

The OHIO WOODLAND Journal

Volume 27 • Number 3 • SUMMER 2020

A PUBLICATION OF THE OHIO TREE FARM COMMITTEE



- ◆ Holden Arboretum Working Woods Learning Forest
- ◆ The Key to Succession Planning: Family Involvement
- ◆ COVID-19 and the Forestry Supply Chain

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The OHIO WOODLAND Journal



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On the Cover

The Working Woods Learning Forest is a newly established demonstration forest located at the Holden Arboretum in Kirtland Hills, Ohio. Through research and collaborative partnerships, this 67-acre woodland was transformed into an interactive outdoor classroom where the public, landowners, and natural resource professionals can observe sustainable forest management treatments and techniques. Read about how the Working Woods Learning Forest was established, current forest management treatments you can see today, and future learning opportunities at the Holden Arboretum.

www.ohioforest.org/mpage/OhioTreeFarmHome

AN INTRODUCTION

Jamie Regula
New Editor, Ohio Woodland Journal

Let me introduce myself: my name is Jamie and I am honored to be named Editor of *The Ohio Woodland Journal*. I am grateful to be entrusted with this publication, fully recognizing I have big shoes to fill as I follow in the footsteps of three talented individuals: Dave Schatz (1994-1998), Christine Hodgson (1999-2010), and Greg Smith (2011-2020). I hope to carry on their legacies and look forward to talking, learning, and sharing with all of you.



Jamie, her husband Adam, and their dog Walter hiking in the White Mountain National Forest last winter.

Growing up in rural New Hampshire, I spent much of my adolescence and young adult life exploring the northern hardwood forests of New England. I also grew up an avid reader, and stories like *My Side of the Mountain* by J.C. George and *Prodigal Summer* by B. Kingslover shaped my understanding of the world around me. These books and experiences ignited my imagination and inspired me to observe the lessons nature had to offer. As an adult, I still feel the same sense of wonder and excitement when I enter a forest, which is probably why I chose a career in forestry.

Seeing as I am relatively new to Ohio, the Division of Forestry, and Ohio Tree Farm, I would like to take this opportunity to hear from our readers. What articles do you most enjoy reading? Would you prefer more instructional, scientific, or personal stories? Are you interested in writing for the Journal? It is important to me that *The Ohio Woodland Journal* reflects its audience. To help me get to know you, please go to <https://forms.gle/sJELeYH3yvXfB47W7> to fill out a short 3-minute survey; your feedback will enable me to seek the content that interests and inspires you most. ♦

Jamie Regula is a Forester for the Ohio Division of Forestry. She assumes the role of Editor of The Ohio Woodland Journal with this issue.

VIEW FROM THE (LAWN) CHAIR – IN SEARCH OF OAK REGENERATION

Cassie Ridenour
Ohio Tree Farm Committee Chair



Spring and summer – the time of growth! But what are we growing? Our tree farm includes 80 acres of pines, planted in the 1960s and 1970s. There is a significant hardwood understory there – which varies across the property – with oaks succeeding in some areas and maples dominating in others.

The Ohio Forests 2016 report published by the USDA Forest Service, revealed that between 2011-2016 Ohio saw a reduction of 14 percent in oaks greater than 5 inches in diameter. I found this information concerning, as oaks play a critical role in Ohio’s forest communities and economy. Two years ago, we implemented a midstory removal at our tree farm in Monroe County, with a goal of promoting oak regeneration. Midstory removal treatments allow sunlight to reach the forest floor creating optimal growing conditions for shade-intolerant oak seedlings. We definitely got the sunlight, and I see a few small oaks 6-12 inches high in the understory. There is also a significant amount of maple, some sassafras, and tulip poplar regenerating the understory. So, we will wait and see.

In other news, we are planning to go ahead with this year’s tree farm tour at the Brammer Family Tree Farm on August 29. The committee feels that an outdoor tour is the type of healthy activity that can be done with plenty of social distancing. Please see page 10 for details.

Our third-party audit is underway – and is being conducted remotely! Due to COVID-19 it was determined that this would be the safest approach. The auditor will be interviewing landowners, foresters, and committee members looking for results to demonstrate conformance with the American Tree Farm System Standards of Sustainability. We will keep you posted on the results.

This fall we will undertake strategic planning. If you have some thoughts on the strategic direction that the Ohio Tree Farm Committee should take over the next five years, please drop me a line at cassixr@aol.com.

I hope that the difficulties of 2020 have provided you all with some time to walk in the woods, and you and your families are coming through the year’s challenges. I would like to think we are like a disturbed forest – not unscathed but ready for growth. ♦



Timely removal of shade-tolerant, undesirable midstory species can promote and increase successful oak regeneration.

The past few months have been challenging for all of us for many different reasons. Along with much of the state and nation, it is no longer “business as usual” at the Division of Forestry. We have adapted in order to protect visitors to state forests, the private landowners and communities with whom we interact, and our staff.

As the stay-at-home restrictions have lifted, state service foresters and urban foresters have now resumed property and community visits. State forest lands staff have resumed outdoor projects such as trail maintenance, recreational-area and public restroom maintenance, roadway maintenance, timber cruises, and other property upkeep tasks. All staff members have been wearing face masks and adhering to social distancing guidelines.

State forest recreational areas, such as horse day-use areas and APV trails, have reopened with rules and guidelines established to protect visitors. At the time of this writing, forest office facilities are still closed, but plans are being made to reopen them when it is safe to do so.

In light of other events that have taken place this year, I want to assure you that the Division of Forestry takes discrimination issues very seriously. Is it critical for the forest sector in Ohio and throughout the nation to constructively address deficiencies regarding diversity and equal opportunity. Equality, fairness, and affirmation are among the most fundamental human needs. I believe that all of us, in our own individual way, can help ensure that those needs are met for all those we interact with in the course of doing our jobs.

In recent years, diversity and inclusion within the forestry profession have been frequent topics of discussion. It is critical that these conversations continue, but I'd also like us all to start taking purposeful actions to ensure our current constituents feel included and valued, as well as to find new ways to develop natural resources career interest within underserved groups. I firmly believe for forestry to remain a strong and vibrant profession into the future we must do better at intentionally including and seeking out new audiences. We in the Division of Forestry intend to be leaders in this regard. For those of you willing to share, I welcome and appreciate your input, thoughts, and ideas. Please send your comments to Daniel. Balsler@dnr.state.oh.us. ♦





Ohio's Tree Farm of the Year Tour The Brammer Family Tree Farm August 29, 2020 - 9am to 3pm

The Brammer family is welcoming visitors to their 158-acre Certified Tree Farm for a fun day learning more about managing a forest for a variety of uses from timber harvesting, wildlife habitat management, and agroforestry. Come witness a recent timber harvest, a recent group opening to help eradicate oak wilt from the property, a two-acre tree planting implemented this spring and EQIP practices that were completed this winter. Please bring a mask for the shuttle ride to and from the farm.

Please RSVP through the Ohio Forestry Association at <https://www.ohioforest.org/event/2020treefarmtour> or by calling (888) 388-7337.
Parking Location: Southern Local Jr/Sr High School 38095 OH-39, Salineville, OH 43945
Handicap parking available with placard: 16521 Steubenville Pike Rd, Salineville, OH 43945
GPS Location: 40.639311, -80.782908
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Learn About:

- ◆ Recent timber harvest
- ◆ Tree/shrub identification
- ◆ Oak wilt control
- ◆ Crop tree release/ cull tree removal
- ◆ Agroforestry demonstrations

Due to COVID-19, Ohio's Tree Farm of the Year Tour at the Brammer Family Tree Farm is postponed. The event will be rescheduled to late summer of 2021. Details will be announced shortly.

The Brammer Family is currently working on a virtual tour which will be shared on (date).

