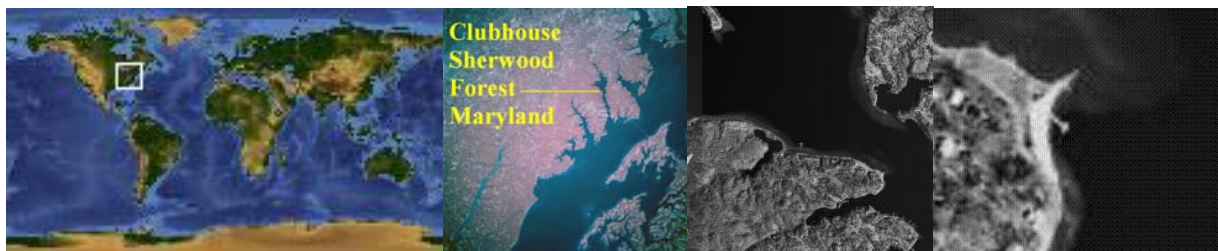


Sherwood Almanac: Questions & Answers

NOTE: The following are the answers to some of the questions posed to Nature counselors during the summer of 2006. All campers interested in all things, *Sherwood*, are encouraged to continue pose questions to their Nature counselors through 2007 with answers to hard questions eventually posted to this page.

Q: What does Robinhood Beach look like from space?

A:



Note: Imagery used here has been declassified through the reduction of end product clarity. A singular treat is to watch our toddlers at play for members possessing **TOP SECRET** clearances with appropriate code word access. Coordinates for imagery acquisition are: 76.53303 N 39.02797W, then zoom to target. For **UNCLASSIFIED** space surveillance of Sherwood and other points of interest go to: <http://earth.google.com/download-earth.html>. (1) Download GoogleEarth.exe, (2) Run GoogleEarth, (3) Once the Earth is visible at an approximate altitude of 4,000 miles use the cursor in the form of a grab hand to rotate the Earth to desired target. Experiment with the available tools at the bottom to: zoom, rotate, and even fly throughout Sherwood and beyond. Another site wherein you can copy Sherwood imagery is: <http://teraserver-usa.com/image.aspx?T=1&S=12&Z=18&X=458&Y=5400&W=1>

Courtesy training point: You can access any listed website by holding your mouse cursor over any of the listed addresses, then hold down the "Control Key" (Ctrl) and click your mouse button. This will take you to the selected website from the text.

Q: Traffic congestion has become a problem outside of Sherwood. I have noticed road surveillance cameras nearly everywhere I go. How can I access them to see for example if the Bay Bridge is backed up, or if varying points in Baltimore, or Washington DC have gone to grid lock.

A: Go to: <http://www.trafficland.com/findacam/trafficvideo.php?uid=0&map=112> and select the region of interest, then the traffic camera of our choice. If you are interested in particular routes, or intersections, you can add them to your Internet *Favorites* for easy future reference.

Q: How can I get a continuously updated weather report for Sherwood to include: current conditions, forecast for the rest of the day and week, current *Local Base Reflectivity Radar*, and real-time webcam surveillance of Sherwood's surrounding area depicting at least a 20 mile radius from Sherwood to the north, south, and east, and given that most weather tracks from the northwest to Sherwood, please extend that surveillance to at least 40 miles from the Forest. Finally, if possible, could you please include real time conditions at Ocean City?

A: For current Sherwood weather conditions and forecasting you may use Sherwood's meteorological real-time weather page located at:
<http://www.chart.state.md.us/weather/hw3cgi/hw3.asp?config=&forecast=zandh&pands=21405&Submit=GO>

For Sherwood's *Local Base Reflectivity Radar* go to:
http://www.chart.state.md.us/weather/hw3cgi/hw3.asp?config=&forecast=pass&pass=local_radar&dpp=1&radar_icao=klwx&place=baltimore&state=md&zipcode=21201&country=us&county=24003&zone=MDZ014&oc=radarview_option|pass

Feel free to explore the various provided buttons for hourly reports and much more.

For real-time webcam surveillance of atmospheric observations adjacent to Sherwood visit the following webcam locations:

Annapolis looking to the north of Sherwood
<http://www.instacam.com/showcam.asp?id=ANNAS&size=S>

Annapolis looking to the east of Sherwood
<http://www.instacam.com/showcam.asp?id=ANNPS&size=L>

Baltimore looking south towards Sherwood (reverse angle)
<http://www.instacam.com/showcam.asp?id=BLGMR&size=S>

Fredrick, Maryland looking southeast towards Sherwood (reverse angle)
<http://www.123cam.com/site.php?var=4601&site=http://www.instacam.com/showcam.asp?id=PATAD&size=S>

OC Beach & Boardwalk

<http://www.123cam.com/site.php?var=175&site=http://www.oceancitycam.com/>

<http://www.123cam.com/site.php?var=5798&site=http://www.kiteloft.com/webcam/>

Q: Geologically, how old is Sherwood?

