

The New York Forest Owner

A PUBLICATION OF THE NEW YORK FOREST OWNERS ASSOCIATION

January/February 2008



Member Profile: Keith Hedgecock

Volume 46 Number 1



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VOLUME 46, NUMBER 1

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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.

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www.nyfoa.org

COVER: The Hedgecock family on their deck. From the left: Keith, daughter Erika, wife Debra, and son Mitchell. For complete member profile, turn to page 21. Photo courtesy of the Hedgecock's.

From The Executive Director

2007 ended with plenty of good news for NYFOA and its members. NYFOA's membership continued to grow - thanks to the outreach work by chapter leaders. Members responded to the end of the year appeal; and donations to support NYFOA's education and advocacy efforts exceeded \$5,000. NYFOA was awarded a \$148,600 grant from NYS DEC to identify landowners of critical forested habitats for Species of Greatest Conservation Need. USDA NRCS announced \$500,000 in funding available to New York's forest landowners through their 2008 Environmental Quality Incentives Program. These funds may be used for conservation and management practices that will improve the health and productivity of forests, prevent soil



erosion, and protect important habitat for at-risk wildlife species.

NYFOA's grant from DEC was one of 20 awards made statewide through the NYS Wildlife


Grants Program. DEC Commissioner Peter Grannis said, "projects that we have chosen will significantly advance our goals of understanding and improving populations of New York's most vulnerable species. Working with partners, the goal is to implement innovative ways to help reduce the risks facing our state's ecosystems and enhance sensitive wildlife communities." NYFOA will use this funding to develop a comprehensive implementation plan for management and restoration of critical habitats on private forest lands. We expect to be able to produce a site-specific map layer that is compatible with the DEC mapping system and will identify the property boundaries and habitats of interested landowners. In addition, the funding will allow NYFOA to work with its partners the Master Forest Owners Program and Cornell

Cooperative Extension to develop effective communications and provide technical assistance needed to engage landowners in taking future action for wildlife.

As a benefit of membership in NYFOA, all members received the winter edition of the quarterly magazine *Northern Woodlands*. Forest Land Enhancement Program (FLEP) funds awarded to NYS for 2007 made it possible for members to receive a six month

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

complimentary subscription (two editions) of the magazine. Watch for a survey card in your copy of the spring edition and take a minute to complete and return it to NYFOA's office so that we'll have your feedback.

This edition of *The Forest Owner* contains an announcement for NYFOA's 46th Annual Meeting that will be held on February 23 at the NYS Fairgrounds in Syracuse. See page 19. At the meeting, NYFOA's statewide and chapter awards will be presented. If you would like to nominate someone for any of these awards, please get me their names by the end of January. Also at the Annual Meeting, NYFOA members will elect new board members. A great slate of candidates has been brought forward by the nominating committee. See page 18 for their biographies and an absentee ballot to return if you won't be able to join us at the meeting. I hope I'll see you in Syracuse! 

-Mary Jeanne Packer
Executive Director

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.

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The WFL 2nd annual dinner meeting was held Nov 14th at Cornell Cooperative Extension in Rochester. Eighty-two people attended the event. Program coordinators, Keith and Marianne Maynard, arranged for Mike Allen of the NYSDEC to talk on the return of the Bald Eagle. In addition to Mr. Allen, arrangements were made for Paul Schnell, a licensed raptor educator, to attend with a live bird named Liberty. As seen above, a young man in the audience assisted Paul in feeding Liberty some fresh venison. There were over 35 door prizes and a 50/50 raffle. Everyone had a fun evening.

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NYFOA SAFETY TIP

Basic Chainsaw Safety

In the hands of a professional the chainsaw is a very useful and effective tool. When operated by an untrained or unsafe worker, however, it can be the source of very serious and even fatal injuries. By following a few common sense rules you can greatly reduce your chances of sustaining an injury.

- A. Wear Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) while using a chainsaw.
 - Hard Hats
 - Face / Eye Protection
 - Hearing Protection
 - Safety Footwear
 - Hand Protection
 - Leg Protection
 - Clothing
- B. Refer to the manufacturer's operator's manual pertaining to your saw before beginning operation.
- C. Always start you saw on the ground or use the knee clamp technique. Engage the chain brake, hold the top handle firmly, and make an even pull on the starter rope. Never use the drop start method. This method is hard on your saw as well as on you.
- D. When moving from tree to tree, activate the chain brake, remove your finger from the trigger and keep the bar away from your body.
- E. Carry the chain saw with the blade to the rear and the muffler side away from your body.
- F. Keep the bar nose away from objects to prevent kickback.
- G. Hold the saw with both hands when cutting. Use a grip with the thumb and fingers encircling the handle.
- H. Cut at high speeds.
- I. Never operate the chainsaw when you are tired.
- J. Do not use the saw above shoulder height and do not over stretch.
- K. Refuel the chainsaw on a level surface and wipe any spills off the saw. Always move five to ten feet away from the point of refueling to start the chainsaw. Do not smoke while refueling or operating your saw.
- L. Keep a fire extinguisher available when refueling a chainsaw.
- M. Maintain your saw daily or more frequently if necessary, in accordance with manufacturer's specifications. Do not operate a saw without a properly adjusted, sharp chain.

Safety tip provided by Ed Wright, President, W. J. Cox Associates, Inc.



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16th Annual Rural Landowner Workshop

**Pioneer Central School,
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Keynote: Peter Smallidge,
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Forest Invasive Plants"

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Group Cert. For Family Forest
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Chainsaw Safety

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lao3@cornell.edu

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

Question:

I have scattered but frequent honeysuckle and barberry bushes in my woods. In some places they are so thick I have trouble walking through. Is this a problem and what should I do? I would prefer to spend time on other projects in my woods, so would like an effective solution.

Answer:

The presence of invasive species, or species that are defined as not native to an area and which cause economic or ecological problems after they spread amongst native species, has reached a high level of concern among many people interested in private forests. Fortunately, this interest has resulted in some good strategies for control.

Forest invasive plants can significantly disrupt the ecological function of a forest and can result in great economic loss. Aquatic invasive species and invasive

insects can have devastating consequences in their environments. The two species in question, plus many others, were deliberately introduced because of their horticultural properties and presumed value for wildlife. However, these species spread quickly and displace other species reducing local diversity. A reduction in diversity of native plants limits the options available for pollinators and the variety of plant fruits as food. The displacement of native species limits the regeneration of desirable forest plants and has associated with it several negative ramifications. Interestingly, the fruit of the invasive bush honeysuckles are low in fatty acids which birds need in the fall as they prepare to migrate. In some situations, as described in the question, these invasive shrubs can limit accessibility for recreation or management activities.

