

The New York Forest Owner

A PUBLICATION OF THE NEW YORK FOREST OWNERS ASSOCIATION

November/December 2006



Member Profile: Peter & Betty Gregory

Volume 44 Number 6



FOUNDED 1963

www.nyfoa.org

THE NEW YORK FOREST OWNERS ASSOCIATION

Officers & Directors

Alan White, President

22 Bruce Scudder Rd.
Halcott Center, NY 12430; (845) 254-6031

Geff Yancey, Vice President

32 Oliver Street
Rochester, NY 14607; (585) 271-4567

Kelly Smallidge, Secretary

611 County Rd 13
Van Etten, NY 14889; (607) 589-7530

Steve Teuscher, Treasurer

1392 Lillibridge Rd
Portville, NY 14770; (716) 933-0370

Peter Smallidge, Chair Editorial Committee and Ex-Officio Board Member

Cornell University, Fernow Hall
Ithaca, NY 14853; (607) 592 3640

2007

Renee Bouplon, Hudson, (518) 822-0613

Charles Bove, Bethpage, (914) 644-2330

Bob Malmshheimer, Cazenovia, (315) 470-6909

Geff Yancey, Rochester, (585) 271-4567

2008

Dan Cleveland, Erin, (607) 732-7884

Cindy King, Amsterdam, (518) 842-3556

Gene Reinschagen, Painted Post, (607) 796-6202

Kelly Smallidge, Van Etten, (607) 589-7530

2009

Harry Dieter, Honeoye Falls, (585) 533-2085

Steve Teuscher, Portville, (716) 933-0370

Alan White, Halcott Center, (845) 482-3719

Frank Winkler, Andes, (845)676-4825

Chapter-Designated Directors

Dick Patton, Allegheny Foothills; (716) 761-6333

Carl Wiedemann, Capital District; (518) 895-8767

John Druke, Central New York; (315) 656-2313

Anne Osborn, Lower Hudson; (845) 424-3683

Steve Graham, Northern Adirondack; (315)788-0281

Bob Preston, Niagara Frontier; (716) 632-5862

Bob Manning, Southern Adirondack; (518) 251-4638

Dana Benjamin, Southern Tier; (607) 723-2958

Dick Harrington, Southern Finger Lakes; (607) 657-4480

Mike Seager, Western Finger Lakes; (585) 414-6511

Mary Jeanne Packer, Executive Director

PO Box 210, 124 E. 4th Street
Watkins Glen, NY 14891; (607) 535-9790
mjpacker@nyfoa.org

Liana Gooding, Office Administrator

P.O. Box 541
Lima, N.Y 14485; (800) 836-3566
lgooding@nyfoa.org

The New York Forest Owners Association is a 501(c)3 foundation and tax deductible donations to this organization will advance NYFOA's educational mission.

All rights reserved. Contents may not be reproduced without prior written permission from the publisher. NYFOA does not necessarily support or approve procedures, products, or opinions presented by authors or advertisers.

© 2006 New York Forest Owners Association

In This Issue . . .

FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR MARY JEANNE PACKER	3
THE POLICY PAGE – CFRO LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES CARL WIEDEMANN	5
ASK A PROFESSIONAL PETER SMALLIDGE	6
KID'S CORNER–MAKE YOUR OWN PAPER REBECCA HARGRAVE	9
WILD THINGS IN YOUR WOODLAND KRISTI SULLIVAN	10
STORIES FROM THE WOODS: MFO PROGRAM NEWS GARY GOFF	12
THE ASIAN LONGHORNED BEETLE SUZANNE BOND	14
THE WILLOW CONE GALL MIDGE DOUGLAS C. ALLEN	16
BOOKS-TO-NOTE	18
WOODLOT CALENDAR	18
MEMBER QUESTION	19
KNOW YOUR TREES – BUTTERNUT	20
MEMBER PROFILE – PETER & BETTY GREGORY ALEXANDRA SILVA	21

The New York Forest Owner

A PUBLICATION OF THE NEW YORK FOREST OWNERS ASSOCIATION

VOLUME 44, NUMBER 5

*The New York Forest Owner is a bi-monthly publication of The New York Forest Owners Association, P.O. Box 541, Lima, N.Y 14485. Materials submitted for publication should be sent to: **Mary Beth Malmshheimer**, Editor, The New York Forest Owner, 134 Lincklaen Street, Cazenovia, New York 13035. Materials may also be e-mailed to mmalmshe@syr.edu. Articles, artwork and photos are invited and if requested, are returned after use. **The deadline for submission for the January/February issue is December 1, 2006.***

Please address all membership fees and change of address requests to P.O. Box 541, Lima, N.Y. 14485. 1-800-836-3566. Cost of family membership/subscription is \$35.

This magazine is printed on Accent Opaque paper produced at International Paper's Ticonderoga, New York, mill from working Adirondack forests, managed responsibly in accordance with the principles of the Sustainable Forestry Initiative.

www.nyfoa.org

COVER: Photo shows the entire Gregory family being photographed on their property known as "Huckleberry Hill." For complete member profile turn to page 21. Photo courtesy of John T. Bollentin, Creative Photography, Burnt Hills, NY (518) 393-2621.

From The Executive Director

Here we grow again! The feedback from our members about the changes we've made this year to *The Forest Owner* is very encouraging. Thank you. Now, we are thinking of adding eight more pages to the publication. If we do that, what would you like to see included? Some folks have asked for more information on managing woodlands for wildlife. Others would like to learn about agri-forestry or water quality conservation practices. What about you?

In this edition of *The Forest Owner*, we are introducing a new regular column called Stories from the Woods. This section of the publication (pages 12-13) is devoted to providing updates on



NYFOA's partner the NY Master Forest Owner (MFO) Volunteer Program activities. Gary Goff, the MFO program director, is assembling a

series of interesting stories about what MFO volunteers enjoy doing most, "Seeing and walking in woods that are new to them, and getting the chance to share knowledge with the forest owners they visit."

Carl Wiedemann, NYFOA's Policy Committee Chair, reports (on page 5) about legislative priorities for 2007 currently being developed by the Council of Forest Resource Organizations (CFRO), of which NYFOA is a founding member. Some of the policy areas under consideration by CFRO include assessment of standing timber, school tax credits for forest lands, funding for forest inventory and analysis, and funding for eradication of exotic species that threaten

NY's forests. NYFOA's members have a chance to help shape policy in Albany; and your input on these proposed positions is important.

NYFOA and its members have been given an opportunity to work with NYS DEC in implementing the recently approved Comprehensive Wildlife Strategy for NYS (see page 8). NYFOA chapters are invited to designate a representative to each of the ten new watershed teams that NYS DEC will be forming to guide Strategy implementation in their region. If you are interested in

Please share this magazine with a neighbor and urge them to join NYFOA. By gaining more members, NYFOA's voice will become stronger!

getting involved with this effort, contact your chapter chair for more information. NYS DEC expects to award nearly \$3 million in cost share funding to landowners and others in the year ahead for completing on-the-ground actions that will address the highest priority needs identified in the Strategy. The Strategy specifically recognizes the importance of forest lands in providing key habitats and calls for, among other tactics, developing "tax incentives, easements, and cooperative management programs" for addressing forest fragmentation concerns.

The Northern Forest Partnership

continued on page 4

The mission of the New York Forest Owners Association (NYFOA) is to promote sustainable forestry practices and improved stewardship on privately owned woodlands in New York State. NYFOA is a not-for-profit group of landowners and others interested in the thoughtful management of private forests for the benefit of current and future generations.

Join!

NYFOA is a not-for-profit group of NY State landowners promoting stewardship of private forests for the benefit of current and future generations. Through local chapters and statewide activities, NYFOA helps woodland owners to become responsible stewards and interested publics to appreciate the importance of New York's forests.

Join NYFOA today and begin to receive its many benefits including: six issues of *The New York Forest Owner*, woodwalks, chapter meetings, and statewide meetings.

I/We own _____ acres of woodland.

I/We do not own woodland but support the Association's objectives.

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____

State/ Zip: _____

Telephone: _____

Email: _____

County of Residence: _____

County of Woodlot: _____

Referred by: _____

Regular Annual Dues:

Student \$10

(Please provide copy of student ID)

Individual \$30

Family \$35

Multi-Year Dues:

Individual 2-yr \$55 3-yr \$80

Family 2-yr \$65 3-yr \$95

Additional Contribution:

Contributor \$50-\$99

Sponsor \$100-\$249

Benefactor \$250-\$499

Steward \$500 or more

NYFOA is recognized by the IRS as a 501(c)(3) tax-exempt organization and as such your contribution may be tax deductible to the extent allowed by law.

Form of Payment: Check Credit Card

Credit Card No. _____

Expiration Date _____

Signature: _____

Make check payable to **NYFOA**.
Send the completed form to:

NYFOA

P.O. Box 541

Lima, New York 14485

1-800-836-3566

www.nyfoa.org

From the Executive Director (continued)

Program has awarded NYFOA a \$13,500 grant for developing the Northern NY Forest Products Utilization Database and Website. Working in partnership with NYS DEC and Cornell Cooperative Extension (CCE), NYFOA will develop and promote a new database-driven website (tentatively named *www.nyforestlink.org*) that will connect the private non-industrial forest owners with individuals and businesses that seek access to a variety of primary forest products ranging from sawlogs and firewood to non-timber forest products such as maple sap and wild edibles, and with agencies and organizations that can provide assistance to them as they plan for the sustainable use of their forest resources. It is anticipated that this of Northern NY-centered project will serve as a pilot; and following project evaluation and additional financial resources, NYFOA hopes to be able to expand this effort statewide. Jeff Luoma, Cornell / NYS DEC Public Service Forester based in Canton, provided leadership in developing this project; and support was furnished by NYFOA's partners the NYS Maple Producers Association, consulting foresters, and CCE St. Lawrence County.

