

NEW YORK FOREST OWNERS ASSOCIATION SOUTHERN TIER CHAPTER WINTER 2015 NEWSLETTER

January 22, ANNUAL POTLUCK DINNER

Join us for one of our most popular events of the year. Our program will include viewing the historic film "From Stump to Ship" which documents the adventures of logging in the Maine woods a century ago. We will also have a slide show with pictures from some of our most recent and best-attended events. Bring a dish to pass and your own table service. We will provide some pizza and beverages. Families are welcome! Location: Auditorium, Cornell Cooperative Extension of Broome County, 840 Upper Front Street, Binghamton. Doors will open at 6:00, dinner served at 6:30, program begins about 7:30.

March 14, Training Workshop for the Northeast Timber Growing Contest

The Northeast Timber Growing Contest is designed to help improve the long-term productivity and health of small private woodlands through the engagement of landowners with forestry professionals in a process that includes education, research, technology transfer and friendly competition. Details can be found at www.timbercontest.com, and the November/December issue of the *New York Forest Owner* magazine featured an article by Charles Stackhouse, describing his experience in preparing for the contest. Contest architect and administrator Dean Faklis is offering this workshop to train forest owners who might be interested in entering the competition, or in coaching others who are interested. The workshop will begin at 10:00 a.m. in the East Guilford Presbyterian Church, on Route 8 North of Sidney, Chenango County. It will include both indoor and outdoor instruction and conclude with lunch. For more information, and to sign up, contact Dave Williams at kdwillmill@gmail.com.

March 25, Invasive Insect Update

A speaker from the DEC will give us an update on the latest field findings of invasive insects in the five counties covered by our Chapter. They will also discuss plans for monitoring in 2015. Jerry Michael, who is a Certified Pesticide Applicator, will discuss protective treatment options and costs for Emerald Ash Borer and Hemlock Woolly Adelgid. Some forest owners have expressed an interest in protecting one or more healthy White Ash seed trees in their woodlots. This meeting will take place at Cornell Cooperative Extension in Binghamton. Doors open at 6:30 and the meeting will begin at 7:00.

May 9, Woodswalk at the IBM Glen, Endwell, NY

Join us as we explore this historic and interesting 200-acre property, donated by IBM to the Waterman Conservation Education Center about ten years ago. See both successful and unsuccessful regeneration, unique monoculture stands of ash and large sassafras, a beautiful hemlock-lined ravine, and about every species of invasive vegetation common to the area. Watch for details in our Spring Newsletter, but mark your calendars now.

OTHER EVENTS:

Watch for details in the January/February *N Y Forest Owner*

February 26 - 28, Farm Show at the N Y State Fairgrounds

NYFOA will have a booth at the Farm Show and will be sponsoring several very informative workshops during the three days.

March 21, NYFOA Annual Meeting at SUNY ESF, Syracuse

Hear about NYFOA's 2014 highlights and topics of current interest, awards presentations, election of Directors and ESF campus tour.

Demonstration Deer Exclosure Fence Constructed at IBM Glen Property

Several Chapter members and staff from Cornell Cooperative Extension joined together on September 11th to construct a fence around a 1500 square foot area where we hope to show the public how desirable hardwoods can regenerate in the absence of deer. We will have an article on this project in a future issue of the *N Y Forest Owner*, and you will be able to see the fence during our May 9th woodswalk.

October 11 woodswalk a great success !

Many thanks to Gary Sergio and Claudia Jenkins for hosting a very successful woodswalk on their property near Unadilla. About 35 folks heard about management of this forest from Gary and Consulting Forester Karl VonBerg, watched Dave Williams demonstrate his Woodmizer bandsaw mill, and enjoyed lunch on one of the last nice days of the Fall season.

