

Vermont Woodlands Association and Vermont Tree Farm Program

A VOICE FOR HEALTHY FORESTS

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MEMBERSHIP NEWSLETTER



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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. VWA objectives are to communicate the benefits of working forests, recognize exemplary actions of woodland owners and managers, provide educational opportunities, and represent its membership before governmental bodies.

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NEWS FROM VWA

May I Ramble for a Bit?

by Kathleen Wanner, *Executive Director*

As you read in the last issue, change was on the horizon and it's been an interesting, if not fairly awesome, transition. We have closed the downtown Rutland office and I have moved into my new digs at home. I love my new bright, almost-outdoor space with its wall of glass into the backyard. But as one who likes – no, craves – order, I don't love the clutter of boxes and files that still surround me. I pick away at it slowly, each day tackling one or two folders for review and filing, all the while remembering my dear friend Penny who was very fond of saying, "TTT, Things Take Time." And of courses, they do.

The preparation to move into a home office began in earnest during August because, well, I did not have an office

to move into. Years ago, I worked at home but that space has since become the guest and "yarn" room where there is enough "stash" to last a lifetime or two. So, it was an ideal time to convert an unfinished basement area and that means lots of building and banging. And, if you're building and banging already why not just keep going to do what's been on the list for years. It was construction central for several months followed by nearly two weeks of painting. But here's the upside to the clutter this all creates. When I touch something to put it back in its place, I really can consider if I use it, need it, want it, or want to pass it along. It feels wonderful to rid myself of "stuff" that has since collected dust for too many years and that someone else can enjoy for a while.

In the midst of all this chaotic living and after years of planning so many walks in the woods, I volunteered to host a walk in the woods for the Backyard Woods program. The program is designed to engage folks with less than 25 acres and my little Tree Farm at 18 acres seemed perfect. I worried a bit that there would not be enough to see but it turned into a very doable 2 hour walk and talk. Steve Sinclair always said that small forests are a big deal and it's true; they are a microcosm of what we see across the landscape. In a very manageable way, we were able to see and discuss timber harvest on small properties, deer browse, invasive species (of which

I have an ample supply), native plants, boundary lines, special sites, and so much more.

But the world does not stop for my chaos, nor do my responsibilities to Vermont Woodlands and you, our members. It's also been a busy working fall with many meetings, planning, and partnerships. I'm fortunate to be working with so many outstanding people and to have such varied work to do. It's a great day when I can learn something new and I seem often to find myself in the company of folks who can teach me so much. My Audubon partners in Woods, Wildlife, Warblers; the women resource professionals who are partners in Women Owning Woodlands; the Land Ethic Leaders who keep me inspired to observe, participate, reflect; the Tree Farm Committee members who so freely dedicate their time to the stewardship of the program; my colleagues on the Working Lands Board who give such care and deliberation to investing wisely in the businesses that support our working landscape; my VWA board and members whose love of the land and commitment to the organization is inspiring... I could go on forever, but perhaps I've rambled long enough.



PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

Trips to Alaska

by Put Blodgett, *President*

In 1930, a friend of my Uncle Pete's proposed to his girlfriend and was turned down. Rejected and dejected, he decided to fly his plane to Alaska. He asked Pete if he would like to go and Pete, always ready for anything exciting, jumped at the opportunity.

The plane was a Gypsy Moth bi-plane with two open cockpits, one behind the other. Knowing that they would have to climb to altitude to traverse the Rockies, they replaced the propeller with a larger one. A problem arose when the tail came up just prior to lift-off and the longer prop hit the runway. They sawed an approximately equal length off each end of the propeller.

On their departure, they flew over my father's house and he figured it was the last time he would see his brother.

Landing in farmers' fields and buying gas in the nearest towns, they made their way across the country.

Arriving in Alaska, they went searching for a well-known bear hunting guide. Fortunately, they saw him hiding in the bushes as they approached his lonely cabin. Inside, he had a set gun aimed at the door with a string to the trigger that was pulled when the door opened. He was wanted for murder in Texas.

On their return trip they chose a route over the southern states. At one air strip they were given a hard time by the officials. Lombard slipped out the door and started the plane. When he heard the plane start, Pete whirled and

sprinted for the air strip—he had been on his college's track team. Lombard started rolling down the air strip, Pete grabbed the side of the open cockpit and pulled himself aboard. They circled the field, thumbed their noses at the officials and headed east.

In 1951, three friends and I decided to drive two Model A Fords from Hanover to Alaska. One was a '29 coupe, the other a '31 sedan. We headed west and stopped to gas up in Woodstock. Laying out maps on the hood of one of the cars we started to plan our route to Alaska. None of us had heard of the adage 'Failing to plan is planning to fail' and, at that age, probably wouldn't have paid it any heed.

We decided to head north to Montreal and head due west coming back into the states at Sault Ste. Marie. We were shocked at the dearth of vegetation around the nickel-mining town of Sudbury, Ontario. In Montana, The Highway to the Sun had just been plowed open and we stopped to briefly ski on the snowfields with our one pair of skis.

Of the fifteen long days of driving between Hanover and Fairbanks, we only had one day without a breakdown of some kind, but usually a monkey wrench or a screw driver would fix the problem. Somewhere in Montana I laid in a mud puddle and re-bushed a kingpin which was our major breakdown.

Then north to Calgary, Edmonton and



Put Blodgett

Dawson Creek, the start of the Alcan Highway. This highway was smashed through the wilderness to get supplies to Alaska when the Japanese had captured two of the Aleutian Islands. It was still mud and gravel in 1951 and our cars were mud brown with little peep holes where the windshield wipers went back and forth. But at 45 miles per hour top speed we didn't suffer the stone bruises to our tires that faster moving vehicles did and only had one flat tire the entire trip.

A dip in a natural hot spring along the way was a welcome break.

Arriving late in the day in Fairbanks, we camped out on the grounds of the University of Alaska-Fairbanks. Kicked off the next morning, we moved into the Fairbanks dump with the hoboes. It was a handy location, within walking distance of Main Street where there were still log cabins. One night we sang 'Logger Lover' for drinks in a bar. They probably served us drinks to get us to shut up.

Three guys got hired to drive steam pipes into the ground to thaw permafrost ahead of a gold-dredging barge working its way up a valley. I was hired as a packhorse for a geologist looking for oil after his first helper had quit.

