

Fall
2012

NFC NEWSLETTER

Niagara Frontier Chapter

New York Forest Owners Association www.nyfoa.org

Water resource management topic of Nov. 3 program

Greetings Friends

Our program this fall will concern water resources and our forests and how decisions we make on managing our natural area affects others, including wildlife.

John Whitney from USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service, will discuss riparian buffers, wetlands, vernal pools, erosion and more.

You may not have an obvious water source in your woodland until you specifically look for it.

So, come to our next program and learn more about it.

John Whitney, out of the East Aurora Field Office, will be speaking on the topics of wetlands and vernal pools, streams, permits, forest soil and water conservation and USDA NRCS conservation programs.

John has served as District Conservationist in Erie County since 1986. Originally from Belmont in Allegany County,

John is a 1982 graduate of Cornell University where he studied wildlife biology, agronomy and natural resources.

The program will again take place at the Holland Community Center at 10 a.m. Coffee and refreshments will be served about 9:30 a.m.

It'll be great to see each other again and share our stories.

For more information, call Rita Hammond at 937-0744.

Join Us

What: NYFOA Fall Get Together

Where: Holland Community Center (formerly American Legion Hall)

When: 10 a.m. Saturday, Nov. 3

Cost: Free. Bring your friends. Coffee etc. will be ready by 9:30 a.m.

Directions: Route 16 into Holland. Turn east on Garfield Street to Canada Street. Turn left. Legion Drive is on the left and the Center is at the end of Legion Drive.

Woodswalk Highlight of Summer

Our thanks go out again to **Jim DeLellis** on a most wonderful woodswalk held on June 16.

It was a great day all round: lots of friends there, close to 60 attended; good weather, beautiful woodlands showing many management practices, and of course, very generous hosts.

After seeing all that Jim has done on his property, I thought it a good idea to continue discussion on woodland management practices.

Which is the reason for our Nov. 3 program.

We hope you all take advantage of this "continuous learning" and join us at the Holland Community Center.

Our thanks once again to Jim for a great program!



On May 19, a small but enthusiastic group of NYFOA members met for a walk through DeVeaux Woods State Park in Niagara Falls. A beautiful day and the woods were amazing!

Notes from Chapter Leaders Conference Sept. 25, 2012

Thanks to Mike Seager for sending these notes along so we can keep up with local chapters.

Attendees: Dick Starr, Steve Kutney, Otis Barber, Jim Minor, Mike Seager

Recruiting members:

Steve recently got a list of 5000 landowners in Broome County via a Freedom of Information Act request. Original idea was to contact them about NYFOA. Data was difficult to clean to the point of having coherent information and good addresses. A mailing to 5000 people would be quite expensive, but not clear how to select a subset.

Jim suggested Kristi Sullivan might have some ideas about normalizing the data. She did a similar effort for the recent SWG project.

Woodswalk Weekend:

Hold the dates 11-19 May for events related to Woodswalk Weekend. See President's Column in Sept/Oct 2012 Forest Owner for more information. Theme is regeneration.

Steve mentioned he has been hearing ads on the radio from discovertheforest.org encouraging people to visit forests. Jim to investigate and see if there is a potential tie-in for www advertising.

Chapters are looking for details – how much planning do they need to do

with regard to finding locations, lining up speakers, advertising, etc. and how much will be directed by state board or MFOs. In short, what are chapters expected to provide?

Membership Incentive:

Managing Your Woodlot book is available for chapters to distribute as incentive to join NYFOA – intended to encourage impulse buying at table events and the like. Each chapter should get some copies – contact Liana or Jim if you need some. WFL has signed up a bunch of new members – it seems pretty effective.

Legislative Issues:

Request on last call was more information about NYFOA's advocacy work. The Policy committee has decided to focus on property taxation as the main issue for Forestry Awareness Day. They are also working on a draft of best practices for forest management similar to those available in some nearby states.

Email Lists:

WFL, SOT and CDC have email lists from Electric Embers up and running. NAC has one set up but hasn't started using it yet. Other chapters have not shown interest. Some discussion about whether to create lists for other chapters anyway, since we are paying for the capacity whether we use it or not.

