



Membership Newsletter

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June 2014

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2014 Annual Meeting Highlights

When you plan an early April meeting in Vermont, you never know if the weather will help you or hurt you. If it's warm and sunny, folks will tend to do outdoor activities after the long winter. If it's cold and snowy, some will cancel travel plans and just sit tight. For VWA's annual meeting on April 5, we had the latter with pockets of wintry mix and bad driving. However, between unregistered walk-ins and registered no-shows it was still a stellar turnout with about 125 in attendance. Early arrivals had an opportunity to mix, mingle, and enjoy coffee and pastries before Put called the meeting to order at 9am.

Steve Sinclair, state forester, opened the day with an update on AMP revisions and the completed timber harvest study, followed by a "spirited" question and answer session. Commissioner Michael Snyder then provided the legislative overview for the session (see the President's column for the wrap-up on H.587, H.799, H.329, and S.100). Fish and Wildlife biologist John Buck spoke about the strength of our guardianship of the state's biological resources. New UVM Extension Forester Mary Sisock provided an overview of the extension program, her outreach and education mission, and collaboration with VWA and Tree Farm. Jim Esden, Forest Protection forester, gave an informative yet disturbing talk about the big 3 invasives haunting the northeast - Hemlock Woolly Adelgid, Asian Long-horned Beetle, and Emerald Ash Borer. The EAB is of particular concern (see EAB article for details).

As in years past, we were delighted to welcome Tom Berry from Senator Leahy's Vermont staff and Jenny Nelson who works for Sen. Sanders. Both Senators are strong supporters of forestry and very helpful on the national legislative front. Congressman Peter Welch was an afternoon arrival and briefed us on the many forestry related legislative activities he has supported and advanced in Washington. This year's Farm Bill passage was surely a big win for us all and we can thank our congressional delegation for their unflagging efforts on behalf of woodland owners.

VWA was pleased to sponsor the second annual forestry essay contest. The top three winners were announced and presented with their prizes. Thanks to the generosity of the French Foundation, we are able to make meaningful prize allocations of \$1,000, \$750, and \$500. First place went to Grace Butler from Harwood Union High School, second to Harrison Fromm from Lake Region Union High School, and David Fraser from Essex High School.

Executive director Kathleen Wanner gave the customary overview of the year's activities, including an update on our grant projects, the Working Lands Initiative, PLT website, financial management in Quickbooks, educational programs, and more. We had a brief presentation on the Forest Viability Program and then dove into lunch, a Bar-B-Q feast of local chicken, sausage, and lots of healthy side choices.

Annual Meeting, continued on pg 10

News from VT Fish & Wildlife Department

Our Forest Maestro - the Hermit Thrush, by John Buck, Wildlife Biologist

Vermont Woodlands Association offers Technical Bulletins Written by landowners for landowners!!

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Moments after entering my woodlot on a beautiful June morning I was halted by the most ethereal sound imaginable. Was it a protégé of Mozart among the trees? A heavenly flutist, perhaps? Instantly, I recognized the gently trilling notes, upwards, then downwards, then a decrescendo ever so sublimely trailing off at the end. Heavenly, indeed. The musical genius was coming from none other than our very own state bird, the Hermit Thrush. That little olive-brown bird with a hint of rust on his tail has a song that fills the woods as though dozens of thrushes were singing at once. But that is just the way of the thrush family. All of our resident thrushes have the ability to sound like more than one bird due to their ability to sing more than one note at a time. Thrush family members, the American robin and eastern bluebird are easier to detect because they are more visible among their more open habitats. The hermit thrush and its other thrush cousins (Swainson's thrush, Bicknell's thrush, wood thrush, and veery) are forest dwellers. They identify their territories and attract females from within the security of thick understory trees and shrubs.

Optimal hermit thrush habitat is found among the low lying vegetation of forested North America. In the northeastern US and eastern Canada both the northern hardwood and mixed hardwood-coniferous forests provide essential hermit thrush habitat among the multi-storied and multi-aged woodlands comprised largely of sugar maple, yellow birch, American beech, eastern hemlock, balsam fir, and red spruce. Other deciduous tree and shrub species such as hophornbeam and hobblebush are common associates.