The first step of control is correct identification. While there are native and non-in-


vasive species of honeysuckle and barberry, if the shrubs are common enough to attract your attention then likely you have the invasive species. The invasive honeysuckles common to New York include Morrow's, Tatarian, and likely Amur. These have minor botanical differences, but similar ecologies and control. The most common invasive barberry is Japanese barberry, although the European barberry sometimes escapes cultivation to become established as a pest. Identification guides are available on the Internet. For personal help with identification, samples can be collected and taken to your local office of the Department of Environmental Conservation, Cornell Cooperative Extension, or Soil and Water Conservation District. Bring a couple branches the size of your arm. Sometimes you can email digital pictures and get a confirmation of the species.

The next step is to clearly define what you want to accomplish, the extent of the problem, and the resources at your disposal. A landowner with a small patch and the desire to eradicate will take a different approach than one whose problem extends across several acres but who desires only to create hiking trails. I assume the landowner wants to do the work of control, and thus a key resource is the time a landowner has available to complete the project. These three attributes: landowner goal, extent of problem, and resources determine the specific strategy.

Physical / Mechanical Strategies

An appropriate concern of many landowners is to reduce the amount of pesticide that is applied on their property. Although current pesticides that are applied in compliance with label restrictions are safe, reductions where feasible are commonly sought. Physical and mechanical strategies provide an alternative to chemicals. The two species in question can be significantly reduced without using pesticides, although there is more effort and perhaps soil disturbance and expense involved. However, some invasive species, particularly Tree of Heaven and Japanese Knotweed can only be controlled using chemical strategies. In some cases, physical and mechanical strategies may provide an incomplete or non-permanent control of the invasive plant.


The bush honeysuckles, if relatively



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NAC member Bill LaPoint prepares to flame a buckthorn on his St. Lawrence County woodlot. Mr. LaPoint is the chairman of the NYFOA Northern Adirondack Chapter and a research collaborator with a current Cornell University study of flame weeding technology.

small, can be manually pulled from the ground. Some landowners use a type of weed puller or wrench designed as a lever bar or attached to a tractor for larger shrubs. The plant is relatively shallow-rooted and thus the size of the plant that can be pulled can be large if you provide enough force. Previous research has shown that repeated cutting of bush honeysuckle growing in a shaded environment will result in reduced plant size. A single cutting event will result in prolific sprouting from the stump. The intent of repeated cutting is to deplete food reserves in the plant roots. The research project that evaluated cutting, clipped the stems once annually, over three years. A greater reduction is likely if the sprouts that originate from the stump after cutting are cut immediately, before they photosynthesize and recharge the food reserves. A current Cornell University applied research project is evaluating the use of flame weeding technology. A flame wand and backpack propane tank are used to scorch the ground line of the shrub. No preliminary results are available, but the theory originates in the reaction of the plant to cutting. The advantage is that the plant stays in place and doesn't need to be piled. Issues to address though are the potential for ground fires if the technology is applied

during a dry season. This may require an additional person to carry a backpack water tank.

Barberry, like the honeysuckles, is shallow rooted and easily pulled especially when small. There is no research to support the strategy of repeated cutting, but shrubs would likely diminish with time. Barberry will sprout from the stump after cutting and may sprout from root fragments remaining in the soil. In addition to pulling, preliminary research by the Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station and University of Connecticut Cooperative Extension has demonstrated that twice-repeated flame applications of 20 seconds per barberry clump resulted in 80% of treated clumps having dead above-ground plants at the end of the first growing season. While some clumps may resprout, flame technology provides at least a temporary control. Additional flame applications might be necessary early in the second growing season after treatment.

Chemical Strategies

Herbicides, a type of pesticide formulated to control vegetation, can provide cost effective and ecologically preferred control of invasive plants. Herbicides have different modes of action, but include disruption of enzymes specific to photosynthesis

or alteration of plant growth hormones. Properly applied chemicals can accomplish almost full and permanent control of invasive plants. Any use of herbicides should include a careful reading of the label. Questions can be directed to the local office of Cornell Cooperative Extension or the DEC Division of Pesticides.

The two chemical strategies for the bush honeysuckles and barberry are the same. All species can be controlled by spraying foliage with a dilute solution of a glyphosate-based herbicide or a herbicide that has triclopyr as the active ingredient (e.g., Round-up or Garlon¹). The chemical concentration applied to foliage is dilute and inputs minimal active ingredient into the environment. However, foliage applications, especially to large plants, often result in spray drift onto neighboring plants. With a heavy infestation of these invasive shrubs, few other desirable plants exist, but caution is warranted. An alternative strategy is to apply these herbicides using a cut-stump technique. The plant is cut near the ground and a more concentrated solution is applied by brush or spray bottle directly and immediately to the cut surface of the stump. Cut-stump techniques use a higher concentration of herbicide, but have greater control over drift onto non-target plants. These herbicides are most effective after late July and until the foliage drops. The herbicide labels give full details of concentration and appropriate methods of application.

To summarize my response for this question, the owner starts with plant identification and clarification of owner attributes. Assuming control is warranted, if the owner has ample time for repeated mechanical treatments, a goal of modest levels of control, or a strong aversion to the use of herbicides, then these species can be managed with pulling, repeated cutting, or perhaps with repeated flame treatments. If the problem is extensive and the owner desires more thorough control that reduces the likelihood of resprouting, then a herbicide will be more effective. 🏠

Peter J. Smallidge, NYS Extension Forester and Director, Arnot Teaching and Research Forest, Cornell University Cooperative Extension, Ithaca, NY. pjs23@cornell.edu; 116 Fernow Hall, Ithaca, NY 14853.

¹ Trade names are used only to assist landowners in finding examples of effective products. No endorsement is implied. Some generic version of these pesticides may be available. Some herbicides may require the user to be a NYS Certified Applicator. Check regulations with Cornell Cooperative Extension or NYS DEC.

New York State Tree Farm News

MICHAEL BURNS

Since 1956, New York Tree Farm has championed the recognition of those landowners who are practicing "good forestry." With the advent of forest certification in the late 1990's, the American Tree Farm System made a strategic decision to apply standards of what constitutes "good" and "sustainable" forestry for private and family forest lands. That change, and the subsequent third-party certification and acceptance of international recognition, is what allows Tree Farm to present itself as the standard for family owned and managed forestlands. There is a new Tree Farm sign available that highlights these lands as what they are, Certified Family Forests.

