



Membership Newsletter

Vol. 6, No. 2

December 2009

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2009 Tree Farmer of the Year Tour

Trish Pelkey

More than 70 people gathered in Derby on October 17th for the 2009 Tree Farmer of the Year tour at Pine Hill Tree Farm, owned by Trevor M. Evans. We were treated to incredible views of Vermont and Canada and a beautiful, and chilly, fall day.

The day began with Put Blodgett, Vermont Woodlands' President, welcoming the group and thanking Trevor for having us all there. Put talked about the Walk in the Woods Series as well, and announced that Vermont Woodlands will be hosting the 2010 American Tree Farm Convention in Vermont on July 13-15, 2010.

Trevor welcomed everyone and thanked several of the people there for the help and assistance they have given him with his Tree Farm. He also took a moment to honor both the work and the memory of his friend and County Forester, George Buzzell, who had passed away just two weeks ago. George was instrumental in a lot of the work that had been done on the property. Ross Morgan, Trevor's consulting forester, gave an overview of the Tree Farm before the participants were divided into three groups for the first round of tours.

Ross led Group A on a tour of a sugar maple stand pointing out the even-aged growth of the second generation of species growing in the area. He also talked about the future plans for that stand and showed a stocking graph of the area that he had made.



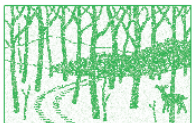
The view from Trevor's property.



Participants of the 2009 Tour

Our very gracious host had a traditional Tennessee BBQ brought in and with the help of his wife Stefanee, daughter Angela, and friend Mathew Lyons, there was plenty of food, warm drinks, and homemade goodies to get us through the day! After lunch, Thom McEvoy led a discussion on the essential elements of selling timber and offered materials for attendees to take with them.

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News from the Tree Farm Program

In Preparation for 2010 Tree Farm Convention

Kathleen Wanner

When the invitation arrived for Vermont to host the 2010 Convention, I was thrilled. I love a good party ... and planning a good party is even more satisfying than attending a good party. In fact, my husband would tell you that I tend to go into withdrawal if I don't get the occasional opportunity to fill my house with people and feed them... not that y'all are coming to my house for the 2010 Convention.

After the euphoria wore off, reality set in and I realized that I had never even attended a National Tree Farm Convention. I'd been to two Leadership Conferences but never a Convention. So, hastily, I made my plans to go to the 2009 Convention in Washington, DC on September 28th. The timing wasn't exactly the best since we had a big wood industry soiree on September 26-27, the Fine Furniture and Woodworking Festival in Woodstock, which is always a marathon event.

The Convention in DC was not the typical Tree Farm Convention since it didn't include a typical Field Day. Rather, than traipse the woods we traipsed the "halls of the hill" ... Capital Hill, that is. Thanks to the unflagging efforts of the American Forest Foundation's Rita Neznok, we had appointments to meet our Congressional delegation and talking points to help us sound intelligent.

There are several bills in the House and the Senate that are particularly important to forest landowners. We fought a hard battle to see the passage of the 2008 Farm Bill but our (and your) work is never done when it comes to adding voices to the chorus. In Vermont, we are very fortunate. Our delegation made up of Congressman Peter Welch and Senators Patrick Leahy and Bernie Sanders are very supportive of our working woodlands. They are also very accessible. It's

very important that they hear from us about the issues of critical importance.

We delivered a message of thanks to Rep. Welch for co-sponsoring the Thompson Conservation Easement Tax Incentives Bill (HR 1831), the Climate Bill (HR 2454), and the No Child Left Inside Act (HR 2054). We asked the Congressman to cosponsor the Pingree Forest Carbon Incentives Bill (HR 2880), The Childers Estate Tax Improvements Bill (HR 1986), the Thompson Family Farm Preservation and Conservation Estate Tax Act (HR 3524); and to join the Healthy Forest Caucus.

We delivered a message of thanks to Sen. Leahy for the "wood collaborative" grants we have received to foster Tree Farm and Vermont Woodlands, for cosponsoring the Shaheen-Snowe Forest Carbon Incentives Bill (S 1576), and for his efforts in passage of the 2008 Farm Bill. We also expressed concerns about the Technical Service Provider requirements under EQIP, and asked for his support of the Baucus Conservation Easement Tax Incentives Bill (S 812), and the No Child Left Inside Act (S 866).

