

DIVISION OF FORESTRY

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Figure 7.1. A mature forest, reminiscent of the Ohio wilderness of the late 1700's. Division of Forestry file photo.

A wilderness landscape, nearly 95 percent forested, greeted pioneers to the Ohio country some two centuries ago (Fig. 7.1). Settlers began immediately to clear the forests to provide land for homesteads and farms. In the mid-to-late 1800's, citizens of southern and eastern Ohio witnessed widespread clearing of forests in a relatively short period of time, reportedly from 38 percent of the land in 1870 to 20 percent in 1881. This caused considerable concern which provided the catalyst for the Ohio General Assembly in 1885 to establish a State Forestry Bureau, making Ohio, along with California, Colorado, and New York, among the first states to enact a formal forestry program. The roots of the Division of Forestry are traced directly to this agency.

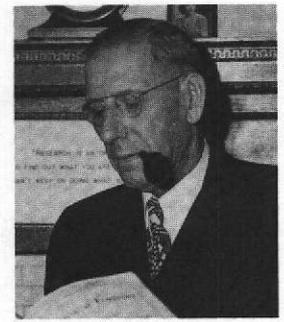
THE STATE FORESTRY BUREAU

The early forestry leader and mover in Ohio was Dr. John A. Warder, a Cincinnati physician, who had helped organize the American Forestry Association in 1875. Dr. Warder was its first President, and he, along with Judge Alfonso Taft, Alfred Springer, and Colonel William L. DeBeck, all of Cincinnati, planned the first American Forestry Congress to be sponsored by the American Forestry Association. This Congress, held in Cincinnati coinciding with Arbor Day in 1882, was the largest forestry meeting

Figure 7.2. The extensive hardwood forests of south-central Ohio supplied charcoal for the numerous iron furnaces of the region in the 19th Century. This charcoal pit was readied for covering at the John Silliman Works at Goldcamp in Lawrence County. Division of Forestry file photo.



Figure 7.3. Edmund Secret, head of the forestry program at the Ohio Agricultural Experiment Station in Wooster, 1909-1937. He was also named first State Forester of Ohio in 1921, a position he held until 1937.



ever held in the United States. The first Arbor Day had been celebrated just ten years earlier in Nebraska, and this five-day Congress featured a gigantic tree planting ceremony, as recorded in a newspaper account:

Twenty-five thousand people gathered in Eden Park to witness the ceremonies attending the planting of trees in memory of many famous men. Public schools were closed and thousands of children were among the spectators. A procession marched from the city to the park and as it entered the grounds, a salute of 13 guns was fired.

Increased interest as a result of the American Forestry Congress led to the establishment in 1883 of the Ohio State Forestry Association as an outgrowth of the Cincinnati Forestry Club. The Association played a major role in preparing legislation which was approved in 1885, establishing the Ohio State Forestry Bureau as a part of The Ohio State University (OSU). This founding legislation provided for a three-member board appointed by the Governor and an appropriation of \$1000. It charged the Bureau to:

...thoroughly inquire into the character and extent of the forests of the state; to investigate the causes of which are in operation to produce their waste or decay; to suggest what legislation is necessary for the development of a rational system of forestry... and to establish a forestry station on the grounds of Ohio State University.

Horace Wilson, Leo Weltz, and John B. Peaslee were appointed to the Board. At their first meeting on 5 June 1885, they employed Professor Adolf Leue of Cincinnati as permanent Secretary of the Bureau and directed him to devote July and August to a survey of the "forests of the state and to inquire into the causes of their destruction." He was to be paid \$150 per month plus expenses and was to report his findings by 1 November 1885. At year's end, only \$756.39 had been spent; thus started a trend for which the Bureau and its successor organizations were noted through much of the next century—namely, thrift.

Professor Leue conducted his survey by means of a lengthy questionnaire sent to county and township officials and other persons interested in forestry. His report showed the area of land in cultivation, woodland, and pasture by

townships, counties, and seven districts. The questionnaire also dealt with the effects of forest removal on soil, water, and climate. Many thought that the temperature extremes had increased, or as one person put it, "It made the cold colder and the hot hotter." There were many reports on the alarming rate of soil erosion and the lessening flow of streams. One township in Adams County was reported to have lost four grist- and sawmills due to long periods of low water that made operations unprofitable. The report indicated that as early as 1870, operators of the 34 charcoal iron furnaces in southern Ohio were having difficulty finding enough wood to keep operating (Fig. 7.2). Annual reports of the Bureau appeared regularly until 1890, but the agency died in 1900 upon the expiration of the terms of its Board members.

FORESTRY AT THE OHIO AGRICULTURAL EXPERIMENT STATION

The momentum of the late 1870's and the 1880's had not been sustained. However, some individuals retained interest and met in Delaware on 11 December 1903 to organize the Ohio State Forestry Society which grew into the present Ohio Forestry Association. William R. Lazenby, Professor of Horticulture at OSU, became the Society's first President and continued to hold that office until his death in 1916. Also, the Morrow County Forestry Association with over 100 members was formed in 1904.

Such grass-roots interest resulted in formation of a forest research program at the Ohio Agricultural Experiment Station (OAES) at Wooster in 1904, and the General Assembly in 1906 transferred the defunct Ohio State Forestry Bureau to OAES. Edmund Secret (Fig. 7.3) was appointed head of this forestry program in 1909. (OAES was organized by departments, but to avoid confusion of the term with the departments of State government, reference to the forestry unit at OAES in this account will be to the "Division of Forestry," a name in any case by which it was referred for many years.) A variety of experiments focused on reforestation and fence post production and durability. Plantings of trees were made in nearly every



Figure 7.4. In the early 20th Century, catalpas were frequently planted as roadside trees for use as living fence posts and telephone poles. Photo from Ohio Biological Survey Bulletin 6 by William R. Lazenby, 1916. Photo by C. W. Waid.

county to gain information and to demonstrate techniques and benefits of reforestation (Fig. 7.4). Extensive plantings were made at Oberlin College, Kenyon College, Ohio University, Boys Industrial School, Lima State Hospital, Athens State Hospital, and on park lands at Cleveland and Cincinnati. Survey parties gathered forest data throughout the state.

During the first decade of the 20th Century, conservation was receiving much national attention with President Theodore Roosevelt and Gifford Pinchot providing leadership. Congress passed the Weeks Law in 1911 which provided for state and federal cooperation in forestry and for national forests to be established in the eastern United States. In 1915, the General Assembly appropriated \$10,000 for the purchase of two areas, marking the beginning of the State Forest system in Ohio. In 1916, 221 acres were purchased at a cost of \$9.00 per acre in Athens County (Waterloo State Forest) and 1500 acres were purchased at \$4.50 per acre in Lawrence County (Dean State Forest). Many species were planted; some were very successful, others not, but even the failures added knowledge. White pine planted at both locations (see Plate 5) was harvested from storm-damaged trees some 30-35 years later and provided paneling for Division of Forestry offices at Athens and Marietta.

In 1920, Forest W. Dean (Fig. 7.5) was employed by OAES to organize and conduct a forest survey of ten counties in south-central Ohio, and was joined shortly in the task by O.A. Alderman (Fig. 7.5). The information obtained was largely responsible for passage of the Silver Bill by the General Assembly in 1921, which provided the official designation of "State Forester" for the head of the Forestry program at OAES, \$50,000 for purchase of land for State Forests, and \$10,000 for forest fire control (Fig. 7.6). The Dean survey clearly showed that if forest conditions were to be improved, the rate

of fire occurrence and the extent of area burned had to be reduced greatly. B.E. Leete was hired to organize and supervise a system of local fire wardens, and a fire detection system using fire towers was initiated.

Shawnee State Forest was the third area to be added to the system. It began with the purchase of 5017 acres in Scioto County from the Peebles Land Company, which had assembled a large tract of land in an attempt to establish a cattle ranch. The company attempted to convert forest cover to range land by cutting and frequent burning but only succeeded in denuding the land. The first fire tower in Ohio was erected in 1922 on Shawnee's Copperhead Hill. A serious tax delinquency problem in western Pike County and a timber theft problem in southern Ross County led to the start of the Pike and Scioto Trail State Forests in 1922 and 1924 respectively. A new concept developed with the formation of "State Forest-Parks," which placed certain unique areas (usually of geological interest) in public ownership for preservation and public use. The first area to



Figure 7.5. O.A. Alderman, J.J. Crumley, and Forest W. Dean (from left to right) took the opportunity at this field day in Waterloo State Forest in 1950 to remember the early days of the forestry program in Ohio when they were young staff members. Division of Forestry file photo.



Figure 7.6. Dean State Forest fire crew in 1916. Division of Forestry file photo.

Figure 7.7. O.A. Alderman (on left) and Edmund Secrest at Rock House in Hocking State Forest-Park. Division of Forestry file photo.

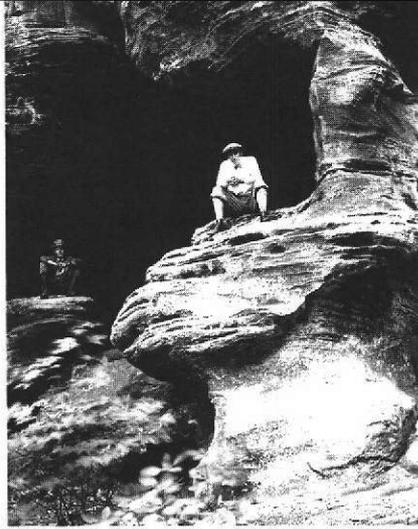


Figure 7.8. Planting trees at Scioto Trail State Forest. Division of Forestry file photo.

be acquired was Hocking in 1924 (Fig. 7.7), and others followed including Mohican in 1928, John Bryan, and Nelson Ledges. Land acquisition temporarily ceased with the 1929-1930 biennium but not before some 60,000 acres had been purchased.

The Ohio forestry program was further assisted in 1924 when Congress passed the Clarke-McNary Act, which authorized the federal government to provide matching funds to states for the purpose of forest fire control, forestry extension, and nursery stock production. A small forest tree nursery had been established at OAES in the early 1900's. Another was established on Dean State Forest, followed by an aborted effort in 1922 on land of United States Army Camp Sherman near Chillicothe. With a rapidly increasing State Forest acreage, the need for more tree planting stock became apparent (Fig. 7.8); and in 1925, land was purchased near Marietta which proved to be an excellent nursery site. Establishment of the Marietta Nursery was particularly timely as demand for stock would greatly increase in the 1930's. While the 1920's was a notable decade of progress, a poignant event was the introduction of chestnut blight, a disease which virtually eliminated American chestnut from Ohio forests in a short period of about 20 years.

The early 1930's was a period of great drought. In Ohio, the drought hit hardest in 1930, the summer of which was so dry that the fall fire season started in July. Forest fires burned so hot during July and August that they crowned in hardwood stands. This was unheard of, as in a normal year, forest fires would not even occur during these months. This was to be the worst fire season on record in Ohio as 15,400 acres of forest burned. (At the time, records were being kept in only ten southeastern counties.)

Through 1932, forestry progress in Ohio was predominantly an Ohio effort, but soon Ohio and the nation were in the grips of the great depression. Programs were cut back for lack of funding. However, unexpected help came that was to dominate the scene for the next decade. The depres-

sion was devastating and required massive federal programs, such as the Works Progress Administration (WPA), the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC), and the Land Utilization Program (LUP) of the Resettlement Administration, all of which had significant impact on conservation and forestry. The CCC, however, was the dominant program for forestry, and it exploded upon the scene.

Between late 1933 and 1935, 26 camps, each accommodating 200 men, had been established throughout eastern and southern Ohio under direction of the Division of Forestry. Fourteen camps were located on State Forests or Forest-Parks, and twelve were soil erosion camps which in April 1935 were transferred to the newly created Soil Conservation Service (SCS) of the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA). The accomplishments of the CCC members were tremendous. They built excellent road networks (Fig. 7.9) that exist today on the State Forests and State Parks. They planted millions of trees, fought fires, and constructed recreational facilities (Fig. 7.10). They built fire towers and a forest fire control telephone network which had more miles of wire than some local telephone companies of the time (Fig. 7.11).

