

The Western Finger Lakes Forest Owner



Fall 2020

Volume 34, Number 3

NYFOA WFL "Socially Distanced"



BLOWOUT ISSUE!



As a result of the COVID-19 restrictions and the associated loss of in-person WFL woodswalks and presentations, our board of contributors have decided to go all out and present a jam-packed issue with a full house of their contributions.

CONTRIBUTIONS FROM

- Colette Morabito
- Ed Piestrak
- Mike Seager
- Dale Schaefer
- Eileen Schaefer
- Nick Jensen
- Dick Starr
- Greg Lessord
- Peter Muench

Raffle Tickets Galore Inside

Don't Wait! This could be your year to get lucky! All tickets must be received by
October 14th



Chair's Chat

Dick Starr

I expect we're all feeling the effect of COVID-19 in some way. It has cancelled all WFL activities and changed our newsletter format. As you can tell by glancing at this issue, we're not reviewing past events and not announcing upcoming events. However, your board of directors continues to meet via phone-to-phone rather than face-to face. There are still issues to address and questions to answer. For one, this fall's October annual dinner meeting was cancelled. It seemed the prudent thing to do.

To make it feel like we're still having a fall meeting, 3 raffles will be held. (1) A pair of Dry Shod boots will be raffled as well as (2) a new Stihl 170 chain saw and (3) a Stihl Personal Protection Equipment kit. See information elsewhere in this issue about the details. We thank these corporate sponsors for their generosity. Thanks are also in order to Dan Ras of Stihl as well as Greg Lessord and Peter Muench of WFL for taking on the task of watching over the raffles. Also thanks to those who participate in the raffles and thus help our bottom line. Our quarterly newsletter consumes most of our allowance from the state. It can be argued WFL chapter lives pay check to pay check.

Good luck to all ticket holders. The raffle drawings will be held October 20th. Try to have your tickets and checks to Greg by October 14th. Remember, there's a reason we call it snail mail.

As a way of saying "We're still here" this should be our largest newsletter ever, stuffed with a variety of topics, articles, ideas and pictures from many contributors. It should take your mind off the virus, at least temporarily. Let me know if you'd like to join our active board of directors. New voices with new ideas are always welcome.

We've decided to draw the raffle winners October 20th. This date is about when we'd be having our dinner meeting if COVID-19 wasn't on the loose. The winter issue of our newsletter will contain a list of winners. In addition, Mike Seager will have an e-blast containing the raffle winners. See page 2 of this issue for instructions on how to sign up for Mike's reminders. Things that don't make the newsletter are usually found here.

In My Woodlot #1

by Ed Piestrak, MFO

Squirrels

As we are all well aware of the crisis we humans have in relations to the corona virus. However, recently it was revealed that animals can also be affected. It was suggested that cats may be affected by the virus and possibly other animals.

Thus I was becoming concerned about the gray squirrels that feed in my yard on a daily basis. Would they need some required spaces to avoid close contact with fellow squirrels? Therefore I placed feeding stations 4 to 5 feet apart to require social distancing. The squirrels have been very co-operative in following the spacing, thus possible avoiding the spread of the virus to my fury friends.

Some people have related to me that the squirrels are just rats in a cute fur coat. I disagree, they are a beautiful animal.



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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 Winter 2020 issue is November 15th

Forest Pond

by: Colette Morabito

We had the pleasure of working with our Forester, Bruce Robinson, this summer. July being hot and dry seemed like the perfect time to get started on the logging road improvements as well as repairing/draining skid trails to enhance property access and improve wildlife opportunities from the after effects of our logging operation. We have also been toying with the idea of building and creating a forest pond, but we were never quite sure if the slope of our mountain and the soil makeup would allow this opportunity for our woodlot and its residents. With Bruce's sharp senses and vision, our Forest To Do list was decided for the summer 2020 season. Welcome bulldozer and excavator, expertly driven by Tim, our neighbor and friend. Let the work begin.



Bruce Robinson and Dave Morabito survey a skid trail before the restoration work.

The logging road needed expert grading, additional culverts, added width was prescribed on several of the turns, and putting the crown back into place after some erosion over the past couple of years had begun to dig deep in a few spots. The Multiflora Rose, Autumn Olive and Honeysuckle were thriving along the roadway due to plenty of sunlight. They were removed at every opportunity. We did stop to eat the delicious raspberries and blackberries that were prolific this year. And then it rained. Honestly, it was a storm cell which dropped hail, gale force winds, thunder and lightning like you have never experienced, along with a monumental amount of

rain which created massive flooding through the entire valley. Okay, so I understand that you need rain to expose the rocks and stones on your road to prevent erosion and create a base surface for your forest road. But this was not the weather event we were anticipating. Let's just say we had to look at where the water wanted to go and not try to recreate what Mother Nature had intended. Things were beginning to get muddy.



The excavator carving out a trench next to the standing water on the forest trail.

As you can well imagine, big machines break down when you least expect it. Luckily, Tim is very adept with both the excavator and the bulldozer. So, when there is a mechanical issue, he simply jumps in the other machine and continues his magic. The forest skid trails were a combination of wet, wetter, and wettest! As you know, Bruce Robinson has plenty of experience making all manner of improvements with great imagination, a focus on birds and wildlife, as well as utilizing resources readily available on site. The trails were home to very deep, vernal pool worthy bodies of water, teeming with pollywogs, salamanders, frogs, algae, and insect larvae of every imaginable species. Bruce instructed Tim to dig a trench with the excavator along the side of the trail that was covered over in water until he hit the bedrock. This was about three feet deep at the top of the mountain. As he was digging, Tim would carefully lay the shale that he had just dug out of the trench and arrange it directly on to the waterlogged trail which would then magically

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Bear Print

drain into the trench. The downed trees, branches, and stumps were all added to the trench to assist in filling it back up. So now we have a trail that is dry, the focus is not on stumps and debris, but rather on the wider trail that is properly crowned and thus making access very appealing. There were a half dozen or so spots where this technique was used to accomplish the task of drying off the trail but allowing the water to continue to be utilized by the creatures that had clearly found a home there.

Working on these muddy and slick trails with more rain continuing to fall daily, made the trail an incredible opportunity to find animal tracks. We made plaster casts of several large prints that all the locals believe is a bear!

So in between occasional equipment failures, daily rain squalls, and swarms of gnats, the forest improvement work continued. The forest pond was in a constant state of change. Five or six natural springs feed into the area designated where the forest pond would be excavated. Hoping to go as deep as possible, we hit bed-rock at about 10 feet. A dike was created on the eastern slope. The pond, a kidney shape,

was dug out specifically in this location as the water resources were vast and there were not many trees growing in the wet soil. The Ash trees were sacrificed in the work as we favored the Oaks when we had to make a choice. After more unexpected rainfall, extremely hot temperatures and humidity, and the natural springs continuing to fill the not quite complete pond, the excavation continued. So, to make a long, muddy story short, now we have a formidable water source for our forest friends, albeit a large mud puddle today. The forest pond is located right off our forest logging road, accessible also through the woods for a quiet approach to observe wildlife in and around the pond.