New York Tree Farm is also proud to announce the launch of the website www.nyreefarm.org. It's a bit sparse at the moment, so we are looking for suggestions from Family Forest Owners as to what information you are looking

for. We would also like to highlight pictures of New York Tree Farms, so send along your signs, forests, and projects. Send photos to: mburns@esfpoa.org and content ideas to ejoneill@finchpaper.com

Finally, I would like to say thank you to all of you who have given me help and guidance in my many years as New York Tree Farm Chair. As of January 2008 I am now Immediate Past Chair and Erin O'Neill of Finch Paper is taking over. I have learned much, met many forest owners, and seen a lot of well managed forests during my term. They are all treasured memories that I will carry with me forever. 🌲

Mike Burns is Immediate Past Chair of the NYS Tree Farm Committee.



NYFOA Awards

At the annual membership meeting each year, NYFOA presents several awards:

The **Heiberg Memorial Award** recognizes outstanding contributions to forestry and conservation in New York.

The **NYFOA Outstanding Service Award** recognizes outstanding service to the NYFOA membership and furtherance of NYFOA's mission.

NYFOA's **Chapter Activity Award** thanks a volunteer individual or couple from each chapter for helping the Chapter to operate in reaching members and other private forest owner outreach in the area. Each Chapter is urged to name one volunteer individual or couple each year for recognition by the state membership at the annual meeting in 2008.

Please send the name of your "Chapter Activity" awardee, and any suggestions on individuals for the statewide awards to Mary Jeanne Packer by January 30, 2008.

Mary Jeanne Packer
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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!

Bob Beyfuss holding his 6 month old Grandson, Will Fallon, who is grasping an American Larch tree that Bob planted in honor of his birth. Planting a tree is a great way to acknowledge important events such as the birth of a child or a grandchild. "I hope to show him this tree when he is a teenager and tell him how I planted it the year he was born," stated Bob.

Big Trees

Trees come in all sizes, from the smallest bonsai only a few inches tall, to the towering redwoods climbing into the sky, and the broad banyan tree sending down stilts to keep its long branches up. We have trees all around us, but coming across really big trees in the landscape can really be exciting. Whether they are trees that were once growing in an open field with a forest that grew up around it, or trees that out-competed their siblings for sunlight, water and nutrients to grow big, broad and tall.

There are trees with crowns that reach over 175 feet from tip to tip, others who soar 300 feet into the air, and some with trunks 600 inches around. While we may not have trees this large in New York, we can still find giant trees. And, not even just the really big trees are considered big. Each tree species has an average size, and most of the trees will be around that size when they are mature. But, we can find trees that are big for their type. For example Paper Birch, generally considered a medium sized tree at 65 feet tall and a trunk 56 inches around, has a National Big Tree that is 107 feet tall and a trunk 222 inches around, found in Michigan. New York's Big Tree Paper Birch is 84 feet tall with a trunk 118 inches around.

There are two lists that keep track of these giants, the New York Big Tree Register and the National Big Tree Register. Big trees are those that have a combined height, crown spread, and trunk cir-

cumference that is exceptional. Points are assigned to each measurement, and the specimen with the most points wins!

Check out the National Big Tree web site <http://www.americanforests.org/resources/bigtrees/> for the National List and New York Big Tree Register web site <http://www.dec.ny.gov/lands/5248.html> for the State Big Tree list and information on how to nominate a tree.

Get Out There!

Go for a hike and look for big trees

Tools:

- Measuring tape (for trunk circumference and canopy spread)
- Tree scale stick (for tree height)
- Tree ID book

What to look for:

- What's the largest tree you can find in your yard or woodlot?
- Are any of them large enough to be nominated?
- As you travel around the state or the country, do the trees get bigger or smaller? Does one forest have a lot of really bog trees, while other forests have very few? Why might there be these differences?

Some possible reasons for differences in tree size are: soil fertility, soil type, depth of soil, climate, tree age, annual rainfall, or previous land use. 🌲

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

BOBCAT (*Lynx rufus*)



*The bobcat (*Lynx rufus*), a small wild cat, can be found across much of New York State, except on Long Island and parts of central and western New York. About twice the size of the domestic cat, adult males weigh about 28 pounds and are 22 inches high at the shoulder. Females are usually much smaller in size, reaching an average of 20 pounds. Bobcats are tawny to grey in color, with black spots, and very soft, dense, short fur. They have a stout body, pointed ears, and short, “bobbed” tails that are black-spotted with a white-tip.*

The bobcat is an elusive and solitary creature, and catching a glimpse or seeing signs of this animal is a rare treat. They are mainly nocturnal, but sometimes venture out in the daytime. When visiting suitable habitat in the winter, you may be able to find bobcat tracks in the snow. Follow the tracks to experience life from a bobcat’s point of view, walking from vantage point to vantage point in search of food. You may walk across a log to cross a stream, climb to the top of a rock formation, or stop and visit a brush pile. Be prepared – these cats are excellent climbers and strong swimmers!

Bobcats are efficient, wary predators equipped with sharp senses of sight, smell and hearing. They have four large canine teeth to pierce deeply into prey and retractable, hooked claws on both the front and hind feet. Bobcats are opportunistic and will prey on anything that is available. Small animals such as mice, voles, shrews, squirrels, chipmunks, birds, rabbits and hares, form the bulk of the bobcat’s diet. They

will also feed on porcupines, minks, muskrats, skunks, fish, frogs, and insects. Bobcats will even occasionally take sick, weak, or crippled deer, and will store carcasses for later use by covering them with leaves.

The bobcat primarily inhabits extensive forests, wooded swamps, rocky outcrops, and occasionally agricultural areas. The most critical features of bobcat habitat are places for refuge and protection, such as rocky ledges. Bobcat often use rocky ledges and rock piles for shelter, breeding, and raising young. Brush piles, hollow trees, and logs also provide good cover for resting and dens. Bobcats are not present in heavily developed areas. However, they can use patches of wooded habitat.

Bobcats breed from late February to early March, and young are born in April or May following a 50- to 60-day gestation period. Bobcats give birth in dens--rock crevices, caves and hollow logs insulated with dry leaves and mosses. Average litter size is two kittens, but can range from one to five.

Kittens stay with their mothers for several months, learning to hunt and kill prey.

Foxes, owls, and adult male bobcats may kill bobcat kittens. However, the most common cause of mortality for kittens and juveniles is starvation due to low food supply. During severe winters, adult bobcats may die of starvation too. In addition, adults may be injured or killed by their prey. Several diseases carried by raccoons and feral cats including rabies, feline distemper, and feline leukemia may infect adults. Bobcats may live up to 14 years in the wild.

