

# OHIO TREE FARM COMMITTEE LEADERSHIP MANUAL



Ohio Tree Farm Committee  
c/o The Ohio Forestry Association-Foundation  
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Table of Contents

1) American Forest Foundation & American Tree Farm System overview ....	4-7
2) Ohio Tree Farm Program overview.....	8-10
3) Ohio Tree Farm Committee Members .....	11-13
4) Ohio Tree Farm Awards.....	14-16
5) The Ohio Woodland Journal .....	16
6) Helpful Links for Tree Farmers and Woodland Owners .....	17
7) Ohio Tree Farm Area Chair Map & Contact Information .....	18
8) Regional Woodland Associations in Ohio and Contact Information .....	19
9) Ohio Tree Farm Committee By-Laws.....	20-28
10) Ohio Tree Farm Brochure with Information on Becoming a Tree Farmer ..	29-31

## American Forest Foundation & American Tree Farm System Overview

### **The American Forest Foundation**

The American Forest Foundation (AFF) works on-the-ground with families, educators, and elected officials to promote stewardship and protect our nation's forest heritage. A commitment to the next generation unites our nationwide network of forest owners and educators working to keep our forests healthy and our children well-prepared for the future they will inherit.

To grow the next generation of leaders ready to inherit America's natural legacy, AFF also works with tens of thousands of educators every year through its environmental education program Project Learning Tree® (PLT). Project Learning Tree uses forests as a window on the world and provides educators with supplemental curriculum materials that can be integrated into lesson plans for all grades and subject areas. In an era where more and more children are disconnected from nature, more than 500,000 teachers nationwide have been trained to use this curriculum, opening a door to America's outdoor heritage. Thanks to these efforts, 75 million students have learned how to think, not what to think, about complex environmental issues and help them learn the skills they need to make sound choices about the environment.

The American Forest Foundation's work is about what type of country America will be 20, 50, 100 years from now. Will we still be a nation rooted in its natural heritage? Will our citizens understand that heritage, and feel connected to it? Will they have the skills required to understand complex environmental challenges? By promoting sustainable management of America's private forests, the American Forest Foundation addresses the fundamental cornerstones of healthy communities and a prospering nation.

The American Forest Foundation has five fundamental long-term goals:

1. To increase public awareness and understanding of the role that forests and the environment play in our lives, and build the skills and commitment needed to conserve and sustain them.
2. To develop and advance policies and programs that support conservation, environmental education, and sustainable forests.
3. To enhance the ecological, social, and economic viability of family forestland ownership.
4. To increase the number of family forest owners who sustainably manage natural resources.
5. To support research that fills gaps in our understanding of forest ecology, the socio-economic dimensions of forest ownership and management, and the impact of public policies on forest sustainability.

These goals have been translated into four strategic priorities:

1. Stem the loss of America's woodlands.
2. Enhance the quality of America's woodlands.
3. Ensure decision makers and educators understand and value America's woodlands.
4. Nurture excellence in our education and woodlands networks of volunteers, committees and partners

The American Tree Farm System is AFF's signature program that advances sustainable forest management on private lands from Maine to California and is integral to achieving these goals and strategic priorities.

### **The American Tree Farm System**

The American Tree Farm System® (ATFS), a program of the American Forest Foundation, works nationwide and in partnership with local, state and national groups to provide hands-on support for

America's 10 million family forest owners, giving them the tools they need to manage healthy and sustainable woodlands. Clean air, clean water, habitat for wildlife, wood for sustainable building and nature for hiking, hunting and fishing – all come from family forests. And ATFS helps family forest owners meet stringent third-party standards for managing nearly 26 million acres of forestland.

ATFS is the largest and oldest sustainable woodland system in America, internationally recognized, meeting strict third-party certification standards. For 70 years, ATFS has enhanced the quality of America's woodlands by giving forest owners the tools they need to keep forests healthy and productive. Stemming the loss of America's woodlands is vital to our country's clean water and air, wildlife habitat, recreational activities, and producing the wood and paper products we all need. ATFS provides landowners with the validation that they are doing right by their land, meeting the highest standards of sustainability and being good stewards for the future.

All ATFS external communication is informed by three powerful, emotionally resonant ideas that set us apart:

- We're about the future.
- We work on-the-ground.
- We give people the tools they need.

***The American Tree Farm System grows stewardship from the roots.***

## **AMERICAN TREE FARM SYSTEM**

### **YEAR STATES JOINED**

1941 - Alabama, Arkansas, California, Oregon, Washington

1943 - Idaho

1944 - Mississippi, Montana, North Carolina, Texas, Wisconsin

1946 - Florida, New Jersey, Ohio, South Carolina, Tennessee

1947 - New Mexico, Pennsylvania, Virginia

1948 - Georgia, Maryland, Massachusetts, West Virginia

1949 - Michigan, Missouri, North Dakota, Rhode Island

1950 - Minnesota, New Hampshire

1951 - Colorado, Louisiana, Nevada\*, Wyoming

1952 - Maine, South Dakota

1953 – Arizona\*

1955 - Kentucky, Iowa, Illinois, Utah\*

1956 - Connecticut, Vermont, New York, Indiana

1957 - Oklahoma

1958 - Delaware

1959 - Nebraska

1963 - Kansas

1974 – Alaska\*

• First Tree Farm: June 12, 1941 in Montesano, Washington

• First State Tree Farm Program: Alabama

\* Alaska, Arizona, Hawaii, Nevada and Utah currently have no Tree Farm Program

## Know ATFS Statistics!

### Definitions

**Private Forest Owners:** There are 11 million of these owners and they own 56% of the forest land in the US. These owners include families, individuals, industry and other private groups that own forest land.

**Family forest owners:** Family forest owners are a subset of private forest owners, representing 62% of the total private forest ownership. There are more than 10 million of these owners and they own 35% of all forest land in the US, more than 262 million acres. This owner group includes families, individuals, trusts, estates, family partnerships and other unincorporated groups of individuals.

### American Tree Farm System

As of 2011, the American Tree Farm System represents Tree Farmers who sustainably manage:

- more than 88,000 certified Tree Farm properties
- representing nearly 26 million acres.

Currently we do not have an accurate way of determining the individual number of Tree Farmers vs. properties.

- Largest and oldest sustainable woodland system in America, internationally recognized, meeting strict third-party certification standards.

### Private Forest Owners

- Most of America's forests, 56 percent, are not owned by the government, they are owned privately. The combined ownership of the federal government, state and local governments is 43 percent.
- 60 percent of private forest owners are 55 years or older (more than 15 percent of private forest land is owned by someone 75 years or older).
- 25 percent of America's fresh water comes from private forests
- Every dollar invested in watershed conservation in the Catskill Mountains avoided eight dollars of water treatment infrastructure spending.
- 60 percent of at-risk wildlife depends on private forests
- Private forest land store more total carbon than National Forests
- 92 percent of wood and fiber comes from private forests
- Every 1,000 acres of private forests supports eight good-paying jobs.
- Each job created in private forests creates an additional 2.95 jobs.

### Family Forest Owners

- Family forest owners own 35 percent of America's forests which is the largest ownership group in America. This is more than the percent of forest land owned by the federal government (33%).
- 82 percent of family forest owners make less than \$100,000 a year.
- In 42 percent of the cases where federal estate tax is due on family forestland, timber or land is sold to pay part or all of the tax.

- More than eight million of these forest owners have fewer than 50 acres each.
- Only 24 percent have received advice or information about the management of their land in the past five years.
- Of the 44 percent that harvested trees for commercial purposes, only half used a professional forester in their last harvest.
- Seventy percent are “conservation-minded” and 76 percent are concerned about legacy.

### General Forestry in America

- America’s forests are slowing the pace of climate change, storing up to 10 percent of carbon emissions. Forestry and other related industries employ 2.8 million people nationwide, and provide essential products such as lumber, furniture, paper, and heating fuel.

### Welcome!

Welcome! The Ohio Tree Farm program is the application of the **American Tree Farm System (ATFS)** to Ohio and is operated by volunteers through the Ohio Tree Farm Committee.