In conclusion, we are thrilled with the opportunity to use the valuable water resources on our property to a greater advantage. So happy are we, that although we have what resembles a big mud puddle, it is already teeming with frog eggs. It was decided that we should have a proper Christening of the Forest Pond. We set an elegant table alongside the water, with table clothes, candelabras with lighted candles, delicious food, and champagne for a proper toast to the newest member of our forest family. Cheers to good clean dirt, flowing water, and checking off several more items on the Forest To Do List.



Our newly christened Forest Pond, albeit a mud puddle at the moment, as the natural springs and elements continue to fill it.

Slash Walls

by Mike Seager

There has been increasing concern in New York over the past decade about the viability of our forests. When trees of high-value species such as sugar maple, black cherry and red oak are harvested at maturity, the trees that grow to replace them are often different species. The new generation of trees are often less desirable species such as soft maple, beech or pin cherry. If this process repeats over wide areas and many years, New York's forests could decline in both economic and ecological value.

A lot of research has been done to determine why there is such poor regeneration of high-value species and how to improve it. There are two obvious forces at work in our woodlots: browsing of seedlings by deer, which tend to prefer maple and oak seedlings to other species, and competition from invasive species such as honeysuckle, garlic mustard and various ferns. Many other factors might also be involved, such as climate change, fragmentation of ownership and other land-use changes, and poor logging practices such as high-grading.

To test the effect that deer have on regeneration, many groups have experimented with fencing to create "deer exclosures". On a small scale, such exclosures have shown promise. Enclosing an area of a tenth or a quarter of an acre is not terribly expensive, putting it within the reach of many landowners. Many exclosures have shown much better regeneration inside than outside the fence, indicating that deer do, in fact, have a significant impact on seedling growth.

However, fencing is hard to extend to a larger scale. Enclosing the area of a typical harvest – say, 20 – 100 acres – is a significant expense. Once such a fence is built, it must be maintained, as a breach that allows deer in can undermine the value of the fence in a short time. There is a constant danger of a tree falling on the fence and creating a gap in it, so it must be monitored frequently. And if the fence does successfully defend an area and allow new desirable seedlings to grow past the reach of hungry deer, it should be removed – also expensive – or it will remain an eyesore in the woods for years to come.

Another plausible way to limit deer damage in the woods

is to control the deer population through hunting. As reasonable as this seems, a program at Cornell's Arnot Forest that encourages hunting, and especially harvesting does, has failed to reduce the deer herd enough to allow much desirable regeneration. The seemingly limitless deer population that can move in from adjoining areas, combined with the huge number of seedlings even a single deer can browse, make it very difficult to reduce the herd enough to allow vigorous regeneration to take hold.

A new technique being tried at the Arnot Forest attempts to address these problems. The brain child of researchers Peter Smallidge and Brett Chedzoy, the method calls

for building "slash walls" around areas after a harvest to exclude deer. While the project is in its early stages and there are still a lot of open questions, it shows promise and is worth considering for those who are concerned about forest regeneration.

As the name implies, a slash



A basic slash wall, built with logging debris. Approximately 10 feet high, it encircles the harvested area.

wall is a barrier constructed from the logging debris, or slash, left after a harvest. If the barrier is sufficiently high and wide, deer won't be able to jump over it, nor will they be able to walk through it. Unlike a fence, a slash wall is constructed entirely of natural materials. This means, on one hand, that there is nothing to clean up after the regeneration has grown beyond the reach of deer; the slash wall can simply be left to decay naturally. On the other hand, because the slash wall will slump and decay as it ages, the initial wall must be large enough so that it forms an effective barrier long enough for the regeneration to become well-established.

Slash walls also have a cost advantage relative to fencing. Initial trials show that slash walls can be built for about half the cost of installing a deer fence (roughly \$2.00 per linear feet vs \$4.00 per foot of fencing). An even bigger advantage is in maintenance; a fence must be monitored frequently, because a tree or large limb falling on it can open a gap that deer will find and exploit. A tree falling on a slash wall adds to the effectiveness of the wall, so maintenance costs are almost zero. An added benefit of a slash wall, which is essentially just a linear brush pile, is that it creates habitat for birds, invertebrates and small mammals.

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Over the past several years, researchers at the Arnot Forest have conducted nine harvests, ranging in size from a few acres to more than 100 acres, that have been protected from deer with slash walls. In all cases, after the harvest was complete and deer were removed from the enclosed area, no other management was undertaken. In particular, no herbicides were used to control competing vegetation.



Abundant oak seedlings have sprung up in an area enclosed by a slash wall, with no evidence of being browsed by deer.

The results of these tests have been encouraging but not universally positive. One area has sprouted a significant carpet of oak seedlings, exactly as one would hope. Other areas have grown up to pin cherry and elderberry; while these species have high value for wildlife, they are not the high-economic-value species such as sugar maple that was intended. As the tests have proceeded, the researchers and the loggers they employ have also been refining their techniques for building the walls and experimenting with the size and density of the walls necessary to keep deer at bay.

It usually takes years to see the results of experiments in forestry, and that is the case with slash walls. Three years into the project, the results are mixed and there are many questions to explore.

Because a slash wall is built entirely of natural materials, it begins to settle and decay as soon as it is built. The rate at which the wall decays is one of the ongoing metrics in the experimental plots at the Arnot Forest. How big must a wall be built initially if it is to exclude deer until seedlings have grown beyond browse height? Obviously that will depend on how quickly the seedlings are established and how fast they grow.

How quickly will desirable regeneration be established, if at all? In one test plot so far, it appears that oaks were

established very quickly, and they might grow beyond the reach of deer in a few years. In the plot that was overtaken by pin cherry, it might take a number of years for more desirable species to get established; in this case a larger wall would be necessary, so that it could exclude deer for several additional years. And of course this leads to the key question: how to predict which of these scenarios will prevail at the time you are planning the harvest and building the wall?

Would the chance of successfully establishing the desired species be improved by more active means than simply letting it seed naturally? Does it make sense to combine protecting an area with a slash wall with using herbicide treatments to control the undesirable competing veg-

etation? Or is it better to plant seeds or seedlings of the



A gate in the slash wall excludes deer while providing access for people and machines.

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Nature's Chain: The Land and Our Place in It

by Colette Morabito

Art Wagner was presented with the opportunity for NYFOA to participate in the 2020-2021 exhibition at the Genesee Country Village & Museum (GCV&M) in Mumfords, New York. As the GCV&M is located within the boundaries of the WFL chapter, we all joined forces to coordinate our efforts and had a NYFOA poster and handouts sent directly to the museum for display. The new exhibit titled **Nature's Chain: The Land and our Place in It** is within the John L. Wehle Gallery.