NYFOA's membership drive is underway. We are distributing our new four-color membership brochure in many different ways; and are reaching numerous people who are interested in our organization's mission but who were never aware of the Association or how to get involved. Thanks to chapter leaders for a tremendous job in reaching out to potential new members and tracking down lapsed members. If you would like membership brochures to share with your friends and neighbors, please contact the Association office. With more members, NYFOA will have a stronger voice in policy issues and other matters; and we'll be able to offer more services to all of our members. Please help with recruiting new members!

I am honored by the number of invitations I've received to NYFOA chapter events being scheduled for this winter. I hope to get out to all ten chapters in the months ahead to meet members and learn more about the activities you are doing in your region and how I can support your important efforts. 🍂

—Mary Jeanne Packer
Executive Director

Alan White Speaks at ESFPA Annual Meeting

Alan White, NYFOA President, speaking at the annual meeting of the Empire State Forest Products Association in October in Albany. Alan spoke with the group about forest land tax issues. He said that right now in NYS, "the economics of owning forest land don't add up"—referring to the typical annual school tax rate increase across NYS of 7% compared to the annual rate of inflation that is only 2.7%. Alan challenged those present to become vocal and involved in the growing coalition that is working to find solutions including new sources of funding for schools, ways to reduce municipal spending growth, and a new forest tax program that would meet the needs of more forest landowners than the current 480A program.



Photo by MJ Packer.

In addition to Alan, several other NYFOA members and staff attended the meeting - NYFOA board members Frank Winkler, Hugh Canham, Ron Pederson, and NYFOA Executive Director MJ Packer were present at the event and also attended the groundbreaking for the new NY Forest Resources Center.

Lake George Forestry

Complete Forestry Services including:

- Detailed Management Plans
- Timber Trespass
- Timber Sales
- Appraisals
- Deed Research
- Timber Inventory
- Watershed Management
- Boundary Line Location
- Tax Savings Plans

No property is too small or too large to benefit from experienced professional assistance when you are faced with important decisions regarding its use.

Contact Lake George Forestry today to arrange a free initial consultation.

Christian Gearwear, President
LAKE GEORGE FORESTRY, INC.

50 Hendrick Street
Lake George, New York 12845
Phone/Fax: 518-668-2623

New York State Maple

- The production of maple syrup, and associated value-added products, is an important agricultural industry in New York State.
- Maple production contributes to local rural economies and provides supplemental income to farmers and forest land owners. In 2005, there were 1,485 producers with 100 or more taps.
- New York State maple production, valued at nearly \$72 million in 2004, represents about one-sixth of the total production in the U.S.
- New York is the third largest maple producer in the nation behind Vermont and Maine.

The mission of the New York State Maple Producers Association is to support the maple products industry in New York State and promote its long-term viability.

Do you own a sugarbush? Join NYMAPA today. Working together we can make things happen.



New York State Maple Producers Association, Inc.
602.525.9790
www.nysmaple.com



Would you like to receive updates via email on emerging forestry issues and opportunities for forest owners? If so, please make sure we have your current email address. Contact Liana in the NYFOA office: lgooding@nyfoa.org

The Policy Page

CFRO Legislative Priorities

CARL WIEDEMANN

In spring 2005, representatives of several organizations who share a strong interest in the future of New York's forest resources were invited to meet with NYFOA's board of directors to consider the idea of forming a coalition to focus support on issues of mutual concern. The Council of Forest Resource Organizations (CFRO) was established following that meeting. Besides NYFOA, other members of this advocacy organization include the NY Farm Bureau, the Empire State Forest Products Association, the Society of American Foresters, and others.

The Council recently met to discuss priorities for 2007. The following topics were discussed and there was general agreement that these issues should be made priorities for the Council. However, at this time the specific objectives are still under discussion. There was also some discussion of additional issues under the category of "property rights" which may be added to this list. Consequently, the following summary should be considered as "draft" until a final version is agreed on by each of the member organizations. This should happen by the end of 2006.

If you have any concerns or comments, please share them. The Board of Directors tries hard to represent the interests of every NYFOA member. Therefore, it is important to hear from you!

Preliminary Issues List for 2007
Issue: Assessment of Standing Timber
Objective: Prevent Additional Property Taxes Resulting From the Valuation of Trees

Rationale: The State Office of Real Property Tax Services has advised local assessors on how to value trees as part of the assessment of real property. Although it is not yet a widespread practice, some jurisdictions now include

the value of standing timber in the assessment of real property. This practice tends to shift additional taxes onto forested ownerships. Higher property taxes discourage sustainable forest management and increase the pace of forest fragmentation.

Issue: School Tax Credit for Forestland
Objective: Enact a refundable income tax credit to phase out school taxes on forested parcels over a ten-year period.

Rationale: Rapidly escalating school taxes and increasing land values are making long term forest stewardship economically unsustainable in New York State. The Public Policy Institute of NYS recently released a report showing school taxes increasing, on average, at a rate of 7.1 percent this year. At that rate of increase, school taxes on forest land will more than double within the next 12 years. One of the consequences is that private forestland in New York State is being converted to developed uses at an alarming rate. This conversion threatens the viability of intact forest habitats, the forest industry and the quality of our air and water. Governor Pataki and the State Legislature created a similar credit for farmland during the Governor's first year in office. The Council supports the expansion of the current program or development of a new refundable income tax credit that would phase out school taxes on forested parcels over a ten year period.

Issue: State Funding for Forest Inventory and Analysis

Objective: Continued State Funding for Forest Inventory

Rationale: The USDA Forest Service, with financial support from the state, conducts a periodic forest inventory to determine the status, health, productivity

and timber volume in the forests of New York State. This information is vital for both private and public decision-making. It allows public agencies, non-profits and citizens to assess the health, biological diversity and economic potential of forestland. At the same time, many wood-using businesses use this information to make decisions regarding expansion or development of new production facilities. The Council of Forest Resource Organizations supports the continuing investment of state funds to insure that New York's forest inventory data is current and timely.

Issue: State Funding for Management of Invasive Exotics that Threaten New York's Forests

Objective: Additional state support for the timely eradication and control of those species which pose the greatest threat.

Rationale: Invasive insects, diseases and plants are non native species, and can harm the environment including our forest resources. Forest owners are especially concerned with invasive species including forest insects, diseases and invasive plants. Invasives come from all around the world; the rate of invasion is increasing along with the increase in international trade that accompanies globalization. Since 2004, at least seven new species have been identified New York. A management strategy to control invasive species is essential for protecting forest health, and to reduce losses to wildlife habitat and timber supply. However, current budget constraints mean that some infestations, such as the Asian long horned beetle, will not be eradicated for several years. 🌲

Carl Wiedemann is Chair of the Policy Committee of NYFOA.

Ask A Professional

PETER SMALLIDGE



Peter Smallidge

Landowner questions are addressed by foresters and other natural resources professionals. Landowners should be careful when interpreting answers and applying this general advice to their property because landowner objectives and property conditions will affect specific management options. When in doubt, check with your regional DEC office or other service providers. Landowners are also encouraged to be active participants in Cornell Cooperative Extension and NYFOA programs to gain additional, often site-specific, answers to questions. To submit a question, email to Peter Smallidge at pjs23@cornell.edu with an explicit mention of "Ask a Professional." Additional reading on various topics is available at www.forestconnect.info

Question:

Question: This summer I have been spending more time in my woods clearing trails and checking boundaries and I have seen many dead trees. Is this something I should be concerned about?

Answer:

People love their forests and the trees. They understandably become concerned when a tree dies. In some situations dead trees should prompt the landowner to contact a NYS Department of Environmental Conservation forester or a Cornell Cooperative Extension educator for diagnostic assistance, but in most cases the landowner can attribute tree death to natural and normal processes. In areas frequented by humans, standing dead trees can pose a hazard, but in other situations those trees provide a source of habitat for wildlife. If the dead trees don't have a pest that might spread to other areas, landowners who can handle dead trees safely may utilize them for firewood or lumber.

Each year some of the trees in a forest will die. Tree death is normal. The bigger the acreage, the more dead trees you will see. In very young forests, the juvenile trees are subject to

environmental stresses. Some trees don't survive those initial stresses. In middle aged forests the trees get larger and require more resources, but the amount of land and resources available for tree growth doesn't change. Tree growth stagnates, trees are weakened,

and some trees eventually die. As the growth of a tree stagnates, the weaker trees will succumb to insect or disease pests and die. In these young and middle-aged forests, there may be as much as 20% death, 1 in 5 trees, to allow the average tree size to increase



Some large trees die because they have reached their maximum lifespan. This snag is too decayed to justify trying to use for firewood or boards. It may stand for several more years and provide habitat for cavity nesting birds.

by 1 inch of diameter. In old-aged forests, some trees will die just because they have reached the upper end of their longevity. The number of trees that die each year will not be constant. Rather, the forest will have some years with higher mortality when an environmental event, such as drought, interacts with naturally weakened trees to cause episodic mortality. Many factors and organisms can result in tree death (www.dec.state.ny.us/website/dlf/privland/forprot/health/).

