



Woodchips

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How Trees Made Valley Forge

In the winter of 1777-1778, Washington's encampment at Valley Forge was the fourth largest "city" in the young United States, housing 12,000 people. The forests of Pennsylvania played a vital role in the survival of the soldiers and civilians who spent the winter there. This video from the Valley Forge National Historic Park explores how soldiers used nearby wood to quickly build over 1,500 huts. [Watch here](#)

In the News

Northwoods Forest History Experience Opens to Fanfare

The Northwoods Forest History Experience, housed in a 93-year-old CCC barracks but designed to be "more than a museum," opened its doors to the public on June 13th. Multiple local news outlets were on hand for the exciting day. An [NBC Newswatch 12 story](#) captures some of the activities that took place on the grand opening, while [a piece by the Vilas County News-Review](#) goes in-depth into the story behind how the Northwoods Forest History Experience was created and how it connects to broader forest history education and recreation in the area. The attraction is housed on the grounds of the North Lakeland Discovery Center in Manitowish Waters.

Remembering the White Pine's Role in American Independence

As we prepare to celebrate the 250th anniversary of the Declaration of Independence and the founding of our nation, learn about the Pine Tree Riot that stemmed from the King's seizure of colonial American forests, and how this act of armed rebellion that pre-dated the Boston Tea Party produced the pine tree banner that became a symbol of the American Revolution. [Read more](#)

Leopold as a Revolutionary

Environmental journalist Ben Goldfarb explores Aldo Leopold's legacy and makes a case for him as a person of significance in our country's 250-year history. [Read more](#) Note: the author will present a [webinar](#) for the Aldo Leopold Foundation on July 9th.

Conservation Easement Protects Working Forests and Michigan's Highest Point

A no-cut buffer amidst 73,000 acres of Michigan timberlands will keep the popular Mt. Arvon lookout accessible to the public, while also preserving the working forests around the peak. Foresters expect the 1,979-foot-high summit in Baraga County to develop old-growth characteristics. Meanwhile, the \$20 million conservation easement dictates that the forests around the point, currently managed by Lyme Great Lakes, cannot be parceled off or sold to developers, but must remain managed for sustainable forestry. [Read More](#)

City of Madison Fights EAB with Biodiversity, Insecticides

In the 13 years since Emerald Ash Borer arrived in Dane County, Madison has lost about 50% of its ash trees, or 10% of its total urban tree canopy. Thanks to an aggressive—and expensive—pesticide program, losses there are not expected to reach as high as they are in other areas of the state. Madison's urban forestry team is also fighting back by increasing the biodiversity of its street trees. [Read More](#)

Hardwood Lumber Industry Adapts to Challenges

Seeing decreased demand and pricing and historic lows in production, the U.S. hardwood lumber industry has been in an intense state of flux for the past quarter century. Large-scale shifts in furniture manufacturing to offshore locations, challenges related to depressed housing markets, and recent transitions toward softwood use in pallet production have all played a role. [Read More](#)

Join the Adventure Scientists to Help Preserve Forests

A volunteer-driven nonprofit is training outdoor enthusiasts to gather data while they are recreating in hard-to-reach places. By submitting observations on trees such as beech and butternut, volunteers will increase the amount of data that researchers and foresters have access to for management decisions. The project is underway in 17 states, including Wisconsin and Michigan. [Read More](#)

Restoring Fires's Role in Ecosystem Health

Neil Gifford of the Albany Pine Bush Preserve Commission will discuss the role of prescribed fire on the biodiversity of pitch pine-scrub oak barrens, including how it affects endangered species, in this upcoming webinar put on by the Wisconsin Forestry Center. [Read More](#)