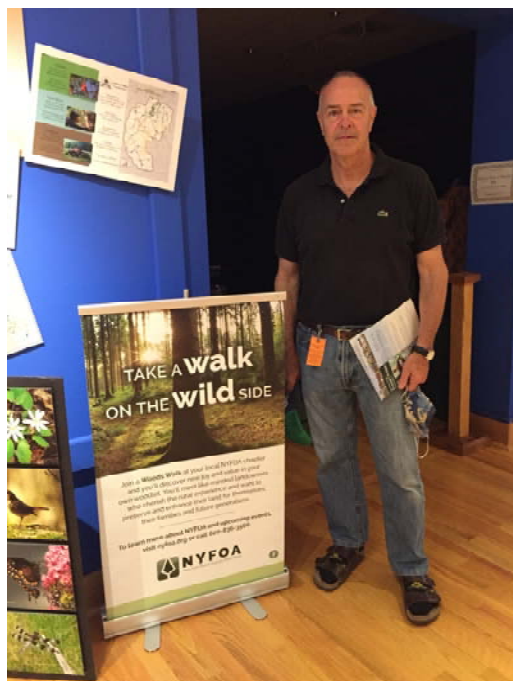


The exhibit featuring NYFOA is within the John L. Wehle Gallery located at the GCV&M.

Upon entering the museum, the vestibule is well stocked with handouts from various environmental local organizations, including the NYFOA flyer offering new members a show special to join for only \$25.00. Many of the organizations promote all manner of wildlife, forestry, and conservation efforts which work actively to educate New York State residents on sustaining our fragile environment.

You will need to pass through Victoria's Closet Gallery which features fashions of the 1850's to arrive at the Nature's Chain exhibit. The simple displays and original artwork all focus on how land and nature has changed over time due to human pressure on the environment. The historical focus begins with the Native Americans through the pioneer's arrival and settlements, surveying, and the westward movement. The emphasis on more modern times describes species extinction and some of

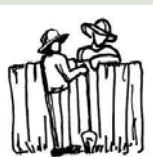
the restoration efforts, agriculture, invasive species, reforestation, conservation, environmental activism, and climate change. We should all feel proud and honored to have NYFOA's voice as an integral part of this conversation and exhibit.



David Morabito poses next to NYFOA poster on display at the Nature's Chain exhibit at the GCV&M

The Village is always a pleasure to meander around. The log homes and primitive wooden furniture is my favorite; it is always so practical and solid. We marveled at the curators' abilities to discover the homes in Upstate New York, under countless layers of modern siding, scabbed on additions, and the pains taking requirement of moving the houses in pieces to be refurbished and restored in the Village. The history of the people and buildings is mind boggling. I wonder how many ghosts are hanging in all those rafters.

The GCV&M has limited hours and are listed clearly on their website, <https://www.gcv.org/>, and should be consulted before venturing out to visit. Covid-19 restrictions and school days on the horizon are requiring them to make their calendar more concise. Although the food vendors are open during business hours, I would highly recommend packing a picnic lunch, eating under one of their many glorious shade trees overlooking the Village Green, and letting your mind go back to a simpler time.



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.

FSC

by Dick Starr

Do we struggle alone? Is NYFOA/WFL a lone light in the "manage your woods" landscape? There are times when a little pessimism might seem justified but wait, there's more. Last winter I obtained a free paint stirring stick and was surprised to see "100% Wood from well-managed forests" stamped on it. More recently I purchased a 6 foot piece of pine for a small project. A sticker attached to the wood stated it was a product of New Zealand and was "Wood from responsible sources". We're shipping wood in from New Zealand? It also had the same drawing and FSC stamp. I opened a recent RG&E bill and on the inside of the envelope it said "Envelope paper is from well managed forests". We're not alone. FSC stands for Forest Stewardship Council.

The United Nations has determined half of the world's forests have already been altered, degraded, destroyed or converted into other land uses. Much of the remaining forests suffer from illegal exploitations. The failure of governments to reach any notable consensus on how to address forestry concerns has caused both disillusionment and opportunities. One opportunity has been civil and business interests partnering to create the Forest Stewardship Council

The FSC, formed in 1993, is an international non-profit organization headquartered in Bonn, Germany. The objective is to promote responsible management of the

world's forests, at least what remains. Sounds a bit like a Big Brother version of NYFOA. The FSC attempts to accomplish this by setting standards on forest products while certifying and labeling them as eco friendly. More can be learned at fsc.org.

For me it has become a treasure hunt to see how many places and products I can find FSC designation. I recently found it in an issue of *National Woodlands* magazine in an advertisement. Next to the FSC logo it stated, "The mark of responsible forestry".



The FSC Symbol

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desired species to establish desirable regeneration more quickly?

Many of these questions, and others, will be addressed in the coming years as the slash wall experiment continues at the Arnot Forest and other sites. To keep up with all the latest results, visit the project's web site at <http://slashwall.info>.



Pete Smallidge (left) explains that sometimes you get abundant undesirable regeneration – in this case, a thicket of pin cherry. Brett Chedzoy looks on.

A FREE LUNCH

by Dale Schaefer

On July 31, 2020 I had the opportunity to do an MFO visit with a new forest land owner. Before I explain the unusual visit which included a free lunch. I will explain what an MFO visit is for those who don't know what it consists of or have never had one. MFO stands for Master Forest Owner through the Cornell Cooperative Extension program which our tax dollars pay for. The program is free to land owners who would like more information about managing their land to insure ecologically sound forest productivity and also what resources are available, such as Federal cost share dollars which you may be able to apply for. I received money for TSI (Timber Stand Improvement) putting in culverts, cull wildlife trees just to name a few under the 5 year Farm Bill. You can apply for the cost share program of which there are about 10 categories to choose from. Everyone must have a Forestry Management plan first. A plan can be free by a DEC Forester or your own consulting Forester for a fee. MFO are trained by Cooperative Extension. Many who are experienced land owners themselves. You can find out more about the MFO program by going to the website at <http://blogs.cornell.edu/ccemfo>

Getting back to our Free Lunch (some say I have a gift of gab, or others say I don't know when to shut up). The new land owner is David Mazerbo of South Bristol who purchased 30 acres most of which is hardwoods, consisting of red and white oak, some very large, 20 to 30" DBH (diameter at breast height) 2 & 3 logs in height (one log equals 16 ft.in height). Dave would like to manage his woodlot for sustainable forest products and has contacted Bruce Robinson, Forestry Consultant from Jamestown.



Little Dave by bigger tree.

David, and his family all have a passion to be self sufficient through organic farming and their woodlot. They will be building a new larger greenhouse and a barn on their new property to sell all organic produce of which they have had several years experience in the past. Their previous location was in Richmond (Honeoye, NY). David has stated "In many instances farming can be little in profit but so much more wealthy in so many other ways. I believe in being beyond organic. If I never gave my family anything, I gave them more than they realize. In any case my family eats good clean food healthier than what most millionaires ever could have consumed or imagined. I'm proud of that."

