



New York Forest Owners Association

Central New York Chapter

COVERING CAYUGA, HERKIMER, MADISON, ONEIDA,
ONONDAGA & OSWEGO COUNTIES

FEBRUARY 2019

UPCOMING events of interest

February 13 - online presentation on *Preparing your Woods for more Frequent Disturbance*. See page 2 for details.

February 21- 23 *Farm Show* at NY State Fairgrounds. NYFOA-sponsored presentations will be in the Arts and Home Center. See schedule at <https://www.nyfoa.org/events/statewide-events/2018-nys-farm-show>.

PLEASE consider volunteering to help there by contacting Kristina Ferrare at CCE Onondaga County, kaf226@cornell.edu, (315)424-9485 ext. 231

March 16- Annual CNY-NYFOA meeting and POTLUCK lunch from **12:30-2:30** at the Great Swamp Conservancy in Canastota, NY. Please bring a dish to share. Surveyor and drone operator, Lee Green, will discuss surveying - See p. 2 for info. If you come by 8:30 (bagels available), NYFOA member Steve Kinne will be discussing birds and at 10 Dan Z. will lead an ecowalk.

Two events taking place at the North Syracuse Public Library (100 Trolley Barn Ln. N. Syracuse, NY 13212) should interest nature lovers of all stripes:

1) February 24 at 2 pm, Professor Don Leopold from ESF will speak about his new book about wildflowers in the Adirondacks. His earlier book, *Native Plants in the Northeast* is a classic reference for this area

2) March 31 at 2 pm, Jim D'Angelo, Director of Sterling Nature Center, will talk about an often unappreciated creature that provides valuable ecosystem services: Vultures

May 4 - New York Forest Owners Association 57th Annual Spring Program, Marshall Hall, SUNY College of Environmental Science and Forestry, Syracuse, NY - **See NYFOA magazine or web site for details**

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Preparing Your Woods for More Frequent Disturbance. (An ONLINE presentation)

Multiple Presenters

February 13, 2019

Presentations at 12:00 to 1:00 PM (webinars may run long with questions)

As extreme weather and pest outbreaks become more common, do you wonder if your woodlot is in a strong position to recover and thrive? This workshop will discuss the Keep Forests Healthy assessment and scorecard tool, developed by CCE Onondaga, The Northern Institute of Applied Climate Science, and The Nature Conservancy (TNC). This tool enables landowners to assess how their forest may be affected by changing climate conditions, and can help identify potential risks and highlight management options that may increase the ability of a forest to cope with the pressure of changing conditions. Kristina Ferrare from CCE Onondaga will review the tool and how it could help private woodlot owners. Learn more about the tool and download a copy here; this is the link <https://www.forestadaptation.org/NY-checklist>

After reviewing the assessment and scorecard, Gregg Sargis of The Nature Conservancy will look at the recently completed Tug Hill Project through the lens of the report scorecard. Peter Smallidge, State Extension Forester in New York, will discuss the challenges of forest vegetation management on the site.

TNC used both tried and true and new techniques to make their Tug Hill property more resilient. Learn about the history of Tug Hill forests and TNC's goal to guide them toward increased species diversity and structural complexity using familiar forestry practices. CEUs have been requested



Instructions:

Read all these instructions.

You need to register for each monthly webinar. There is unlimited space for participants, the ID simply provides you the necessary access. Obtain your registration ID via: https://cornell.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_R4eXkxtmR2mVthxJ3Qn7HQ If prompted for a password use "Cornell".

The registration page prompts you for information if you want CEU credits. After registration you will receive the link to the webinar and a password. Your registration is valid for either the noon or 7PM presentation. It should go without saying that you should retain that email. The registration email you receive provides the link you will use the day of the webinar.

At our March 16th meeting:

Lionel E. (Lee) Green P.L.S., will discuss surveying, mapping and measuring . He has an Associate's Degree in Land Surveying from Paul Smith's College and a Part 107 sUAS (drone) remote pilot certification from FAA. He has worked for small engineering/surveying firms for 15 years, before starting his own company as a Consultant for surveying and construction in 2001. Projects include many large and small property surveys throughout New York State including the Adirondacks, and large construction projects such as the Tappan Zee Bridge and Panama Canal. He is involved in the New York State Association of Professional Surveyors, as a member of the Legislative committee. **WHY YOU NEED A SURVEYOR - buying/selling/subdividing property, building a fence, new structure or an addition, refinancing or obtaining a mortgage. Lee will focus on: land stewardship, adverse possession, recognition of acquiescence, record title, cloudy title, title insurance, unrecorded deeds, occupation lines, and treble damages.**

Timber Stand Improvement (TSI)
by
Daniel Zimmerman, Chair, CNY-NYFOA

Timber Stand Improvement or TSI is a useful tool for forest owners to achieve ownership goals and objectives. What are some objectives TSI can help achieve?