### Our Mission:

*To promote the growing of renewable forest resources on private land while protecting environmental benefits and increasing public understanding of all benefits of productive forests.*

The four segments of our sign emphasize this integrated approach to the management of our woodlands:

1) Wood 2) Water 3) Wildlife 4) Recreation

Management of woodlands by the ATFS standards leads to a designation of a 'Certified Family Forest' that indicates the Tree Farmer's goals are to provide a renewable resource in a sustainable manner while maintaining a healthy forest that protects water, wildlife, and recreational values.

Watch a video about the Ohio Tree Farm Program and its benefits to Ohio woodland owners on our website. Also, a video On John & Mary Schmidt 1989 National Tree Farmers of the Year Please visit our website at: [www.ohioforest.org/treefarm](http://www.ohioforest.org/treefarm)

### Congratulations to:

Paul & Joanne Mechling  
Snowy Oaks Tree Farm  
2019 Ohio Tree Farm of The Year

John and Bess Lusk  
Whispering Ridge Tree Farm  
2018 Ohio Tree Farm of the Year

Randy & Koral Clum  
Hepatica Falls Tree Farm  
2018 **National** Tree Farm of The Year

Jim Elze  
LZ Forestree Consulting  
2018 Ohio Tree Farm Inspector of the Year

## About Us

Outreach and education are central to the Ohio Tree Farm mission of promoting the growing of renewable forest resources on private lands while protecting environmental benefits and increasing public understanding of all benefits of productive forestry.

The **American Forest Foundation (AFF)** sponsors the **American Tree Farm System (ATFS)** and supplies funding that helps support the activities of the Ohio Tree Farm Committee's (OTFC) efforts to carry out programs that attract, encourage and support Tree Farmers. The ATFS is the oldest private woodland certification system in the USA (1941).

[Visit the American Tree Farm System \(ATFS\) website at: www.treefarmsystem.org](http://www.treefarmsystem.org)

The **Ohio Tree Farm Program**, organized in 1946, brings foresters, consultants and government agency officials together with experienced Tree Farmers to apply the ATFS standards of sustainable forest management in Ohio. The OTFC plans and administers the Ohio Tree Farm Program. The Ohio Forestry Association (OFA) - Foundation and the Ohio Department of Natural Resources (ODNR) Division of Forestry (DOF) are sponsors of the OTFC. The OFA provides administrative support and the DOF provides forestry advice for the committee.

Visit the Ohio Forestry Association website at [www.ohioforestry.org](http://www.ohioforestry.org)

Visit the ODNR, DOF website at

While each state Tree Farm program is self-governing, all work under the guidelines developed by ATFS's National Operating Committee (NOC). Most members of the NOC are Tree Farmers and ATFS volunteers from across the country. They work with representatives of industry and state forestry organizations to set overall policy and assure the ATFS program meets the needs of forest landowners.

**Ohio Department of Natural Resources Division of Forestry** provides a wide variety of assistance to forest owners, ranging from the development and implementation of forest management plans to help in dealing with insect and disease outbreaks. They can also help woodland owners sign up for government sponsored cost-share and incentives programs and provide references to private sector foresters. [Find your Ohio Service Forester on the directory page in this manual](#)

## Contact Us

The term "tree farm" brings many images to mind. The links below can help you better understand what the Tree Farm Program (a trademarked name) is all about. In short, it is about the best possible management of forestland.

Before contacting the Ohio Tree Farm Program, it would be helpful to read the information links below:

### **What the Ohio Tree Farm Program IS . . .**

Simply put, the Tree Farm program is about sustainable forest management.

Over 60 years ago it was recognized that the American private forestland owner holds one of the most valuable renewable natural resources in the world. Despite this value, there was not much being

done to help these families manage their woodlands.

The Tree Farm Program was formed in 1941 to teach and encourage better forest management and to recognize those who practice good stewardship.

The FOUR areas of focus on well-managed Tree Farms are:

- Wood production
- Wildlife habitat
- Water quality
- Recreation

When a forest is properly taken care of, it will improve the quality of all four of these objectives at the same time. Every Tree Farmer prioritizes these objectives differently, but they all are part of their management plans.

### **Program Offerings:**

The Tree Farm program in Ohio publishes [The Ohio Woodland Journal](#), recognizes the State's Outstanding [Tree Farmer of The Year](#), hosts the annual Tree Farm Tour, and holds the Annual Tree Farm Luncheon.

Additionally, the Tree Farm program participates in many educational activities throughout the State each year. Tree Farm's Inspecting Foresters volunteer to help re-inspect the State's Certified Tree Farmer to update management plans and verify they continue to meet the American Tree Farm System Standards of Sustainability.

### **What the Tree Farm Program is Not...**

We receive many inquiries about other tree-related questions that are not a part of the Tree Farm Program.

The TWO most common misdirected questions are those regarding Christmas tree production and nursery trees.

For Christmas trees, consider contacting the >> [Ohio Christmas Tree Association](#).

There are 2 types of nurseries:

Seedling nurseries produce small seedlings, mostly for reforestation purposes. Ohio Department of Natural Resources – Division of Forestry is Ohio's largest producer of bare root seedlings.

Other nurseries produce trees for landscaping purposes. [The Ohio Nursery and Landscape Association](#) is an organization representing these types of nurseries.

Others contact the Tree Farm Program expecting that this will give them a property tax reduction. While Tree Farm properties may qualify for property tax reduction programs, there is no relationship between the Tree Farm Program and property taxes.

To learn more about the Ohio Forest Tax Law, visit the Ohio Division of Forestry web site.

With questions concerning the state's CAUV program, contact your county auditor.

### **Becoming a Tree Farmer**

The basic requirements to become a Tree Farmer are that you have 10 acres of managed forestland and a qualifying forestry management plan. An Inspecting Forester can help you determine if your property qualifies for Tree Farm Certification.

Inspecting Foresters include Service Foresters, Private Consulting Foresters, Soil and Water Conservation District Foresters, and Industry Foresters. While the Tree Farm inspection process is done on a volunteer basis, certain foresters may charge for other services, such as developing a management plan.

The Ohio Tree Farm Committee is also continuing to develop the Tree Farm Mentoring Program. The first on-the-ground contact in response to your request may come from a fellow private woodland owner. Tree Farm Mentors are Tree Farmers who have been involved with the program and have gone through the Mentor training course. They can help new potential Tree Farmers get started on developing a management plan.

If you are interested in becoming a Tree Farmer, contact:

[Adam Beichler](mailto:forestry@wildernesscenter.org), forestry@wildernesscenter.org

Program Administrator

330-749-4040

Your information will be passed along to either a Tree Farm mentor or Inspecting Forester who will contact you for a possible visit.

To contact the Ohio Tree Farm Program:

Program Administrator:

Adam Beichler

Tel: (330) 749-4040

Ohio Woodland Journal Editor:

Greg Smith

Also See Area Chair Map and Contact Information on Page 18

## Ohio Tree Farm Committee

<p><b>Co-Sponsors</b></p>		
	<p><b><u>Ohio Forestry Association Foundation</u></b>                      507 Main St Ste 200                      Zanesville, OH 43701                      (888) 388-7337</p>	<p><b><u>Ohio Department of Natural Resources</u></b>  <b><u>Division of Forestry</u></b>                      2045 Morse Road – Bldg. H-1                      Columbus, OH 43229                      (614) 265-6694</p>
<p><b>Tree Farm Committee Members</b></p>		
<p>Tom Mills  <b>Chair, OWJ Ad. Mgr.</b></p>	<p>Cassie Ridenour  <b>Vice Chair</b>                      Tree Farmer</p>	<p>Alan Walter  <b>Secretary</b>                      Tree Farmer</p>
<p>James Pry  <b>Treasurer</b>                      Tree Farmer</p>	<p>Dave Apsley  <b>Representative</b>                      OSU Extension</p>	<p>Ryan Clester  <b>Area 2 Chair</b>                      Division of Forestry</p>
<p>Mike Besonen  <b>By-Laws Chair</b>                      Industry: Pixelle Specialty Solutions</p>	<p>Dan Castellucci  <b>Paul Bunyan Education Chair</b>                      Consulting Forester</p>	<p>Linda Sims  <b>Education Chair</b>                      Tree Farmer</p>
<p>Allen Frederick  <b>Rep. to OFA</b>                      Tree Farmer</p>	<p>Lee Crocker                      Wild Turkey Federation</p>	<p>Dan Sprutte  <b>Reg. Woodland Int. Group Coord.</b>                      Tree Farmer</p>
<p>Abby Kindler                      Consulting Forester</p>	<p>Alex Kindler                      Consulting Forester</p>	<p>Tony Machamer                      Industry                      Superior Hardwoods of Ohio</p>
<p>John Kinne  <b>Web Chair</b>                      Tree Farmer</p>	<p>Noah Mechling  <b>Area 3 Chair</b>                      Industry: Yoder Lumber</p>	<p>Joe Puperi  <b>Immediate Past Chair</b>                      Advanced Tree Health</p>
<p>Jake Peer  <b>Area 1 Chair</b>                      SWCD</p>	<p>Cotton Randall  <b>Awards Chair</b>                      Division of Forestry</p>	<p>Elizabeth Reeb                      Tree Farmer</p>