Hermit thrushes are quite a hardy lot. Time spent on their wintering habitat, which ranges from

the southeastern US to Central America, can be as brief as 4 months. Usually arriving in Vermont in April they are one of the earliest songbirds to return here. They are also one of the later departures too. Although not actively singing in November, it isn't uncommon to see this 'chubby' olive bird flicking its rusty tail while perched on a low-lying leafless branch as late as deer season.



Once settled on their territories nesting begins

with the construction of a small, cup-shaped structure of mud and woven fibers. The nest is usually at ground level but can also be found in low lying branches of the

Hermit Thrush, continued on pg 7

President's Column

Forestry Legislation in the 2014 Session, *by Put Blodgett*

H.799 Importation of Firewood—protection from invasive pests from untreated firewood. On or before July 1, 2015, the Commissioner of FPR, after consultation with the Commissioner of Agriculture, “shall adopt rules regulating the importation of untreated firewood into the state.” Obviously, this is aimed at the Emerald Ash Borer and the Asian Long-horned Beetle. The bill has passed both chambers and has been signed by the Governor into law as Act 112.

H.587—An Act repealing the authority of select boards to lay out Rights-of-Way for extracting lumber and other materials from private property. This was introduced by a legislator upon request from a town that was sued by a land-locked property owner when the select board did not lay out a R.O.W. The original law has been in effect since the 1800s and serves as a backup if involved landowners cannot agree on a r-o-w to a landlocked parcel. Referred to Committee for Government Operations where it remained thanks to testimony from Commissioner Snyder.

S.100—This bill proposed to preserve the integrity of Vermont’s forests by setting a state policy against fragmentation and by amending Act 250 to expand its jurisdiction to include development within a forest of 1000 acres or more and to modify the Act 250 criteria to protect forest integrity.

This would have included forest roads and large patch cuts. And the interpretation was that this didn’t apply just to large ownerships, but to any forested area of more than 1000 acres regardless of how many owners were involved. The implications of bringing small landowners in a forested tract of 1000 acres or more under the time and financial burdens of going

through Act 250 was enough to cancel the main body of the proposed act and substitute “that on or before January 15, 2015, the Commissioner of Forest, Parks and Recreation shall submit a report assessing the current and projected effects of fragmentation on Vermont’s forestlands and providing recommendations for legislation, if appropriate, for how to best protect the integrity of Vermont’s forestland and preserve large blocks of contiguous forestland.”

Forest fragmentation is of great concern for both timber production and wildlife habitat, and since this bill was sponsored by eighteen of the thirty senators, there is no doubt that it will be back next year. The frightening part is that any contiguous 1000 forested acres or more is still proposed to be under the jurisdiction of Act 250.

H.329—An effort to improve the Use Value Appraisal Program.

In the last days of the 2009 session, the legislature requested a \$1.6 million savings or increased income from the UVA Program (otherwise known as Current Use). An involved group of stakeholders met with the result that H.485 passed both chambers the following session, but sustained Governor Douglas’ only veto. The next biennium’s effort passed the House, but died in the Senate Finance Committee.

Last year’s H.329 passed the House and went to the Senate Ag Committee where it sat for a year. In April Senate Ag struck all of the House bill and substituted its own version which then went to the Senate Committee on Natural Resources and Energy which struck all of the Senate Ag’s version and substituted its version. This



Put Blodgett, VWA President

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.

Forestry Legislation, *continued on pg 11*



News from Audubon Vermont

The St. Albans Town Forest: An asset for People and Wildlife *by Nancy Patch, Franklin & Grand Isle County Forester*

The St. Albans Town Forest is a hidden gem in Franklin County. The Forest has existed as public land since 1953 and today totals 162 acres. It is located within the largest un-fragmented block of forest in the town of St. Albans and crosses into Swanton. In the last few years, the Town of St. Albans has taken a much greater interest in developing this wonderful town asset for the benefit of area residents as well as the local fauna and flora.

A forest management plan was prepared by the Franklin/Grand Isle County forester in 2010, which emphasized the recreation potential while also addressing the improvement of tree quality and wildlife habitat. The plan specifically addresses the management of songbird habitat and in 2012 the forest became a demonstration site in partnership with the Town of St. Albans, Audubon Vermont, and Vermont Department of Forests, Parks and Recreation (VTFPR). A forest bird habitat assessment was completed by Audubon staff. Volunteers, along with Audubon and VTFPR, have subsequently conducted annual bird monitoring and vegetation and habitat inventories. These activities will be repeated in the years to come.