A: Among Sherwood scholars, while still argued, the conventional wisdom is that Sherwood is geologically 25 million years old.

In the beginning Sherwood was without form, then *Big Bang* (15 billion years ago) there was light. 10 billion years later (5 billion years ago) Sherwood's solar system (the Sun, Earth, and other planets) formed. **This occurred by an enormous cloud of gas started to get smaller and smaller as the gas particles attracted each other with gravity. Most of the gas went to the center of the solar system and formed the Sun, but several other pieces spinning about the Sun solidified into the planets, including the Earth where Sherwood is located.**

As the Earth and Sherwood cooled layers formed to include a crust, mantle, outer core, and inner core. Sherwood is situated itself upon the Earth's crust. 225 million ago Sherwood was part of a super-continent known as Pangaea (Greek, "all lands"). Over the past 200 million years Pangaea fragmented into continents by riding large tectonic (Greek, "to build") plates thus forming the Sherwood that we know to today.

Sherwood, rides on the large North Atlantic Plate, moving to the northwest about 1 cm (the thickness of your pinky finger) every year. This plate collides with an equally large tectonic plate and in the expanse of time formed the Appalachian Mountains. These mountains, subsequent to their formation, have been eroding ever since and have resulted in the formation of the coastal plain upon which Sherwood Forest is situated today.

Most recently, 25 million years ago, Sherwood's adjacent Severn River Valley was flooded with the end of the Ice Age and during a global warming cycle. The original Severn River (stream) can still be noted by connecting the deepest depth notations on current nautical charts.

Geological note: 65 million years ago Sherwood was populated with dinosaurs. Sherwood and the Severn River Valley was one of seven Maryland epicenters for dinosaur populations.

Q: How much does Sherwood weigh?

A: The mass of Earth is 13,200,000,000,000,000,000 lbs., pronounced *13.2 sextillion pounds*. Accordingly, it can be derived that Sherwood would weigh in at 6,702,165,939,589,248.29 lbs., pronounced *6.7 quadrillion pounds*.

Cautionary note: This mathematical derivative has not yet been validated and does not represent the official view of the Sherwood Forest Club.

Academic note: This calculation has been included on the agenda of the peer review symposium scheduled for August 5, 2006, beginning at 8PM, to be held in front of the *Corn*

Roast refreshment truck. The annual, *Great Truths & Lies of Sherwood*, attracts distinguished Sherwood members who freely present their perspectives on this topic as well as others. Registration available beginning in July 2005 to members and their guests. Cost: \$20.

Q: How far is Sherwood from the Sun?

A: 92,955,819.27 miles. (149,597,890 km)

Q: How long does it take for Sherwood to revolve around the Sun? Please be exact.

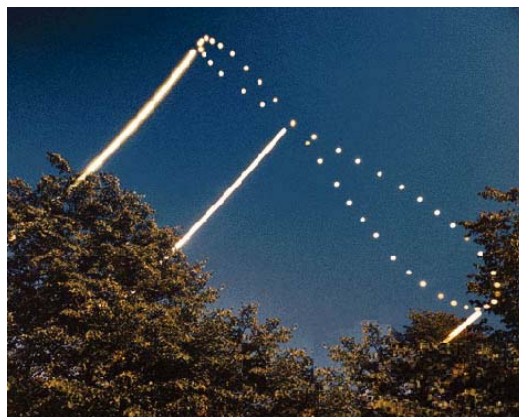
A: It takes 365.26 days for Sherwood to make a loop around the Sun. In terms of being *exact*, we are a quarter day off from a 365 day calendar year, which is why we invented the Leap year in order to compensate (February 29th every four years). In terms of an *exact* orbit, Sherwood is slightly eccentric, we deviate from a perfect circular path by 0.017 (deviation from circular). NOTE: The *one second* leap forward receiving some notoriety in 2005 is not recognized in Sherwood Forest.

Q: How long is a day in Sherwood?

A: As Professor Key can attest, some days are longer than others. This is due to the asymmetrical distribution of darkness (sometimes construed as the mean controversy deviance from summer acceleration) between sunset and sunrise, a phenomenon called *the equation of time*, through Sherwood's Summer and Winter seasons.