At the conclusion of our MFO visit not only did David get a free MFO visit but 2 weeks later with input from Bruce Robinson, we all had a free lunch compliments of David sitting on the back deck of their new log home.

David is the newest member to N.Y.F.O.A, W.F.L chapter

In My Woodlot #2

by Ed Piestrak, MFO

Bluebirds

We had a woods walk scheduled for June of this year, but due to the virus the committee decided it would be best if it was cancelled. We had prepared for a look at a 30 acre releasing of trees plus other worthwhile projects. Hopefully the situation would be such that we can have the woods walk scheduled for next June.

I have been in contact with the New York Bluebird Society and they requested that they present a one hour presentation on bluebirds in New York. The presentation would be quite appreciated since we have multiple bluebird houses on the property and the bluebird is the NY state bird.

Hope all is well with the members and we hope to see everyone next year. –*The Piestraks*

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You simply need to register your purchases through [SMILE.AMAZON.COM](https://smile.amazon.com) and listing NYFOA as your choice to contribute through the Amazon Smile Foundation. It does not affect your purchase price, and ½ of 1% of your online purchase will benefit NYFOA in their efforts to provide more value for our members Thank you for your consideration!

Paint Stick Tree Stick 2

by Dick Starr

In the summer 2019 issue I reviewed how a heavy duty paint stirring stick can be used to make a serviceable Biltmore stick for measuring tree diameter. This article will add tree height to our home made B stick. Start by making a mark on the stick every 15.5 cm (6 1/16 inches) starting from the zero end. The heavy duty paint stick is long enough for 3 marks. Since the flat sides of the stick are a bit cluttered I placed these new marks on the stick's edge. This will allow estimating up to three 16 foot logs in a tree which would translate to a tree height of at least 48 feet at that point. The smaller limbs above the logs must be accounted for to get a better estimate of total height. The marks can easily be cut in half (7.8 cm) making for 8 foot logs if desired.

To use the stick for estimating height, stand 66 feet (one chain) from the tree being measured. Hold the stick vertical at arm's length with the zero end at the tree's base and the edge with the marks facing you. The markings made in the previous paragraph now indicate 16 foot intervals as you visually "climb" the tree. To go beyond 3 logs (48 feet) move the zero end of the stick upwards in 16 foot intervals.

A chain is a measure of distance. It is used for surveying and consists of a chain 66 feet long comprised of 100 links. Introduced in 1620 by Englishman Edmund Gunter it became the standard measurement for surveying in the British Empire, including the American colonies. The chain reconciled the English system of measuring land based on the number 4 and the decimal system based on the number 10.

In 1593 Queen Elizabeth the First established one mile as 5280 feet. So 1 chain = 100 links (66 feet) and 1 mile = 80 chains (5280 feet). This means one acre is 10 square chains or 43,560 square feet and one square mile = 640 acres. Sound confusing? A farmer might call 1 acre the area of land he can plow in 1 day with 1 horse. Sounds easy unless you're the horse.



Using BA gauge

Paint Stick Tree Stick 3

by Dick Starr

Mother nature often gets carried away and brings more into existence than she can bring to healthy maturity. Over crowding can have an adverse affect on an entire ecosystem. How does one know if thinning some trees will benefit the overall health of a forest? Many factors must be considered in answering this but one piece of the puzzle is basal area (BA).

BA is a measure of tree concentration or density in an area. There might be more trees than the woodlot can sustain in good health, not as many as could be sustained or the Goldilocks ideal of "just right". How does one know?

I think of BA this way. Cordon off 1 acre of woods and cut down every tree 4.5 feet above ground level. Now calculate the exposed surface area of each stump and add them together. This total number gives the square feet (area) of tree surface in the acre and is measured as square feet per acre. It isn't necessary to use a whole acre to estimate an acre and thankfully methods exist that don't require clear cutting trees to get an estimate.

A simple BA gauge can be made from a piece of plastic (like a container lid) with a 3/4" square viewing window cut from the middle. Dr. Peter Smallidge of Cornell often hands them out free at woods walks he conducts. I decided to add a BA gauge to my home made B stick. All that's required is a window 3/4" across. But how does one cut a 3/4" square in a paint stick without endangering digits? Suddenly I realized 3/4" is the same distance be it the side of a square or the diameter of a circle. I took a 3/4" wood bit and drilled a hole at one end of the B stick. Shazam! The B stick has a built in BA gauge.

To estimate BA with such a device, stand in a woodlot and hold the paint stick vertical at arm's length so that you can look through the hole. Slowly turn a 360 degree circle and count every tree that completely fills the viewing window. It might turn out that smaller trees close by fill the window and very large but more distant trees do not. No problem, it all averages out. Multiply the total number of trees that fill the window by 10. If 8 trees fill the window, the BA is 80 (8 X 10). Eighty square feet/acre is the location's BA value. Repeating this at various locations throughout the woodlot gives a better average value. Generally a BA over 100 suggests thinning might be a good idea. After removing dead, dying and forked trees, a forester can help in identifying which trees to remove next.

Flash Back, Then Fast Forward

by Greg Lessord

Flash back 3 years to the Green Lie (Or How We Spent Our summer Vacation), The New York Forest Owner Volume 55 Number 6, Nov./Dec. 2017. Kathy and I chose two roughly 2 acre each sections on opposite ends of our stand number 4 and diligently commenced removing every invasive species we could.

The first photo in that article shows Kathy standing against the outside edge of the northern target area. Visibility into the stand behind her was about one foot. The second photo shows Kathy about twenty yards in after clearing ONLY invasives. Between her and I were a couple small trees, otherwise the ground is barren!



Kathy along the northern edge. This time it is only yummy blackberries that need to be removed

What remained after the onslaught were some small cherry, staghorn sumac, hawthorne, red and grey dogwoods, gooseberry and unfortunately white ash whose days are numbered. While some carry leaves currently, most were lost to EAB.

Our intent was to supplement any natural regeneration with various trees and shrubs from Monroe County Soil and Water. We wanted to protect them from deer with a fence. A friend had told us if you kept the enclosure small enough you could get by with only a 4 foot tall fence. The deer would feel to uneasy inside the confined space and would not enter.

We used chicken wire and black nylon netting to make 3 enclosures of about 10x20, 15x15 and 12x45 feet.

Inside the 10x20 we put in a variety pack of chokeberry, serviceberry, elderberry, American cranberry and flowering dogwood.

The 15x15 was planted with witchhazel and the 12x45 received both plum and hazelnut.

Elsewhere throughout the area we planted individual sawtooth oak, persimmons and another variety pack each getting their own little fence.

Three years later the deer have not entered any of the enclosures! Our losses came from drought 2 out of 3 years. We hauled them water the best we could but 20% didn't survive. We replaced them over time and most are doing well.

We keep at the invasives as they rear their ugly heads. After the initial attack the yearly maintenance does not take too long to cruise the area and cut and squirt or pull out by the roots.



Plum inside the 12'x45' enclosure

Initially we figured it would take 5 years to see substantive results for the natural regeneration.