Stephen Rist Division of Forestry	Richard Rudy <b>Publicity Co-Chair</b> Tree Farmer	James Savage <b>Mentor Chair</b> Tree Farmer
Jeremy Scherf <b>Inspector Training Chair</b> ODNR Forestry	Gene Sipos <b>Silent Auction Comm. Chair</b> Tree Farmer	Bob Mulligan <b>Forestry Pollut'n Abat. Coord.</b> Division of Forestry
Jason Van Houten <b>Area 4 Chair</b> Division of Forestry		
<b>Ex-Officio Members</b>		
Dan Balsler <b>Chief, DOF</b> ODNR Forestry	Jake Peer <b>Inspector of the Year</b>	Luke Walter <b>Nominating Forester</b> Tree Farm of the Year
Paul Mechling Tree Farm of the Year	Joanne Mechling Tree Farm of the Year	Brad Perkins <b>Executive Director</b> OFA
Sue Wintering <b>PLT Coordinator</b> ODNR		
<b>Honorary Members</b>		
John Schmidt Tree Farmer Former National TF Winner	Greg Smith <b>Editor-Ohio Woodland Journal</b> ODNR	
<b>Inspectors</b>		
Daniel Bartlett	Adam Beichler	Dean Berry
Mike Besonen	Robert Boehle	Perry Brannan
Casey Burdick	Cameron Bushong	Liza Butler
Richard Cappell	Dan Castellucci	James Chattin
Ryan Clester	Benjamin Crawford	Lee Crocker
Keith Daisher	Stephanie Downs	David Duell
James Elze	Jonathan Evers	Bryan Feicht
Scott Filippelli	Joel Firem	Cody Hacker
Eric Hayes	John Jolliff	Sam Kaiser
Aaron Kash	John Kehn	Abigail Kindler
Alexander Kindler	Adam Komar	Justin Law
Steve McGinnis	Noah Mechling	Robert Meyer

James Mickey	Patrick Migliozi	Thomas Mills
Richard Morse III	Jacob Nicholson	Jared Nicholson
Daniel Niemann	John Peer	Joe Puperi
Cotton Randall	Robert Reed	Katie Reiderman
Mark Rickey	Clayton Rico	Stephen Rist
Benjamin Robinson	David Runkle	Andy Sabula
Jeremy Scherf	Allyson Schoendorf	Bill Serbonich
Steven Siam	James Stafford	Philip Stottlemyer
Justin Thompson	Sara Toskin	Jason Van Houten
Ryan Waid	Luke Walters	Page Weckbacher
Jerry Williams	Jeff Wilson	Mark Wilthew

**Area Chair map and contact information page 18**

## Awards

### Ohio Tree Farm of the Year

This award annually recognizes an outstanding Tree Farm in Ohio. The Tree Farm must be certified by the American Tree Farm System (ATFS) by meeting their standards and following their mission "to promote the growing of renewable forest resources on private lands while protecting environmental benefits and increasing public understanding of all benefits of productive forestry." Each summer a call is sent to all Tree Farm Inspectors for nominations for the award. The Awards Committee reviews these nominations and then makes a visit to the Tree Farms. The nominations are then presented to the full Ohio Tree Farm Committee at the last meeting of the year and a selection is made for the coming year. The award is presented at the Tree Farm Luncheon at the Ohio Forestry Association Annual Meeting in the spring. A Tree Farm Tour is scheduled for the fall to show the high quality of management and share experience and knowledge with other Tree Farmers and the public. The Tree Farm will be considered for nomination for the ATFS Regional Outstanding Tree Farmer of the Year. Ohio is in the North Central Region that includes eleven (11) states. The four regional winners are then candidates for the National Outstanding Tree Farmer of the Year.

### Past Tree Farmers of the Year

2019 Paul & Joanne Mechling, Snowy Oaks Tree Farm  
2018 John & Bess Lusk, Whispering Ridge Tree Farm  
2017 Randy and Koral Clum, Hepatica Falls Tree Farm (2018 Regional) (2018 National)  
2016 Chris Duckworth, Duckworth Farms  
2015 Alan Walter, Sycamore Hills Tree Farm  
2014 Dave & Lisa Coldwell, Coldwell Family Tree Farm  
2013 Dr. W.J. Lavelle and Family  
2012 Wayne & Benita Lashbrook and Rita & Brad Franchi  
2011 Steve Stone  
2010 Walt & Donna Lange ('11 Regional)  
2009 Bob & Karen Hunter  
2008 Joe Mattingly  
2007 Jim & Janet Pry  
2006 Eli Hochstetler Family  
2005 Jack & Janet Sweigart ('06 Regional)  
2004 Scott and Krista Galloway  
2003 MeadWestvaco—Ohio Operations  
2002 Carl and Dorothy Young  
2001 William and Bonnie Lawhon  
2000 American Electric Power  
1999 Dr. James and Marilyn Mills  
1998 Jean Woodhull  
1997 Guernsey County SWCD  
1996 Ron Ott ('98 Regional)  
1995 Glen and Lois Mutchler  
1994 John and Susan Stephens  
1993 Carl and Alice Wooding  
1992 Harris and Ruth Willis  
1991 George Wilson  
1990 Gailen "Max" W. and Pat Maxwell

1989 Ron and Richard Potts ('90 Regional)  
1988 John V. and Mary Schmidt ('89 Regional) ('89 National Tree Farmer)  
1987 Harold and Elizabeth Jeffers  
1986 Howard Doner  
1985 Harold and Dorothy Smith  
1984 Glenn Brause  
1983 Frank and Avis Newell ('83 Regional)  
1982 Jim & Faye Nobis  
1981 Dick and Lianne Casper ('81 Regional)  
1980 Clarence Heinke  
1979 E.E. Hamm (Regional '79)  
1978 Bill Barricks  
1977 W.E. Frasch  
1976 Harold and Elizabeth Jeffers  
1975 Harry Wilkie  
1974 Harold & Dorothy Smith

### Ohio Inspector of the Year

This award annually recognizes a Tree Farm Inspector who has done an outstanding job of interacting with landowners through inspections, certifications, and public outreach. Each fall the Area Chairs are asked for nominations that are presented to the full Ohio Tree Farm Committee at the last meeting of the year where the selection is made. The award is presented at the Tree Farm Luncheon at the Ohio Forestry Association Annual Meeting in the spring. The Inspector will be considered for nomination for the ATFS Regional Inspector of the Year. Ohio is in the North Central Region that includes eleven (11) states. The four regional winners are then candidates for the National Outstanding Inspecting Forester of the Year.