We delivered a message of thanks to Sen. Sanders for his vote on the 2008 Farm Bill, cosponsoring the Shaheen-Snowe Forest Carbon Incentives Bill (S 1576), the Baucus Conservation Easement Tax Incentives Bill (S 812), and the No Child Left Inside Act (S 866).

I know I've just given you a lot of technical information that may not mean much to you right now. However, I think it's important to let you know that our delegation in Washington is responsive to its constituency and when the call goes out to send a message of thanks or a request for support, it's

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President's Column

If You Are Enrolled In Current Use...

In the last days of the 2009 Legislative session, as lawmakers struggled to create a balanced budget, the Use Value Assessment program (more commonly called Current Use) was targeted for savings. Proposals were made to cap per acre values at \$4000, \$3000 and \$5000, above which land would be taxed at full market value. Enough legislators stood firm to prevent hastily-conceived ideas from being implemented, but the Legislature did request that ideas be formulated to lower the cost of UVA by \$1.6 million through savings and increased income. Later, an additional \$28 million deficit was forecast, perhaps requiring an even greater cut to Current Use.

Subsequently, a committee was formed by representatives from organizations committed to the importance of Current Use policy to “the working landscape” of farms and forests. The represented organizations are: Vermont Farm Bureau, Rural Vermont, Vermont Woodlands Association, Vermont Natural Resources Council, Vermont Land Trust, Audubon Vermont and the Vermont Nature Conservancy.

Several meetings were held during spring, summer and fall, with ideas proposed and considered—resulting in some being rejected while others were expanded. Deb Brighton, long-associated with the UVA program, ran many computations of possible results.

One reaction was “just say no” to any change, relying on the Legislature to recognize how important the working landscape is to Vermont’s farming and forestry economy, to clean air and water, to the tourist and recreation industries, to wildlife habitat, carbon sequestration and reducing flood-causing run-off. However, during this same period, a special commission has

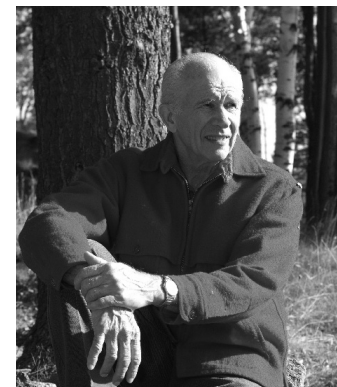
been studying Vermont’s judiciary operations with the goal of saving the state at least \$1 million. Drastic reductions and redirection are being recommended. If something as important as the state’s judicial system is under the gun to find savings, it isn’t likely that Current Use can continue as is. This was made clear by the Senate President speaking to the Forest Roundtable on October 16 at which he stated that if the forestry and ag communities didn’t come up with a solution, the Legislature would. This renewed the dedication of the above-named committee.

Unfortunately, saving the state money, transfers the burden directly to the taxpayer!

After much deliberation, the following proposals, a mix of increased taxes and fees are offered for consideration by the public and the Legislature.

1. Increase the house lot exclusion from 2 to 5 acres resulting in 3 more of your acres being taxed at fair market value. Farm and forest landowners earning at least 50% of their gross income from their land would remain at 2 acres. Landowners owning less than 30 acres with a house would continue to qualify provided that at least 25 acres are managed to Current Use requirements.
2. Change the Land Use Change Tax (LUCT) back to its original 10% of Fair Market Value of the land withdrawn rather than the current pro-rating of the value of the entire parcel. This would result in higher collection of taxes and discourage “parking” land in Current Use awaiting future development.
3. Because these are major changes to the contract between the State and enrollees,

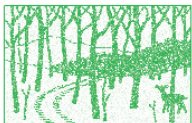
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JON GILBERT FOX

Put Blodgett

Visit our website at www.vermontwoodlands.org for information on the Tree Farm program, workshop opportunities, forestry related programs for students and teachers, and much more.



News from Department of Forests, Parks and Recreation

Sugar Maple Health: The Good, The Bad, and The Ugly

Sandy Wilmot, Forest Health Specialist

Can you remember what the health of sugar maple trees was like in 1988? How about in 1995 or even 2005? Our memories get cloudy over the years. Likewise, it would be hard to recall differences in sugar maple health in your area compared to other parts of Vermont or the region. These are some of the reasons that we established the North America Maple Project back in 1988. At that time, the United States and Canada established 168 plots spanning 7 states and 4 Canadian provinces, with the goal of learning more about sugar maple health.

