



United States
Department of
Agriculture

Forest
Service

Shawnee
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Forest

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Harrisburg, IL, August 6, 2008 - Applicants Sought for Recreation Resource Advisory Committee. The US Forest Service, Eastern Region, is seeking nominations to fill 6 positions on the 11 member Eastern Region Recreation Resource Advisory Committee (Recreation RAC). The Recreation RAC provides recommendations on recreation fees to the agency for public lands within the **Eastern Region**.

Nominations for the following positions will be accepted through September 30, 2008.

1. Summer Motorized Recreation
2. Hunting/Fishing
3. Outfitters/Guides
4. Local Environmental Groups
5. Affected Indian Tribes
6. Affected Local Governments.

Appointments will begin in February 2009 when current member two-year appointments expire. Committee members will be appointed by the Secretary of Agriculture and serve three year terms. Potential nominees must represent certain interests as described in the December 2004 Federal Lands Recreation Enhancement Act (REA).

Interested applicants will be recommended to the Regional Forester for appointment based on the following evaluation criteria: 1) what interest groups they represent and how they are qualified to represent a particular group, 2) why they want to serve on the committee and what they can contribute, and 3) their past experience in working successfully as part of a collaborative group. Letters of recommendation are welcome, but not required.

The demonstrated ability of the prospective committee members to represent minorities, women and persons with disabilities will also be considered for membership selections. USDA policies regarding equal opportunity will be followed in committee member selections and appointments.

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Additional information about a nomination packet, Recreation RACs, recreation fees, and REA is available at: <http://www.fs.fed.us/passespermits/about-rec-fees.shtml>. Submit nomination packets to: US Forest Service, Attn: Marcia Heymen, Outdoor Recreation Planner, Eastern Regional Office, 626 E. Wisconsin Ave., Milwaukee, WI 53202, 414.297.3662.

Recreation RAC members serve without pay. They are reimbursed for travel and per diem expenses for regularly scheduled committee meetings. All Recreation RAC meetings are open to the public. An open public forum is part of each meeting.

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