

The Western Finger Lakes Forest Owner



Summer 2018

Volume 32, Number 2

UNDERSTANDING FOREST SUCCESSION

March 24th General Meeting
by Eileen Schaefer

On a bright Saturday morning in March, we were welcomed by Gary and Betty Burley at their East Hill Creamery in Perry. A



all photos by the Colette Morabito

Gary Burley Speaking at Meeting

beautiful new facility that includes the production of artisan cheeses. They focus on Alpine style cheeses using raw milk exclusively from their own dairy farm. The building has a cheese store and exceptional space that may be rented for parties, meetings, weddings, you get the idea! The post and beams of red oak and hemlock rafters came out of their own woodlot.



Some of the Creamery's Cheeses

(Creamery - continued on page 7)

J. Warren Cutler Scout Reservation Joint Woods Walk

by Peter Muench

Winter 2018 held on for a longer period than many would have liked. Scheduling a woods walk for April 21st seemed like a good date for some warmer spring weather to review the forest management at Camp Cutler and while it was still cool with some snow on the ground, the sun was warm on our shoulders and we enjoyed a beautiful day for the walk.



all photos by the author

Reviewing Some of the Work Being Done

We traveled from the parking past Wellington Lake to the Winter Building. There we shared coffee and donuts provided by Mark

(Cutler Woodwalk - continued on page 9)

Happy Birthday Chainsaws for Charity: New Gear at the Landing!

by Dean Faklis

As you know, Chainsaws for Charity (C4C) is a keystone NYFOA initiative where members generate firewood that is sold to benefit various charities like NYFOA's Woodlands Mini Grants for Educators, Habitat for Humanity, and The Rotary Camp Onseyawa for children with special needs. With extraordinary thanks to our great partners at Wagner Hardwoods for donating mountains of clean, high quality timber, C4C has surpassed \$7,500 in giving. Wagner really cares about the future of our land, water, forests and our forest owners.



The C4C Crew, Proud of Their Work!

(C4C - continued on page 9)

In Our Woodlot: NY Squirrels

by Ed Piestrak

As I watch a dozen or so squirrels eating corn and sunflower seeds in the yard, I can't help to wonder how they behave, that is they will eat for a while but most of the time they run off and plant the seeds in the fields, up to a few hundred yards away. It seems that it is in their DNA to do this, for when food gets scarce, they have a food source, that is if they can locate it.

As humans we have a similar trait, that is planting things that we will not see the outcome of. A friend called me this past winter and related that we need to plant some apple trees this year, I agreed and our forester provided twenty beautiful apple seedlings. We both planted them on our individual parcels which was a lot of work, not only digging the holes but fencing each tree and staking them.



Tending My Apple Trees

I can't help but wonder if we humans have some squirrel DNA in our system. Each year we say that this is enough planting, but we continue to do it. We can find the trees, but not allow to eat the fruit since it is earmarked for the animals. Already we picked out an area for approximately twenty apple/cherry and pear trees for next spring. Is this squirrel behavior or what?



About Us

NYFOA Western Finger Lakes 2018 Board of Directors

Richard Starr, Director and Chairman

231 Farm View Dr.
Macedon, NY 14502
(585) 377-4849
pockaa@aol.com

Dale Schaefer, Director and Vice Chairman

6017 County Road #37
Springwater, NY 14560
(585) 367-2849

Cathy Gardner, Director and Secretary

7400 Corby Road
Honeoye Falls, NY 14472
585-624-7636
cathygardner10@yahoo.com

Ron Reitz, Director and Treasurer

6086 Canadice Hill Rd.
Springwater, NY 14560
(585) 367-2847
rrrlpr@aol.com

Ray Cavallaro, Director

245 Hurstbourne Road
Rochester, NY 14609-5503
(585) 288-3411

Dick Dennison, Director

137 Wood Creek Drive
Pittsford, NY 14534
(585) 586-9098
Kibbycamp@rochester.rr.com

Greg Lessord, Director and Chapter-Designated Representative to the State Board

449 Hubbell Rd.
Spencerport, NY 14559
(585) 703-8513
buckslyergs@hotmail.com

Jim Minor, Director and WFL Newsletter Publisher

22 Bryn Mawr Road
Rochester, NY 14624
(585) 247-7069
jeminor@rochester.rr.com

Colette Morabito, Director, Program Coordinator and Empire Farm Days Coordinator

1100 Main St
East Rochester, NY 14445
(585) 248-0654
cmorabi2@rochester.rr.com

Peter Muench, Director & Outdoor Activities Coordinator

P.O. Box 473
Naples, NY 14512
(585) 736-7172
munchme.444@gmail.com

Mike Seager, Director

P.O. Box 1281
Pittsford, NY 14534
(585) 414-6511
seager_michael@yahoo.com

The *Western Finger Lakes Forest Owner* is published for members of the Western Finger Lakes Chapter of the New York Forest Owners Association (NYFOA) and is published 4 times per year. NYFOA was founded in 1963 and is organized to encourage the wise management of private woodland resources in New York State by promoting, protecting, representing and serving the interests of woodland owners. The Western Finger Lakes Chapter was founded in 1988 and encompasses Genesee, Livingston, Monroe, Ontario, Orleans, Seneca, Steuben, Wayne, and Yates Counties.