Most New York forests started after agriculture, with many beginning in the late 1800's and early 1900's. Thus, the trees are all approximately the same age, though of different sizes. Species such as black locust, pin cherry, paper birch and aspen may only live for 40 to 100 years even under ideal conditions. In forests that are now 75 to 150 years old, tree death of these early successional species is common.

A significant, sudden, and obvious pattern in tree death or loss of vigor will likely indicate a condition that will require additional professional assistance to guide your response. Actually, if any two of these three conditions occur, you should seek assistance. Significant means more than three or four trees per acre. Sudden means that the tree death or vigor change occurs in the same growing season or from one growing season to the next. Obvious pattern means that you can describe the changes in the trees that relate to species, symptoms, aspect, ages of trees, or geographic areas.

If you suspect that tree death or loss of vigor warrants professional attention, record the details of what you are seeing. Then, call your local office of the NYS DEC or Cornell Cooperative Extension for help in submitting a sample to Cornell University's plant disease diagnostic service (www.plantclinic.cornell.edu). If possible, take digital pictures to illustrate the problem. The more information you can provide the



Dead trees may stand for several years because the loss of leaves and small branches reduces their interception of wind. Initially the dead trees may have solid wood and be useful for firewood or boards. Within a year or two, fungal decay in dead trees makes them most suitable for wildlife.

quicker and more certain the diagnosis will be. The cause of the death or low vigor may be known and fact sheets may already be available for your use. The purpose of diagnosis is typically not to prevent the death of the trees you are observing, but rather to limit the spread of mortality to other trees.

You can't prevent trees from dying, but you can influence which trees are most likely to survive. Through management you can provide sunlight, the most critical resource, to the desired trees by cutting the adjacent, less desired, poorly formed, or unstable trees. In this way, you can enhance the growth and prolong the life of specific trees. In a previously unmanaged forest, this process is known as forest stand improvement. In some situations, the cutting of trees can generate revenue and help develop a more productive forest. Selecting which trees to cut will likely require assistance from a forester.

Once you understand the cause of tree death, you can decide if and how to utilize those trees. Utilization should support your personal ownership objectives. Because these trees are dead or near death, their

wood strength and stem integrity is uncertain and warrants significant caution and special training for safe felling and removal. Some species will be useful for firewood if removed within a year of death. These include oak, maple, locust, ash, hophornbeam, beech and several others. Some trees may have lumber value for processing through a local portable sawmill. It is rare that a small number of dead trees will be saleable to a local sawmill. Finally, other trees may be left in the woods for use as wildlife habitat if they are too decayed or not able to be safely removed.

To get more ideas on how to use dead trees in your forest and to see the types of mortality that occurs, attend a NYFOA chapter woodswalk. Talk with others to understand the extent of tree mortality in their forest and how they utilize dead trees. 🌲

Response provided by Peter Smallidge, NYS Extension Forester and Director, Arnot Teaching and Research Forest, Cornell University, Ithaca, NY. This response was adapted from a FAQ developed for the USDA Forest Service Northeastern Area State and Private Forestry web page.

NYS Comprehensive Wildlife Conservation Strategy

The New York State Department of Environmental Conservation has issued a detailed, four-page Comprehensive Wildlife Conservation Strategy (CWXA) for New York State. According to NYS DEC Commissioner Denise M. Sheehan, "The CWCS is designed to secure the state's wildlife populations and their key habitats for the benefit of current and future generations of New Yorkers." The goals of the CWCS include:

- Reverse documented declines in more than 544 species of fish and wildlife, including some at risk of becoming endangered;
- Inform citizens and stakeholders of actions needed to conserve fish and wildlife populations;
- Foster application of good science and the quest for new knowledge in effective management of our most vulnerable fish and wildlife species.

Protecting and restoring wildlife in New York will enhance the quality of life of all our citizens by sustaining opportunities to enjoy our natural world," Commissioner Sheehan said. "The CWCS helps connect our existing environmental quality programs with the needs of the wildlife that are so important to us."

The CWCS documents the incredible diversity of New York's natural resources. New York has more dragonfly and damselfly species than any state except Texas and more mammal species than any state in the Northeast. However, only 55 percent of the state's plants and vertebrates are considered secure, and the status of most invertebrates remains unknown according to the New York Natural Heritage Program (NYNHP). The CWCS found that the biological diversity of the state is challenged by development sprawl, habitat degradation and loss, invasive species, pollution and climate change.

DEC and its partners will be forming CWCS watershed teams to implement the recommendations in the strategy. Local governments, hunter and angler groups, organizations such as NYFOA and its chapters, and tribal nations will be asked to participate on these teams in the coming months.

If you are interested in receiving a full four page summary of the Wildlife Action plan please contact Liana Gooding at NYFOA, P.O. Box 541, Lima, New York 14485 or by calling 1-800-836-3566.



SCREEN PRINTING SPECIALISTS
Voss SIGNS, LLC
 CUSTOM & STOCK SIGNS FOR LONG TERM OUTDOOR USE

NO DUMPING ALLOWED

CALL FOR OUR FREE 2005 CATALOG WITH MANY NEW ITEMS FOR THE FORESTRY PROFESSIONAL

CUSTOM AND STOCK SIGNS FOR FORESTRY PROFESSIONALS

PRINTED ON ALUMINUM AND PLASTIC FOR LONG TERM OUTDOOR USE

PRIVATE PROPERTY TREE FARM
 PROPERTY WILL REMAIN UNPOSTED IF TREATED WITH RESPECT
 CARRY OUT TRASH. NO HEMPIG.
 PERMIT NUMBER TO 413-549-1403.

POSTED
 PRIVATE PROPERTY
 HUNTING, FISHING, TRAPPING OR
 TRESPASSING FOR ANY PURPOSE
 IS STRICTLY FORBIDDEN.
 VIOLATORS WILL BE PROSECUTED.
 WOODWORTH FARMS

NO 4 X 4s ON TRAIL

NO ATVs

P.O. BOX 553
 MANLIUS N.Y. 13104
PH. 1-800-473-0698
 (315) 682-6418
 FAX: 682-7335
WWW.VOSSSIGNS.COM
 Custom Screen Printing
 since 1965

MANAGED FOREST LAND FOR SALE

- 131 acres with cabin and 4 food plots
- 480a Management plan recently approved - low taxes
- Lots of road frontage on two roads and many interior forest roads
- Located in the Town of Freemont, Steuben County
- Easy access of I-390 and SR 21, \$175,000

Other forestland available - Please call Mitch at (585) 309-2144

Working with you to manage your woodlot and consult your timber to the highest bidder.

FORESTRY CONSULTANT JARED KRAMER

Forest Management Services Inc.
 11164 Holland Glenwood Rd., Holland NY 14080
716-537-9768

B.S. Forestry Management • Estimates & Evaluation • 7% Consulting Fee

Kid's Corner

REBECCA HARGRAVE



Do you have a photo of you and your kids or grandkids in your forest? If so, *The New York Forest Owner* would like to see it! Send an electronic or hard copy to *Forest Owner* editor, MaryBeth Malmsheimer, (address on page 22) and it may end up on this page!

Jeff Rupp submitted this photograph. The picture shows Emma Rupp (age 3 at the time) holding down a large, over-mature Cherry tree felled by her Dad, Andy and Granfather Jeff in the Rupp family forest.

Make Your Own Paper

Paper is one of the many forest products we use every day. In fact, Americans use 749 pounds of paper every year for writing, wrapping gifts, packing our groceries and blowing our noses. Paper is made from pulp, which mainly comes from woodchips and recycled paper. Woodchips are ground, mixed with water (and sometimes chemicals) then heated to separate the fibrous pulp that will be made into paper.

Most of us don't have the ability to make paper from woodchips at home, but we can make paper from recycled paper. Handmade paper is a fun and practical project for kids of all ages. The project below was adapted from Cornell Waste Management Institute's "Trash Goes to School" resource.

Materials:

- A pan big enough for the screen to lie flat
- A large jar, can or rolling pin
- A large spoon
- blender

For 2-3 pieces of paper:

- 3 pieces of stiff window screen 5" square (one for each piece)
- 2 cups of hot water
- 2 8½ x 11 pieces of paper (used paper is perfect)
- 2 Tbls. of liquid starch
- 6 pieces of blotting paper (ordinary paper) the same size as the screen (two for each piece)
- 6 sections of newspaper (two for each piece)

Procedure:

1. Tear paper into very small pieces in the pan (do not cut, it will shorten the fibers). Add 2 cups of hot water and stir for 3-5 minutes. Use a blender for best results in making pulp.
 2. Add starch and stir 3 more minutes.
 3. Pour the slurry out into a shallow pan.
 4. Slide screen under the paper pulp and move pulp around until screen is completely covered.
 5. Lift screen out, let it drain a few seconds, then place it on a piece of blotting paper on a section of newspaper. Place another sheet of blotting paper on top, and then the second section of newspaper.
 6. Press the excess water out by rolling the jar, can or rolling pin over the newspaper. Take off the top newspaper, turn the blotting paper sandwich over and take off the top piece of blotting paper and the screen.
 7. Let the recycled paper dry for 2 hours, then loosen it from the blotting paper and gently peel it off. Let the recycled paper dry overnight before writing on it.
- Thinner paper is easier to work with, so don't pile too much on the screen when you're making it. For more colorful



paper, add some torn colored paper to the blender, or add sparkles, flower petals or other small colorful objects. You can perfume the paper by adding scents to the water, or make the paper into a garden by adding seeds to the pan before screening.

