

ARBOR DAY CELEBRATION FOCUSES ON PARTNERSHIPS

April 28, 2006

DuBois, PA - An Arbor Day Celebration and tree planting was held on Friday April 28, 2006 at the Smith Chestnut Farm in Washington Township, Jefferson County, to highlight efforts to promote planting of high-value hardwood trees on reclaimed mined lands and to reestablish American Chestnut trees in Pennsylvania. Groups toured the newly-planted grove of BC3/BC4 generation chestnuts, and students from local schools planted spruce and pine trees on a reclaimed strip mine.



Featured speakers at the event included PA Representative Sam Smith, Sara Fitzsimmons, (PA-TACF) Doug Saylor (DEP), and Gary Gilmore (DCNR). Local television media covered the event. The celebration was hosted by: The Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection (DEP), The Appalachian Region Reforestation Initiative, (ARRI) and The American Chestnut Foundation, in cooperation with the U.S. Office of Surface Mining (OSM), The Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources (DCNR) Jefferson County Vo-tech, DuBois Catholic School, and the Woodland Owners of Clarion-Allegheny Valley.

Representative Sam Smith speaks to the crowd at the Smith Farm Arbor Day event.

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