In the 1980's we were concerned about maple health across the region. There were reports of tree declines, especially in Canada. A Hardwood Health Survey in Vermont showed 14,000 acres of mortality. Acid deposition was a threat causing unknown effects to sugar maple forests. On top of this we had questions about the long-term health of trees tapped for syrup production. Was this an added stress that pushed tree health over the edge?

So, monitoring plots were established from Nova Scotia to Minnesota and south through Pennsylvania. Locations represented declining

and healthy stands, sugarbushes and non-sugarbushes, and spanned varying levels of acid deposition. Standardized methods for measuring tree health were agreed on that relied heavily on crown conditions. Definitions for dieback (newly dead twigs) and foliage transparency (light penetrating crown foliage) were refined and field crews were trained at regional training sites. Every effort was made to collect quality data that would be comparable regardless of which state or province was collecting the data. A centralized database and common data analyst would tease out the answers. Here's what we learned in the first 10 years.

There were no significant differences between sugar maple tree health in sugarbushes compared to untapped stands. Nor did the two stand types respond differently to stress events. This was a major finding for sugar-makers. When trees are tapped according to recommended guidelines, there was no measurable effect on tree health. Remember, this was in the days when spouts were larger and little if any vacuum was used in sugaring.

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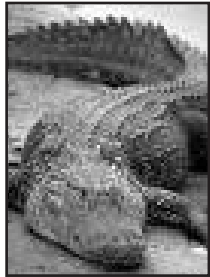
News from Department of Fish & Wildlife

Habitat is Still Key to Successful Conservation

by John M. Austin, Vermont Fish and Wildlife Department



Recently, Vermont Public Radio had a story about wildlife officials in Florida attaching magnets to the heads of alligators as a means of altering their homing instinct. The reason for this experiment was



to prevent the alligators from returning to their habitat of origin because it was now developed with neighborhoods. People living in the alligator's former habitat were apparently shocked and disturbed that these large reptiles would return to the community after being relocated.

A few years ago, I recall a similar story about a residential community in California that had developed in a wetland.



The residents of this community were distraught at the "noise" created in spring by singing frogs.

Now, perhaps these stories speak to our unusual relationship to reptiles and amphibians, but I think there is an important issue that is highlighted by them. Rather than spending the precious time and resources to try and alter an evolutionary trait that has developed over hundreds of thousands of years (an effort I suspect is destined to failure) why not plan the development away from alligator habitat. And, the only surprise with the second story is that the frogs persisted in the wetland in spite of the development which may have been a short term nuisance to the residents.

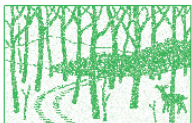
During the 1980s, the Department used the phrase, "Habitat is the Key," to highlight the important connection between habitat

conservation and species survival. Some old adages should never be forgotten. This message is more important today than ever before as we face the continuing challenges of habitat loss and degradation. As a result of our emphasis on this conservation principle we have restored common loons, peregrine falcons, and osprey. We are reintroducing spruce grouse to suitable habitat in the Victory basin. We are acquiring unique habitat in Vernon that supports the endangered spotted turtle. We have protected the endangered black racer snake by working with our state partner, the Vermont Agency of Transportation, to manage critical habitat for that species. The list of success stories associated with habitat conservation goes on and on.

As the Department and other partner organizations in Vermont move forward with wildlife conservation efforts, we will face new challenges in a new era regarding energy development, increasing use of public lands, new diseases, lack of financial resources, changing population demographics, and a changing climate. As we collectively move into this new era of wildlife conservation, we must not forget this principal – Habitat is the Key to Conservation Success. It always has been and always will be. I hope and trust that we can make better decisions and use our limited resources more wisely than was the case with the news stories from other areas around the country.

