



VERMONT WOODLANDS ASSOCIATION

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2009 Tree Farmer of the Year Tour - October 17

DERBY- Members of the public are invited to attend a Forest Land Tour of Pine Hill Farm owned by Trevor Evans, the 2009 Tree Farmer of the Year. The tour will be held on October 17th from 8:45AM to 5:00PM. Evans and a team of foresters have created a program that promises to be educational and enjoyable.

Evans' property, simply and appropriately called "The Treefarm," consists of almost 1000 acres that he's acquired in bits and pieces over 28 years. Within the last 15 of those, he has planted 6000 trees, very selectively harvested wood, developed areas for wildlife habitat, and has developed the ambitious goal of returning areas of the land to what is called a "4-stage forest," where a natural progression of open space, shrubs, young trees, and mature trees exist together. Evans is a spokesperson for low-impact logging and integrating wildlife habitat improvement.

The day's activities will begin with coffee at 8:45AM followed by a welcome and introduction by Put Blodgett, Vermont Woodlands President. Evans will then give a history of the Tree Farm. Consulting Forester, Ross Morgan will discuss the management plan and lead the group on a tour of a sugar maple stand and a hemlock stand, along with George Buzzell, retired Orleans County Forester, and birding specialist Carolyn Boardman. A Southern Style lunch will be served and guest speaker, author, and UVM Professor, Thom McEvoy will present on "Essential Elements of Selling Timber." After lunch, Evans and naturalist/birding specialist Jayson Benoit from the NorthWoods Stewardship Center, will lead a tour of a white pine and red pine plantation with transplant planting, crop tree pruning, apple tree pruning and release, and invasive species removal demonstrations. The day will end with a walk on a recreational trail through northern hardwoods that has ample signs of wildlife. The trail project measures the effects of recreational trails on wildlife movement before, during and after construction by monitoring browsing, scat, tracks, other indicators, and movement with infrared cameras.

There is no cost for this tour, but pre-registration is required by October 1st. Please visit www.vermontwoodlands.org for directions and the registration form.

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