Membership is open to anyone interested in understanding how to manage a woodlot. NYFOA membership can bring returns in the satisfaction of growing quality timber, stabilizing forest industries and markets, providing permanent jobs, increasing the value of your woods, enlarging areas of natural beauty across the state, and leaving behind a monument in living trees to bless the tomorrows for the youngsters of today. For information on becoming an NYFOA member, contact Liana Gooding, NYFOA Secretary, NYFOA, P.O. Box 541, Lima, NY, 14485 or at 1-800-836-3566. Annual membership is \$45 and includes: subscriptions to this newsletter; to the bimonthly NYFOA state-wide publication, The New York Forest Owner; attendance at chapter meetings; and to statewide meetings. Membership at the Contributing level \$50-\$99; Sponsor level \$100-\$249; Benefactor \$250-\$499; and Steward \$500 or more are also offered. For more information visit www.nyfoa.org.

Readers are encouraged to submit articles for publication in this newsletter. Articles should be mailed or e-mailed to: Richard Starr at the address to the left. Electronic submissions are preferred. Any letters should be sent to the Chair for consideration.

For event reminders and late-breaking news, subscribe to our email list by sending a blank email to nyfoa-wfl-news-subscribe@npogroups.org

Note: The deadline for our Fall 2018 issue is August 15th

Hemlock Woolly Adelgid

by Colette Morabito

On March 16th at the Humphrey Nature Center in Letchworth State Park, there was a workshop and presentation instructing participants in the most up to date information on the Hemlock Woolly Adelgid (HWA). This program was sponsored by the Cornell Cooperative/Environment & Planning, Finger Lakes PRISM, and New York State Hemlock Initiative.



All photos by the author

Brad Mudrzynski, Environmental Scientist at CC Environmental and Planning, points out the damage to needles and branches infested with Hemlock Woolly Adelgid in Letchworth State Park.

As you know, Hemlocks create unique, environmental conditions in our region. They create dense canopies that are critical to many species that rely on them for protection and food. For example, black bear, salamanders, migrating birds, and plant communities are all closely associated with the Hemlock ecosystem. The Hemlocks create much needed shade along streams, which helps to moderate water temperatures, in particular for trout survival. Hemlock are well suited for growing on steep slopes which stabilize shallow soils and provide erosion control. Observations were calculated that a single Hemlock stand provided 96 different bird species and 47 mammal species with their unique biological needs.

Thus, the HWA is a threat to our landscape and the delicate ecosystems of our woodlots. NYSDEC describes it as an aphid-like insect. It is very small (1.5 mm) and often hard to see. Identified by the white woolly masses they form on the underside of Hemlock branches at the base of the needles. All species of Hemlock are vulnerable to attack. Sadly, there are no natural enemies for the HWA or documented resistance by the Eastern (*Tsuga canadensis*) and Carolina (*Tsuga caroliniana*) Hemlocks. The most common species of Hemlock in NYS is the Eastern Hemlock.

The discussion provided plenty of information on HWA biology, the life cycle, impacts on forests, how to protect forests, and time was reserved at the conclusion for actual field identification of the HWA within the park itself.

Brad Mudrzynski, bmudrzynski@ccenvironment.com, organized an HWA Survey Volunteer Methods and Data Reporting monitoring excursion in Southern Livingston County immediately following the field identification portion of the workshop.

Early detection and reporting infestations is key to reducing the effects of HWA in our forests. Report any infestations you find whether on public or private lands to [iMapInvasives at www.NYiMapInvasives.org](http://iMapInvasives.org)



Close up view of the white woolly ovisacs on a branch of Eastern Hemlock taken on March 23, 2018 in Letchworth State Park.

Genesee Valley Conservancy - Landowners Workshop

by Colette Morabito

During the many cold days of winter, it is a pleasure to attend workshops and educational seminars focused on assorted land-ownership best practices. The weather, however, can be a deterrent in many cases. You can glean new land management skills in the warmth and comfort of some very well-organized programs. Nevertheless, it is satisfying to meet with likeminded property owners. People who care about the quality and variety of vegetation in specific environments, how wildlife prospers with specific activities, as well as the legal perspective of both owning and leasing property. In the comfort of a classroom, there is time to take in information regarding neglected ecosystems on our properties and how we can best improve their value.

The Genesee Valley Landowners workshop was one such opportunity for which I registered. Held in Mount Morris on April 11, the workshop began at 5 p.m. and provided dinner for the many participants. With all the unique situations that exist for each individual property owner, this workshop allowed attendees to choose from a variety of options during three different sessions. A wealth of information made it difficult to choose between sessions!

Discussions on agricultural land leases, hedgerow management, legal perspectives on hunting leases, black bear in NYS, invasive species, young forest initiatives, just to name a few, inspired me to get back into our woods with a renewed spirit after a long winter. With newly acquired ideas and confidence, I am ready to tackle our goals and initiatives for the land we cherish. As this workshop is a yearly event, I would encourage all landowners to consider attending next year.

Also, you may consider familiarizing yourself with the NYFOA website. It has an up-to-date listing on all the State Chapters' activities. The information regarding each activity is clearly indicated with locations, times, description of the event and contact information. Again, I encourage you to take advantage of the wealth of information available. So much to learn, so little time!

Fire 2

by Dick Starr

This will continue our look at fire as inspired by Scottie Barnes in Sawmill & Woodlot magazine December 2017/January 2018. Wild fires have been a common occurrence since early in human existence. Read Psalm 83:14 or Isaiah 9:18 in the Old Testament as evidence. Evening newscasts frequently devote time to the latest fires, usually but not always in the pine forests of our western mountain states. Oregon is a state known for moderate temperatures, clean water and fresh air. In 2017 Oregon had 2000 wild fires and suffered for 2 months under a blanket of ash and smoke with 678,000 acres of forests and grasslands destroyed. Eugene, Oregon earned a spot on the five worst cities in the world for air quality. During 2017 over 1.5 million acres of forests went up in smoke in nine western states and western Canada. The loss from fires has rekindled, pardon the pun, the discussion about decades old forest management policies and whether or not such practices worsen forest fires when they do occur.