We flew to Cordova, further down the bay from Valdez, later of oil spill fame. We then flew further south to Cape

Yakataga, a CAA emergency landing strip, which is almost due south of the North-South line that separates Canada from Alaska.

From there we moved three miles down the shore to where two old gold prospectors had their cabins. They had tobacco cans on their windowsills half full of small nuggets and grains of gold. They had an interesting system of digging a ditch through the sand bank at the head of the beach, letting water wash down the beach while the waves would throw the sand back up. After a period of time they would set up their sluice boxes and shovel the more concentrated, heavier gold-bearing sand along the streams into their boxes.

From the shore we moved back into the mountains. My job was to accompany the geologist as a packhorse. One of the things one or the other of us carried every day and rested between us at night was a sawed off .30-06. Alaskan brown bears are infamously aggressive. But we only came upon one fishing while we were wading up a stream and he ran. But an impressively large animal. Wading in streams was sometimes easier travelling than flailing through alders and salmon berries (like large raspberries) in that trail-less landscape.

I did use the rifle once to shoot a goat. Unfortunately, he was standing on the edge of a cliff and fell over, necessitating a descent and a difficult crawl back up with the hind quarters. I tried to bleed him, but my jackknife doubled over on his thick neck hide, cutting a knuckle to the bone. Since we didn't carry a first-aid kit because of weight considerations, I thought of dogs licking their wounds and did the same for a few days. I never got an infection. I was assigned to make a pot roast out of some of the meat. I boiled it for most of a day and we salivated in anticipation of a meat meal instead of something dried. But it was so

tough we could barely chew it.

Walking the sandstone ridges above tree line was a pleasure. What was once a seabed was now weathering out fossils. But having to add them to my backpack resulted in collecting only the smallest. Once I saw a black bear stalking a goat grazing on the ridgeline. The bear made a rush, but the goat jumped over the edge where its cushioned hooves clung to the rocks.

I soon discovered why my predecessor had quit. The geologist was not a pleasant man. One day we lay side-by-side in a small 2-man tent during a day of hard rain. He spoke 25 words. One night we were caught in a howling southeaster and had to take turns all night standing upright bracing the tent pole to keep the tent from collapsing. The next morning, we packed up our soaking tent and gear and headed out. That night we had to camp again but were out of food except for one chocolate bar. We halved it and each had half of the half for supper. The next morning, I ate my half of a half, but he couldn't find his and accused me of eating it. When shaking out the tent, his portion fell out, but he never apologized.

But I did not help our relationship with one of the meals I planned and purchased back in Cordova for our field trips. Back on the farm we occasionally had pigs knuckles and sauerkraut. Much to my surprise, I saw those ingredients in a store in Cordova and thought it would be a change from our usual field diet which leaned to dried foods. When I served that up in the field with no alternative—to put it mildly—he was displeased!

We walked up the edges of glaciers to examine the scoured hillsides for signs of oil-bearing rocks. I followed a safe distance behind carrying gear. We had

no ropes so had he fallen into a crevasse what would I have done?

When I returned to college in the fall, I took a couple of geology courses to learn what I might have learned in the field if my boss had been more communicative.

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NEWS FROM VERMONT DEPARTMENT OF FORESTS, PARKS & RECREATION

Vermont Native Plants vs. Invasive Plant Look-a-likes: Native Phragmites vs. Invasive Phragmites

by Elizabeth Spinney, Invasive Plant Coordinator, Vermont Department of Forests, Parks & Recreation

Picture yourself in a lake house, warm summer breeze rustling the tufts of the tall grass growing in the edges of marshy land near the water. For many of us, this grass has been a staple sight, even for generations. The truth, however, is that this plant was introduced over 200 years ago, most likely through ships ballast or shipping material from Europe.

This plant, which is native to Europe and the Middle east, is called Common Reed, *Phragmites australis*. It is now present in every state, spreading primarily by humans and development, and can be found alongside roads (or growing up through roads...), in marshes, on the coast, around inland lakes, and even in back yards.



Infestation of Common Reed. Pictured are the standing dead culms and seed heads from last year's growth.
Photo- E. Spinney, VT Dept. Forests, Parks & Recreation

Common Reed is considered an invasive species because of its ability to alter ecosystem diversity, hydrology, topography, increase fire potential, and impact infrastructure. It is listed on Vermont's Noxious Weed Quarantine, as a Class B Noxious Weed. This ranking means that this plant is present in but not native to the state, and poses a serious threat. <http://bit.ly/VTPlantQuarantine>

However, not all *Phragmites* is "bad". In 2002, and subsequent years, a researcher out of the mid-Atlantic, Kriston Saltonstall, demonstrated that there definitively was a native strain of *Phragmites* in the Northeast (American Reed, *Phragmites americanus*). The study of the DNA of *Phragmites* has shown that at least 11 different strains (haplotypes—think varieties of corn) are native to North America, and some have been on the continent for thousands of years.

Critical to note, however, is that these native strains are not responsible for the negative impacts to natural communities, nor are they the ones growing near beach houses or roadsides -- it is the aggressively growing invasive Common Reed. And

knowing this should change how we assess *Phragmites* populations for management, especially since there are only a few known locations of the American Reed in Vermont.

Phragmites are perennial reeds reaching heights of 6-15' that grow from specialized roots called rhizomes. Both the Common Reed and American Reed leave dead culms after going dormant for the winter, which turn light brown in color. Common Reed grows dense, often as a monoculture, whereas American Reed stands appear scattered with other vegetation. The sheaths that hold the leaves to those culms are tighter on the Common Reed, but for the American Reed, they fall off or are easily removed. If you compared the leaf sheaths of the two,



Red stem of the American Reed, native strain of *Phragmites*.
Photo- Leslie J. Mehrhoff, University of Connecticut, Bugwood.org

you'd notice a membranous protrusion where the leaf meets the sheath – called the ligule. The non-fringed portion of this ligule in the Common Reed is half the width of the American Reed. You can also look for stem color—American Reed often has reddish or purple undertones, where Common Reed is dull and tan or green in color.