Another federal program which left its mark in Ohio was LUP, which purchased large blocks of marginal farms and resettled the owners elsewhere, supposedly reducing local government costs for roads, small schools, etc. The purchased farms were converted to forest land for wildlife, timber, and recreational purposes. The Division of Forestry sponsored three of these areas, namely, Tar Hollow, Zaleski, and Blue Rock, totaling nearly 40,000 acres. They were extensively developed under WPA with forest roads and excellent recreational facilities, including on each unit a small lake and beach, which proved to be enormously popular in an area devoid of lakes. In 1939, operational control of the three areas and all their facilities, equipment, and tools were transferred from USDA to the Division of Forestry.

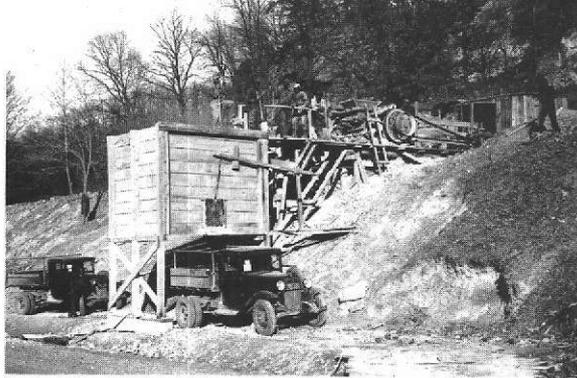


Figure 7.9. Rock was crushed at CCC Camp Dean and hauled to State Forests and State Forest-Parks to assist expanded road-building activities by the Civilian Conservation Corps in the 1930's. Division of Forestry file photo.



Figure 7.10. Shawnee Camp No. 1 of the Civilian Conservation Corps at the "Golden Gate," a bridge over Pond Run in Scioto County, circa 1936. Division of Forestry file photo.

Oliver Diller was employed as a researcher by the Division, and he conducted the first statewide forest survey of Ohio. The field-work portion of the survey was a WPA project which employed young foresters as crew leaders (Fig. 7.12). The landmark report,



Figure 7.11. When "spotters" in the fire towers in the 1930's sighted the approximate location of a source of smoke, they could relay that information via telephone to other fire tower operators, and thereby triangulate the precise location of the fire. Division of Forestry file photo.



Figure 7.12. Foresters involved with Ohio's first statewide Forest Survey in 1940. All were affiliated with the Division of Forestry unless indicated otherwise. From left to right, first row: H.P. Garritt (Soil Conservation Service), John Bastian, Oliver D. Diller, Gilbert Pennock, Jr., William Matlaga, Herbert Rupp, Heber Yoder. Second row: John G. Kuenzel (United States Forest Service), E. Murray Bruner (USFS), A.T. Lagemann, Erwin A. Loew, Steve White, Gerritt Fitzgerald, Gerald Crowthers, Kenneth Korstian. Third row: J.A. Fitzwater (USFS), O.A. Alderman, Cornell Root, J.M. Byrd, Nelson Schlemmer, Richard Crawmer, Gilbert Bibler, M.S. Riddiford. Fourth row: J. Frank Needham, L.E. Hicks, Jacob Ulmer, Leslie Gysel, George Staebler, Emmett Conway, Peter T. Lannan, Jr., Richard Ricard. Fifth row: B.E. Leete, J.W. Creighton, Jr., Karl Lindeman, Thurman E. Bercaw (USFS), R.O. Gustafson, W.O. Schramm, J.N. Fields. Division of Forestry file photo.

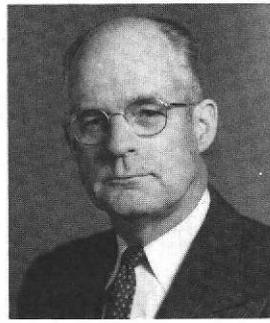


Figure 7.13. O.A. Alderman, second State Forester, 1937-1965, and first Chief of the Division of Forestry in ODNR, 1949-1965.

published in January 1944 by OAES, established a baseline from which to measure effects of forestry programs and other interacting forces on Ohio's forest resource. It showed that in 1942 Ohio had 3,707,958 acres of forest on 14 percent of its total land area. This is considered to be the approximate low point of Ohio's forest acreage.

Acquisition of the Wayne National Forest was underway by USDA in the late 1930's and early 1940's in southern Ohio. Some of the State's load of fire protection was lightened slightly, but presence of the Wayne National Forest did not greatly affect Ohio's programs. Edmund Secrest was named Director of OAES in 1937, and O.A. Alderman (Fig. 7.13) was named the second State Forester. Forest Dean left the Division to become Ohio's first Extension Forester. The 1930's and CCC brought additional Division staff and some technical CCC employees who were supervised as Division employees. Among these were John Bastian, Irving Dickman, Ben Bentley, Howard Peck, Carol Bazler, Jim Wells, Walt Moulton, and Emmett Conway. Two of the earlier nonprofessionals hired were Carlos Graham, the first Ranger at Shawnee State Forest, and Claude Martin, who started the first nursery at Dean State Forest and later the Marietta Nursery in 1927. Some others of the 1920-1930 era were Red Myers, fire control; Ed and Jo Reichley, Hocking; Harold Lump, Scioto Trail; Frank Tackett, Pike; and John Black, Shawnee.

The earliest role of women with the Division, other than that of clerical support, was one of impressed volunteers. Prior to 1945, a large part of the Division field force below the level of district staff operated out of offices in homes of forest rangers and fire wardens. Wives were frequently impressed into service to take telephone messages and greet visitors whenever the ranger or fire warden was in the field. In the 1920's and 1930's, the fire wardens had no paid staff, and to fight a fire, they had to call upon local wardens (volunteers paid for actual time worked) and any local temporary help they could recruit. Once a fire warden had left for a fire, his wife was responsible to try and locate help for any subsequent fires reported. She usually did this by telephoning the local wardens until she found one who could respond. For this, she received no

pay. Forest rangers were in a little better shape as they usually had a small forest crew or, in the 1930's, maybe even the luxury of a well-trained CCC fire crew. Women also operated most of the fire towers at this time.

The first women hired to work in the forests were employed in the concessions. By the late 1930's, recreational facilities had been developed to the extent that concessions were needed to service bathing beaches and picnic areas. Here again, wives of staff were frequently involved; however, this time as paid part-time employees—and they were truly part-time, maybe only working on weekends and then only in good weather.

In 1941, the Division's staff became more defined. Jim Wells was placed in charge of information and education activities and served as a very effective legislative agent during the 1940's. He and Bob Wheaton, a photographer, made the Division's first movie, *No Rehearsal Needed*, a fire control movie. Other designations in 1941 were Carol Bazler, recreation; B.E. Leete, State Forest operations; John Bastian, fire control; Ollie Diller, research; and Bob Paton, nurseries. Art Day became the fiscal officer about 1947, and Frank Needham became staff forester for Farm Forestry in 1950.

Marietta Nursery had the distinction of housing the first "conscientious objectors" camp in Ohio, the fourth in the nation, when opened in June 1941. Conscientious objectors were housed in the former CCC camp, and worked for a year or more. As reported in a newspaper account: "They are working hard for \$2.50 a month (in canteen script) and 'keep.' And Uncle Sam is not providing a cent for either pay or maintenance." Financing for the program came from church funds, which often supported conscientious objectors who were not members of the contributing denominations.

The period 1942 to 1945 was dominated by World War II. Many young foresters who worked on WPA projects and CCC camps were off to war, and most forestry activities were curtailed because of a shortage of funds and materials. The war required large amounts of timber and lumber for various purposes. This stimulated the timber industry, and to help meet the need, the Division began to sell and harvest

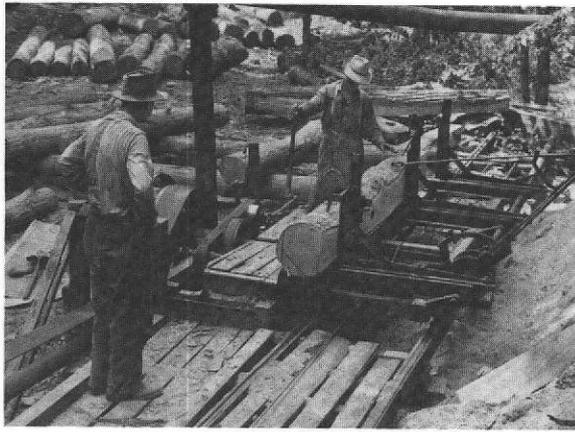


Figure 7.14. A sawmill at Upper Rarden Creek in Scioto County, typical of those in operation from the 1920's through World War II. Division of Forestry file photo.

timber. Foresters and timber operators did not always agree on timber harvesting practices. Private operators wanted to cut the best trees and leave the poorest while State Foresters wanted to eliminate low quality trees and generally save the better quality for future growth. Because State Forests had been purchased for less than \$10 per acre, most of the good timber had been removed before being sold. To overcome this problem, the State started its own sawmill operation—initially through contract sawmills and later with State-owned mills (Fig. 7.14). Another effort in the war production of lumber was the Timber Production War Project (affectionately known as “Teepee Weepee”), a federal program in which public foresters were employed to work with landowners and sawmills to facilitate increased lumber production. This in effect was the start of the Division’s Farm Forestry (now Service Forestry) program. Among the four young foresters hired was Ture Johnson who had a long and illustrious career with the Division in northeastern Ohio.

Another development during the war years was the expansion of forest fire control from one-and-a-half million acres being protected in south-central Ohio to five million acres, essentially the entire unglaciated region. National concern had developed that forest fires could hinder the war effort by destroying coal tipples, mine machinery buildings, oil derricks, and sawmills. Southeastern Ohio had all of these. Another factor was a plan by the Muskingum Watershed Conservancy District for an extensive reforestation program, with which it was reluctant to proceed without some assurance of fire protection.

Due to war restrictions on use of steel, fire towers could not be built in the new fire protection area. In spring 1942, the Division appealed to the Civil Air Patrol to use small aircraft for fire detection, and two planes covered a 200-mile fire patrol four times daily. Thus, Ohio was one of the first states to use aircraft on a regular basis for fire detection. The first fire patrol pilots had difficulty distinguishing different types of smoke and reported smokes from



Figure 7.15. The dedication ceremony of the Memorial Forest Shrine at Mohican State Forest near Loudonville, 27 April 1947. The Shrine stands as a memorial to those Ohio women and men who gave their lives in World War II, the Korean War, and the Vietnam War. Division of Forestry file photo.

all sources, including factories. The first pilot to fly one of the patrol routes reportedly got lost, and upon returning, quit. By 1945, however, six Civil Air Patrol pilots were cooperating with the Division.

In January 1945, with the end of the war apparently in sight, the Division published “A Twenty-Year Plan for Establishing a More Adequate System of State Forests and Forest Parks in Ohio.” Publication of this ambitious plan was well-timed for much of its contents were included in House Bill 477 which was passed by the General Assembly in 1945 and provided \$1,522,000 for land acquisition, by far the most generous appropriation the Division ever received. In addition, counties continued to receive 25 percent equity in all future income accruing from these lands as initiated in 1939, to reduce local concern about transfer of lands from the tax duplicate. Several young foresters were hired to implement the land acquisition program, including Eliot Miles, Emerson Houf, Vernon Honchell, and Robert Redett, all of whom remained with the Division or ODNR throughout their careers. Between July 1945 and 1950, approximately 32,100 acres were purchased including land on the new State Forests of Yellow Creek, Shade River, Richland Furnace, Maumee (Oak Openings), Memorial, Athens (Strouds Run), and the Forest-Parks of Hueston Woods and Beaver Creek. In 34 years from 1916 to 1950, 138,628 acres of State Forest land had been acquired.