Bobcats will be attracted to areas where they can find suitable shelter and food. Habitat features that attract and benefit small mammals – like clearcuts, brush piles, and large logs left on the forest floor – will in turn enhance habitat for bobcats. Hollow logs will also be used as dens, and bobcats often prefer to walk across logs in the winter rather than forge through deep snow. You can take further steps to benefit

bobcats by protecting rocky outcrops and crevices from disturbance, and providing good hunting habitat nearby.

The New York State Department of Environmental Conservation would like to learn more about the occurrence and distribution of bobcats in New York, particularly in areas where hunting and trapping of bobcat is not permitted, including most of Central and Western New York. In these areas, landowners like you, who spend a considerable amount of time outdoors, can be an essential resource for information on bobcats. If you have information, and would like to report a bobcat sighting, visit the NYSDEC web site at <http://www.dec.ny.gov/public/30770.html>

Photo courtesy of David Westphalen/Painet Inc. 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 www.dnr.cornell.edu/arnot/acep/

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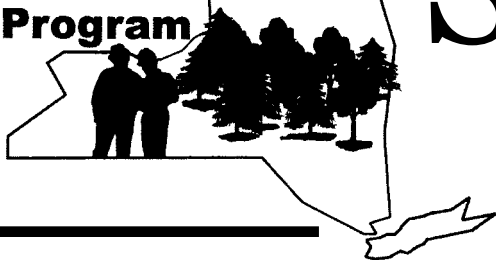
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**NY Master Forest
Owner/COVERTS
Program**



Stories from the Woods

GARY GOFF, NY MFO PROGRAM COORDINATOR

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.

NY Master Forest Owner Regional Coordinator Initiative

The NY MFO Program now has a new corps of volunteer regional coordinators. The coordinators are either MFO volunteers or Cornell Cooperative Extension (CCE) County Educators. Their primary obligations are to help maintain communication and programming among the MFO volunteers within their region and act as a liaison with the MFO Director. With about 140 volunteers across the state it is difficult for the Director to meet their individual and collective needs, so a regional contact person can help coordinate program objectives in a timely and focused manner.

The regional initiative has proven to work well in other states that conduct similar volunteer landowner outreach programs. This approach was suggested by the newly created NYFOA-MFO program committee, made up of NYFOA officers, Cornell Cooperative Extension staff (University and County staff), and MFO volunteers.

Regional Coordinator Responsibilities:

Each Regional Coordinator is assigned 10 to 15 MFOs within their NYFOA chapter region. Coordinators:

- facilitate annual reporting by volunteers (visits and additional outreach activities)
- mentor new MFOs, introduce them to key contacts at CCE, NYFOA, and DEC and offer to accompany the new MFOs on an initial visit
- help to facilitate and nurture the relationship with CCE County Educators and NYFOA chapter program committees
- help solicit and distribute requests from forest owners to MFO volunteers
- help plan and arrange annual regional refresher trainings

- help solicit and interview new MFO volunteer candidates
- All Coordinators have devised and started implementing plans to achieve the above responsibilities. Typically the first task was to call a meeting of volunteers within each region to get to know each other a bit better and plan some specific actions to invigorate the MFO program on a regional basis. Many regions have accomplished this and are now moving a head with some more focused programming.

As program Director, I wish to thank each of the coordinators for taking on this volunteer role and look forward to working with them and MFO volunteers to meet the mission of the MFO Program, namely, help NY forest owners become better forest stewards.

For more information on the NY MFO Volunteer Program and to obtain a listing of volunteers by NYFOA chapters (loosely defined), visit www.cornellmfo.info, or call your county CCE office.

MFO Regional Coordinators

Regions generally coincide with NYFOA Chapter

NFC	Barbara Wenke , 716-549-3986; wenkeb123@hotmail.com
WFL North	Geff Yancey , 716-271-4567; gyanceyj@rochester.rr.com
WFL South	George Koliwasky , 607-739-8345; mkoliwasky@aol.com
AFC West	Dick Patton , 716-761-6333; cpatton@madbbs.com
AFC East	Steve & Donna Teuscher , 716-933-6286; steve@jtbusiness.com
SFL	Brett Chedzoy , 607-535-7161 bjc226@cornell.edu
SOT	Jerry Michael , 607-648-2941; gotreego@stny.rr.com
CNY	Peter Cann , 315-687-3812; pcann@twcnny.rr.com
NAC West	Diane Church , 315-265-4895; adironackwoods@hotmail.com
NAC East	Kim LaDuke , 518-891-5757; kml62@cornell.edu
SAC	Laurel Gailor , 518-623-3291; lrg6@cornell.edu
CDC	Mike Birmingham , 518-758-2621; mjbirming@berk.com
LHC	Keith Hedgecock , 845-635-1279; hedgeco@us.ibm.com

Sponsors of the MFO Program include: The Ruffed Grouse Society, New York 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 SFI® Program

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The Sustainable Forestry Initiative® (SFI) program is a comprehensive system of principles, objectives and performance measures developed by professional foresters, conservationists scientists, and other stakeholders that combines the perpetual growing and harvesting of trees with the long-term protection of wildlife, plants, soil and water quality.

Founded in 1995, SFI is an independent, internationally recognized Forest Certification organization. Certification is a voluntary process in which the management of a forest is documented as meeting certain economic, environmental, and social standards. Wood fiber users and producers that agree to abide by the SFI® Principles are certified by an independent 3rd party as meeting or exceeding the performance standards.

Finch Paper is just one of the many companies that are certified to the SFI Standards of Sustainability and participate in the New York State SFI Implementation Committee.



For Finch Paper foresters like Leonard Cronin (left), sustainable forestry education and instruction are important parts of the job.

Finch Paper

Finch Paper LLC of Glens Falls earned its SFI certification in 2006 and proudly demonstrates its science-based sustainable forestry practices every day in the Adirondack Region forests the company manages for The Nature Conservancy and two other private landowners.

But the 143-year-old company's commitment to sustainable management doesn't end there. Finch Paper foresters work closely with private forest owners across the Northeast to help them understand the long-term environmental and economic benefits of sustainable forestry, and the importance of retaining the services of a professional forester and certified timber harvester in managing their lands. Finch Paper also puts its money where its mouth is by paying a premium for wood harvested by a certified timber harvester on lands managed by a professional forester.

For more information on Finch Paper's SFI program, please call Wood Procurement Manager Steve Satterfield at (518) 793-2541, extension 5550. For information on buying Finch Paper's SFI-certified premium uncoated printing papers, visit www.finchpaper.com for a Merchant Directory and product information.



