

Cuyahoga Valley National Park Mailing Address: 15610 Vaughn Road Brecksville OH 44141 Visitor Center: 1550 Boston Mills Road Peninsula, OH 44264 www.nps.gov/cuva www.dayinthevalley.com

Cuyahoga Valley National Park News Release

For Immediate Release – Friday, March 11, 2011 Mary Pat Doorley, CVNP, 440-546-5995, 440-343-7355 (cell), or mary_pat_doorley@nps.gov Jocelyn Buckey, CVNPA, 330-657-2909 ext. 106 or jbuckey@cvnpa.org

Forest Forensics Lyceum Rooted in Year of Forests Celebration

Brecksville, Ohio – Cuyahoga Valley National Park is pleased to welcome author and ecologist Tom Wessels for a Lyceum Lecture that might take some of the mystery out of your next walk in the woods. This program on Friday, March 18, 2011, will begin at 7:00 p.m. and is held at Happy Days Lodge in Cuyahoga Valley National Park. Doors open at 6:00 p.m. The Lyceum lecture series is presented by Cuyahoga Valley National Park and receives support from the Conservancy for Cuyahoga Valley National Park. *Please note: due to large attendance at other Lyceum Lecture Series programs, doors now open at 6 p.m. and advance tickets are now available*.

Admission is \$6 adults and \$3 children ages 3 - 12. General seating. Advance sales are available until 3 p.m. on Friday for that weekend's show by calling 330-657-2909. For updated ticket availability information, call the Cultural Arts Hotline at 330-650-4636, ext. 228. The hotline is updated at 2 p.m. the day of every concert and lecture and is intended to inform callers of sold out events or weather related cancellations.

Thousands of readers have had their experience of being in a forest changed forever by reading Tom Wessels' *Reading the Forested Landscape*. Now Wessels takes that wonderful ability to discern much of the history of the forest from visual clues and boils it all down to a manageable field guide that you can take out to the woods and use to start playing forest detective yourself. You'll feel like a woodland Sherlock Holmes. No walk in the woods will ever be the same. His lecture will include visual evidence such as markings on trees, patterns of decay on tree stumps, the shapes of trees, and where and how stone walls are constructed within a forest, all of which is considered to be "forest forensics."

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For over 30 years, Wessels has given informational workshops on the natural history of landscapes in the U.S. As the founding director of the masters degree program in conservation biology at Antioch University New England Graduate School in Keene, New Hampshire, Wessels continues to teach there as an ecology professor in the departments of Environmental Studies and also teaches an Educating for Sustainability class with the education department.

The United Nations General Assembly declared 2011 as the International Year of Forests to raise awareness on sustainable management, conservation and sustainable development of all types of forests.

Happy Days Lodge, located at 500 West Streetsboro Road (State Route 303) in Peninsula 44264, 1 mile west of State Route 8, is a restored Civilian Conservation Corps structure that provides a rustic ambiance for folk and traditional concerts, theater, lectures, and special event rentals. For more information on rentals, call CVNPA at 330-657-2909 ext. 119.

The Conservancy for Cuyahoga Valley National Park is a nonprofit organization created to engage public support for the park and provide services to enhance public use and enjoyment of the park. For more information about the Conservancy and its membership program, visit www.conservancyforcvnp.org or call 330-657-2909.

CVNP encompasses 33,000 acres along the Cuyahoga River between Cleveland and Akron, Ohio. Managed by the National Park Service, CVNP combines cultural, historical, recreational, and natural activities in one setting. For more information visit www.nps.gov/cuva or www.dayinthevalley.com or call 330-657-2752 or 800-257-9477.

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