FAW plans Allegheny River cleanup

WARREN — The Warrenbased Friends of Allegheny Wilderness (FAW) is planning its annual Allegheny River Cleanup.

This year, work will occur on upper Conewango Creek on Saturday, lower Conewango Creek on Sept. 8, Kinzua Dam to Allegheny Outfitters (Livery) on Sept. 9, Allegheny Outfitters (Livery) to Betts Park on Sept. 12 and from Betts Park to Buckaloons on Sept. 13.

"We have apparently done such a good job on the Allegheny Islands Wilderness islands (Buckaloons to Tidioute and points south) in years past, that that segment of the river is not on the list this year," FAW Director Kirk Johnson said. "We worked ourselves right out of a job!

"However, that doesn't mean the help of FAW volunteers isn't needed this year," Johnson added. "If you can pitch in for a day or more on one of the other sections your help will be greatly appreciated."

For the upper Conewango Creek cleanup, volunteers will meet at the Front Street Launch site at 9 a.m. Saturday for registration and shuttle to Larimer Park in Russell. For the lower Conewango Creek cleanup, volunteers will meet at Point Park in Warren at 9 a.m. Sept. 8 for registration and shuttle to the Front St launch site.

For the cleanup of the Allegheny River from Kinzua Dam to Allegheny Outfitters (Livery), volunteers will meet at the livery in Warren at 9 a.m. Sept. 9 for registration and shuttle to Kinzua Dam.

For the cleanup of the river from Allegheny Outfitters (Livery) to Betts Park, volunteers will meet at Betts Park in Warren at 9 a.m. Sept. 12 for registration and shuttle to Allegheny Outfitters Livery.

For clean up of the river from Betts Park to Buckaloons, volunteers will meet at Buckaloons Recreation Area at 9 a.m. Sept. 13 for shuttle to Betts Park.

There are no canoes left for Sept. 13. Those who register must provide their own vessel and transport the vessel themselves, or work the with the land-based team.

Volunteers should plan for each of the cleanup events to take four to six hours. They will be briefed about trash hot spots and other information at the launch site before boarding their boats.

Shore helpers will be needed from 11 a.m. until as late as 5 p.m. during each cleanup. Preregistration for each of the trips is required.

For more information on how to help visit www.alleghenyrivercleanup.com/schedule.html