A Solar day in Sherwood is the length of time between one local noon (when the Sun is highest in the sky over the Clubhouse) to the next. As it turns out in Sherwood, the length of the solar day is not always 24 hours. This is because of the tilt of Sherwood's rotation relative to its orbit around the Sun varies slightly each day. This variation affords more daylight during our Summer season and less during the Winter season, a preference of most Sherwood members and a primary reason for the changing length of daytime hours.

The *equation of time* is often represented by a figure 8. That figure is called an *analemma*, illustrated below using time lapsed photography over a calendar year and as viewed from the back porch of the Clubhouse .



The average Sherwood day is 23.93 hours. The longest Sherwood Solar day (Summer Solstice) for 2006 will be June 21st . The shortest Sherwood day (Winter Solstice) in 2006 will be December 21st.

Q: Why does the Sun seem to rise in a different place each day in Sherwood?

A: The reason is that the axis of Sherwood's rotation is tilted relative to the plane of the Earth's orbit around the Sun. So the circle on the Earth where the Sun is directly overhead moves north and south over the year. This effect also causes the Summer and Winter seasons in Sherwood, as well as the length of the Solar day in Sherwood.

Q: If we dug a hole in Sherwood to the other side of the Earth how deep would we need to dig and would we come out in China?

A: We would have to dig down 7,926.21 miles (12,756.44 km) and we would come out at the bottom of the Indian Ocean just west of Australia. This measurement presumes that we began digging at the 1st Fairway near the Gazebo.

Q: If we launched a rocket from Sherwood during 4th of July and didn't want it to come back down, how fast would it have to go?

A: Escape velocity from Sherwood's Main Pier would be 25,053.69 miles per hour, or 11,200 meters per second.

Q: What is the highest elevation in Sherwood? Where is it? What are Sherwood elevations of interest?

A: Sherwood's highest elevation is 174.5 feet above sea level. It's location is an interior forest hilltop 200 yards northeast of the Guard House. The average elevation of Sherwood is 100 feet. The lowest elevations are predictably at Main Pier and Robinhood Beach with an elevation of 0 feet above sea level at the tide line. Regarding other points of interest: both the Store and Clubhouse are exactly 100 feet above sea level, the men's 6th tee is at 122 feet, the Archery Pit at 52 feet, the Playground at 27 feet, and the Beach Road varies between 2.5 and 3 feet above mean high tide, or sea level.

Q: What are some common Sherwood demographics?

A: This question must be divided between Sherwood's two seasons of summer and winter. Demographics include:

<u>Winter</u>		<u>Summer</u>	
Population	552	Population	1,398
Male	47.5%	Male	42.3%
Female	52.5%	Female	57.7
Median age	44.3	Median age	32.1
Members per household	2.3	Members per household	4.1
Members married	79.4%	Members married	91.3%
Families connected via blood relation	47%	Families connected via blood relation	47%
Members single	20.6%	Members single	8.7%
Snowfall (annual/inches)	11.0	Rainfall (annual/inches)	45.4
Temperature (low)	25.2F	Temperature (high)	87.3F
Favorite color	Green	Favorite color	Green
Favorite season	Summer	Favorite season	Summer
Community social profile	Insular	Community social profile	Insular-tribal
Personality profile	Sophisticated Squires	Personality profile	Enterprising Professionals

Q: How big is Sherwood?

A: 341 acres, 1.10 square miles, 347 cottages.

Q: How many miles is it from Sherwood to the center of the Earth?

A: Sherwood is not situated on a perfect sphere, so the distance to the center of the Earth varies from 3963 miles at the equator to 3950 miles at the poles. Using a latitudinal deviation protocol it is calculated that the center of the Earth is 3957.2 miles beneath Sherwood as measured again from the 1st Fairway.

Q: For those with allergies, what are the current pollen levels in Sherwood?

A: Sherwood monitors airborne grass, tree, mold, and weed pollens. This is compiled into an overall pollen air quality rating. Sherwood's current pollen status can be viewed at:

<http://63.240.86.52/AirQuality/Pollen.aspx?cobrand=++&zipcode=21405>

Q: What are the fun facts to know and tell about Sherwood's golf course.

A: The course was designed by Herbert Strong and built in 1920, then improved by Charles Gillis in 1987. Par is 31. Course length from the men's tees is 1,942 yards, the length from the women's tees is 1,584. Fairways are bent grass leading to sand greens with a hard clay foundation. Sand bunkers consist of a Chesapeake beach sand mix. The course's official season

is March 1 through September 1, but is informally open throughout the year to members. In addition to PGA etiquette rules, no denim and no open containers is observed.