This past winter, songbird habitat improvement was implemented through a timber harvest using an expanding-gap irregular shelterwood silvicultural treatment. The goal of the harvest was to enhance tree species diversity and structural complexity of the forest. Five small gaps, or openings, with areas ranging from 1/5th acre to just under an acre were cut, removing all stems unless marked for retention.

Gaps were located where seed trees including cherry, sugar maple, ash and aspen were present along the edges or in some cases retained within the larger gaps. Potential cavity trees were left and two large trees were cut and dropped into each gap to enhance coarse woody material on the ground.

The logger took the very important step of cutting the tops off the trees by hand, and leaving them in the piles formed by each hitch. These piles of small limbs will provide potential foraging habitat for songbirds as well as protection of new seedlings from deer browse.

As this woody material decomposes it will provide an input of nutrients into the soil. In one gap, a group of larger diameter aspen were left as seed and cavity trees that will benefit Yellow-Bellied Sapsucker and in another gap aspen was cut to promote coppice re-sprouting and a quick regeneration response. The harvested gaps will immediately benefit Eastern Wood-Pewee as they forage for flying insects, and as regeneration becomes established, species such as Black-Throated Blue Warbler, Veery, and Wood Thrush, will find essential nesting and foraging habitat.

These small gaps mimic a natural disturbance and the plan is to expand each gap in future treatments every 10-15 years, to eventually cover the entire stand creating a wide diversity of age classes and a complex structure. This not only helps the birds and potentially improves the timber quality, but is also a sound management strategy to allow the forest to respond to a changing climate.

Town Forest, continued on pg 7

News from Department of Forests, Parks and Recreation

Vermont Voluntary Harvesting Guidelines Project Update

You may recall, in 2013 the Vermont Legislature passed Act 24, which requires the Commissioner of Forests, Parks and Recreation to “develop voluntary harvesting guidelines that may be used by private landowners to help ensure long-term forest health and sustainability.” The voluntary harvesting guidelines are intended to address planning and operational considerations that will support long-term forest health and sustainability of Vermont’s forest resource when implementing timber harvests.

The Department of Forests, Parks & Recreation (FP&R) is pleased to share the progress that has been made on developing voluntary harvesting guidelines for Vermont. Since the effort was initiated last August the following actions have occurred:

- Advisory and Technical Committees formed with diverse expertise, varying interests, and points of view;
- Advisory and Technical Committee meetings (4) held to begin identifying scope and format of voluntary harvesting guidelines;
- Project website developed and launched to provide the public with general information and updates on the development of the voluntary harvesting guidelines throughout the process;
- Statewide public meetings (5) held to provide opportunities for input and participation in the development of the voluntary harvesting guidelines;
- Public scoping survey developed and made available at statewide public information meetings;

- First draft of voluntary harvesting guidelines developed by Technical Committee and reviewed/edited by FP&R staff;

- First draft of voluntary harvesting guidelines currently in the process of being revised by the Technical Committee; to be presented to the project’s Advisory Committee for further feedback and recommendations to be considered/reflected in the second draft of the voluntary harvesting guidelines.

The next opportunity for public comment, including a review of draft voluntary harvesting guidelines, will be offered in late August, 2014.

On behalf of the Department of Forests, Parks and Recreation we thank you for your continued support and interest in this exciting project. As partners in forestry, we at FP&R look forward to working with VWA and keeping members informed throughout this important process. For more information on the Vermont Voluntary Harvesting Guidelines please contact:

Matt Leonard, Project Lead Forester,
VT Dept. of Forests, Parks & Recreation
(802) 879-5677
or matt.leonard@state.vt.us



News from Natural Resources Conservation Service



USDA-NRCS Provides Assistance for Forest Stand Improvement, *Mary Jacobson, NRCS*

Forestry practices offered by the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) are implemented to improve forest stands for specific purposes. Landowner objectives usually include improving timber and forest health and creating wildlife habitat. Forest stand improvement practices retain trees that are a desirable species, age class and form, while removing competing trees to improve the forest. Removing competition from the desirable trees increases growth rates and allows land managers to shape the future forest.