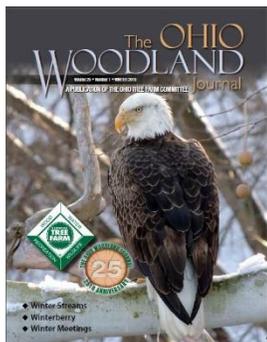
### Past Tree Farm Inspectors of the Year for Ohio

2019 Jake Peer  
2018 Jim Elze  
2017 Cameron Bushong  
2016 Dan Castalucci  
2015 Jeremy Scherf and 2016 **National**  
2014 Daniell Bartlett  
2013 Jason Garey  
2012 Adam Beichler  
2011 Dean Berry ('11 Regional)  
2011 John Jolliff  
2010 Dean Berry  
2009 Cody Hacker  
2008 Jerry Williams  
2007 Joe Puperi  
2006 Bill Serbonich  
2005 Dean Berry  
2004 Jeremy Scherf ('05 Regional)  
2003 Jerry Williams  
2002 Harold Bower  
2001 Jim Elze, ('02 Regional)  
2000 Randy Clum, ('01Regional)

## The Ohio Woodland Journal

The Ohio Woodland Journal is the official publication of the Ohio Tree Farm System. Published quarterly, it contains educational information on managing and protecting Ohio's forest, wildlife and water resources. The Ohio Woodland Journal content is directed to the non-industrial private forestland owner and offers guidance and understanding of the diverse possibilities for forest ownership.

The Ohio Woodland Journal is sent FREE of charge to Ohio Tree Farmers, Members of the Ohio Forestry Association, Tree Farm inspectors, state legislators, and for one year to landowners who receive a Forest Stewardship Plan. It is also available by subscription for \$15.00 per year.



[Download](#) the Ohio Woodland Journal subscription form, or [subscribe now](#).  
Interested in advertising? Contact [Tom Mills](#) at 419-423-3422

Basic Ad Rates	Size	Single Insertion	Four Insertions
	1/8 Page	\$60	\$220
	1/4 Page	\$90	\$300
	1/2 Page	\$155	\$500
	Full Page	\$300	\$990
<b>Premium Rates (Inside or outside back cover, Inside front cover, center pages)</b>			
	1/8 Page	\$100	\$350
	1/4 Page	\$200	\$700
	1/2 Page	\$300	\$1,000
	Full Page	\$500	\$1750

Archived 2018 Woodland Journal Issues:

[Winter 2018 Issue](#)  
[Spring 2018 issue](#)  
[Summer 2018 issue](#)

Archived 2017 Woodland Journal Issues:

[Winter 2017 Issue](#)  
[Spring 2017 Issue](#)  
[Summer 2017 Issue](#)  
[Fall 2017 Issue](#)

## Helpful Links

[American Tree Farm System](http://www.treefarmssystem.org/)  
<http://www.treefarmssystem.org/>

[East Central Ohio Forestry Association](http://www.ecofa.org)  
<http://www.ecofa.org>

[National Association of State Foresters](http://www.stateforesters.org)  
<http://www.stateforesters.org>

[National Woodland Owners Association](http://www.woodlandowners.org/)  
<http://www.woodlandowners.org/>

[Ohio Society of American Foresters](http://www.safohio.org)  
<http://www.safohio.org> Regarding contacting a professional forester for advice whether: private consultant, industry forester, or state forester.

[Care For Deer and Forests](http://www.deerandforest.net/home)  
<http://www.deerandforest.net/home>

[USDA US Forest Service Northern Research Station – North Central Region: Web-Based Forest Management Guides](http://nrs.fs.fed.us/fmg/nfmg/)  
<http://nrs.fs.fed.us/fmg/nfmg/>

[Ohio Division of Forestry](http://forestry.ohiodnr.gov)  
<http://forestry.ohiodnr.gov>

[Timber Talk](http://ohioforest.org/blogpost/753706/News-from-the-Director)  
[Weekly News from the OFA Executive Director](http://ohioforest.org/blogpost/753706/News-from-the-Director)  
<http://ohioforest.org/blogpost/753706/News-from-the-Director>

[Ohio Tree Farm](http://www.ohioforest.org/mpage/OhioTreeFarmHome)  
[http://www.ohioforest.org/mpage/OhioTreeFarm Home](http://www.ohioforest.org/mpage/OhioTreeFarmHome)

[USFS Northeastern Area State & Private Forestry](http://na.fs.fed.us/pubs/misc/flg/)  
<http://na.fs.fed.us/pubs/misc/flg/>

[Ohio Department of Natural Resources Division of Forestry - Ohio Service Forester](http://forestry.ohiodnr.gov/serviceforesters)  
<http://forestry.ohiodnr.gov/serviceforesters>

[Ohio Forestry Association](http://www.ohioforest.org)  
<http://www.ohioforest.org>

[American Forest Foundation \(AFF\)](http://www.forestfoundation.org)  
<http://www.forestfoundation.org>

[USDA U.S. Forest Service – Southern Research Station: Forest Economics and Policy Financial Incentives Programs for Non – Industrial Private Forest Owners for Forest Landowners](http://www.srs.fs.usda.gov/econ/data/forestincentives/)  
<http://www.srs.fs.usda.gov/econ/data/forestincentives/>

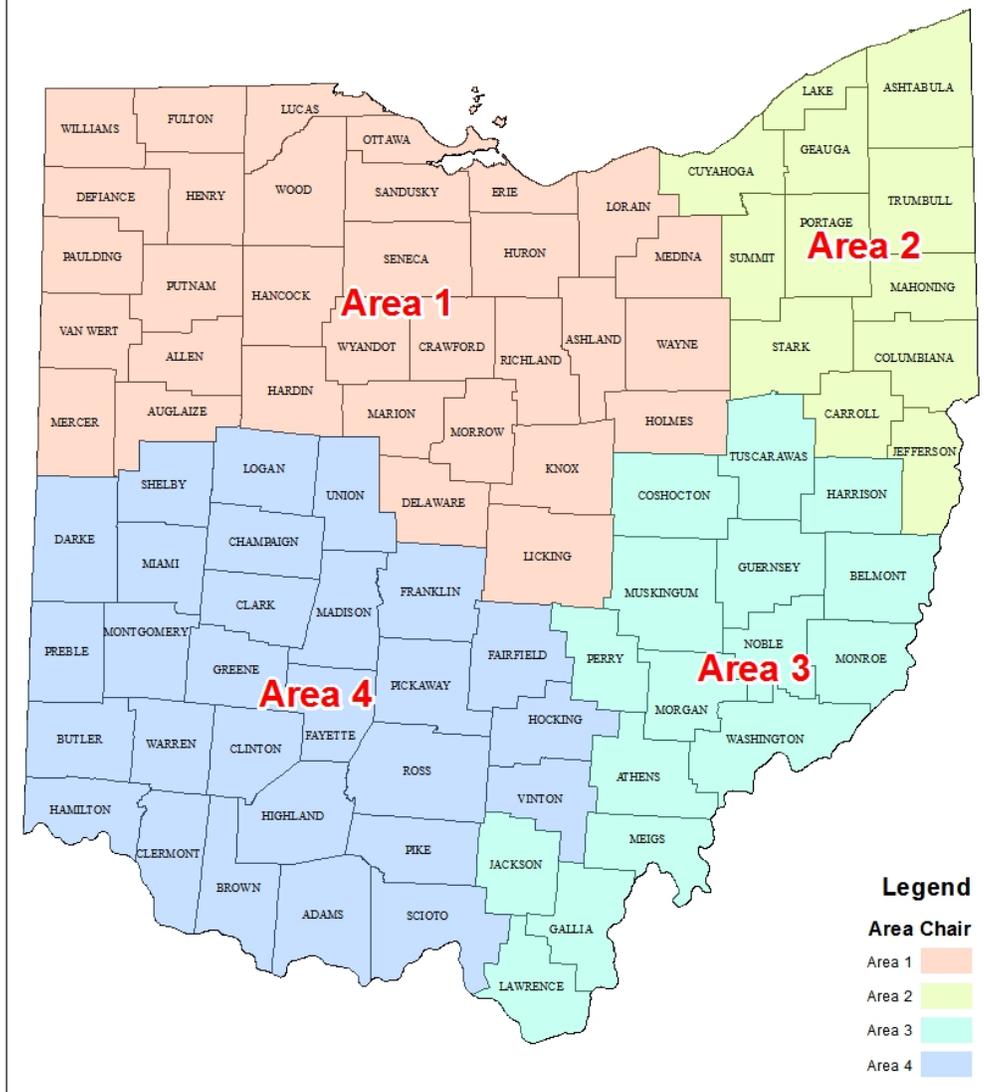
[National Timber Tax Website](http://www.timbertax.org)  
<http://www.timbertax.org>

