



News Release

Monongahela National Forest

For Immediate Release: April 23, 2009

Contact: Matt Edwards 304-536-2144

Lake Sherwood Recreation Area Turns 50! Come Help Celebrate

(White Sulphur Springs, WV) Lake Sherwood Recreation Area in the Monongahela National Forest is celebrating its 50th Anniversary in 2009. To commemorate the Silver Anniversary the Forest has planned a variety of events and activities for campers and volunteers to participate in.

Lake Sherwood is located at the end of State Route 14, near Neola in Greenbrier County and is known as a complete family recreation area which offers a variety of outdoor activities. The 165 acre lake is the largest impoundment in the Monongahela National Forest, and sits at an elevation of 2700 feet above sea level. The recreation area includes a large multi-loop campground, swimming beaches, a picnic area, trails, and fishing and boating opportunities.

The recreation area first opened in 1959 and has seen several changes over the years. The facility has increased in size to meet the demands and popularity by campers and has had some upgrades to accommodate new recreational equipment. However, maintaining a family atmosphere has always been a priority for the management of Lake Sherwood.

“We are excited to offer so many activities to celebrate the 50th Anniversary of Lake Sherwood Recreation Area with the campers who have been coming here for many of those years, as well as those who may have never camped here,” stated Matt Edwards, Recreation Technician on the White Sulphur Ranger District. “This summer will be a great time for people to come together and share memories, camping experiences, and even help with some work projects.”

Several dates have already been booked for specific activities at Lake Sherwood recreation Area. These include Volunteer Workdays on May 8th and 9th as part of a volunteer weekend from May 7th through May 10th. The weekend will include free camping on the evenings of May 7, 8, and 9 (Thursday through Saturday) for all volunteers participating in the work projects. Projects to be undertaken that weekend include campsite rehabilitation, repairs to interior of Meadow Creek shower house, and lakeshore/lake cleanup. Work will begin at 9 a.m. and continue until 5 p.m. each day. On Saturday May 9th a potluck supper will be held for all participants and a keepsake given to thank all volunteers for their efforts. Anyone is invited to participate in part or all of the weekend work events. Those who have boats are especially encouraged to participate and help out by removing trash from the lake and lakeshore. Trash bags and all supplies will be provided. Participants are asked to wear sturdy shoes or boots and attire appropriate for the weather and encouraged to bring work gloves.

Other events are planned throughout the summer in honor of the Lake Sherwood Silver Anniversary. So far these include the “big” weekend: the Lake Sherwood 50th Anniversary Celebration on June 12-14. This will be a family fun event with live music, a children’s fishing derby, nature programs and door prizes.

On August 22 a Native Trout Habitat Restoration and Trail Maintenance Day will be held. Throughout the summer there is an on-going Memory Sharing Display. Visitors are encouraged to bring copies of photos from previous visits to the Lake, and to post these along with written memories at the new gatehouse entrance to the facility. “Every year we hear stories of times past and we really want to capture as many of these as possible for the next 50 years of Lake Sherwood” notes Edwards. “So bring your photos....copies only please...and take the time to write out those stories.”

For more information about any of the planned events people may contact Forest Service staff at the White Sulphur Springs Ranger District at 304-536-2144.

END