



Membership Newsletter

Vol. 11, No. 1

March 2015

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News from VWA

The More Things Change ...

by Kathleen Wanner, Executive Director

Part 3... the more they stay the same! My history with VWA spans about a decade and while we all like to think that we are breaking new ground, it's clear from my research that VWA has not strayed from its mission to represent and serve the needs of woodland owners.

We pick up our story in December 1997 with the introduction of Harry Chandler as the new VWA executive director, taking the reins from outgoing ED Farley Brown. Harry is one of Vermont's long-time Tree Farmers; he and his wife Judy were 1986 National Outstanding Tree Farmers of the Year. According to the Strategy Study Committee, the execution of core activities and membership recruitment and maintenance were key to VWA's success. These activities included VWA quarterly newsletters, workshops/tours, annual meetings, recognition and awards, Tree Farm administration, communications with government departments and agencies, partnerships with other forestry/forest products associations, grant programs, website maintenance, and regular mailings of membership renewals. From where I sit, Harry's duties sound very familiar!

There were, however, issues and opportunities during this period that are worth mentioning. Big news in 1998 that many still talk about today was the ice storm that left its mark in northern New England. SFI was a fledgling program for certification; heavy cutting rules were being discussed; forester and logger licensing had not yet been introduced but many felt that its time was coming soon; right to practice forestry was on everyone's radar; the Teacher's Guide was introduced by Northern Woodlands Magazine; landowner liability was a concern; and landowner v. land user issues were rising to the surface. VWA purchased "Access by Permission Only" signage, made available to its members. In 1999, VWA board members unanimously agreed to a focus on "Working Woodlands."

Timber theft was a very serious topic with VWA encouraging landowners to get professional advice, use contracts, maintain boundaries, and know what you own - sound familiar? Although it was not yet called Walk in the Woods, the Association hosted regular workshops and Forestry 101 for landowners. The year 2000 saw the launch of VWA's first annual fund drive to help invigorate the organization and supplement its meager assets of less than \$1,000.

Put Blodgett was elected as president in February 2000 and has been steering the ship ever since. His immediate mantra called for increased collaboration with all forestry-based organizations. Regular monthly board meetings were also instituted in December 2001.

In July 2002, VWA established the Workshop Committee (the pre-cursor to our current Education Committee) and determined that coordinating dates and locations as well as cross-marketing events with other associations would reduce or eliminate competition and conflicts. Fast-forward to 2014 with VWA engaged in the planning of a Forestry Education portal with multiple partners to accomplish this same result.

Change... *continued on pg 11*

News from VT Fish & Wildlife Department

Summer's Vanguard, by John Buck, Wildlife Biologist

Recalling those lush June nights of my childhood when we would play outdoors with only the moonlight

to guide us, caused me to remember another familiar guide of the night, that of the Whip-poor-will. Most vividly I remember the males singing repeatedly, whip-poor-will whip-poor-will whip-poor-will. Not with droning monotony though, but with an avid determination to make every minute of the brief Vermont summer count.

I later learned we have a word for sounds that are pronounced as you hear them, onomatopoeia. The song of the Whip-poor-will is one of those unforgettable melodies that you can hear the vowels and consonants as though the bird were speaking to you. Thinking back now, its song is one of those quintessential early summer moments that ground us with the certainty of the ever changing, ever faithful seasons.

Unfortunately, northeastern Whip-poor-will populations have been on the decline for several decades. The US Fish and Wildlife Service estimates the New England Whip-poor-will population has decreased by an average of 4% per year since 1966. A comparison of the 25 years between Vermont Breeding Bird Atlases (1982-2007) indicates a 77% decrease in the number of known Whip-poor-will survey blocks. The decline has been so severe that the State of Vermont listed them as a Threatened species in 2011. A specific cause is unclear but habi-

tat loss by residential development combined with domestic cat and dog predation, forest maturation, and various insecticides are being considered.



