

Chapter information. Call 973-702-8380 or email jjdesaye@yahoo.com

Finally

Last week Mark Banker and I met with Larry Hillaire, Biologist for The Delaware Water gap National Recreation Area. This was the culmination of a lot of time and effort to put all the pieces in place to begin working at the gap on a long term habitat improvement project. We toured an area which is considerable in size and decided it would be our first project site. There are several things that still must take place on both ends before we begin in November. Larry will take care of all legal aspects on their side and Mark will take care of what we need to do to prepare for this project. On our side those of us who wish to use the cat machine RGS will be providing will go through a training and safety course this fall. Mark will be in touch and give us plenty of notice as to when this will occur. Some of us have taken a chainsaw training course for the gap and we will be ready. We are still looking into a course for people who could not attend the last safety course last April. Additionally I plan on meeting with Wallkill River NWR. managers to discuss a possible work day earlier in the fall, and I plan on meeting with NJ forest service management to begin a working relationship with them. Very quietly a lot has happened over the summer that should set us up into next year. We still plan on buying chapter safety gear to use on our work days, and I have been getting prices (all bad) but we will have it by our first work day. At our last meeting we set a date of January 26th 2008 for our banquet at Perona Farms and Allen Westra is making that contact for us. We raised several questions for our new R.D. Joel Penkala at our last meeting and he assured me he is looking into them. I have scheduled our next meeting for Wednesday September 12 at 7:00 PM at the Lafayette House in Lafayette village. Once again anyone is welcome to attend, and if anyone has any suggestions on a different meeting place please contact me. Just keep in mind that our members come from several directions so please keep it centrally located.

Thank you Jim DeSaye