Area Forest Owners Receive NRCS/EQIP Cost-Share Funds

Elena Steele, District Conservationist for the Natural Resource Conservation Service in Broome County, spoke at a Southern Tier Chapter meeting last winter about cost-share funding available for forestry practices through the Environmental Quality Incentive Program (EQIP). Seven forest owners from the Broome, Chenango and Tioga County area subsequently applied for and were awarded EQIP funding for the writing of management plans by a professional forester, road and trail building, or timber stand improvement. Members are encouraged to meet with NRCS staff in your own county and see what is involved in getting some financial help in meeting your objectives for your woodlot.

TIP: If you have owned your woodlot for less than ten years, you will be classified as a "Beginning Farmer" and your application for EQIP funds will receive a higher priority !

Discounted Gift Memberships Available until February 28th.

Help increase NYFOA's reach and influence. Give a son, daughter, or neighbor a one-year NYFOA membership NYFOA for only \$25. See the November/December issue of the *N Y Forest Owner* for details.

Welcome New Members !

Assemblyman Clifford Crouch, Albany; Larry Day, Locke; Jason Dewey, Norwich; Chad Harris, Mount Upton; Melissa Lapadula, Whitney Point; Beaver Meadow Lake Club, Hancock; Dan Schlafer, Bainbridge; James Smith, Great Meadows NJ; Eric & Will St.John, Binghamton; Charles Wage, Endicott; Scott Williams, Binghamton.

Message from the Chapter Chair

At one time I had a Timber Stand Improvement Project scheduled in my 480a plan that consisted of only a few acres. I thought that February would be a great time to tackle this project because not much else was going on. It was a huge mistake. Over the next few years I had trees re-sprout from the girdled areas or from the stumps. I now focus my efforts to sometime around the middle of July to October. In general re-growth has not been a problem except for beech, and I've been using herbicides to deal with the beech issue.

Herbicides are an effective way to eliminate unwanted vegetation and reoccurring tree growth. NYS Extension Forester Dr. Peter Smallidge recorded an excellent webinar. "Strategies for Control of American Beech in Northeast Woodlots" which is available on the www.ForestConnect.com website (recorded 1/20/2010). Herbicides are relatively simple and safe to apply by carefully following directions on the label. If you hire someone to apply pesticides, including herbicides on your property, they must be a certified by the DEC...

Glyphosate is a popular herbicide chemical which can be applied as a foliar spray, or by "hack and squirt" or "cut stump" methods. Concentrations of the active ingredient will vary according to the application method used, and surfactants are usually added to glyphosate products sold for use as a foliar spray to improve effectiveness. There are many brands of herbicides containing glyphosate, most often at 41%, but not all brands are labeled to be used for the same type of application or on the same "target" plants. As with all registered pesticides, "The Label Is The Law", and it is important to purchase a glyphosate or any pesticide product that is labeled for your specific intended use.

That said, since Monsanto's patent on Roundup expired in 2000, many herbicides containing glyphosate as the active ingredient have become available for significantly lower cost. . Home Depot sells a product called Compare•And•Save® which contains 41% Glyphosate for \$59.97. It's only available online at HomeDepot.com. The price includes shipping. Tractor Supply sells a product called Farmworks® 41% Glyphosate Plus concentrate with surfactant. The product sells for \$59.99 and is available in the store or online at TractorSupply.com. Both brands come in a 2 ½ gallon container.

Help! After 25 years on the job, Jerry Michael is retiring as Newsletter Editor with this issue. We need a volunteer to step forward and take on the job before next March. Contact Jerry with questions about the job, and me to volunteer.

I wish you all a great holiday season.

Steve

NYFOA Southern Tier Chapter (SOT) includes Broome, Chenango, Cortland, Delaware and Otsego Counties. SOT sponsors several workshops and woodswalks each year, often in cooperation with Cornell Cooperative Extension offices. SOT publishes a Fall, Winter and Spring Newsletter to announce programs and other educational information for members.

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**WINTER 2015 NEWSLETTER
POT LUCK DINNER January 22nd
MEETINGS & PROGRAMS**