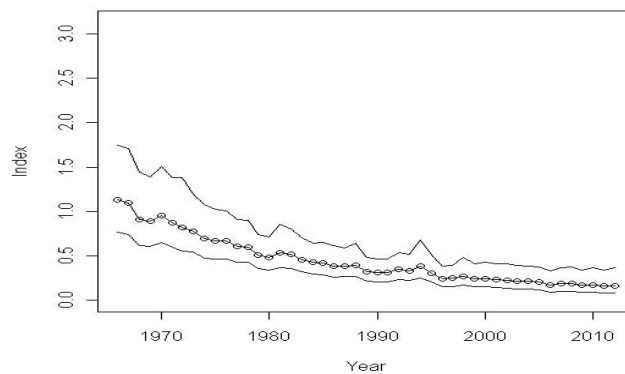
Contrary to many of our forest birds, Whip-poor-wills nest in an understory that is relatively open and free of the density and diversity so valued by Oven-birds, and Wood Thrushes. Their

ground nest has no distinctive construction and is usually distinguished simply by the two eggs and the incubating parents. The peak of breeding is thought to be in late May/early June with the two eggs hatching about 3 weeks later. The Whip-poor-will's

camouflage of mottled brown, black, and white is among the best of the bird world. Adding to their cryptic nature is the fact they often perch in a parallel position

in a branch rather than the more common perpendicular position of other species.

Whip-poor-wills have a relatively small body (8-10 inches) compared with their wing-span (18-20 inches). These proportions make them well-suited for their role as an aerial insectivore (as are Common Nighthawks,



Summer's Vanguard continued on pg 8

Vermont Woodlands Association offers Technical Bulletins Written by landowners for landowners!! Visit www.vermont-woodlands.org

President's Column

An Opportunity... *by Put Blodgett*

I first visited Vermont Technical College in the mid-1940s, staying in the Old Dorm for a high school Future Farmers of America (FFA) state convention. Living on a farm three miles outside the small village of Bradford hadn't prepared me for a dorm full of high school boys away from the constraints of home!

Today, VTC is a far cry from what I vaguely remember from that first visit. The modern buildings on a hilltop with marvelous views is something of which we can all be proud. The present decline in student enrollment has to be reversed — this institution is so important for the education of Vermont's young people!

Come see VTC for yourself. Vermont Woodlands Association (VWA) will be holding its Annual Meeting on March 28, 2015 in VTC's Judd Hall from 8:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Registration, coffee and snacks from 8:30 until 9. Steve Sinclair, State Forester, will bring us up to date on FPR's activities including the Voluntary Harvesting Guidelines; Commissioner Michael Snyder will follow with forestry issues in this legislative session—and there are a lot of them—a proposed 3-year moratorium on Current Use enrollments, forester licensing, possibly subjecting forests to Act 250, and, from a national perspective, perhaps summer logging restraints in long-eared bat habitat, expansion of EPA definition of waters of the United States, etc. Rounding out the morning will be John Buck of Fish & Wildlife, Kendra Gurney on Chestnut restoration, and Orange County Forester David Paganelli showing a power point of his forest management which made him the 2015 Vermont Tree Farmer of the Year.

A lunch will feature VTC's food serving abilities followed by Executive Director Kathleen Wanner's report on a very successful year and mention that this is the 100th anniversary of the founding of the Vermont Timberland Owners Association, VWA's predecessor organization. Mary Sisock, UVM Extension Forester will speak on planning for your forest's future. And we will wind up with well-known expert Charlie Cogbill, plant ecologist, telling us about "The Original Forest of Vermont".

An opportunity for meeting old friends, making new ones, getting up to date on forest issues and seeing a fine educational institution! There is also the beautiful Vermont Veterans Cemetery adjoining the VTC grounds.

Don't miss this opportunity!

Put Blodgett, President, VWA



JON GILBERT FOX

Put Blodgett

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News from UVM Extension Forestry

Searching for Survivors

By Mollie Klepack, Forest Pest Outreach Coordinator, UVM Extension

Researchers in the Midwest are studying ash trees that appear to have survived EAB infestations. Since the discovery of emerald ash borer (EAB) in 2002, the news of the infestation has been bleak. Containment efforts have failed to stop the relentless spread of this ash-killing pest and billions of trees are at risk. Now that the dust is settling after the initial infestation in the Midwest, scientists are able to research whether any ash trees were able to survive. Called “lingering ash”, these trees are ones that have persisted through the infestation.

Initial reports of survival from the Detroit metropolitan area indicated that ash trees had no resistance to the insect. This, however, is thought to be due to the fact that urban trees tend to have limited genetic diversity, since they come from only a few horticultural selections of the species. Once the emerald ash borer spread into more genetically diverse native stands of ash trees, scientists began noticing that a small percentage of trees were able to persist.