Global Climate Change and The NY Forest Owner

Part III: The Future of Managed Forests in Climate Programs and Markets

MATTHEW SMITH AND RYAN SHURTLIFFE

In the previous article we examined the forest carbon offset project in detail, and concluded with an example. In this article, we move forward in time to examine future possibilities for the role of NY forests and forest owners in mitigating climate change. Before we explore the future for forests in carbon programs we will review some concepts from the previous two articles.

Carbon markets in the US today are voluntary and consist of the Chicago Climate Exchange (CCX) and direct sale transactions. Currently the CCX is the most mature opportunity for managed forests where harvesting takes place. The CCX is a commodity exchange, and the commodity being traded is called a "Carbon Financial Instrument" or CFI. A CFI is 100 metric tons of carbon dioxide equivalent, or MtCO₂e. You may recall from the first article in this series that members of the CCX commit to lowering their emissions below a target level by either

investing in strategies to lower point emissions or by purchasing CFIs to offset their emissions on the exchange. Similar to other commodity exchanges (like the New York Stock Exchange, NYSE), CFI prices on the CCX fluctuate depend on market conditions. As you can see from the chart below, the price of one MtCO₂e has fluctuated from a low in May 2004 of \$0.74 to a high in May and June 2006 of \$4.60. That's quite a range, and has a very large effect on the financial viability of a forest carbon offset project.

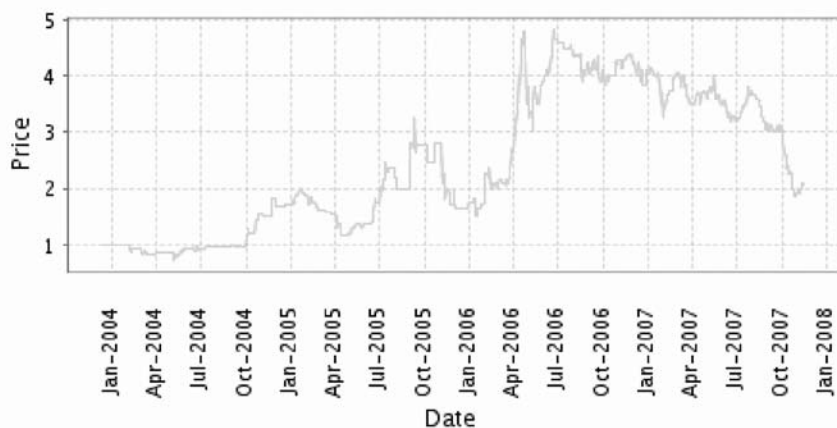
As is illustrated below, the price of a MtCO₂e is currently around \$2. Changes in price can be a reaction to changes either on the supply end (offsets or allowances) or to demand fluctuations from emitting members. For example, the current price dip is largely as a result of reduced demand and increased supply of exchange allowances from members that are meeting and beating their emission targets. While the price of carbon on the CCX

may currently be low, the possibility of federal Green House Gas (GHG) cap and trade legislation could very easily and very significantly alter the current market values.

The beginning of November brought significant attention on the federal legislative stage to GHG emission mitigation. The House of Representatives purchased CFI's from the CCX while a Senate sub-committee is currently reviewing a GHG cap and trade climate bill. On November 5, the U.S. House of Representatives purchased 30,000 MtCO₂e from the CCX. The purchase was part of an effort to mitigate the GHG emissions associated with the operation of the House, named the "Greening of the Capital Initiative". This effort gives needed exposure to the concept of emissions offsets as well as a very direct message regarding the commitment of our federal policy makers to addressing climate change. During that same week, a Senate sub-committee on Environment and Public Works voted in favor (4-3) of passing the Lieberman-Warner climate change bill on to the full committee. This is a first step in creating the first federal climate change GHG cap and trade bill. The Lieberman-Warner bill has the most support of 11 total bills regarding GHG cap and trade legislation proposed this congressional session alone.

The federal legislative climate (no pun intended) as of late makes it clear that we will see action concerning a federal cap and trade program in the not too distant future. Of course what shape it will take, and its subsequent effect on carbon opportunities for the forest owner are yet unknown. The bill, in its current form has two major attributes that are beneficial for generating potential forest carbon offset credits. The first is that it will cap much of the country's largest greenhouse gas emitters. This means it may generate a significant demand for offsets. Second, at this point there are no limits on the type of qualifying offset projects. By generating demand and not limiting the forest owners' ability to supply the market, this bill

Chicago Climate Exchange MtCO₂e Price History



has the potential to solidify the forest carbon offset project opportunity. With the momentum being gained by the Lieberman – Warner bill, significant efforts are under way to influence this developing legislation so that the participation of our managed forests is not marginalized.


While carbon markets are maturing and federal GHG legislation seems imminent, behind this solidification of the forest carbon offset project opportunities is another wave of possible opportunities for the forest landowner. Emerging ecosystem services markets as well as new markets for lower grade forest products for use in energy generation are slowly becoming realities.

As we discussed in the first article, historically society as a whole has borne the costs of pollution and land use change. As forest owners, you are well aware of the benefits that forests provide society above and beyond the

financial value of timber and real estate. Collectively, these benefits can be well described as “ecosystem services”. Clean air, clean water, habitat for a wide variety of plants and animals, recreation, and aesthetics are just some of the services that forests provide to society. Managing a forest for even some of these benefits is a difficult and complex endeavor.

It appears that the future may hold many exciting opportunities for the NY forest landowner. Societal perceptions of our environment and increasing concerns over global climate change have spurred a great deal of innovative thought. The traditional views of forests and the services that they provide are being challenged. Opportunities to market sequestered carbon are increasing exponentially as markets are maturing and federal cap and trade legislation looks to become a reality in the not too distant future. Recognition of the eco-

system services that our forests provide and wood as source for energy production and fuel are also future opportunities for the forest landowner. Growing awareness of the need for these creative solutions to combat climate change has altered society’s perceptions of the role of our forests. The rest of the world is finally figuring out what the forest owner has always known: Your forest provides benefits to society well beyond the traditionally held values of wood, recreation, and real estate.

Forecon EcoMarket Solutions is thankful for the opportunity to provide NYFOA with this three part article on forest carbon. We hope you have found these articles useful and informative. Should you have additional interest in this topic, please feel free to contact our carbon team at 716-664-5602. 

Co-Authors: Matthew Smith CF, ACF, EMS-A, Director of Land Management, Forecon Inc. Ryan Shurtliffe, Ecomarket Analyst, Forecon EcoMarket Solutions LLC.



