

# The Overstory

Volume 29 Issue 1 Spring 2018

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### NEWSLETTER

Editor and Design: Kristie Edwards To submit articles for publication, please contact: Kristie Edwards, 411 Beech Street, Mayfield, NY 12117 edwardsk922@gmail.com

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#### **WELCOME NEW MEMBERS**

Rod Cropsey, Bakers Mills, NY

Stella and Silas Yellich, Rensselaerville, NY

### ADIRONDACK STUMPAGE PRICE REPORT

New York State Department of Environmental Conservation www.dec.ny.gov/lands/5259.html New York Forest Owners Association

### SOUTHEASTERN ADIRONDACK

# As Serious as a Heart Attack

By Spencer Barrett, Terrestrial Invasive Species Coordinator, Capital-Mohawk PRISM

Oak wilt resurfaced in Glenville this year. After battles with this invasive tree pest in the town in 2009 and 2013, DEC flyovers revealed another site in Sanders Preserve, and a neighbor's vigilance brought to light another site in a residential neighborhood. Considered one of the worst forest pests that New York is currently battling, oak Wilt is a huge concern for the forestry community and could have devastating impacts on all species of oak found in the state.

Oak wilt was first identified in Wisconsin in the 1940s, but may have been present in the U. S. before that. Currently its affects are most strongly felt in the Midwest and Texas, though the range expands upwards north into PA. It is currently reported in New York in Brooklyn, Long Island, Glenville, and Canandaigua. Fortunately there are few enough locations that the DEC has been running an extermination campaign, working to eradicate this fungal disease when it appears in upstate areas. The door-to-door outreach took place on two cold mornings in January, notifying homeowners within a half mile area of the two sites about the pest and its symptoms. The public meeting (attended by 49 Glenville residents) to announce the eradication plans was on January 31<sup>st</sup>, and the goal is to have the infected trees removed by April 1<sup>st</sup>.

Now at this point you may be asking, what exactly is oak wilt? It is a fungal infection of all species of oak Trees, though its effect is most visible in the red oak family, where it can kill a tree in a matter of weeks. It is most visible through the leaves of the tree, which start to bronze uniformly at the tips like they were dipped in paint. These leaves often start to fall off the tree, still green, around the fourth of July.



Leaves from an infected oak tree

As Serious as a Heart Attack, continued from page 1

The symptoms have been described as a "tree heart attack," clogging the transport mechanisms through the tree with the fungus. Species in the white oak family are not immune either, though they exhibit less symptoms they can be passive carriers of the fungus. One of the reasons that this is such a difficult pest to manage is that there are a few ways that the disease spreads. Locally, the fungus can spread through the root connections between trees, most present in trees of the same species, though links between different kinds of oak species are also common. This is the reason a buffer zone of trees is often cut when treating for oak wilt, there can be asymptomatic trees within root -reach of obviously infected trees. The disease can also 'jump' up to five mile through a common species of beetle, which after feeding at a fungal tree, go to a fresh wound (often caused by pruning or construction) on a healthy tree. For this reason, it is recommended that trees be pruned in the winter, and not in the months of March-September.

PRISM staff have been working to help the DEC with outreach efforts regarding oak wilt. If you think that you have a tree that is infected on your own property, the DEC runs a hotline at (866) 640-0652 which you can call to have a DEC technician come take a sample of the tree in question that will be tested at the labs at Cornell. Community involvement is huge when taking on a tree disease of this magnitude. The oak is one of the most ecologically important trees in our state, providing animals with food throughout the winter through its acorns, supporting a vast number of insect herbivores with nutrients, which then in turn feed our birds. While it is hoped that the efforts in Glenville puts a stop to the northern movement of the fungus, it is important that all forest owners keep an eye out for the symptoms in their woodlots in order to protect oaks on their property, and statewide.



"An infected tree will stick out in the Summer months, noticeable through the bronzing of foliage which starts at the leaf tips. This tree shows symptoms of an advanced infection."

