

District Forester Provides Free Landowner Assistance

The Presque Isle and Cheboygan Conservation Districts have recently hired Brittany VanderWall to work as the Forestry Assistance Program (FAP) Forester to encourage and enable landowners to more actively manage their woodlands. This position is funded by a grant from the Michigan Department of Agriculture and Rural Development. In-office and on-site assistance is provided to all county landowners at no charge and may include:

- identification of forest diseases and insects and their control options,
- advice on the selection and planting of trees and shrubs for reforestation, windbreaks, and wildlife habitat enhancement,
- information on state and federal forestry cost-share and tax incentive programs, and
- recommendations for improving woodlots for timber production, wildlife habitat or recreation. Referrals to qualified forestry consultants, industry foresters and other natural resource professionals help landowners take the next step in implementing sound forest management practices.

To find out more about these free services, contact Brittany at the Presque Isle Conservation District office at (989)-734-4000, or email her at brittany.vanderwall@macd.org.