In 1945, the General Assembly established the Memorial Forest and Memorial Forest Shrine near Loudonville. The moving force behind this was the Ohio Federation of Women’s Clubs, working with the Division. The Act provided for a 3500-acre maximum Memorial Forest including a 200-acre sanctuary. The dream became reality in 1947 when the Shrine building was dedicated as a memorial to those Ohio men and women who lost their lives in World War II (Fig. 7.15). Dedication was later expanded to include

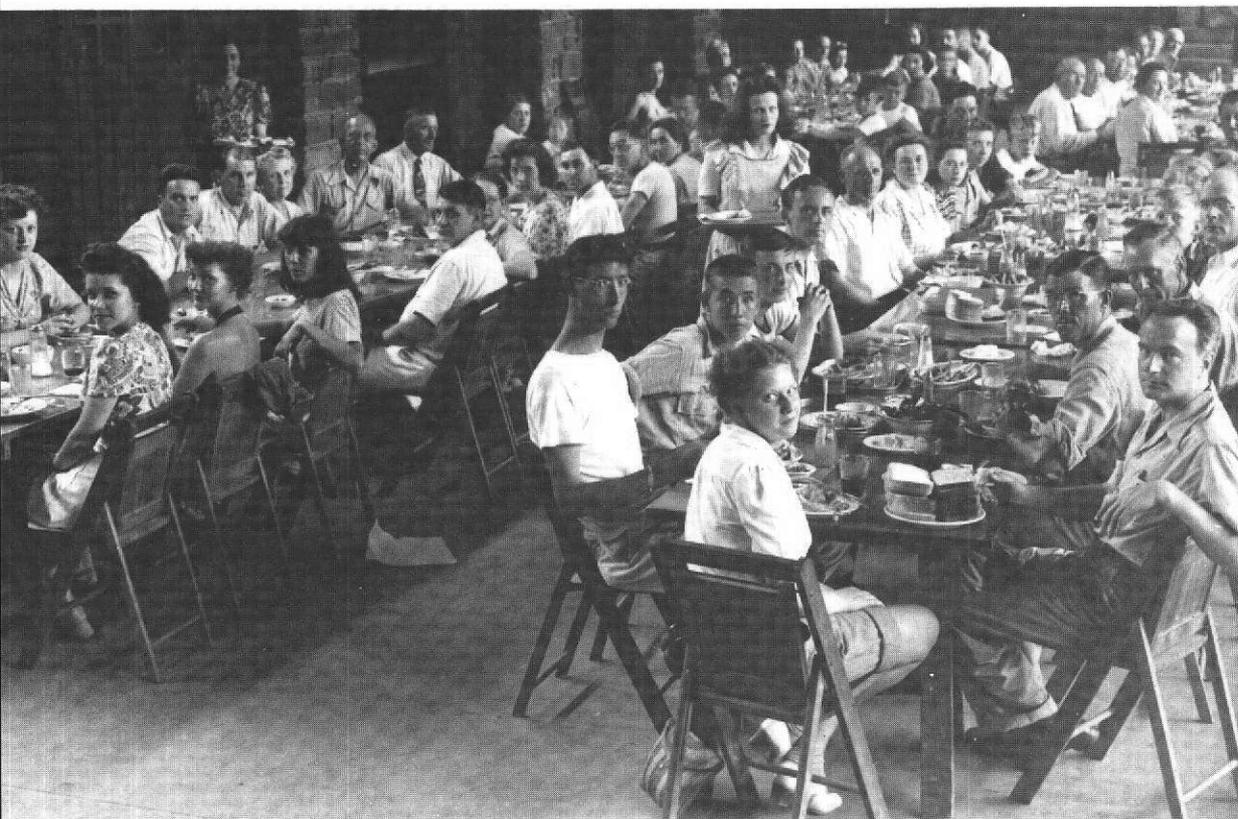


Figure 7.16. Division of Forestry family picnic at the Tar Hollow group camp facility, 1945. The picnic was an annual event through the 1950's. Division of Forestry file photo.

also the Korean War and the Vietnam War. Inside the Shrine locked in a glass case are two great books inscribed with the names of those individuals. The clout of the Ohio Federation of Women's Clubs again appeared in the 1960's when their members successfully thwarted a plan to lease a portion of the Memorial Forest for ski runs for a proposed commercial resort.

The post-war period between 1945 and 1949 was an exciting and trying experience. The Division's equipment was largely old CCC equipment purchased in the mid-1930's. Nevertheless, stone was quarried and timber was cut from the State Forests for construction of facilities. Roads were improved and recreational facilities spruced up. Ohio citizens, limited in travel during the war, were flocking to the Division's Forest-Parks; and recreation became a major Division activity. It was the dominant summer activity on State Forests as well as a significant source of funds from various fees and concessions. Practically all units had picnic shelters, campgrounds, and trails, and five State Forests had small lakes with beaches and boating. Pike and Zaleski State Forests had vacation cabins and Tar Hollow had a heavily used group camp (Fig. 7.16). Hocking and Mohican State Forest-Parks were extremely popular because of their geological features. Construction was underway on the first State Lodge in 1948 at Zaleski (Lake Hope) with the Division doing most of the design and construction with forest crews



Figure 7.17. Design and construction of the first State Lodge at Lake Hope was accomplished primarily by crews of the Division of Forestry. Division of Forestry file photo, 1947.

(Fig. 7.17). New foresters included Ernest Gebhart, Ranger at Mohican, and Don Richter, Superintendent at Marietta Nursery.

Probably the first woman employed by the Division for full-time work on the forest was Ada Winland. She was the wife of Art Winland, Ranger at Blue Rock State Forest, and had started with concession and other part-time work at Cutler Lake on Blue Rock. She eventually became a full-time employee in a laborer classification shortly after the end of World War II. When ODNR was formed, she transferred to the Division of Parks and remained there until she retired.

In 1948, the Division hired a radio engineer and secured from the Federal Communications Commission a license to use several radio frequencies. This initiated a radio network which was later to become the basis for

1949-1989

ODNR's system. It also eliminated the need for the Division to maintain a forest fire control telephone system.

THE DIVISION MOVES TO ODNR

What had been visible on the horizon since 1945 became a reality in 1949. In 1945, the Division was not an enthusiastic supporter of the concept of a natural resources department. The Division was very comfortable with its semi-academic status and freedom from politics at OAES. The Division was responsible to the OAES Director and Board of Control, which consisted of the Trustees of OSU, the Dean of the OSU College of Agriculture, and the Director of the Ohio Department of Agriculture. Division employees were not under Civil Service, but since authority was not vested in political officeholders, politics did not enter into personnel hiring or firing. Likewise, the Division was not anxious to lose its recreational facilities, a distinct possibility because consolidation of State recreational functions was a major argument for creation of a unified department.

However, between 1947 and 1949 things changed at OAES. The positions of Director and Dean of the College of Agriculture were combined, and Leo L. Rummell was named to be the head of both entities. Rummell had ideas for progress and growth at OAES, but they did not seem to include most of the activities of the Division of Forestry. In fact, there was a feeling by some that he viewed Forestry as a competitor for funds needing to be restrained. Thus in 1949, the Division of Forestry, after 44 years at OAES, prepared to enter a new Department of State government with mixed emotions—glad to be leaving a perceived unwelcome situation, happy with assurances that its nonpartisan status would continue, and yet somewhat fearful of what was to come as the Division faced a split of its forestry and recreational functions.

On 11 August 1949, the Division of Forestry became one of the seven charter Divisions in the newly created Ohio Department of Natural Resources. State Forester, O.A. Alderman, became Chief of the Division of Forestry (Fig. 7.13) and relocated to Columbus. Jim Wells (see Figure 14.6

on page 181) was named Assistant Director of ODNR and did likewise. The research program was not included in the transfer; it became a separate unit and remained at OAES with Oliver Diller in charge. Some other functions of the Division, including engineering and planning, would be centralized within ODNR to assist all Divisions. John Bastian, who was in charge of fire control at Chillicothe, moved to Columbus in May 1951 to coordinate more closely with others. By 1953, all primary staff positions of the Division were located in Columbus at the Hangar Building at 1500 Dublin Road (see Figure 6.22 on page 68). Any tentative feelings by the Division of a shotgun marriage in the formation of the Department were short-lived as ODNR Director Marion convincingly demonstrated that he was not going to play favorites. A great sense of unity rapidly developed throughout the Department, unity which was possibly greater during the first decade than at any time since.

Department administrators suggested that to encourage cooperation, all Divisions having needs for district offices should conform to a departmental system (see Figure 3.4 on page 20). Working out mutually agreeable district boundaries and office locations, however, proved difficult; and some deviations had to be permitted. Due to absence or low levels of activity, the Division never opened offices in Districts 1 and 6; and for Forestry's purposes, District 4 was subdivided into northern and southern units. The District 5 office at Chillicothe was relocated in 1955 to its present location in the historic Seip House. The "Seip Ghost" reportedly haunted this house and was blamed for the loss of various items, particularly any objects that could not be accounted for from the meticulous records of Howard Peck. The Seip House was designated a National Historic Landmark in May 1981. The District 4 South office at Athens was moved in 1956 into a building designed by Beecher Jones (see Figure 21.12 on page 253), a Division draftsman and engineer. All of Forestry's district offices housed bunk facilities, some until the 1970's when the last was converted to office space, closing a colorful chapter in the Division's annals.

On 10 May 1950, a meeting of the Division of Forestry



Figure 7.18. Honor prisoners provided significant labor at Marietta Nursery during the 1950's and 1960's. Division of Forestry file photo, 1950.

and the Division of Parks was held at Chillicothe which delineated the forestry recreational personnel, facilities, tools, and

equipment to be split off from the Division of Forestry and transferred to the Division of Parks. Essentially, this agreement provided for the transfer of all land, facilities, and personnel of the Athens (Strouds Run), Beaver Creek, Nelson Ledges, John Bryan, and Hueston Woods units to the Division of Parks. It also delineated and specified certain areas and facilities of the following units (totaling about 11,370 acres) to be transferred as recreational areas: Shawnee, Blue Rock, Pike, Strouds Run, Scioto Trail, Hocking, Tar Hollow, Mohican, and Zaleski. The recreational staff of the Division was also transferred to the Division of Parks, including Carol Bazler, George O'Malley, and Ray Comer. The agreement provided that the Division of Forestry could continue to manage the timber on the transferred lands in consultation with Parks and that timber sales would be conducted by Forestry.

Interaction and cooperation between the Divisions of Wildlife and Forestry in the new Department was enhanced in "An Agreement for Deer Management on Lands of the Department of Natural Resources," which was approved by Director Marion on 15 October 1951. This 1951 agreement provided for the transfer of the 10,825-acre Theodore Roosevelt Game Preserve from Wildlife to Forestry, to become part of Shawnee State Forest. In return, the Division of Forestry agreed to make five percent of the State Forest land available for special deer browse habitat and to maintain a public hunting policy on State Forests. Although not a part of the 1951 agreement, the Division of Forestry also cooperated with Wildlife by starting to grow and sell multiflora rose planting stock. The Division of Wildlife had earlier been planting and promoting multiflora rose but this new arrangement made the plant more readily available and most certainly contributed to its use on private lands. The plant later became a serious nuisance in eastern Ohio, and the General Assembly eventually outlawed its use in 1986.

NURSERIES AND HONOR CAMPS

Ohio production of coal by strip mining had increased greatly during and after World War II, creating a demand for tree seedlings for strip mine reclamation. Responding to the need, the Division had purchased land in 1948 near Green Springs to establish a second nursery to grow hardwoods.