Think about what you can do with your new paper; be creative. When paper is still damp, you can fold or mold it into shapes that it will retain when dry.

Paper is essential to our everyday lives. On average it takes 17 trees to make a ton of paper. By recycling paper we use less new trees per ton, but during the recycling process some of the wood fibers are lost. Were you able to make the same amount of paper as you started with? Also, much of the woodchips that are used to make paper comes from waste wood and trees that are not otherwise valuable, so in many cases making paper is a way to fully take advantage of the trees we harvest.

The paper statistics came from TAPPI's Paper U: <http://www.tappi.org/paperu>.

Rebecca Hargrave is the Community Horticulture and Natural Resources Educator at Cornell University Cooperative Extension in Chenango County.

Wild Things in Your Woodlands

KRISTI SULLIVAN

RUFFED GROUSE (*BONASA UMBELLUS*)



The ruffed grouse is a heavy-bodied, medium-size game bird, about 17 inches in length from the beak to the tip of the tail. Males and females are similar in color, which varies among individuals from a dark gray phase to a chocolate brown or red phase, or a variety of shades in between. In a given area, the population may consist primarily of individuals of either the gray phase or the red phase, with the red phase being more common in milder climates and the gray phase occurring most often in coniferous areas and regions where winters are more severe. Both male and female birds have a black patch of feathers on each side of the lower neck, and a wide black band across the tip of the tail. On average, males weigh about 23 ounces and females weigh about 21 ounces.

A year-round resident, the ruffed grouse is a thrill to encounter in any season. As you pause to catch your breath while walking in the woods, a grouse can leave your heart racing as it explodes into the air. The startling noise created by sudden, rapid wingbeats provides an excellent mode of escape from would-be predators.

Another characteristic sound made by the ruffed grouse is the familiar, bass-like drumming sound males make during the breeding season, from late March to early May. A male chooses a favorite displaying site, typically a large log with a bird's-eye view of the surrounding area, to be the center of his territory. Here he struts and drums to attract females and stake claim to his territory. With his back straight up and tail braced against the log, he cups his wings and moves them sharply forward and back in a horizontal, slightly circular motion. The drumming sound that is produced starts with a few

evenly spaced thumps that increase in frequency to a whir.

After mating, the hen selects a nest site at the base of a stump or a tree, and lays a clutch of 10-12 eggs. The chicks are able to move about and feed soon after hatching, searching for insects in forest openings and edges. Grouse eggs and chicks are vulnerable to predation by a variety of animals including snakes, weasels, mink, fishers, house cats, red and gray foxes, coyotes, red squirrels, bobcats, skunks, opossums, raccoons, barred or great horned owls, and several species of hawks. Cold, wet, spring weather can also affect chick survival. Grouse numbers peak and bottom out in eight- to 10-year cycles, and wildlife biologists have different theories about what causes these population fluctuations. Potential factors include the weather, food supply, predation, habitat changes, or a combination of factors.

The ruffed grouse occurs across New

York State in areas of suitable habitat and is generally more abundant in forests of higher elevations (above 1,000 ft). It is most common in extensive forests or wooded hillsides and ravines, especially those with young, early-successional stage forest, or scattered clearings. The grouse also inhabits abandoned farmlands and pastures that are reverting to brush and forest. Specific habitat features attractive to this bird include brush heaps, fallen timber, grapevine tangles, and conifers.

The adult grouse eats a mostly vegetarian diet. Adults consume large quantities of buds and catkins of aspen, birch and hop hornbeam as they appear in the spring. In the summer, they eat the leaves, fruits, and seeds of aspen, cherry, sedges, strawberry, blackberry and raspberry. In the fall, they feed on fruits of hawthorn, apple, cherry, viburnum, sumac, and dogwood, as well as beechnuts and the buds of apple, birch, cherry and hop hornbeam. During the

winter, grouse depend on cherry, aspen, birch, hop hornbeam and serviceberry buds.

The ruffed grouse is well adapted to living in cold, snowy climates. Small feathers grow on its feet and serve as snowshoes, enabling it to walk on top of snow. A grouse may keep warm at night by burrowing into soft snow, where it is covered and protected from the wind-chilled air above. If the snow is too hard, a grouse will often roost in conifers, where it finds protection from the wind and cold.


Landowners can provide a number of habitat features to benefit the ruffed grouse. If you have enough acreage, you can create and maintain patches of young, sapling stage forest in close proximity to 10 to 25 year-old pole stands for wintering and breeding cover, and 25 to 40 year-old mature aspen for winter food resources. Having all of these forest stages present within a 6 to 10-acre area is ideal. You can also maintain patches of conifers to provide winter cover, and leave large logs on forest floor to serve as drumming logs, nesting sites, and escape cover. Encourage a diversity of food-producing shrub and understory species including grapevines, blackberries, hop hornbeam, serviceberry, dogwood, sumac, viburnum, hawthorn, and apples trees. In the overstory of the forest, encourage aspen growth for winter food, as well as American beech and black cherry. When cutting trees for firewood or when having a timber harvest, consider leave the tops of trees to provide cover. Then revisit the area again and again to enjoy your success and the surprises that the ruffed grouse promises to deliver. 🌲

Kristi Sullivan coordinates the Conservation Education Program at Cornell's Arnot Forest. More information on managing habitat for wildlife, as well as upcoming educational programs at the Arnot Forest can be found by visiting the Arnot Conservation Education Program web site at ArnotConservation.info



CREATIVE PHOTOGRAPHY
WWW.CREATIVEPHOTOGRAPHY.CC
 PROFESSIONAL PHOTOGRAPHY STUDIO
 WEDDINGS - FAMILIES - CHILDREN - PETS - COMMERCIAL
(518) 393-2621
JOHN T. BOLLENTIN
 221 KINGSLEY ROAD ~ BURNT HILLS ~ NEW YORK ~ 12027

Jim Allen
Forester

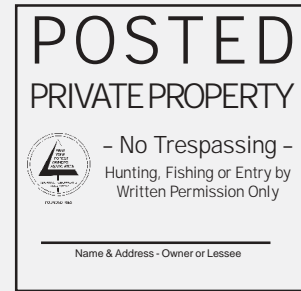


ALLEN FORESTRY
 Forest Mgmt. Services

518-260-3395
15 Sly Pond Road
Fort Ann, NY 12827

Free Timber Appraisals
Property Management
Wildlife Management

NYFOA POSTED SIGN ORDER FORM



Use this form to order the sign shown above. The signs are orange with black printing.

SIGN MATERIAL	COST PER SIGN	NUMBER ORDERED*	COST
Plastic (.024 gauge)	\$.45	_____	\$_____
Aluminum (.012 gauge)	\$.70	_____	\$_____
<i>Add Name and Address to Sign</i>			
\$5.00 Set up cost per address			\$5.00
Plus \$.05 per sign			_____
Handling Cost			
\$5.00 per order			\$5.00
Shipping Cost**			\$_____
TOTAL COST OF ORDER			\$_____

Please specify Name and Address to be printed on signs:

Name: _____

Address: _____

Limited to two lines of type (abbreviate where possible). Type is about 5/16 inches high.

Mailing Address

(UPS Shipping Address if different from mailing address)

Name: _____

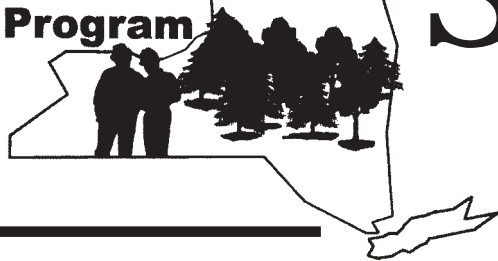
Address: _____

Make checks payable to NYFOA. Mail form to NYFOA at PO Box 541, Lima, NY 14485. For more information call 1-800-836-3566

* Minimum order is 50 signs with additional signs in increments of 25.

** Shipping Costs: 50 signs, \$4.50; 75 signs, \$4.75; 100 signs, \$5.25; 100+ signs, add \$.75 for each 50 signs over 100 (150 would cost \$5.25 plus \$.75 for the additional 50 for a total of \$6.00).

**NY Master Forest
Owner/COVERTS
Program**



Stories from the Woods

GARY GOFF

The goal of the MFO/COVERTS Program is to provide private forest owners with the information and encouragement necessary to manage their forests to enhance ownership satisfaction.

NYFOA and the NY Master Forest Owner/COVERTS Volunteer Program share a common mission aimed at helping responsible forest owners achieve their stewardship goals. NYFOA does so primarily by publishing this magazine, and hosting woodwalks and educational workshops. NY's Master Forest Owner (MFO) Program trains volunteers whose primary outreach mode is via free, one-to-one, on-site visits to interested forest owners. This type of peer-counseling is quite effective, but few organizations or agencies can afford to provide such a service. MFOs do not perform management activities nor give professional advice. Rather, they meet with forest owners to listen to their concerns and questions, and offer advice as to sources of assistance based on their

training and personal experience.

