

Flight 93 National Memorial P.O. Box 911 Shanksville, PA 15560

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Flight 93 National Memorial News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Flight 93 National Memorial to Host Pennsylvania WoodMobile

SHANKSVILLE, PA – Join Flight 93 National Memorial Park Rangers and Educators from the Pennsylvania Hardwoods Council to discover why Pennsylvania is named "Penn's Woods" and learn about the importance of trees in the national memorial design. The National Park Service and volunteers have planted over 157 acres of the national memorial with 116,358 trees between 2012 and 2018 as part of the reforestation initiative for the national memorial. Through activities and lessons hosted in the Pennsylvania Woodmobile and at the Flight 93 Discovery Table, visitors will learn about the importance of trees and forests. Join us on June 23 and June 24 from 11:00 am – 4:00 pm at the Learning Center, located in the Visitor Center Complex of Flight 93 National Memorial.

An outreach tool of the Pennsylvania Hardwoods Development Council, the WoodMobile educates the public about Pennsylvania's forests and sustainable forest management – securing the wood products we need today while protecting the trees of tomorrow. The mobile classroom uses interactive activities and displays to promote the responsible use of forest resources and an understanding of the forest industry to the public.

"The WoodMobile is an outstanding educational resource," said Jon Geyer, Hardwood Development Specialist with the council. "Our timber industry is doing great things today to secure our forest resources for decades to come. It's important that we teach our youth about responsible use of environmental resources." Pennsylvania is home to the largest hardwoods forest in the United States, providing more than 10 percent of the nation's hardwood lumber supply. While Pennsylvania's timber industry accounts for more than \$19 billion in sales annually and provides 65,000 direct jobs, the state has more forested acres today than it did 100 years ago thanks to the sustainability efforts of the industry.

Within the 34-foot long WoodMobile are numerous panels showing the history and industry surrounding Pennsylvania's forests. Interactive exhibits on leaf and wood identification and touch screens providing information about threats to the forest from invasive insects and plants capture children's attention, keeping them engaged in learning about Penn's Woods. In the front of the WoodMobile, videos show the transformation of a log from the forest to the furniture in your home.

Operated by the Pennsylvania Hardwoods Development Council in the Department of Agriculture and sponsored by the Pennsylvania Forest Products Association, the WoodMobile travels nearly 150 days of the year from April to November, delivering free, educational programs to elementary and middle school students and members of the public. Since its unveiling, the WoodMobile has exhibited at more than 900 events hosting more than one million visitors, including more than 175,000 students who participated in school programs.

ABOUT THE PENNSYLVANIA WOODMOBILE

The Pennsylvania WoodMobile is a project of the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture's Hardwoods Development Council, with the support of the state's hardwoods industry. For more information on the WoodMobile, including a schedule and request form, visit www.agriculture.state.pa.us and search "WoodMobile."

ABOUT FLIGHT 93 NATIONAL MEMORIAL

On September 24, 2002, President Bush signed into law the Flight 93 National Memorial Act. The Act created a new national park unit to commemorate the passengers and crew of Flight 93 who, on September 11, 2001, courageously gave their lives thereby thwarting a planned attack on our nation's capital. The memorial is located near Shanksville, Pennsylvania, where Flight 93 crashed with the loss of its 40 passengers and crew. For more information about Flight 93 National Memorial, visit www.nps.gov/flni.

ABOUT THE NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

More than 22,000 National Park Service employees care for America's 417 national parks and work with communities across the nation to help preserve local history and create close-to-home recreational opportunities. Learn more at www.nps.gov.

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