Forest Landowner Management Tips for August

In Arkansas, August is generally known as the “pinnacle” of heat and humidity. Most forest landowners usually try to avoid working in the woods unless they have a harvest, but it is an excellent time for practicing good forest management.

1. August can be a great time to think about habitat improvements for wildlife, prepare for your fall food plots, and prepare for dove and deer season. Here are some tips to help you improve wildlife opportunities.
   • Now is the time to begin preparing for your wildlife food plots, such as clover, annual rye, and other winter food crops. Take soil samples so any amendments such as lime can be applied; this will allow the lime to react before you sow the food plots.
   • Set out game cameras to monitor game species and their predators. Summer is an excellent time for predator control to help mitigate the loss of fawns and turkey poult.
   • Continue with invasive species control around your forest. Management of invasive species, both flora and fauna, is essential to sustaining and enhancing native wildlife and game species.
   • For more information on managing your property for wildlife, contact your local Arkansas Game and Fish office.

2. August is also a great time to review your forest management plan, making updates if you have harvested or thinned stands or have made any improvements to roads, crossings, or structures. Updating maps using county GIS, Google Earth, or with the aid of a consulting forester is also an excellent task for the summer heat.

3. Tornado-season prep and recovery are always important tasks landowners face in Arkansas during the summer. Road maintenance, culvert cleanout, and general inspections during the summer months are vital to ensure you prepare for bad weather events. Having an up-to-date management plan and maps can also help with these preparations and recovery tasks.

4. Finally, don’t forget to prepare for the next generation(s) in the forest. If the heat keeps you from going out to the woods, take time to sit down with the family and plan for the future. Estate planning and preparation can give you and your family peace of mind and ensure you are ready to pass on your legacy to the next generation.

The date for the 2021 Arkansas Tree Farm Conference will be Friday, September 17, from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. at Baucum Nursery in North Little Rock. Registration is $25.00 and includes course materials and lunch.

WOW Pollinator Habitat Conference Scheduled

If you own, care for, or are interested in learning more about woodlands, you are invited to attend this Women Owning Woodlands (WOW) Bees, Butterflies and Pollinator Habitat workshop. This event will highlight sustainable forestry practices, pollinator habitats and include hands-on activities.

WOW engages women landowners through events, workshops, resources, professional support, and personal stories.

This two-day conference is scheduled for October 21-22 at DeGray Lake Resort State Park. Registration is limited and on a first-come, first-served basis.

For more information, contact Jennifer Johnson at (501) 374-2441 or jjohnson@arkforests.org.

This workshop is brought to you in partnership with the My Land, My Forest! program and the University of Arkansas - Division of Agriculture.

Registration Open for Tree Farmer Conference

The conference aims to educate and provide help to woodland owners regarding wildlife management and timber production. This event is also an excellent resource for meeting other landowners with similar interests.

Online registration is available at www.arkforests.org/events.
Helping Family Forests Participate in Carbon Markets

Written by Lucas Isakowitz, Natural Resources Conservation Service Presidential Management Fellow

USDA Conservation Innovation Grant (CIG) project is trying to reimagine how carbon markets can work with and for small landholders. The Family Forest Carbon Program (FFCP), led by the American Forest Foundation (AFF) and The Nature Conservancy, bases carbon payments on specific forest management practices that have been scientifically shown to increase the amount of carbon that gets removed from the atmosphere and stored in the trees and soil. The project’s goal is to facilitate the participation of nearly 300 million acres of family-owned American forests in carbon markets.

“The CIG funding allowed us to pivot in a number of ways, early on, that helped ensure we were creating a product that worked for the landholders,” said Christine Cadigan, Senior Director for the FFCP. While the FFCP is still in its early stages, it has been successfully piloted in the Central Appalachian Region. The program has about 50 contracts with landowners, representing over 6,000 acres of forested land. This led to more funding, with the tech giant Amazon gifting about $7.5 million to the project in April 2020. According to the AFF, if 20% of U.S. family forest acres adopted practices that optimized carbon sequestration, about 3.5 gigatons of carbon dioxide equivalent would be sequestered by the end of the century.

CIG is a competitive program that supports the development of new tools, approaches, practices, and technologies to further natural resource conservation on private lands. Through creative problem solving and innovation, CIG partners work to address our nation’s water quality, air quality, soil health and wildlife habitat challenges, all while improving agricultural operations.


Visit Us at the SW Forest Products Expo

Visit us on August 13th or 14th at the Southwest Forest Expo, when Arkansas Timber Producers hosts its fantastic showcase of indoor equipment and services at the Hot Springs Civic and Convention Center. Like the 2019 show, the show floor will be brimming with large-scale equipment and vendors from across the country — all under one roof! There will be some unique attractions this year, including the Timberworks Lumberjack Show AND the beloved Artistry in Wood carving exhibit plus, the AFA will have an exhibit booth - we hope you stop by and say hello!

You may view footage from the 2019 Expo or pre-register at: http://arkloggers.com/southwest-forest-products-expo/

Attendees may also pay at the door.

**TICKET COST:**

$5.00 per person 16 and older

Free under the age of 16

**SHOWCASE IS OPEN:**

12:00 noon – 7:00 p.m., Friday, Aug. 13th
8:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m., Saturday, Aug. 14th

Visit Us at the SW Forest Products Expo

August 10
Central Arkansas Prescribed Burn Association Annual Meeting
6:00 p.m., Camp Robinson

August 12
WOW Lunch & Learn: Central Arkansas Water
11:30 a.m., Zoom

August 17
Turkey & Deer Workshop
6:30 p.m., Jacksonville

September 17
Arkansas Tree Farmer Conference
8:30 a.m., North Little Rock

September 21
Learn to Burn 1: Introduction
6:00 p.m., Hattieville

September 22
Learn to Burn 2: Advanced
9:00 a.m., Hattieville

For more information or to register for workshops, visit www.arkforests.org

Mark Your Calendars

教育机会为林地所有者

7月29日
火鸡和鹿工作坊
6:30 p.m., Fort Smith

8月10日
中央阿肯色州烧制委员会年度会议
6:00 p.m., Camp Robinson

8月12日
WOW午餐和学习: 中央阿肯色州水
11:30 a.m., Zoom

8月17日
火鸡和鹿工作坊
6:30 p.m., 杰克逊维尔

9月17日
阿肯色州树木农民大会
8:30 a.m., 北小石城

9月21日
学习燃烧1:简介
6:00 p.m., Hattieville

9月22日
学习燃烧2:高级
9:00 a.m., Hattieville

有关更多详情或注册工作坊，请访问www.arkforests.org