Most fire specialists agree there is too much fuel on forest floors and this can result in forest lands being a tinder box during hot and dry conditions. This is a direct result of aggressive fire suppression policies, environmental limits on logging/thinning plus air quality standards that limit prescribed burns. A prescribed burn reduces and removes the biomass that is one source of fuel for forest fires. Prior to policies just mentioned, fires occurred naturally every 10 to 15 years in the ponderosa pine ecosystem and biomass fuels were removed by these fires. Senator Jeff Merkley of Oregon states, "We have neglected thinning to make our forests resistant to fire for far too long." If policies aren't changed we will continue to deal with scorched forests and communities.

Ignited by lightning, the Milli fire in Oregon's Three Sisters Wilderness burned for more than five weeks and consumed 24,000 acres in 2017. The fire's behavior changed when it met a forest that had been previously thinned and fuel reducing controlled burns conducted. Fuels reduction involves thinning of trees, piling and burning of removed underbrush and small trees, mowing of brush and lastly a controlled burn to further reduce fuels. When the Milli fire reached the treated area it went from a crown fire in the canopy to a ground fire. This greatly reduced the fire's intensity making it safer for firefighters to do their job.

Gathering brush, small trees, limbs and the like for burning is sort of a controlled burn and works to reduce these materials as a potential fuel source. Note that DEC regulations state such burns are not allowed between March 15th and May 15th. This 2 month burn ban has greatly reduced spring brush fires.

Ice Cores

by Dick Starr

Much time and energy have been invested in the topic of global warming, or is it more correctly called climate change? Robbo Holleran had some interesting comments on this in the February 2018 issue of Sawmill & Woodlot magazine. He states it was warmer during medieval times when grapes were grown in northern Germany and Vikings settled Greenland. The 1200s saw some cooling and then the Little Ice Age occurred in the 1550 to 1800 time frame. The Thames River last froze over in 1804. Most experts agree that atmospheric carbon was not raised significantly until the 1940s. But we had warming in the 1920s and 1930s and then cooling in the middle of the 20th century. In the 1970s ex-

perts warned of a coming ice age and now warn of global warming and rising sea level from melting glaciers. It's enough to make one dizzy and that's not counting 1816, the year without a summer. At least we know a volcanic eruption caused that. One could argue climate is having some trouble making up its mind or we're having trouble making up our minds about climate.

On a regular basis it seems we read or hear of new research data supporting warming of the earth's atmosphere. The finger of guilt is usually pointed at carbon dioxide and methane as the gases which trap heat in the atmosphere. This places heavy emphasis on being able to compare modern levels of these gases to what they were historically. Carbon dioxide and methane both contain carbon so sequestering carbon in trees means it's not available to form greenhouse gasses. More people need to recognize this very important value trees add to our well being.

Basic research to answer some of the questions is being conducted at the University of Rochester's Ice Core Lab. The lab's freezer houses 10" diameter ice core cylinders weighing up to 80 pounds. They are kept at minus 14.8 degrees F, colder than the Antarctic summer where the cores are drilled. Antarctica in the south and Greenland in the north have the oldest and biggest ice sheets on the planet. Together they represent a comprehensive record of earth's climate history and draw researchers seeking answers.

The snowfall each season eventually accumulates into a layer of ice which is stacked atop previous layers and so on year after year. These ice layers contain tiny bubbles of air that were trapped at the time of ice formation. Drill deeper and the air bubbles are samples of an earlier atmosphere. Ice drills have reached over 2 miles into layers of ice that formed 800,000 years ago. To release the trapped air, ice cores are melted and the air samples recovered. It takes a metric ton (2200 pounds) of ice to yield a 9 gallon canister of ancient air. Obtaining this much ice takes 4 field scientists 3 days of work.

Atmospheric carbon dioxide and methane can come from naturally occurring sources. Earth's human population of 7.5 billion exhales a lot of carbon dioxide through respiration. Methane from the belching and flatulence of domestic ruminants is purely the result of human activity as only we keep cattle herds. However, I don't see us giving up steak or hamburgers any time soon as an attempt to slow global warming. A single cow can emit 50 gallons of methane per day and estimates are the earth houses 1 billion cattle. Adding sheep and goats raises the number to 3.3 billion animals.

The question we must resolve is what effect human activity may have had since the Industrial Revolution began. When the glaciers retreated 10,000 years ago ice cores show carbon dioxide at 270 parts per million and methane at 500 parts per billion. Modern measurements show carbon dioxide at 404 parts per million and methane as 1850 parts per billion. Ice core studies suggest the levels of these gasses are higher now than at any point in the last 800,000 years.

The question of global warming is more than an academic research exercise or topic for political debate. The affect of atmospheric warming on human existence and our beloved trees is hard to imagine. Try to picture a future where majestic maples and oaks are replaced with palm trees due to global warming. One up side is we'll need less fire wood. Do palm trees make good firewood?

The ice core information was taken from *Rochester Review* November-December 2017, a UR publication.

Longtime WFL contributor, Ed Piestrak (see page 2), saw this article in the Winter 2017-2018 issue of *Pennsylvania Forests* and recommended it to us for reprinting. It is reprinted here with the kind permission of the author and Pennsylvania Forests, the quarterly magazine of the Pennsylvania Forestry Association www.paforests.org.

Timber Harvesting Misconceptions – Statements that make foresters nervous!

by Matt Sampson

Foresters take great pride in working with the forest owners in the management of their timber resources. Forest owners, however, frequently have misconceptions regarding practical harvesting operations and these often result in disappointment and poor outcomes. The following comments are just a few of the most common "red flags" that give professional foresters cause to pause before getting a timber harvest underway.

