

Forestry Association Announces "Good Outdoor Manners" Contest



I Need A Name!

Recognition of the fact that each year more people seek enjoyment in outdoor recreation but available areas of forests, fields, and waters open to public use are nearly static, or decreasing. Basically, there are more people with more free time, acquired equipment and strong desire to get outdoors than ever before, yet areas open to them are decreasing constantly. Public facilities—camp sites and open land areas—are not keeping abreast of demand, and more “No Trespassing” signs are going up each year. Thus open and available areas must accommodate more people. And with increasing use and pressure on existing facilities, there is certainly a greater need for more people to HAVE GOOD OUTDOOR MANNERS.

The need concept for this educational program developed from repeated expressions of concern over the destruction of public property and abuse of privileges at parks and camp sites, the indifference of “recreationists” to the rights of landowners, and the apparent assumption by some that the outdoors was theirs to monopolize as fancy dictated.

In analyzing the problems presented, it became apparent that none of the present outdoor educational programs, within itself, treated with the need of directing public attention to basic human actions and relationships as encompassed by the phrase “Have Good Outdoor Manners.” THE GOOD OUTDOOR MANNERS EDUCATIONAL PROJECT objectively aims

to support present outdoor educational programs by directing attention to each as a part of the total needs for man to develop good outdoor behavior. “Having good outdoor manners” is more than being careful with fire, picking up litter and leaving a clean camp site, or asking a farmer’s permission to hunt or fish on his land. People—more every year—must be told and must learn how to live together outdoors so that the maximum enjoyment from their recreational hours will accrue.

By directing public attention to the slogan HAVE GOOD OUTDOOR MANNERS and by associating it with a characterized raccoon will serve to establish it as a symbol much in the same manner as “Smokey Bear” symbolizes protection against forest fire.

\$1000 IN AWARDS for naming THE GOOD OUTDOOR MANNERS RACCOON

1st Place Award\$200 U.S. Bond
2nd Place Award\$150 U.S. Bond

Additional Prizes

3rd Place Award\$100 U.S. Bond to boy;
\$100 U.S. Bond to Girl
4th Place Award\$75 U.S. Bond to boy;
\$75 U.S. Bond to girl
5th Place Award\$50 U.S. Bond to boy;
\$50 U.S. Bond to girl

Honorable Mention Awards

Two Honorable Mention Awards to each grade,
judged on a statewide basis:
\$10 to a boy \$10 to a girl

Rules of Contest

1. Contest is open to all students enrolled in any school within the State of Pennsylvania. A youth group—school, class, club—is eligible to participate as a unit, and the entry it submits will be judged in competition with the names entered by individual students.
2. Contest is to provide a name for THE RACCOON which is associated with the slogan “HAVE GOOD OUTDOOR MANNERS.”
3. A statement, of 25 words or less, telling WHY the name submitted was chosen, must accompany each entry. These statements will be rated and used to determine place winners among those who submitted identical names. Selection of winners will be based on appropriateness of NAME submitted, and on the originality, clarity, neatness, and spelling of the brief statement.
4. From names submitted ONE will be selected which in future annual contests and in general publicity will be USED to identify THE Good Outdoor Manners RACCOON.
5. No entrant will be given more than one prize.
6. All entries must be mailed to The Pennsylvania Forestry Association, P. O. Box 389, Ardmore, Pa., and must be postmarked not later than March 15, 1959.
7. All entries become the property of The Pennsylvania Forestry Association.
8. Winners will be announced in May and prizes awarded promptly.
9. Contest judges will be representatives of the sponsoring agencies and others designated. Decisions of the judges will be final.

Education for Conservation

Since this article was written, Mr. Depoe has been elected president of the newly formed Donegal Fish and Conservation Club

IN THIS ever-changing world of ours it becomes the necessity of one and all to begin working with the youth of our community, our county, our state, and our nation. A great many changes have occurred in the many streams and water-ways locally as well as state-wide. With this in mind, a beginning or breakthrough in Lancaster County has begun.

In Mount Joy, Lancaster County, at Donegal High School a start was made to help the young people in the school and community to do something constructive as well as develop avocational skills. At the beginning of the school year 1961, a fly tying club was initiated. At first interest was rather slow to develop. There were about four boys who were consistently interested in learning. Over the next several years with a little success, we have increased the number of interested boys in both the fly tying club and the stream improvement phase of our program.

With these boys and the club in mind, it was decided to try to have a portion of the Donegal Creek established as a Fly Fishing Only project. This idea was submitted to the Fish Commission and more information on the procedures to follow was given us. The club began its work by obtaining petitions signed by licensed fisherman stating they were interested in the project which was being undertaken. The response was tremendous, and a surprisingly large number of signatures was secured, considering that it would be the first and only Fly Fishing area in the county. This method of fishing was relatively new to most local fishermen, but the support of several ardent fly fishermen in the area aided in getting the response that we did. From here it was necessary to contact the land owners through which this stream flows to see whether they would sign with the Fish Commission stating they would keep their property open for fishing. The land owners having agreed to do this, the project was then considered and approved by the Fish Commission.

The Fish Commission recommended that improvements on the stream be made in order to correct the problem of soil erosion and silt covering the gravel or stones on the stream bed. With this in mind, the group began building various types of deflectors to direct the current back to the middle of the stream, causing a cutting action in the stream bed, cleaning the silt from the gravel bed and stones, and preventing bank erosion. This project was started in the summer of 1965 and has continued until the present trout season. The work will again resume in June after school when more time can be spent on the stream.

Since the spring stocking program, interest has grown



STREAM IMPROVEMENT is one of club's projects. Mr. Depoe is at right with workers.

by leaps and bounds. The method used was the float method which was started by the Fish Commission and has been proven to be very effective, as expressed by the many interested helpers during this stocking program. The float boxes were made by the students at Donegal and will be a part of the club's properties. Upon completion of the stocking, more and more young people have shown a desire to learn to tie flies as well as to help on the stream improvement project.

The local Boy Scout troops have begun to show a deeper interest in the project. They are planning to secure barrels, paint them, and place them along the stream for litter, which always seems to accumulate along our streams. We are hoping that other activities will be introduced into the Scout's program, possibly participation in a trout raising program planned to begin this summer.

It is my opinion that we should begin to educate our youth to not only the phases of fishing and fish culture, but also to the conservation of our most valuable possession, water. Over a span of years many of the streams that once were prime trout waters can no longer be placed in that category. If the next generation is to inherit as good or better fishing than we have enjoyed during our lives, then today's sportsmen must recognize the need to not only conserve present stream conditions but to build for even better streams.

Pennsylvania's fishing need not be a one way road from the stream to the fisherman. The sportsman, also, has much to offer to the stream. A little time and effort spent now will be well repaid by many hours of relaxation and enjoyment to the future Pennsylvania angler.