As a staunch supporter of NY's MFO Program, NYFOA has offered to run this series of articles based on program activities and volunteer visits to neighbor woodlots. One goal of the series is to give the volunteers a chance to communicate with fellow volunteers. Equally important is the goal of giving NYFOA members the opportunity to learn more about the MFO Program and enjoy the MFO "stories from the woods". The volunteers often say that what they enjoy most about being a volunteer is seeing and walking in woods that are new to them, and getting the chance share knowledge with the forest

owners they visit. As pointed out above, it seems every forest owner is different. Their different situations, objectives, and information needs are what make the visits interesting, challenging, and fun for the volunteers. Ideally, NY Forest Owner readers will similarly enjoy the experience vicariously from their armchairs!

If you are interested in contacting a MFO volunteer or becoming a volunteer, go to the website at www.cornellmfo.info, or call your Cornell Cooperative Extension County Association or Diana Bryant at 607-255-2115.

New York's forest owners are an

"My wife and I went for a walk yesterday in our woods. I had a completely different view of the trees. I was able to look at the woods from a different angle with the new knowledge I have learned.

I wanted to thank you for the great program and the inspiration to learn more. I will try to continue to attend more programs and read more to help on the woods walks with landowners."

—Jeff Thompson, Hemlock, NY



The 2006 MFO volunteer class at Cornell's Arnot Teaching & Research Forest.

**2006
Master Forest Owner/
COVERTS Program
Volunteers**

Massachusetts
Kate Parsons

Cattaraugus County
Boyce McDivitt
Jeff Rupp

Cayuga County
Renee Jensen

Chautauqua County
Conrad Mason

Chenango County
Andrew Potter

Cortland County
Debra Brock

Greene County
Sydney & Evon Antonio

Onondaga County
Shirley Adams

Ontario County
Jeff Thompson

St. Lawrence County
John Pepe

Tioga County
Jeff Joseph

Tompkins County
Kendall Carpenter
Edward Neuhauser

Warren County
Edward & Donna Welch

Wyoming County
Samuel & Valerie Lee

Yates County
Tom Power



Jim Wilkins, Forester with Wagner Hardwoods in Cayuta NY, explains some of the problems nails and foreign objects cause in sawlogs.

eclectic group; they come from all socio-economic categories and an array of professions. Their ownership goals and experiences are similarly diverse, but some natural groupings are possible. Fortunately for the resource, many forest owners have a common interest in forest stewardship. New or inexperienced forest owners will often express this interest with somewhat vague statements such as "I just want to do the right thing." More experienced forest owners are usually more explicit with goal statements such as "I want to improve my woodlot for song birds," or "I want to optimize sawtimber production." NYFOA members know that a world of information and assistance is available to help all forest owners, but relatively few of NY's 500,000+ other forest owners know this! 📖

—Gary Goff
Director, MFO/COVERTS Program

This is the first in a series of articles about the MFO/COVERTS program.

"Without a doubt this has been the single most important activity we have participated in during our five years of forest ownership.

During these five days, we have learned a tremendous amount about forest growth and management and many related topics and how they apply to the management of our own forest and the achievement of our personal forestry goals. In addition, we have increased our understanding of ecology and animal habitats, and how they contribute to and benefit from informed forestry management.

As MFO/COVERTS volunteers, we will be pleased to help others learn and grow as we have."

*—Ed and Donna Welch,
Altamont, NY*

Sponsors of the MFO Program include: The Ruffed Grouse Society, NY Forest Owners Association, NYS-DEC Div. of Lands & Forests, The Robert H. Wentorf, Jr. Foundation, USDA Renewable Resources Extension Program, and Cornell Cooperative Extension

The Asian Longhorned Beetle: *This Invasive Pest Kills Hardwood Trees*

SUZANNE BOND

When a gentleman who thought vandals were drilling holes in his neighborhood trees examined them closely, around the trees he found large black beetles with white spots and long antennae banded in black and white. He called officials to report them, launching an investigation that led to the discovery of a new invasive species in the United States—the Asian Longhorned Beetle (ALB) had officially arrived.

That was in 1996 in the Greenpoint section of Brooklyn, N.Y. Since then the ALB has mobilized government officials at all levels, educators, scientists, volunteers and others in a fight to eradicate this invasive pest.

“The ALB is a serious threat to certain species of deciduous trees because their larvae bore deep into the heartwood, damaging the tree’s vascular system and eventually killing it,” said Christine Markham, National Director of the ALB Cooperative Eradication Program, the federal, state and local partnership that is working to eradicate the beetle under the auspices

of the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA), Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS).

The ALB probably arrived in the US from Asia contained within packing material like wooden crates, pallets and braces used to ship materials. When these pallets and crates were left outside, the beetles emerged and flew to nearby host trees to continue their life cycles.

“Through research and experience, the ALB program has learned that the tree species that typically host ALBs include all maples, and birch, horsechestnut, elm, willow, poplar, ash, hackberry, sycamore, London Plane and mimosa trees,” Markham said.

In New York, ALB infestations have been discovered in hardwood trees in Manhattan, Queens, Brooklyn and Nassau and Suffolk counties. In all, 132 square-miles of New York are in quarantine due to the ALB. Active infestations are also being eradicated in Union and Middlesex counties in New Jersey. The ALB Program is close to

declaring areas in Hudson County New Jersey and in Illinois officially cleared of the ALB.

“The success we are having in Chicago and the Hoboken and Jersey City areas is very encouraging. This beetle can be successfully eradicated,” said Markham. “The protocols the ALB Eradication Program uses to achieve that end are working.”

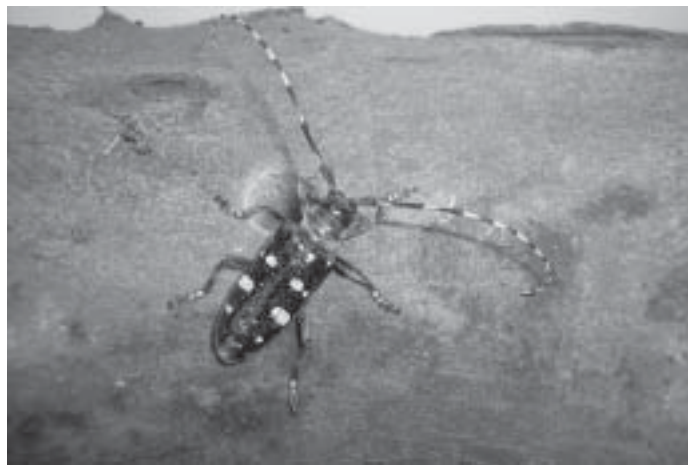
The Asian Longhorned Beetle Cooperative Eradication Program is an integrated pest eradication program. The program’s New York partners include the New York State Department of Agriculture and Markets, City of New York Parks and Recreation and New York Department of Environmental Conservation, along with USDA’s APHIS and Forest Service. Upon scientifically confirming discovery of beetles or their indicators, program protocols begin.

The first component is an intensive visual survey to uncover the boundaries of the ALB infestation and determine the area to be quarantined. Once the area to quarantine is set, regulations are enacted that detail it. The goal is to prevent ALB’s from spreading outside the quarantine, and to destroy ALBs remaining within it.

Activities undertaken include removing infested host trees and nearby host trees at risk of infestation. Yearly, the ALB Program chemically treats host trees in the quarantine area and year-round tree climbers check for signs of



The Asian Longhorned Beetle up close. Photo Dave Lance.



Note the perfectly round exit site left by this emerged ALB. Photo Alan Sawyer, USDA, APHIS.



This New Jersey maple is riddled with exit holes from adult ALB emerging. Photo Greg Rentschler, USDA, APHIS.

infestation. Regulations put in place stop the movement of host materials out of the quarantined area to protect areas that are currently beetle-free.

Regulated host materials are firewood (all hardwood species), green lumber, and other wood materials (living, dead, cut, or fallen), nursery stock, logs, stumps, roots, branches, and debris of half an inch or more in diameter.

The stakes are high. Were it to become established here, ALB could seriously damage industries such as lumber, maple syrup, nursery and tourism, leading to over 41 billion dollars in losses. According to a USDA Forest Service study, if every urban area in the US became infested with ALB, the national impact would be a 35 percent loss of the canopy cover, a 30 percent loss of trees (1.2 billion trees) and 669 billion dollars in compensatory value.

Since 1996, some 6,088 ALB infested trees in New York have been detected, cut and removed as of September 23rd. An additional 50,698 New York trees were treated with the insecticide imidacloprid in 2006.

Imidacloprid is the systemic chemical used to treat non-infested ALB host trees. The chemical is dispersed through the tree's vascular system upon injection into the trunk or the ground around the tree base. Treatments take place in spring. When the tree leafs, the chemical reaches ALB adults that feed on twigs and leaves and the larvae feeding beneath the bark of host trees. Imidacloprid is currently used in the lawn care industry to kill lawn grubs and in some domestic pet treatments to kill fleas. It has yielded positive results against the ALB since its active use began in 2001.

