



CNY Chapter NYFOA

August 2016

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

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August 21 - WOODS WALKs and CNY-NYFOA Annual Picnic at Tom and Randi Starmer's home and woods in the Town of Pompey, about 6 miles south of Jamesville, Onondaga County. Mailing address = 7022 Bush Road, Jamesville

Potluck lunch to begin around **NOON**.

Please bring a dish to pass. Grilled sausages, place settings and drinks will be provided (water, soft drinks, etc.. This diverse property of over 177 acres includes a wide variety of habitats (fields, wetland, mature forest and early successional woods). So optional woods walks will begin at two times, and it would be hard to see it all in one go.

BEFORE lunch (around 10 AM): there will be a Woods Walk into our more mature woods of maple, ash, cherry, beech, etc. which requires a somewhat long walk uphill from our house (about 1/4 mile) OR a 4-wheel drive to the entrance of the woods. The bird diversity has been very good this year, although it may be late in the summer and day to hear /see quite so many as earlier. The walk will be between 1-2 miles long, depending on interest.

AFTER lunch (around 1:30???) there will be a shorter, flatter walk or 4-wheel drive to the historic cemetery of Conrad Bush, a revolutionary war soldier who was given this property as payment for his military service. He immigrated from Prussia, fought with George Washington, settled and raised 12 children here and died in 1857.....It is an interesting site for history buffs!

Directions: Email randi.starmer@gmail.com for a MAP with directions, or

Take Route 91 south from Jamesville (or North from Pompey Center) or Apulia Road south from Jamesville. Bush Road lies between Apulia and Route 91. It becomes Pratts Falls Road east of Rt. 91. Numbering on the road is being changed so it is confusing. 7022 is marked on the mail box and a brown wood workshop with a green metal road is just inside the drive, while our yellow house is up the to the left

October 8 - Woods Walk --- CANCELED Due to bridge closure.

HOW do you feel about autumn woods walks in the future?

They have not been well attended in the past.

Details of the December 2 Annual Christmas party at the Babcock's in Cazenovia will be in November newsletter

Recent Events

Our May woods walk at the Kinne's woodlot in Eaton was a fascinating look into their extremely ambitious plan to restore the health and natural habitat of a large proportion of their 19 acres. Through a combination of heavy brush and invasive clearing, selective timber harvesting, grading, (including vernal pool development) and extensive planting of native shrubs and trees, Steve has accomplished a lot in a short time. His careful planning, and much hard work was partially supported with grants from the NRCS EQIP program and the Fish and Wildlife Service.

After walking their property, we all enjoyed a picnic in the woods, thanks to the Kinnes. Ann's salad got rave reviews and after much clamor for the recipe, Steve sent a note that it was from a Betty Crocker mix called "Suddenly Salad Select – Grains and Quinoa Salad with Cranberries and Almonds." and they get it at BJ's, but it may be available elsewhere.

On the next page you will see the current movement of Emerald Ash Borer
Unfortunately the pests attacking our native trees keep on coming. For updated information on the hemlock wooly adelgid which is also moving into this area check out new postings in the My Woodlot web site

http://www.mywoodlot.com/index.php?option=com_zoo&task=item&item_id=182

Sandy Babcock has been told that another tree that seems to suffering from some disease or pest or other pathogen is the blue spruce. While it is not native to the northeast U.S., it is native further west. Have you seen problems with blue spruce?

Please welcome new CNY-NYFOA members

Derek Zipprich, Kerry and Cheryl Henderson, and Marc Franco

Reading and Viewing Corner

Smithsonian's Forest Global Earth Observatory (ForestGEO) monitors forest health worldwide and can even detect underground fungi which we know are important to tree healthCheck it out at

<https://www.sciencedaily.com/releases/2016/05/160504084458.htm>

You may share the passion for planting trees with the former Poet Laureate of the U.S, W.S. Merwin. While you may plant oaks, or spruce or whatever, he is dedicated to making Hawaii an even better place by planting palm trees in Maui.