CALENDAR

AUGUST 2020 29

Ohio Tree Farm Tour
Brammer Brother's Tree Farm
Columbiana County
See page 9 for RSVP instructions



11

A Day in the Woods 2nd Friday Series**
Woodland and Wildlife Research
Vinton Furnace State Forest

26

Hocking State Forest Fall Color Tour
(740) 385-4402
ohiodnr.gov

SEPTEMBER 2020 13

A Day in the Woods 2nd Friday Series**
Timber Harvesting: Things to Consider
Zaleski State Forest – CCC Camp

14

Family Day in the Woods
Vinton Furnace State Park
Please RSVP by September 9th

22-24

Farm Science Review
See page 10 for details
fsr.osu.edu

NOVEMBER 2020 8

A Day in the Woods 2nd Friday Series**
Winter Tree Identification
Zaleski State Forest

**All A Day in the Woods 2nd

Friday Series are designed for woodland owners and enthusiasts, and take place at Vinton Furnace State Forest and other southern Ohio sites. Pre-registration required.
<http://u.osu.edu/seohiowoods> or (740) 596-5212

OCTOBER 2020 2-3

Paul Bunyan Show
Check website for details and cancellations
www.ohioforest.org



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<http://www.ohioforest.org/mpage/OhioTreeFarmHome>



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Interested in writing for the Ohio Woodland Journal?
Do you have subjects you would like addressed?
Feel free to contact editor Jamie at Jamie.regula@dnr.state.oh.us and share your thoughts.

Check the OFA/Tree Farm website for Tree Farm Inspector contact information:
<http://www.ohioforest.org/mpage/OhioTreeFarmHome>



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Ryan Clester, 2020 Ohio Tree Farm Inspector of the Year

Tom Mills

Noble County Tree Farmer

The Ohio Tree Farm Committee is proud to recognize Ryan Clester as our 2020 Inspector of the Year. Ryan grew up in Muscatine, Iowa. Mark Twain said they have the most beautiful sunset he has ever seen, and it is the home of the best watermelon. Ryan's first job was picking strawberries when he was 12. When Ryan graduated high school, he joined the Marine Corps as an infantry man and machine gunner. As a combat veteran, he spent time in Sangin, Afghanistan.

Ryan began his connection with forestry in Ohio when he was a college intern for the ODNR Division of Forestry. As an intern, he primarily worked on forest health projects related to the Asian longhorned beetle and walnut twig beetle, as well as working in the central office in Columbus on customer service and administrative projects.

After earning his bachelor's degree from The Ohio State University, Ryan was hired as State Service Forester in northeast Ohio covering Mahoning, Stark, Columbiana, Carroll, and Tuscarawas counties. While providing assistance to private landowners, Ryan began to notice a significant forest health issue occurring in his region: oak wilt. He took the initiative to learn more about the pathogen, its detection and treatment, and received formal training on the topic. Ryan has become a leader on oak wilt in Ohio, hosting workshops for local and state partners, and assisting landowners directly using science-based treatment methods to address the threat of this disease.

Ryan's commitment to forestry goes above and beyond his duties as a service forester. He is actively involved with multiple Regional Woodland Interest Groups and currently holds an Area Chair position in the Tree Farm Inspection Program. We are fortunate to have such a dedicated and hardworking individual on our team.

Thank you and congratulations, Ryan! ♦



Ryan with his wood carved "twin".

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2020 Farm Science

This Year's Gwynne has Something for Everyone

The Gwynne Conservation area is part of the Molly Caren Agricultural Center near London, Ohio that hosts the annual Farm Science Review. The Gwynne contains 67 acres and is home to natural resource demonstrations and during the review offers a wide variety of presentations targeting natural resource topics. These programs feature Ohio State University specialists and other presenters from USDA NRCS and ODNR forestry and ODNR wildlife that offer the latest in research based educational programming.

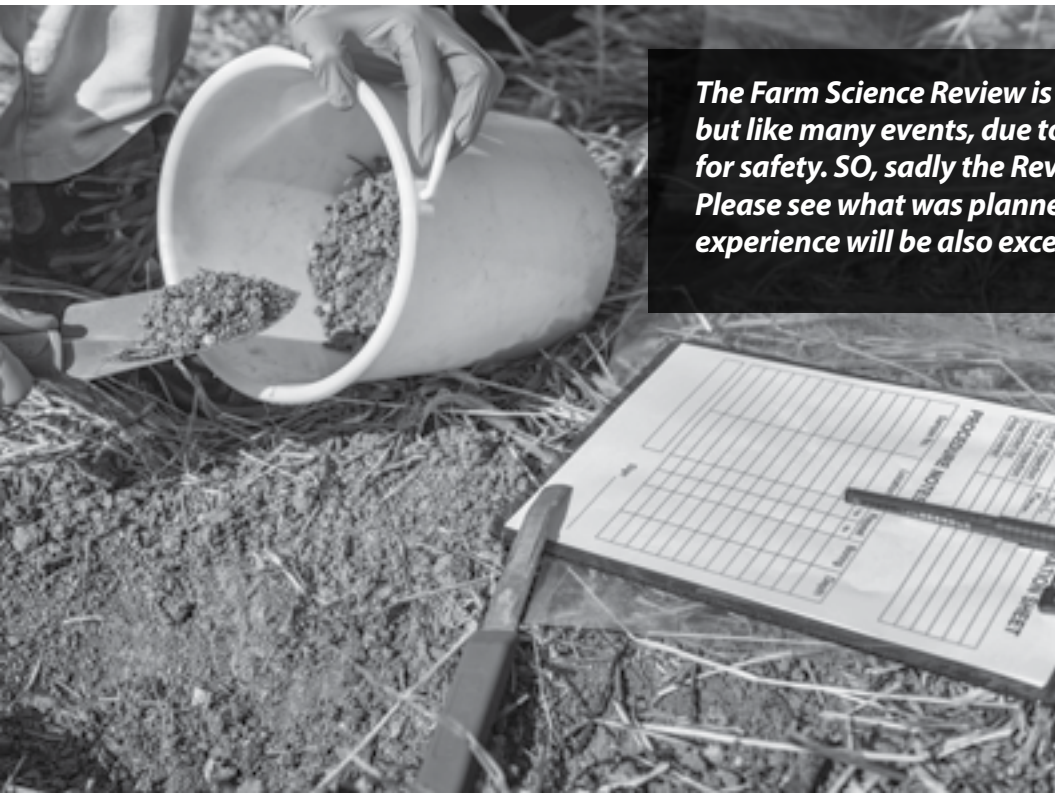
There are a variety of topics being covered this year including topics on pollinators, woodland fungi, woodland birds, spotted lanternfly and chainsaw safety. There is definitely something for everyone.



This year's show runs September 22-24 from 8 am until 5 pm and September 24 from 8 am until 4 pm. Presale tickets are available for \$7 while tickets at the gate are \$10 (children under 5 are free). Information on demonstrations and programs can be found at the Farm Science Review website <http://fsr.osu.edu> under visitors. At the time

of this printing these are the talks planned for Farm Science Review. Due to COVID the schedule is subject to change. Keep checking the <http://fsr.osu.edu> website for up to date status of the show. ♦

Tuesday, September 22, 2020			
STEM in Agriculture Demonstrations:			
	Forages and Grazing	Cabin	
10:30		Recreational Lease Hunting (Gabe Kames)	Att P
11:00	Grazing Management Plans - A Valuable Tool in Your Grazing Plan (Cody Hacker)		B
11:30	Improving Soil Health to Adapt to Climate Change (Jeff Hattey)	Invasive (and some not) Species Affecting Ponds: Why it Matters (Eugene Braig)	D P
12:00		The Future of OAK is in Our Hands (Dave Apsley)	
12:30		Meeting Animal Nutrient Requirements on Pasture (Martin Joyce)	
1:00	Grazing Warm Season Grasses / Soil Pasture Health (Bob Hendershot)		
1:30	Using Annuals in Your Grazing Management Plan (Jarrod Hittle)	Tree of Heaven vs. Sumac: How to tell the Difference! (Tom DeHass)	
2:00	Soil Testing to Improve Yield (Eric Schwab)	Things to Consider Before Selling Your Timber (Dave Apsley and Bob Mulligan)	
2:30			



The Farm Science Review is a very valuable happening for our state but like many events, due to COVID-19, changes need to be made for safety. SO, sadly the Review is postponed for a future time. Please see what was planned on these pages and know the future experience will be also exceptional and useful for our visitors.

