



From Quill to Paper: The Porcupine Dispatch

Your Local Conservation News. Dec 2016

Wheels to Woods!

Kids these days, am I right? Did you know that kids these days have an opportunity to get out of the classroom and spend the day learning about the great outdoors in a forest? Wheels to Woods is a school-to-forest bus fund available for any public or private K-12 school in Michigan. To date, this unique opportunity has helped 8,016 students, 353 teachers and 1,209 parents go on 94 educational field trips. That's a lot of place-based learning but we have 20 million acres of forests to explore! The Michigan Tree Farm Committee can help connect your student's classroom to a local family forest certified by the American Tree Farm System or nearby public land, they can also put you in touch with a natural resource professional to help support the educational component of the field trip. This non-competitive grant award reimburses the actual costs of transportation up to \$350 per bus with a maximum of \$1000 per school or group per academic year. The one page application form can be found at www.treefarmssystem.org/school-forests. This grant is generously supported by the Michigan Tree Farm Committee, DNR Forest Stewardship Program, Project Learning Tree, Michigan Forest Association and many other cooperating organizations.

Tree Farm celebrates its 75th anniversary this year as a network of landowners working together with professional foresters to restore, regenerate and actively manage their forestland. Tree Farm recognizes family forests that meet sustainability standards set by the American Forest Foundation. This certification documents their good forestry practices, ecological values, and protection and enhancement of public goods such as healthy soils, wildlife habitat, clean air and clean water. Certified wood is good wood, grown and harvested from an environmentally sustainable source. Thank a Tree Farmer today!