Very important to the tree nursery program was a highly successful social program which used prisoners to accomplish needed conservation work in forests and parks. In 1950, Marietta Nursery received the first of the honor prisoners, who "...were carefully screened and all high type so that persons in the community need have no fear because of the presence of these new workers." Additional camps designed for 40 honor prisoners each were also opened in 1950 at Green Springs and later at Zanesville Nursery and Hocking and Shawnee State Forests. The Division built and maintained the camp structures and provided the work program and job supervision. The Department of Mental Health and Corrections staffed the camp with prisoners, a camp superintendent, and a small staff of guards. The camps had no walls or fences as the prisoners were "on their honor" not to leave the grounds (Fig. 7.18). Some of the best honor camp inmates were serving time for murder. They were not hardened criminals but common citizens who in a sudden fit of anger killed someone. An indication of the reliability of the laborers was recalled by Don Richter, then Marietta Nursery Superintendent. Nursery shipping tags had been stored in an old previously unlocked safe, unlocked that is until one day the handle was turned and the tumbler spun. Richter turned to the inmate population, and an inventory of their skills revealed several with the appropriate credentials. With the use of a hammer and "pin," an experienced inmate quickly "cracked" the safe, rescuing the



Figure 7.19. Ohio Farm Foresters who attended a meeting on 5-6 June 1956 at the Hocking Cabin, from left to right, first row: Bernard Mauer, Byron Kent, George Soine, W.O. Schramm, Jim Ball, M.K. Idleman. Second row: Eliot Zimmerman (USFS), Bob Munger, Frank Newell, Bill Stump (USFS), Clyde Heazlit, Frank Needham, Ture Johnson, Joe Frescolmi, Burl Ashley, Ken Quigley (USFS). Division of Forestry file photo.

Nursery from the brink of embarrassment! The honor camps continued in operation until they were phased out in the 1960's, when prison officials said they no longer had enough honor-type prisoners to staff the camps. The last camp at Hocking State Forest was closed in 1974-75, and with it the end of an era.

Coinciding and even preceding the closing of the adult prison honor camps was the new movement creating youth camps for juvenile offenders. The first of these was established in 1959 at former Camp Case in Mohican State Forest. Others were located at Zanesville, Zaleski, and Maumee. These camps never provided the Division with any significant labor force over any extended period. The youth camps at Mohican and Maumee State Forests continue to operate.

FARM FORESTRY GROWS

Efforts with Farm Forestry acquired identity with the "Teepee Weepee" program during World War II. In some respects, however, the roots were even deeper. Irv Dickman told the story of an encounter he had in 1950 while attending a forestry meeting in Colorado. He met an old employee from Ohio who had worked for Mr. Secrest in 1908-1910 and asked what he had done for Mr. Secrest. The gentleman replied that he drove around in a horse-and-buggy and told people to keep their cattle out of the woods. The gentleman then asked Dickman what the Farm Foresters are doing today (1950), and Irv's response was that they are doing the same thing, only driving the latest model cars!

The Division's 1950 annual report stated that Farm Foresters (Fig. 7.19), without effort to advertise their services, had many more calls for assistance than they could answer. It was also noted that most of the woods in which they walked were placed on a "higher plane of manage-

ment," thereby being saved from grazing, overcutting, poor marketing, and other deplorable practices. Additional funds from the General Assembly in 1952 allowed the Division to expand its farm forestry projects.

On the basis of 300,000 acres being a reasonable amount of timber for a project, the state was divided into 13 projects varying in size from four to ten counties and ranging from 106,000 to 516,000 acres.

Availability of federal funds was a driving force behind many conservation programs of the 1950's through the 1970's, and State priorities were often changed with the appearance of federal funds. In 1950, Congress passed a piece of milestone legislation, the Cooperative Forest Management Act (CFM) which extended states' professional and technical assistance to private forest landowners. In Ohio, this was implemented primarily by the Farm Forestry program. One such project enabled expansion of management services to private owners through Public Law 83-566, the Watershed Protection and Flood Prevention Act of 1954. The Upper Hocking had served as a pilot watershed in Ohio, and the first watershed forester hired by the Division was for the Rush Creek Project. Later programs included the first Appalachian CFM project in 1965, and the Hardwood Improvement Project from 1967 to 1970.

Farm Foresters became associated with many outstanding cooperators over the years, many of whom were "tree farmers." In 1946, Ohio was one of five states to adopt the Tree Farm program. Sponsored by the nation's forest industries through the American Forest Institute, private tree farms dedicated to the growing and harvesting of repeated forest crops, are certified in the program. Ohio's Tree Farm No. 1 belonged to The Isaac Walton League of Wooster; Tree Farm No. 3 was the Malabar Woods of Louis Bromfield. Currently, the program includes over 1700 tree farms. An outstanding example is the 585-acre Overlook Hills Tree Farm in Ross and Pike Counties, owned by John and Mary Schmidt (Fig. 7.20), who were recognized in 1989 as Ohio's first National Outstanding Tree Farmers by the American Forest Council.

Figure 7.20. John and Mary Schmidt of Bainbridge are the first Ohioans to receive recognition as National Outstanding Tree Farmers by the American Forest Council. They received this prestigious award in 1989 for their reforestation efforts and forestry management practices on their farm in Ross and Pike Counties. Photo courtesy of Lee Crocker.



CHALLENGES FROM PESTS AND FIRE IN THE 1950'S

Oak wilt is a fungus disease which plugs the xylem vessels causing oak trees (especially red oak) to wilt and die rapidly. It was first discovered in a tree near Cleveland (also the location of the first Dutch elm disease in Ohio) and was soon found at other scattered locations throughout the eastern half of the state. Vivid memories of the devastation caused by chestnut blight and Dutch elm disease sparked much concern. In the summer of 1952, the Division conducted an aerial survey of 85 counties and found the disease in 50 counties but only in extremely scattered trees or even more rarely in small groups of trees. No pattern of distribution was found and the conclusion was reached that the disease probably existed throughout Ohio on a very limited basis. Research continued for a few years with no effective control method being found. Fortunately, the incidence of the disease did not increase, and if anything, seemed to decline.

Forest fires threw an early test to the new ODNR as several fire seasons of the early 1950's provided statistics for the record books. As stated in one report, 27 March 1950 was considered by many as the worst day in the history of fire control in Ohio with 65 fires burning out of control on 5900 acres. The summer of 1952 had below normal rainfall and in late October, the severe fire situation got out of control. A heavy cover of smoke hung over the eastern half of Ohio, much of it coming from other large fires in Kentucky and West Virginia. The smell of wood smoke was everywhere. Division of Forestry employees fought fires 24 hours a day, sometimes for two or three days without relief. Employees of the Divisions of Parks and Wildlife also became firefighters. College students and others were recruited, and finally the Ohio National Guard was called out. A total of 680 fires burned 22,445 acres in the fall of 1952.

The drought of 1952 continued through 1953 and into the spring of 1954. The fall of 1953 had more fires than 1952 and the Ohio National Guard had to be called out again, but not as many acres were burned. The largest forest fire

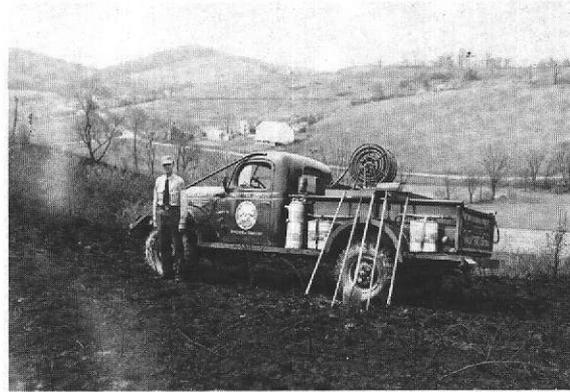


Figure 7.21. Division of Forestry fire equipment in use during the late 1950's and 1960's. Division of Forestry file photo.

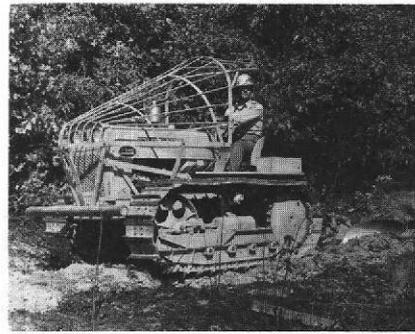
within the State Forest system, and perhaps within the state, occurred in November 1953, when nearly 1500 acres burned in the "Twin Creek" fire on Shawnee State Forest. The burn area received much attention in the following years through salvage operations; and with other harvests, it developed into ideal deer browse. The spring fire season of 1954 started on New Year's Day with fires being reported in almost every district. From the fall of 1952 through the spring season of 1954, 3113 fires burned 48,795 acres.

The fall fire season of 1952 clearly revealed that the Division was not staffed or equipped to handle a bad fire situation. In the CCC days of the 1930's the camps provided adequately trained and readily available fire crews. However, the effectiveness of pickup help recruited from Ohio University and elsewhere was limited due to lack of training and supervision. Mechanical equipment such as dozers, fire plows, and pumpers (Fig. 7.21) was sorely needed. Attempts to correct this situation started in 1953 and continued for several years thereafter.

Various units were united under the Operations Section in August 1953. Einar Amodt, recently retired from the United States Forest Service (USFS), was employed in July 1954 to head the Central Shop; and Lionel Hunt, shop foreman since 1936, continued supervision of the Carpenter Shop. The Central Shop building was constructed by the Carpenter Shop personnel in 1955 and outfitted over the years with federal excess machinery and equipment obtained at no cost. Shop personnel designed, modified, repaired, and fabricated equipment, machinery, and military and civilian vehicles, for forest fire suppression. Instal-

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Figure 7.22. A bulldozer adapted for use in construction of fire lines during forest fire suppression activities. Division of Forestry file photo.



lation of armor (Fig. 7.22), water tanks, pumps, hose reels, and tractor fire plows was routine. Curious, practical, and mechanically marvelous devices were produced, including a chain flail fire line builder, an iron clad trail bike, and a walnut huller.

Ohio's fire program was further supported when after many years of effort, Congress revised the law governing disposal of federal excess property to give state foresters in fire control activities the same priority to obtain equipment as had federal agencies. Ohio greatly benefited from this in succeeding years, securing such items as aircraft, helicopters, a truck-mounted crane, fire trucks, jeeps, tankers, a metal building, house trailers, metal and woodworking machinery, binoculars, hand tools, and building materials.

The early 1950's were exciting and challenging. Division personnel soon realized that they were fortunate to have been relieved of recreational activities. They had enough weekend duty in the spring and fall fire seasons without the additional summer weekend duty which recreational responsibility entailed.

PLANTING OHIO GREEN

Commencing about 1948 and during the early 1950's, the Division conducted a major tree planting effort on State Forests. At age six and seven, some of these red pine plantations were thinned for Christmas trees, and for a few years during the 1950's the Division was one of Ohio's larger Christmas tree producers. The theft of Christmas trees from State Forests and private woodlands became a concern, and House Bill 573 was passed in 1949. It required a bill of sale to accompany transfers of trees and empowered officers to inspect any hauling. At least one State Forest received \$5.00 anonymously from a person who had previously removed a tree and wanted a clear conscience.

Governor Frank J. Lausche's personal interest in conservation provided an unprecedented boost to tree planting. On 21 February 1952, Governor Lausche signed a



Figure 7.23. Governor Frank J. Lausche (on right) was a strong supporter of the "Plant Ohio" program in the early 1950's. He accepted a flag in 1954 made by Mrs. Estella Christman of Lewisville in Monroe County. Also attending the presentation, from left to right, were Robert Redett, Reverend George Varns, and Freeman S. Christman. Photo courtesy of Richard L. Christman.

proclamation designating April as Conservation Month. State and local "Plant Ohio" committees were organized and great promotion was given to a planting program with a goal of planting ten million trees. The goal was exceeded as an estimated 16 million trees were planted, twelve million of which were provided by Division nurseries. The Governor's Proclamation of April 1953 as Ohio Sesquicentennial Conservation Month further supported "...tree planting, both reforestation and ornamental," as a "living testimonial to this noteworthy observance." That "some day the trees will stand up and vote for you!" was reportedly convincing evidence for the Governor (Fig. 7.23).

The "Plant Ohio" program contributed to the acquisition by the State of the USDA nursery near Zanesville. At the time, there had been rivalry and competition among three USDA agencies—the Cooperative Extension Service, USFS, and SCS—over which agency should have the lead role in providing forestry assistance to landowners. This festering dispute was settled by the Secretary of Agriculture in what was called the Tripartite Agreement. It defined each agency's role and gave the lead to USFS. As a result, SCS divested itself of its forest tree nurseries, including the one near Zanesville. This nursery served a vital role in meeting the growing demand for tree seedlings. Frank Wood became the Nursery Manager and remained in that position until 1987.