Review!

Kathy Smith
Extension Forester
The Ohio State University

September 22
? - 1:30 daily, beginning every half hour

Wildlife and Aquatics	Woodland	Chainsaw Demos
Attracting Wild Life to Your Property (Brian Hackett)		
Best Choices for Ohio Pond Stocking (Perry Orndorff)	Cultivating Oyster Mushrooms (Erika Lyon)	Chainsaw Maintenance, Sharpening and Safety Demo
Attracting Wildlife from Your Property (Marne Titchenell)		
Butterfly Habitat Creation and Monarch Release (Jenna Balaz)		Chainsaw Cutting Techniques Demonstration
Basics of Pond Aeration Systems (Perry Orndorff)	Non-native Invasive PLants Impacting our Forests (Kathy Smith)	
Snake ID (Brian Hackett)		
Benefits of Bats (Marne Titchenell)	Making the Cut - How to Prune with Pruning Saws and Hand Pruners (Amy Stone, Kathy Smith and Eric Draper)	
Attracting Beneficial Insects: Pollinators, Predator, Parasites (Curtis Young)		

Wednesday, September 23
STEM in Agriculture Demonstrations: ? - 1:30 daily, beginning every half hour

	Forages and Grazing	Cabin	Wildlife and Aquatics	Woodland	Chainsaw Demos
10:30		Conserving Native Bee Populations for Pollination (Amanda Bennett)	Owls of Ohio (Marne Titchenell)	Woodland Fungi ID (Curtis Young)	
11:00	Getting Involved with the Forage and Grassland Council (Gary Wilson)	Forest Farming Wild-Simulated Ginseng (Tanner Flyaw)	Quail and Pheasant Management and Prairie Walk (Mike Retterer)	A Seasonal Guide to Woodland management (Jason VanHourten)	Chainsaw Maintenance, Sharpening and Safety Demo
11:30	Grazing Management Through the Eyes of the Animal (Mark Sulc)			Picking Paw Paw Patches - Managing for Paw Paw Production (Matt Davies)	
12:00		Managing Small Forest Patches for Birds (Matthew Shumar)	Importance of Pollinators to Agriculture (Emilee Hardesty)		
12:30		Invasive (and some not) Species Affecting Ponds: Why it Matters (Eugene Braig)	Turkey Calling and Hunting (Bob Fulcher and Amanda Douridas)		Chainsaw Cutting Techniques Demonstration
1:00	The Grasses You Ought to Be Grazing - Native Warm Season Grass (Jason Jones)	Anatomy of Soil Health (Deb Berger)		Can You Spot the Spot? Spotted Lanternfly Update (Amy Stone)	
1:30				Wildlife Food Plats 101 (Clifton Martin)	
2:00	Soil Testing to Improve Yield (Eric Schwab)	An Extension Educator's Top 5 Pond Queries (Eugene Braig)	Soil and Water Table (Dave Libben)	Woodland Fungi ID (Curtis Young)	
2:30			Managing Black Vulture Predation (Gary Ludwig)		

Thursday, September 24
STEM in Agriculture Demonstrations: ? - 1:30 daily, beginning every half hour

	Forages and Grazing	Cabin	Wildlife and Aquatics	Woodland	Chainsaw Demos
10:30	Grazing Warm Season Annuals (Tim McDermott)	Considering Farmer Conservation Decision Making Across the Year (Maggie Beetstra)	Attracting Beneficial Insects: Pollinators, Predator, Parasites (Curtis Young)	The ABC's of Invasive Species (Amy Stone)	
11:00		Landscaping with Native Plants (Pam Bennett)	Fish Ecology, H2O Quality and Electrofishing (Meet at Aquatics Tent, will be at the Pond) (Ben Rich and Andrew Phillips)	What "Really" is the Value of Your Woodlands? (Sayeed Mehmood)	Chainsaw Maintenance, Sharpening and Safety Demo
11:30	Getting the Most Out of Winter Feeding, Stockpiled Forage (Clint Finney)			Occuring at the tent	
12:00		Soil Organic Carbon: A Farmers Most Faithful Ally (Patricia Marie Cordeor-Irizarry)	Attracting Birds to Your Yard (Marne Titchenell)		
12:30		Adapting to Changing Weather Patterns in the Easter Combelt (Robyn Wilson)			
1:00					Chainsaw Cutting Techniques Demonstration



“This Land Will Never Amount to Anything...”

Family Succession Planning



Meadowview Farm was recognized as a 50 Year Tree Farm at the Ohio Tree Farm Luncheon during the Ohio Forestry Association annual meeting. In this photo, five generations of Stone family members accept the award. They are, left to right, Walker Stone, Kenton McLaughlin, Joshua McLaughlin, A.J. Stone, and Grandpa Steve Stone. Photo provided by Tanya Stone

Fifty years ago my father, Othmar Stone, was visited by Armand Jackson, an ODNR Division of Forestry state service forester. Little did either man know, that knock on the door in 1970 was to change the course of history for a hardscrabble piece of property in southeastern Ohio, now affectionately called Meadowview Farm. It also changed the course of history for the people who would come to live there.

Meadowview Farm was first purchased by my grandfather in 1917. In 1968, my father inherited the land from his older sister. That woman, my Aunt Marie, held a Master of Arts degree in public health administration from Columbia University and Bachelor of Science degree in education from Ohio University. During World War II, she experienced combat in the European Theater and then went to Japan for the occupation. She witnessed a lot of violence, brutality, and suffering during her war years and in her travels afterwards. But she always returned to the land she loved and had named Meadowview for its peace, solitude, and renewing powers.

Aunt Marie's full name was Marie Stone Desonier. The Desonier name came from a brief marriage to a man who pressured her to sell Meadowview Farm, telling her the "land would never amount to anything." So, she divorced him, but kept his French name because she liked it. After her death, our family donated a piece of land in Athens County to ODNR, now designated as the Marie J. Desonier State Nature Preserve.

In regards to Meadowview Farm, Marie left a handwritten note just before she died, imploring her brother and family to keep and care for the land as a retreat from the stress and turmoil of city life. That was her succession plan – a note in a dying woman's shaky handwriting on a scrap of paper.

Since 1968, the land has passed from my father, to my brother and me, then to the two children in each of our families in the form of a life estate. My brother nor his children had any interest in the land other than its monetary value. About four years ago we bought out the life estate shares held by my brother and his children. Meadowview Farm now rests in my hands, then it will go to our son and daughter and their spouses. They each have two children that will, one day, have the task of finding a way to keep the land in the family.



Fifty-Year Tree Farm's Succession Is Built on Shoulders of Its 5th Generation Children

Steven C. Stone
Meadowview Farm

Succession

Succession plans can take many forms. As I set about developing a plan for Meadowview Farm, my first step was to involve the family lawyer. We looked at forming a family trust, a Limited Liability Corporation, a sole proprietor partnership, some other arrangements, and finally settled on a life estate. Perhaps the most important thing I learned is that I cannot rule from the grave. Once I am gone, I must trust our children to do what is best for them and the land. Before my parents passed away, I promised them I'd take care of the farm, make it even better, and keep it in the family. A life estate best protected that promise – even from me.

Over the past three decades, I have discovered what I believe is the most important part of any succession plan. It comes down to two words: **family involvement**. That is why I invited all four grandsons, ages 3, 9, 10, and 14 to this year's Ohio Tree Farm Luncheon, to help accept the 50 Year Tree Farm sign award.

Here is what I believe that family involvement entails.

1. Take children and grandchildren into the forest **early and often** – still in a baby backpack. Have fun.
2. Make trips to the forest an **adventure**. Identify special locations and give them magical names such as the “wishing rock” or the “talking tree.” Have fun.
3. Take children to the forest and let them help with a project such as hanging a Tree Farm sign or naming a trail. Always tell them how much you **appreciate** their help. Have Fun.
4. **Take them on a ride** on your tractor or other farm machinery when it is safe to do so. If it snows, tow them around the meadow on sleds. That is the most fun.
5. As children get older, let them make **decisions** about the care and management of the land and teach them about safe use of machinery. Have fun.
6. Establish a **written history** related to your farm and the people that managed it. Make certain children and grandchildren understand their place in that history. Have fun.

