

CYPRUS Department of Forests

Planned Activities to celebrate the International Year of forests - 2011

The following activities have been planned by the Department of Forests for the celebration of the International Year of Forests - 2011:

A. Briefing for the General Public

- Development and posting of informative signs along the main forest roads,
- Publication and circulation of an informative leaflet and poster,
- Development and distribution of a sticker with the emblem of the year,
- Stamping of the departmental mailing envelopes with a relevant message,
- Development of mobile units for on spot briefing of public and students for the benefits of Cyprus forests and their threats,
- Uploading of information regarding the objectives of the Year and the planned activities on the Departmental Web Page and Web pages of other Governmental Departments and Services.
- Use of the mass media to project the planned activities,
- Preparation and broadcasting of short television and radio messages,
- Publication of articles on newspapers promoting the objectives of Year,
- Press conference regarding the events to be organised

B. Organization of tours

- Organisation of tours to various forest regions and walking of nature trails for:
 - Politicians,
 - Journalists,
 - Technocrats.
- Organisation of visits of farmers to areas where friendly-to-the-forests techniques for the management of undesirable vegetative material are applied,
- Organisation of visits of members of Community Councils in Communities that apply effective fire protection measures.

C. Exhibitions

- Organization of photo exhibitions with the theme: "Forestry practise in Cyprus through photographic material" in various towns and resorts with main aim to inform about and promote the new activities and competences of the Department of Forests, with emphasis to those related to the protective functions of forests,
- Organisation of an exhibition at the Cyprus Forestry College on the occasion of the graduation ceremony with main theme "the indirect benefits of the Cyprus Forests",

D. Competitions

- Organization of a countrywide photo competition with theme: "the Forests of Cyprus",

- Organization of an essay writing competition regarding the role of our forests in the modern society, among the students of secondary schools,
- Organization of a triathlon in a forest area.

E. Public Discussions and Conferences

- Organization of a public discussion, with the participation of all major political parties, with theme: “the role of Cyprus forests and forestry and the need for support”,
- Conference with theme: “the holistic management of forest ecosystems in Cyprus: challenges and prospects ”.