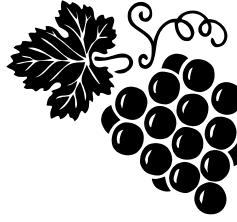


SWPWO



July/August 2010

Southwestern Pennsylvania Woodland Owners



July Summer Tour Date Changed To Saturday, July 17

Theme: Other Agricultural uses for Property: Tour of Winery, Wine Tasting, and Social

Please note the change of date. The Winery has a wedding booked on July 10th. The Thistlethwaite Vineyards in Jefferson, PA,, has a beautiful setting. The land has been farmed for many years, in a traditional sense. Eight years ago the Thistlethwaite's started a new agricultural adventure- viticulture. From their own grapes, they now produce a nice variety of red, white and sparkling wines. We will be given a tour of the vineyards and the wine making facility. We will be offered a wine tasting in a tastefully remodeled barn where the tasting bar is made from cherry that was harvested from the property. We will share an assortment of hearty appetizers in the outdoor gazebo. Lemonade will be available. The cost is \$12 per person. We need to have a head count so please call Gay Thistle to reserve your spot by July 10. Drop an email to thistle@windstream.net.

Wear sturdy shoes for walking and appropriate clothing for the weather.

Time: 1:00 PM

Place: Thistlethwaite Winery, Jefferson, PA in Greene County

Meet at 12:30 PM at Building #10, Greene Country Fairgrounds, Waynesburg, PA

August 7 (Sat.) Summer Tour of Maple Hills Tree Farm

Place: Home and woodlot of Mark and Debi Fajerski, outside of Claysville, Washington County. At Maple Hills they've planted several hundred seedlings in an open field overlooking I-70 which include red oak, chestnut oak, white ash, and black walnut.

There are geodetic survey stones located at 1400 ft. and there is a fabulous view of the highway. One of the original settlers to the area is buried on the property and his tombstone is in relatively good condition. There is also a sugar maple that is almost 5' dbh. Wear proper shoes for walking on rough terrain and dress for the weather.

Time: 1:00 PM

Place: Home of Mark Fajerski in Claysville, PA. Meet at the parking lot of Crown Center Mall in front to the Sears Garage Doors at 12:30 to carpool

Organizations and Publications that May Interest Woodland Owners

1. **The Pennsylvania Forestry Association (PFA)**
56 E. Main Street
Mechanicsburg, PA 17055
Website: <http://pfa.cas.psu.edu/>
2. **Walnut Council International Headquarters**
John S. Wright Forestry Center
1007 N 725 W
West Lafayette, IN 47906-9431
3. **The American Chestnut Foundation**
160 Zillicoa Street, Suite D
Asheville, NC 28801
Phone: 828-281-0047
www.acf.org
4. **Pennsylvania- The American Chestnut Foundation
PA-TACF, The Penn State Partnership Office**
206 Forest Resources Lab, University Park, PA 16802
814-863-7192
5. **Independent Sawmill and Woodlot Management**
P.O. Box 334
Stafford, TX 77497
1-888-762-8476
www.sawmillmag.com
6. **Northern Woodlands Magazine**
1776 Center Rd
P.O. Box 471
Corinth, VT 05039-0471
800-290-5232
<http://www.northernwoodlands.org>
7. **West Virginia Wildlife**
WV Div. of Natural Resources
PO Box 67
Elkins, WV 26241
www.wvdnr.gov
8. PA Game News: To view it online:
<http://www.portal.state.pa.us/portal/server.pt?open=514&objID=619394&mode=2>

9. Forest Leaves: View online

<http://rnrext.cas.psu.edu/FS/FSLeaves.htm>

List compiled by Gay Thistle. If you have any publication or resource to add, please let me know so they can be included in future newsletter

Tick Facts

Although the heaviest tick season has subsided for this year, they will be back. Here are some facts about ticks to help us understand them.