"When the harvest is over it will look like a park, right?" - No, conventional timber harvests do not look like a park. Parks are mowed and manicured, timber sales are not. In a forested setting full of brush, saplings, and old dead trees, harvested trees come crashing to the ground where large machines remove logs. This is not a gentle process and the trees are not magically lifted from the forest. Following a harvest, a landowner should expect the forest to look significantly different than before; that, in fact, is the goal! There will be residual slash (unmarketable portions of stems) and brush left throughout the area. Interestingly, in years past this material was often lopped or "bucked down" to lie flat on the ground to improve the aesthetics of the sale. However, today we understand the ecological, wildlife, and regeneration value of leaving this "mess" as is without bucking. Given a few years of regrowth and decomposition, the sale area will recover naturally and you may not even remember what the forest looked like immediately after the harvest. **Recommendation:** If you are considering a harvest but have never seen the final outcome for yourself, ask your forester to show you a few in-process and retired harvests before you sign a contract. This can alleviate some disappointments.

"They won't cut during hunting season?" - It is amazing how often this misunderstanding pops up; unfortunately, it generally pops up when it's too late. Loggers and mills do not plan their operations based on the PA Hunting Digest! Regrettably, sometimes landowners just assume that because a particular hunting season is important to them that the loggers will understand and will not harvest during that time. It is not necessarily unreasonable to request "no harvest" dates when setting up a harvest, though this should be discussed before the sale is advertised. It is also important to understand that "no harvest" periods can affect the value you might expect from your timber. Each constraint placed on the harvest has a value associated and each request might affect the bottom line. **Recommendation:** Be honest with yourself about how much hunting you will really do in a sea-

son. For instance, if you know that you generally only hunt the first two weeks of grouse season, then limit your restrictions to those dates. The more you restrict, the more you limit sale options and income.

"My brother/sister/partner told me they are fine with whatever I decide." - A good forester will head this off at the pass like the cavalry in a spaghetti western! "I told him it was okay to harvest the big trees, but I never agreed to this!" A statement like this can begin family feuds and legal actions, which are easily avoided with good communication and education for all parties. If the land under your care is jointly owned, all parties should be consulted in every aspect of a sale process before signing a management or harvest contract. Making a decision about timber has much more lasting implications than most other property issues. **Recommendation:** Engage your partners early and often even if they seem "difficult." A good forester is experienced in working with multiple parties and brining all to consensus. Better to reach consensus with the owners than a judge!

"The boundary lines aren't marked but when I was a boy Grandpa showed them to me." - More than likely, Grandpa based his recollection of the boundary line on the row of trees that he used to squirrel hunt under. Ideally, boundary lines are surveyed, painted, and maintained. All too often, however, they are barely discernable or only a memory. Mistakenly cutting your neighbor's timber can have significant financial ramifications not to mention strained relations with a good neighbor. **Recommendation:** Maintain your property lines on a regular basis. If you only have a vague understanding of their location, consider having them surveyed and painted. Remember the adage, "Good fences make good neighbors!"

"I've also got some big trees around the house, I'm sure the logger will be interested in them as well." - Not likely. There is a big difference between harvesting timber in a forest and taking down a yard tree. Licensed tree companies carry liability insurance, are trained and equipped to remove trees in close proximity to buildings and utility lines, and have the means to dispose of the residual material. Yard trees generally have limited market value because they are open grown, with multiple defects, and they often contain metal (remember the tire swing and Christmas lights?). **Recommendation:** Work with a forester and logger in meeting your forest management goals and call a professional arbor/tree company for your yard trees; they are worth every penny.

"My neighbor sold his/her timber for \$\$ so I should make at least that or more." - You cannot assume your timber is worth the same as your neighbor's any more than you can assume your house or car is worth the same as theirs. Timber value varies by species, size, log quality, harvest prescription, logging expense, and market timing. Logs on the north side of a mountain can be significantly different than on the south side. Veneer

markets tend to be better in the fall and winter than in the summer. Timber readily accessible to a paved road can have greater value when weather gets sloppy. **Recommendation:** A professional forester can assess the value of your timber and educate you on the various aspects of cost and value relative to your particular woodlots....not your neighbor's.

"I just want to harvest the big trees and leave the little ones for my children." - If you love your children, please don't do this! Many forest owners just assume that smaller trees are younger than the larger trees. This may be true in some cases, but more often the smaller trees are simply inferior trees or slower growing species that were unable to compete with the larger dominant stems. By removing the larger stems only the inferior trees are left. Would a horse breeder shoot the winner of the Kentucky Derby? **Recommendation:** Learn about your timber by working with a forester. A forester can explain the condition of your stand and recommend the proper prescription for the long-term health of your forest. This WILL make your children happy.