ACORN A CoOperative Resource Network
for the WEST and DEERFIELD WATERSHEDS of southern Vermont

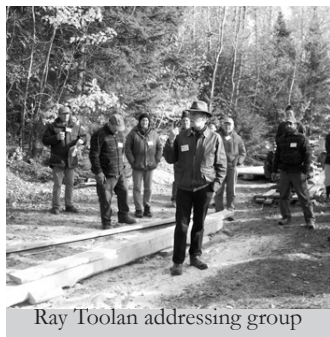
Vermont ACORN is a website for woodland owners that contains a monthly feature as well as a wealth of information on forest ecology, tree identification, forest types, wildlife, insects and diseases, invasive plants, recreation and forest management. For more information on ACORN visit www.vtacorn.net.



Tree Farm Tour, *continued from cover*

Put Blodgett and Tree Farm Committee Chairman Clark Bothfeld presented Trevor with his Tree Farmer of the Year sign and a very emotional Trevor again thanked the folks, both past and present, who have helped him with his Tree Farm.

After the sign presentation participants



Ray Toolan addressing group



Alaskan Saw



Bridge made with Alaskan Saw



Farley Brown addressing group



Trevor and family with sign

broke back into their groups for the afternoon tours. Group B was led by Dan Pittenger, who is working on his senior project at Sterling College. Dan has been working with Trevor on a new recreational trail taking into account some of the aesthetics the family wanted left throughout the trail. He is hoping that once the first snow falls the motion cameras that are currently monitoring the wildlife can be removed and tracking of the animals will take over. So far there has been over 11,000 hours of wildlife activity tracked on the cameras.

Group C was led by Trevor, who demonstrated some examples of planting acorns, (not always the best way to start regeneration as the squirrels and chipmunks will often find these planted nuts), and some pruning techniques on red and white pines and apple trees. He offered folks in the group the chance to try any of the demonstrations.

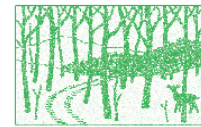
The only down side of Trevor's tour was the discovery of not just a couple, but many, honeysuckle plants. This exotic in-

vasive plant (exotic – an introduced plant; invasive – a plant that alters or displaces native plants) is somewhat shade tolerant and does need to be removed. A discussion followed on the best way to remove these plants, from pulling them out of the ground to herbicide being placed on the cut stems. Pulling these plants in their latter stage is nearly impossible, as it likes nothing more than having its roots broken so that it can send new growth up at each of the broken root spots. Pulling the plants when they are single smaller stems is more successful, but you need to pull them slowly and carefully so you don't break their roots. Applying herbicide is effective but very time consuming. Once you have cut the stem you need to place 1-3 drops of herbicide (41% Roundup has been very effective for this) on the exposed cut surface of the stem. The best time of the year for this is in October and November when the plant is drawing nutrients into its roots and therefore drawing the herbicide down as well.

Jayson Benoit also talked a lot about the natural communities (assemblages of plants and animals that are found recurring across the landscape under similar environmental conditions where natural processes prevail) around Trevor's property.

Before heading back to the woods for the final tour, Dan Pittenger demonstrated an Alaskan Sawmill and participants were able to see an example of a bridge Trevor is making to use with a low-impact skidder when he does his next thinning. Ray Toolan, Orleans County Forester gave a review of the history and a projection of the future of Vermont's forests.

The groups all met up one last time for some coffee and tea before heading home. Vermont Woodlands would like to thank Trevor, Stefanee and Angela for their generous hospitality and for letting us see what an incredible Tree Farm they have.



Ever Thought About Becoming a Sugarmaker?

Rick Marsh, Vermont Maple Sugar Makers Association

Have you ever thought about becoming a sugarmaker or wondered what it would take to get involved, well now may be the perfect time to do just that. Even though the world's economy has been on a slide downward for the past couple of years the maple industry is on a big upswing. The world demand for pure maple products has never been greater and the only place in the world pure maple syrup can be made is here in our little corner of the world with the state of Vermont sitting right in the middle of it all. No wonder Vermont is so well known for MAPLE!

With the rising demand for Vermont maple products comes the need to produce more maple syrup each year and that's sometimes hard to do seeing we depend so heavily on Mother Nature to help us with that each spring. As a way to increase production many of our sugarmakers are now looking to rent trees or purchase sap. Because the housing market has dropped-off, the need for lumber has also fallen. Therefore the demand for maple logs is not what it once was, so it may be a perfect time for woodlot owners to start thinking about generating an income from their maple trees without cutting them down.

