

NACNews

Northern Adirondak Chapter

Summer 2022

NAC Events Calendar

Rowe Family Woods Walk

August 13th
9am-3:30pm

*Bring a brown bag lunch and
beverage for noon break*

Henderson, NY



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Hello NAC Members!

The reasons for NYFOA membership are diverse and often align with our equally diverse forest objectives; but the most common thread would be to gain information. We attend woods walks to mingle with other forest owners and load up on ideas, methods, and remedies. On the way home the thought process often goes “I need to try this or that”, closely followed by “how am going to do that?”

Execution of learned or prescribed practices is where the real challenge begins for many forest owners. If your house needs painting, you can call one of many painters or do it yourself. Lining up forest labor is more challenging. Short of hiring a professional logger for a full logging operation, your labor resource likely sits around the same breakfast table. This forces us to become more proficient at doing our own forestry work such as thinning, building trails, or even sawing lumber. Often we enjoy it, and it may be a part of why we own a woodlot. But how to make forestry work more efficient?

If we look back at the 1950s methods of our grandparents, steep side hills were cleared with a scythe or hand loppers. Chainsaws, extra oil/gas mix and any other tools all had to be carried to the day’s work area by foot and back.

While these tools and methods still work today, what tools, implements or setups have you found success with? Share a note with your fellow members or even write up a short story on a tool or process that provided your eureka “tool” moment in terms of forestry management.

Chances are if you’ve owned a forest for a while, you have tried many different approaches and have a barn or shed full of tools as evidence. We’d love to hear about the items at the front of the shed that are your go-to partners in forest management.

Our new and longtime members would benefit from your experiences.

Work Safely! - Bob Coupal, NACNews Editor

Rowe Family Woods Walk



Mark your calendar!! The New York Forest Owners Association's Northern Adirondack Chapter announces an upcoming woods walk in Jefferson County on Saturday, August 13, 2022. The walk will start at 9 am with a break at noon for a brown bag lunch, then proceed with an afternoon segment concluding at about 3:30 pm. The host property is owned by John and Beverly Rowe and is located at 11635 County Route 71 Henderson NY.

John and his wife purchased this property in 2000 and have gradually been transforming it into a Whitetail hunting property. The land was largely covered in Eastern Red Cedar with three modest stands of Eastern Hardwood Forest including some mast species. John will highlight their many failures along with their "modest successes".

John will highlight their overall vision and future plans along with hunters' contributions and much more. Topics of interest include major annual activities, understanding deer science and how it impacts their planning, and finally how they deal with invasive species. This event is sure to enlighten both deer hunters and forest owners alike.

Pack a lunch, bring a friend, and enjoy a day afield rain or shine.

Pre-register by text message with Scott Bonno at 315-854-7788 or by email

glenmeal@yahoo.com by August 11, 2022, and become eligible to win one of several door prizes.



Coming Soon – Details on Fall Event in cooperation with SUNY ESF Ranger school at Wanakena

Lyme Adirondack Forest Company Woods Walk Review

NAC's most recent woods walk explored state easement lands in the Kushaquia tract, located in eastern Frankling County near Onchiota. 12 NAC members were on hand at the June 4th event hosted by Lyme Forest regional manager Eric Ross and his area forester Susan Schofield. NYS Private Lands Forester Christie Barber was responsible for coordinating the event and participated in the presentation. Lyme owns and manages 230,000 acres in Adirondack region and oversees operation of approximately 15-20 harvest crews on a continuing basis. These crews work across the entire region and perform harvests with specific equipment designed to achieve the desired outcomes of each stand most efficiently.



We made three separate stops on our tour with the first site featuring recent work on a 13 acre stand accomplished by a “cut to length harvester” in the overstory. This method utilizes two separate machines and results in minimal damage to the forest. Trees are felled, limbed and cut to length in the forest by one operator and are left adjacent to the skid road where a second operator picks them up with a “forwarder” and moves them to a small landing where they are sorted and picked up for transport to market. Both pieces of equipment travel on a wheel system with tracks and leave little impact in the forest relative to other harvesting equipment and skid roads are reasonable in width. This equipment is owned by Lyme and the operators are Lyme employees which is the result of a more recent but ongoing problem of finding contractors to work on harvesting.



Our second stop featured a 2011 clear cut on 23 acres, which manifested several large seed trees and a profusion of growth by a variety of species including not only desirable eastern hardwoods for future markets but also wildlife-friendly species like willow, grey birch, spruce, and others. This type of work is generally employed to “burn out” beech where it is overly abundant and has the added benefit of providing much needed bird habitat to support certain species that are in decline. Lyme manages their holdings so that 5% of the forest presents as this early successional stand type at any point in time which is far above the 1% norm in the Adirondacks. Eric stated that Audubon is “thrilled” with their approach.