Q: If I have fair skin. What is the current Sherwood UV index and what, if any, precautions should I take?

A: Sherwood's current UV index can be viewed at the following site:
http://oaspub.epa.gov/enviro/uv_search?zipcode=21401&city_name=&state_code=

Q: In Sherwood, why does Mrs. Mayr turn off the water to some cottages and not others?

A: Some cottages do not have *Winter Water*, meaning that the water pipes freeze during the Winter. Most cottages in Sherwood now have water pipes buried about 3 feet down in the ground where water does not freeze during the Winter season. Note, when Sherwood formed 5 million years ago it never completely cooled. The residual heat from the formation of Sherwood still resides deep beneath our feet. Burying pipes 3 feet or deeper prevents water from freezing.

Q: How fast does Sherwood spin?

A: Sherwood rotates 360 degrees in 24 hours, or 15 degrees per hour. Using this angular speed it can be calculated that Sherwood is spinning at a velocity of 1,000 miles per hour, 447.04 meters per second.

Q: Is the rate of Sherwood's spin decreasing?

A: Yes. Sherwood's spin is slowing down by about 1.5 milliseconds per century. This is due to friction created by tides moving around the Earth.

Q: If Sherwood stopped spinning would we fall off?

A: No. We do not stick to Sherwood because it is spinning, but because of the force of Sherwood's gravity.

Q: What would happen if all of the people in Sherwood decided to jump up all at once, or all run in the same direction? Could this change the orbit or rotation of the Earth?

A: While the mass and energy of all the members in Sherwood is impressive, it is miniscule compared to the mass of the Earth - so neither of these actions would have an effect on our Earth's motion.

Q: Are there any asteroids, comets, or other objects that are going to hit Sherwood this summer?

A: Most of these concerns about asteroids are due to the recent fictional movies "Armageddon" and "Deep Impact". **Currently nothing significant is on a collision course with Sherwood!** It is true that Sherwood has been hit by tiny meteors and unexpected tempestuous events are routine - typically occurring during the Summer season. However, we currently are not in any immediate danger. Specifically, we now know that the asteroid which was originally announced to possibly pose a small risk of an impact in 2028 will miss us completely.

All Sherwood members are reminded that space is big and empty. Which makes the chance that we will be individually hit by anything from space very small. In much of space, for example, large-sized objects are hundreds or thousands of light years apart. Even the asteroid belt has so much space in it, that we can send space probes through it without any problems. The asteroids in the belt are spread over a ring that is more than a billion kilometers in circumference, more than 100 million kilometers wide, and millions of kilometers thick.

Here's what JPL's Near Earth Asteroid Tracking team has to say regarding any threat to Earth: "The most dangerous asteroids, capable of a community disaster, are extremely rare. The threshold size is believed to be 1/2 to 1 km. These bodies impact the Earth only once every 1,000 centuries on average. Comets in this size range are thought to impact even less frequently, perhaps once every 5,000 centuries or so." Surprisingly, JPL's tracking team did not have a definitive statistical profile for Sherwood specifically.

Q: What is the distance from Sherwood at Main Pier to the edge of Space?

A: 348 miles (560 kilometers).

Q: What is the distance between Sherwood and the Moon?

A: 243,933.55 miles (392,573 kilometers)

Q: How fast does Sherwood travel around the Sun?

A: 66,660 mile per hour .

Q: What would happen to Sherwood if the Moon blew up?

A: Planetary objects do not, as a rule, blow up. If the Moon did, you could expect large chunks of it to hit the Earth at high speeds - very messy. After a while though, Sherwood survivors might see a very pretty ring of debris in orbit around the Earth.

Q: How much does the Moon weigh?

A: This question is beyond the scope of Sherwood expertise. However, it is a rule of thumb that the Moon is 1/6 the size, or mass, of the Earth. Accordingly, if the Earth weighs

13,200,000,000,000,000,000,000 lbs and we reduced that to a sixth it would yield a weight of 2,200,000,000,000,000,000 lbs, pronounced 2.2 septillion lbs.

Q: Why does Sherwood's moon not have a name (like Saturn's moons: Titan, Mimas)?

A: Again, this question is beyond the scope of Sherwood expertise. However, it is commonly known that the Moon was called Selene or Artemis by the Greeks and Luna by the Romans. Other cultures also had names for the Moon. But in English, the word Moon came from *Mona* and *Moone* in Old and Middle English. It was used before anyone had any idea that the other planets had moons. Eventually this old English word shifted from *The Moon* and extended to mean small bodies revolving around planets elsewhere. The Moon's name is the Moon.