If you'd like to learn more, check out VTinvasives.org, and these additional resources:

<https://www.greatlakesphragmites.net/blog/20180830-native-vs-invasive/>

<https://www.greatlakesphragmites.net/blog/native-vs-invasive-phragmites/>

https://www.nrcs.usda.gov/Internet/FSE_PLANTMATERIALS/publications/idpmctn11494.pdf

<https://www.pnas.org/content/99/4/2445>

https://www.researchgate.net/publication/232694727_A_Tale_of_Three_Lineages_Expansion_of_Common_Reed_Phragmites_australis_in_the_US_Southwest_and_Gulf_Coast

<https://gobotany.nativeplanttrust.org/species/phragmites/americanus/>

<https://gobotany.nativeplanttrust.org/species/phragmites/australis/>

<https://nas.er.usgs.gov/queries/greatlakes/FactSheet.aspx?SpeciesID=2937>



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Information and Guidance to a Successful Timber Harvest



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NEWS FROM AUDUBON VERMONT

Survival by Degrees: 389 Bird Species on the Brink

What Audubon's latest climate report means for Vermont's birds

by **Steve Hagenbuch**, *wildlife biologist*

Last month the National Audubon Society released *Survival by Degrees: 389 Bird Species on the Brink*. This latest report provides insights into what a changing climate is likely to mean for bird populations over the course of the century and, ultimately, the planet that we share with them. Audubon's new

science shows that two-thirds (389 out of 604) of North American bird species are at risk of extinction from climate change if warming reaches 3°C (5.4°F) above the pre-industrial average. The good news is that the same science shows if we take action now, and hold warming to no more than 1.5°C (2.7°F),

we can help improve the chances for 76% of species at risk.

Audubon's scientists used 140 million bird records from over 70 data sources, including observational data from bird watchers across the country. This bird data was plugged into the same climate



Richard Simonsen – Audubon Photography Awards

models used by more than 800 experts in 80 countries to map where each bird can live in the future under a changing climate and corresponding change in vegetation. Based on these results, each bird species was described in terms of its vulnerability – does it stand to lose more suitable habitat than it gains? On top of this vulnerability assessment, additional climate related threats were considered, such as heavy rain events and extreme spring heat.

Survival by Degrees describes a dire situation for North American birds if society proceeds with “business as usual”, but what about Vermont’s birds specifically? How will the species Vermonters hold dear to their hearts fare? It’s likely to be a mixed bag. Species that use Vermont as the southern part of their range will be the most vulnerable. Among these are the Common Loon. Imagine paddling a North Country lake without hearing the haunting, loud, wailing laugh or mournful yodel of this iconic bird. Under 3°C of warming this lack of experience is all but a certainty for our children and grandchildren. Vermont’s state bird, the Hermit Thrush, is facing a similar scenario. To hear their flute-like song would require traveling to northern Quebec or Labrador. Other Vermont species most threatened by a combination of climate change and additional climate-related threats include Dark-eyed Junco, Olive-sided Flycatcher, Veery, Bobolink, Ovenbird, Golden-winged Warbler, American Redstart, Chestnut-sided Warbler, and Black-throated Green Warbler.

At this point it is important to return to the “good news” sentence in this article’s opening paragraph. There is still time to change the narrative if WE ACT NOW! The critical reality is to minimize warming to no more than 1.5°C. We know what we need to do to reduce global warming and we already have many of the tools and solutions we need

to do just that. What we need now are more people committed to making sure those solutions are put into practice. Five actions we must take to mitigate climate change are:

- Reduce our use of energy at home and ask elected officials to support energy-saving policies that reduce overall demand for electricity.
- Ask our elected officials to expand consumer-driven clean energy development that grows jobs in our communities.
- Reduce the amount of carbon released into the atmosphere.
- Advocate for natural solutions, such as maintaining healthy, carbon-storing forests.
- Asking elected leaders to be climate and conservation champions.

While we must do everything we can to minimize the amount of warming we must also realize that impacts from a changing climate are already occurring and having impacts on Vermont’s birds and the landscape they share with us. Consider the following climate adaptation actions for helping to make our landscape able to respond to the changes already happening:

- Use native plants that benefit birds and other wildlife around our

homes and communities. *Audubon’s Plants for Birds Database* is an excellent resource for finding out the best plants for your area and where to purchase them.

- Manage forestland with birds in mind. Research shows that a bird-friendly forest is also a climate resilient forest. *Audubon Vermont’s Healthy Forest Initiative* provides resources, tools, and services for landowners interested in making their forest great places for birds and part of the natural solutions for climate mitigation.

For generations birds have been our allies in understanding environmental health. From the proverbial canary in the coal mine, to Bald Eagles and Peregrine Falcons alerting us to the dangers of pesticides, birds have much to tell us, if we take the time to listen. Today they are telling us the implications of not taking action on the climate crisis. We must listen.

For more information on *Survival by Degrees: 389 Bird Species on the Brink* and what it tells us about Vermont please visit <https://www.audubon.org/climate/survivalbydegrees/state/us/vt>



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BOOK REVIEW

Wishtree, Project Learning Tree and Woods Whys by Michael Snyder

by Trevor Evans, *landowner and tree farmer*

An Exploration of Forests and Forestry

You have been out on your wood lot for most of the day. You are either a new or experienced landowner or just a hiker or a consulting forester. Regardless, the more you see and experience in the woods, the more questions you have. Some of these questions might be:

- Why are Fir and Spruce Trees so Conical?
- What is Shade Tolerance and Why is it so important?
- Why is Soil Compaction a Problem in Forests?
- Can Your Woods be too tidy?
- What is the best season for logging?

Then, in steps Michael Snyder with his just released book *Woods Whys* from Bondcliff Books. In fact, the questions above are the titles to his first five 750-word essays of 63 essays which he wrote for *Northern Woodlands* between 1998 and 2015.

Michael's collection of essays is entertaining as well as informative based on his many years as a forester in New Hampshire and Vermont. His often-inserted dry humor keeps each

essay interesting and not boring. Even if the question has not been one you have considered, you will probably find the brief essay captivating.

While many good detailed forestry books have been written, Michael's essays are to the point and easy for us to understand as laymen. You will quickly understand why Michael Snyder is often referred as the "Whys Guy" by his publishers.