Check out the following web sites and enjoy the common pleasure and satisfaction of improving the environment by planting trees

<http://www.pbs.org/newshour/bb/poet-w-s-merwin-found-paradise-planting-palm-trees> Or go to
<http://www.merwinconservancy.org>

Emerald Ash Borer Continues to Advance

From 1904 through the 1920's billions of American Chestnut trees were killed by an introduced pathogen – the chestnut blight. Since 1930 American elms have been ravaged throughout their range by an introduced fungus – the Dutch elm disease. It's happening again. Currently the emerald ash borer, an introduced insect, is destroying the American white ash. This insect is now moving through eastern New York with most recent infestations in Ballston Spa and Waterford. This small greenish beetle lays its eggs under the bark of white ash trees. After hatching, the larva feeds on live wood under the bark and eventually girdles the tree. The tree dies after the larvae have pupated and emerged as mature adults. It appears that white ash will soon join American elm and chestnut as another important tree species that has essentially been eliminated from the eastern hardwood forest ecosystem in just the past century.

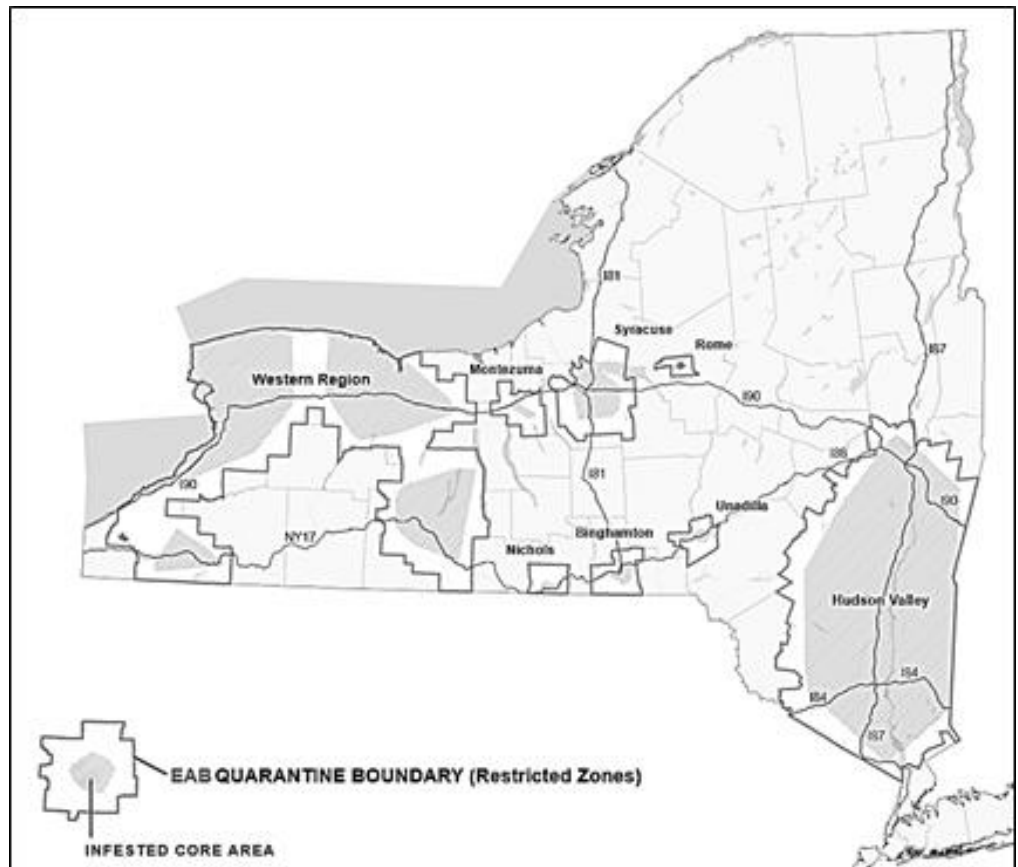
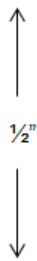
This exotic invader is native to eastern Russia, northern China, Japan and the Korean peninsula. It was first discovered in Michigan in June 2002, and has since spread to at least twenty-three other states as well as to two provinces in Canada. The initial detection of this pest in New York was in 2009.

