



PFPA Chairman Roger Anderson, along with PFPA board members, sponsors for the WoodMobile truck project and PFPA staff present the new WoodMobile truck to Secretary of Agriculture, Dennis Wolff.

PFPA's Efforts Keep Pa WoodMobile On The Road

Efforts by PFPA and its members helped to keep the state's premier natural resource education and outreach projects on the road, leading to its busiest year.

PFPA worked with sixteen of its members to donate a new truck to the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture's Pennsylvania WoodMobile Project. The WoodMobile is a traveling classroom that helps educate elementary and middle school students about Pennsylvania's hardwoods industry and the state's forest resource.

Since its inception in 2002, the WoodMobile project has grown with new and improved exhibits. The project was sidelined in early 2008, when these expansions finally made it too heavy to be transported by the original truck. The new, heavy-duty pickup provided by PFPA will ensure that the project stays on the road for an additional four years.

The new truck was presented to Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture Secretary Dennis Wolff during a ceremony in April, 2008. The Department's Hardwoods Development Council operates the WoodMobile.

The presentation was made in time to ensure that the program was available to schools during the busy time of spring school visits.

Do to the efforts of PFPA, the WoodMobile had its most successful year in 2008. The project was on the road for a record 162 days, participating in 85 events in 43 counties across Pennsylvania. Over 20,400 students attended WoodMobile educational programs, nearly twice as many as any other year. Additionally, an estimated 170,000 members of the general public viewed the WoodMobile displays at fairs, festivals and other events.

Since 2002, the Pennsylvania WoodMobile has delivered educational programs to nearly 69,000 students and has been viewed by over 900,000 members of the general public.

In early 2009, the Pennsylvania WoodMobile is expected to host its one millionth visitor.

Members of the Pennsylvania Forest Products Association that helped sponsor the new WoodMobile truck include AgChoice Farm Credit, Cumberland County; Andrews Forest Products, Wyoming County; Bingaman & Son Lumber, Inc., Snyder County; Cochran & Zandi Lumber Co., Warren County; Conestoga Wood Specialties Corp., Snyder County; Deer Park Lumber, Inc., Wyoming County; Lewis Lumber Products, Inc., Lycoming County; Matson Lumber Company, Jefferson County; Metzler Forest Products, Mifflin County; Mountaineer Hardwoods, Inc., Wayne County; Pendu Manufacturing Inc., Lancaster County; Penn York Lumbermen's Club Inc., Cameron County; Quality Custom Cabinetry Inc., Lancaster County; RAM Forest Products, Inc., McKean County; Red Rock Enterprises, LLC, Garrett County, Md.; REMMEY - The Pallet Company, Montgomery County.

For more information on the WoodMobile, including a schedule, or the Pennsylvania hardwoods industry, visit www.agriculture.state.pa.us, click on "Students and Educators" and follow the link to the WoodMobile under "Agricultural Education."