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Insects Attracted to Maple Sap – A Harmless Nuisance

DOUGLAS C. ALLEN

One of the first indications that we are coming out of winter and that spring changes are on the way in the northeast, is the appearance of sap buckets and tubing along roads in many rural areas of New York State. The presence of this equipment, shortly followed by small clouds of steam that dot the landscape wherever there is a sugar house, indicates that many forest owners are involved in the production of maple products. The intensity of this endeavor ranges from large scale commercial operators to backyard boilers. For many communities this seasonal event is as traditional as Thanksgiving. Several years ago, the poet John Saxe penned an ode in recognition of the sugaring season:

*“Men, women, maple sugar and horses;
The first are strong, the latter fleet,
The second and third exceedingly sweet,
And all are uncommonly hard to beat.”*

Many insects that over-winter as adults become active very early in spring when temperatures get above freezing. As snow begins to melt at the base of tree trunks and insulation is soaked up by loose bark on dead branches and snags, the relatively warm temperatures that may occur intermittently at this time of year in these typical over-wintering habitats stimulates insect activity. This activity, in turn, requires a source of energy. So it is not surprising that many insects also find sugar maple sap with its high sugar content “uncommonly hard to beat.”

Insects associated with sap buckets and spiles generate inquiries every spring; mainly, from syrup makers concerned about the cleanliness of their sap or forest owners who are simply curious about insect activity at this time of year. I marvel at how these early risers can survive the extremes in temperature that occur during sugarin’ time. Fluctuations between

fairly warm levels during the day and sub-freezing at night are very common. Once insects emerge from the cold hardy physiological condition that was necessary for their survival over the winter, they become more susceptible to freezing.

Sugarbush operators consider large numbers of these insects a nuisance when they congregate around spiles and frequently are trapped in sap buckets. They are, however, harmless and gather there only to feed. Over the years I have collected many of these insects and, for the curious, describe below a few of the most common species that occur in New York State.

Noctuids or Owlet moths are so named because adults are strictly nocturnal and their eyes reflect light; the family name Noctuidae (knock-too-i-dee) is derived from the latin word noctua, meaning owl. This, the largest family in the Order Lepidoptera (moths and butterflies), contains many well known agricultural pests; for example, cutworms, armyworms and corn earworm.

Most noctuid moths are highly attracted to artificial lights and sweet substances. Insect collectors take advantage of the latter by using sugary baits to capture these night fliers.

Typically the medium sized moth (1 to 2 inch wingspan) is heavy bodied and has strong front wings that are narrow and elongated relative to the broad hind wings (Fig. 1). The noctuids that I most commonly see around sap buckets have front wings that are generally dull brown or black, though some species are distinctly splotched with lighter or darker colors. This mottling makes the moth difficult to spot when it rests on maple bark, but it stands out like a sore thumb when floating in sap! The hind wings are often relatively uniform in color. These sap-feeding species are unusual for noctuids (knock-too-ids), because they over-winter as adults. Most species in the family spend winter as a caterpillar or pupa in the soil.

Sap beetles are usually less than 0.5 inches long and often have wing covers that are short relative to the insect’s body. Consequently, when the beetle is viewed from above or sideways one or more



Figure 1. Typical noctuid adults. The moths shown do not feed on maple sap but resemble those that do in size and color. Wingspan is approximately 1.5 inches.



Figure 2. Side view of a sap beetle that feeds on sugar maple sap (length = 0.25 of an inch).

terminal segments of the abdomen are exposed. Species commonly associated with maple sap are brightly marked with orange on a glossy, black background (Fig. 2). Most adults in this family normally feed on plant fluids, fermenting fruit or fungi.



Figure 3. Side view of a solitary bee. Length = 0.4 of an inch.

Solitary bees often congregate around spiles or on the bark beneath spiles where sap has leaked from the tap hole. These insects are members of the family Andrenidae (an-dren-i-dee). The species most commonly encountered is black and medium-sized (0.4 to 0.5 inches long). They nest, and over-winter, in ground burrows. Like most bees and many wasps, adults are attracted to sweet substances.

Parasitic wasps. These wasps belong to the same Order (Hymenoptera, him-en-op-ter-ah) as the solitary bees. They parasitize other insects, including several forest pests, and many species over-winter as adults in the litter.

The typical parasitic wasp is quite distinctive because the posterior half of the insect (abdomen) is attached to the anterior half (thorax) by a very narrow and conspicuous stalk (Fig. 3). The solitary bees mentioned above also have this stalk, but it is less obvious. These beneficial insects may emerge during early spring because their over-wintering habitat is exposed to exceptionally warm weather. Here again, maple sap provides a valuable source of energy.

A firefly or lightning bug. This insect is neither a fly nor a bug, rather it belongs to a beetle in the family Lampyridae (lam-peer-i-dee). The most familiar members of this group are nocturnal and attractive, because they have the ability to self-luminesce. On warm summer nights, each species uses a different pattern of “flashing” to attract a mate. The duration of each flash and the interval between flashes is characteristic for each species. The lampyrid adult most frequently encountered in sugarbushes during spring, however, does not have the ability to “light up,” and thus it is active during the day.

The beetle is soft bodied, slightly flattened and black. The front section of the body, which is often mistaken for the “head”, is characteristically marked on the margins with dull yellow or orange (Fig. 4). The true head can not be seen when the beetle is viewed from above, because it is hidden beneath a flat plate-like structure. The larval stages of many lampyrids prey on snails, earthworms and other soft-bodied organisms in the litter. Adults may also be predacious on other

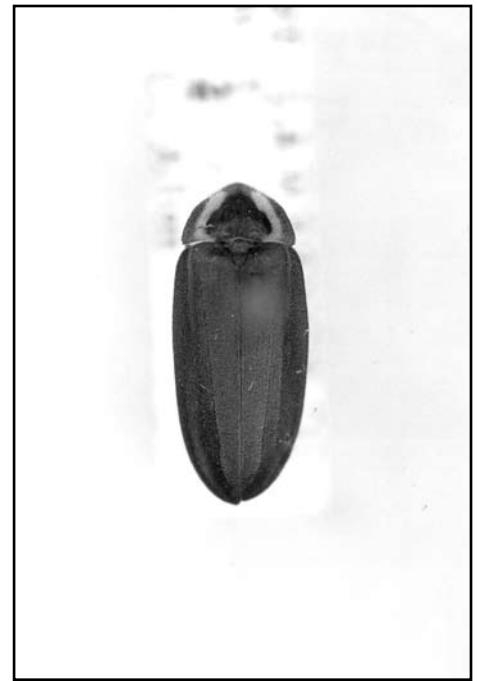


Figure 4. Top view of a “firefly” adult commonly found on sugar maple bark in the vicinity of spiles. Length is 0.4 of an inch.

invertebrates but many feed very little. I assume the species found in the vicinity of spiles consumes sap, or it may be attracted to sap in search of prey.