Scientists from the United States Forest Service and Ohio State University established research plots in native stands and woodlots in order to monitor the impact of EAB. The researchers use the plots to identify trees that may be lingering ash and propagate them through grafting. (Grafting allows for the preservation of the tree while replicating its genetics for study). Bioassays are then performed to determine if the lingering ash is resistant to the EAB and if so, what mechanisms may be allowing it to survive. A criti-

cal research question is whether the lingering ash are truly resistant (able to prevent an EAB infestation and thrive at a more natural, non-epidemic level of EAB) or if they are only tolerant (only able to survive at a low level of infestation). Scientists are hoping to find truly resistant trees, but even tolerant ones may prove useful in efforts to breed ash trees that are resistant to EAB. To find out more about this research project, visit http://www.nrs.fs.fed.us/disturbance/invasive_species/eab/control_management/lingering_ash/

The research was undertaken in 2010 with surveys in northwest Ohio where EAB had killed most of the ash trees two years before. At that time researchers found that 2.6% of the ash trees were alive and of those 1% of them were healthy. When the researchers went back in 2011 they found that most of the healthy trees remained in good condition, where as the ones with unhealthy canopies had declined or died in the intervening year.

This pattern was replicated in a study undertaken in southeast Michigan in 2010 where 39 ash trees remained alive in a plot after an EAB infestation. When the researchers returned in 2011 they found that most of the trees that had healthy canopies in 2010 remained healthy in 2011, while trees with unhealthy canopies had declined or died.

At both sites, some of the trees with healthy canopies show evidence of past EAB infestation, while others have no symptoms. The implications of this research are still uncertain, but scientists are hopeful that this research may lead to the successful identification or breeding of an EAB resistant ash tree.

News from Natural Resources Conservation Service



Rolling Out the Red Carpet for Soil:

United Nations Declares 2015 as International Year of Soils

By Amy Overstreet, Vermont NRCS Public Affairs Officer

While we might not think about the soil underfoot every day, soil is essential to human survival. Soil grows the food we eat, the flowers and trees that surround us, and provides the foundation for the recreational activities that we enjoy. We walk on it, shovel it, sweep it away from our homes and sidewalks, but soil is a life giving resource. It's often misunderstood, but just as skin protects our bodies, soil protects the earth.

Though we often take it for granted, in its absence we would quickly perish. In 2015, soil takes center stage as the world celebrates the International Year of Soils (IYS), as declared by the 68th United Nations General Assembly. The Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) of the United Nations is heading up efforts along with the Global Soil Partnership.



Healthy soils are the foundation of agriculture. In the face of mounting challenges such as a growing global population, climate change, and extreme weather events, soil health is critical to our future. Healthy soil is essential as global demands rise for food, fuel, and fiber. Soils also play a crucial role in food security, hunger eradication, climate change adaptation, poverty reduction and sustainable development.

As part of my year-long detail to the National Soil Science Division, USDA-Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), in Washington, DC, I had the privilege of traveling to New York City on World Soil

Day, December 5, to attend the United Nations kickoff for the International Year of Soils. I was impressed to learn that the King of Thailand, His Majesty Bhumibol Adulyadej, was instrumental in helping declare 2015 as the International Year of Soils, along with the International Union of Soil Science (IUSS), a global union of soil scientists. The Union honored the King's efforts by declaring his birthday, Dec. 5, each year as World Soil Day. His daughter, Her Royal Highness Princess Bajrakitiyabha Mahidol, was the

special guest of honor in New York, and Norachit Sinhaseni, Ambassador and Permanent Representative of Thailand to the UN, presided over the

2015 International Year of Soils

ceremony. It was amazing to witness world leaders coming together to focus attention on soil. Presentations included messages about the serious challenges that are facing agriculture and food security, particularly in light of the fact that in the next 40 years, farmers and ranchers will need to produce as much food as they have in the last 500 years to feed a rapidly growing population.

Many agencies are working to promote IYS and spread the word about the importance of soil resources including the USDA-Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS). NRCS is producing and sharing brief videos to highlight each of the monthly themes and capture people's attention so hopefully they will want to learn more. You can view these videos on the IYS-NRCS YouTube channel. This is the year to celebrate soil and the many



Soil, continued on pg 11



News from Vermont Tree Farm

A Tale of Two Foresters: Vermont foresters garner honors

By Kathleen Wanner, VT Tree Farm administrator

Jared Nunery: 2015 Vermont Outstanding Tree Farm Forester of the Year

Jared Nunery, Orleans County forester, has been selected as the 2015 VT Outstanding Tree Farm forester. Although new to the Tree Farm program, Nunery has been a strong proponent. In his own words, "I see Tree Farm as an extremely useful tool for both recognizing landowners for their amazing work, and more importantly, an amazing mechanism for inspiring and enaing landowners and connecting them with other like-minded landowners to foster the 'stewardship spark' that we see so often amongst Tree Farmers. This is what first drew me to Tree Farm and why I encourage landowners to become involved in the program."

