



FOREST HISTORY ASSOCIATION Of WISCONSIN

Woodchips

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Frank J. Hess and Sons Cooperage

In 1904, the Frank J. Hess and Sons Cooperage factory opened in Madison. They manufactured and repaired beer kegs for breweries throughout Wisconsin and the Midwest, and also wine and whiskey barrels. In 1966 the factory closed, signaling the end of the American beer barrel industry.

Gary and Jim Hess, grandsons of Frank J. Hess, shared the story of their grandfather's business, Wisconsin's largest cooperage on Madison's east side, during a 2009 *History Sandwiched In* presentation. [Watch Video](#)

In the News

New Atlas of Public Access Lands of Wisconsin available online or in print

MADISON - A new Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources Public Access Lands Atlas is now available online and in a printable format. The atlas highlights the significant increase in public access to Wisconsin lands made possible through the Knowles-Nelson Stewardship Program, as well as other lands open to the public for outdoor recreation.

"If you are looking for a place to fish, hunt, trap, or enjoy any of Wisconsin's outdoor activities this atlas will help you find public lands to do so," said DNR Secretary Cathy Stepp. In her introduction to the atlas, Stepp notes: "From state natural areas to state trails, lake shores and rivers, Wisconsin has a wealth of public lands for your enjoyment. These are your public lands and are there for you to connect with the outdoors, not too far from home." [Read More](#)

Recycling Christmas Trees On National Forests a Seasonal Tradition

For many, purchasing or cutting a Christmas tree is a favorite seasonal tradition. But what do you do with your trees after the festivities end?

Tree recycling after the holidays has become part of community traditions on several Eastern Region national forests. Recycled trees can be used to establish fish habitats, create mulch for future plantings and build soil erosion barriers. Using the trees for these purposes also keeps them from filling up local landfills.. [Read More](#)

Estate Planning for Forest Landowners: What Will Become of Your Timberland?

Family forest owners may use consulting foresters or state extension foresters for advice on the technical details of land management, but many owners shy away from thinking about how best to pass their forest on to the next generation.

Poor estate planning – or no planning at all – can result in a tax bill that requires selling timber or forest land, which in turn can lead to subdivision and development. [Read More](#)

Candlelight Skis and Hikes in Wisconsin State Parks Kick Off January 4

MADISON - People looking for an opportunity to break in their new cross-country skis or snowshoes or just getting out on their tried-and-true equipment will have plenty of opportunities this winter with 27 candlelight skis, hikes or snowshoes scheduled at Wisconsin state parks and other Department of Natural Resources properties. [Read More](#)

Upcoming Events

Event	Location	Date	Notes
Phillips Winter Fest. A weekend full of exciting winter activities: - Radar runs, tug-of-war & keg toss - Candlelight walk/snowshoe - Fireworks over Lake Duroy - Sunday Ice Fishing Tournament	Starting address: Birch Island Resort, Bar & Grill N8221 E Wilson Flowage Rd Phillips, WI 54555	January 25 - 26, 2014	For full details visit: Phillips Winter Festival