Though a nuisance these insects do not harm the sugar maple or maple sap. Use of tubing will minimize their attraction to sugaring equipment, but most likely they will always be a minor contaminant that must be filtered from sap collected in buckets. ▲

This is the 91st 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>.

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NYFOA General Director Candidates

The Nominating Committee of NYFOA presents the following slate of four nominees to fill the four openings on the statewide Board of Directors. Each opening is for a three-year term as provided by the Bylaws of NYFOA. Please complete the ballot below and mail to NYFOA by February 15, 2008.

Dan Cleveland – *Erin, NY*

Dan is a life-long resident of Chemung County where he has cultivated his passion for forests and wildlife through the years. He owns and actively manages almost 105 acres of woods and wildlife habitat. The majority of his land is under NYS 480-a, yet a portion is managed for wildlife with ponds and shrub planting. Dan sells firewood from forest thinnings and has started to produce maple syrup. Dan serves on the Town Council for Erin and has previous experience on several southern tier boards, such as Work Force NY and United Way for Southern Tier. He is currently a director on the Southern Tier Central Regional Planning & Development Board where he serves on the Physical Resources Advisory Committee. Dan works for the Empire State Regional Council of Carpenters and will eventually retire to focus on his woodlands.

Ed Neuhauser - *Groton, NY*

Ed lives on approximately 130 acres of land near Ithaca, NY. Through the use of TSI practices with several friends, this land supplies the heating needs of four families and a great chance for folks to enjoy working together. Using small band mills, large amounts of lumber have been obtained over the years that is turned into flooring and molding for several homes, as well as work bench tops. Ed earned his degrees from ESF in soil biochemistry. He currently works at National Grid (the old Niagara Mohawk) in the Environmental department as an environmental scientist. Ed became a Cornell MFO volunteer in 1996. His goal as a member of the NYFOA board would be to get our members excited about their forest resource and help them explore all the ways that this resource can be enjoyed.

Gene Reinshagen - *Painted Post, NY*

Gene is very excited about continuing to serve the NYFOA as a member of the board. He has approximately 150 acres on the southern end of the Seneca Army Depot. He enjoys the woods for many reasons, but is an especially avid hunter and outdoorsman. Gene has worked with other forest owners in the past to nurture their interest in management and stewardship. Gene retired from NYSEG several years ago. He served NYSEG in several capacities in operations and safety but mostly in operations management.

Marilyn Wyman – *Catskill, NY*

Marilyn has lived in the Catskill region for over 25 years. She has applied her B.S. background in biology and certification in high school science to regional natural resource education. Marilyn's work through Cornell Cooperative Extension in Greene County includes the development of the Agroforestry Resource Center in Acra, whose mission is to "promote the ecological, aesthetic, and economic values of forested lands" through their educational programs. Her work has involved collaborations with government agencies, non-profit organizations, community leaders and educators. She is presently working on her master's degree, focusing on rural community landscape issues relating to forests. She and her husband Rick are both NYFOA members and enjoy their forested land in Schoharie County.

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46th Annual NYFOA Meeting

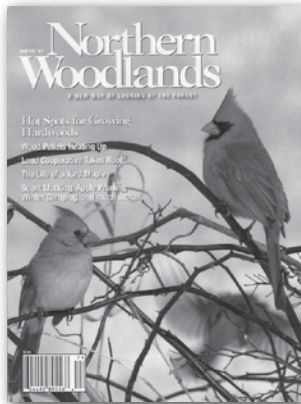
The New York Forest Owners Association is holding its annual membership meeting, in conjunction with the three-day New York Farm Show, on Saturday February 23, 2008, at the New York Fairgrounds in Syracuse.

The annual meeting will begin at 1:00 pm and be held in the Martha Eddy Room, of the Arts and Home Building.

At the meeting the Heiburg Memorial Award, the Outstanding Service Award, and NYFOA's Chapter activity awards will all be presented (see sidebar on page 8).

For more information, contact Liana Gooding at 1-800-836-3566

Northern Woodlands has been covering New York and New England since 1999, when it expanded its territory from its origins as *Vermont Woodlands*. It is a one-of-a-kind publication, considered essential reading for people who own and love their family forest. It has an exceptional range of material in its columns and feature articles – profiles, practical tips, a natural history calendar, latest research written for non-scientists, wildlife habitat, personal essays on place, emerging and traditional uses for wood. It has won numerous awards, and is well known for the quality of its writing and its presentation.



The editor, Stephen Long, has been using his strong New York background (born and raised in Syracuse, St. Bonaventure grad, family camp in Adirondacks) to bring more and more content specific to New York into its pages. Recent issues have featured work by and about a number of NYFOA members, including Mike Greason and Ron Pedersen.

The magazine is the flagship publication of the nonprofit Center for Woodlands Education, whose mission is to encourage a culture of forest stewardship in the Northeast. One of their ways of promoting stewardship is through supporting the efforts of like-minded landowner associations by providing the magazine to their members as a benefit. As part of this collaborative effort, NYFOA members are receiving the Winter and Spring issues.

We'd like to know what you think about the publication. You will have already received the Winter issue. When you receive your copy of the Spring edition in late February, we'll include a brief survey along with it. Please do fill it out and let us know whether you would like to continue receiving *Northern Woodlands* as a NYFOA membership benefit. If you are already a subscriber, please pass along the extra copy to a friend or to your local library. Don't forget to send us your survey!

ForestConnect 2008 Educational Letter Series

Would you like to receive unbiased, non-commercial and accurate information about how to manage your forest for wildlife habitat, firewood, timber, recreation, and more? Want to learn strategies to reduce your tax liability? You need the **ForestConnect 2008** Letter Series.



The ForestConnect Letter Series is a joint venture of Cornell University Cooperative Extension and the New York Forest Owners Association. The letter series provides six bulletins, delivered to your home or office (via mail or download), with fact-filled information on how to more fully enjoy the benefits that your forest land can provide. Enrollees in the letter series will receive one bulletin every three weeks during the spring and summer and will have the opportunity to participate in an educational walking tour led by one or more of the Letter Series' authors and other forestry experts through a demonstration woodlot in September. Registration is \$18 for members of the New York Forest Owners Association and \$25 for non-members. Deadline to register is January 20th.

If you missed the opportunity to register the first time this six part letter series was offered, it is not too late. The same popular series is being offered again.

