

December 14, 2018

Dear Neighbor,

We, here at Cornell Cooperative Extension of Columbia and Greene Counties' Agroforestry Resource Center are contacting you as a **neighbor of the Siuslaw Model Forest**. CCE Columbia & Greene was gifted this wonderful 142 acre parcel by Eric Rasmussen a little over 10 years ago. It has since been stewarded as a NYC model forest to demonstrate and promote sustainable forest stewardship by focusing on the implementation of effective forest practices, including the protection of the ecological, economic and social values of forested lands.

As a model forest, we maintain trails and encourage the public to utilize them! We only ask that simple rules and regulations are followed. These are outlined in our Trail Guide, included with this letter. During this past summer season, a few of those regulations have been violated. We have experienced trespassing on ATVs, vandalism to signage as well as hunting within our property limits. In response to this, we are taking a few steps to stop these offenses.

Our first step is this letter. We felt it to be a priority to connect and engage with all of our neighboring property owners and make you aware of these recent issues. Your name and mailing address was obtained through the Greene County Web Mapper. Our second step is clearly marking our property boundaries, something we should have done long ago. As forested property owners, we need to protect ourselves from potential liabilities that can result from unwanted activity on our lands. Within the next few weeks, we will be installing "No Trespassing" signs along the boundaries which are currently marked with blue spray paint. The "No Trespassing" signs will state our organization as the owners and indicate where our main entrance can be found. All visitors are required to enter the model forest at this main entrance location.

We would like to take this opportunity to ensure that you know, as a neighboring property owner, that you are always welcome to enjoy the many things Siuslaw has to offer. These signs are not intended to deter your proper use.

If you have any questions or concerns, feel free to call me, 518-622-9820 x111, or just stop by! You can learn more about our organization by visiting <http://ccecolumbiagreene.org/>

Thank you,

Sincerely,

Evon Antonio  
Interim Executive Director

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