"Why are they leaving so much good wood behind? What a waste!" Markets can change within a week. Mills get full or they run out of logs, a paper mill takes down time, an early spring thaw closes roads, or a dry summer results in a flood of logs to local mills... and before you (and the logger) know it, value can change for each stem on your woodlot. If you sold your timber in a lump sum sale (a single value for all the trees to be harvested) then you might be inclined not to worry whether all trees are harvested or not. Alternatively, if you are selling your timber through a per unit sale (timber is scaled and paid for as it is being harvested) you might be overly concerned that you are not being paid a "fair" price for trees harvested or trees left standing. If it sounds complex; it can be. Remember that you and your forester have a specific goal for the management of your forest; this should be your primary focus when markets change. Value is important to all of us, but fundamentally being a good steward should be our greatest goal. **Recommendation:** Your timber harvest is a "prescription" for the sustained health of your woodlot. When weighing modifications to your harvest, first ask, "will the goals of this prescription still be met if XX amount of wood is left in the woods?" A "yes or no" to that question will guide you when deciding whether to alter, postpone, or continue the harvest

"The logger has left and my roads are a mess!" This is a VERY common issue. Let's start by emphasizing the importance of a sound harvesting contract that clearly defines close-out and clean-up responsibilities. Assuming a good contract is in place, we need to acknowledge that, at times, a logging contractor has to pull out at a time when road repairs cannot be completed; it can be counterproductive to attempt to fix a road with very wet weather, frozen ground, or heavy snow. In addition, your logger may not own the proper machinery for doing a good close-out; if there is a "road close-out" contractor,

the completion may require waiting on the contractor's schedule. Of course all of this waiting does not help you, the landowner, if your primary access road is impassable. **Recommendation:** When reviewing the sale with your forester and/or logger, clearly identify the most important roads on the property and your expectations for post-harvest use (when it is needed and what kind of vehicles). Loggers can then approach their harvesting plan accordingly and save everyone some anxiety. Finally, have patience; sometimes it just takes more time than expected for favorable conditions to come around.

And last but not least....."I've changed my mind." This happens for a variety of reasons and we all understand that sometimes it just can't be helped. However, the decision to ride a roller coaster should be made before getting on, not as it crests the first big hill. The same is true for timber harvests. From its onset, many hours of preparation and scheduling are involved in coordinating a harvesting project; foresters and loggers generally arrange their schedules months and years in advance. A fickle forest owner can create unnecessary anxiety and tension between owner and contractor, potentially limiting operational options and sale revenue. Working with professional foresters and loggers, asking your questions in advance, and taking time to visit similar harvests will all help avoid last minute "cold feet" and allow all parties to count on one another. **Recommendation:** Remember the "Five-Ps": Prior Planning Prevents Poor Performance.

The *Pennsylvania Forests* editor thanks Matt Sampson for censusing his fellow foresters for their thoughts on this issue! We hope it was over coffee and doughnuts... or perhaps it deserved something stronger!

Tariffs

by Dick Starr

I try to keep up with the news and it's frequently the best free entertainment available. I do my duty in the voting booth but frankly things political don't grab me like other spheres of human activity. For example, why is U.S. currency worth more than the very pretty and attractive Canadian currency? I recall the surprised look I got when I dropped 3 Loonies (a Canadian \$1 coin) into a tip jar thinking they were 3 quarters. That was a very generous tip. Oops.

It was with interest I read an editorial by David Dunn-Rankin in the February 14, 2018 *Gondolier Sun* newspaper about trade tariffs. A tariff is a tax collected by a government on foreign goods entering the country. This very topic was in the news recently when the U.S. imposed a tariff on Canadian aluminum and steel. Tariffs were also imposed on some goods imported from China. China retaliated by placing tariffs on some goods imported from the US and we have ourselves a little trade war. Pundits are concerned it might become a big trade war. A tariff raises the price of an item and hopefully makes the item less attractive to the American consumer who then buys American made. At the same time it will hopefully protect American jobs and industries which struggle to compete with lower prices from abroad.

(Tariffs—continued on page 7)

Jumping Worms

by Anne Ross

(Derived from sources listed at the end of this article)

Jumping worms are on the NYSDEC invasive species prohibited list. There are 3 species of jumping worms: *amynthas agrestis*, *amynthas hilgendorfi*, and *amynthas tokioensis*. They are glossy gray or brown 1.5 to 8 inches long and can be found in compost piles, soil surface, and leaf litter and anywhere from urban parks, suburban backyards to rural forests.

What to Look For:

- Crazy behavior: They jump and thrash when handled
- Can shed their tails
- Have a white/gray clitellum that completely encircles their body
- Leave a distinctive grainy soil that becomes granular (all the soil nutrients having been used) and looks like coffee grounds
- Best time to find them is late August or September when they are largest.

Prevent Their Spread:

- Do not buy or use jumping worms for bait, vermicomposting or gardening
- Only sell, trade or purchase compost that was heated to appropriate temperatures to reduce pathogens
- Be careful when sharing and moving plants. Always check for worms and know where your plantings come from. Buy bare root stock when possible.
- Remove potted plants from pots and rinse soil from roots before planting
- Check your property for jumping worms using a mustard solution (it won't harm your plants). Mix a gallon of water with 1/3 cup of ground yellow mustard seed and pour slowly into soil. This will drive the worms to the surface.
- Dispose of live worms in the trash or place them in a bag and leave in the sun for at least 10 minutes.
- Report your sightings to www.nyimainvasives.org

Karen Ceballos, 2017. NY Master Naturalist Volunteer Program Assistant, Cornell Cooperative Extension, Department of Natural Resources.

(Tariffs—continued from page 6)

Five times since 1982 the U.S. government has imposed a trade tariff on imported Canadian lumber and newsprint including one imposed last year. One can ask why a timber trade dispute occurs so frequently with our Canadian neighbors? At the heart of the issue is how forests are cared for and managed. Over 50% of all Canadian land below the Arctic Circle is protected forests. Ninety percent of all trees harvested come from property owned by the Canadian government. In contrast, the majority of U.S. forest land is privately owned. This difference in ownership philosophy means a difference in how trees are managed and harvested.

In Canada they think in 50 year time blocks for forest management. This 50 year planning cycle means tree harvest-

ing is done consistently from year to year. The primary goal is to maintain a proper balance of the overall forest ecosystem. Profit from timber sales is a secondary consideration. Since the U.S. is warmer, timber harvesting can be done in 15 year cycles if the trees are properly managed. Part of making a long term profit is good stewardship but profit, not land stewardship, is the primary U.S. objective.