# Members Corner ...

With maple season upon us it's time to pull out our favorite recipes. Our family has a "sweet tooth" especially when it comes to maple syrup. My husband is always cutting out new recipes for me to try and this one has become one of our favorites! Thought I would share it with you.

### Maple Bread Pudding

ingredients: 2 tsbs butter 2 cups large bread crumbs  $1 \frac{1}{2} \text{ cups milk}$ 1 cup maple syrup 3 eggs, beaten

1tsp vanilla 1/2 tsp nutmeg 1/4 tsp ground cloves 1/2 cup raisins

### Directions:

Combine all ingredients in a greased  $1 \frac{1}{2}$  qt. casserole dish, then bake uncovered in a preheated 350° oven for about 50 minutes or until top lightly browns. Top with whipped cream. Enjoy! Serves 8

Shared by Kristie Edwards

This member's corner is open to anyone willing to share something with other members. Submissions can be mailed or emailed to Kristie Edwards at edwardsk922@gmail.com or 411 Beech Street, Mayfield, NY 12117.

Coming Events ...

# March 24th & 25th

Saratoga Woodworkers Showcase Saratoga Springs City Center 10 am - 5 pm NYFOA booth co-staffed by SAC and CDC

April 19th SAC Steering **Committee Meeting CCE office of Saratoga County** 

50 W. High Street, Ballston Spa 6:00 pm

All members are welcome!

# **April 14th**

**Finch Paper Mill Tour** 1 Glen Street, Glens Falls, NY Arrive 9:30am (tour lasts about 2 hours)

Tour will include: Wood yard, paper processing and paper converting Please wear appropriate footwear: Boots or sneakers are required (no open toe shoes are allowed)

**RSVP is a must!** Finch will provide tour guides and groups will be 5-6 people. We need to plan for enough guides **RSVP** by April 6th to Kurt and Kristie Edwards (518) 661-5685 or edwardsk922@gmail.com

Directions and parking info will be available on the NYFOA website or by request when you rsvp. Event will end after tour-there is no place at Finch for a bag lunch.

# April 21st

56th Annual **NYFOA Meeting** 9am — 2 pm

**Marshall Hall ESF** Campus, Syracuse

## July 24th - 29th Saratoga **County Fair** If you would like to volunteer to work this event email **Bill Burke at** liamsb45@gmail.com





# Earth Day

### By Wes Suhr, Reprinted from the Forest Owner, March/April 1990

### What is it?

I can tell you what Earth Day means to me, but you may not understand, you may even laugh or scoff at it, and only a few may have a similar conceptual understanding. So you should define it for yourself, from your experience, your level of involvement, your feelings, for it embodies a concept within each of us, whether latent or active – almost like "soul" – an instinctual feeling about Nature. Its outward manifestation, whether indifference or concerned action, will affect the health of the environment, our standard of living and possibly even our survival in the long-run.

Earth Day is a celebration of our dependence on the environment to ultimately sustain the health and happiness of humanity. It sees the environment as a world or global community, consisting of rock, soil, air, water, plants and animals, with man being just one component. It recognizes that the action of any one component can interact with others of the community in either adverse or beneficial ways.

# The concept of Earth Day sees man as just one component of a global community.

Earth Day is a time to reflect on how man has treated the natural environment, the global community. We know the examples of damage and neglect, world-wide. Most of us can see some carelessness in our own towns, resulting in damage to natural resources. The accumulative effect of environmental degradation eventually creates a supply problem for man, animals and plants - lack of clean air, water, and productive soils. The imperative for change has been forcibly demonstrated by sick, dying or dead plants and animals, including man, attempting to exist in these altered environments.

Earth Day was proposed by Senator Nelson of Wisconsin and initially observed on April 22, 1970. His objective was "...to thrust the issue of environmental quality and resource conservation into the political dialogue of the Nation...to show the political leader-ship...there was broad and deep support for the environmental movement." The response was overwhelming with an estimated 25 million Americans participating coast-to-coast. Largely due to this strong commitment, the decade of the 70's established the legislation and enacted the laws necessary for basic protection of our environment, including the Clean Air Act, Water Quality Improvement Act, Resource Conservation and Recovery Act, Endangered Species Act and the National Environmental Policy Act, to name a few.