Common approaches to forest stand improvement include thinning young stands, crop or “mast” tree release, and girdling. The thinning practice focuses on removing poor growing stock and retaining good trees evenly across the stand. Crop tree release concentrates attention on individual trees with the greatest potential for timber or wildlife by removing competing canopy trees. Mast tree release is a form of crop tree release but focused primarily on increased mast production for wildlife. “Mast” is the seed and fruit produced by trees and shrubs that is a vital food source for many species of wildlife. Girdling is typically used on poor quality and large overstory trees to allow for regeneration and provide growing space for desirable trees. The girdling practice is also used to create snags, or decaying trees, for wildlife habitat.

Forest stand improvement can increase diameter growth rates and crown expansion by reducing competition for target trees. This helps trees grow to saw-log size more quickly and produces more hard and soft mast (nuts, seeds and fruit). Forest landowners who are interested in increasing

available food for wildlife will find significant increases in mast from remaining trees after forest stand improvement.

Overall forest health can be achieved with these practices as poorly formed, unhealthy or diseased trees are culled to create growing space for healthy trees. Forest stand improvement practices allow the landowner to maintain important tree species that might be lost without good management. As young forest stands transition to older stands, trees that need full sunlight to persevere may be crowded and become unhealthy. Implementing forestry practices allows landowners to maintain valuable timber and wildlife species on their woodlots as the forest matures.

Foresters and land managers are available around the state to determine if forest stand improvement is appropriate on a woodlot. NRCS provides assistance through professional resource managers and financial assistance contracts for implementing habitat improvement and forestry practices. Vermont NRCS has a strong focus on forest management due to the importance of forest resources in the state. NRCS partners with the Vermont Department of Fish and Wildlife and Vermont Department of Forests, Parks and Recreation to work with private landowners on improving habitat and forest management on private lands.

For more information visit the NRCS web site at <http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/main/vt/technical/landuse/forestry/> and contact your local USDA Service Center to schedule an appointment.



Vermont Woodlands Association

Town Forest, *continued from pg 4*

A diverse forest is a resilient forest, and is a forest that can self-adapt when we do not know how the future will be expressed. We can, however, know that with the care and interest of the community and knowledge of resource professionals, the future of this forest will be in good shape.



Skidder pulling low quality beech



Gap with piles of fine woody material with surrounding forest.



Gap close up with retention trees flagged.

Hermit Thrush, *continued from pg 2*

understory. The female lays 4-5 pale blue eggs between May and June with the entire process from egg laying to flying offspring (fledging) taking about 3 weeks. Some fledglings have been observed as late as early August but that is unusual. Hermit thrushes consume insects and berries as the staples of their diet. With shelter, nesting, and feeding needs in mind it is apparent why the multiple layers of forest plants are so important to the hermit thrush's well-being. For them, continuity of forest cover is the key ingredient. As forestland acres shrink to accommodate roads, shopping centers, utilities, and other human development, the remaining forest becomes more vulnerable to disease, natural disaster, invasive plants, and loss of interior forest quality. In other words it simply becomes too small in size to be a diverse and robust forest ecosystem. Conversely, a simple measure of a healthy forest is one rich with hermit thrushes.

Regrettably, I must depart the forest now and leave the musicians to their symphony but, I shall be sure to hurry my return. Although I hope my woodlot has added much wealth to this hermit thrush, I am indebted to his presence as he has made me wealthy beyond compare.

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A FEW HIGH-LIGHTS...

Upcoming workshops and walk in the woods opportunities. Visit our website often for updates on 2014 Walk in the Woods and Wildlife programs (www.vermontwoodlands.org)

Sat, July 12, 2014
Walk in the Woods:
Plum Creek, Island Pond

Sat, August 23, 2014;
8:30am to Noon
Walk in the Woods:
Bird Patches and
Forest Improvement,
Springfield

Sat, August 23, 2014
Tree Farm Tour: After
the storm with Alan
Robertson, Sheffield

Sat, September 13,
2014
VT 2014 Outstanding
Tree Farmer of the
Year Tour, Alan Calfee,
Dorset

Sat/Sun, Sept. 20-21,
2014
Woodland Retreat:
Weekend learning
workshop, Seyon
Lodge, Groton

Sat/Sun, Sept. 27-28,
2014
Forest Festival at
Marsh-Billings Rocke-
feller National Histori-
cal Park, Woodstock

Sat, October 4, 2014
50-Year Tree Farm Tour
with Jim & Ellie Gus-
tafson, Chester

News on Vermont Invasives - vtinvasives.com

The Future of Vermont Ash is in Your Hands

The hanging of purple traps in ash trees has become as much of a spring tradition in recent years as maple sugaring and mud season. These traps are designed to detect the emerald ash borer (EAB), a small, non-native forest insect pest that attacks all species of ash native to Vermont and has killed millions of ash trees elsewhere in the US.

