed
 - c. Bridges for better crossing
 - d. Handicapped accessible trail
3. Develop infrastructure to support recreational activities (in order)

- a. Develop signage and accompanying maps
 - b. Tie rails at picnic grounds
 - c. Manure pit
 - d. Additional campsites
4. Continue break down preconceptions and misconceptions about various recreational forms through cooperation, communication, and joint ventures.
- a. Shared trainings
 - b. Build the friends group
 - i. Turkey Federation
 - ii. Hang gliders
 - iii. Local hiking clubs
 - iv. Audubon
 - v. Lease camps
 - vi. Scouts
 - vii. Conservation clubs at schools
 - viii. Adjudicated youth

The friends are a membership based organization, with dues \$10 individual, \$15 family, \$25 corporate or organization.

Promotion of membership will be through newspaper, radio, website, brochure, Facebook community board, tabling at events, and getting endorsement from folks like Chuck Rhoads.

2010 Board of Directors—Board voted for a maximum of 9 board/officers combined

Chair Jim Theurer
Vice Chair
Secretary Dee Miller
Treasurer **Scott Theurer**

Board Brenda Reigle
Member Marissa Chew
Committee
Chair

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Same as board members