Adult beetles are best spied between June and October. During summer, the ALB female chews individual depressions in tree bark to lay up to 90 eggs. After hatching in two weeks, the worm-like larvae tunnel directly under the bark and then move deeper into the healthy tree, where they feed on living tree tissue as they mature over fall and winter. As the larvae tunnel and feed on the tree, sawdust like material is deposited on tree limbs and around the base of the tree.

The following summer, adult beetles bore out of the trees to feed and mate.

They leave perfectly round, dime-sized holes clearly visible on tree trunks and branches at their point of emergence. The ALBs mate, lay eggs and begin the cycle anew. Over time, tree interiors are riddled with tunnels and galleries. When the critical nutrient-moving pathways in the tree are significantly disrupted the tree dies.

The beetle is not harmful to humans or pets.

"The effort to eradicate ALB from the United States is being won, but it's not over. In order to be completely successful, the ALB eradication efforts must have the cooperation of everyone," said Markham.

If an ALB, or signs of the ALB are spotted, please call toll free (866) 265-0301 in New York, or call 311. Refrain from moving firewood. For more information on the ALB, visit the APHIS Web site at www.aphis.usda.gov and click on Asian longhorned beetle under "Hot Issues."

Suzanne Bond works with the Legislative and Public Affairs, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, USDA in Riverdale, MD.



LAW FIRM EXPERIENCED IN ISSUES
RELATING TO TIMBER, FORESTRY,
AND NATURAL RESOURCE LAW:

**Timber Trespass Actions • Eminent Domain involving Timberland
Timberland Succession Planning • Boundary Line Disputes
Oil, Gas and Wind Energy Lease Reviews
Timber Tax Advice Including:
Schedule T Preparation
Depletion Allowance Calculations
Tax Free Exchanges
Timberland Tax Certiorari Challenges**

**Call David J. Colligan at
WATSON, BENNETT, COLLIGAN, JOHNSON & SCHECHTER, L.L.P.**
12 Fountain Plaza, Suite 600
Buffalo, New York 14202
Telephone: (716)852-3540
Fax: (716)852-3546
or
E-Mail: dcolligan@watsonbennett.com
Visit our Web Site: www.timberlaw.com

The Willow Cone Gall Midge

DOUGLAS C. ALLEN

One of the most interesting aspects of insect ecology is the ability of many species to deform plant growth in such a way as to provide a relatively safe domicile in which to live and feed. Through out the insect world, these structures, called galls, are marvelously variable in terms of location on the host plant, shape and color. For individual species, however, the gall has characteristics that are so consistent in appearance and distinctive that most of these gall-forming insects can be identified to species based solely on the appearance of the gall.

Galls are formed in different ways by different insects. Generally, either chemicals are introduced into the host as the insect feeds (in the case of the willow cone gall midge, it is the larva feeding within the bud that stimulates



Figure 1. Side view of a fully developed willow cone gall.

abnormal the growth of plant cells); or the plant mobilizes and accumulates its own chemicals in response to insect feeding; or the gall results in response to chemicals that originate from special glands in the rear of the insect and are injected into the plant by the insect during the process of egg laying; or it is a combination of these events that distorts plant growth.

The willow cone gall midge has several common names; pine-cone willow gall, pine cone willow gall midge and willow cone gall. As the common name implies, the adult is a fly. It belongs to the family Cecidomyiidae (cess-i-doe-my-ee-idee), known as gall midges or gall gnats. Most of the species in this group are gall makers but many are not. For example, the best known member of the family is the Hessian fly. Though not a gall-former, this insect is a serious pest of wheat, barley and rye. It is thought that this species originated in Russia. Most likely it was first introduced into North America in straw bedding used by Hessian troops during the Revolutionary War. It was first noticed in 1779 on Long Island.

Adults of the willow cone gall midge are very small and delicate, and long-legged relative to their body size. The larval or immature stage, found only within the gall, varies from tan colored to orange and resembles a small maggot; that is, it is legless with a very small and poorly developed head.

The distinctive gall is shaped like an immature conifer cone. During the fall these galls are quite conspicuous. When it is fully grown or “mature” (Fig. 1), this structure can be as much as an inch long and an inch in



Figure 2. Top view of the gall.

diameter. Each “cone” consists of 60 or more scale-like leaves that have grown abnormally broad and thick to form a compact cluster – the gall – which in general appearance also can resemble a small head of cabbage (Fig. 2). These structures remain attached to the tips of branches long after normal foliage dies and drops from the plant.

The life cycle begins in late April to early May when adults leave their individual galls. Eggs are laid singly, either on buds or stems. When the maggot emerges from the egg, it moves to a shoot tip and enters the base of a newly developing bud that has begun to unfurl its leaves. Feeding stimulates the abnormal growth of this foliage, which grows unusually close together and forms a tight ball that eventually encapsulates the insect (Fig. 3). In September, the larva lines the gall’s inner chamber with silk, and it is here that the full grown larva (approximately 0.2” long) overwinters. In spring, the larva transforms into an adult.

Little damage occurs to most willows, though once the galls have

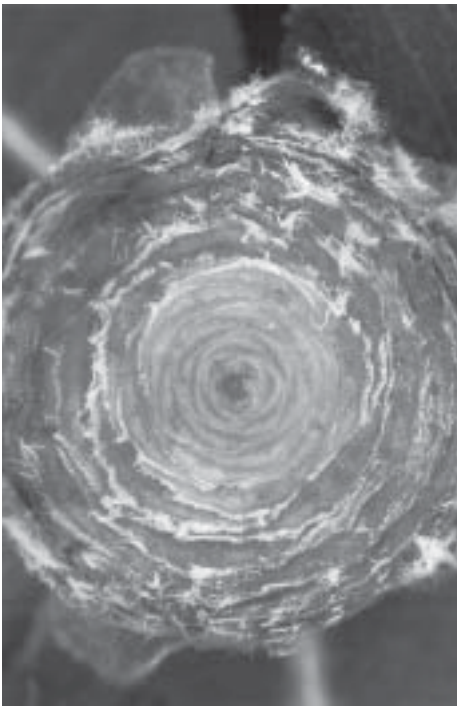


Figure 3. Cross section of a willow cone gall. The fly maggot or larva lives, feeds and over-winters in the center (dark spot in photo).

been vacated they remain on the branch tips for awhile, turn brownish to black and may look unsightly. The willow cone gall midge is of interest mainly because the gall itself is very unique, and it becomes very conspicuous each fall. 🍂

This is the 87th in the series of articles contributed by Dr. Allen, Professor of Entomology at SUNY-ESF. It is possible to download this collection from the NYS DEC Web page at: <http://www.dec.state.ny.us/website/dlf/privland/forprot/health/nyfo/index.html>.

RICHARD CIPPERLY
NORTH COUNTRY FORESTRY LLC

- HARVEST PLANNING
- MANAGEMENT PLANS
- LOSS PREVENTION APPRAISAL
- CHRISTMAS TREE MANAGEMENT

8 Stonehurst Drive
 Queensbury, NY 12804
 (518) 793-3545 or 1-800-862-3451 SINCE 1964

fountain forestry

Tupper Lake, NY (518) 359 3089
 tupperlake@fountainforestry.com

Lake George, NY (518) 668 3237
 lakegeorge@fountainforestry.com

Services for Private, Public, and Corporate Landowners Worldwide

www.fountainforestry.com

Susan J. Keister, L.L.C.
 Forestry Consulting and Environmental Management Services
Per diem based fee structure for bid sales = no commissions
 NYS-DEC Cooperating Consulting Forester SAF Certified, WBE

Services Include:

<p>Management Plans</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -FLEP -480a <p>Commercial Timber Harvests/Valuations</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -High Quality Hardwoods -Low Grade Hardwoods -Softwoods <p>Timber Stand Improvement</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Marking & Treatment 	<p>Damage Appraisals</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Strategy and Advice -Valuations & Stump Cruises <p>New!</p> <p>Sirex Wasp Response Strategies</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Analysis and Prescription -Non-Commercial Timber Stand Improvement Work <p><i>FLEP cost-sharing may be available</i></p>
---	--

General permit and environmental management advice including wetlands, mining, local timber harvesting and special use permits.