Slight consensus to do so. [Ed Note: Several people at state board meeting on 29 Sept encourage doing so.]

Member Survey:

There is a prototype survey online for chapter leaders to try at <http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/ZM2GMHF>. Please take a look at this and send comments regarding content and format. We can set up an online survey along this line for any chapter that wants one without too much difficulty.

Maps:

After previous conference call, we created a map for each chapter showing location of all members and sent links to those maps to chapter chairs. Most found it mildly interesting but not enough so to bother maintaining them.

There is a map of MFOs and other forestry-related public assistance at <http://batchgeo.com/map/63926a3d55f83bae009adcf1529d0823>. Would this be useful to maintain, probably as a link from the NYFOA website, to make it easier for a landowner to find assistance? Take a look and send comments to Mike Seager.

Net Conference Call:

We will schedule another call for early 2013, after the dust settles from the holidays but before the board meeting in March. Send items you would like on the agenda to Mike.



Thanks to all who sent in their email addresses. Those, together with the ones we received from the state of-

rice, have given us a nice email list so we can send every newsletter and meeting notice by email saving the chapter money. If you would like to be on our email list, just send an email to Barbara Tucker at wgtbt@aol.com.

Please put NYFOA in the subject line.

Also send along any ideas of places to go for woodswalks for the spring and summer.

NYFOA is celebrating its 50th year in 2013. Were you an early member? Did you recently join? Can you send an email giving us your thoughts and experiences with NYFOA that we can share in the newsletter?

My hope is that some of the early organizers will share their memories. If you don't have email, send your stories to me, 849 Delaware Road, Kenmore NY 14223.

The state NYFOA office sent out the membership report for this month.

The membership in the NFC chapter is 116, compared to our nearest "neighboring chapter," AFC which has 228. Encourage your forest-owner friends to join us!

See you Nov. 3!

Barbara Tucker

Stumpage Price Report

Winter 2012

This report is for the Western/Central Region, DoyleRule. Price paid to owner for standing trees.
Listing is most common price and low-high, (median) per thousand board feet.

Species	Low Price Range	Average Price Range	High Price Range
	(Median)	(Median)	(Median)
Ash, white	50-325 (200)	1150-500 (300)	200-600 (400)
Aspen	NR	10-85 (30)	NR
Basswood	50-100 (80)	50-175 (125)	75-250 (175)
Beech	20-50 (30)	25-120 (50)	30-80 (50)
Birch, white	NR	60-100 (80)	NR
Birch, yellow	50-150 (100)	75-300 (150)	50-350 (275)
Butternut	100-200 (200)	200-450 (300)	310-650 (400)
Cherry, black	150-800 (400)	300-900 (700)	425-1200 (800)
Elm, American	NR	NR	NR
Hemlock	10-60 (25)	30-125 (50)	50-175 (100)
Hickory (spp)	50-100 (100)	50-300 (150)	150-450 (200)
Maple, hard (sugar)	100-500 (350)	300-700 (610)	425-850 (700)
Maple, red (soft)	50-250 (130)	125-325 (200)	150-500 (300)
Oak, Chestnut	50-150 (100)	100-250 (150)	50-350 (200)
Oak, red	100-400 (250)	250-500 (375)	350-700 (500)
Oak, white	100-300 (150)	100-400 (250)	200-600 (350)
Pine, red	50-60 (55)	80-150 (80)	NR
Pine, white	10-80 (50)	50-150 (75)	80-200 (100)
Poplar, Tulip	50-100 (80)	75-200 (150)	120-250 (200)
Spruce	70-130 (75)	100-145 (100)	125-165 (145)
Walnut, black	300-1000 (600)	750-1200 (950)	1000-2000 (1500)
Firewood	5-10 (6)	5-20 (10)	5-20 (16)

Notes on NYFOA

* **NYFOA will celebrate** its 50th anniversary in 2013. Have any ideas on educating the public regarding forest health issues?