After only 3 years we are very impressed with nature's ability to rebound given a little help. Take note that once again the visibility into that northern edge is about a foot behind Kathy. This time it is due to an impenetrable patch of red and grey dogwoods, little ash and slippery elm and blackberry. Beyond those in the interior are more small dogwood, little sugar and red maple, white oak, staghorn sumac seedlings and a small red oak. Sumac has also taken up residence in the witchhazel enclosure.

The 2 acres to the south are patrolled for invasives. The natural regeneration there not nearly as pronounced but the over-story keeps things mostly shaded. Dogwoods are doing well. We have sugar and red maple seedlings along with ash and elm.

With the success of the enclosures, this spring we put up a 20x80' fence consisting of 4 strands of old cattle wire spaced from 1 to 5 feet high at the rear of a field bordering our most mature hardwoods.

Inside we filled this with hazelnut, elderberry and buttonbush. To date we have kept them all watered and have had zero mortality. There has been no evidence the deer have been inside. Plenty of tracks and droppings around the perimeter. Ten years ago we planted this same area with hazelnut and elderberry and the deer decimated them.

We don't have a guess as to how much larger an area of short fence will still deter the deer but we're pleased with the results we've had to date.

We are also pleased to see how quickly nature has responded to our man made disturbance with such positive results.

Q&A About Posting a Property

by Nick Jensen

Landowners spend a lot of time in their woodlots in the late summer and early fall gearing up for heating season and hunting seasons. Even if you are not a hunter yourself, you may have wondered what the rules are for posting your property and what this effort accomplishes. It may be worth your time to address the signage on your property if you are already on your property. This could even be a good (and less dangerous task than running a chainsaw) to get younger generations involved with.

What follows is a brief Q&A about posting your property

Do I have to post my property?

On the one hand; posting is useful for preventing and prosecuting timber theft and prosecuting trespass cases. It therefore discourages recreationists from using your property without permission.

But on the other hand; case law indicates that recreational liability is no greater on unposted than on posted property. Also posting your property may anger local residents, and, therefore, may lose a valuable property protection tool: the happy, helpful eyes of friendly neighbors. The protections under NYS General Obligations Law (GOL) 9-103 arises regardless of whether the landowner posts the property.

So, while posting is essential to winning a trespass case, it does not affect liability under the statute. Likewise, the statutory protection arises regardless of whether the recreational user has permission to be on the property.

Are there alternatives to posting?

Fencing: If your rural lands are entirely fenced, you may be able to prosecute trespassers under Penal Law 140 without actually posting your lands. However, when prosecuting under this law, the burden of proof is on the landowner to show that the fence was designed to exclude intruders. A well-maintained, tall fence topped with barbed wire is likely to be adequate proof of intent. However, a lower stock fence probably would not qualify. This is impractical for most property owners.

Posting with "By Permission Only Signs": Are a good option for landowners who are generally sympathetic to recreationists but who wish to control the number on their property at any given time. These signs are not readily available in the usual retail outlets, however, some hunting and fishing clubs in areas of New York are making such signs and erecting them for cooperative landowners. Also the state fish & wildlife board sponsors an "Ask" program in which these signs are made available to landowners.

Communication: If it is a limited number of people causing the problem and you can identify them, try talking to

them to work out a solution. Or write a letter which contains a description of the property and which activities are not permitted. Consider sending by certified mail. According to New York law, any person must leave your property upon request, even if it is not posted.

What are the rules about posting?

For your property to be legally posted, signs must meet the following criteria:

They must be at least 11 inches square.

They must be posted no more than 40 rods (660 feet) apart, along the boundaries of the area where posting is desired.

At least one sign must be posted along *each* border and at *each* corner of the plot.

Posting notices must include the name and address of the person posting.

Illegal or torn-down notices must be replaced annually in March, July, August, or September.

If you secure a sign directly to a tree, aluminum nails will prevent tree health problems.

Do I have to put warning signs on my tree stands?

Landowners who have obviously hazardous man-made situations on their property (like open wells, unsafe buildings, or invisible wires strung across a trail) may be found liable for injuries to anyone, including trespassers. Tree stands may be considered a hazardous situation depending on their condition. It is best practice to remove or remediate hazardous situations rather than putting a warning sign on them.

It is a good idea anyway to take all removable tree stands down after the season is over anyway to check their condition and let the tree grow without growing around the stand.

Conclusion:

It is a good general practice to post your property and annually inspect and maintain your signage. It does not, however, impact your liability should someone get hurt on your property. So it is also a good practice to remove any potentially hazardous conditions that may exist on your property.

Tree Hunting

by Greg Lessord

Normally I cruise the timber marking for my annual firewood needs late December after deer season. It's always been the most convenient time and with barren crowns I can easily chart my felling paths and the order they will be felled.

I always strive for no collateral damage. That NEVER happens. But I keep it pretty minimal. I study many marked trees looking where I can drop one conveniently which subsequently gives me an opening where I can put the next. Of course their natural lean, crown weighted to one side, forked crown results in me driving wedges most of the time to keep that collateral percentage down. And it feels so good when you decide where it needs to lie and you set your empty water bottle or soda can out there and drive it into the duff.



Felling instructions.

have visited. Our crowns are nice and full. While I used my knife to plop egg masses into a coffee can all late winter an early spring to a height of about 8 feet, I don't think that effort really amounted to a drop in the proverbial bucket.

That became very obvious as I cruised the timber. As I surveyed and marked trees I stabbed one gypsy moth after another as they laid eggs. Many trees had 25-30 masses and moths on the stems. Looking skyward became very depressing as numerous trees had 50,100 or more clustered on the underside of a single large limb.

So on this beautiful summer day of July 27th I grabbed

my trusty roll of ribbon and commenced tree hunting.

First stop those sugar maples in question. As I gazed skyward it became quite obvious I would have dropped the wrong tree. My "keeper" had numerous dead limbs with many of the twigs now gone plus a split limb, probably the result of wind, Image and the "loser" was already taking advantage of the sunlight and sending twigs out to utilize it.

As I continued my hunt I felt confident that the bulk of my winter choices would have been correct. There were enough examples presented to me however that I now feel tree hunting during the summer will help me achieve the best overall TSI. The felling considerations would still be addressed come winter-- for the most part.

Many beech had been previously marked by the DEC and as I was picking and choosing this winters targets, I began paying attention to an area of sugar maple regeneration. These are fairly closely spaced saplings 20 or so feet tall. Summer hunting would determine my felling order and directions now as there will be unavoidable collateral damage as those beech hit the duff. I scanned these saplings and saw the obvious deformed stem or fork. Where numerous stems looked good I turned to the crowns and could better assess which ones would have to take one for the team through no fault of their own. Now I had two choices. Mark up a bunch of sugar maples to guide my felling paths or just mark instructions on the few beech now. I chose beech.

I first chose the order they would need felling and numbered them. I picked their path and painted in the outline of the face cut. And more often than not I wedge them over so I painted codes for wedge(s) or no wedge. I don't like any more stuff at the tree than necessary when it's time to head out my escape route.