7025 Harpers Ferry Road • Wayland, N.Y. 14572
 585-728-3044/ph • 585-728-2786 / fax • susanjkeister@frontiernet.net

HALE FORESTRY COMPANY

610 East Main Street, Westfield, PA 16950



Professional Forestry Consulting
 Forest Resource Management Services

TIMBER SALES APPRAISALS
MANAGEMENT PLAN INVENTORIES

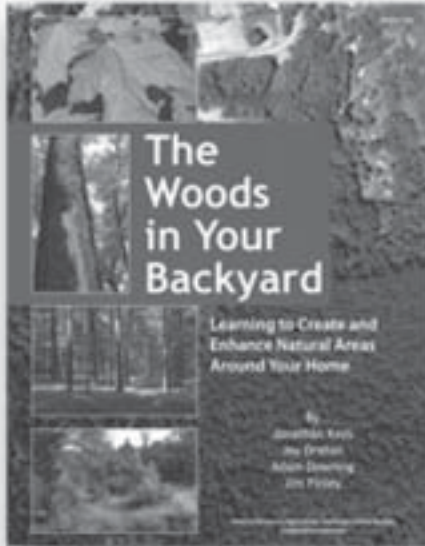
Michael L. Hale
 Toll Free (877)-HALEFOR or (814) 367-5915
 email halefor@verizon.net
 Fax (814) 367-5919



*Society of American Foresters • Pennsylvania Forestry Association
 Member NY Forest Owners Association*

Books-to-Note

New Book Helps You Shape Your Backyard Environment



Home, NRAES-184 (138 pages; September 2006), will be an essential tool to help you shape and rebuild your backyard environment. Written specifically for people living on one to ten acres of land, this combination book/workbook explains how adopting various land-management techniques can result in a healthier outdoor environment and a backyard living area families can enjoy for years to come. *The Woods in Your Backyard: Learning to Create and Enhance Natural Areas Around Your Home* was published by NRAES (Natural Resource, Agriculture, and Engineering Service). For ordering information, contact NRAES at (607) 255-7654; e-mail nraes@cornell.edu; web site www.nraes.org

Would you like to see more natural beauty-and less manicured lawn-surrounding your home? A new book, *The Woods in Your Backyard: Learning to Create and Enhance Natural Areas Around Your*

Cost: \$18.00
 Length: 138 pages
 ISBN-13: 978-1-933395-10-4
 ISBN-10: 1-933395-10-9
 Authors: Jonathan Kays, Joy Drohan, Adam Downing, Jim Finley

Woodlot Calendar

See www.nyfoa.org for more information on these events and for a complete listing of other upcoming workshops and woodwalks across the state.

November 8, 2006 (Wednesday)

Forest Insect Program

Worried about the increasing populations of Gypsy Moth and Forest Tent Caterpillar in our region? Feeling threatened by the relentless march of the Emerald Ash Borer in our direction from the mid-west? Come and learn how to identify forest insect pests at various stages of their life cycle, how they threaten your forested property or landscape, and what you can do about it. Other insects to be covered will include Eastern Tent Caterpillar, Peach Bark Beetle (attacks black cherry), & Sirex Noctilio (wood-boring wasp).

Our speaker will be Kim Adams, from the Environmental and Forest Biology Faculty at Syracuse University. The program will be held in the auditorium at CCE Broome County, 840 Front Street, Binghamton. Doors open at 6:30 and the program will begin at 7:00. Public is welcome, bring a friend.

NYFOA STORE

Show your support for the Association!
 All items display the NYFOA logo.

1. Sweatshirt.....\$20.00
 Green M, L, XL
 Grey M, L, XL
 2. Long Sleeve T-Shirt.....\$14.00
 Green M, L, XL
 Grey M, L, XL
 3. Short Sleeve T-Shirt.....\$10.00
 Green M, L, XL
 Grey M, L, XL
- All shirts are heavy weight cotton with white lettering on the green and green lettering on the grey.*
4. Baseball Style Cap.....\$14.00
 Tan/Green Brim, one size
 5. NYFOA Member Sign.....\$ 2.00
 12x12 Heavy Gauge Plastic
 Yellow with green lettering
 6. Mugs.....\$ 4.00
 White with green lettering
 7. Cutting Boards.....\$ 5.00
 Wood, 5 ½ x7 inches

Item#	Description	Size	Qty	Price	Total
Shipping and handling:					\$5.00
Total:					

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____

State / Zip: _____

Telephone: _____

Form of Payment: Check Credit Card

Credit Card No. _____

Expiration Date _____

Signature: _____

Make check payable to NYFOA. Send the completed form to: NYFOA, P.O. Box 541, Lima, New York 14485. Questions? Call 800-836-3566

Member Question

New Easement Law

A NYFOA member had a question concerning the new law which will provide a 25% deduction of property taxes for land owners who have a conservation easement for their properties. What will be the effect of this on 480a? We looked into the answer, and Renee Bouplon, Interim Co-Executive Director of the Columbia Land Conservancy and Chair of NYFOA's CDC, had this reply:

If you are enrolled in 480a (and/or agriculture assessment), you can still apply for the NYS conservation easement tax credit. The tax credit applies to both property and school taxes. If you have to file NYS income taxes, then the tax credit will certainly help alleviate some of the tax burden (even if you don't owe any money you are still entitled to receive the credit/refund). There are still some unanswered questions at this time and the Land Trust Alliance is hoping to provide a fact sheet containing "frequently asked questions" once the state provides more information. People can start claiming the tax credit on next year's return so the appropriate tax form should be ready later this year. Check out the Land Trust Alliance website for updates (www.lta.org).

A full article regarding this topic will be forthcoming in a future issue of the Forest Owner.



**Bruce E.
Robinson, Inc.**

Forestry Consultants

- Forest product marking & marketing
- Timber appraisals
- Access road design & supervision
- Boundary maintenance
- Forest management planning
- Forest recreation planning
- Wildlife management
- Forest taxation planning
- Tree farm management
- Tree planting & tree shelters
- Urban forestry & community management

**1894 Camp Street Ext.
Jamestown, NY 14701-9239
E-mail: ber01@alltel.net**

**Phone: 716-665-5477
Fax: 716-664-5866**

**BLUEBERRY RIDGE
STEWARDSHIP
SERVICES,
LLC**

Land Use Planning,
Zoning, Estate Planning,
Land Conservation Strategies &
Conservation Easement Support

Contact: Lawrence E. Howard, Esq.
(518) 674-4408 Fax: (518) 674-3015
E-mail: BRSS@albany.net

BLUEBERRY RIDGE

FORECON INC.

*FO*restry - *RE*creation - *EC*ology - *CON*servation



**Forestry
Consulting
Services**

Timber Sales & Timber Management
Timber & Timberland Appraisals
Natural Resource Management

1890 E. Main Street, Falconer, NY 14733 716-664-5602
20½ Groton Avenue, Cortland, NY 13045 607-753-3113
90 East Front Street, Hancock, NY 13783 607-637-4466

Visit Our Website: www.foreconinc.com

Know Your Trees

BUTTERNUT (*Juglans cinerea* Linnaeus)



Butternut is a close kin to the black walnut though not so valuable a timber tree. It produces attractive wood and edible nuts, but branches freely and seldom reaches a large size. It is common in moist soils, especially along fences and roads throughout the state, but is infrequent in the higher Adirondacks. The wood is light, soft not strong, coarse-grained, light brown in color, fairly durable, and easily worked and polished. It is used for interior trim, furniture, and fence posts. Many butternut have become infected with a canker disease.

Bark—smooth on young trunks and branches, light gray in color; on older trunks deeply divided into long, broad, flat-topped, whitish ridges.

Twigs—stout, brittle, greenish-gray in

color, often hairy, easily identified by a dark-brown furry growth, or “mustache,” found just above most leafscars; chambered pith dark brown as contrasted with the light brown chambered pith of the black walnut **Winter buds**—terminal bud pale, downy, blunt-pointed from ½ to ¾ inch long, flattened, longer than wide; lateral buds smaller and shorter.

Leaves—alternate, compound, with from 11 to 17 practically stemless long-pointed leaflets, margins serrate as in black walnut; leaves up to 2½ feet in length; leaf stalk, hairy where it joins stem.

Fruit—a rather large nut, 1½ inches



Leaf, one-fifth natural size; twig, one-half natural size; Nut, one-third natural size

long, tapering at the end, black with fine cut ridges, enclosed in sticky, green husk usually in clusters of from 3 to 5, ripening in October of the first season. Kernel—sweet, oily, but somewhat difficult to extract. The butternut has the advantage of curing without removing the outer husk. ▲

Information originally appeared in “Know Your Trees” by J.A. Cope and Fred E. Winch, Jr. and is distributed through Cornell Cooperative Extension. It may also be accessed via their web site at <http://bhort.bh.cornell.edu/tree/trees.htm>



Future Forest Consulting, Inc.

DEC Cooperating Forest Consultants
Corey Figueiredo and Scott Graham

- FOREST PRODUCT MARKING & MARKETING
- MANAGEMENT PLANS
- FOREST ROAD CONSTRUCTION AND DESIGN
- FOREST TAXATION PLANNING
- NON-COMMERCIAL FOREST IMPROVEMENT FOR TIMBER, WILDLIFE
- TIMBER APPRAISALS
- SUGARBUSH MANAGEMENT
- BOUNDARY MAINTENANCE
- TREE PLANTING
- WETLAND DESIGN
- TIMBER TRESPASS APPRAISALS
- HERBICIDE APPLICATIONS

Providing “Quality Forest Management” to Western and Central NY including the Adirondack Region.

www.futureforestinc.com

Phone: 585-374-2799

7812 Hunts Hollow Rd.

FAX: 585-374-2595

Naples, NY 14512

E-mail: futureforest@aol.com

Introducing

TREE PRO's Miracle Tube

A seamless Tree Shelter



- Flared top.
- No assembly required.
- 100% recycled materials.
- Manufactured in the USA.
- Reusable ties are available.

Call us when you need
weed mats, mycorrhizal and
controlled release fertilizer.

TREE PRO's original design is still available.