As a forester and coordinator of the Forest Pest First Detector Program—a network of over 100 volunteers who are helping Vermont detect and prepare for EAB and other damaging tree pests—one of the most common questions I hear from landowners is, should I cut my ash trees now?

My answer:

Don't panic. While EAB has been found in all states and provinces bordering Vermont, it is primarily spread by movement of firewood from infested areas and management techniques are being employed to slow the spread. Even when EAB does arrive in Vermont, it may not spread rapidly and landowners will still be able to sell ash logs. EAB damaged wood can be utilized as lumber that can be further processed into furniture, sports equipment, tool handles, black ash baskets, paper and bio-energy products. Furthermore, the liquidation of ash could eliminate genes that help ash tolerate EAB as well as seedlings or a seedbank to populate a new generation.

Plan for EAB now. First consider what's at risk: how much ash do you have; what is its size and quality, and where is it located? State and federal staff encourage woodland owners to maintain ash as a component of the forest; promote a diversity of native species; and conserve the economic value of ash.

If your land is enrolled in the Use Value Appraisal program, you must follow your approved forest management plan or amendment. Work with a consulting forester to protect your interests and your woods. Resources are available at <http://www.vtinvasives.org/tree-pests/information-landowners> or contact your County Forester.

Look up to look out for EAB and keep up-to-date. Woodpecker activity is often the first sign that a tree might be infested with EAB. Learn about other signs and symptoms and report them at <http://www.vtinvasives.org/group/woodpecker-watch>. Stay abreast of new information to avoid short-sighted decisions. Visit VTinvasives and sign up for the e-news.

Be part of the solution. EAB was first introduced to Detroit in 2002, and since then, it has killed over 40 million ash trees in southeastern Michigan alone. With an estimated 160 million ash trees growing along our streets and in our yards, woodlots and wetlands, EAB will significantly impact Vermont homeowners, businesses, landowners and municipalities. Luckily, we have time to prepare and make thoughtful decisions about our woods to mitigate the impacts and make sure that ash is a part of Vermont's future.

Since EAB was introduced, communities and homeowners have saved high value trees by treating them with insecticides. Native wasps have been released as a future biological control, and several government agencies and individuals have saved ash seed. All of this will hopefully make sure our future includes ash trees.

EAB, *continued on pg 9*

EAB *continued from pg 8*

This future hinges upon each of you making informed decisions about your own woods and helping us to find EAB early. Early detection of these invasive pests means a higher likelihood of eradication and minimizes economic, social, and ecological impacts. In several cases it has been alert citizens who found these pests in the first place so you have an important role to play!

Vermont's Forest Pest First Detector Program will provide free training this spring for volunteers interested in joining the front line of defense against the Asian longhorned beetle, emerald ash borer, and hemlock woolly adelgid. Training will be offered from 9:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. on June 7 (rain date June 8) at Essex High School, Essex Junction.

The training will cover a wide range of topics including pest biology and identification, survey protocol and tools for sample collection and how to work with the media and respond to calls from the public about various pests.

In the past two years 118 individuals from throughout Vermont have earned certification as First Detectors. These volunteers have logged more than 2,000 hours

monitoring their local forests for invasive pests, assisting foresters and agricultural staff with site visits and sample collection, developing a forest pest preparedness plan for their community and increasing public awareness.

To register contact Caitlin Cusack, Forest Pest First Detector Program Coordinator, at (802) 656-7746 or caitlin.cusack@uvm.edu. Continuing education credits are available. Visit: www.vtinvasives.org/first-detectors for more information.

The program is co-sponsored by UVM Extension, Vermont Department of Forests, Parks and Recreation and Agency of Agriculture and the USDA APHIS.

Article reprinted from May 29, 2013 Vermont Agricultural Network Blog.

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Annual Meeting *continued from pg. 1*

Tree Farm took the early afternoon spotlight with a presentation by Bettina Ring, Senior VP with the American Forest Foundation on changes and challenges within the Tree Farm program locally and nationally.