For me as a landowner in Vermont, I try to limit reading one essay per night but often end up reading four or five. I am on my second reading and only have one question so far: when is *Woods Whys II* going to be published?

Woods Whys by Michael Snyder is available for \$14.95 plus shipping from Bondcliff Books on Amazon Marketplace or directly at meetings or Walk in the Woods from the Vermont Woodlands Association for \$14.95.



Vermont Stone Walls

by Kenneth Wooden

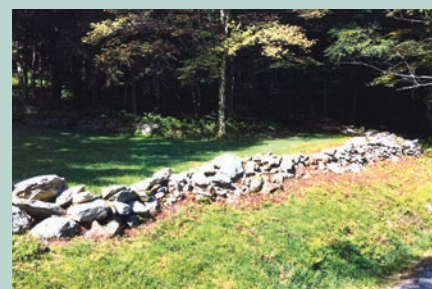
Ageless stone walls, partly covered with a growth of past seasons, cloak the grandeur of the monumental architecture.

Self-survival and the need for more soil was the driving force for generations of families' sweat and resolve, to grow and harvest more food.

Built by Vermont farm families bereft of heavy machinery but with keen ingenuity, a horse, girth, dislodged boulders and heavy stone, created walls of enduring beauty and character.

Today these walls stand as a human testimony to the dignity of hard work that built America.

To destroy them in the name of progress is to desecrate our heritage and the incredible toil of ancestors who built them.





NEWS FROM THE VERMONT TREE FARM COMMITTEE

Tree Farmer helps local library go green

by Allen Yale, *tree farmer*

When the Dailey Memorial Library of Derby Center, Vermont expanded and renovated their facility in 2017, they decided that their primary heat would be electric heat pumps. After the first years of heating bills, the board of directors decided to install a photovoltaic solar system to help defray the costs of electricity. They decided to build a post and beam structure beside the library that would serve two purposes; carry the photovoltaic array and provide a gazebo that the library and its patrons could use. The structure was to be made of white cedar. Dr. “Mike” Moseley, the project’s lead, contacted his neighbor, Allen Yale, who had a saw-mill, to see if he was willing to saw out the timbers from white cedar logs provided by Moseley.

In early May 2019, Moseley delivered a load of tree length white cedar logs and a cut list of materials needed to build the gazebo. After bucking up the Moseley logs, much of which were too small for the timbers needed, and sawing out timbers, it was found that they were far short of the amount of timbers needed for the project. Yale,



who had a lot of large cedar on his land and was an avid reader who regularly patronized the library, offered to make up the difference.

Yale proceeded on identifying likely trees. Then he, Mike, and Tom Cyr, husband of one of the library board members, proceeded to cut the cedars. Two things became quickly apparent; large cedars often had several feet of center rot before one gets to sound wood, and the taper on cedar is much more than many other soft woods, so that it takes quite a large tree to get timbers 8 x 8 sixteen-foot long. “Mike” and Tom helped Yale saw the timbers. Eventually the materials list was completed and Moseley hauled away the timbers.

The timbers were hauled to the Old Stone House museum in Brownington, where the Orleans County Historical Society offered a class in timber-framing under the instruction of Makeo Maher. Once the joinery was completed, the timbers were returned to Derby where they were in the storage facilities of Larry Kelley where Mike and his son Wyatt sanded and put preservative on the timbers. All the movement of the timbers were on Mike’s twenty-foot goose-neck trailer.

In anticipation of the raising of the structure, Willie Tetreault leveled



the site just south of the library and installed six precast footings.

On Saturday, August 3rd, the library scheduled the “gazebo raising.” By 8 am the crew began to assemble. It included Makeo Maher, Mike Moseley, Tom Cyr, Ben Batcheldor, Wyatt Moseley, Mick Morelli, Dan Dagesse, John Brooks, and Richard Stibolt. With the exception of Makeo and Wyatt, most of the members were eligible for social security.

Under Makeo Maher’s supervision, the structure began to take shape. The sides were assembled and raised; cross-beams and the 8” x 8” rafters installed. Finally, three sides of the structure had 2 x 24 seats installed. By 6 pm the structure was completed and the crew retired to the Moseley home for a much deserved potluck supper.

A couple of weeks later the twenty-four solar panels were installed and the library is currently receiving approximately 8 Kw of power on a sunny day.

Beside the help of the above mentioned volunteers, this project was made possible with grants from USDA Rural Development, Grass Roots Foundation. Price Chopper, Columbia Forest Products, Poulin Lumber, Walmart, and individual donations of money and labor.



NEWS FROM VERMONT DEPARTMENT OF FORESTS, PARKS & RECREATION

Use Value Appraisal: Interpretation of the “20% Rules” for Open Idle/Ag land, Site IV lands, and Ecologically Significant Treatment Areas (ESTA)

Approved by Commissioner Snyder October 23, 2019

Background:

In all cases, parcels enrolled in the Forestry Program of Use Value Appraisal (UVA) must have a minimum of 25 acres enrolled of which at least 20 acres are enrolled as Productive Forestland. Acreage in addition to the 20 acres of Productive Forestland may be enrolled in any Forestry Program category to meet or exceed the 25-acre minimum. All of the Forestry Program enrollment categories and eligibility requirements are described in the *Minimum Management Standards for Forest Management and Regeneration*. Eligibility requirements commonly referred to as the “20% rules,” affect eligibility of three enrollment categories including: Open/Idle Ag Land, Site IV and Ecologically Significant Treatment Areas (ESTAs).

Application of the 20% rules are being calculated inconsistently, affecting acreage charts and plan review processes. This guidance is being issued to reduce associated challenges. Consistent with the standards in the 2010 Department of Forests, Parks and Recreation’s *Use Value Appraisal Manual*, the calculation of the 20% rules for Open/Idle Ag, Site IV, and

ESTA categories should be made by separate calculations. The procedure for meeting these standards is summarized below.

Definition:

Forested Productive Soils (FPS): are Site I, II, or III soils that are “forest” as defined in the Minimum Standards for Forest Management and Regeneration. FPS may include acreage from multiple enrollment categories, including Productive Forestland, ESTAs, Significant Wildlife Habitat, or others.