[OSU SENR Forestry Related Fact Sheets](https://senr.osu.edu/extensionoutreach/forest-operations.products/forestry-related-fact-sheets)  
<https://senr.osu.edu/extensionoutreach/forest-operations.products/forestry-related-fact-sheets>

[Ohio Bird Conservation Initiative](http://obcinet.org) <http://obcinet.org>

1. [Planning for a Better Timber Harvest](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=u3ctfzfsmn0)  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=u3ctfzfsmn0>
2. [Experiences from Ohio's Woodland Owners](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0c93ukst6xm)  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0c93ukst6xm>
3. [Creating Early Successional Habitat](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gfms8aenacc)  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gfms8aenacc>
4. [Thinning and Crop-tree Release](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fdvy4satviy)  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fdvy4satviy>
5. [Managing Invasive Species](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uq5v5zvwgny)  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uq5v5zvwgny>

# Tree Farm Area Chair Map 2018



Area	Forester	Address	Phone	Email
1	Jake Peer	3829 Washington South Rd., Mansfield, OH 44903	740-801-0458	peer.14@buckeyemail.osu.edu
2	Ryan Clester	3601 New Garden Rd. Salem, Ohio 44460	330-222-1406	<a href="mailto:Ryan.Clester@dnr.state.oh.us">Ryan.Clester@dnr.state.oh.us</a>
3	Noah Mechling	3667 Eastport Rd. SE, Dennison, OH 44621	330.473.3160	<a href="mailto:NoahM@yoderlumber.com">NoahM@yoderlumber.com</a>
4	Jason Van Houten	2045 Morse Rd., Bldg. H-1, Columbus, OH 43229	614-265-6703	Jason.VanHouten@dnr.state.oh.us

## Regional Woodland Associations in Ohio

### Opportunities:

- Interesting Forestry Programs
- Knowledgeable Speakers
- Monthly Newsletters
- Training Sessions
- Field Days

Central Ohio Small Woodlot Interest Group	Muskingum River Woodland Interest Group	Southeast Ohio Woodland Interest Group
<p>Jason Van Houten ODNR Division of Forestry 2045 Morse Rd., Building H-1 Columbus, OH 43229 (614) 265-6703 jason.vanhouten@dnr.state.oh.us</p>	<p>Dave Bonifant 3594 Evans Rd. Nashport, OH 43830 (740) 814-2474 nita.david@windstream.net <a href="http://www.mrwig.org">www.mrwig.org</a></p>	<p>Perry Brannan ODNR Division of Forestry 360 E. State St. Athens, OH 45701 (740) 589-9915 perry.brannan@dnr.state.oh.us <a href="http://www.seowig.weebly.com">www.seowig.weebly.com</a></p>
East Central Ohio Forestry Association	Northeastern Ohio Forestry Association	Southern Ohio Forestland Association
<p>Jeremy Scherf ODNR Division of Forestry 2050 East Wheeling Ave. Cambridge, OH 43725 (740) 439-9079 jeremy.scherf@dnr.state.oh.us</p>	<p>James Elze 2145 Merle Road Salem, OH 44460 (330) 337-8974 <a href="mailto:neofa1972@gmail.com">neofa1972@gmail.com</a></p>	<p>Dana Harsh, Chair (740) 835-6491 dharsh1958@yahoo.com <a href="http://www.ohiosofa.org">www.ohiosofa.org</a></p>
Killbuck Valley Woodland Interest Group	Northwest Ohio Woodland Association	Southwest Ohio Woodland Owners Association
<p>Bob Romig 3511 Clearview Pl. Wooster, OH 44691 (330) 345-5077</p>	<p>John Mueller ODNR Division of Forestry 952 B Lima Ave. Findlay, OH 45840 (419) 424-5004 john.mueller@dnr.state.oh.us Joe Puperi Advanced Tree Health <a href="mailto:joe@advancedtreehealth.com">joe@advancedtreehealth.com</a></p>	<p>Pat Miglioizzi ODNR Division of Forestry 8570 East State Route 73 Waynesville, OH 45068 (513) 897-1082 pat.miglioizzi@dnr.state.oh.us</p>

### Join a Regional Woodland Interest Group in Your Area

**Please note:** Regional Woodland Associations and Interest Groups in Ohio are **not** sponsored by or a part of The Ohio Tree Farm Program or The ATFS but are recommended as a great way to share information and ideas with other woodland owners in your area on managing your woodland for multiple-use benefits. Many Certified American Tree Farmers are members of these groups.

**American Tree Farm System  
Ohio Tree Farm Committee**

**By- Laws**

Adopted 1/23/2003

Amended and reaffirmed 8/16/2018

**Article I. Ohio Tree Farm Committee**

**I A. Name of Organization**

The name of this organization shall be the Ohio Tree Farm Committee, herein referred to as OTFC.

**I B. General**

The American Tree Farm System was created in 1941 by the forest products industry to stimulate interest among the nation's woodland owners to improve the management of their forest resources. The System is sponsored by the American Forest Foundation (AFF), a non-profit, educational (501 C-3) foundation. The AFF operates the program controlling standards and operations through state and national committees and cosponsors for the purpose of encouraging sustainable forest management by woodland owners. The AFF asks each state to establish a State Tree Farm Committee for the purpose of administering the Program in that state under the direction and support of AFF. Woodlands certified as a Tree Farm must meet standards set by the American Tree Farm System. The System operates as an informal partnership, encouraging resource management professionals from all disciplines and segments (government, industry, academic, private, etc.) to work together and offer expert assistance to woodland owners. The OTFC will recognize AFF's mission, vision, values and goals, on a state level as we operate our program.

In 1946, the State of Ohio became the 13th state in the nation to adopt the American Tree Farm Program and certified its first Tree Farm in Wayne County. The Ohio Tree Farm Committee administers the Program in Ohio.

**Article II. National**

**II A. Administration**

The American Forest Foundation maintains the official records of the program in cooperation with the OTFC. All pertinent information is stored on a computer system and periodic reports and listings of members of the program are made available to the OTFC and cosponsoring organizations. All information, except address or phone changes, on individual Tree Farms must be submitted on a standard Certified/Pioneer Tree Farm Certification form (AFF 004 form) or transferred via disks or electronically by those using state databases.

**II B. Copyright Registration**

The official Tree Farm logo, the words "American Tree Farm System" and "Tree Farm" are registered trademarks of the American Forest Foundation and are reserved for the exclusive use of Tree Farm program participants and those permitted by the American Forest Foundation.

**II C. Promotional Materials**

AFF will provide standard printed material to promote the American Tree Farm System. This will include descriptive brochures, periodic newsletters and certificates. In the case of

certificates, AFF will make available standard Tree Farm certificates for the OTFC Chair or cosponsor.

**II D. Tree Farm Signs**

Regulation Tree Farm Signs will be available to the OTFC or the cosponsoring organization at a nominal cost. All signs are to be ordered by the OTFC from the sign company designated by AFF. Tree Farm Signs are to be supplied to Tree Farmers at no cost at original certification. OTFC will charge an appropriate amount for postage and handling for additional signs or replacement of deteriorated signs.

Tree Farmers must pay subscription fees for the National TF Magazine. Inspecting (volunteer) Foresters receive a free subscription.

**Article III. OTFC Administration and Procedures**

**III A. Sponsors**

1. The Ohio Forestry Association Foundation, Incorporated (OFAF), a non-profit, (501 C-3) organization and the Ohio Department of Natural Resources, Division of Forestry (DOF) sponsor the Ohio Tree Farm Program in cooperation with The American Forest Foundation (AFF), national sponsor of the American Tree Farm System.
2. Under this arrangement, OFAF assists with the clerical responsibility and maintains the financial accounts for the OTFC. This includes, but is not limited to: deposits, expenses, ledger for deposits, quarterly statements, billings for Ohio Woodland Journal subscribers and ads for the Ohio Woodland Journal, and rebilling past due accounts not paid.
3. Every year the OTFC participates in the OFA Annual Meeting at which time the Chair presents a Tree Farm Progress report at the OFA Business Meeting, and the annual Ohio Tree Farm System Awards Luncheon is held.