Three 50-year and eight 25-year Tree Farmers were recognized for their commitment to stewardship. Three Tree Farm inspectors, including Markus Bradley, Paul Harwood, and Kathy Beland, were recognized for their service to the program. In addition, Kathy was recognized and applauded for capturing the Northeast Regional and NATIONAL Tree Farm inspector of the year award. The national award was presented at the Tree Farm Leadership Conference held in Savannah, GA during February. Kathy has been a Tree Farm champion for decades and gives much to the program.

Also garnering recognition and applause was our 2014 Outstanding Tree Farmer of the Year, Alan Calfee of Dorset, VT. Alan is both a forester and Tree Farmer who was nominated for this award by Shelly Stiles, Bennington County Conservation district manager. The 470-acre Tree Farm is managed for recreation, wildlife, timber, and other assets and

also hosts many events and workshops throughout the year. To see all the great stewardship, you can attend the TFOY tour on Saturday, September 13.

Mariko Yamasaki, USFS research biologist was the day's keynote speaker and closed the meeting with a presentation on forest management to benefit wildlife.



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Forestry Legislation, continued from pg. 3

version went to Senate Finance which struck that version and reinstated parts of the Ag version and sent it on to Senate Appropriations.

Senator Starr felt that a 10% Fair Market Value penalty for withdrawing land within the first ten years of enrolling addressed the issue of parking for development, but felt that after that landowners should have the right to pay the penalty on the current prorated basis if they needed to raise cash for retirement or emergencies. Senator MacDonald felt that the state had more invested in tax savings the longer the property was in Current Use and the withdrawal penalty should be 10% regardless of the length of enrollment. Neither would budge and the Senate didn't have time to find a compromise in the closing days of the session and the bill died.

Two items from the bill were passed as amendments to the Miscellaneous Ag Bill, H.869. One was to give the FPR Commissioner the authority to accept more than the 20% maximum of Ecologically Significant Treatment Areas (ESTAs) in a forest management plan if flood mitigation or

conservation needs so indicated. The other was to allow the Commissioner to accept updated Forest Management Plans up to a year beyond the deadline if circumstances such as a death or service overseas caused the delay.

Some other things to think about:

Green Mountain Care, the single-payer health-care system to cover all Vermonters. How will it be paid for?

There were over 1100 bills introduced in this legislative biennium. Many never made it out of committee, but in every biennium enough do so that our lives become ever more encumbered with rules and regulations. Can we find a balance?

Put Blodgett, VWA President

Applications for new Farm Bill program due June 6, 2014

COLCHESTER, VERMONT
May 2, 2014 - USDA's Natural Resources Conservation Service is now accepting applications for its new Agricultural Conservation Easements Program (ACEP).

"The state of Vermont is a national leader for conservation of agricultural lands," said Vermont state conservationist, Vicky M. Drew. "We look forward to collaborating with our dedicated partners and continuing our work through the new program."

Approved agricultural easements will prevent productive working lands from being converted to non-agricultural uses and maximize protection of land devoted to food production. Cropland, grassland, pastureland and nonindustrial private forestland are eligible.

Wetland reserve easements will restore and enhance wetlands and improve habitat. Eligible lands include farmed or converted wetlands that can be successfully and cost-effectively restored.

Applications are currently being accepted for wetlands reserve easements and will be rated according to the easement's potential for protecting and enhancing habitat for migratory birds, fish and other wildlife.

Applications must be submitted to Vermont NRCS by June 6, 2014. Applications are available at local USDA Service Center and at www.nrcs.usda.gov/GetStarted.

The ACEP combines NRCS' former Farm and Ranch Lands Protection, Grassland Reserve and Wetlands Reserve programs.

Learn more about ACEP and other Farm Bill programs at <http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/main/vt/programs/farmbill/>.

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Stewardship For Your Timberland Investment



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

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.

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Landowners

- 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

Natural resource professionals

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

Wood products companies & equipment suppliers

- Individuals..... \$50
- Firms and crews..... \$250

- VWA Certified Consulting Foresters* \$160
(Subject to VWA acceptance. Call for details)

Name _____

Address _____

Town _____ State _____ Zip _____

Telephone _____ FAX _____ Email _____

Woodland town(s) _____ County(ies) _____

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

Forester _____

Please make checks payable to Vermont Woodlands Association and mail with the completed form to:
VWA Treasurer, PO Box 6004, Rutland, VT 05702-6004.

06/14

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