In the U.S. harvesting of timber might be delayed if prices are low. In Canada, the same amount of timber is harvested each year and sold regardless of price. U.S. producers can't charge more than the Canadians because who would buy it and this further depresses market prices. American producers then accuse Canada of "dumping" product in the U.S. On the other side of that coin, while Canada doesn't change production based on market fluctuations, U.S. producers probably will. A higher profit margin increases prices too far to the up side and seems to favor buying less expensive Canadian product thus an imposed tariff. This boom to bust cycle, apparently caused by consistent Canadian production, ruffles the feathers of U.S. producers who then squawk to their representatives who encourage the imposition of a tariff. Adding a tariff to Canadian imports "levels the playing field" and, in theory, makes U.S. and Canadian product more equal in value.

(Creamery—Continued from page 1)

Burley's Forester, Bruce Robinson, spoke to the attendees on "Understanding Forest Succession". Bruce addressed the different life stages of a forest and how important each stage is to the health of that forest and the wildlife that live there. He also wanted to stress that no matter how high-graded a woodlot might be, the forest's recovery will take place at a faster rate when you combine natural forest succession with density management and regular cutting.

At the end of our instruction from Bruce, the Burley's treated us to lunch. We gorged on yummy cheese fondue (made from their artisan cheese of course!), tossed salad, chocolate fondue and fruit kabobs. It was an outstanding way to spend a Saturday morning!



Bruce Robinson Addressing the Audience

The Latest and Worst of Invasive Species

by Colette Morabito

On Wednesday, March 16 we had the pleasure of meeting with Hilary Mosher, Coordinator of the Finger Lakes Partnership for Regional Invasive Species Management (PRISM). A cold, snowy night with around 25 brave and inquisitive attendees. Hilary presented an in-depth description of the rather sad state of affairs for NYS in the realm of invasive species, which unfortunately, is negatively affecting our immediate region. There was just no upbeat or happy ending to this tutorial.



Photo credit, Colette Morabito

Hilary Mosher displays a sample of one of her many examples of invasive species in our area.

However, in order to contain and eradicate invasive species before these many culprits can cause havoc to your fields, forests and aquatic areas, it is essential to properly identify these many non-native species. There are "lookalikes" and therefore detection, reporting, and managing is essential for properly treating and preventing any further spread of some troublesome issues in our woodlots and beyond.

Introduction of invasive species may happen as innocently as ordering plants online, a bug hitching a ride in your suitcase, or after a hike at your neighbor's property, by way of a single seed stuck to your boot planted unintentionally in your own woodlot. Therefore, prevention is key. The ability to be able to recognize these uninvited invaders is paramount as well as education, education, education!

Perhaps it would be appropriate to imbed the management of invasive species into our Forest Management Plans. With the EAB, Oak Wilt, Hemlock Woolly Adelgid (to name a few of some of the more well-known invasive species) the landscape of our woodlots can benefit from appropriate planning. The future of New York forests may depend on it.

Please feel free to communicate directly with Hilary who is located at Hobart and William-Smith Colleges. Her direct email is: MOSHER@hws.edu A gracious thanks to her for the enlightening discussion as well as the many handouts and visuals she shared with the group.

Please note, this issue (as well as previous issues) of the Western Finger Lakes Forest Owner are also available online (with all photos in color) in the WFL section of the NYFOA

Master Forest Owner Volunteer Program (MFO) and Empire Farm Days

by Colette Morabito

"The Master Forest Owner program provides private woodland owners of NYS with the information and encouragement necessary to manage their forest holdings wisely."

I had the extra-ordinary opportunity to participate in the four-day training program to be an MFO. This in-depth educational program taught us about saw timber and wildlife, forest economics and ecology. The experience simply allowed me to appreciate how little I understood about the plants, sun, soil, and wildlife that thrived in a woodlot. However, the training was the impetus to further my desire for more education, better forest management skills, and a clear vision on how to accomplish our forest goals for the property. Perhaps you had the same experience and are ready to "pay it forward"!

Please consider responding to your MFO training to provide private forest owners of NYS with the information and encouragement necessary to manage their forested lands. Empire Farm Days in Seneca Falls, NY is scheduled for August 7, 8, and 9. We need three volunteers each day to assist with woodlot owners' questions, concerns, and to set up visits from an MFO when requested. MFO's are trained to listen to each unique woodlot owner and their goals, as well as to offer guidance to the people and resources for Best Management Practices and/or Timber Stand Improvement.

The MFO program and privately held woodlots in NYS will thrive when we each do our part to volunteer and reach out to our neighbors. Consider spending a summer day with us at Empire Farm Days. You won't regret it. Thank you. Contact: Colette Morabito cmorab2@rochester.rr.com

Welcome New Members

Scott Eberling	Dushore	PA
Edgewood Farms	Groveland	NY
Frank Sheets	Hughesville	PA
Tom Tschorke	Victor	NY

Gooding and the Society of American Foresters and sat down as a group for a discussion of the history of the scout reservation and the management of the camp, provided by Sue Keister and Jeff Emerling. The use of the camp by the scouts, the campers and hikers all proved some coordination challenges for the managers.

The discussion of coordinating management with the DEC, Camp Cutler, the consulting Forester and loggers, parallel access management, and the flexibility that provides was reviewed. The value of using smart phones for geo location



through a free gps app called Avenza was demonstrated. Although cell service is needed for downloading the app and camp map, it is not needed to run the app/use one's phone as a gps. This demonstration established the benefit of management plans based on the geographic information system (GIS).

