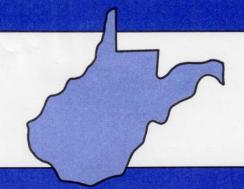
PRESS RELEASE



U.S. Congressman Nick Rahall

WORKING FOR WEST VIRGINIANS

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

MARCH 23, 1992

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WEST VIRGINIA CARVES OUT \$700,000 FROM FOREST SERVICE -- MONEY TO SUPPORT RURAL DEVELOPMENT THROUGH FORESTRY --

WASHINGTON, D.C. — The Forest Service has awarded West Virginia \$700,000 to support their "West Virginia Rural Development Through Forestry Demonstration Project," according to U.S. Rep. Nick Rahall (D-WV).

The program, administered by the Administrative Forester of West Virginia, William Gillespie, utilizes forest resources for economic development. So far, three other U.S. Forest Service programs have channeled \$924,500 into West Virginia.

In 1992, the Forest Service estimates 32 projects in 20 states throughout the Northeast and Midwest will receive funding totaling close to \$3.4 million.

"West Virginia's forest resources are one of the keys to economic development in our State. Projects like this one help West Virginia harness some of that potential," said Rahall.



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