"Millions More in '54" was the slogan chosen in an attempt to surpass the millions of trees planted statewide



Figure 7.24. As pine planted on the State Forests grew, the Division was provided with a ready supply for the production of posts and poles, as shown here at Mohican State Forest. Division of Forestry file photo, 1957.

The Divisions

the first year of the program. The General Assembly established the last Friday in April for the official celebration of Arbor Day in Ohio, and more than 30,000 copies of a 24-page reforestation and tree-planting manual were distributed.

INCREASING FORESTS TRIGGER CHANGES

During the 1950's, several developments which had been slowly taking place began to crystalize. One of these was revealed by the Ohio Forest Survey conducted in 1952 and 1953 by the Central States Forest Experiment Station of USFS. This survey reported that Ohio had 5,446,000 acres of forest land, an increase of over 1.7 million acres since 1939-1942 when the previous survey was made. Similar surveys across the nation generally showed a substantial trend of increased forest acreage and timber volume. The effect that this information had on professional forestry proved to be a major milestone in the development of forestry policy.

Heretofore, there was a significant preservation philosophy in most foresters' thinking and background. Most foresters envisioned part of their role to save the forest from timber butchers and destruction from fire. There was much talk of a future timber famine. While the forester's philosophy did not oppose timber harvesting per se, it did view much of the lumber industry's practice of clearcutting as destructive and leading to future timber shortages. Foresters and lumbermen often had strained relations. However, this new information dispelled the fears of diminishing forests. The Ohio survey had revealed that most of Ohio's forests contained a high percentage of low quality trees and therefore forestry efforts were turned more to management of private forest land.

The primary cause in the reversal of the downward trend in forest acreage was not tree planting, although that did make a contribution; it was a gradual change towards intensive agriculture which had started with the invention of the reaper in the 1800's. This progressed very slowly until shortly after World War I and then accelerated in the 1930's-1950's. It resulted in increased agricultural produc-

tion which benefited farmers in areas of relatively level fertile land and essentially bankrupted many farmers in southern and southeastern Ohio who had hilly and less fertile land. Revised livestock operations employed feedlots in confined areas, and the destructive practice of grazing woodlots diminished rather suddenly. Farm land that is not cropped or pastured soon begins to revert to trees, a process faster than many people realize.

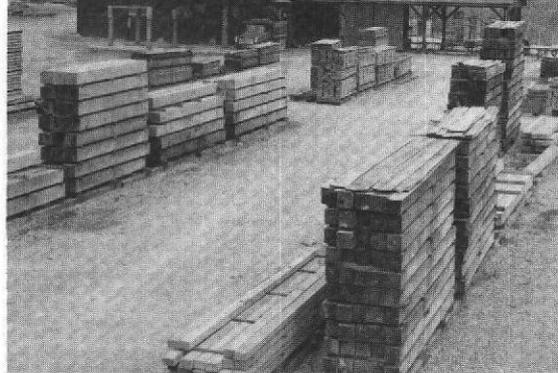
Another significant development occurred about 1954 with the introduction of new pulping processes that permitted the use of oak and other hardwoods in the manufacture of paper. Within a few years, large quantities of Ohio's hardwoods were being used by Ohio's paper mills. The advent of the pallet industry also provided significant change. Starting slowly in the 1950's, it was a major component of Ohio's forest industry by the 1960's. It was a major factor in moving the sawmill out of the woods to a permanent location, and it provided a significant market for low-grade lumber.

THE DIVISION AS A LUMBER PRODUCER

The first sale by the Division of a forest product reportedly had occurred in the late 1930's, while Irv Dickman was Ranger at Dean State Forest. The CCC assisted in thinning red and white pine that had been planted 20 years earlier, and these thinnings were turned over to a private individual who produced charcoal which was then sold by the Division in the Hocking Parks region.

By 1950, the tree planting program on State Forests was beginning to show results. The plantings of the 1920's had grown into thick, pole-size stands which desperately needed thinning. However, there was not a ready market for this type of stumpage. In an attempt to solve this problem, the Division purchased two portable pole and post peeling machines. They were moved from forest to forest where plantations were thinned, and the material was peeled and cut into various sizes of poles and posts (Fig. 7.24). These were sold, but the markets were not very dependable, and the Division needed larger and more

Figure 7.25. The Division of Forestry sawmill at Zaleski State Forest, April 1965. Division of Forestry file photo.



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dependable outlets for its products if it were to get the needed thinning done. In response to this, the Division built two treating plants, one each at the Hocking and Mohican State Forests. These plants used a cold soak process of wood treatment with a solution of pentachlorophenol mixed with diesel oil. The facilities required very little capital, and while the treating process was inferior to pressure methods, it did extend considerably the life of the posts and poles. They were marketed primarily to local governments for street and highway uses. The operation continued into the 1970's when high oil prices made the process uneconomical and the use of pentachlorophenol was being curtailed as an environmental hazard. Being in direct competition with private enterprise further fueled arguments for getting out of this business, and the last post peelers were sold through public bid in 1985.

After 500 miles of footwork over two years, the first complete inventory of Ohio's 208 square miles of State Forests was nearing completion. In his 1950 report, Emmett A. Conway states: "The conscience of the Division of Forestry has been bothered because inventory information has been lacking which could show how much timber should be cut each year and where it is located." The survey furnished evidence that several State Forests contained enough merchantable timber to justify the preparation of definite management plans. Tar Hollow State Forest was selected to be the first to be organized. Armed with a new set of aerial photographs from the Department of Highways and a borrowed multiscope, staff produced a map showing major drainages which were divided into blocks and compartments. All data gathered, including subsequent harvests and management work, were planned to be entered into compartment files for future reference. This method of organization still remains the basis of the timber management records system for the State Forests.

Because of the condition of stumpage on State Forests, it was difficult to interest private operators. To improve residual timber stands and convert poor quality trees into lumber for its own use and sale, the Division operated sawmills on several State Forests. In 1952, the mills were credited with better grade recovery and better care of

lumber, resulting in raising the average selling price from \$68.37 to \$80.58 per thousand board feet. Although State sawmills operated intermittently, considerable use was made of State Forest lumber in building and maintenance projects on forests and nurseries. One of the more notable projects was accomplished by the Zaleski mill (Fig. 7.25) during the mid-to-late 1960's when the Division participated in rehabilitation of the Muskingum River lock gates by providing various preformed large replacement timbers from State Forests. These timbers were sawn at the Zaleski mill and then cut to exact sizes and peculiar shapes by the Carpenter Shop. Because of their large size (16 inches square by 22 feet long) the end of the Zaleski millshed had to be opened to accommodate them. The mixed oak timbers were then treated and installed over several years on Muskingum locks from Zanesville to Marietta.

State Forest timber sales increased significantly during the 1960's and reached a high of just over ten million board feet in 1967. Ben Bentley, supervisor of timber sales since 1949, retired in 1966; and sometime during his last year, the 100 millionth board foot of product had been sold from the State Forests. The largest single sale of stumpage had occurred in 1960 when an estimated one million board feet at Shawnee had been purchased for an average of \$12.04 per thousand.

THE DIVISION IN EMERGING POLITICAL TIMES

Upon becoming employees of the new ODNR in 1949, those with at least six months service were placed under Civil Service, with the exception of the Chief. Employees completed State Civil Service Commission questionnaires to conform with the first of many statewide plans for reclassification. Rates of many employees were increased, and many were placed on salary with a 44-hour work week until legislation in March 1956 gave the same pay for a 40-hour week.

The first "changing of the guard" occurred in February 1957 when Herbert Eagon was appointed ODNR Director by the new Governor C. William O'Neill. The Department kept

functioning without missing a beat. Michael V. DiSalle succeeded O'Neill as Governor, and Director Eagon finished the last four years of his six-year term under the DiSalle administration.

During Eagon's tenure, the practice of requiring Divisions to submit monthly reports of activities, accomplishments, and problems was started. These brief summaries were edited by the Director's office and combined into a Department monthly report, which was forwarded to the Governor. It was obvious that Governor DiSalle read these reports, as Divisions from time to time received inquiries from his office via the Director about something that had been reported in the previous monthly report. Governor DiSalle's attention to feedback was displayed in an instance when a "lowly Division of Forestry field employee" wrote to the Governor to complain about not getting paid in a timely manner. This problem was common to many State employees, and the reasons were complicated involving several departments and the Auditor of State. However, Governor DiSalle got everyone's attention and promptly solved the problem. The end of the nonpolitical era of ODNR occurred in 1963 when legislation was passed which eliminated the six-year term for the Director, and in its place provided for the Director to serve at the Governor's pleasure.

In the first eight-year administration of Governor James A. Rhodes, partisan involvement in the Division of Forestry was largely confined to the hiring of nonprofessional field employees such as laborers and equipment operators. Prior to this, the Chief hired and promoted the professionals, and the district foresters in contact with the unit manager hired the nonprofessionals. Hiring was done off Civil Service lists when they existed, but, except for clerical positions, they seldom existed. This meant that most hiring was done on a provisional basis, and after a prescribed period, in which no Civil Service tests were given, the provisionals were made Classified Civil Service employees.

Having worked their whole careers under the nonpolitical system, district foresters were shocked when, attempting to fill a nonprofessional position, they were told to contact the local county Republican Chair for the person

to fill a job. This policy worked differently throughout the state. State pay rates were uniform across the state for a given classification and generally speaking, the pay rate was modest, especially the starting rate. However, in southern Ohio, such as Adams, Pike, and Scioto Counties, private employment jobs were limited and the general pay rate of the private sector was lower; consequently, Division of Forestry jobs were an attractive offering for a county chair. Conversely, positions at the Maumee Forest in Lucas County were an unattractive nuisance to the local county chair and unit managers were told to recruit whomever they could.

During Governor John J. Gilligan's administration, the hiring process was changed so that unit managers did not deal directly with county political chairs, but the selection process for professional positions was frequently impacted. New laws were enacted in 1974 which altered the personnel selection process; and when Governor Rhodes was elected for two more terms, partisan hiring diminished. Jobs were advertised and selection was made within the Division, always with the new employee's supervisor involved in the process. Under Governor Richard F. Celeste's administration, hiring and other personnel actions were recommended by the Division with final determination and approval residing at the Department level.

House Bill 764 established the Forestry Advisory Council in 1965, and the initial organizational meeting took place on 7 February 1966. Ora E. "Andy" Anderson of Athens was elected Chair, and served as the Division's representative on the Recreation and Resources Commission. Harold C. Kost of Columbus was elected Vice Chair. The Council considers problems and policy of the Division and acts in an advisory capacity and as a sounding board.

FORESTRY, RECLAMATION, AND FIRE IN THE 1960'S

On 1 February 1965, legislation became effective that combined the Division of Forestry with the Division of Reclamation forming the Division of Forestry and Reclamation. This legislation was supported by the Rhodes adminis-



Figure 7.26. *Irving I. Dickman, third State Forester and Chief of the Division of Forestry, 1965-1969.*

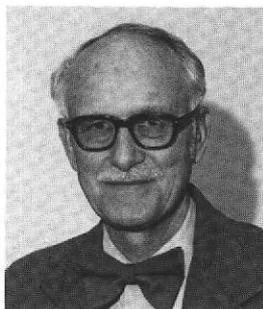


Figure 7.27. *Ernest J. Gebhart, fourth State Forester (1969-1982), Chief of the Division of Forestry and Reclamation (1969-1973), Chief of the Division of Forests and Preserves (1973-1975), and Chief of the Division of Forestry (1975-1982).*

tration but the rationale of this combination was never apparent to Division personnel. The change did not reduce staff numbers or costs nor did it improve efficiency. Except for the Chief, the former Division of Reclamation essentially moved into the Division of Forestry and became an additional Section. Irving I. Dickman (Fig. 7.26), who had left the Division of Forestry in 1960 to become the Chief of the Division of Reclamation, became Chief of Forestry and Reclamation and served until his retirement in 1969. Mr. Alderman, who had 45 years of exemplary service with the Division of Forestry and had been Chief and State Forester since 1937, was moved into a position on the Director's staff until his retirement in 1967. Ernest J. Gebhart, who was Chief of the Division of Parks, became Assistant Chief of Forestry and Reclamation, and later succeeded Dickman as Chief and State Forester in 1969 (Fig. 7.27). Robert Redett, who was Assistant Chief, took a new staff position in utilization and marketing and State Forest timber management. Orville Bates, who was Assistant Chief of the Division of Reclamation, became staff supervisor of the new Reclamation Section.