The twenty-eight of us headed off to examine recent activities.

We stopped to discuss the development of the tower road

and its use during logging, and then parked at the tower to hike through the stands. Silvicultural activities in the stand and the benefit of the slash in regenerating the oaks were discussed



at length. Rob Wink, Phd and CCFL college professor reviewed an ongoing study using regeneration plots to determine the oak seedlings survival, and the foliar herbicide application. We continued on to the deer exclusion and examined the density of regeneration where the deer have very limited access to the regeneration. A vernal pool provided a backdrop where Jeff discussed construction of the pool, various CSP projects, ongoing TSI activities and further silvicultural plans.

Satisfied, we loaded back onto the tractor, headed to the parking as the walk came to a close. A walk in the woods is a good way to start the spring, especially an educational day as this one was. Those of us at WFL would like to thank Sue, Jeff, Mark, Rob and all others who helped make this happen.

With that, I must say a resounding Happy Birthday C4C! It reached the ripe old age of two in June, and since the team operates like a well-oiled machine, it just acquired a new....well-oiled machine! Giving special thanks to Runnings - Brockport and John Schumacher, C4C purchased a brand new log splitter complete with Kohler engine. Runnings gave a big discount and had its team assemble and prepare the splitter for C4C's service. A fantastic birthday gift.

NYFOA's Greg Lessord was key to this acquisition and mentions, "It's a Black Diamond 25-ton vertical and horizontal splitter on a tow-behind chassis. Plenty of power. Only heard it grunt once when they split a nasty knotty butt." Securing this opportunity financially was a direct result of Dale Schaefer's and Chris Howard's efforts to refurbish a piece of donated equipment in 2017. Success like this requires a strong team. Camaraderie is Job #1.



Greg gives Bill Doolittle some driver's education at the Black Diamond splitter.

May 9 was the first of the C4C midweek adventures at David and Celia Deuel's farm near Avon. These gatherings occur every second and fourth

Wednesdays of each month and are in addition to C4C's bimonthly weekend events. Given the team's goals for this coming winter, it seemed best to add some additional time at the landing.

A BIG Thanks! to John Schumacher and his team at Runnings - Brockport! We're grateful for their kind contribution to the C4C effort to help NY's forests and NY's children. Stop by and see them and check out their line of Black Diamond splitters. Tough machines!

If you're a NYFOA member and want to have some fun while doing good, please send Eileen Schaefer a note at dschaefer1@frontiernet.net. She will place you on the C4C mailing list. Please note that there is no requirement for actual work, just actual fun! If you'd rather just attend the post-firewood social, you're more than welcome! It really is a fine time for all as we sit and share some stories and laughs.

If you would like to donate working equipment or cash to help defray some expenses, please send me a note (dfaklis@frontiernet.net). NYFOA and the charities would be grateful. See you next time!

Upcoming Events

Note: To learn about events in neighboring chapters and across the state go to our NYFOA website's EVENTS section at

<https://www.nyfoa.org/events>

Saturday, June 16th-

Piestrak Forestland Woodswalk

9757 Watson Creek Rd

Lindley, NY 14858

GPS Coordinates 42°00'50.7"N 77°08'06.2"W

Latitude and Longitude 42.014084, -77.135060

Saturday June 16, 2018 at 9:00 AM

A woodswalk will be held at Piestraks Forest in Steuben County. The property encompasses approximately 1,100 acres and is guided by a 480A management plan.

We will meet at 9:00 AM for coffee and pastries. At noon we break for a quality lunch. All food, water and snacks provided.

We will board our wagon to drive to a section of the property to observe the following:

- A road system constructed throughout the property.
- Six (6) vernal pools.
- Twenty (20) plus trees that have been identified and marked for observation and discussion.

Our forester, Mr. Bruce Robinson, will conduct and narrate the forest composition and vernal pools involved.

After lunch we will be visiting a two (2) acre enclosure area to examine the results of fencing and the 10-year growth. Along the way there will be other topics that can be addressed.

This woodswalk is an outreach program of the Western Finger Lakes Chapter of NYFOA. All are welcome and this would be a worth while experience for all Master Forester Owners (MFOs).

Coming from the east or west take route 17 to Corning/ Painted Post where you will pick up route 15 south towards Williamsport, PA. Exit at the Presho exit. At the stop sign turn left and go a couple hundred yards to old route 15. Turn right on old 15 and head towards Lindley about 5 miles. Past the Green Shingles Restaurant on the left the next right is Watson Creek Road. We will have signs posted.

Would-be attendees are asked to RSVP Ed Piestrak. (also call if you'd like further information)-

Phone: 570-735-7647

Cell: 607-205-0350

Email: crystal@paluck.org

July 11th. WFL Board of Directors' Meeting

WFL Board of Directors' Meeting Wednesday, July 11th. Meeting at 7 p.m. with Pre-Meeting Meal at 6:15 p.m. American Hotel at the stop light in Lima, NY. Open to all NYFOA members.

Saturday, July 14th- Invasive Species Workshop, Led by Future Forest Consulting and Hosted by Dana and Linda Allison, 4638 County Rd 33, Town Richmond, Ontario County

NYFOA members are invited to an Invasive Treatment Workshop hosted by Dana and Linda Allison NYFOA Members and Future Forest Consulting Inc. on July 14th 2018 at 10am. This workshop will feature mechanical treatment of invasive species with a Fecon Mulcher and follow up spraying techniques for control. Subject invasives will include multiflora rose, honey suckle, and autumn olive. Planting options for reforestation will also be discussed. The property is located on 4638 County Rd 33 in the Town of Richmond, Ontario County. The 170-acre property began as a Christmas Tree Farm in the early 60's and the property has been enrolled in 480a since 1998. The Allison's are the third owner since the Tree Farm was established. Snacks and drinks will be available following the woods walk.