When the beech fall come winter I won't cringe nearly as much when I see a "loser" sugar maple standing out in front of the face cut that I have to euthanize first.

Now the deer hunting is another matter. They ALL cause "collateral" and they're ALL tasty. Just try not to take out a nice sapling with your bullet when felling the deer.

Trees and deer. Always be sure of your target and what is beyond. Happy tree hunting!



Not A Pretty Sight.

Crows

by Dick Starr

The answer, apparently, is crows. The question is, what is the question for which crows is the answer?

I like the notion of growing some of our food. "Eat what you can and can what you can't" is the gardener's watchword. Our residential neighborhood also provides domicile arrangements for a variety of wild critters. Most notable are rabbits, wood chucks, squirrels, chipmunks, various birds, once in awhile a deer, Japanese beetles, at least one coyote sighting and a red tailed hawk too small to fly away with its rabbit kill. These critters all need sustenance. There's no question the squirrels eat all produce from our nut trees.

A few years ago we didn't get one grape from our 5 vines. Usually we get a decent supply for eating fresh. Grapes tend to be out of reach for bunnies and chucks. Deer could reach the grapes but we see them so rarely. I suspect our many neighborhood dogs keep the deer spooked and away. Two years ago a young apple tree was stripped of still ripening fruit and prior to that a usually productive pear tree went from lots of immature fruit to zilch come harvest time. Here's the dilemma. The usual suspects in a crime of food theft would be rabbits, woodchucks and deer but they don't climb trees. Squirrels are professional climbers but are sour apples, grapes and pears on their diet? I once saw a squirrel bounding out of a farm field with an ear of corn in its mouth. I've also found golf ball sized green apples buried in a manner that points a guilty finger at squirrels.

So the mystery of the missing fruit remained a mystery until July 21, 2020. I was mowing the lawn when I happened to see a crow jumping up and down under an apple tree in our yard. It seemed odd behavior so I stopped mowing and watched. The crow would cock its head and seemed to eye the tree and then jump upwards propelled by its wings. The small branch it landed on was pulled nearly to the ground by the crow's weight and the bird promptly dropped to the ground and picked up something green. As best I could tell, it had dislodged a small green apple and swooped down to grab and eat its prize. This behavior was repeated several times and soon 2 more crows joined the party. These rascals were snacking on my green apples.

On August 6, 2020 I observed a crow in the mulberry tree jumping from limb to limb. I'm sure it was lunching on ripe mulberries. There were 3 other crows on, in or under the mulberry and not a sign of a monkey chasing a weasel. Other birds enjoy the ripening mulberries but this was the first I've seen crows doing so.

From all of this I conclude crows are the thieves of at least some of our missing fruit. It shouldn't take much time for a gang of big and bold crows to strip a tree or vine of immature fruit. Guess I have to add making a scare crow to my list of chores.

Free Apple Trees

by Dick Starr

I suspect most folks who own forest land would list seeing wild life as a reason for ownership. Like us, wild creatures need a source of food, a safe place to snooze and a place to raise their young. Provide these and your property will be home to a variety of wild life. Food plots, often planted by hunters, attempt to attract wild ones by addressing the food issue. Feed them and they will come. Over the years I have purchased and planted many seedlings in my attempt to feed and attract wild life. I have experimented with germinating peach seeds in an attempt to get free peach seedlings. The process is called stratification which is essentially mimicking winter in a rodent free environment.

Peach seeds breed true and produce the same fruit as the original peach tree. If you can get a Hale Haven peach seed to germinate the resulting seedling will eventually give you Hale Haven peaches. Apples, however, do not breed true and germinating an apple seed will result in whatever the genetic dice decides. Unlike people wild life care not a whit for the appearance of their food and go for whatever tickles the taste buds and tempts the tummy. When I plant apple seedlings germinated from seed I know only the wild ones are likely to eat the fruit that will someday appear. But that's the objective.

The process starts in the fall with eating apples. Save the seeds, usually 5-7 per apple, and let them dry a few days. Place these "dry" seeds in a capped plastic bottle such as an empty pill bottle. Place the bottle of seeds in the refrigerator door where they're not likely to freeze. It takes about 3 months for the germinating process so ignore the bottle of seeds until March 1. This is roughly 3 months before planting season in our climate. Try to use locally grown apples as they're acclimated to our growing zone. The refrigerator time safely imitates the cold of winter. I have placed seeds in a capped bottle left in the garage all winter. This protects the seeds from rodents and winter's chill is abated a bit if placed next to the house wall.



Germinating Apple Seeds

(Continued on page 15)

In My Woodlot #3

by Ed Piestrak, MFO

More Birds

A family friend "Tom" has a love for all animal creatures especially birds.

In late Spring he found 3 birds on a road by his home that fell out of their nest. The nest appeared to be too small to hold the birds safely.

He made a nest in his yard and hung it in a tree. Placing the birds gingerly into the new nest where they had significant room to move about.

Well after placing them in the nest the mother bird soon arrived and began to feed them. Hopefully the birds can grow to maturity and start a life of their own. Sometimes Mother Nature needs some assistance to care for her creatures. See attached photo:

PS: Not sure what the bird type is.



(Free Apple Trees. continued from page 14)

On March 1st open the bottle and set the best looking seeds aside. The best looking will have a plumpish appearance and not have a flat and wilted look. Soak these good seeds overnight in warm water which starts to soften the seed shell. On March 2nd dampen a paper towel and squeeze out excess water. Flatten and fold the damp paper towel into a strip, roll the seeds in the damp towel and reinsert in the bottle. Replace the bottle with



Baby Apple Orchard

dampened seeds in the refrigerator door. In mid May unroll the damp towel and start examining the seeds once or twice a week for the formation of white rootlets. (see picture) Place rooted seeds in a container of potting soil. Within a week or so a seedling will pop its head above the soil. I like using peat pots as the entire thing is biodegradable and there is little stress in the transplanting process. Plant the seedlings in their new home once frost danger is past. Generally some protection from hungry seed eaters is needed at this time.

New Business Announcement: Silvo Planning LLC

NYFOA-WFL board member and frequent contributor to this newsletter, Nick Jensen CPA, CFP® has started a new kind of financial planning firm. Silvo Planning is a fee only fiduciary financial advisory firm that also provides tax preparation and tax planning for its clients. Silvo Planning works with property owners to address their unique planning needs. Please contact Nick if you would like to find out more about his new company and if Silvo Planning may be of service to you and your family. The web address is: silvoplanning.com. Nick can also be reached at 607-794-1672 or by email at silvoplanning@gmail.com

Foresters In The Making?

by Eileen Schaefer

My stepdaughter Lindsey made the trek up to visit us this summer so the grandkids could visit with Papa and Nana, (luckily while it was still allowed). Our grandson Hudson is almost five and our granddaughter Rya is almost two. I had noticed when I picked her up out of her car seat, the first thing she did was look up at all the trees in the forest that surround our home.