**III B. Administration**

1. General – OTFC conducts the Ohio Tree Farm System with the assistance of the sponsors, the Ohio Forestry Association and the Ohio Department of Natural Resources, Division of Forestry. Other supporting organizations include The Ohio State University Extension Service; Division of Soil and Water, Soil & Water Conservation Districts, the Forest Industries; Consulting Foresters, and other agencies, organizations and individuals interested in the fullest development of Ohio's privately managed forestland.
2. Records – The OTFC shall determine where the Ohio Tree Farm System records shall be kept. The Executive Director of OFA shall be directly responsible for coordinating and maintaining these official records in the OFA office.

**III C. Committee Membership**

**1. Committee Composition**

OTFC shall consist of 30-35 voting members with 35 being the maximum.

Listed below are the OTFC membership suggested affiliations and numbers

<b>Suggested Affiliation*</b>	<b>Number</b>	<b>Term in Years</b>
Tree Farmers at Large	13	4
Tree Farmer of the Year	1	1
Nominating Forester	1	1
Inspecting Forester of the Year	1	1
ODNR- Chief of Division of Forestry	1	-
ODNR- Division of Forestry (including The Pollution Abatement Coordinator)	5	4
Wildlife Representative	1	4
ODNR- Division of Soil & Water	1	4
ODNR- Soil & Water Conservation Districts	1	4
Consulting Forester	2	4
Industrial Forester	3	4
Ohio State University Extension	2	4
Ohio Forestry Association Exec. Director	1	-
Ohio Woodland Journal Representative	1	
SFI Project Learning Tree, Ohio Coordinator	1	-
<b>Total</b>	<b>35</b>	
* The affiliations are intended as a guideline in order to provide representation by the various forestry related groups in the state as well as the Division of Forestry service areas.		

**2. Criteria for Membership**

- a. In order for a person to be considered for membership on the OTFC, that person must be a certified Tree Farmer or a professional in the field of forestry or some related field with a concern for forest management.
- b. OTFC members must attend at least 50 percent of the OTFC meetings during a year to maintain membership.

**3. Election to Membership**

- a. The OTFC shall elect members to the OTFC based on recommendations of the Nominating Committee so that a broad scope of representation is established.
- b. The Nominating Committee shall make recommendations for replacements to be voted on by the OTFC.
- c. The election of members for the coming year shall occur at the last meeting of the year.
- d. Any member of the OTFC may be removed from membership by a three-fourths (3/4) vote of those members present. Notification to the removed party will be by certified mail.
- e. The Tree Farmer of the Year, the Nominating Forester, and the Inspecting Forester of the Year need not be elected but are members ex officio.
- f. The Chief of the Division of Forestry, the Executive Director of OFA, and the Coordinator of the SFI Project Learning Tree need not be elected but are members ex officio.
- g. An OTFC member who is a candidate for reelection may not vote in that election for membership.

#### **4. Term of Membership**

- a. Membership on the OTFC shall be a four-year term (4).
- b. The Tree Farmer of the Year, the Nominating Forester, and the Inspecting forester of the Year shall have one-year terms (1).
- c. The Chief of the Division of Forestry, the Executive Director of OFA, and the Coordinator of the SFI Project Learning Tree members shall be filled by persons in the respective positions with no term limit, ex officio.
- d. Membership with four-year terms shall be staggered so that one quarter (1/4) will be elected each year.
- e. All terms of membership shall begin at the beginning of the year after the election.
- f. The number of terms a member may serve is not limited. Members may be reelected.

### **III D. Voting Procedures**

1. A majority vote of a quorum of the OTFC membership shall be required for the conduct of all business, unless specifically excluded under the by-laws.
2. A quorum shall consist of one-half (1/2) of OTFC voting members.
3. Each member is entitled to cast one vote unless specifically excluded under the by-laws.
4. In the case of a tie vote, the Chair may cast a vote to break the deadlock.
5. The ex officio members with no defined term are without vote.

### **III E. Meetings**

1. The Chair shall call at least four meetings a year and provide the time, location, and agenda. Additional meetings may be called by the Chair or the Executive Committee when deemed necessary.
2. A quorum must be present to conduct a meeting.
3. Notice of a meeting must be distributed to OTFC members at least 15 days in advance.
4. Roberts Rules of Order shall be followed at the OTFC meetings.

## **Article IV. Officers and Executive Committee**

### **IV A. Officers**

The Officers for the OTFC are as follows: Chair, Vice-Chair, Secretary, Treasurer, and Past-Chair.

### **IV B. Election of Officers**

1. The Officers shall be elected from the membership of the OTFC.
2. The election of Officers shall occur at the last meeting of the term.
3. For the biennial election of Officers, the Nominating Committee shall present a list of candidates for each of the four offices, the Past Chair not being included due to succession to office.
4. An OTFC member who is a candidate may not vote in the election for that office.

### **IV C. Term of Officer**

1. The length of term for all officers is two-years (2).
2. All terms of office shall begin at the beginning of the year after the election.
3. Any Officer may be removed from office by a three-fourths (3/4) vote of the OTFC members present.
4. Vacancies created by officers no longer being able to serve shall be filled by appointment

by the OTFC.

5. The number of terms an Officer may serve is not limited. Officers may be reelected.

#### **IV D. Executive Committee**

1. The Executive Committee shall consist of the Chair, Vice-Chair, Past Chair, Secretary, Treasurer, Program Administrator, Inspector Training Committee Chair, Ohio Woodland Journal Representative, and By-Laws Committee Chair. The Executive Committee shall be responsible for guiding the program and for authorizing interim expenditures not to exceed 10 percent of the total annual operating budget of the OTFC as reported on the last quarterly financial statement.
2. The Chair may call meetings of the Executive Committee when the discussion of this smaller group is deemed necessary. The Chair must give at least one week advance notice of a meeting.
3. Actions of the Executive Committee must be reviewed and approved by the OTFC at their next meeting.
4. The Secretary shall provide minutes of the Executive Committee meetings in a timely fashion.

#### **IV E. Officers' Duties**

##### **Chair**

1. The Chair shall be responsible for administering and promoting the Ohio Tree Farm Program during the term of office.
2. The chair shall be the official liaison representative with the AFF in all matters pertaining to the Ohio Tree Farm Program.
3. The Chair shall be responsible for conveying the recommendations of the AFF to the OTFC.
4. The Chair shall call quarterly meetings, prepare agendas, and maintain communications with the OTFC and inspecting foresters. The Chair shall also direct expenditures of Tree Farm funds with the approval by majority vote of the full OTFC or by majority vote of the Executive Committee (IV.D.2.). The Chair shall send out a meeting agenda one month prior to the scheduled meeting date.
5. The Chair may approve payment of bills if the Treasurer is unavailable.
6. The Chair, or appointed representative, shall report to the OFA Board of Trustees at regular OFA Board Meetings as an ex officio member of that Board. The Chair is responsible for presenting the OFA Board with a quarterly report.
7. The Chair shall be responsible for appointing Committee Chairs from OTFC members and submitting a list to the OTFC for approval at the first meeting of the term.
8. The Chair will work closely with the Past Chair and the Vice-Chair to distribute responsibilities and reduce the workload of the Chair.

##### **Vice-Chair**

1. The Vice-Chair will work cooperatively with the Chair and in the absence of the Chair will be primarily responsible.
2. Vice-Chair activities include the OFA Annual Meeting Tree Farm Program.
3. The Vice-Chair shall be prepared to become Chair and accept the orderly transfer of the Ohio Tree Farm Program pending approval by the OTFC at the close of the Chair's term of office.

### **Secretary**

1. The Secretary shall be responsible for keeping an accurate written account of each meeting of the OTFC and the Executive Committee.
2. The Secretary shall promptly prepare, publish, and distribute the minutes of each meeting of the OTFC. The Secretary may appoint a minute taker, who will be responsible for taking the minutes and sending a formal copy to the Secretary within two weeks following the meeting.
3. The Secretary shall maintain a current and ongoing listing of motions passed and major actions taken by the OTFC so that it is readily available for reference at OTFC meetings.
4. The Secretary shall maintain a current list of OTFC members and Officers with contact information and terms of membership and office.