7. Bring children to the Ohio Forestry Association Tree Farm luncheon so they understand they are part of an important organization and **community** much larger than the boundary of their land. Have fun.
8. When children are ready to settle down and build a home, consider surveying a parcel of land for them. If they feel a sense of **ownership**, they may be reluctant to want the land around them sold to someone outside the family. Have fun.
9. Lastly, when your adult children do things you'd rather they didn't, unless it is illegal or very destructive to the farm's future, let it go in silence. Don't be afraid to give up your control for it will happen soon enough anyway. So just sit back and try to **have some fun**.

Today, a sign along our farm entrance proclaims Meadowview is an Ohio Department of Agriculture Historical Farm, having been in the same family for 103 years. A Tree Farm sign at the top of the driveway proudly displays a 50 Year banner beneath. In the barn and farmhouse hang framed newspaper and magazine articles, award certificates, and the famous Tree Farm of the Year chrome shovel. Long ago a man told the family “this land will never amount to anything. Sell it.” I guess we showed him. Each family member is familiar with that story, and none would want to be responsible for ending their own heritage and history that comes with their beloved Meadowview Farm.◆

Have Fun!



Working Woods Learning Forest:

The first time I mentioned to a friend that the Holden Arboretum was considering a timber harvest demonstration in one of our natural areas, their response was confusion: “But, don’t you all, you know... *like* trees at an arboretum?” My response was, “That’s exactly the point.”

About six years ago, Holden Forests and Gardens received a gift from the Sherwick Foundation to develop programming for sustainable woodlot management. Given this opportunity, we began to ask—What challenges do Ohio woodlands and woodland owners face? What resources do landowners need to steward forests? Where are the gaps in existing resources? We started by speaking with the Ohio Department of Natural Resources Division of Forestry and other Ohio forestry professionals as well as investigating management trends in our region—too often exhibiting extreme overharvesting and/or non-management to the detriment of forest ecosystems *and* private owners.

Through these conversations, we recognized that there is a great need for landowners—who own 85 percent of Ohio’s forested land—to have opportunities to actually *see* good forest management techniques, including how to sustainably harvest trees for income. As a public institution with over 3,000 acres of managed forest, a research department, and established platforms of education, we realized we were in a perfect position to make a difference and fill an enormous existing need. The decision to turn Working Woods at Holden into a forest management demonstration site was simple and missionally-driven.

Working Woods Learning Forest is a 67-acre woodland at the Holden Arboretum in Kirtland Hills, Ohio. Various forest management treatments have been prescribed and implemented for common forest types in northeast Ohio, namely mature beech-maple forest and young, post-agriculture red-maple/tuliptree monoculture. The result is an accessible woodland that houses demonstration, education, and research.

Through this project, we can:

- Show rather than just tell how forest management works and empower landowners to make decisions that will meet their goals
- Provide online resources, workshops, and other educational tools that are paired with powerful real-life demonstrations
- Conduct research that is regionally relevant and directly applicable to forest issues in our ‘neck of the woods,’ including gathering data on how management affects wildlife, birds, regeneration, and biodiversity among other questions

Now, in 2020, we are excited to be spreading the news about this community resource for natural resource professionals, landowners, and the public to learn about forest management practices. The Working Woods Learning Forest demonstrates and researches multiple forest management techniques:

- A 12-acre single-tree selection cut that emphasizes stand diversity and forest health while

demonstrating potential economic benefit and sustainable resource investment for a landowner

- Improvement cut treatments for young, overstocked, and low diversity stands
- Timber stand improvement such as woody invasive and grapevine control
- Control plots that contrast managed areas with unmanaged areas
- Best management practices that protect soil and water
- Restoration planting of native trees and shrubs
- Hobby maple sugaring, culinary mushroom cultivation on logs, and other non-timber forest products such as cultivation of pawpaw and medicinal herbaceous plants

Working Woods Learning Forest and the research and education it provides will be a long-term asset to the forest landowner and forest professional community. Demonstrations at the site continue with 2020-2021 plans including:

- An edge-feathering demonstration area to show wildlife habitat improvement techniques often prescribed through cost-share programs such as the Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP)
- Disease-resistant American chestnut planting plots

Continued on page 26

A Living Laboratory and Demonstration Site at the Holden Arboretum

Jessica Miller
Holden Forests and Gardens

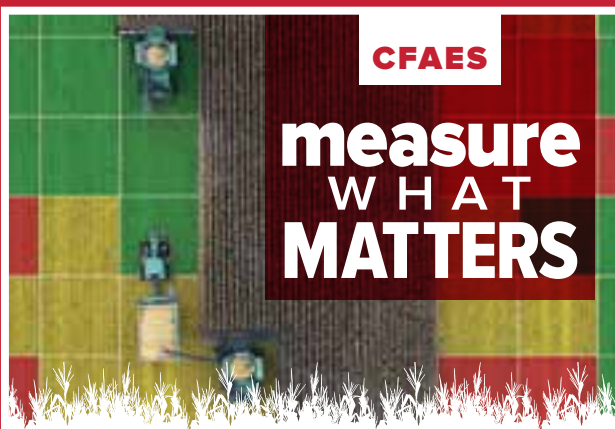


Landowner workshops in 2018-2019 have allowed woodland owners and enthusiasts to have their questions answered in person, connect with professionals and each other, and get a first-hand look at forest management techniques.



Single-tree selection harvests create new lightgaps and leave some healthy mature trees to seed and regenerate a desirable crop.

Due to Covid-19, the tour is Postponed.
Next year's date to be determined.
There will also be a virtual tour.
Watch for details.



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In September 2019, 12 acres of mature beech-maple forest were harvested with a single-tree selection cut by a crew utilizing horses. The expert sawyers cut and removed logs in such a way to minimize damage to residual trees, using best management practices and site reclamation.



Wild Wonders in the Woods

The Red-Spotted Newt (*Notophthalmus viridescens*)

Many of us likely recall our first encounter with a red-spotted newt. Despite the small size, its flame-orange body dotted with scarlet spots stands out in sharp contrast to the browns and greens of a woodland, making it hard to miss. Perhaps it was a rainy day when you happened across a red-spotted newt, and you mistook it for a lizard as so often happens. Red-spotted newts are salamanders, which makes them amphibians. The majority of amphibians have moist, smooth skin and not the dry, rougher skin of the red-spotted newt. Though I promise you, red-spotted newts DO have smoother skin at a certain point in their lives. Perhaps you call the orange animal I've described, a red eft? You'd be correct, but they are also the red-spotted newt. Confused? Never fear. We will sort everything out in this issue's Wild Wonder in the Woods.

The Life of a Red-Spotted Newt

The red-spotted newt belongs to the family Salamandridae and is one of a

few species in this family native to North America. It is the only member of this family in Ohio. The Salamandridae family is informally divided into two groups, the true salamanders which typically have smooth skin, and the newts with drier, rougher skin. The red-spotted newt belongs to the 'newt group' yet has both smooth and rough skin at different stages of its life. In fact, the red-spotted newt undergoes a metamorphosis a little bit different than most Ohio amphibians.

Several years ago, I was monitoring a vernal pool for salamanders in central Ohio with a colleague. In addition to several larvae of unidentified mole salamanders (identification at this stage in the life cycle requires a microscope – not something handy while standing in a 3-foot-deep vernal pool), we caught a male and female red-spotted newt. However, these newts were not the brilliant orange coloration I've already described, but a smooth-skinned olive-green, still dotted with red spots. These were mature, breeding adults. In fact,

the dark-colored toe pads that indicate a reproductive male red-spotted newt were clearly seen on the male's tiny feet, and the female looked a bit too swollen to be anything other than ready to lay eggs. What many may not realize is that these two salamanders were already on the fourth stage of their life cycle.