Just recently there was a study done by a group in Quebec which once again showed a greater return of income to the landowner over a ten year period of time when their maple trees were used for maple syrup production vs. lumber. For years many of us were under the notion that if a tree has been used for maple syrup production, it can never be harvested for timber and the value of the tree has been greatly depleted. Well that's not exactly true anymore. There is now a growing market for the section of the tree that was used for maple production, it's called "character wood"

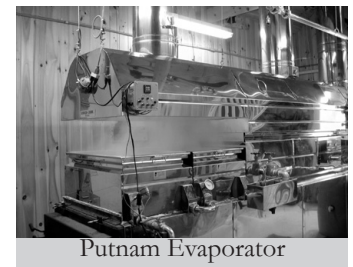
or "tap hole lumber" and when used for furniture or flooring it not only looks beautiful but it creates a great conversation piece. We now have companies asking our members for this type of lumber.

There are several different ways you can start receiving income from your maple trees, and when I say maple trees, I mean both Red Maples and Sugar Maples. Studies by researchers at the UVM Proctor Maple Research Center in Underhill Center, VT have proven in most cases, there is very little difference in the sap from these two types of trees. For some, the easiest method may be to simply rent your trees to someone already in the business and allow them to do the work and pay you for the use of your trees. Another fairly easy method is for you, or a professional, to set-up your woods to collect the sap and sell it to someone that already has a sugarmaker. If you have the time and really want to get involved then you could build a sugarmaker, set-up the woods and do the entire operation yourself. Remember, as in most business ventures, the more you get involved and do yourself the larger the return you will see.

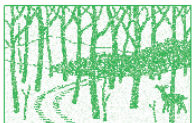
For more information on how to become a sugarmaker please contact one of your county's directors to the Vermont Maple Sugar Makers Association. For a complete list of these directors please visit our web site at www.vtmaple.org and under the "Sugarmaker" heading go to "Vermont Maple Sugar Makers Association" and click on "Officers & Directors". You may also contact Rick Marsh, President of VMSMA at rmarsh@together.net or by calling 644-5482.



Grey Lines



Putnam Evaporator



President, *continued from page 3*

landowners would be given the opportunity to withdraw from Current Use without penalty.

4. Increase the Property Transfer Tax (PTT) for sale of enrolled land from the current 0.5% to 1.25% which is the rate for other real property transfers.
5. Levy a temporary property tax surcharge of \$25 per parcel for three years to finance conversion from paper records to electronic administration. The Tax Department's employees administering Current Use have been reduced from 4 people to 2. These two are currently buried under paper. Electronic record keeping would permit a 2-employee savings to the state at the same time enabling much more efficient administration. The \$25 fee would be capped at \$100 for those owning more than 4 parcels and would terminate after 3 years when electronic administration had been financed.

No Current Use participant is going to be happy with the above, but it is the committee's best effort to avoid hastily-considered cost savings to balance the budget at the end of the legislative session.

Darby Bradley of the Vermont Land Trust has done an incredible job of compiling

the many ideas into understandable documents and I suggest you go on line at: www.vlt.org and scroll down or www.vlt.org/current-use.html to find the Current Use documents for more detailed information.

The Legislature will make the final decisions, so if Current Use is important to you, talk with your representative and senator.

Put Blodgett, VWA President

ANNUAL MEETING
April 9, 2010

Vermont Woodlands invites you to their Annual Meeting on Friday, April 9, 2010.

Please note our new meeting location! Our Lady of Angels in Randolph.

Please visit www.vermontwoodlands.org for registration.

REMINDER

Forest Management Activity Reports are required in order to remain eligible for the Vermont Forest Land Use Value Appraisal Program if you performed any forest management activity. The deadline for filing this form is February 1 of the year following the year when any management activity occurred. You must complete this form and return it to your County Forester to remain eligible for Use Value Appraisal. You can download the forms from the Department of Taxes at www.state.vt.us/taxes.

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Forestry School Level II

Paul Harwood

Vermont Woodlands hosted its second annual Fall forestry school on September 12th and 13th at the Hulbert Outdoor Center in Fairlee, VT. Eighteen people attended the weekend-long workshop to learn about forestry and wildlife topics. The weather cooperated very well for this mostly outdoor event and based upon the comments from the guests, it was a resounding success!