### **Treasurer**

1. The Treasurer shall be the Chair of the Finance Committee.
2. The Treasurer is responsible for maintaining the financial accountability of OTFC funds in cooperation with the OFA financial secretary.
3. The Treasurer shall be the primary officer to approve payment of bills.
4. The Treasurer completes and distributes quarterly OTFC Financial Statements to all OTFC members.
5. The Treasurer shall develop an annual budget for the OTFC and present it for discussion and approval at the first meeting of the year.

### **Past Chair**

1. The Chair will move automatically from the office of Chair to the office of Past Chair.
2. If the Chair cannot serve as Past Chair, the office shall be left vacant for that respective term.
3. The Past Chair shall continue to work with the Chair and support the Ohio Tree Farm Program.

## **Article V. Committees**

### **V A. General**

1. Committee Chairs shall be appointed by the OTFC Chair from OTFC members.
2. The OTFC Chair shall submit a list of Committee Chairs to the OTFC for approval at the first meeting of the term.
3. Committee Chair terms shall coincide with the Officer's term.
4. The Committees may have other members, some of whom are not members of the OTFC.

### **V B. Standing Committees**

#### **Certification Committee** – Chairman is the Program Administrator

1. The Chair of this committee shall be the Program Administrator for the OTFC.
2. The Chair shall maintain the Ohio Tree Farm System database.
3. The Chair shall print and distribute the annual re-inspection forms to the Area Chairs.
4. The Chair shall order supplies for the Area Chairs.
5. The Chair shall review and sign the re-inspection forms
6. The Chair shall send re-inspection forms and reports to the national office.
7. The Chair shall work with the Editor of the Ohio Woodland Journal to prepare mailing

lists.

8. The Chair shall distribute email messages and other data from the national office.
9. The Chair shall serve as a Columbus-based resource for OTFC to OFA (new Tree Farmer requests).
10. The Chair shall serve as a focal point for new tree farmer requests from national office.

#### **Members - Area Chairs –**

1. The Area Chairs are appointed by the OTFC from inspecting foresters in the respective Area.
2. The Area Chairs shall be members of the OTFC.
3. The Area Chairs shall serve two-year terms staggered among the four Area Chairs.
4. The number of terms an Area Chair may serve is not limited. They may be reappointed.
5. The Area Chairs shall keep each inspecting forester in their Area informed on the number of re-inspections needed annually.
6. The Area Chairs shall check new and re-inspection forms for accuracy and quality.
7. The Area Chairs shall keep the OTFC informed of Area Tree Farm program progress and activities.
8. The Area Chairs shall recruit new inspecting foresters.
9. The Area Chairs shall hold one meeting per year for the Area inspecting foresters.
10. The Area Chairs shall be responsible for soliciting and submitting Tree Farmer of the Year nominations from their Area.
11. The OTFC shall identify the geographic area to be the responsibility of each Area Chair.

#### **Inspector Training Committee**

1. The Committee shall be responsible for training all Ohio Tree Farm System inspectors according to training standards set by the National Tree Farm Operating Committee.
2. The Committee shall provide annual training for inspectors.
3. The Committee shall maintain a list of trained and untrained inspectors.
4. The Committee shall notify inspectors when they need to be re-certified as inspectors (every five years).

#### **Publications Committee**

The Chair of this Committee shall be the Editor of the Ohio Woodland Journal.

1. The Editor shall assemble and edit the Ohio Woodland Journal by soliciting articles, pictures, materials and advertising.
2. The Editor shall contract with publishers for printing the Ohio Woodland Journal.
3. The Editor shall appoint an Advertising Manager and an Editorial Board.

#### **Members**

1. Advertising Manager
2. An OTFC member shall assist the Editor in matters of advertising.
3. Editorial Board
4. An Editorial Board for the Ohio Woodland Journal shall be appointed by the Editor and shall consist of at least five (5) other OTFC members and others deemed of value for their support. The Editorial Board shall serve in an advisory capacity to the Ohio Woodland Journal Editor.

**Finance Committee** – The Chair of this Committee shall be the Treasurer.

1. The Chair shall be responsible for becoming familiar with the accounting practices and bookkeeping of the OTFC, and, as needed, make inquiries concerning record keeping practices.
2. The Chair shall develop an annual budget for the OTFC and present it for discussion and approval at the first meeting of the year.
3. The Chair shall verify that the receipts/income are properly deposited in the checking account.
4. The Chair shall review the monthly financial statements. Verify that the amounts indicated on the monthly reports correspond to the canceled checks and the bank deposit slips.
5. The Chair shall review the invoices and check to see that they correspond to the checks issued.
6. The Chair shall examine all the bank statements to see if there are any unusual debits.

**Members**

1. The record-keeper shall be the OFA Executive Director or a designated representative and provide the OTFC with financial services through the OFA office.
2. Audit Panel – The Treasurer shall appoint at least two OTFC members to annually provide an audit of the OTFC financial records.

**By-Laws Committee**

1. The Committee is responsible for becoming familiar with the By-Laws.
2. The Committee shall review the By-Laws annually and make recommendations to the OTFC.

**Publicity Committee**

1. The Committee shall be responsible for publicizing the objectives of the OTFC and advertising its activities.
2. The Committee shall be responsible for scheduling the use and the storage of the Tree Farm Table Top Displays.

**Nominating Committee**

1. The Committee shall annually present a list of candidates for membership in the OTFC to the OTFC for election at the last meeting of the year.
2. For the biennial election of Officers, the Committee shall present a list of candidates for the offices in the OTFC to the OTFC for election at the last meeting of the year.
3. The Committee shall work with the Secretary to keep a current list of terms of membership and offices in the OTFC.
4. The Committee may not have any members who are also candidates for membership or office on a list being presented.

**Awards Committee**

1. The Committee shall be responsible for soliciting nominations for Ohio Tree Farmer of the Year.
2. The Committee shall be responsible for making recommendations to OTFC for Ohio Tree Farmer of the Year.
3. The Committee shall be responsible for soliciting nominations for the Ohio Tree Farm Inspector of the Year.

4. The Committee shall be responsible for making recommendations to OTFC for the Ohio Tree Farm Inspector of the Year.
5. The Committee shall be responsible for preparing nominations for the Regional and National Tree Farmer and Inspector of the Year Awards.
6. The Committee should offer help to organize and conduct the Annual Tree Farm of the Year Tour and reimburse expenses up to \$2,000.

#### **Annual Meeting Committee Program**

The Past Chair, Chair, and Vice-Chair shall be responsible for developing and conducting the program at the OFA Annual Meeting.

#### **Silent Auction Committee**

1. The Committee shall be responsible for conducting a Silent Auction during the OFA Annual Meeting for the purpose for raising funds for the OTFC.
2. The Committee shall be responsible for soliciting donations for the silent auction.
3. The Committee shall give an accounting to the OTFC.
4. The Committee shall write acknowledgements and thank you notes to donors.

#### **Education Chair**

The Education Chair is responsible for arranging speakers for the Paul Bunyan Show and acting as a conduit for regional woodland interest groups.

#### **Other Committees**

The Chair may from time to time appoint such committees as may be needed to facilitate the efficient operation of the OTFC in reaching its objectives.

### **Article VI. Parliamentary Procedure**

The proceedings of the OTFC meetings shall be governed by and conducted according to the latest revised edition of Roberts Rules of Order.