Yes, you read correctly, the 4th stage. We learned in elementary school that amphibian metamorphosis is composed of 3 stages: the egg, the larvae, and the breeding adult. But as I fondly like to say, wildlife do not read the books...and there are exceptions to every rule. The life cycle of a red-spotted newt is 1) egg, 2) larvae, 3) terrestrial juvenile, and 4) breeding adult. A red-spotted newt in the terrestrial juvenile stage, is called a red eft. They are orange with red spots and dry, rough skin. Sound familiar? It's not (or it's newt) a lizard, but the third life cycle stage of the red-spotted newt!

After a red-spotted newt egg hatches, the larva undergoes metamorphosis and leaves the water as a terrestrial red eft. It remains in this stage, roaming the forest

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Marne Titchenell
Ohio State University Extension
Wildlife Program Specialist



Female red-spotted newt with swollen mid-section (likely ready to lay eggs).

floor in search of food, for 2-3 years! The eft has well developed lungs, limbs, and eye lids, yet is still considered immature. Now for those of you with teenagers, letting them roam around for years on their own, away from the protection of their birth pool, may seem a bit unsafe. Yet, these little teenaged fireballs have something up their sleeves in terms of protection. All stages of the red-spotted newt produce toxic skin secretions that make them unpalatable to predators, but the red eft stage is ten times more toxic than the aquatic adult stage. Thus, the reason for their bright coloration; it is a warning to predators of toxicity. Yet some predators, like garter snakes and northern water snakes, can tolerate newt toxins, but many other reptile and amphibian predators have severe reactions. In humans, the toxin can be irritating to our skin, so be sure to wash your hands thoroughly after handling a red-spotted newt.



Note the olive-green color of this breeding adult and red spots along the back and sides. Photo courtesy of Brian MacGowan.



Note the black toe pads and inner markings on the thighs of this male red-spotted newt. These are rough growths that form prior to breeding, allowing the male to grip the female during mating.



DID YOU KNOW? In reference to the genus species, *Notophthalmus viridescens*, 'noto' is Greek for "mark" and 'opthalmus' is Greek for "eye", which refers to the red eye-shaped spots along the back and sides of the red-spotted newt. *Viridescens* is Latin for "slightly green", which refers to the color of adults.

After several years of living on land, the red eft returns to the water for its final life stage, an olive-green, aquatic, red-spotted newt. At this stage in its life, the newt is now sexually reproductive and able to mate. It will live out the rest of its life in that form, anywhere from 5-15 years. But that's not all! There is variation in the life cycle of the red-spotted newt across its range. In some populations, the red eft stage is skipped. This usually occurs in sandy coastal habitats where suitable land cover for the red eft is lacking. In other areas, including Ohio, if conditions occur that cause adults to leave the water, additional changes occur such as a reduction in the dorsal tail fin and development of rougher, tougher skin. When the adults return to the water,



Woodland pools like this are ideal for breeding red-spotted newts.

Continued on page 26



Focus on Forest H

Be on the Lookout

When you are in the woods this summer and fall, keep an eye out for the spotted lanternfly (SLF) – one of the newest insects we can add to the ever-growing list of non-native invasive species in Eastern forests. Though this insect has not yet been detected in Ohio, documentation of SLF infestations are on the rise in nearby states.

Spotted lanternfly is a type of planthopper insect native to eastern Asia. Being a member of the hemipteran order of insects, it has a piercing/sucking mouthpart that extracts plant fluids, and is related to leafhoppers, treehoppers, and cicadas. Adult SLF are fairly large – about 1-inch long and ½-inch wide. Immature nymphs go through four developmental stages (instars), growing larger, and molting between each stage. Nymphs range from 1/4"–1/2" inch in length. Early instar nymphs are black with white spots and final instar nymphs are mostly black and red with white spots. Adults are generally gray with black spots and markings. The hind wings, visible with wings spread, or when in flight, are bold black, white, and red.

Nymphs begin to emerge in the spring (April-May) around the time of first Ohio buckeye bloom and adults are usually not present until

later in the summer. Adult SLF can survive and feed until the first killing frost in autumn. Adult females lay egg masses containing 30-50 eggs in late summer and fall on nearly any relatively flat surface, including tree trunks, buildings, fences, rocks, vehicles, or train cars. The egg masses are initially covered in a shiny gray substance resembling mud, which



Adult spotted lanternfly can measure 1 inch long and ½ inch wide. Photo courtesy of Lawrence Barringer



Spotted lanternfly instar nymphs in the final phase of development are easily identified by their red coloration. Photo provided by Emelie Swackhamer

GRAPEVINE CONTROL

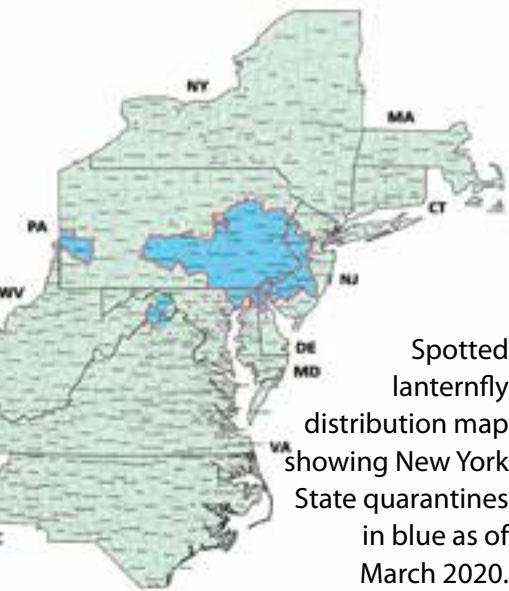
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The color and texture of spotted lanternfly egg mass often resemble dried and cracked mud. Photo courtesy of Emelie Swackhamer



Spotted lanternfly distribution map showing New York State quarantines in blue as of March 2020. Map provided by Cornell University

can dry out and crack over the winter sometimes revealing the rows of eggs within. Egg masses can be difficult to spot and the SLF behavior of laying egg masses on various objects makes it an efficient “hitchhiker” on vehicles.

The first discovery of SLF in North America was made in 2014 in southeastern Pennsylvania. Egg masses were likely accidentally introduced there on decorative stone imported from Asia. The initial goal was eradication of SLF from the state, but as more SLF were discovered across a larger area (now several counties in size), that goal is no longer feasible. As of early 2020, infestations of SLF have been documented in parts of Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Delaware, Maryland, Virginia, and West Virginia, with confirmation of one or a few individual SLF being found in New York, Massachusetts, Connecticut, and North Carolina. Perhaps most concerning to us in Ohio, is the recent discovery of SLF egg masses in January at a railyard in Beaver County, Pennsylvania, which borders Columbiana County, Ohio.

Scientists have been actively researching the biology of SLF, its host plants, and the potential threats posed by SLF to natural ecosystems and the economy. At this time, SLF is known to feed on over 70 plant species, although host plant preference seems to change based on the life stage of the insect. Tree-of-heaven (*Ailanthus altissima*) is highly preferred by adult SLF and studies are underway to determine whether SLF require tree-of-heaven to successfully reproduce. Unfortunately, it does not appear that SLF causes enough damage to tree-of-heaven to make it an effective biological control for this aggressive, invasive tree.

Heavy feeding by SLF can extract significant amounts of fluid and sap from host plants, resulting in wilting, flagging (discoloration of leaves attached to individual branches), and branch dieback. As SLF feed, they excrete copious volumes of a sticky, sugary liquid, known as honeydew. This honeydew coats any objects beneath feeding SLF, where it is attractive to bees, wasps, flies, and ants, and becomes colonized by a black fungus called sooty mold. Nymphs will feed on the soft leaf and stem tissue of many plants, including native and non-native woody and herbaceous plants. Some native trees that are known SLF hosts include black walnut, silver and red maple, yellow-poplar, blackgum, hickories, black cherry, and sycamore.

Though still being studied, damage to forests by SLF appears to be mainly due to sooty mold coating understory plants (limiting photosynthesis) and branch flagging from SLF feeding. Plants experiencing stress due to SLF feeding or sooty mold can become more susceptible to attack by other insects or diseases, exacerbating the impact of SLF on forests. In addition to plant damage caused by SLF and sooty mold, large swarms of adult SLF in late-summer and fall-flying and crawling in and around yards and landscapes - make SLF a potential major nuisance pest, even though they are harmless to people.