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# Did you know....

One of the reasons your lungs feel refreshed when walking through a pine forest is because of an anti-inflammatory compound called a-Pinene, found in conifers. It is used as a bronchodilator in the treatment of asthma and abundantly present in marijuana.

Source: https://www.steephill.com/science/ terpenes



# **Online Resources**

DEC has environmental education programs and resources that will help everyone become a better steward of the environment.

### Summer Camps - Colby, DeBruce, Rushford, and **Pack Forest**

DEC camps combine environmental education, sportsman education and outdoor recreation into an adventurous experience. We use a fun, hands-on approach to teach about the environment. Campers will have the opportunity to learn outdoor skills including backpacking, camping and canoeing. First hand experiences in the outdoors have inspired many campers with a life-long passion for nature and a dedication to stewardship of our natural resources.

http://www.dec.ny.gov/education/29.html

#### **Conservationist for Kids**

Conservationist for Kids, is a nature and environment magazine for kids in New York State. Every issue contains information and activities about New York State's environment, and ways to explore outside.

https://www.dec.ny.gov/education/40248.html



Becoming an Outdoors-Woman (BOW) and Beyond BOW are programs designed to teach women outdoor skills. These programs provide women with information, encouragement, and hands-on instruction in outdoor skills such as fishing, shooting, archery, hunting, trapping, outdoor photography, map and compass, survival, camping, canoeing, and outdoor cooking. Becoming an Outdoors-Woman workshops are designed primarily for women who have little or no experience with outdoor activities. These are three-day workshops that offer many different classes over the course of a weekend.

http://www.dec.ny.gov/education/68.html



### New York State Hemlock Initiative Presentation At SAC Annual Meeting

Information for the report was taken from the NYS Hemlock Initiative website at: https://blogs.cornell.edu/nyshemlockinitiative/

Charlotte Malmborg, natural resources technician, Cornell University Department of Natural Resources, presented a program about the NYS Hemlock Initiative during the afternoon session of our annual meeting. The meeting took place January 20<sup>th</sup> at the Crandall Library in Glens Falls. The NYS Hemlock Initiative (NYSHI) is based at Cornell University. Their mission is to coordinate state-wide efforts of land owners, state and federal agencies, government officials, and concerned citizens to conserve New York State's hemlock trees. They integrate research, management, and outreach to conserve New York State's hemlock resources in the face of multiple threats, particularly the hemlock woolly adelgid (HWA), an invasive insect. Additionally, they research and implement biological control strategies for forest insect pests.

Charlotte covered the importance of hemlock trees in northeastern forests, the threat presented by HWA, and what you can do to identify and manage HWA infestations in your woodlot. She also talked about the New York State Hemlock Initiative's research into biocontrol opportunities and its role in promoting hemlock conservation throughout the state.

The presentation, which was open to the public had about 30 people in attendance. At the conclusion of the presentation Charlotte took time to field many questions concerning this threat to the future of the Hemlock tree. Prior to the afternoon presentation SAC conducted their annual business meeting in the morning and enjoyed a casual lunch together at Davidson Brothers Pub.



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#### Earth Day, continued from page 4

This gave many states the impetus to establish their own policies and acts for safeguarding the environment. A basic problem is implementing these laws – applying them to each affected site or area to correct, reduce or prevent resource degradation. This is where we can help – let's begin now, and emphasize our message through the week of observance for Earth Day 1990, April 22-29.

# If we are to have a positive impact, Earth Day should be every day.

#### What can we do?

We can begin by supporting the environmental laws and environmentally conscious politicians. To take direct action ourselves, we will have to change some habits, performing or reacting a little differently on various home and job activities, such as:

- ⇒ Conserving water and electricity
- $\Rightarrow$  Adapting a recycling system for refuse
- ⇒ Properly disposing of chemicals and petrols
- ⇒ Gardening and composting
- ⇒ Utilizing solar energy and planting windbreaks

With a little effort and forethought, our collective action can be significant.