That may seem young to start envisioning future foresters, but possibilities are endless when the kids are young. Having parents that allow them to play outside and enjoy nature is a big step in my opinion.



Rya looking in the trees for bugs



Rya having fun in the trees

Hudson started with having Papa do all the fishing, then he not only held the fishing pole himself, but caught the most fish for the day. He did not want to stop fishing once he was comfortable with it.

The next adventure had Hudson leading Nana and Rya on a hike through the woods. He led us further and further along the trail chattering the whole time. Rya kept ahold of my finger to keep her balance and would stop every so often to pick wildflowers to take back to her mom. She was just as happy to keep moving through the forest as long as her big brother led the way. We were treated to the sight of a young red-tailed hawk checking us out.



Papas hunting hut with Hudson 7 2020

The trip would not be complete without a ride in the club car through the forest. Hudson was the first one to spot the deer that we disturbed from a nap. As we bounced around, Rya took her nap! Of course we had to stop and let Papa and Hudson climb into Papa's deer hut for a bird's eye view.

It still may be far-fetched to think either Hudson or Rya might become a forester; but even if they do not, the respect and love of the forest and nature will be passed on to another generation.

Please note, this issue (as well as previous issues) of the *Western Finger Lakes Forest Owner* are also available on-line (with all photos in color) in the WFL section of the NYFOA web site, www.nyfoa.org.

Also note that other chapters' newsletters are also available for reading in their chapter's sections on the NYFOA web site.

Raffle # 1 of 3: DRYSHOD BOOT RAFFLE

Returning Corporate Sponsor (And Raffle)

by Greg Lessord

DRYSHOD USA (dryshodusa.com) is the maker of waterproof footwear. Their line includes women's and men's hunting, lawn and garden, farm and ranch, outdoor and work boots plus kid's outdoors. Men's sizes available up to 16, women's up to 11 and kid's in children's to 13 and youth to 04.

Some of the key features are athletic shoe sizing for a better fit, waterproof, insulated, easy on / easy off design, breathable airmesh linings are nonabrasive and hypoallergenic. They feature a larger toe bumper for maximum protection and a heel kick and rigid heel protection.

Former Muck Boot Company founder and owner Jim Donahue says "DRYSHOD was developed to bring great waterproof footwear to hard-working farmers, hunters, gardeners and outdoor enthusiasts everywhere. With the goal of becoming the # 1 brand in waterproof footwear".

Mike, Zagata with the board's support, has obtained ten pair of boots, one for each chapter along with a catalog, which will be available to show the various choices at the various chapter functions. Each chapter also receives a DRYSHOD voucher to use as a fund raising tool.

The WFL board has elected to **hold a raffle**. The winner will receive

the voucher which will be good for ANY pair of his / her choice. And there are a LOT of choices.

Tickets are **one chance for \$5.00 or three chances for \$10.00**. Winning ticket will be drawn at the October 2020 Annual Dinner meeting. Winner need not be present to win.

To enter, fill in your information and send your ticket(s) along with your **check payable to NYFOA** to:

NYFOA/WFL Raffle Coordinator
Director Greg Lessord
449 Hubbell Rd.
Spencerport, NY 14459

In the meantime we encourage you to visit their website and visit a dealer near you. Better yet, attend any chapter event (bring some friends) and check out the sample in person.

GOOD LUCK!

Note: For more than 3 tickets you can copy this page or this entire newsletter can be downloaded at <https://www.nyfoa.org/chapters/western-finger-lakes> and printed from there.



DRYSHOD BOOT RAFFLE TICKET

(each ticket = 1 chance)

Winners Choice!

Any pair from [Dryshod Catalog](#)

Donations: 1 Ticket for \$5, 3 for \$10

Drawing at October 20, 2020 Board Meeting

(see over to supply contact info)



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(each ticket = 1 chance)

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Welcome New Members

David Mazerbo	Naples
Sarah Reynolds	Canandaigua
Linda York- Ryan	Holley

Member Profile

Each issue of the Forest Owner magazine contains a 'Member Profile' section. Jeff Joseph, chair of the editorial committee, is seeking NYFOA members to feature. If you have interest in having your woodlot efforts show-cased, contact Jeff at jeffjosephwoodworker@gmail.com.

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 (\$6.50/\$7.00). Proceeds benefit WFL chapter. (585) 367-2847.

PLEASE NOTE: Space permitting, the WFL Board of Directors 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.

DRYSHOD BOOT RAFFLE TICKET

Your Name: _____
Your Address: _____
Your Phone Number: _____

NYFOA - Promoting sustainable forestry and improving forest stewardship.

NEED NOT BE PRESENT TO WIN

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Your Address: _____
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NYFOA - Promoting sustainable forestry and improving forest stewardship.

NEED NOT BE PRESENT TO WIN

Raffle # 2 of 3: Stihl Chainsaw Raffle

STIHL CORPORATE SPONSORSHIP MS 170 Chainsaw Raffle

by Pete Muench

Stihl Chainsaws have provided corporate support for the WFL Chapter of NYFOA for many years by providing Stihl equipment free of charge. The equipment was be raffled off at our Annual Dinner with the proceeds benefitting WFL programs. The Territorial Manager for Northeast Stihl, Dan Ras, has generously encouraged this sponsorship, and for 2020 has furnished a new Stihl MS170 chainsaw and PPE to include black chaps, protective glasses, duffle bag, gloves and hardhat.

The Annual Dinner for 2020 is another casualty of COVID-19 but nonetheless we are still offering these raffles to benefit our members and to support Chapter activities. The chainsaw and PPE will be held as two separate, concurrent raffles, with the separate tickets provided here for each raffle. The drawings will be held on October 20, 2020, and the winner will receive a voucher good for the saw and a voucher for the PPE. Of course if you're lucky enough to win both, you will receive both.

Tickets are **one chance for \$5.00 or three chances for \$10.00.**

To enter, fill out your information and send your ticket(s) along with your **check payable to NYFOA** to:

NYFOA/WFL Raffle Coordinator
Director Greg Lessord
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Should you choose to enter both raffles, you may submit both tickets but one check for the total amount will be fine.

For more tickets simply copy this page or the entire newsletter may be downloaded at <https://www.nyfoa.org/chapters/western-finger-lakes> and printed from there.

A third raffle with the same drawing date, as discussed elsewhere in this newsletter, is for DRYSHOD boots. Take a look.

GOOD LUCK

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STIHL MS170 CHAINSAW RAFFLE TICKET

(each ticket = 1 chance)

Donations: 1 Ticket for \$5, 3 for \$10
Drawing at October 20, 2020 Board Meeting

MS 170
Series 130



(see over to supply contact info)



STIHL MS170 CHAINSAW RAFFLE TICKET

(each ticket = 1 chance)

Donations: 1 Ticket for \$5, 3 for \$10
Drawing at October 20, 2020 Board Meeting

MS 170
Series 130



(see over to supply contact info)



STIHL MS170 CHAINSAW RAFFLE TICKET

(each ticket = 1 chance)

Donations: 1 Ticket for \$5, 3 for \$10
Drawing at October 20, 2020 Board Meeting

MS 170
Series 130



(see over to supply contact info)

Hunt Dates

Following are big game hunting dates for the southern zone.. Deer and black bear are the same except as noted.