Researchers and natural resource professionals at Pennsylvania State University, Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture, and USDA Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS), have been exploring different methods for detecting and managing SLF, including: tactics to reduce spread on vehicles and outdoor objects, eliminate egg masses, traps to capture nymphs, removal of host plants, and

Meet Our Tree Farm Inspector:



This is our final article highlighting private foresters who perform tree farm inspections. These articles come courtesy of a grant from American Tree Farm System – helping us meet our strategic objective of working more with a broad range of foresters.

Meet Adam Beichler. Adam is our Ohio Tree Farm Committee Program Administrator, which means he approves all tree farm inspections and oversees our inspection program, as well as our arduous third-party audit process which occurs once every five years.

Adam started with Ohio Tree Farm as an inspector in 2011. In 2012 he was awarded Inspector of the Year and shortly after became Area Chair in northeast Ohio (managing the inspections for roughly a fourth of the state). Most recently, Adam accepted the position of Program Administrator on the committee last year.

Adam always knew he wanted to work outdoors and started his education at The Ohio State University with concentration in Fisheries. However, after an internship in forestry he knew that was where he wanted to be. Adam worked in consulting forestry in southern Ohio when he got out of school, but was fortunate to find work in Wayne County, where he and his wife both grew up.

Adam runs T.W.C Consulting Forestry, a professional consulting company at The Wilderness Center in Wilmot, Ohio. The Wilderness Center was opened in 1963 as a nature education

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Cassie Ridenour
OTFC Chair

center. Over the years, they have become involved in conservation activities including:

- forest management
- land trusts – T.W.C can help private landowners ensure that their land remains forestland in perpetuity
- Foxfield Preserve – green burial is offered at this preserve at T.W.C. either in a forest or on prairie land with a natural marker

The forestry work at T.W.C is varied, and Adam works with a diverse range of projects including afforestation (planting a forest where there is none) and development of pollinator habitat. They manage land for themselves and for private landowners, including several hunt clubs.

Adam lives in Smithville with his wife and two boys. His sons are fourth generation in their school district. Adam's advice to landowners: **'Foresters are available for guidance. Get an opinion from a forester.'** ♦



Definitions from the Ohio Society of American Foresters website osafdirectory.com:

- Forester - a professional engaged in the practice of the art and science of forestry. A forester typically has earned a Baccalaureate Degree in forestry from an accredited university.
- Consulting foresters and technicians are self employed or work for a private consulting company. They have no interest in a timber purchasing or procurement entity. They provide forest resource management recommendations and assistance to landowners for a fee.
- Industry foresters are employed by one of the forest industries (e.g., logging company, paper mill, or sawmill) and are often responsible for procuring wood fiber for their company and or managing companyowned lands. They may provide forestry services to landowners such as timber harvest planning, tree planting advice, and forest resource management recommendations.

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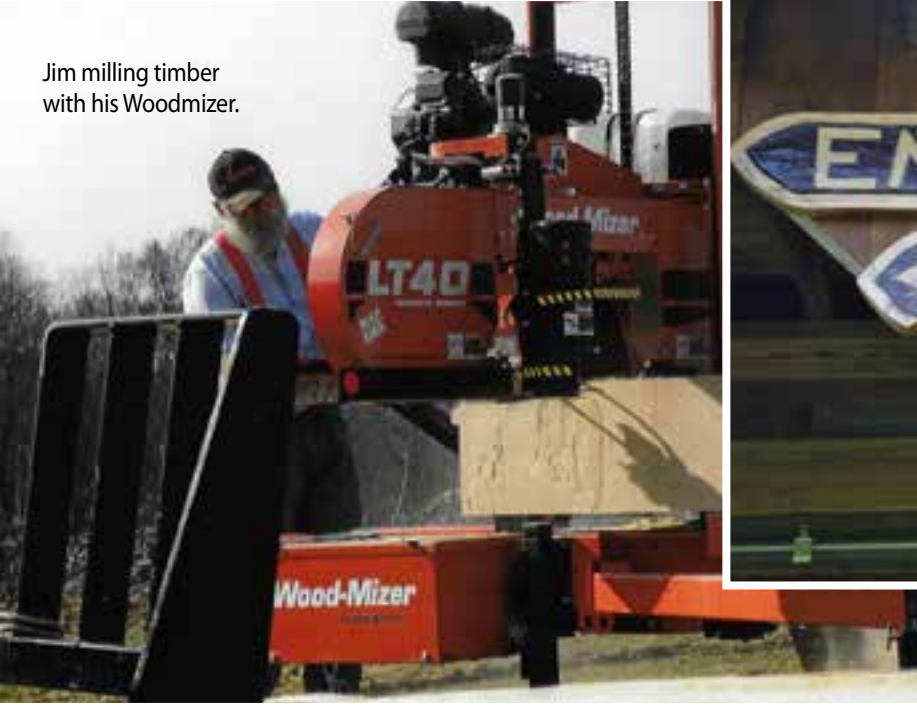
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Jim milling timber with his Woodmizer.



Jim cutting tennons.



The Building of the Emerald Ash Barn

Ryan & Lindsay Clester

Nestled outside of the small town of Lisbon, Ohio sits the beautiful Dillion Fruit Farm and Certified Tree Farm. Jim Dillon, along with his mother and father, Ruth and Art, established the farm in 1977 and it has been in continuous operation ever since.

Art graduated from Syracuse University with a degree in forestry in 1951 and spent his career as a

forester. Jim attended The Ohio State University and received a degree in horticulture with a specialty in pomology (the science of fruit cultivation) in 1976. He also grew up visiting his grandparent's farm in Corfu, New York, located 31 miles east of Buffalo. Jim has many fond memories of helping his father and grandfather felling trees, skidding logs, splitting firewood and stacking it in one of the timber framed barns on the property. Jim has been around farming and forestry his entire life, and these memories of working in the woods lead him to a bold and wild idea.

As the emerald ash borer (*Agrilus planipennis*) made its way from Michigan to Ohio, tree farmers like Jim were made aware of its devastation through forestry organizations and press releases. When the green menace appeared on the farm, Jim knew he was not going to let his trees, a precious resource, go to waste. He decided to turn lemons into lemonade, so to speak, by turning the emerald ash

borer-killed trees into a timber framed barn designed after one of the barns on his grandfather's farm.

Jim knew this journey was going to take a lot of hard work and a lot of time. He and his wife, Karen, decided to retire from farming in 2014 and began leasing the farm to Zach and Denise Miller. The decision to retire gave Jim more time to pursue his goal of building a barn. He began harvesting the ash trees in the winter of 2016-2017 and began the milling process in the summer of 2017. In order to plan out this momentous project, he went back to the family farm in New York to take notes and pictures of the barn that he wanted to replicate.

With pictures and notes in hand, Jim could not imagine accomplishing this feat without the help of some quality equipment. He knew going to the Paul Bunyan show was always harsh on his pocketbook, but it was also the best place to find great deals on the forestry equipment needed to tackle such a lofty goal.

One of the first pieces of equipment Jim bought was a Uniforest 45M skidding winch, which he used to harvest the ash, pine, and hemlock on his property. This skidding winch is attached to a 45-horsepower John Deere tractor and is powered using the Power Take-Off (PTO) unit. This piece of equipment proved to be invaluable to the timber harvesting phase of the barn build and it would have been next to impossible to complete without it. The long hours of helping his father and grandfather felling trees came in handy as Jim felled every tree for his barn by himself.

The next piece of equipment purchased for the barn build was a Woodmizer LT 40 Hydraulic, which Karen may or may not have known he was going to purchase until he pulled into the driveway with sawmill in tow. In his defense, this sawmill has since paid for itself by milling every beam, board, and tenon that went into making this barn. In total, Jim milled 34,431 board feet of timber (BF) for the barn utilizing his mill. Of this timber, there is 30,200 BF of ash, 588 BF of eastern white pine, and 3,643 BF of hemlock. Every tree, with the exception of two, came from Jim and Karen's forest. One tree came from Karen's parent's backyard that needed to be taken down due to the Emerald Ash Borer and the other came from their next-door neighbor's property. In addition to the boards and beams, Jim made every



Jim's grandfather's barn in New York which he chose to replicate.