During 2014, Nunery enrolled five new properties in the program and completed one recertification inspection. He also participated in our Tree Farm 101 program held at Northwoods Stewardship Center. He exemplifies the enthusiasm for Tree Farm that is so critical to its success in Vermont and nationwide.

Paul Harwood: 2015 National Outstanding Tree Farm Forester of the Year

For the second year running, a Vermont forester has been honored by the American Forest Foundation for outstanding service to the Tree Farm program. Paul Harwood was nominated for the award by the VT Tree Farm committee and first selected as the Northeast Tree Farm forester. At the National Leadership Conference in St. Louis this past month, Harwood was selected from a field of four finalists to receive the highest honor as National Tree Farm forester.

Harwood's service to Tree Farm spans 40 years. During this time he has maintained a commitment to grow the program and the forestry community in general. He serves on the Tree Farm committee and the VWA board; launched the first "Forestry School" weekend in 2009; has hosted several "Walk in the Woods" events; and during 2014, enrolled eleven new Tree Farmers and inspected seven properties.

Harwood takes the reins from Kathy Beland, last year's National Tree Farm forester recipient also from Vermont.



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

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Stewardship For Your Timberland Investment

News from Department of Forests, Parks and Recreation

Call Before You Cut...

By Steve Sinclair, State Forester

Timber trespass is a serious issue in Vermont and appears to be increasing over the past few years, particularly with certain loggers employing deceptive practices. Timber trespass occurs on both private and public lands. Many private landowners do not pursue timber trespass cases due to complexity, expense and difficulty in enforcing a judgment if they prevail in litigation.

The State of Vermont has had a timber trespass statute in effect since at least 1787. The 2010 amendments, (13 V.S.A. §§3601-3609), made some improvements, but created other problems related to enforcement. The current statute, like the previous version, establishes a civil cause of action to recover treble damages for the unauthorized cutting, removal or damage of trees. The landowner has the burden of bringing the action to recover treble damages. A new section added in 2010 providing a valuation for logs based on diameter at breast height needs to be updated to more accurately reflect value and to provide a greater penalty. It also added a provision requiring landowners to mark a harvest unit and assessing a penalty if the landowner fails to so mark. The 2010 amendments did not include a provision allowing for recovery for damage to the land resulting from the unauthorized removal of timber.

As one of the largest forest owners in Vermont and as advisors to private landowners, the Department has a vested interest in strict laws regarding trees and forests that are clear and enforceable and can result in relief to injured parties. The Department does not have enforcement authority in timber trespass actions that occur on private land, and does not have the capacity to be involved in such cases.

Perhaps the best remedy for timber trespass is to “CALL BEFORE YOU CUT”. The decision to conduct a harvesting operation, and how to do so, can improve or set back the future value of your land, its potential for economic value, or improvements in forest health and wildlife habitat. If not conducted according to your forest management plan, a harvest could also impact your UVA eligibility.

Whatever the reason for harvesting, a professional forester is uniquely qualified to assist you in a harvesting operation to ensure that your harvest accomplishes your needs and expectations. Contacting a forester before you cut just makes good sense. County foresters with the Department of Forests, Parks and Recreation can provide valuable advice including discussing your management goals and objectives, providing a list of consulting foresters working in your area and suggestions of sample harvesting contracts.

The Department has also recently released Voluntary Harvesting Guidelines for Landowners in Vermont. The sixty-two page guide is broken into six chapters covering planning for a harvest, conducting a harvest, protecting water quality, protecting soil health and productivity, biodiversity and wildlife habitat, and planning for uncertainty. The Voluntary Harvesting Guidelines are available on the FP&R web site: www.vtfrp.org/HarvestGuidelines.cfm



CALL NOW!
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A Guide to Public Resources for Woodland Owners in Vermont

Take advantage of free services available through the Vermont County Foresters before selling timber from your woodlands. Call Now! Before you cut...not after.

To download the *Call Before You Cut* brochure or to find your County Forester, or a VWA consulting forester, visit www.vermontwoodlands.org.