The ForestConnect 2008 Letter Series is designed for private forest owners throughout New York State. This educational program is based on an award-winning project developed by Cornell University Cooperative Extension of Warren County and the Greater Adirondack Resource Conservation and Development Council. Funding is provided through the NYS Department of Environmental Conservation and the USDA Forest Service State and Private Forestry. More information is available at:

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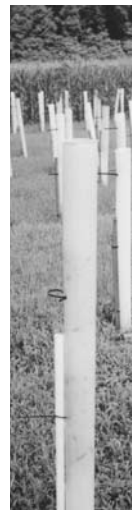
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Member Profile: *Keith Hedgecock*

ALEXANDRA SILVA

An employee for IBM, Keith Hedgecock works with the solid waste recycling programs and regulatory shipping department at the East Fishkill site in Hopewell Junction. Between this year's Earth and Arbor days, however, Keith was involved in more than IBM's technology production. Instead, he spent two days helping to manage IBM's Earth Day Celebration- a computer give-back program and tree seedling give-away.

For two days, employees were able to give back old computers, which IBM then recycled at a facility that reclaims 98% of the components so that they do not end up in landfills. Though many people are unaware, there are mercury vapors in tubes, lead on circuit boards, and nickel cadmium and lithium in the batteries of computers. Anyone with an IBM badge and access to the East Fishkill site was welcome to drop off computers, regardless of the amount. As

such, some employees drove in with vans, dropping off dozens of computers collected from the neighborhood totaling 900 pieces of keyboards, monitors and other computer parts which totaled more than 23,000 pounds.

In addition to the give-back program, IBM gave away 4000 tree seedlings from the DEC nursery at Saratoga. White spruce, Douglas fir, black walnut and buckeye were given away for the second year in a row. Left over trees were given to two different elementary schools and a local Boy Scout troop. The program also brought in local environmental groups to set up booths including the DEC Otter Program, DEC Forestry, Nature Conservancy, Scenic Hudson, Institute of Ecosystem Studies, and Keith set up a NYFOA booth.

Due to its success, Keith and his co-workers are already talking about how to improve for next year's celebration.

Ideas include opening up the give-back program to all the people in the area, not just employees and to begin accepting cell phones for recycling.

Aside from his involvement with the environmental practices of IBM, Keith has been involved with NYFOA and the MFO program since 1997. His early years with NYFOA were spent as the Dutchess County coordinator, though he spent the past 6 years as the treasurer of the Lower Hudson Chapter. In February, with the support of Jeff Wiegert and Anne Osborn, Keith received the Chapter Activity Award for 2007 at the Farm Show in Syracuse. With the help of the DEC, especially that of Jeff Wiegert and Mike Callan from DEC forestry Region Three who are always available for support and direction, Keith helps to set up woods walks, tours and demonstrations and is currently the chair of the LHC.

While Keith's grandfather was a forest ranger for the areas around Dutchess County, Keith himself did not grow up with much of a background in forestry. Instead, he became involved after attending the 1996 Dutchess county fair and visiting the DEC booth. He applied and trained with the MFO program and joined NYFOA shortly after. Based on his experiences, Keith considers the DEC and NYFOA websites as great tools for getting started, especially when combined with MFO activity. His main goal, with the knowledge that he has gained over the past several years, is to leave the area around him better than it was before he arrived.

With this in mind, Keith has been applying what he's learned to his 3 acre property for the past 24 years. Apart from his house and the driveway, the property is heavily wooded and situated along a rural road. The surrounding areas are a mix of forest and farm, though Keith and his family are only 90 miles north of NYC.

Having only 3 acres of property, Keith doesn't harvest any of the timber for commercial gain, though he does work to eradicate unwanted trees. Hop hornbeam and Tree of Heaven



Pictured in the distance, a view of the Hedgecock house in Dutchess county.

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The remains of hatched Blanding's turtles egg shells on the Hedgecock property.

are among the species that Keith tries to eliminate in order to make room for more desirable species. Felling the unwanted trees is usually a family affair, complete with Debra, his wife, and Mitchell, 20, and Erika, 15, their children. What the Hedgecock's do cut, along with what falls, is used as firewood for their house.

Keith considers himself an avid birder and participates in the Cornell Lab of Ornithology Great Backyard Bird Count




Keith Hedgecock investigating the fall leaves of a tree on his property.

each year. Last year, on Christmas day, Keith spotted a juvenile red-headed woodpecker on his property. He then had the privilege of hosting the bird for about 4 months, during which the woodpecker created a cavity nest in a dead white oak snag and grew in it's adult plumage. Specialists from the Ralph T. Waterman Bird Club, as well as other birders, visited his property to catch a glimpse of the read-headed woodpecker, which was rare for those parts.

About a mile through the woods around the Hedgecock property is a fairly large pond which has resulted in several visits from another rare animal. Beginning in 1993 Keith began noticing that female Blanding's turtles from the pond were digging holes and laying eggs in his yard. Over the past fourteen years Keith has located twelve nests around his property, which resulted in 72 babies overall. Taking an interest, The Nature Conservancy developed an intern program to tag the females with radio transmitters and monitor this particular pod from the near-by pod.

In addition, Cornell created the "Head Start" program, which raised captured baby turtles in captivity and then released them near the pond the following spring. The program, designed to revive the dwindling popula-

tions, lasted for a few years during the mid-90's. However, this year was the first time since the early 2000's that a Blanding's turtle has laid a clutch in the Hedgecock's yard.

Hawks, owls, turkey, and deer also frequent the Hedgecock property, though no bears or coyotes have been spotted yet. After 24 years, Keith still enjoys watching the change of the property around him as the woods continue to grow and surrender themselves to nature. With his MFO training and experience, Keith considers himself a volunteer with enough knowledge to help out people and landowners. One day Keith would like to be a part of a larger piece of forest to enjoy the wildlife, 

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



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MAGAZINE DEADLINE

Materials submitted for the March/April 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 February 1, 2008

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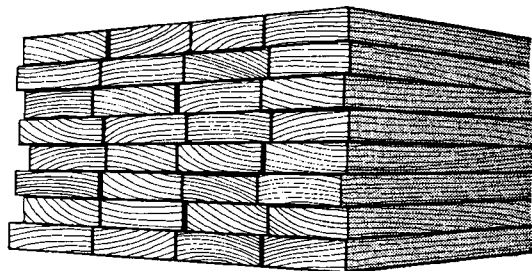
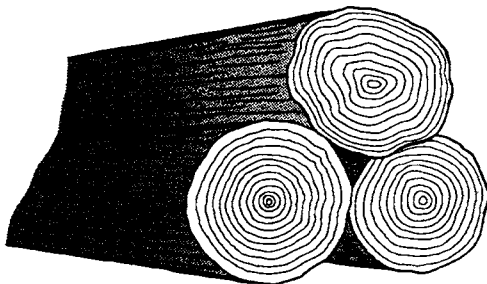
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