Continued on page 27

It's All About the Supply Chain

This year we have been forced to learn and adapt to some new language. Words such as *novel coronavirus*, *global pandemic*, *shelter-in-place*, and *social distancing* continue to fill our televisions, news reports, and social media platforms. But the phrase that I am going to focus on in this article is *essential critical infrastructure workforce*, specifically how it pertains to the forest products industry.

In mid-March, the U.S. Department of Homeland Security put out a document entitled "Guidance on the Essential Critical Infrastructure Workforce: Ensuring Community and National Resilience in COVID-19 Response," through the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency (CISA). This document outlined the industries and workforce components that the federal government deemed necessary to keeping the citizens of our country safe, healthy, and fed during the partial shutdown on the immediate horizon. Included was a bullet point that read: "*Workers who support sawmills and the manufacture and distribution of fiber and forest products, including, but not limited to timber, paper, and other wood and fiber products.*" The word *support* deemed the workforce in all segments of the forest products supply chain essential.

On the surface, it looked like Ohio's forest products industry would be able to continue in full operation. However, as this was merely a guiding document, individual states could use this guidance in its entirety or adjust and incorporate recommendations as they saw fit. After some initial handwringing because a neighboring state initially shut down logging and sawmill operations, Ohio's governor accepted the full guidance of the CISA document.

The forest products industry in our state and country was deemed "essential" because it produces the paper products for families and the healthcare industry (think toilet paper

and PPE), manufactures packaging for all the products being shipped directly to individual homes, builds pallets to move essential products around the country, and provides livestock bedding from wood by-products. This essential industry also supplies wooden mats being used by utility companies to keep our power and communications infrastructure operational and wood components to rebuild homes damaged or destroyed by fires and storms.

Great! It sounded like the industry could proceed as usual. Not so fast! It quickly became evident that the upstream and downstream supply chains play a very significant role in whether an industry can continue to operate normally. Let's look at some examples that have played out.

- As previously mentioned, a neighboring state initially shut off logging and sawmilling but chose to keep paper mills operational. How long would that paper mill have run without pulpwood and chips coming in? Not long. Fortunately, the logging and sawmilling components of that upstream supply chain were reopened within a few days.
- Sawmills producing chips for paper making and sawdust for animal bedding shut down because they could not sell enough lumber to remain profitable. This was a direct result of their downstream supply chain, consisting mostly of furniture manufacturing, halting production. As retail stores closed during the stay-at-home order, wholesale furniture orders reduced significantly, and the decreased demand rippled across the supply chain.
- Some paper mills in neighboring states have temporarily shuttered their doors due to a significant decrease in demand for their core product. With so many people working from home, and not printing documents for meetings and events, these mills lost much of their downstream supply chain.

- A mill closure in turn affects many upstream supply chain components such as loggers, sawmills, and woodyards, but also industries such as trucking, chemicals, and contract maintenance suppliers. Fortunately, Ohio supported the trucking industry by keeping rest stops open and allowing vendors to supply food to this vital supply chain.

There are many more examples of supply chain disruption impacting the industry which have not been observed by the general public or thought about by officials making essential workforce decisions. We have all seen the news reports and videos of milk producers dumping product down the drain because their supply chain was interrupted. We don't see reports of loggers losing markets, sawmills closing, and furniture shops shutting down, even though the long-term financial effects may be the same to those in the forest products industry. This year, it became very evident that if any one link in a given supply chain is removed, the supply chain as a whole is affected quickly and dramatically.

The good news is that as soon as toilet paper started getting scarce, the importance of the forest products industry, and its necessary supply chain components, were brought to the forefront. I think a lot of people took notice for the first time, that this very down-to-earth, resilient, and sustainable industry was out front leading the way and ready to support them through the COVID-19 pandemic. ♦





Pulpwood and logs loaded and ready for delivery. Photos by the author unless otherwise noted



Without a final destination, logs that would otherwise be sent to the mill and processed into a final product, now sit on the landing. Photo courtesy of Jake Peer



Financial loss was not limited to the retailers forced to shut their doors during the stay-at-home order; decreased demand was felt by loggers, mills, and manufacturers as well.

Working Woods Learning Forest continued from page 15

- Trail creation and interpretive signage
- The development and distribution of a Small Woodland Owner Management Manual to assist small-parcel owners in making land stewardship decisions if they don't have access to a professional

Holden Forests and Gardens is grateful to the many collaborations that support this venture to, as our vision states, ensure forests are “vibrant places where trees, plants, and people thrive.” Division of Forestry’s state foresters, The Wilderness Center Consulting Forestry, and other institutions

and agencies such as Cleveland State University, United States Department of Agriculture’s Natural Resources Conservation Services, and ODNR Division of Wildlife have been invaluable partners for the Working Woods project. ♦

A small scale demonstration of shiitake, oyster, and reishi mushroom logs, using branches cut from the tree tops remaining after timber harvest. Mushroom logs can provide an interesting woodland hobby or secondary income from selling culinary or medicinal mushrooms.



For more information, please visit our website at holdenarb.org. To search our Landowner Library and Toolkit search woodland owner resources. Any inquiries or questions about the project are welcome and can be directed to jmiller@holdenarb.org or (440) 946-4400 extension 117.

Wild Wonders in the Woods continued from page 17

they will change once again to regain their previous aquatic features. Without a doubt, the red-spotted newt is well adapted to be successful within a wide range of environmental conditions.

Signs to Look for

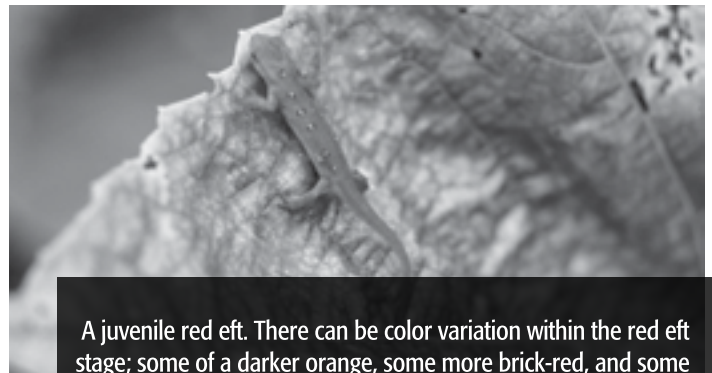
Vernal pools are great places in late winter thorough spring to look for breeding red-spotted newts. Hundreds of eggs are laid, attached to vegetation in the pool. Eggs hatch roughly 3-5 weeks later. Three months pass, and red eft emerge from the pool in late summer/early fall. Red efts are most active during a rainy day or shortly after a rain shower during the summer months. As is the case with other amphibians (and reptiles), winter is not a great time to see red-spotted newts, however adults may

be seen moving sluggishly about under the ice of a pool or pond. Red efts survive the winter by taking shelter under rocks, logs, within crevices, and other natural areas where they are protected from freezing temperatures.

Wrapping it Up

The red-spotted newt has one of the most complex and variable life cycles of any North American salamander. That is saying something, as the United States is quite diverse when it comes to salamanders. Ohio, too, has an impressive 24 species of salamanders, including

the red-spotted newt. To learn more about these silent amphibians, see OSU Bulletin 941 “Getting to Know Salamanders in Ohio: Life History and Management” at <http://go.osu.edu/salamanders>. ♦



A juvenile red eft. There can be color variation within the red eft stage; some of a darker orange, some more brick-red, and some are dark reddish-orange. Photo credit Linda Haugen, bugwood.org.

Focus on Forest Health continued from page 19

the application of insecticides. One strategy involves the removal of nearly all tree-of-heaven from an area, forcing SLF to congregate on the remaining (ideally male, non-seed-bearing) trees, which are treated with a systemic insecticide, acting as trap trees. In infested areas, the public has been enlisted to help scrape and destroy egg masses and make reports of SLF sightings.