Procedure:

All new maps submitted should follow the guidance below:

Open/Idle Ag land (often called Open Land) Open Land is limited to no more than 20% of the total of *enrolled* Forested Productive Soils (FPS) *plus* Open Land. *This limit on Open Land is equivalent to 25% of the enrolled FPS acres or put another way, 1 acre of Open Land for every 4 acres of enrolled FPS.*

Calculation to determine the maximum acreage of eligible Open Land that can be enrolled:

Maximum eligible Open land = FPS acres (to be enrolled) x 0.25

Example:

- 100 acres Forested Productive Soils
- 23 acres Open Land

Maximum eligible Open land: 100 FPS acres x 0.25 = 25 acres

In this example, with 100 acres of FPS, a maximum of 25 acres of Open Land would be eligible. Therefore, all 23 acres of Open Land are eligible.

Site IV land

There is no cap when all other eligibility criteria are met, however, the number of Site IV acres ≤ 20% of the enrolled FPS and those acres > 20% of the enrolled FPS must be indicated on separate lines in the acreage chart of the UVA map.

Calculation to determine acreage of Site IV comprising 20% or less of enrolled FPS and >20% of enrolled FPS:

Site IV land ≤ 20% = FPS acres x 0.2

Site IV land > 20% = Total acres of Site IV (minus) acres Site IV land ≤ 20%

Example:

- 150 acres Forested Productive Soils
- 47 acres Site IV

Site IV $\leq 20\%$: 150 acres $\times 0.2 = 30$ acres

Site IV $> 20\%$: 47 acres – 30 acres = 17 acres

Ecologically Significant Treatment Area (ESTA)

There is no cap when all other eligibility criteria are met, however, the number of ESTA acres $\leq 20\%$ of the enrolled FPS and those acres $> 20\%$ of the enrolled FPS must be indicated on separate lines in the acreage chart of the UVA map. *Enrollment of $> 20\%$ of the FPS requires approval by the Commissioner of Forests, Parks and Recreation.*

Calculation to determine acreage of ESTAs comprising 20% or less of enrolled FPS and $> 20\%$ of enrolled FPS:

ESTA $\leq 20\%$ = FPS acres $\times 0.2$

ESTA $> 20\%$ = Total ESTA (minus)

ESTA $\leq 20\%$

Example:

- 200 acres Forested Productive Soils
- 73 acres Riparian ESTA

ESTA $\leq 20\%$: 200 acres $\times 0.2 = 40$ acres

ESTA $> 20\%$: 73 acres – 40 acres = 33 acres

Discussion:

Maps no longer need to depict which of the Site IV or ESTA acres exceed 20% of the FPS since this does not

improve the evaluation of the Forest Management Plan or effect the Use Value Calculation.

If a map was submitted shortly before issuance of this guidance and does not meet these standards and has not yet been approved, please contact your county forester.

Maps currently approved by PVR or FPR which do not meet these standards for determining the calculation of $> 20\%$, will not be a sole basis for requiring new maps. However, all new maps submitted to PVR or FPR after issuance of this guidance must meet this standard.

These changes will be incorporated into the next revision of the manual.



Vermont Woodlands Consulting Foresters

Committed to promoting and strengthening the long-term conservation and management of Vermont's natural resources.

VWA Consulting Foresters are licensed by the State of Vermont and meet all continuing education requirements.

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TSP: NRCS Technical
Service Provider
* Tree Farm Inspector

HOW CAN A CONSULTING FORESTER HELP YOU?

Consulting foresters assist private landowners in identifying and achieving goals for their woodlands, including managing for forest products, wildlife habitat, recreation, water resources, and aesthetics. VWA Consulting Foresters can help you meet your management objectives.

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Visit the website for complete forester contact information:

www.vermontwoodlands.org

A Forestry Visit to Chile!

As a follow-up to the very enjoyable 2016 European Forestry Tour of Germany, France and Switzerland the American Forest Foundation is sponsoring a 2020 forestry tour of Chile. Chile is a VERY long (2500 miles!) and narrow country on the western side of South America with a geography ranging from arid deserts in the north (somewhat below the equator) to Cape Horn above Antarctica in the south. The tour location centers on the Sur Chico region of the country south of the capital of Santiago. This area between Concepcion and Puerto Montt is famous for mountain glacial lakes, ice-topped volcanoes, and temperate rain forests. The region boasts several national parks and preserves, many unusual southern tree species, and incredible landscapes. The forestry tour runs from April 18 to May 3, the fall season south of the equator. The departure/ return city is Miami. Please see the link for more details!





Welcome New VWA members

Many thanks to all who have decided to join VWA. Our Voice for Healthy Forests is stronger because of you. No matter how you found us, we appreciate that you did. Every member makes a difference.

Amos & Jennifer Doyle, *Chelsea, VT*
 Steve Engle, *Peacham, VT*
 Alison & Matthew Dickinson, *Ripton, VT*
 Sarah Harding, *Evanston, IL*
 Nina Otter, *Moretown, VT*
 Bruce & Doreen Jones, *Rochester, VT*
 Fred Glanzberg, *South Royalton, VT*
 Carolyn Asner, *Plainfield, VT*
 William Botzow, *Bennington, VT*
 William Doggett, *Winter Park, FL*
 Richard Zell Donovan, *Jericho, VT*
 Elisabeth Renstrom, *Washington, DC*

Michael Koper, *Morristown, VT*
 Spencer & Elizabeth Schwenk, *South Pomfret, VT*
 Steve Korn, *Bennington, VT*
 David Lahar, *Barton, VT*
 Carol Priem, *Newfane, VT*
 Josh Darling, *Richmond, VT*
 Susan Morrissey, *Medford, MA*
 Brad Johnson, *Northfield, VT*
 Claude A. Barden, *West Pawlet, VT*
 Bill Lane, *Chester, VT*

Many thanks to Meadowsend Timberlands for their support of VWA through complimentary memberships. Welcome new members.

Colette Duerre, *New York, NY*
 Katie Sullivan, *Irasburg, VT*
 Barbara & Anne Babbott, *South Burlington, VT*
 Ann Batten, *East Hardwick, VT*

Kevin Foy, *Randolph, VT*
 Allan Marquis, *Raleigh, NC*
 Brett Stickney, *East Granville, VT*
 Ralph Duerre, *Anchorage, AK*

Welcome New Tree Farmers

1736 Craig Coleman, *Windsor*
 1738 Marc Christina Aquila, *Norwich*
 1739 Barbara Babbott, *Glover*
 1740 Timothy McKay, *Guildhall*



Thanks to our Tree Farm Inspectors

Many thanks to our Tree Farm Inspectors for new and recertification inspections. Since May 1st, we have had 24 tree farms inspected! This is great progress toward staying current with regular and required inspection.