Enhanced wildlife habitat
Recreation upgrades
Watershed protection
Multiple use sustainability
and, of course,
Timber production.

As a landowner, I prefer multiple usage TSI that actually helps me obtain better tree health and vigor at the same time providing benefits for wildlife, recreation, and timber production. TSI can be a complicated endeavor and much thought and research should be undertaken before implementing a silvical system.

A purpose of TSI is to periodically weed and thin a woodlot or forest stand to obtain stated ownership objectives in the shortest time possible and obtaining the greatest potential possible. Identification of crop trees which necessitates species identification, health, vigor, future growing and quality potential, tree crown considerations, wildlife aspects, and spacing in relationship with competing vegetation, all interact to benefit or obtain ownership objectives.

I look at TSI as a long term investment that requires in many instances much time, work, and money. Correct thinning will pay off over time, in many and varied ways. My timber stands are growing at their highest potential, putting their best rate of growth on the best crop trees and are at their healthiest levels, and thereby acting as a hedge against many forest pathogens, diseases, insects, and other possible vectors. Many of the trees benefit wildlife by providing den and roosting trees, food sources, and many forms of cover for species reproduction. Saw timber crop trees also predict future financial returns that help pay for the TSI endeavor. Recreation is benefited by better access creation.

One of the problems with TSI is the capability to implement a silvical system especially on large acreages. Finding time, resources, and equipment, among other difficulties makes TSI a daunting task. Recently, the company I work for has obtained some viable markets for low grade soft and hard woods that really help implementation of TSI, and at the same time provide manpower, equipment, and income. For anyone who might be interested in developing TSI and a resulting silvical system within the Central New York chapter and Otsego County, don't hesitate to contact me.

**Who has been walking on my trails?
What about on yours?**



General Events:

Regulation reform - RPTL 480a

The New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC) is moving forward with potential regulation changes to the Forest Tax Law Program (RPTL 480a) and is gathering stakeholder comments. Landowners and private consulting foresters that participate in the Forest Tax Law Program are invited to a series of public meetings throughout the state. This regulation reform effort will not alter the annual tax benefit, stumpage tax, commitment period or penalties spelled out in the law.

Each meeting will start with a short presentation followed by a public input period. We sincerely hope that you, as a forest landowner and participant in the forest tax law program, will take the time to become involved in this process and come to one of the following meetings:

Feb. 26, 2019 7-9PM
Finger Lakes Community College
Room 2185, Stage 14
3325 Marvin Sands Dr.
Canandaigua, NY 14424

Feb. 27, 2019 6-8PM
Concord Town Hall
86 Franklin St.
Springville, NY 14141

March 5, 2019 10AM-Noon
Martha Eddy Room, NYS
Fairgrounds
581 State Fair Blvd
Syracuse, NY 13209

March 7, 2019 6-8PM
SUNY Plattsburg
Cardinal Lounge-Angel
College Center
Rugar Street
Plattsburg, NY 12901

March 14, 2019 11AM-1PM
DEC Region 4 Headquarters
1130 North Westcott Street
Schenectady, NY 12306

March 20, 2019 7-9PM
SUNY New Paltz
1 Hawk Drive
New Paltz, NY 12561

March 21, 2019 7-9PM
Cary Institute of Ecosystem
Studies
2801 Sharon Turnpike
Millbrook, NY 12545

March 27, 2019 6-8PM
DEC Region 6 Sub-Office
7327 Rt. 812
Lowville, NY 13367

For those who are not able to attend a public meeting, we are also holding an online webinar entitled Forest Tax Law (480a) Regulation Reform on Friday, April 5, 2019 from 10AM-Noon. Please follow the link and/or call in by phone. Webinar capacity is limited to 1,000 people.

Meeting Link: <https://on.ny.gov/2HEbGaQ>

Meeting number: 645 952 248

Password: CBTgv3pZ

Host key: 800305

or

By phone at 1-844-633-8697 US Toll Free or 1-518-549-0500 for a local line

Access code: 645 952 248

For more information on Forest Tax Law and current regulations, please see our website at <http://www.dec.ny.gov/lands/5236.html>. If you can't make it to any of the meeting opportunities and still would like to comment, please email us at bslmregs@dec.ny.gov.

c/o Randi Starmer
7022 Bush Road
Jamesville, NY 13078



CNY-NYFOA



All puffed out....

We are still looking for a volunteer for the Vice Chairman position.
Also, if you have announcements, photos, articles, suggestions etc. of general interest to share, please send them to danielzimmerman57@yahoo.com
OR randi.starmer@gmail.com OR any of the Officers listed on the first page
OR other Steering Committee members Ralph Meyer and Carl Stearns