..... Continue to next page for 3rd Stop

Lyme Adirondack Forest Company Woods Walk Review

Harvest number three was a “selective” cut marked by Sue and completed in the Fall of 2019. The site presented sugar maple with crown dieback and a beech understory but also had many quality hardwood stems in the young sawtimber class. The result was about 20% log harvest with the remainder handled as chips. The real eye-opener at this site for all those present was the volume of hardwood seedlings, especially sugar maple, that were present and doing well. This was a very nice regeneration story in an unfenced area. The future goal at this location is to let the seedlings grow to sapling stage, and then return and harvest quality sawtimber in about 10 years.

Note the “Maple Regen Ground Cover” at our feet! >>>>>



There was active discussion at each stand site by our members, putting Eric and Sue through their paces to the point that we ran out of time and were not able to view some of previously described harvesting equipment. One piece of technology discussed in detail was the use of Lidar mapping as an aid to management and production. It allows foresters to navigate and manage forest stands, operators/contractors utilize it during harvesting, and management can see real time results by mapping equipment movement and harvest progress.

We closed out our day with a thank-you to our hosts and a door prize raffle followed by a raffle for a pair of Dry Shod Boots. Thanks to all of you who participated, I'm sure we are already looking forward to the next event.

If any member has a desire to host an event or a suggestion regarding an event, please contact Scott Bonno at glenmeal@yahoo.com.

Submitted by Scott Bonno

Welcome New NAC Members

Glenn Brownstein – Ticonderoga NY
Bob Edmund – Essex NY
Bonita Gardinier – Dekalb Jct NY
William Krazinski – Ellenburg Center, NY
Kenneth Moles – Chaumont NY
Joshua Roesener – Exton PA

Do you have Email?

If so and you have NOT received this newsletter or other notices by email please provide your email address to the state office. (800-836-3566) or email info@nyfoa.org to have your email address added to the NAC chapter email list. Your email is only used for notifications about NYFOA or forestry related events and notices. Email is the best system we have for providing updates and timely new event notifications to our members.

Forest Owner Solutions Shared - Reducing Deer Flies

The University of Florida developed a deer fly trap which we shared many years ago in the NACNews. Depending on your forest environment, deer flies may be minor nuisance or so strong you often alter your project choice. We have used this particular solution on our property for over 20 years with success, reducing the overall fly numbers in the areas we frequent and drastically shortening the length of “bite season”. The combination of bright blue colors, with motion, heat, and carbon dioxide from vehicles and carbon monoxide from our breathing all draw deer flies. Which is why you should NOT wear dark and especially blue colors during deer fly season.

Deer Fly Data – “Tale of the Tape”

Life Span: Average 30-60 days which is of course already too long

Season: May-September depending on when they hatch and your latitude.

Preferred Temperature: 70-85 degrees, Sunny days over cloudy in general, primarily a daytime pest!

Temperament: A day or two of rain will turn their mood from indifferent hovering to cranky and aggressive.

Top Speed: Up to 25mph. Dr. Irving Langmuir, General Electric Co.'s Nobel Prize-winning research ace did verify the speed in of all places, the Adirondacks, a few decades ago. You cannot out walk them, out bike them, nor safely out run on an ATV! Even windy days are not always helpful. Persistent, they are! So how to reduce them?

Collect them! Their lifespan will remain intact as they complete their life stuck to a blue cup. Far better than a dagger in your shoulder blades while cutting firewood or performing other activities requiring your focus. Mount BRIGHT blue picnic cups on any and all of your moving forest equipment. As you go about your activities you will be sweeping up deer flies. Items needed are minimal:

TangleFoot Insect Trap / plastic blue picnic cups / foam or old paint brush / screws / scrap wood for mount

The setup process is straightforward. Attach each cup with a single screw so cup can freely rotate, spin, and wobble as vehicle moves. Spread the caramel-like Tanglefoot with a brush while wearing either old gloves or disposable nitril gloves. Attach to vehicles with bungee cords. Your mount setup should allow cups to be at or near head height for max results.

95% or more of the insects we collect on our property are deer flies. If you experience a higher than acceptable level of beneficial insects on traps this may not be a solution for your property or try at different times of day. The post rain fury noted above is a great time to survey your property with a sweep ride! Give it a try, create your own setup and share the results. Feel free to forward any questions to me! Submitted by Bob Coupal - bob@gompc.net



Scrap wood mount with fresh TF coat applied then.....



15-minute ride on main trails =
100+ deer flies per cup



Collecting while installing Bat House (a win-win)

Become a Master Forest Owner

The MFO volunteers in the NAC are great, but there are too few for a large area (see number of MFO's per county below). A few more volunteers would be helpful to connect with and guide woodland owners to educational resources. Volunteers benefit from seeing what's happening on other properties and from building connections. They are also a powerful recruitment tool for NYFOA. The training now involves online training in the spring over 7 weeks (one hour Zoom per week, plus additional self-study). Volunteers uniquely bring their personal experience in the woods to share as a peer with other woodland owners; most foresters and agency staff lack this capacity. Volunteers are not expected to be technical experts. – Peter Smallidge For More Information go to:
<https://blogs.cornell.edu/ccemfo/>

Clinton – 0 / Essex – 1 / Franklin – 1 / Jefferson – 1 / Lewis – 3 / St. Lawrence – 1