Free sample 800-875-8071

3180 W. 250 N. West Lafayette, IN 47905

treepro.com

Member Profile: *Peter & Betty Gregory*

ALEXANDRA SILVA

At a mile from their nearest neighbor, Peter and Betty Gregory are far removed from civilization when visiting their property in Shushan, NY. Located in a natural bowl near the foothills of Vermont, the 116 acre expanse of land has been in the Gregory family for 65 years, though only under the management of Peter and Betty since 1966. Throughout the property runs a mile-long tributary of the Battenkill River, which intermittently dries up over the summer, but always provides charming scenery. The property also consists of open fields, wooded areas, and an old farmhouse, which was originally built around 1860. Though the farmhouse has since been remodeled for modern conveniences, the Gregory's continue to depend on a wood stove and fireplace for heat, as well as kerosene lamps and a generator for light. Because of the opportunity for a primitive lifestyle in Shushan, Peter

and Betty still consider their property to be a "mental and physical health resort," and thoroughly enjoy managing their Huckleberry Hill: Apiary & Tree Farm.

Named for the many huckleberry and blueberry bushes on the property, Huckleberry Hill is certified through the New York Tree Farm Program and managed for its timber resources, wildlife, and as a recreational family investment. What were open fields in 1941 are now home to white ash, red oak, chestnut oak, sugar maple, white pine, and birch trees, which are managed for their timber value. With the help of forester friends including John Hastings, Ron Cadieux, and Steve Warne, the Gregory's are able to skillfully manage their property, culling the UGS (unacceptable growing stock)



Grandson Danny, Jr. and his Dad Daniel planting and watering Red oak seedlings.

from the population, which allows the AGS (acceptable growing stock) to flourish.

In contrast to the tree farm, the apiary portion of Huckleberry Hill is more of a hobby in the Gregory family. With bee hives at the Gregory's permanent residence in Burnt Hills, NY, as well as on the forest property in Shushan, Peter, Betty and family have a continuous, personal supply of honey. However, they do have some competition. Black bears in the area are also attracted to the honey and have even managed to defy the 5 foot solar-powered electric fence enclosing the bee hives. Nevertheless, the Gregory's have learned to cope with the thefts and continue to maintain their property to benefit the native wildlife.

While the honey-stealing bears present an obstacle to the apiary, the entire property must battle other aspects of nature, as well. As Peter stated, the property has seen "all of the plagues that you can imagine at one time or another," including gypsy moths, ice storms, and a high deer population. In the late 1950's, a recommended arsenic-based herbicide was used to thin a 10-acre natural white pine stand. The result was a



Visits to the property in winter may require a 1 mile cross-country ski or snowshoe hike over an unplowed town road.

continued on page 22



Circa 1942 photo of house, barn and open fields. Open areas are now forest with White pine and mixed hardwoods; farm is gone and the house is renovated.

“flashback” which caused the deaths of adjacent trees, whose roots were interconnected with those that had been treated. Though the tree loss was unfortunate, the forest stand managed to rebound, demonstrating its resilience.

The preservation of the wildlife in the area and the improvement of the natural resources are the prime concerns of the Gregory’s. The New York Forest Owners Association has helped them learn about their concerns

and interests. As long time members of NYFOA’s Southeast Adirondack chapter (SAC), Betty and Peter have gained much experience through their involvement with other people and during chapter activities. Peter, a former chair and co-chair of the SAC chapter, is a proponent of safety first, especially courses which teach chainsaw safety. Betty, the membership chair, is also a community volunteer, and, together with her husband, received a special recognition

award from NYFOA this past February. In addition to NYFOA, the Gregory’s are members of the Society of American Foresters and the Beekeepers Association.

With their combined experience, Peter and Betty have managed to accomplish many projects with the help of friends and family. A woods road and trail network has been developed, in addition to the planting of wildlife shrubs throughout the land. They have also planted and raised some varieties of old fashioned apple trees on the property. As an annual project, the open fields are mown to benefit those wildlife species that depend on open, early successional habitats.

Though there is always something to do at Huckleberry Hill, after a few days the Gregory’s “appreciate the return to the comforts of civilization”. While there are always tasks to be completed, family and friends can also hike, observe wildlife, cross country ski, snowshoe, hunt or relax when they visit. With five sons, their wives, and nine grandchildren, Peter and Betty hope to keep Huckleberry Hill in the family for generations to come. Their sons have grown to appreciate the land more now that they’re older and also look forward to keeping it in the family. Cutting down a sheared white pine each December to serve as a Christmas tree and having a favorite rock on the property are just a few of the enjoyable activities and memories Huckleberry Hill provides. ▲

Alexandra Silva is a Forest Resources Extension Program Assistant at Cornell University, Department of Natural Resources, Ithaca, NY 14853.



A recent fall scene of the same area as photograph above taken in 2005, 63 years later.

SAF Certified

MICHAEL C. GREASON
FORESTRY SERVICES

(518) 943-9230 5476 Cauterskill Road
forest@mhcable.com Catskill, NY 12414

MAGAZINE DEADLINE

Materials submitted for the January/February Issue should be sent to Mary Beth Malmsheimer, Editor, *The New York Forest Owner*, 134 Lincklaen Street, Cazenovia, NY 13035, (315) 655-4110 or via e-mail at mmalmshe@syr.edu. Articles, artwork and photos are invited and if requested, are returned after use.



Deadline for material is December 1, 2006

TIMBER MANAGEMENT

Farmer Browns Logging with Horses

Low Impact and Environmentally Sound

30 years experience and insured

James F Brown SR

10809 Davis Road

Hunt NY 14846

585-567-8158

www.farmerbrownsplowshop.com



ADVERTISING RATES

Display Ads (per insert) \$7 per column inch

Full Page:

\$210 (30 column inch)

Half Page:

\$105 (15 column inch)

Quarter Page:

\$52.50 (7.5 column inch)

Eighth Page:

\$26.25 (3.75 column inch)

Marketplace:

\$10 minimum for 25 words

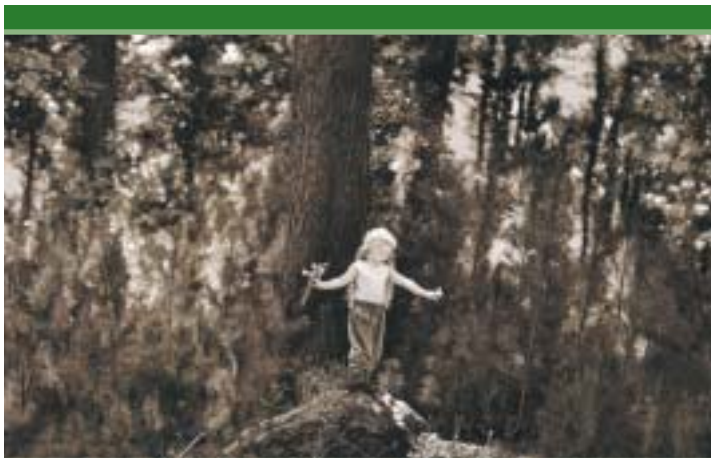
Each additional word: 10 cents

For More Information Contact:

Mary Beth Malmsheimer, Editor

(315) 655-4110

mmalmshe@syr.edu



Caring for the Next Generation

As a leader in the Sustainable Forestry Initiative® program, International Paper ensures the perpetual planting, growing and harvesting of trees while protecting biodiversity, wildlife, plants, soil, water and air quality. Each time you purchase paper, packaging or wood products, you help us to grow more trees. Together, we can ensure a bright future for the next generation.

Visit us at www.internationalpaper.com

INTERNATIONAL  PAPER

©2003 International Paper

"I AM FARM BUREAU."



IF YOU CARE ABOUT FARMS,
YOU NEED TO BE, TOO.

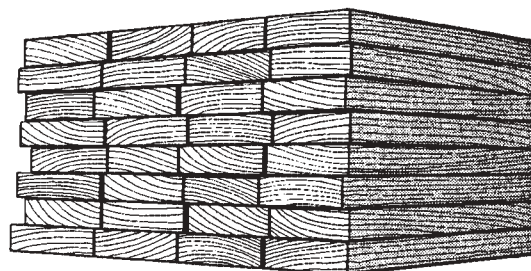
"Nobody speaks up for land owners better than Farm Bureau.
That's why I am a member. You should be, too."

—BOB O'BRIEN, FOREST MANAGER, COTTON-HANLON, INC., CAYUTA, N.Y.

- Grassroots action to protect farmland and the rural landscape.
- Fighting to advance family farm businesses for coming generations.
- Affordable and dependable workers comp and insurance programs.
- Farm education programs for schools, PR messages to public.
- Big savings on Dodge trucks, Grainger supplies, and more.

Membership in Farm Bureau isn't just for farmers. It is for anyone who cares about or lives in rural New York. Join now. Send your membership check for \$65 to N.Y. Farm Bureau, Box 5330, Albany, NY 12205-0330

OR sign up at www.nyfb.org / 800-342-4143



More Valuable Logs . . . More Valuable Lumber

- Stop End Splits on Logs

- Prevent End Checking Losses

Use the Best Known Products in the World

ANCHORSEAL[®]
End Sealer for Logs & Lumber

- eliminate up to 90% or more of end checking
- give customers a more valuable product

LogSavers[®]

- "s-irons" made from recycled plastic
- saw thru with no damage to saws or veneer knives
- no more iron stains in valuable veneer logs

For samples or more information, contact:



FAX: 716-833-0120 **716-833-9366**
U.C. COATINGS CORPORATION

P.O. Box 1066 • Buffalo, NY 14215 • U.S.A.

website: www.uccoatings.com

email: nyfoa@uccoatings.com

US/CN Toll Free: 1-888-END-COAT

Manufactured right here in New York State - Shipped World-wide