SAVE THE DATE

VWA Annual Meeting
Sat. March 28, 2015
VT Technical College
Randolph, VT

Apple Tree Pruning
Dave Wilcox & John Buck
Sat. April 11, 2015
Location: Dave Wilcox Tree Farm, Berlin

TIES TO THE LAND:
Succession Planning Workshops
April 25; May 9; June 2
(Locations TBA)

Rattlesnakes in VT
Doug Blodgett
July 16, 2015 - 6:30PM
USFS, Rutland

Woodland Retreat:
Weekend Learning Workshop
Sept. 19-20, 2015
Seyon Lodge State Park
Groton, VT


Visit our website often for updates on 2015 Walk in the Woods and Wildlife programs.

Summer's Vanguard, *continued from pg. 2*

Chimney Swifts, and all of the swallows). That is, they leave their forest cover at night to catch bugs, moths, and other flying invertebrates while on the wing over open fields and water.

With these habitat specifications in mind it is easy to see why what few Whip-poor-wills we have in Vermont prefer to nest in the Lake Champlain and Connecticut River Valleys. It is in these regions where large wooded habitats interspersed with hay fields are more common than in the mountainous parts of the state. Helping to ensure a future for the Whip-poor-will is a challenge for forest landowners. But, identifying areas where they nest is very important information landowners can collect. Nesting and singing are closely linked so when one hears a Whip-poor-will, especially in June, there is a strong possibility a female is nearby and a nest will likely follow. The Vermont Fish and Wildlife Department and the Vermont Center for Ecostudies (VCE) have teamed up to identify Vermont Whip-poor-will nesting locations to gain a better understanding of their population to aid in the management and conservation of this iconic harbinger of summer. Landowners who hear Whip-poor-wills on their property during a June night are urged to contact the Department (802-476-0196) or VCE (1-802 649-1431) with this information





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In Vermont, call William Driscoll, SFI Coordinator, at Associated Industries of Vermont, 802-223-3441.



An Update from Working Lands

The Working Lands Enterprise Board is in its third round of grant reviews for agriculture and forestry businesses. A total of 129 applications were submitted totaling \$5,561,125 in requests for a \$1,000,000 in available funding. Decisions on funding will be announced in May.

In January, the 2014 Annual Report was released outlining investments made in the first two years of funding. Of the 74 total project investments, 23 have been completed in the Enterprise and Capital and Infrastructure investment areas, leading to the creation of 25 new jobs, product output increases averaging 25%, aggregated gross income increases of nearly \$880,000. About 25% of total investments to date have been made to forestry and wood products businesses.

In an effort to understand and leverage investments for forestry and wood products, the Board contracted with St. Albans-based Yellow Wood Associates (YWA) to conduct an in-depth analysis of the sector in Vermont. In partnership with the Board's Forestry Committee, YWA is currently engaging stakeholders across all segments of Vermont's forest and wood products economy to better understand the current state of the industry and identify opportunities for future strategic investment or policy change. The goal of the project, slated for completion by July 2015, is to establish a strong foundation for increased strategic support and overall economic growth in this important sector of Vermont's economy.

To date, the committee and YWA has completed secondary research on the forest economy in both Vermont and nationally; distributed over 500 surveys to participants in the Vermont forest and wood products economy and collected 175 responses (31% response rate); completed roughly 30 interviews with participants in the Vermont forest and wood products economy; and conducted four regional focus groups, bringing roughly

45 participants together for a wide-ranging discussion on challenges and opportunities.

SPOTLIGHT ON SUCCESS

Vermont Wood Pellet Company of No. Clarendon received a Working Lands grant to install two new pieces of equipment to improve the efficiency and quality of their wood pellets: a bi-directional auger to reduce the loss of finished material and a counter flow cooler designed specifically to ensure uniform durability. These pellets can better withstand the bulk delivery, storage, and feed systems. Partly due to the improved quality, demand has risen 120% over the last season. This increased demand has directly and positively affected their bulk delivery partner: Vermont Renewable Fuels. They have also experienced an electricity savings of approximately \$600 per month. Vermont Wood Pellet is now close to maximum production.

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The US Forest Service publishes a periodical newsletter called "Forest Matters" on private forest land issues in our region.

To receive the Forest Matters E-newsletter published by the Northeast Area of State and Private Forestry-Forest Service, sign up on the green "sign up for newsletters" button on the NA Forest Stewardship website:

<http://www.na.fs.fed.us/stewardship/index.shtm>

It is a regional newsletter and full of interesting forestry and natural resources news.

Legislative Update

Excerpt from Jane Clifford for Green Mountain Dairy Farmers

At the statehouse, economic news continues to be on a downward trend and budget cuts, increased fees and funding challenges dominate the chatter in the halls and committee rooms. Even though the legislative session is a third over there is a tremendous amount of work to be done and an enormous budget gap to fill!