With the Division of Reclamation came three "Reclamation Areas." These were State-owned areas that had previously been strip mined. The Perry Reclamation Area in Perry County had extensive areas of unsuccessfully reclaimed land and associated pollution problems. The spoil was very acid, which prevented or deterred revegetation. The Harrison and Jefferson areas did not have high acid spoil and off-site pollution was minimal. They were managed under the State Forest Operations Section, and some modest recreational facilities were developed with funds from the 1965 Appalachian Regional Development Act. The Jefferson Reclamation Area was later renamed Fernwood State Forest in the early 1970's and State Forest designation was also accorded to Perry and Harrison in 1978.

During the 1960's, Division nursery production reached its peak (Fig. 7.28). Twelve to more than 16 million trees were produced and distributed each year during the decade, with approximately half of this production being used for strip mine reclamation. In 1968, Westvaco, for-

Figure 7.28. *State Forest Nursery Superintendents, assistants and guest at a meeting in May 1961, from left to right: Don Richter (Marietta Superintendent), Frank Wood (Zanesville Superintendent), John McKnight (Marietta assistant), Weldon Noland (Marietta assistant), John Briggs (Zanesville assistant), Carl Bailey (Green Springs Superintendent), and Rod Krouse (guest from Ohio Power Company). Division of Forestry file photo.*



Figure 7.29. *Mechanized planting machinery greatly assisted reforestation efforts during the late 1940's into the mid-1950's. Division of Forestry file photo, 1955.*

merly West Virginia Pulp and Paper Company, introduced a matching seedling program for private landowners in southeastern Ohio. Under this program, Westvaco would match, at no cost to the landowner, any conifer seedling purchased and planted by the landowner. When dovetailed with a federal tree planting subsidy, this very successful program enabled landowners to have their land planted to trees by contractors for only a few dollars per acre (Fig.



Figure 7.30. Pilots have proven to be effective spotters of forest fires. Division of Forestry file photo.



Figure 7.31. To assist communications with pilots, forest fire wardens had four-foot high identification numbers painted on a roof at their residence. Division of Forestry file photo.

7.29). More than 90 percent of the matched seedlings (initially averaging 350,000 per year) were white pine.

The drought of 1963 necessitated placing on alert the Division's pilots (Fig. 7.30), 2000 fire wardens (Fig. 7.31), 150 regular Division employees (Fig. 7.32), several thousand volunteer firefighters, and the Ohio National Guard. Inmates from honor camps at Shawnee, Hocking, Hueston Woods, Marietta, Zanesville, and Green Springs were also made available to assist, and all ODNR personnel were placed on 24-hour standby. One or more forest fires were reported every day from 17 September to 29 November and October had a record number of fires for that month.

The 1803 fires that occurred during the spring of 1969 were the highest ever reported for a single season. Nearly 13,000 acres had burned, the most for a spring fire season since 1950. By the end of the 1960's, significant expansion had occurred within the forest fire protection program. The last of the 39 fire towers were contracted to be constructed and three fire stations were completed. Responsibility for forest fire protection activities was merged under the State Forest and Reclamation Area supervisors in July 1971. This provided for more efficient year-round use and development of equipment and personnel who could operate and maintain State Forests as well as suppress wildfires on private woodlands.

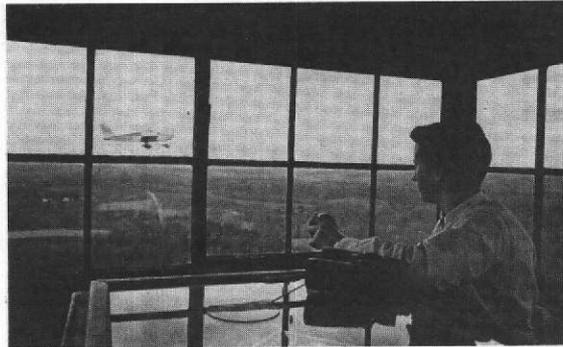


Figure 7.32. As published in the April 1968 issue of *The Wonderful World of Ohio*, Elsie Derry, towerwoman at Bloomfield in Muskingum County, watches as her husband Wayne Derry cruises by the tower on a fire patrol.



Figure 7.33. The "Birth of a Tree" project provided a novel opportunity for Ohio fourth grade students and teachers to celebrate Arbor Day from 1967 to 1975 as shown in this photo of Mrs. Kaltenschach's elementary class in Hilliard. Photo by Robert Redett, 1968.

BIRTH OF A TREE, BUCKEYES, AND MOVIES

In 1967, the Division introduced the "Birth of a Tree Kit" as an innovative way to emphasize Arbor Day. The kit

contained artificial soil planting blocks about the shape and size of an icecube. Each block had a small hole into which a seed could be inserted. The kit also contained instructions, black locust seeds, teaching aid materials, and enough blocks so that each student in an average classroom could have one. The kit was mailed to every fourth grade in Ohio. About two weeks before Arbor Day, the kids planted their seeds and watched them sprout and grow (Fig. 7.33). On Arbor Day, the tiny seedlings could be taken home and planted. The kit was a huge success. The Department had sent out a news release prior to distribution and the program received considerable publicity, some even beyond Ohio, resulting in the Division getting requests from many

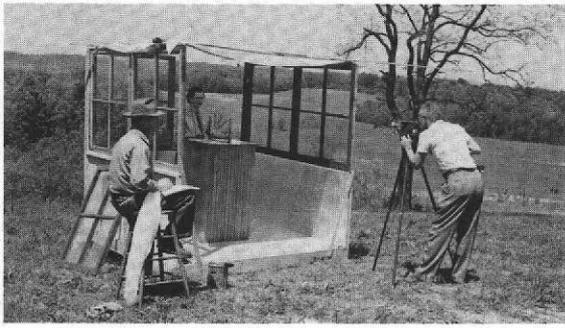


Figure 7.34. For use in the Division's movie, *Guardian of the Forest*, Bob Wheaton (right) photographed Helen Debord using an alidade in a mock-up of a fire tower to simulate locating a forest fire while Harold Lump watched. Division of Forestry file photo, 1955.

other states. Several other states adopted the kit program and it continued in Ohio until 1975. As details of the Birth of a Tree program were being developed early in 1967, some of the Department's Information and Education staff got the idea that every school should have a buckeye tree. Department employees would deliver to each school in Ohio a small buckeye seedling for planting on Arbor Day. The idea caught on and even expanded to have buckeyes planted on all Department facilities. The proposal was well along before it was cleared with the Division of Forestry. When contacted, the Division acknowledged that they did annually grow buckeye seedlings, but that these were "buckeyes," not necessarily the Ohio buckeye—the longtime symbol to Ohioans, which was honored as the State's official tree in 1953.

Two similar species of buckeyes are indigenous to Ohio—*Aesculus glabra*, the Ohio buckeye, and *Aesculus octandra*, the yellow buckeye. The yellow buckeye is most common in southeastern Ohio where, because of the labor supply, the Division did most of its seed collection. To complicate matters further, a Eurasian species, *Aesculus hippocastanum*, the horse chestnut, is widely planted in Ohio as a shade tree. The nuts of all three of these species are so similar that they cannot be separated or identified with any degree of accuracy. This slight distraction did not deter the project, which went forward with fanfare and success. Many of these seedlings survived and grew into sizeable trees, but a large number, perhaps 90 percent, are yellow buckeye. A small grove was planted on the ODNR area at the Ohio State Fairgrounds, and all but one or two of these are yellow buckeyes.

In the mid-1950's, the Division produced three 27-minute color motion pictures. Photography was done under contract with Bob Wheaton (Fig. 7.34), who had assisted the Division with its first movie in the 1940's. *Guardian of the Forest*, about fire control in Ohio, was filmed in 1954-1955 and was shown to over 65,000 viewers the first year. It also had six television showings. *Seeds to Sawlogs* was a film about Ohio's reforestation and nursery program, and *Forestry on the Farm* depicted the Farm Forestry program. All were considered excellent films for their time, and

served their purpose well until *A Gift Returned*, an overview of the Division, was produced in 1980.

FORESTRY AT THE FAIR

The older Divisions, especially Forestry and Wildlife, had annual Ohio State Fair exhibits predating the Department's formation. In 1941, the Division of Forestry erected an 80-foot steel fire tower on the State Fairgrounds as a part of its exhibit. It was a major attraction and ten cents was charged to climb it. After the Fair, the tower was torn down and erected for its intended purpose on a hill in Jackson County. Over the years, exhibits improved, and in 1966, a pavilion was built using Division lumber to replace the traditional large tent.

Smokey Bear joined the Ohio State Fair in 1959 when an 18-foot tall animated bear was built (Fig. 7.35). The bear was constructed of chicken wire and fiberglass by the Department's carpentry shop. Old airplane parts were used to give movement to Smokey's head, mouth, and left arm. Smokey's fur and attire have required replacement over the years. Recently, 4-H Club members from Jefferson County used 15 yards of donated material to make Smokey a new pair of genuine Levi denim jeans with a 155-inch waist. The first version of Smokey didn't talk but was accompanied by a recording blaring forth the Smokey Bear song—fine for the visitors, but tempting poor Department employees who attended the exhibits for long hours to strangle Smokey. When Smokey did learn to talk, he proved even more



Figure 7.35. The ever-popular 18-foot tall Smokey Bear spreads his fire prevention message to young and old alike at the Ohio State Fair. Photo from Division brochure *Ohio's Tree Country*, 1969.

popular, passing on personalized fire prevention messages and responding to numerous inquiries from inquisitive young (and old) minds. "Through magic," as reported in an ODNR newsletter, "Smokey calls each child by name. Without the youngsters having said a word, he can even tell them what city they're from. It blows their mind." This "magic" still remains a mystery even to many longtime ODNR employees.

The Division's one-eighth scale model sawmill debuted at the 1969 Ohio State Fair. The project, instigated by staff forester Byron Kent, was fabricated at the Division shops with special gears and portions of the metal works provided by Chillicothe High School Industrial Arts Department, Piketon Trade School, and Jackson Manpower Training School. After many years of use at field days, staff continues to marvel at its authenticity in mimicking a full size mill, particularly in its frequency of breakdowns which usually occur with impeccable timing during critical parts of a demonstration.

Over 250,000 copies of the 18-page four-color brochure, "Ohio's Tree Country," were produced in 1969-1970. The publication, containing numerous photographs and brief descriptions of activities of the Division of Forestry and Reclamation, was distributed at the State Fair and used for general information requests. Wooden nickels were also distributed at the Fair that year, 100,000 of them! Having secured a load of reject shovel handles from a factory in Delaware, staff foresters Byron Kent and Harold Todd commenced upon a project of epic proportions. The handles were cut into nickel-sized discs, sanded, and marked with a message by use of several grocery store stamps. This was the last year that the Division "made money" until it printed "Smokey Bear \$40.00 bills" for the 1984 Fair.

FORESTRY ENTERS THE ENVIRONMENTAL DECADE, 1966-1975

In 1966, ODNR purchased a 320-acre farm in Fulton County, which became known as Goll Woods. Impetus for the purchase was part of the emerging environmental movement including the gestation of the nature preserve program. About 90 acres of woodland on the property is a

remnant of the original Black Swamp Forest of northwestern Ohio. The area needing a caretaker was turned over to the Division of Forestry and Reclamation.

A severe freeze on 10 May 1966 caused heavy damage to trees at Shawnee and Scioto Trail State Forests. Salvage efforts of the frost-damaged timber eventually resulted in large areas being clearcut which helped to bring this management practice into the public limelight. Because of environmental concerns, by June 1972 clearcutting had been replaced by single-tree and group-selection methods as the primary means of timber harvest in State Forests. Clearcutting was allowed only for salvage of small areas and then with environmental justification. Various timber harvesting practices on State Forests cycled in and out of favor over the years, a reaction to public opinion and the political times.