The Forestry School series began in the Spring of 2007 with what has been called Forestry School I. It was designed as an introductory session for non or new landowners or those who have not been actively involved in the management of their forest lands. We strive to cover a wide range of forestry and wildlife topics and the vast knowledge of the presenters (David Paganelli-Orange County Forester, Kim Royar-Wildlife Biologist and Paul Harwood-Forestry Consultant) allows for a very flexible, informal exchange. Typically, the attendees tend to determine the focus of the discussions based upon their interests and experiences. The open, indoor forum on Saturday evening has been a favorite amongst both students and presenters.

The Fall offering (Forestry School II) was started in 2008 and was developed to allow for more in-depth discussions of a range of forestry topics. Having said that; Forestry School I, or ownership experience, is definitely not a pre-requisite. The Fall presenters include Jon Bouton-Windsor County Forester, Kathy Decker-Forest Insect and

Disease Specialist and Paul Harwood. The Fairlee site has been the location for all past Schools, but there is some discussion about other sites around the state in the future. Any suggestions?

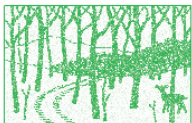
Both schools involve about one-half day indoors on Saturday, followed by an afternoon in the field and an open forum indoors after supper. All day Sunday is spent in the field. All meals and overnight accommodations are provided for a very modest fee.

This Fall's topics included; terminology, tree identification, timber harvesting, soils, boundary lines, forest pests, wetlands, invasive plants/insects, roads and trails and wildlife habitats. The past five school offerings have been attended by over 100 enthusiastic, engaging folks. The presenters have as much fun as the attendees and we look forward to the workshops each season.

Watch for announcements of upcoming schools and plan to attend. Your comments and thoughts are welcome as we strive to offer valuable benefits of membership in Vermont Woodlands. Have a great winter!



Level II Forestry School Participants

Sugar Maple Health, *continued from page 4*

Acid deposition was not found to be contributing to tree decline. Dieback was similar among 3 levels of acid deposition inputs. Although the data on deposition zones was crude compared to current methods, this was welcomed news. Not all concerns were alleviated, however. Some of the higher deposition sites had significantly thinner foliage. This might mean that something was amiss depending on site conditions. But this finding was not consistent at all sites. Whatever link there was between tree health and acid deposition it was not strong. While we still hold concerns for soil nutrition effects from acid deposition, especially calcium deficiencies, the Clean Air Act of 1990 has resulted in significant improvements in air quality over the last 20 years.

Finally, we were able to answer some questions about tree declines. The health of sugar maple was not as dire as initially believed once we implemented our standardized assessments of tree health across all states and provinces. In addition, many of the sites with tree declines recovered within the first 3 years. In the process of studying declines, we were able to develop guidance for forest management decisions using our measurements. Dieback in the range of 0-15% of the crown was normal and considered healthy. Canopy sugar maple trees with 20-35% dieback were likely to recover (80% of the time). However, trees with more than 35% dieback were not likely to recover, and might be good candidates for firewood. The annual rate of mortality of canopy trees was less than 1%, whereas lower canopy trees died at a rate of 2% per year. In addition, bole and root wounds were associated with high crown dieback (>50% dieback) emphasizing the need to tread lightly during management activities that include mechanized equipment.

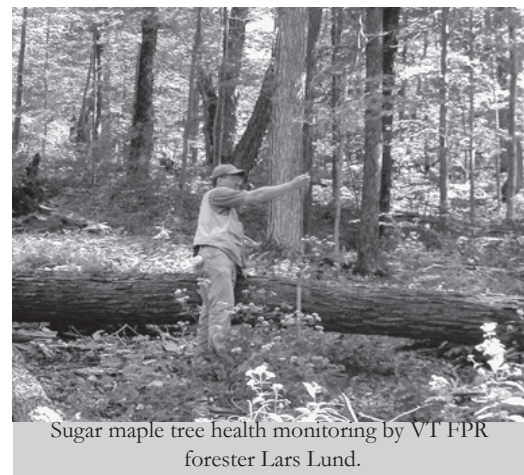
At this point in the life of the NAMP program, federal funds were in short supply. Some states and provinces had to disassemble plots in 1998. Others carried on with diminished federal support until 2001 when the program officially ended. Vermont and a few other states, still continue to collect data on

our plots. What follows are Vermont results on recent stress events and forest recovery.