Alex Barrett
 Pat Bartlet
 Rose Beatty
 Kathy Beland
 Bob Bradbury

Alan Calfee
 Paul Harwood
 Robo Holleran
 Ryan Kilborn
 Len Miraldi

Ross Morgan
 Andrew Morrison
 Jared Nunery
 Sam Perron
 Joe Peterson

Russ Reay
 Richard Root
 Adam Taschereau
 Jeremy Turner
 Randy Wilcox

Several generous donors have already contributed to our Memorial and Honorary Funds, naming those who touched their lives in special ways. You may see your loved ones in this list.

Contributions to the Memorial Fund have been received for:

Thomas Beland
 George Buzzell
 Robert Darrow
 Azel S. Hall
 John Hemenway
 Edward Osmer
 Jim Wilkinson

Contributions to the Honorary Fund have been received for:

Leo Laferriere
 Thom McEvoy
 Paul Harwood
 Ross Morgan
 William Sayre
 Steve Sinclair
 Kathleen Wanner

If you would like to make a donation to the memorial or honorary fund, please make note of whom your donation is for and how you would it invested (Upton Wildlife Endowment, Executive Director Endowment, Bizzozero Tree Farm Fund, or general operating fund).



NEWS FROM SUSTAINABLE FORESTRY INITIATIVE

Vermont SFI® Coordinator Report

by Bill Sayre, Chair, Vermont SFI and Ed Larson, SFI VT Coordinator

A very important function of the SFI State Implementation Committee (SIC) is to assure its participants that logging contractors that desire to sell wood to them have access to quality loggers training and education in their state. For Vermont, very similar to other states, our SIC dedicates a major portion of its resources to this end. In Vermont, the fact that we are small compared to SICs in other states, our mission is best accomplished through collaboration. We work as a strong supporter and when possible a sponsor of The Vermont Logger Education to Advance Professionalism (LEAP). LEAP is the primary loggers' education program in Vermont. The SFI SIC encourages logging contractors to enroll in LEAP and maintain their status as a trained logger that is necessary to be able to be an SFI

approved logging contractor. The VT SIC is also very concerned about the challenges and extremely high costs of Workers' Compensation Insurance for logging contractors in Vermont. The high costs are making it very difficult for Vermont loggers to compete with loggers from neighboring states and some choose to work as an independent contractor, sole proprietor and not carry insurance. This becomes a large safety concern for the industry. That is why SFI VT has endorsed the newly created **Vermont Logger Safety and Workers' Compensation Insurance Program**. Deputy Commissioner, Sam Lincoln with the Vermont Dept. of Forests, Parks and Recreation has led the charge to spearhead this new program designed to reduce workers' compensation rates for logging contractors. This

new program involves expanding LEAP with high quality safety courses targeting the different types of logging activities and for each of the various jobs conducted in the woods. In addition, the state Dept. of Financial Regulation was able to create a 15% discount on premiums for loggers that complete the courses offered by LEAP and become safety certified.

SFI SIC Chair, William Sayre urges more participation with the following statement:

We face great challenges in our forest products industry at this time. High tariffs, wet weather, and high workers' comp rates for loggers. Our US Trade representatives are in China working on the tariffs, a higher power than us all will decide the weather, but workers' comp is an issue on which each of us can do our part; Landowners, Foresters, Mills, Loggers, Insurance Companies, and Government. We all can encourage and support more participation in both insurance programs and the safety training programs that will reduce accidents, and thereby, reduce workers' comp rates.

The stage is set for New Insurance and Safety Program to start working. The insurance discount is in place, and the specialized safety training courses, which are part of the insurance discount, are scheduled.

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Each year we grow more than 600 million trees, which provide homes for thousands of species.

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Think about it, tell others about it, and then do your best to help make successful The Vermont Logger Safety and Workers' Comp. Insurance Program.

Save The Date

SFI/AIV Forest Policy Task Force –December 19, 2019

The second Forest Policy Task Force of 2019 is in the planning stages as this is written. The date is set at Thursday, December 19, 2019 starting at 8:30 am but the location is not yet determined. It will be another policy filled program with several experts covering the myriad of topics we encounter in our industry.

The first semi-annual meeting was held on July 31, 2019 at the Capitol Plaza Hotel and Conference Center in Montpelier. We had a good turnout of about 50 or so members of the industry. SAF CE credits were granted to attendees seeking to maintain their Forester's license.

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AN INVITATION TO OUR MEMBERS

We welcome your submissions for the VWA and Tree Farm newsletter. If you have a story to tell or news of interest to share with other landowners, please send along so we may consider for future editions.

We can accept articles, photos, or news tidbits via email to info@vermontwoodlands.org.

HOW CAN YOU HELP YOUR FOREST?

Work with a consulting forester to manage as best as possible in these difficult times. With the complexity of the problems facing us, it is imperative to have professional help, just as we do for our medical, dental, legal and accounting needs. Also, your consulting forester's assistance is needed to make sure forest management is allowed if you should ever decide to put your property into a conservation easement.

HOW CAN YOU HELP VWA?

Introduce a friend, neighbor, or family member to VWA. Membership really matters!

Attend a workshop or walk in the woods to learn from and network with others.

Vermont's Original Extreme Sport: The Lumberjack Competition

by Christine McGowan, Forest Program Director, Vermont Sustainable Jobs Fund



Barnet resident Calvin Willard ranks among best in U.S. Photo by Erica Houskeeper.

When most people think about world-class athletes from Vermont, they think of Olympic skiers and snowboarders like Kelly Clark, Hannah Kearney and Sophie Caldwell. And while it's true that Vermont is a breeding ground for snow legends, it's also home to one of the world's most highly ranked competitive lumberjacks, Calvin Willard.