The House Ways and Means committee heard from a number of witnesses in early February on current use. The committee chair was trying to give the new members of the committee a better understanding of the current use program. The committee is looking at costs and savings. With a budget deficit of over \$118 million dollars every program is being scrutinized. There does not seem to be support, in House Ways and Means or many other committees, for the Governor's recommendations for current use that include:

- Buildings enrolled in the current use program that are presently taxed at zero would go to 30% of fair market value
- Moratorium on new current use enrollments for 2015, 2016 and 2017.

There is a new committee bill that addresses some of the challenges with current use. Items included in the new language:

- The tax (penalty for developing land) shall be at the rate of 10 percent of the full fair market value of the changed land determined without regard to the use value appraisal
- An easy out provision
- One-half of the tax paid to the municipality in which the land is located
- On or before April 15, 2016, the Director of Property Valuation and Review shall publish guidance for the local assessing officials

The water quality discussion continues to be a priority; it has now flowed into at least four

committees on the House side and two in the Senate. H-35 An act relating to improving the quality of State waters is moving to a fourth iteration and is up to 103 pages. As I have indicated before, this is a very comprehensive look at many aspects of water quality. House Fish & Wildlife, House Ag, House Natural Resources, House Ways & Means, House Appropriations, and perhaps even House Judiciary will all be looking at this bill. The challenge is that this all has to be done by March 8th, crossover.

The Senate Natural Resources committee started taking testimony on S-49, their version of the water quality bill. It will be interesting to see if the Senate version eventually differs from the House bill.

OTHER BILLS INTRODUCED THAT COULD BE OF INTEREST

H-107 An act relating to the creation of the Office of the Landowner Advocate

H-108 An act relating to electrical installations

H-134 An act relating to payment for excess generation by net metering customers

H-162 An act relating to slow-moving vehicles

H-202 An act relating to an annual permit for over dimension logging and forestry equipment

S-55 An act relating to creating a flat rate for Vermont's estate tax and creating an estate tax exclusion amount that matches the federal amount

S-79 An act relating to requiring a town vote for each property exempt from the statewide education property tax

The Website for the legislature has been changed and is rather cumbersome at first, but there is a tremendous amount of information there, I encourage you to use it.

<http://legislature.vermont.gov>

Change... continued from pg. 1

In September 2002, the Strategy Committee discussed the need to reach out to more landowners with programs that meet specific needs. While still focused on forest management, workshops would be geared to address other landowner interests such as recreational uses, habitat management, and aesthetics rather than logger safety, commercial thinnings, and low impact harvesting. VWA's current education programs follow this very same rationale.

In December 2002, VWA welcomed Steve Sinclair as the new State Forester. This was the beginning of a long-term and outstanding partnership with the Dept. of Forests, Parks & Recreation. Steve was well versed on forestry concerns, such as the increase in number of landowners and the decrease in parcel size. It was Steve who introduced us to the concept of Backyard Forestry to serve the needs of smaller acreage landowners. Fast forward yet again to 2014 with VWA serving on the planning committee for the Backyard Forestry initiative spearheaded by UVM Extension. Steve also made his staff available for training and education programs - a benefit we still enjoy today!

In March 2003, Harry Chandler resigned as the Executive Director of VWA and in May 2003, Mary Jeanne Packer took over. MJ is my business partner at Ghostwriters Communications who is currently residing in New York State and serving natural resource based clients there.

Soils... continued from pg. 5

things that we enjoy in life which depend on this precious resource. I am confident that throughout 2015, the International Year of Soils will help raise awareness throughout the international community on the central role of soils in our everyday lives. I also hope this awareness leads to the establishment of proactive initiatives and fosters individual actions to protect this priceless resource.



50 States for Good!

On December 17, 2014 Tom's of Maine announced the winners of its 50 States for Good campaign. VWA was thrilled and honored to be the Vermont recipient! According to Tom's, the recipients demonstrate how the kernel of an idea can become something everyone is talking about.

VWA was selected for its commitment to serving woodland owners, including women, Tree Farmers, and next generation landowners. VWA is a Voice for Forestry, striving to ensure that our forested landscape continues to provide enjoyment, clean air and water, wildlife, outdoor recreation, wood products, and a thriving tourist industry for all Vermonters.

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Jeremy G. Turner—Southern Vermont

Ryan J. Kilborn—Northern Vermont

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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

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)

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..... \$100

- VWA Accredited 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.

03/15

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