The insect is considered a serious problem because the population is spreading across the natural range of white ash with no effective control. White ash currently represents 7% of the tree population in the state. The map below shows current quarantine zones. Transport of logs across the quarantine boundary requires a permit from the Department of Agriculture and Markets. For more information about permits visit the following website:

<http://www.agriculture.ny.gov/PI/eab.html>



Emerald Ash Borer



THE CHALLENGE OF CHANGE – by Ralph Meyer, Chair, CNY-NYFOA

As you're hiking through your woods this summer have you noticed changes? Perhaps a different plant, flower, bird or bug? One thing is for sure; things are always changing.

Hundreds of millions of years ago where we live was the bottom of the ocean. Hence the Herkimer Diamonds were formed. Have you found fossils of sea creatures on your property?

Then, about 12,000 years ago, this area was covered with glaciers 1 to 2 miles deep. It goes without saying that there were no trees here. The glaciers left many changes. They deposited the bedrock for Manhattan and created many beautiful lakes among other things.

Slowly, as the ice melted the land warmed and trees from the south moved up to our area. Depending on the conditions they could survive in, some moved further north than others.

The Northern Adirondacks with their altitude are 10 degrees colder than Central NY. That area grows White Pine, White Birch, Balsam Fir, Black Spruce, Red Spruce, Beech and others. Their first frost happens around September 10th. For Central NY it's around October 9th, for the Hudson Valley area it's Oct 29th, and for Binghamton, it's around November 30th.

There's a lot of diversity in the trees in our state. Here in Central NY we have Ash, Sugar and Red Maple, Black Cherry, Basswood and some others. Here's a trivia question for you. Do you know the name of the flower on a Basswood tree?

Along the Pennsylvania border we grow more Sycamore, Tulip Poplar, Black Walnut and many varieties of Oaks.

We were on the northern edge of growth area for American Chestnut, and Elms are trying to make a comeback. It's great to occasionally see a tall Elm in a hedgerow as you drive around. Unfortunately Beech is losing the battle for survival as is Ash and Hemlock.

If our temperature is warming will the Oaks, Sycamores, Sweet Gums, Tulip Poplar, to name a few, be moving more northward into our area? Japanese Knotweed is coming on strong as are Savannah-type grasses. Kudzu was found north of New York City. Will it make it to our area? How about Greenbrier?

Well, only time will tell. However you look at it, we live in a spectacular part of our beautiful country.

So expect changes as you play away your next 100 years here in New York State.

No doubt you have heard about the Master Forest Owner Program. Have you considered becoming a MFO yourself?

If so, hurry to visit
<http://blogs.cornell.edu/ccemfo/become-an-mfo-volunteer/>

There you can find more information on the program and even complete an application to get the training, but HURRY. September training is from Sept. 7 - Sept. 10 but the APPLICATION DEADLINE is August 15.

If you do not have internet access you could also contact one of the many current CNY MFOs which include several of our CNY-NYFOA officers (Sandy Babcock, Peter Cann, and Rich Taber, whose contact numbers are on the side panel of the first page of this newsletter) for more information

If you are receiving this newsletter in the mail , you will soon be receiving your \$5 bill for your print subscription for 2016 from Sandy Babcock, 3174 Thompson Rd., Cazenovia, NY 13035



Many towns have tree committees to help plan & even plant trees to beautify and improve their community

To find out more about how these committees work and maybe start or become involved in such a group in your community, consider attending the following Habitat Gardening in Central New York meeting which is free and open to all.

Sunday, Oct 2 at 2:00 pm at Liverpool Library

PANEL: Tree Committees in Your Town

Panelists include Mary Kramarchyk, from NYS DEC, Ann Stevens who started DeWitt's Tree committee, and Kate Woodle, DeWitt Tree committee member. Learn about tree committees and how to start or join your community's tree committee.



CNY-NYFOA
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Upcoming CNY-NYFOA event dates - Aug. 21, Dec. 2

If you have news, articles, or photos of general interest to share,
please send them to Ralph (meyerralf@yahoo.com) or Randi
(randi.starmer@gmail.com)