If you're not among the 20 million people who follow the timbersports lumberjack competitions on ESPN, (which by the way, is the second longest running show on ESPN, just behind SportsCenter), then you might mistake Calvin for the unassuming logger, consulting forester, maple producer, and family man that he is. Watch him wield one of his \$2,000 cross-cut saws or a custom-built \$5,000 chainsaw that runs on a dirt bike motor, however, and you'll also see a formidable competitor in one of the world's oldest extreme sports.

Like many great competitions, the timbersports began with a bet. Back in 1870, two of the strongest loggers in Tasmania, Australia placed a wager on who could cut a tree down the fastest. The winner walked away with bragging rights as the better axeman. Twenty years later in 1891, the competition was formalized with the first ever World Championship Woodchop in Tasmania, but it wasn't until the 1920s that the sport caught on in the U.S., when logging camps from Maine would send their best guy to a logging camp in Vermont to compete.

Today's lumberjack athletes typically compete in six disciplines: the underhand chop, standing block chop, stock saw, single buck, springboard chop, and the hot saw. Athletes compete in all six disciplines to determine the single best overall lumberjack in the world. This year, Calvin placed high enough in five regional qualifiers to travel to Milwaukee

for the STIHL TIMBERSPORTS® U.S. Championship, the most prestigious competition in the U.S., where he placed 7th overall.

"At that level, it's very competitive," said Willard, who likens the sport to golf. "Everyone there has the talent and the skill to win, so it really comes down to having a good day on the course." He notes that, like most sports, youth and strength are important, but in timbersports, good technique trumps pure brawn. "You would think the biggest guy would win," he said, "but that's not always the case. Accuracy, timing and precision are more important than pure strength." For that reason, the competition often sees people in their fifties and sixties competing right alongside the younger generation.

Willard trains hard in the off-season, working on his speed and accuracy by chopping wood in his yard, and shores up sponsorships to offset the cost of travel and equipment, which can run upwards of \$25,000. His sponsors this year are Vermont-based Darn Tough Socks, Butternut Mountain Farms, and Vermont Mold and Tool, which builds racing axes for competitive use.

Despite the sophisticated equipment and televised competitions, however, Willard is quick to relate the sport back to the roots of his profession, noting that every discipline is meant to demonstrate how lumberjacks worked in the woods a century ago. "With the exception of the chainsaws," he said, "we are using modernized versions of the equipment that would have been used 100 years ago." The springboard chop, for example, where the axeman cuts a notch into a tree and moves

progressively higher by wedging boards into each notch to stand on, mimics the way loggers, especially out west, would get above the “butt swell” in order to cut down larger trees. “The sport allows those of us working in forestry and logging to show how the job was done before modern day tree harvesting equipment was invented,” said Willard, who calls himself an old school logger and often uses traditional methods for tree harvesting. “It brings history right into the present day.”

With the STIHL TIMBERSPORTS® Championships behind him, Willard spent the fall traveling to regional competitions in Fryeburg, Maine and Merrimack, New Hampshire, and may go to Tasmania for the 150th Anniversary World Championship Woodchopping Contest in December. Through the sport, Willard and his family have traveled all over the world, meeting other families and competitors from around the US, Canada and Europe. If he does go to Tasmania, Willard will stay with a family of woodchoppers, and compete every day for two weeks among the world’s most accomplished axemen. “They start training at six years old in Tasmania,” said Willard, who also allows his five-, seven- and nine-year-old kids to chop wood with him. “It’s home to the best in the world, in part because the sport is oldest there.”

That may be true, but Vermont’s hundred year history with the sport isn’t too far behind. Logging as a profession and a way of life is deeply embedded in Vermont’s history and a vibrant part of today’s working landscape. Willard, who was introduced to the sport while at Flathead Valley Community College in Montana, sees the timbersports as a way to connect back to that history, and have some good, competitive fun at the same time.



Calvin Willard trains with a single buck saw in a shed on his property in Barnet. Photo by Erica Houskeeper.



Calvin Willard competes in the hot saw event at the 2019 Fryeburg Fair Woodsmen’s Day in Maine



Calvin Willard competes in the underhand chop event at the 2019 Fryeburg Fair.



Calvin Willard at home in Barnet with his wife Alison with their three children, Quinn, Wesley, and Sawyer, and their dog Averill. Photo by Erica Houskeeper.

The Walking Sawyer: Connecting Hikers with Vermont's Working Forests

by Christine McGowan, Forest Program Director, Vermont Sustainable Jobs Fund



Ken Gagnon, avid hiker and owner of Gagnon Lumber in Pittsford, hikes on the Long Trail near Pico, VT. His nickname is "The Walking Sawyer." Photo by Erica Houskeeper.

Somewhere between the Oak trees near the Massachusetts border and the Maple trees of Northern Vermont, Ken Gagnon earned his trail name: the walking sawyer. "You meet folks along the trail and get to talking," said Gagnon, owner of Gagnon Lumber in Pittsford, Vermont. "People were interested to learn about the species of trees and forest vegetation, or the parts of the Long Trail that were built along old woods roads. Once they began to understand how the trails and trees around them connected to Vermont's 250-year-old logging history, they saw the forest differently."

Sharing his perspectives as a lifelong Vermonter, outdoorsman, and sawmill operator along the trail, Ken found his fellow hikers to be not only receptive,

but genuinely interested, and it occurred to him that his industry could do a much better job connecting hikers more intimately with Vermont's working forests. "Our industry has a perception problem that is largely outdated," he said. "It seems to me that the people who are enjoying the forests and experiencing the benefits of careful forest management might be open to a different message."

Mike DeBonis, executive director of the Green Mountain Club and a forester, agrees. "The Long Trail was created to connect people with the outdoors," he said. "Foundational to that is the belief that recreation is a gateway to conservation and responsible land management. Hiking allows people to experience and think about land in a very tactile way."

Lingering Perceptions

Many of the negative perceptions that exist today stem from clearcutting that occurred more than a century ago when logging and agriculture were the state's main industries. Farmers cut forests to clear fields and loggers cleared large swaths of hardwoods with little regard for regeneration. By the early 1800s, Vermont's 4.6 million acres of forest had been reduced by more than 80%.

Learning the lessons of the past, today's forest managers focus on sustainability and maintaining healthy, productive forests. Thanks to generations of responsible management, Vermont is now more than 78% forested, making it the fourth most heavily forested state in the country. Yet, those lingering perceptions persist.