Initiating proper practices on our forest lands will require more effort and greater costs. The standard logging job on the average woodlot will be improved when we:

- $\Rightarrow$  Only allow it with a forester-approved silviculture/management plan
- ⇒ Landowners and foresters embrace a land ethic which considers soil, water and residual stand values as important as the harvested product
- ⇒ Enforce a logging contract that specifies required protection for all skid trails, as well as the main haul road.

#### Earth Day 1990 and Beyond

Fundamental to the success of the environmental movement is individual participation inspired by a true compassion for the land and each other, world-wide. Eventually this ethic must pervade the thinking of self-interest groups such as preservationists, conservationists and corporate industrialists. In the future, we need people who see value in all the needs of forest can provide, form wilderness enjoyment to wood production. We need people who will honestly examine and understand opposing groups to truly achieve proper management and preservation of our great forest resources.

Earth Day 1990 should foster communication among opposing forest-interest groups to achieve altruistic forest use by consensus into the 21 Century.

Each Year Earth Day is celebrated on April 22nd. We have achieved many of the objectives suggested in this 1990 article and are making great strides in preserving the environment for future generations. For current information on Earth Day please visit their website: <u>https://www.earthday.org/earthday/</u>





### ALL INVITED:

NYS AMERICAN TREE FARM SYSTEM MEMBERS, FOREST OWNERS, FARM WOODLOT OWNERS, WILDLIFE ENTHUSIASTS, STUDENTS AND OTHER INTERESTED INDIVIDUALS

Arrive & Sign-In - (8:00 - 8:30 am) Refreshments and Informational Tables

8:30-8:45am

Opening Introduction, Current Tree Farm Membership 2015-2020 Tree Farm Standards Thoughts of Upcoming 2020-2025 Tree Farm Stewardship Standards Chris Prentis, Lower Hudson Forestry Service, NYTF Chair, NYSTF Advisory Board-Area1

### 8:45-9:15am

A Day in the Life of a Consulting Forester Rod Jones, Northeast Timber Services, NYTF Secretary, NYSTF Advisory Board-Area 6

### 9:15-10:05am

Turkeys- A Special Jewel In Your Tree Farm Doug Little, Conservationist and Kaylee Resha, Wildlife Biologist, National Wild Turkey Federation (NWTF)

#### 10:05-10:55am

Invasive Management & EQUIP Black Walnut-Planting Gold Seeds to Reap Gold Nuggets Chris Tcimpidis, Bevan Forestry

⇒ Break, Refreshments, Information Tables (10:55 -11:15am) 11:15am -12:45pm Ticks and Lyme Disease- A Thorough Look at an Ever Growing Threat Dr. Carmen Greenwood, Dept. of Fisheries, Wildlife and Environmental Sciences, SUNY Cobleskill Theresa Oellrick, RN, Otsego County Dept. of Health

12:45 -1:30pm

Restoring the American Chestnut- Light At The End of the Tunnel Allen Nichols, President & District 4 Director, New York Chapter- The American Chestnut Foundation

 $\Rightarrow$  Lunch Break (1:30 - 2:15pm)

2:30pm Educational Forest Tour Morning/Afternoon Presenters & Morrisville State Forestry Professors

Immediately paid registrations will assure space and materials availability and are requested by contacting:

(845) 270-2071
(607) 865-5917
(607) 655-1411
(315) 202-4027

Dinner and overnight accommodations information is available on request

Are you interested in hosting a woodswalk?

Do you have a suggestion for a chapter event?

If so please contact Kurt Edwards, event coordinator,

at 411 Beech Street, Mayfield, NY 12117, or at edwardsk922@gmail.com



# SOUTHEASTERN ADIRONDACK CHAPTER

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