The 1998 ice storm created a flurry of concern. This sort of tree damage where otherwise healthy trees had limbs stripped or boles cracked or broken, was a serious concern. There was a wave of mortality from the ice impact resulting in 2.3% mortality of sugar maples on affected plots. But surviving trees recovered surprisingly well. Photos taken by Ron Kelley showing trees with 90% crown loss recovering over a 3-4 year period. Calculations of above-ground carbon storage in live trees on NAMP plots showed an increasing trend from 1988 through 2007 with the exception of the 5 year period following the ice storm.

Pear thrips defoliation was evident in 1988, 1989, 1993, and 2007. A collaborative research study on NAMP plots by UVM showed significant radial growth reductions from the 1987-1988 defoliations, with normal growth not resumed until 1990-1991. This study also found that low calcium sites consistently had lower radial growth rates than high calcium sites.

Droughts affected forests in 1988, 1995, 1999 and 2001. The long-term effects of the 1999 and 2001 droughts continued to be evident through 2007, and are implicated in the population explosion of forest tent caterpillar of 2003-2006. These native insects persisted on



Sugar maple tree health monitoring by VT FPR forester Lars Lund.

continued on page 11

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Sugar Maple Health, *continued from page 10*

some NAMP plots for 4 years in a row, with resulting mortality in 2007 of 1.6%. Stands with greater tree diversity were less likely to have significant defoliation.

Non-native invasive plants are an increasing concern as they shade native plants and reduce regeneration success. Our data shows that nearly 25% of NAMP sites had at least one species of invasive plants present in 2005. Early intervention is the key.

I would be remiss if I didn't mention future issues that will affect forest health. The Asian long-horned beetle is right across our border in Massachusetts. This is a tree killer. Be on the lookout. A more subtle sugar maple health concern comes from climate change. Future predictions don't bode well for growing conditions that favor sugar maple. For now let's try to do everything we can to maintain healthy sugar maple forests.

Tree Farm Convention, *continued from page 2*

a simple thing to do. The American Forest Foundation website is an excellent source of information on pending legislation and includes easy links to submit comment to our delegation through specialized software called Capwiz. (<http://www.forestfoundation.org/public.html>) You can use this website to find out the status of a particular bill and how our delegation voted. I urge you to take advantage of this excellent tool to add one more voice to the chorus. Every decibel helps!

Oh, and don't forget you're invited to my Tree Farm party... July 13-15 at the Hilton in Burlington. Be on the lookout for registration information soon.

Happy Holidays!

Kathleen Wanner, Executive Director



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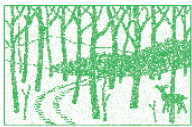
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As a benefit of membership, the Vermont Woodlands Association offers a free subscription to *Northern Woodlands*, a quarterly magazine that offers readers a "new way of looking at the forest." *Northern Woodlands* mission is to encourage a culture of forest stewardship in the Northeast by increasing understanding of and appreciation for the natural wonders, economic productivity, and ecological integrity of the region's forests. Members also receive the VWA newsletter published quarterly and E-News, offering articles of interest and educational opportunities for woodland owners.

New Member Application and/or Donation Form (Renewal notices are sent by mail to current members)

Vermont Woodlands Association is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit corporation whose mission is to advocate for the management, sustainability, perpetuation, and enjoyment of forests through the practice of excellent forestry that employs highly integrated management practices that protect and enhance both the tangible and intangible values of forests—including clean air and water, forest products, wildlife habitat, biodiversity, recreation, scenic beauty, and other resources—for this and future generations.

Annual dues investment (check one)

Land owners and managers

- 0 -100 acres..... \$40
- 101-200 acres..... \$50
- 201-500 acres..... \$60
- 501-1,000 acres..... \$70
- 1,001-5000 acres..... \$100
- Over 5,000 acres..... \$250
- Friend/Supporter..... \$40

Foresters and loggers:

- Individuals..... \$50
- Firms and crews..... \$100

Wood products companies

- Less than 10 employees..... \$50
- More than 10 employees..... \$250

Equipment suppliers:

- All suppliers..... \$100

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Woodland town(s) _____ County(ies) _____

Woodland acres _____ Tree Farm member? _____ Enrolled in the Value Appraisal Program? _____

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