

RGS SKYLANDS CHAPTER NEWSLETTER---njgrouse.com

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Fall is on the way

The other day I was driving down Wantage School Road a couple of miles from my house when out of a thicket on the side of the road a very large grouse took off. It just kind of glided down the road in front of my truck in no particular hurry veering off about a hundred yards later and promptly landing in another thicket on the opposite side of the road. That was a sudden reminder that fall is on the way, I have also been seeing woodcock regularly on and around my property mostly just before evening. Another sure sign our favorite time of year is fast approaching. Its also banquet time, the two other N.J. chapters are both having banquets this month and of course we wish them well and good turnouts. At this time my back surgery has been postponed until the 14th still plenty of time to do a few work days later on this fall and winter. We do have an event we will need staffed at The Wallkill River National Wildlife Refuge the 14th of October. Its National wildlife Refuge Week and there is an open house put on by the friends of The Wallkill River N.W.R. a group I (representing RGS) sit on the board of directors for. We will need volunteers to help set up and man a booth for RGS. The event should be fun. Feel free to bring your kids. Joe Norton had mentioned a possible booth at an event on the 24th of Sept at Pequest. To be honest I don't know whether this is a go or not through no fault of Joes. Joe please let me know and I will try to notify the guys to help. I will be in no shape to be on my feet that week. John Crowley will be holding a chapter tune up shoot at Flatbrook on Oct 7th at 2:30 PM. Rumor has it there will be refreshments. Just bring shells, anyone is welcome. Our next chapter meeting is October 12th at the Lafayette House. This will be our first banquet meeting and we will decide when, where, and what we will be serving for dinner. If anyone wants any changes please attend so your voice will be heard. We will be having a work day on Sunday Nov. 5th. Please mark it on your calendar. I am not sure where it will be yet, we may be planting trees or cutting invasives (or both) We will probably have two workdays this fall and one this winter this will give us six for the year. A nice number. And finally a reminder that was brought to my attention by Joe N. The entire procedure for H.I.P. numbers has changed this year and they are no longer free. Get them early and don't pay the ridiculous \$3.00 fee for a \$2.00 permit if you can help it. Not that it's a lot of money its just the principal that you pay more in a fee for processing than the actual permit costs. Welcome to NJ.