Development of ten-year resource-use and management plans considering wildlife, recreation, and timber continued throughout the decade for most of the State Forests. Two major long-term wildlife management and research plans were adopted in 1972 and 1974 respectively on separate 5000-acre portions of Zaleski State Forest. Establishment and development of wild turkey habitat was the prime objective of one of the projects while the other researched habitat management and multiple use guidelines to determine the effect of clearcutting on grouse, deer, small mammals, and songbird populations.

Late in 1969, a value-for-value land exchange was concluded with the Mead Corporation in which the 5649-acre Raccoon State Forest in Vinton County was traded for 6216 acres of Mead land adjacent to Zaleski State Forest. This acquisition brought most of the Lake Hope watershed into State ownership, permitting subsequent projects to attempt to deal with the acid mine drainage into Lake Hope. One of the parcels acquired in the trade contained the Carbondale Forest, one of the oldest unmanaged pine plantations in Ohio. This noteworthy plantation has also been referred to as the Enderlin or York Forest or the Doolittle Tract.

Reflecting a broadening scope of assistance provided to the public, the name of the Farm Forestry Section was changed on 1 July 1968 to the Service Forestry Section which presently consists of 22 projects. Absentee owners were

1949-1989

demanding more technical assistance and were willing to make management commitments to improve the forest environment to enhance their escape from suburban life. While the typical Service Forestry jobs prevailed early in the 1970's, increasing emphasis was being directed to trees and small woodlands within urban areas. Community forestry assistance had been authorized for federal funding under the CFM program in 1968, and the Columbus and Cincinnati Urban Forestry projects were formally established in 1972. Within the next ten years, projects at Cleveland, Findlay, and Athens expanded the Urban Forestry Program, which received national recognition under the leadership of staff forester Don Richter, who in 1984, received the Joyce Kilmer Award from the National Arbor Day Foundation.

Following renovation primarily by Division personnel of the former Shawnee Honor Camp (which had closed in 1968), it was dedicated in 1974 as the Shawnee Environmental Resource Center and operated by the Department. The former Zaleski camp also was transferred to function as a similar facility, and both camps eventually housed modern-era CCC-type programs.

A major environmental emergency occurred in June 1971 when Pond Lick Reservoir at Shawnee State Forest was intentionally poisoned with the insecticide endrin and strichnine-soaked corn. The upstream flow into the lake was diverted around the lake, and throughout the summer months, 15 million gallons of lake water were purified by pumping it through a 20-foot cypress box containing an activated charcoal filter. The individual responsible was caught, tried, and convicted. Following treatment and return of microscopic aquatic life, the lake was restocked with fish. The Division assisted in response to the April 1974 Xenia tornado disaster by cutting and removing downed trees from streets and opening roads and clearing facilities with chain saws, dump trucks, log and end loaders, and dozers.

In April 1972, a new strip-mining law became effective in Ohio which required significant changes in the reclamation of strip-mined lands. This law was essentially a Gilligan administration bill, and about three years later, Congress adopted a bill which incorporated most of the features of the Ohio law. Chief Gebhart represented ODNR

at the General Assembly in extensive hearings prior to passage of the law. While not its author, Gebhart was vital in taking a raw legislative bill and developing it into a reasonably workable piece of legislation which the backers had envisioned. Once the bill passed, implementation of the law fell squarely on Gebhart's shoulders. This legislation changed the requirement of establishing trees on stripped areas to the requirement of establishing cover crops of grass and/or legumes. Nearly half of the 15 million seedlings produced annually by the Division between 1961 and 1975, were used to reclaim mined lands, but this diminished to several hundred thousand annually when the full impact of the new law became effective.

By 1973, it became obvious that the combination of forestry and strip mine reclamation activities in the same Division was not a particularly good idea, and the reclamation function was returned to a separate Division. However, at the same time, the Department had a fledgling nature preserve effort, which was wedded in part into a new Division of Forests and Preserves. This marriage did not last long either, for in 1975 the two functions separated; and for the first time in ten years, the forestry effort was not encumbered with ancillary duties. With this change, administration of Goll Woods was transferred to the new Division of Natural Areas and Preserves.

Forest recreation began to boom again in the 1970's. The Division reentered this realm when administration of five primitive horseback riders' campgrounds was assumed from the Division of Parks and Recreation. The 8000-acre Shawnee Wilderness Area was established in Shawnee State Forest in November 1972 and provided a boost to the preservation movement as well. While not pristine, as evidenced by its history of human habitation, quarrying, fires, and timber management, the area was set aside initially by a directive by ODNR Director Nye to permit natural forces, as much as possible, to dictate and shape the landscape. In 1988, House Bill 699 provided legislative designation to Shawnee Wilderness Area. The first State Forest backpacking trail, also in Shawnee State Forest, was opened in November 1973 and a second one was completed the following year in Zaleski State Forest. Several areas of Hocking State Forest were designated State Nature Pre-

serves including a portion of Conkles Hollow, Sheick Hollow, and Little Rocky Hollow. Also, a portion of Big Spring Hollow was designated for rockclimbing and rappelling in 1976 to relieve the problem of indiscriminate climbing and further deterioration of the valued rock structures and vegetation elsewhere in State Forests, State Parks, and State Nature Preserves.

Competitive navigation and travel by foot, known as orienteering, was also permitted on State Forests. Weekend or one-day special military training exercises occurred frequently in the primitive remote forests. Local forestry tours, field days, wildflower and auto tours, fall foliage frolics, fishing derbies, and workshops, some conducted in cooperation with other ODNR Divisions, were organized to encourage public visitation and promote awareness of the Division's programs. Included were special events, such as primitive rendezvous, which attracted regional and national audiences. Participants in forest road rallies, under permit of the Division, found the system of State Forest roads challenging, and motorcycle enduros enjoyed the highly desired paths through various forests. Both of these types of events evoked emotional controversy as to their proper perspective and impact upon the forest environment through the 1970's and 1980's.

Passed in 1971, House Bill 214, restricted use of off-road all-purpose vehicles (APV) on State lands, including State Forests, to designated areas. A portion of the then Perry Reclamation Area was opened on an experimental basis to motorcycle, mini-bike, and all-terrain vehicles. This designation was later made permanent in September 1973, along with APV areas at Pike, Richland Furnace, and Maumee State Forests. A snowmobile trail system was later added at Mohican State Forest.

The combined effects of the harsh winters and the energy crisis of the 1970's necessitated fuel conservation and rationing measures for facilities and equipment as the Division contended with shortages. Many of the State Forests enjoyed an explosive popularity as "cut-your-own" firewood sales were promoted. A cord of wood for \$15 provided fuel as well as a project for family forest recreation.

The increased use and demands upon the finite spectrum of Ohio's forests caused concern for both protection and management of the resources and the people who visited. Rules and regulations governing public use of the lands and water under the supervision and control of the Division were adopted in September 1974. Consequently, enforcement and patrol activities assumed a higher profile among Division activities, and eventually resulted in arming of forest officers in 1985.

A massive personnel layoff of 141 Division employees occurred in 1975 and significantly affected programs and productivity of the Division. While more than 90 of the employees were reinstated the following year as a result of litigation and a partial funding restoration by the State Controlling Board, physical and psychological recovery to previous levels was never fully realized.

FORESTRY INTO AND THROUGH THE 1980'S

In 1976 for the first time in memory, the Division provided the Christmas tree for the State House lawn—a 40-foot Norway spruce from Zaleski State Forest. The tradition has since continued, with trees provided from other State Forests and more recently, from private citizens in central Ohio. In spite of careful scheduling, the tree raisings have been frequently buffeted by winds tunnelled between the downtown skyscrapers, providing thrills and chills to those participating.

A record sale of walnut occurred in 1976 as a result of assistance from the Service Forestry Section. A private sale of 19 black walnut trees in Williams County produced more than \$81,000, which included a single tree valued at \$35,000, estimated to contain enough architectural grade veneer to cover an area greater than two acres. Also that year, Westerville, Wooster, and Springfield were the first Ohio cities certified under the "Tree City USA" program. Sponsored by the National Arbor Day Foundation, the program recognizes effective management of urban tree resources. Ohio led the nation in certified Tree Cities for several years during the first decade of participation, and was the first state to reach 100 certified cities in 1987. In 1977, special

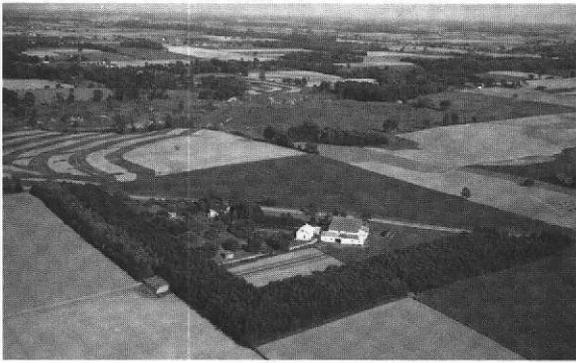


Figure 7.36. In flat northwestern Ohio, plantings of trees are used for shelterbelts and windbreaks as demonstrated on this farm southeast of Green Springs. Division of Forestry file photo.

recognition was given to several communities, groups, and individuals who were driving forces in tree-planting efforts over the years in the first Annual Governor's Arbor Day Awards.

A significant increase in windbreak-planting in northwestern Ohio (Fig. 7.36) was stimulated in 1976, resulting in hundreds of miles of plantings being established by the Division on a cost-share basis with landowners to improve snow moisture distribution and reduce windblown soil erosion and vegetable crop damage. SCS, Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service, Division of Soil and Water Conservation, and the Ohio Cooperative Extension Service cooperate in the ongoing program.

The reduced demand for tree seedlings, greatly due to the revised reclamation laws, was finally acknowledged in 1984 with the closing of the Green Springs Nursery. Gordon "Bill" Hoff, the Nursery Manager, who retired in 1982 with over 52 years of State service, was the longest career employee of the Division. One of the annual traditions that Bill perpetuated was the much awaited turtle soup lunch for nursery employees. The main course was secured from the waters of the Nursery irrigation lake and prepared by Bill and his wife. The facility was eventually renovated into a residential camp under the modern-era CCC program.

With the demise of the Green Springs Nursery, however, a new program sprang forth focusing on the identification and development of genetically superior tree stock. An outgrowth of this tree improvement program resulted in 1) the formation of multistate tree improvement cooperative, certification of seed by the Ohio Seed Improvement Association (thereby allowing export of seed); 2) intensified development and management of seed orchard and production areas on State Forest lands such as Gifford and in cooperation with other entities such as Malabar Farm State Park and Dawes Arboretum; and 3) an agreement with the Ohio Agricultural Research and Development Center (OARDC, and formerly OAES) to apply research results and outplantings of genetically improved plant materials. Marietta Nursery continued to grow "sweet sugar" maple seedlings for sale to those who operated or desired to

establish a sugarbush, making Ohio the only northeastern state producing high-yield sugar maple. Sugar maple seeds had been collected periodically since 1978 from trees developed by Howard B. Kriebel of OARDC. While normal sugar maples have about two percent sugar content in the sap, the trees collected from around Ohio and elsewhere and grafted onto regular root stock contained four percent sugar. Progeny testing of the various families continues at Malabar.

The first women employed by the Division in professional forestry positions were Lynn Hershberger, Chris Humphrey, and Brenda Roberts. They were employed in 1978 as Forestry Technicians to assist the Service Forestry Program and administration of forest tax-law cases. The number of women has increased steadily in the Division, continuing and expanding into responsible roles within forest and nursery conservation work, law enforcement, and service (Fig. 7.37) and urban forestry.

