

NEW YORK FOREST OWNERS ASSOCIATION SOUTHERN TIER CHAPTER FALL 2013 NEWSLETTER

TERRIFIC WOODSWALK, AND MORE, SEPTEMBER 14TH

So you think that your woodlot is too small to manage for timber production? Come on out to the Town of Guilford (near Sidney) on September 14 at 10 AM to see how two neighbors, Bob Atten & Mike Dionne, and forest consultant Mike Gray combined forces to successfully put their timber out to bid. Mike D. and Bob will discuss their management objectives and forester Mike Gray will be present to answer questions about how the timber is marked, landing locations, stream crossings and any other topics that arise.

Mike D's property includes a stand with a lot of beech, so we can imagine what the future forest might look like if proper management practices are not employed. We will continue our focus on NYFOA's Restore New York Woodlands theme as we observe invasive and other competing vegetation that presents an obstacle to regeneration of the forest. .

Lunch will be served following the walk.

We will conclude the event with a time of "show and tell". Mike Dionne will demonstrate his wood gas generator that can produce combustible fuel to power gasoline engines from biomass fuel. We finish with an opportunity for interested attendees to see Mike and Bob's concentrating solar collectors that produce domestic hot water and some space heating.

To get there from Interstate Route 88:

Exit Interstate 88 at the Sidney exit. Travel north on Route 8, going through three traffic lights (the third one is at the intersection of Route 7 where the Hess station is located). Continue on Route 8 approximately 1.2 miles to Old County Route 43 which is on the left. Go 2/10 mile on 43, turn left on Junction Road and travel about 2 miles to 225 Junction Rd., Bainbridge, NY. There will be NYFOA signs at the last three turns.

Please rsvp to Dave Williams on (607) 563-3156 so we can plan for lunch.

CHAPTER MEETING NOVEMBER 5th, "THE ECONOMICS OF THE TIMBER MARKET"

The price that you get for you timber is affected by the big picture factors relating to the overall demand for wood products and what you do or did in your woodlot to improve the marketability of your timber long before the sale took place. (cont.)

Tom Gerow, the Head of Timber Procurement for the Wagner Lumber Company will speak about “The Economics of the Timber Market” at our November 5th meeting. The presentation will begin with the factors which are out of your control. Things like the housing market within and outside of the US, the relationship between standing timber, the log market and the lumber market and the relationship between the softwood market and the hardwood market.

The knowledge of these factors can help you determine when to sell your timber. The presentation will also cover the factors that are in your control. With planning you can control the species, quality and size of your trees.

Tom is a frequent speaker at NYFOA events and is very knowledgeable, so bring your questions.

Kevin Mathers will also present an update on invasive insects threatening our forests, and Jerry Michael will review management options recently published by Penn State for hemlock infested with hemlock wooly adelgid.

This meeting will take place in the auditorium at Cornell Cooperative Extension, 840 Upper Front Street, Binghamton. Doors open at 6:30 p.m., program begins at 7:00. Bring a neighbor!

CHAPTER MEETING DECEMBER 11TH, NY FOREST TAX LAW 480a, AND EQIP COST SHARE FUNDING FOR FOREST STEWARDSHIP.

Consulting Forester Roy Hopke works with many forest owners whose woodlands are enrolled in the Forest Tax Law 480a program. Come and hear Roy talk about the nuts and bolts of the 480a program: eligibility requirements, application process, legal and reporting requirements, anticipated tax savings and penalties for violations or early withdrawals. Some forest owners consider 480a too burdensome, but others of us wouldn't be able to own our properties today without it. Roy will cover the pluses and the minuses, and take your questions.

Jerry Michael has been representing NYFOA on the Forestry Advisory Committee for the Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS) in New York State. The committee recommends stewardship practices that will be considered for cost share reimbursement under the Environmental Quality Incentive Program (EQIP), administered by NRCS. For 2014, there will be a focus on controlling invasive and interfering vegetation, consistent with NYFOA's “Restore NY Woodlands” initiative. Jerry will discuss the process of applying for EQIP funds for this and other practices.

This meeting will also take place in the auditorium at Cornell Cooperative Extension in Binghamton. Doors open at 6:30, program begins at 7:00.

Message from the Chapter Chair

I want to thank Dave Williams, Jerry Michael, Gene and Dick Molyneaux, John Murdock, Pat Crosby and Teri Stratford who made the Restore New York Woodlands events so successful this past spring. The attendees at these four woodswalks included NYFOA members and many non-members. We had many positive comments from the non-members who really didn't know much about the organization prior to these events. They now understand our concerns about the health of our woodlands. Be sure to read the recent article, "Restoring New York's Woodlands: A NYFOA Initiative" in the recent Forest Owners Magazine.

One of the issues that came up as part of the effort to publicize the RNYW woodswalks is our ability to communicate to the public our events. We sent notifications to newspapers and some radio stations throughout central New York. We did have a news release published in the Press and Sun Bulletin but they did not publish our woodswalks in the community events section that appears in Thursday's paper. If you saw our events published in any other newspaper or if you heard of the woodswalks on the radio could you please let me know by sending a note to Steve_Kutney@yahoo.com.

New York State has expanded the quarantine area for the Emerald Ash Borer. A current map of the quarantine area can be found at <http://www.dec.ny.gov/animals/42674.html>. The quarantine area includes the entire SOT chapter.

US Senator Kirsten Gillibrand has sent a letter of concern regarding the Emerald Ash Borer to US Secretary of Agriculture Tom Vilsack. Senator Gillibrand's letter states that the bug has the potential to destroy 7.5 percent of the trees in the US and requests funding for the research, control and eradication of the Emerald Ash Borer.

Cheers, Steve

The 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 county 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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**FALL WOODSWALKS,
MEETINGS & PROGRAMS**