Bow Oct 1 – Nov 20 (Nov 15 for bear)

Dec 14 – Dec 22

Gun Nov 21 – Dec 13

Muzzle Loader Dec 14 – Dec 22

Cross Bow Nov 7 – Nov 20

Some useful tinyurl's:

- For the latest information on NYS stumpage prices, go to <https://tinyurl.com/DEC-Stumpage>
- For NYFOA's Facebook page, go to: <https://tinyurl.com/NYFOA-FB>
- For our Western Finger Lakes chapter's page on the NYFOA website, go to <https://tinyurl.com/NYFOA-WFL>

STIHL MS170 CHAINSAW RAFFLE TICKET

Your Name: _____

Your Address: _____

Your Phone Number: _____

NYFOA - Promoting sustainable forestry and improving forest stewardship.

NEED NOT BE PRESENT TO WIN

STIHL MS170 CHAINSAW RAFFLE TICKET

Your Name: _____

Your Address: _____

Your Phone Number: _____

NYFOA - Promoting sustainable forestry and improving forest stewardship.

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NEED NOT BE PRESENT TO WIN

Raffle # 3 of 3: STIHL PERSONAL PROTECTIVE GEAR

STIHL CORPORATE SPONSORSHIP Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) Raffle

by Pete Muench

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STIHL PERSONAL PROTECTIVE GEAR RAFFLE TICKET

(each ticket = 1 chance)

Black Chainsaw Chaps, Protective Glasses, Duffle Bag, Gloves and Hardhat.

Donations: 1 Ticket for \$5, 3 for \$10

Drawing at October 20, 2020 Board Meeting



(see over to supply contact info)



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(see over to supply contact info)



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(see over to supply contact info)

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

☐ Lifetime \$500

Questions: 1-800-836-3566

On-line: www.nyfoa.org

STIHL PERSONAL PROTECTIVE GEAR RAFFLE TICKET

Your Name: _____

Your Address: _____

Your Phone Number: _____

NYFOA - Promoting sustainable forestry and improving forest stewardship.

NEED NOT BE PRESENT TO WIN

STIHL PERSONAL PROTECTIVE GEAR RAFFLE TICKET

Your Name: _____

Your Address: _____

Your Phone Number: _____

NYFOA - Promoting sustainable forestry and improving forest stewardship.

NEED NOT BE PRESENT TO WIN

STIHL PERSONAL PROTECTIVE GEAR RAFFLE TICKET

Your Name: _____

Your Address: _____

Your Phone Number: _____

NYFOA - Promoting sustainable forestry and improving forest stewardship.

NEED NOT BE PRESENT TO WIN

∞ Upcoming Events ∞

Note: For possible updates to these meetings and 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>

Annual WFL Chapter Dinner Meeting – Cancelled

As you may know, sadly we have had to cancel our traditional and highly anticipated chapter dinner meeting. Again, Covid-19 social distancing makes it impossible to use the St. Catherine's of Sienna meeting room. The need for planning in advance and the uncertainty of the impact from COVID-19 led to the difficult decision. As you will read in this issue of our newsletter, the board has still put together some fun with an opportunity to raise funds for our chapter.

On a positive note, the raffles will still be drawn.

- Dryshod Boot raffle
- Stihl Chain saw
- Stihl PPE safety equipment

(see inserts in this newsletter to purchase tickets)

Our technological savvy board members are working on a plan to have a live drawing for all of us to enjoy.

We will put out email blasts and scheduling information on our website should anything change in subsidies or training schedules in the Finger Lakes Region for 2020.

We look forward to seeing everyone in 2021 when we plan to resume holding the annual dinner meeting

WFL Board of Directors Meeting

October 20 is scheduled to be our next designated WFL chapter board meeting. Although we will try to have an in-person meeting, with continued Covid-19 restrictions, it may still have to be a conference call. As in the past, we have the tele-conference meeting time set for 7 p.m.

General Meetings

There will be no meetings scheduled with the WFL membership through the end of 2020. We have some great speakers prepared to present to us in 2021 as we anxiously await the end of all Covid-19 restrictions. Please enjoy this issue of the WFL Forest Owner newsletter. We hope that it fills the gap of our lost time together.

WFL Outdoor Activities – 2020/2021

Our Chapter chose to postpone our 2020 outdoor activi-

ties due to requirements for gatherings and activities in the age of the Covid-19 Pandemic. 2021 is, of course a new year, and we are assuming we can resume a year of robust outdoor activities.

This discussion is to outline some of what we plan for next year and while we don't have all the known activities or specific dates, we do have some items on the horizon for you to keep in mind.

Sandy Bottom Park – Honeoye – This walk will be with Future Forests to review the removal of ash killed by the emerald ash borer to eliminate hazards, and the planting of replacement species. We were planning this for Spring of this year in coordination with the Park's activities, but it had to be postponed until 2021.

A woods walk on the Morabito's woodlot with Forester Bruce Robinson to examine their forest management, has been tentatively scheduled for the summer of 2021

NYFOA/WFL coordinated efforts for the Nature's Chain exhibit at the Genesee Country Village & Museum in Mumfords, NY now through June 2021 (See page 7 for details)

The Game of Logging will continue in 2021 and WFL is planning to continue to co-sponsor a game with NYCAMH in the Finger Lakes Region.

These are a few on our horizon, and changes and additional events will be posted in upcoming Newsletters and the NYFOA website. Keep an eye on the NYFOA website and upcoming newsletters and we hope you will join us.

GAME of LOGGING -2020

Our WFL Chapter has cosponsored the Game of Logging, Levels 1 & 2, with the New York Center for Agricultural Medicine and Health (NYCAMH). We entertained plans to do a GOL in 2020, before the appearance of the Covid - 19 Pandemic and of course we all know how that turned out.. NYCAMH has subsidized the training fee for the GOL however that funding for 2020 is uncertain and the GOL training WFL helps sponsor is not scheduled for this year.

The GOL may still be scheduling some classes around New York, although their web site does not list any upcoming events. Anyone interested can contact the GOL through that web site, www.gameoflogging.com, or call them at 1-800-252-2502.

Further information is also available at NYCAMH, 1-800-343-7527 or email pauline.boyer@bassett.org.

There are two Games scheduled for September 10 and 11 in Johnsbury NY, Adirondack Region. For information email Dan Carusone at djc69@cornell.edu, or call at 518-623-3291.

NYFOA/WFL plans to continue with this in 2021, and will continue

Thank you for your patience.



New York Forest Owners Association

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A Creature of Summer

Mark Your Calendar

- Unfortunately no meetings or woodswalks are planned at this time*

* 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