During the late 1970's and 1980's significant changes were developed in the fire protection program. Changing land use and increased reliance upon aircraft for detection purposes relegated the fire lookout to a reflection of a nostalgic time quickly passing. Marian Sanders' 1978 descent from Green Ridge Tower in Pike State Forest signaled the end of an era. Because of the vandal problem and the liability concern, many fire towers continue to be dismantled or sold. During the peak of the aircraft program, the Division employed seven full-time pilots supplemented with private contract pilots, and operated nine airplanes and five helicopters. Aircraft operations declined during the 1980's as costs escalated, equipment aged, and program control diminished.

For the first time in 1986, the Division fielded an



Figure 7.37. Koral Clum, Service Forester for Holmes, Wayne, and Tuscarawas Counties, inspects a recent hardwood planting for a private forest landowner in Tuscarawas County. Photo courtesy of Melissa McCreary, 1988.



Figure 7.38. The Division of Forestry's first Interagency Fire Crew was sent in 1986 to assist in fighting the Ace Creek fire in the State of Washington. From left to right, first row: Tom Berger, Don Brooks, Art Martin (USFS), Matt Morgan, Mark Puhl (Hocking Tech), Dave Holmes (Hocking Tech), Frank Corona. Second row: Mark Ervin, Chris Melfi (Hocking Tech), Paul Ries, Bill Serbonich, Dave Hildebrand, Wayne Jewett, John Dorka, Rick Miller, Walt Grebeck (Hocking Tech), Nathan Kirk, Ed Bumgardner (Hocking Tech), Randy Clum. Other Division personnel (not pictured) were part of a USFS crew fighting fires in California.

Interagency Fire Crew that was quickly dispatched to assist in suppression of the "Ace Creek" fire in Washington State (Fig. 7.38). Thus began what has been an annual exercise of training, experience, revenue recoupment, and camaraderie for those employees who could meet the rigors of physical qualification and endure the deprivation of the comforts and companionship of home in America's scenic backcountry areas.

Omnibus Legislation (House Bill 514), passed in March 1988, included repeal of the burning permit, instituted a 6 am to 6 pm burning ban during the fire season months, and made Ohio a member of the Middle Atlantic Interstate Forest Fire Protection Compact. With the burning permit gone, the backbone of the early forest fire organization—the forest fire warden—had been further relegated to a ceremonial authority. Today, the fire warden is generally an official of a cooperating volunteer fire department (of which there are over 300) and functions as a liaison with the Division who is responsible to prepare payroll and submit fire reports to field managers.

In June 1982, Amended House Bill No. 518 doubled the 25 percent stumpage return to counties and townships from which forest products were sold to 50 percent of net value. The county was then required to return half to the township of origin. The passage of appropriations bill for the 1990-91 biennium provided for the exchange of timber sale proceeds for general revenue funds. This had been proposed to minimize the peaks and valleys often associated with State Forest timber sales, and thereby to stabilize funding of the Division's programs that relied upon these revenues. Sale of products and stumpage from State Forests continued on the upswing through the mid-1980's as both record volumes and values were accumulated. Approximately \$1.27 million were received from the sale of 14.9 million board feet of forest products in 1986. More than 250 million board feet of forest products have been sold from Ohio's State Forests.

During 1977 and 1978, Ohio's forests were resurveyed for the fourth time. The results of this survey were published by the Northeastern Forest Experiment Station of USFS. The report showed that 6.5 million acres of commer-

cial land were held by a myriad of private landowners, 332,600 in all. This survey revealed that Ohio's forests were still growing in acreage and timber volume, but the rate of growth of the forest acreage was declining (Fig. 7.39).

A 1983 publication on Ohio timber products assessed the total industrial harvest in Ohio to be in excess of 82 million cubic feet, up 17 percent since 1978. Sawlogs accounted for 57 percent of the total and pulpwood accounted for 36 percent. Use of manufacturing residues, the largest of which was for fuel, increased from 79 percent to nearly 99 percent at Ohio mills. A directory of sawmills operating in Ohio included 390 responding operators. (Bob Paton recalled that in 1930 he travelled 35,000 miles and personally visited 1200 mills in the state). While at least one water-powered sawmill remains in operation at Millbrook in Wayne County, the transition from "seat-of-the-pants" and "thick 'n thin" production to application of modern technology was in full progress. "Grade" was recognized as something more than a slope of a hill that had to be climbed. Ohio timber, previously considered only a domestic commodity, was being transformed to an international commodity for overseas shipment.

Gypsy moth became established in Ohio in 1986 as evidenced by discovery of egg masses in northeastern counties. The first male moth had been captured in Ohio at a trap in 1972. Moth trapping continued, with Division participation varying over the subsequent years. Several limited spray applications at various locations, as indicated by trapping, were conducted in cooperation with the Ohio Department of Agriculture, lead agency for the program. The Ohio Gypsy Moth Management Council, consisting of approximately 35 representatives from Ohio and federal agencies, educational and environmental organizations, and affected industry groups was formed in early 1987 to act as a technical advisory body to those agencies or institutions conducting gypsy moth activities.

Chief Gebhart retired on 31 August 1982, following 36 years of distinguished service with the Division. Robert B. Redett (Fig. 7.40), who had been Assistant Chief since 1960 (with the exception of a brief break in the mid-1960's), was

Figure 7.39. Forest acreage and volume of sawtimber as determined by statewide forest surveys in Ohio.

Time of survey	Forest acreage	Percentage of Ohio's land area	Volume of saw timber in board feet
1939-42	3,707,958	14 %	9,357,958,000
1951-53	5,446,000	21%	11,200,000,000
1966-67	6,300,000	24%	14,600,000,000
1977-79	7,120,100	27%	20,400,000,000

named immediately as Chief and State Forester. In 1975, the federal Resources Planning Act had prescribed the development of an action plan to include alternatives and costs for federally funded forestry activities. An outgrowth of this legislation and a long-term

project which had been directed by Redett resulted in development of Ohio's State Forest Resource Plan, which provided an assessment of and direction for the management, protection, utilization, and appreciation of Ohio's forest resources. With publication of the plan



Figure 7.40. Robert B. Redett, fifth State Forester and Chief of the Division of Forestry, 1982-1983.

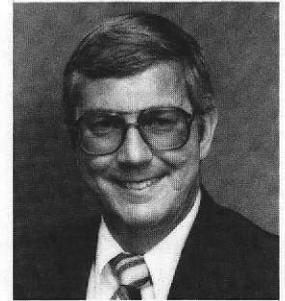


Figure 7.41. David M. Bergman, sixth State Forester and Chief of the Division of Forestry, 1983-1987.

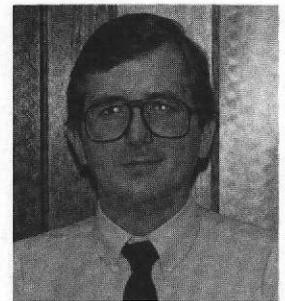


Figure 7.42. Theodore Ford, seventh State Forester and Chief of the Division of Forestry, 1987-1988.



Figure 7.43. Ronald G. Abraham, eighth State Forester and Chief of the Division of Forestry, 1988 to the present.

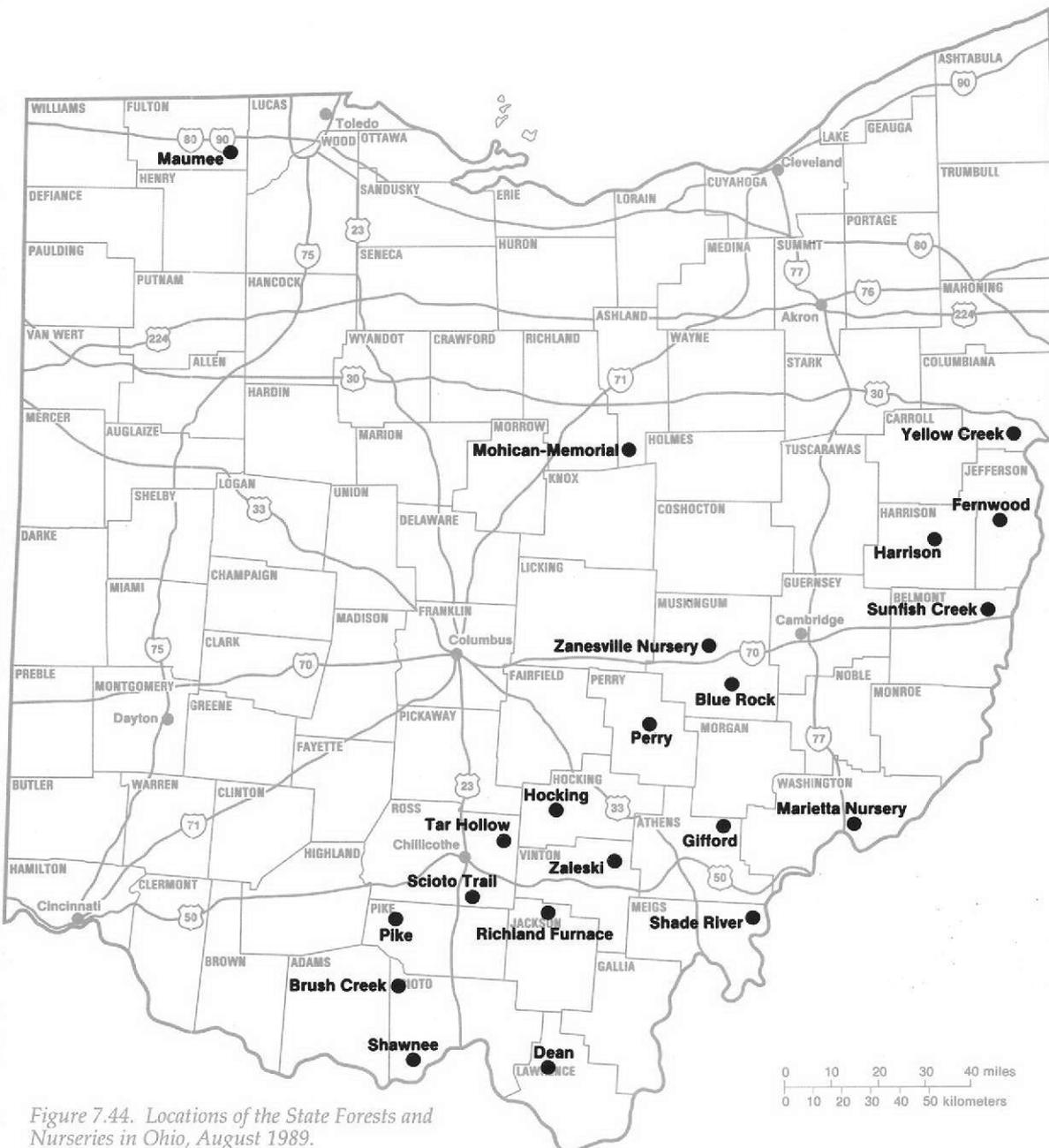


Figure 7.44. Locations of the State Forests and Nurseries in Ohio, August 1989.

in September 1983, Redett entered retirement following 37 years of dedicated service as a Buckeye Forester. David M. Bergman (Fig. 7.41) was named Chief and served until he was replaced in 1987 by Theodore Ford (Fig. 7.42). Division programs were scrutinized and staff reorganizations followed. Ford was appointed to Governor Celeste's staff in spring 1988, and under an Intergovernmental Personnel Agreement with USFS, Ronald G. Abraham (Fig. 7.43) was named Chief and State Forester. In 1989, the Division administered more than 177,000 acres in 19 State Forests and two Nurseries (Fig. 7.44). In 85 years, nearly 500 million tree seedlings have been produced and distributed by the Division.

The centennial of Ohio State Forestry was celebrated in 1985 in the typical low-key manner that has been both bane and backbone of the Division throughout its existence. Governor Celeste declared 2-8 June as State Forestry Week and urged citizens to reflect on the bounty and benefits from our forests. The occasion was observed with a State House display of native Ohio wood plaques, each engraved with the leaf, fruit, and name of the specimen. They were produced by District 4 (Athens) personnel, in the fashion, duty, and quiet dedication characteristic of Ohio Division of Forestry employees during the first 100 years. With its deeply rooted heritage, the Division was poised to face the challenges of a new century of State Forestry in Ohio.

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