
04-16 For Immediate Release

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**Free day use on the Chequamegon-Nicolet National Forest September 18
To honor National Public Lands Day**

Rhineland, Wis. – September 7, 2004. The Chequamegon-Nicolet National Forest, along with all National Forests, will be providing a fee free day on Saturday September 18, 2004. Fees will be waived for all recreation areas that normally charge a **day use fee**. Camping fees will continue to be in effect on that day.

Forest Supervisor Anne Archie encourages everyone to come out and enjoy their National Forest. “We are blessed in Wisconsin with a variety of public land in the northwoods. I hope many people will take advantage of this fee free day to enjoy the many day use opportunities on the National Forest of Wisconsin. Some of the opportunities include hiking a trail, riding a mountain bike, horse, or ATV (on the Chequamegon side of the Forest), picnicking on a beautiful lake, or relaxing and enjoying the beautiful surroundings.”

September 18, 2004 is National Public Lands Day where the public is encouraged to visit the Forests and learn about or work to improve their public treasures. The Eagle River/ Florence District will be sponsoring the Chequamegon-Nicolet’s event with a short discussion about National Forest recreation and wilderness management and then a hike on part of the Hidden Lakes Trail. Participants should meet at the Franklin Lake Campground Nature Trail parking lot at 9:00 AM and plan on about a two-hour hike after the discussion time.

Also, on September 18, the Northern Great Lakes Visitor Center near Ashland will be hosting an event for community and staff members to spruce up the Center’s gardens and learn more about native wildflowers, grasses, and shrubs. Several gardens have been developed at the Center to showcase the use of native species and their benefits to birds, insects, and mammals. This will be held from 9 a.m. to 12 Noon on the grounds of the Visitor Center.

Come and enjoy your Chequamegon-Nicolet National Forest.