



2008 was Great

What a great year the Friends had in 2008! We kicked off the year with our annual member meeting in February. More than 50 people enjoyed the mid-winter socializing and meeting.

Volunteers donated more than 100 hours of time at our May work day installing tie lines and fire rings at the New Trade River Campground. Friends' supporter Keith Peterson volunteered his equipment to pound in over 80 posts for the tie lines. Thanks Keith!

More than 60 people attended the June Saddle Up for the Forest ride and dinner, raising more than \$2,200 for future improvements in the Forest. Our 3rd Annual Fun Show in September highlighted the talents of more than 40 riders and raised more than \$1,000.

Decades of work culminated on September 17 with the official opening of the New Trade River Campground. Many Friends members were there for the first weekend at the beautiful facility. A special thanks to Superintendent Dan Thill and his great staff for seeing this dream to fruition.

The Friends also finished the year in an excellent financial position. With careful management and the help of our more than 155 members we raised nearly \$5,947 and finished the year with a balance of \$17,265.

2009 Firewood Rules

With the recent invasion of Wisconsin by the emerald ash borer come strict firewood rules at Governor Knowles State Forest and all state-managed properties. All firewood brought into the Forest must be cut within Wisconsin and from no farther away than 50 miles. No wood from Minnesota is allowed in the Forest. Wood from all of Polk, St. Croix, Burnett, Barron and most of Douglas county is allowed.

Time to Renew Your Membership

With more than 155 members, the Friends is growing stronger each year. Keep that momentum - renew your membership for 2009 today!

Wheelbarrows from Willow River Riders

Talk about can-do members! During a fantastic October weekend at the New Trade River Campground, the Willow River Riders saddle club noticed a lack of wheelbarrows for the manure pits. Being can-do horse people, the Club decided to purchase and assemble six wheelbarrows for the campground this winter and have them ready to deliver in the spring. **Thank you Willow River Riders!**

Upcoming Events 2009

Spring Work Day
Date to be announced

Saddle Up for the Forest Trail Ride
June 6, 2009

"Just for Fun" Fun Show
Labor Day—Sept 7, 2009

We Need Photos!!

Do you have any photos of your time at Governor Knowles State Forest? If so, you could help us develop a better brochure and website. Please contact Lisa Doerr: 715-557-0384 or lisadoerr@northernlakesfarm.com



2009 Fees

Vehicle sticker Fees	Annual	Daily
WI resident	\$25	\$7
WI resident age 65+	\$10	\$3
Non-resident	\$35	\$10
Trail Pass	\$20	\$4
Camping – WI resident		\$9
Camping – non-resident		\$11

Friends Annual Meeting February 21, 2009

Come join the Friends at our 2009 annual meeting being held at the Interpretive Center building located in the Interstate State Park in St Croix Falls, WI. We will get started with coffee and rolls at 9:00 am and follow up with the meeting at 10 am. Come meet your fellow "Friends" and help us plan for another busy year of work enhancing Governor Knowles State Forest.

February 21, 2009

Social Hour 9 am
Meeting 10 am

New Trade River Horse Campground Opens

The new campground is open and it is gorgeous. There are 40 campsites (3 accessible), as well as toilets and water available throughout the campground. The Friends raised the funds for and installed tie lines and fire rings at each site.

Location

Southwest corner of Evergreen Avenue & 300th Street
Polk County, Wisconsin

Registration - First-come first serve basis. Sites must be occupied each night for the duration of the registration.

2009 Fees – Starting January 1, 2009 campers at the new Trade River Campground will need Camping fees, Trail passes and vehicle sticker.

Designated Uses

April 1 to June 15 – Horse campers only
June 15 to Aug 15 – Horse & general public
Aug 15 to Oct 15 – Horse campers only
Oct 15 to April 1 - Horse & general public

Old Trade River Campground - Starting January 1, 2009 this will be a Day Use Area. It will be closed 11PM to 6AM. Overnight camping will not be allowed. Water and toilets will continue operation.