Showcasing Best Practices in Modern Forestry

"Forestry and recreation have co-existed for decades," said Mike Snyder, Commissioner of Vermont's Forests, Parks and Recreation Department (FPR), "yet most people don't think of recreation as part of the working landscape." That may be in part because timber harvests have largely been invisible to hikers and other recreators. "In the past, we planned visual buffers sometimes called 'beauty strips' that kept most of the work out of sight," said Snyder, acknowledging that it can be shocking to walk through a recently harvested area. But, in recent years, Snyder and the department he leads have opted instead to explain what is

happening and why, and to demonstrate what good forestry looks like. “Active harvest sites can and should be used as an educational opportunity to showcase best practices in modern forestry and the positive outcomes that result,” he said.

Harvesting Good Will in Willoughby

At Willoughby State Forest, FPR foresters Emily Meacham and Scott Machinist are doing just that. One of Vermont’s most pristine landscapes, Willoughby State Forest encompasses more than 7,600 acres in the Northeast Kingdom and includes Lake Willoughby, Mount Hor, and Mount Pisgah among other natural treasures. In recent years, the area has seen significant increases in recreational use, including hiking, primitive camping, swimming, fishing, and cross-country skiing—all of which are happening in tandem with two active timber harvests.

“The harvest areas are in plain view of the trails,” said Meacham. “We are taking an intentional approach to educate the public about the work, and so far it has been an incredible success.” Machinist agreed, noting that on a busy summer day you’re likely to see a 100,000-pound logging truck and people hiking with their dogs in the same area. “It’s remarkable,” he said, “no one seems to be bothered. We haven’t received one complaint.”



Foresters Emily Meacham and Scott Machinist visit an area in Willoughby State Forest that was harvested in 2016. Harvesting takes into consideration ecological objectives, protection of both wildlife habitat and water quality, and enhanced recreation. Photo by Erica Houskeeper.

In addition to signage that went up even before the harvest began, Meacham and Machinist held public information meetings to explain the process and answer questions. “We walked people through the long-range forest management plan,” said Machinist. “This harvest takes into consideration ecological objectives, protection of both wildlife habitat and water quality, and enhanced recreation. We made all the data we’ve collected available so people could see how decisions around

the timber harvest were made using science and a long-term, big-picture view of forest health.”

A few specific examples of the Willoughby plan include the protection of amphibian breeding pools and year-round wet areas where salamanders thrive, regeneration of Beech trees important for bear habitat, planned buffer areas around the Round Leaved Orchid and Yellow Lady Slipper, both endangered plant species, and combating the effects of Beech bark disease in the area. “Any unique feature triggers additional review,” said Machinist.

Signage in and around the harvest areas offers further explanation for visitors, and throughout the forests, recreators will find signs identifying past harvest areas dating back to 1985. “It’s important to show what a harvested area will look like after five, ten or twenty years,” said Machinist. “The signs serve as historical reference points throughout the forest.”



Mike DeBonis, executive director of the Green Mountain Club and sawmill owner Ken Gagnon access The Long Trail near Pico. Photo by Erica Houskeeper.

WALKING, continued on next page

WALKING, *continued from pg. 21*

Like FPR's approach in Willoughby, the Green Mountain Club has also used signage, newsletters, and social media to open up a deeper dialogue about forest management within its community. Attracting more than 200,000 hikers annually, the Long Trail accounts for more than half of all trail visits to the state each year, offering a significant opportunity to educate and engage hikers. "The Long Trail is a 272-mile footpath in the forest," said DeBonis. "We want our community to understand that you can have a wild, remote experience in a working landscape. Wild does not necessarily mean pristine or untouched. Vermont is a small place; we get a lot from our landscape."

Trees for Trails

Keeping Vermont's extensive trail systems free and open to the public relies, in part, on the revenue generated through timber harvests. "Trees pay the way for the development and management of recreation trails," said Snyder. "On state owned land, the timber harvests

provide some revenue that helps pay for maintenance and upkeep, and on privately owned land, the income gives landowners an incentive to keep their land accessible." In Vermont, where more than 80% of forests are privately owned, that incentive also helps private landowners to keep forests intact and safe from development or parcelization.

In Willoughby, all of the income generated through the timber sales goes into a Land and Facilities Trust Fund at FPR, and is used to fund projects including trail and road maintenance. "We call it the 'trees for trails project,'" said Meacham. "All the money goes right back into the land."

"It's the missing link for people," agreed Gagnon. "Timber harvests are the key to keeping the entire system sustainable. It's the economics of the timber industry that keep Vermont's forests as forests."

Our Last Best Hope

"When people recreate on the land, they

care about the land and are open to a greater understanding of what a working landscape looks like," said Snyder. "Recreation as a gateway to that understanding is our last best hope—not only to keeping Vermont's forests as forests, but also to keeping Vermont as Vermont."

A 2016 report by the Vermont Trails and Greenway Council found that more than 400,000 people visit just four of the state's trail systems annually. Data collected from the Catamount Trail Association, the Kingdom Trails Association, the Vermont All-Terrain Sportsman's Association, and the Green Mountain Club showed that the trails supported 365 jobs and generated more than \$30 million in economic activity annually. When accounting for other trail systems, the total use and impact of Vermont's many trail systems is presumably much higher. Many people active in the recreation, hospitality, and forest industries see promoting the state's recreational assets as key to driving economic growth, work that is happening through the Vermont Outdoor Recreation Economic Collaborative (VOREC).

"We are seeing a change in the way visitors recreate here," said DeBonis. "It used to be that people came to hike for a few days. Now, they hike one day, bike the next, and then head out onto the water for a day or two. The key to a viable recreational network is to offer a lot of varied opportunities, and we have to do that in an intentional way that protects the natural resources that draw people here in the first place."

"Our forests are one of our greatest natural assets," added Snyder. "The connection we hope to make for people is that it's the people working the forested landscape, along with the volunteer recreation enthusiasts building and maintaining the trails, who are stewarding its future."

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NEW MEMBER APPLICATION

(Note: existing members will receive an invoice)

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.

MEMBERSHIP BONUS!

Northern Woodlands



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.

northernwoodlands.org



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Photo: Gerry Hawkes