Here in Ohio, planning is underway by agencies and organizations including the Ohio Department of Agriculture (ODA), Ohio Department of Natural Resources, Ohio State University Extension, and USDA Animal AND Plant Health Inspection Service, among others, for outreach and education on SLF, detection survey, and management strategies. While eastern Ohio is closest to any known SLF infestation, and special attention will be paid to surveying for SLF there, it could appear anywhere due to the potential for accidental long-distance human assisted spread.

Please remain vigilant for SLF when you are outdoors this summer and fall, especially on or near tree-of-heaven! If you suspect you have found SLF nymphs, adults, or egg masses, please try to collect the specimen, or at least get a quality photo, and report your sighting by one of the following methods: visit the ODA's Invasive Pests webpage, contact ODA's Plant Pest Control Section at (614)728-6400 or plantpest@agri.ohio.gov, or use the Great Lakes Early Detection Network (GLEDN) smartphone app. ♦

The Building of the Emerald Ash Barn continued from page 23

one of the 230 oak pins that hold the joinery together.

The third piece of large equipment purchased for this barn was a Makita chain mortiser. This tool helped to make quick(er) work of the numerous mortises used throughout the build. Jim received help from Zach when it came time to make the mortise and tenons and put the bents together. Having built the barn on a fruit farm, they already had equipment that came in handy when raising the bents and putting on the floor joists. On raising day, family and friends came to help raise the bents and join them together with the oak pins.

Once the frame was up, it was time to add the siding. The siding was cut from salvaged hemlocks that once grew on one of the most scenic areas of the tree farm. The farm is adjacent to the Little Beaver Creek and has native eastern hemlock growing around the ravines. These hemlocks had their tops blown out during a storm, making them the perfect candidates to become siding and doors for the barn.

Over the years, Jim has gained a deep appreciation for chainsaw carvings. He and Karen even travel around the country attending carving shows and events. While at one of these events, he found a power carver that could be used to build a sign for the barn. Jim milled up some boards and used his new tool to carve the sign for the barn that he has named the Emerald Ash Barn, after the green menace that sparked his timber frame build idea. The sign even has a pair of flanking ash leaves, an ode to the trees that once stood in the forest and will

now stand as a great barn for years to come.

Not only is the Emerald Ash Barn a beautiful piece of craftsmanship; it is also a representation of hard work, ingenuity, and stewardship of the highest caliber. It has already been used as a venue for a family-friend's wedding reception and will now provide a place for folks to escape the sun and eat lunch during their visit to the fruit farm. More importantly, Jim now has a space to work on his chainsaw carvings.

If you find yourself with a free day this summer or fall, it is highly recommended that you make the trip and head out to Dillon Fruit Farm to admire the beauty and hard work that went into the making of this barn.

Dillon Fruit Farm is located at 36108 Kelch Rd, Lisbon, OH 44432.



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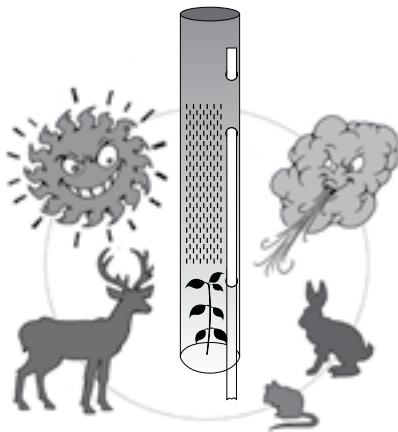
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Calculate the dollar value of trees using **i-Tree MyTree** - a free online tool by the US Forest Service.



Take children outside to an area with trees. Choose a few trees, identify their species, and measure their circumference (see photo).

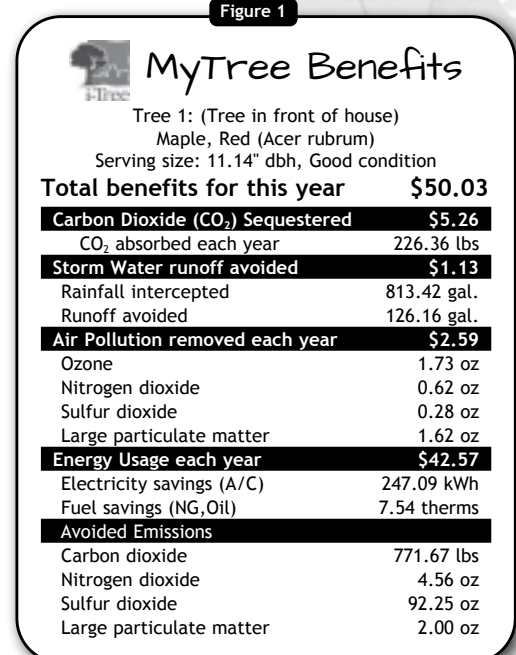
Next, go to <https://mytree.itreetools.org/> and follow the instructions to produce a simple "nutrition-style" label that shows a tree's benefits (see Figure 1).

Complete the Tree Value Chart below and reflect:

- Why is it important to care for trees?
- How does the value of one tree compare to the value of other trees?
- Do trees with a larger circumference provide greater values? Why do you think that might be?

Tree Value Chart

Common Tree Name	Circumference	Notes On Tree Health	Dollar value



In Ohio, PLT is sponsored by the Department of Natural Resources Division of Forestry and Project Learning Tree - Ohio

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For more activity ideas and materials:

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- Contact your Ohio PLT State Coordinator:
Sue Wintering, plt@dnr.state.oh.us, 614-265-6657
- Visit shop.plt.org

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REGIONAL WOODLAND INTEREST GROUPS UPDATE

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from each other and
natural resource experts!*

Northeastern Ohio Forestry Association

The last three months have been a drag for most of us. Stay-at-home orders, newscasts full of doom and gloom, and face masks suggested when you go out for necessities. On the bright side, we didn't get bombarded with political ads for the rescheduled primary elections. But, like everyone else, NEOFA has cancelled, rescheduled, and cancelled again our monthly programs and annual banquet.

So, how did we spend our stay at home time? We worked a lot in our woodlots. Some of us got out and helped get cost-share tree planting jobs done and worked together cleaning up after two tornados touched down in Columbiana County. Of course, this was done practicing social distancing and following state health guidelines. Looking ahead, we are planning fall programs, and even hoping to have a late summer twilight tour. Watch our newsletter and Facebook for updates. Stay safe and have a healthy summer.

For more information on NEOFA, contact Mitch Cattrell at NEOFA2@aol.com or call at (330) 429-9734.

Northwest Ohio Woodland Association

The NWOWA meets four times a year and our last meeting on July 11, 2020 at the Schreiner Custom Stairs and Millwork – Fostoria was cancelled due to COVID-19.

The last meeting of the year will tentatively be scheduled for October 17 from 9:30 am to noon. This meeting will involve a discussion of how the Metro Park District in Lima manages its woodland and uses some of the wood in the restoration of an old barn.

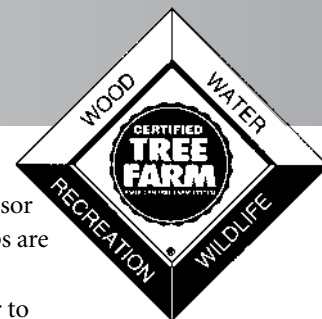
This last meeting will involve 2021 program planning and officer elections along with the program.

For more details on the Northwest Ohio Woodland Association and future meetings contact Keshia Kraot at (419) 424-5004.

East Central Ohio Forestry Association

In March, ECOFA board members made the difficult decision to cancel programming until further notice due to the health risks associated with COVID-19. We hope to start our monthly meetings again soon seeing as our regular meeting location, the Dover Public Library, is opening with limited services and hours in July. Please refer to our newsletter and public Facebook group for updates. If you would like additional information or have questions about ECOFA, please contact Jeremy Scherf, Central Region Service Forestry Coordinator, at Jeremy.Scherf@dnr.state.oh.us. Stay safe!

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