Saturday, July 21st- Apple Pruning Workshop with Bruce Robinson. Refreshments 9:30 am, start 10:00 am, Dale and Eileen Schaefer's, 6017 Co Rd 37, Springwater. Maximum 10 participants. RSVP 585-367-2849. The Schaefer's will order lunch provided at cost or BYO.

August 7-9- Empire Farm Days, Seneca Falls, NY

Further information on the right side of [page 8](#).

Wednesday, October 17th- WFL Annual Meeting

Please save **Wednesday, October 17, 2018**, for our Annual Dinner Meeting for the Western Finger Lakes Chapter. We are fortunate to have Ed Harding as our speaker for this year. A resident of West Webster, New York, while Ed was digging a post hole in his backyard in May 2012, he uncovered a projectile point dating some 3,500 years old. Thus began his archaeological dig that continues today.

As always, we encourage you to attend, along with other WFL forest owners, to enjoy an evening of delicious food, opportunities to make new contacts, and to take home some great door prizes and raffle items. A great time is always had by all.

Invasive Species Awareness Week is scheduled for July 8 – July 14 for the State of New York.

Be sure to visit the PRISM website for activities in your area for both children and adults.

Learn how to identify, report, and manage invasive species of particular interest to you and your land.

Education is paramount in protecting our environment. Be part of the solution!

Classifieds

Wanted: Woodlot and Related Activity Photos. We're building a small collection of photos for publicity and similar NYFOA purposes. If you have photos from woodswalks, woodlot activities, NYFOA activities, etc. and are willing to share, please e-mail them to Jim Minor, jcmi-nor@rochester.rr.com.

Tree Tubes for Sale - Member/(Non-Member) price: 4' (\$5.00/\$5.50); 4' w/ stake (\$6.00/\$6.50); 5' (\$5.50/\$6.00); 5' w/ stake (7.00/\$7.50). Proceeds benefit WFL chapter. (585) 367-2847.

Maple tree tap lease wanted. Any number of taps. Need within 45 minutes of downtown Rochester. Tubing only, vacuum preferred. 3 year lease minimum. Road access. Year round installation. Land purchase considered. Insured and experienced. Write Greg at gmich-ne@gmail.com

For Sale: Bluebird Nestboxes, \$20 ea. Call Dean, 585-669-2956 for pictures and to order (check or Paypal). All of the purchase price benefits the Springwater Historical Society's Museum. Pick up in Springwater.

For Sale: Steel Tree/Pole Climbers, contoured and offset with snap-on Gaff Guards. Lightweight Nylon Body Belt with D-Rings and Pole Strap,

OSHA Standards. See photo below. \$200 for both. Contact Dale at 585-367-2849 .



PLEASE NOTE: Space permitting, the WFL Steering Committee allows members to place free classified ads in this newsletter pertaining to good stewardship practices. However, ads presented here are not an endorsement by WFL.



Wait! Instead of recycling this issue of the *Western Finger Lakes Forest Owner*, why not pass it on to a friend/neighbor to give them a hint at what they're missing by not being a member of NYFOA.

Join and/or Give

NYFOA is a not-for-profit group 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 helps the interested public 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*, woodswalks, chapter meetings, and statewide meetings.

Note: For Gift Memberships, list the recipient's information (must not have been a NYFOA member for 3 years) directly below.

☐ I/We own _____ acres of woodland.

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

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____

State/ Zip: _____

Optional:

Telephone: _____

Email: _____

County of Residence: _____

County of Woodlot: _____

Referred by: _____

Regular Annual Dues:

☐ Student \$15 (Please provide copy of student ID)

☐ Individual/Family \$45

☐ 1 Year Gift Membership \$25

Giftor's (NYFOA member) name _____

Multi-Year Dues:

☐ 2-yr \$80

☐ 3-yr \$120

Additional Contribution:

☐ Supporter \$1-\$49

☐ Contributor \$50-\$99

☐ Sponsor \$100-\$249

☐ Benefactor \$250-\$499

☐ Steward \$500 or more

☐ Subscription to *Northern Woodlands* \$15 (4 issues)

NYFOA is recognized by the IRS as a 501(c)(3) taxexempt 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 _____ V-Code _____

Signature: _____

Make check payable to NYFOA. Send the completed form to:
NYFOA
P.O. Box 541, Lima, New York 14485

Questions: 1-800-836-3566

On-line: www.nyfoa.org



New York Forest Owners Association

Post Office Box 541, Lima, NY 14485

Return Service Requested

NONPROFIT ORG.
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
AVON, NY
PERMIT NO.32

The Western Finger Lakes Forest Owner



Summer 2018

Volume 32, Number 2



Photographer Dick Starr offers this as proof from Venice, Fla that trees and walls can coexist.

Mark Your Calendar

- ◆ **Saturday, June 16th**– Woodswalk at the Ed and Wanda Piestrak Property*
- ◆ **Wednesday, July 11th**– WFL Board of Directors' Meeting*
- ◆ **Saturday, July 14th**– Invasive Species Workshop*
- ◆ **Saturday, July 21st**– Apple Pruning Workshop*
- ◆ **August 7-9**– Empire Farm Days*
- ◆ **Wednesday, October 17th**– WFL Annual Meeting*

* See inside for details

Note: For event reminders and late-breaking news, subscribe to our email list by sending a blank email to-

nyfoa-wfl-news-subscribe@npogroups.org