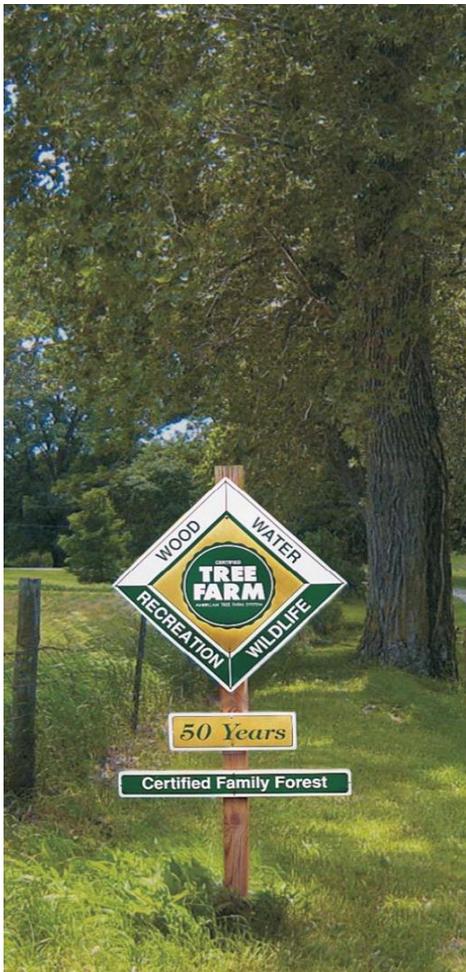
### **Article VII. Amendments**

The By-Laws may be amended, repealed or changed by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the OTFC members present and voting at a properly called meeting or special meeting of the OTFC provided that notice of such proposed amendment, repeal, or change shall have been mailed to all members of the OTFC at least 15 days prior to date of such meeting. These By-Laws shall be reviewed annually at the last meeting of the year.

### **Article VIII. Dissolution and Termination**

The OTFC may be dissolved by a three-fourths(%) vote of the OTFC members present and voting at a properly called meeting or special meeting of the OTFC provided that notice of such proposed dissolution shall have been mailed to all members of the OTFC at least 15 days prior to date of such meeting. Ownership of all cash and non-cash assets shall be transferred to the OFA. The OTFC shall be terminated upon transfer of all assets and dismissal of all members.

The Tree Farm Program Mission : To promote the growing of forest resources on private lands while protecting environmental benefits and increasing public understanding of all benefits of productive forests.



### Ohio's Valuable Forests and Woodlands

The forests and woodlands of Ohio are a critically valuable resource, providing benefits and products to their owners, and to Ohio's citizens and visitors. Thirty-one percent of Ohio is forested (7.8 million acres), with the greatest proportion in southern and southeastern Ohio. These forests and woodlands provide a wide variety of benefits including:

**Wildlife habitat - Recreational activities - Scenic beauty - Soil erosion reduction - Water quality improvement - Wood and other forest products - Income when harvesting forest products - Raw materials for Ohio's forest products industries - Carbon sequestration - Diverse plant and animal communities**

The vast majority of Ohio forests and woodlands (more than 73 percent) are family forests, owned by private, non-industrial landowners. These family forest owners have the opportunity to care for and manage their woodlands to provide the benefits they desire, while at the same time practicing a land stewardship ethic that leads to the development of healthy, sustainable woodlands that contribute to public enjoyment and benefit. The purpose of the Tree Farm Program is to provide the knowledge

and assistance necessary for family forest owners to sustainably manage their woodlands to achieve this goal.

### **The Tree Farm Program**

The American Tree Farm System® (ATFS) was organized in 1941 in response to concerns that America's private woodlands were being harvested at an unsustainable rate. Through ATFS and supporting state programs, participating family forest landowners receive individual forest management assistance, educational programs, and opportunities to see demonstrations of sustainable woodland management. Upon completing a forest management plan for their property and demonstrating commitment to its implementation, the woodland is inspected and certified as a TREE FARM by ATFS. From the beginning the terms "tree farmer" and "tree farming" were adopted to introduce the public and woodland owners to the concept of sustainable forestry in terms they would easily understand. Linking the term "farming" with trees communicated the Tree Farm Program's commitment to the sustained production of forest benefits over time. That concept was distinctly different from the "cut-out and get-out" logging philosophy that dominated much of the early 20<sup>th</sup> century. To this day, certification as a Tree Farm by ATFS is high recognition that the family forest landowner is committed to excellence in forest stewardship. Nationwide ATFS has certified over 91,000 Tree Farms with 24 million acres in 44 states.

The Ohio Tree Farm Program, organized in 1946, brings together experienced Tree Farmers and foresters from industry, governmental agencies, educational institutions, and private organizations to administer the Ohio Tree Farm Program. The Ohio program works jointly with ATFS to support family forest landowner education, to provide individual assistance in the development and implementation of a sustainable woodland management plan, and to recognize woodland owner accomplishments.

### **Benefits of Becoming A Certified Tree Farm**

1. Development of a sustainable management plan for woodlands designed to accomplish your ownership objectives.
2. Free professional management recommendations during initial inspection and re-inspections.
3. Participation in a network of professionals and landowners who share commitment to sustainable forest management.
4. Invitations to seminars, field days, and workshops designed to help you achieve the goals you have set for your Tree Farm.
5. Complimentary subscription to the quarterly publication of the Ohio Tree Farm Program.
6. State and national annual conventions where you can attend workshops and share information, experiences, and fellowship with other Tree Farmers.
7. Opportunity to be recognized by fellow landowners and forestry professionals by receiving state, regional, and National Outstanding Tree Farmer awards.
8. Opportunity to display the Tree Farm's nationally recognized sign verifying that sustainable forestry is practiced in your woodland.
9. Opportunity to become active in Ohio or National Tree Farm Program and influence decisions and policy that affect family forests.
10. Third party certification of sustainable forest management as a certified Tree Farm.

### **How Does My Woodland Become A Certified Tree Farm?**

Participation in the Ohio Tree Farm Program is open to all family forest landowners who own

- A. 10 acres or more contiguous wooded acres,
- B. are committed to the sustainable management of their woodlands,
- C. have an acceptable written forest management plan, that is designed to meet ownership goals and sustain the woodlands for future generations.

Woodland owners without a written management plan can receive help from the Ohio Tree Farm Program in identifying an appropriate forestry professional to help develop their plan. Forestry professionals commonly available to provide this assistance include: A. ODNR Division of Forestry Service Foresters, B. private consulting foresters, C. Soil and Water Conservation District foresters, and D. industry foresters.

Information regarding certification can be found by contacting the Ohio Tree Farm Program as directed at the end of this brochure. Eligible applicants will be contacted by a Tree Farm Inspector to schedule a visit to their woodlands to review their management plan and activities. Woodlands with an acceptable management plan and an owner committed to sustainable woodland management will be recommended for certification as a Tree Farm.

A woodland owner just discovering the benefits of sustainable forest management, who may not have an acceptable written management plan or who has not had time to demonstrate their commitment, can still participate in the program as a Pioneer Tree Farm. Many of the benefits of participating in the Tree Farm Program are available to Pioneer Tree Farms. A Pioneer Tree Farm must achieve the standards for certification as a Tree Farm within five years to continue participating in the Tree Farm Program.

#### **Sources of Information and Assistance**

The Ohio Tree Farm Program is administered by the Ohio Tree Farm Committee, a volunteer organization made up of forest resource management professionals and experienced Tree Farmers. The program's sponsors are the American Forest Foundation, the Ohio Forestry Association and the ODNR-Division of Forestry.

For more information about the Ohio program visit [www.ohiotreefarm.org](http://www.ohiotreefarm.org), or contact:

#### **The Ohio Forestry Association (OFA)**

507 W. Main St, Suite 200, Zanesville, OH 43701-7303, phone: 888-388-7337, [www.ohioforest.org](http://www.ohioforest.org)

Additional information on the Ohio Tree Farm Program and other woodland management resources can be obtained from the following organizations and agencies:

**American Forest Foundation (AFF)** is the national organization that sponsors the American Tree Farm System. For more information visit [www.treefarmssystem.org](http://www.treefarmssystem.org) or contact them at 202-463-2462.

**Ohio Department of Natural Resources** Division of Forestry is a cosponsor of the Ohio Tree Farm Program and provides forest management assistance to private woodland owners through its service forestry program. [www.dnr.state.oh.us/forestry/](http://www.dnr.state.oh.us/forestry/)

**Ohio Society of American Foresters** provides a listing of member foresters and forestry technicians who provide forestry services to woodland owners. [www.osafdirectory.com](http://www.osafdirectory.com)

#### **Ohio State University Extension**

[www.woodlandstewards.osu.edu](http://www.woodlandstewards.osu.edu)