You all have ideas, memories, forest, and wildlife tales and suggestions and we would like to hear about them. Please send them to Rita Hammond by mail: 3450 Home Road, Alden 14004 or email them to Barbara Tucker, wgtbt@aol.com. We need your input to keep our newsletter interesting and vibrant.

* **The Rural Landowners Workshop** was held in March and it was well attended. A number of NFC mem-

bers were there for programs on NY forest pests, small scale logging and sustainable forest practices, among others.

The opening session was a highlight of the day.

Kim Sherwood, hydrologist and secretary of the AFC — gave an excellent presentation on Shale Gas Recovery in New York State, a broad overview of DEC's proposed approach.

At our November meeting, I will give you a summary of his talk as it appeared in the AFC newsletter.

* **Be sure to subscribe** to "Northern

Woodlands." The articles are excellent, all related to forests. It only costs \$15 a year when purchased through NYFOA. (It can be a wonderful gift, too, for any person who loves the woods.



Don't forget fall is the time to plant trees — we can never have too many!

Family Forest Owner Toolbox

With support from a grant awarded by the Northeastern Area State and Private Forestry, U. S. Forest Service, the Great Lakes Forest Alliance developed a series of fact sheets to provide information and resources to family forest owners.

You may own woodlands because they offer you a quiet retreat, opportunities for recreation, supplemental income, or all of the above. Regardless of your reasons, the 21st century has brought new and exciting opportunities for meeting family goals and for making forest ownership a sound, long-term investment.

The forest that brings you so much pride and pleasure also benefits society as a whole. We believe that by working together, private landowners and forest professionals can enhance the personal

and financial rewards of family forest ownership while maximizing the benefits of forests to your community.

We developed this toolbox of resources to support landowners who want to enhance forest management and/or get involved with “emerging markets,” such as bioenergy, certified products, and green building. Whether you own woodlands for lifestyle or recreational reasons or for financial gain, tapping new opportunities may be a way for you to maintain your land the way you want and secure its future.

Fact Sheet 1 provides essential background on family forest ownership.

Fact Sheet 2 gives an overview of key terms and concepts that is critical for understanding emerging opportunities. Subsequent fact sheets delve into different opportunities in more detail,

from government payments and tax incentives to a variety of potential markets. The series concludes with a summary of where landowners can go to connect with others and find additional resources.

Read Fact Sheets 1 and 2 first; they provide a framework for the whole series. With this framework in hand, you can then decide which topics in Fact Sheets 3-10 are of the most interest to you.

Fact Sheets 3-10 provide background, give examples, discuss pros and cons, and describe where to find more information. Put it all together by taking a look at Fact Sheet 11, which can help you decide on next steps.

For more information, go online at <http://greatlakesforestalliance.org/initiatives/family-forest-owner-toolbox/>

Guess Who’s Really Paying for Fracking

“Citizens will get stuck with bill for fracking”

On Sept. 20, Environment New York released a report “The Costs of Fracking” which exposed the hidden economic downside to fracking. The environmental damage done by this destructive drilling in other states — contaminating water, making families sick and ruining our forests — is bad enough by itself. But to add insult to injury, our research shows that, when the boom is over, we’ll get stuck with the bill.

I was particularly struck by the fact

that the truck traffic needed to deliver water to a single fracking well causes as much damage to local roads as nearly 3.5 million car trips. In Pennsylvania, this translated to the state estimating that it needed to spend \$265 million in 2010 to fix the damage.

Like every other polluting boom, the new gas rush looks seductively like a “get rich quick” scheme. But history tells a different story. Decades after Pennsylvania’s coal mining boom, that state is now stuck with \$5 billion in cleanup costs, and those old mining companies are long gone.

The staggering health and environmental tolls of fracking are reason enough to ban the practice. But it also turns out that dirty drilling means dollars down the drain.

The above Letter to the Editor from David VanLuven, director of Environment New York, was published recently in the Buffalo News. In case you missed it, here’s your chance to read his insightful comments. If you agree, pass it along.