- A hard tick seeks a blood meal at, or slightly above, ground level by climbing onto vegetation and using its forelegs to feel/grab for a host. Ticks are usually found from ground level to three feet above the ground. A tick uses carbon dioxide, scent, body heat, and other stimuli to find a host.
- Ticks are blood sucking external parasites that feed on humans, wild and domestic mammals, birds, reptiles and others. They are totally dependent on the blood/tissue fluids of the host. The longer an infective tick feeds, the greater the chance of infection.
- Ticks are not insects. Ticks have eight legs as an adult and two body segments, whereas insects have six legs as an adult and three body segments. Ticks are arachnids, as are chiggers, spiders and mites.
- Ticks have four life stages: egg, larva, nymph, and adult. The egg hatches into a larva. A larva ("seed" tick) has six legs. It feeds and molts into a nymph. A nymph has eight legs and no sex differentiation. It then feeds and molts into an adult. The adult is differentiated into male or female. The female requires a blood meal in order to lay eggs.
- To be infective (capable of acquiring and transmitting infection) the tick must be able to maintain the infection through a molt. Ticks vary in their ability to do this. For example, dog ticks can acquire the pathogen that causes Lyme Disease - so they can be "infected". But, they can not maintain the infection as they molt from one stage to another. Therefore, they are not "infective".
- Although the number of tick species is in the hundreds, there are relatively few ticks that interact with mankind and domestic animals. While most ticks limit their host selection others are opportunistic feeders and will feed on almost any accessible host. A tick which feeds on a select host group will move infective agents within that group. However, when a tick is a nonselective feeder, it can transmit disease agents from one host group to another. These nonselective ticks pose the largest threat of infection to man.
- Besides the body types associated with different tick species, each species has a distinguishing characteristic called a shield. The shield is an area just behind the mouthpart and is a key part of tick identification.

From the Lyme Disease Foundation, Inc

SWPWO 2010 Calendar of Events

September 8 Meeting Emerald Ash Borer Update Rick Turcotte, US Forest Service and Game Commission Update Rodney Burns, PA Wildlife Conservation Officer

Time: 7:00 PM

Place: Building #10, Greene Country Fairgrounds, Waynesburg, PA

September 11 Field Trip Collecting Ash Seeds

Description: They say the emerald ash borer will eliminate ash trees from our forest populations. The thought is that the emerald ash borer will go through the ash trees and then be out of this source and die off. After this threat is gone, scientists would like to have a native seed source ready to be planted once again in our forests. There is a national effort to collect these seeds now. In this tour you will learn how to collect ash seeds, how to preserve them, and where we can donate our seeds.

Time: 1:00 PM

Place: Thistle Tree Farm in W. Greene County

Meet at 12:30 PM at Building #10, Greene Country Fairgrounds, Waynesburg, PA

September 18 Special Event with the PA Tree Farm System *Woodland Owners Walk*

Arlyn Perkey, US Forest Service (ret.)

Bob McBride, Service Forester, Greene, Fayette, Somerset

Gary Micsky, Penn State Extension and American Chestnut Foundation representative

Tom Fitzgerald, Service Forester (ret.) and Tree Farm System representative

Jose Taracido, Farm and Habitat Program, California University

Jim Elze, Ohio State Service Forester (ret.)

Description: Enhance your understanding of the woods for recreation, production, wildlife and aesthetics with a varied agenda including: crop tree management, chainsaw safety and directional felling, small scale milling and drying, tree planting, american chestnut recovery, and habitat development

Registration is required for this event. See website below for details.

Time: 8:00am to 4:30pm

Place: Burnham Woodlot, East Finley, PA

October 23 Picnic with Plant Identification Competition and Potato Gun Competition (Members, Friends and Family)

Time: To be determined

Place: To be determined

November 10 Meeting Non-Timber Forest Products: Maple Syrup and Ginseng

Speaker: Vince Gillen

More information will be forthcoming

Time: 7:00 PM

Place: First Floor Meeting Room, Courthouse Square Building, 100 W. Beau Street, Washington, PA. Free Parking: enter through the Beau Street B-Level entrance at the base of the Courthouse Square Building

November 13 Field Trip Winter Tree Identification: the Basics

Arlyn Perkey, US Forest Service (Ret.)

This field trip will cover the basics of tree identification in the winter. The discussion will focus on trees common in our woods of SW PA and that have a particular value for hardwood. Be prepared to take notes and wear appropriate clothing for the weather and proper shoes for the walking.

Time: 1:00 PM

Place: Waynesburg Commons

Meet at 12:30 PM at Building #10, Greene Country Fairgrounds, Waynesburg, PA

Executive Committee for the year 2009

Officers

Bob Daley- President

Mike Irvin -Vice Pres.

Gay Thistle- Secretary

Maria Piantanida - Treasurer

Board of Directors

Dave Cressey

Mark Fajerski

Jessica Wise

Advisors

Bill Wentzel

Arlyn Perkey

Past Presidents

John Burnham

Harold Thistle



Our Purpose

Southwestern Pennsylvania Woodland Owners (SWPWO), a not for profit association, is an organization of individuals interested in sound woodland management practices which encourage the diverse use of forests for timber production, wildlife habitat, watershed protection and recreation and to promote this multiple-use philosophy through education and technical assistance for the benefit of the membership and general public.

Membership Information

For 2010

Membership dues for 2010 are due now and will be collected at meetings or can be sent to:

**SWPWO
2506 Hollywood Dr
Pittsburgh, PA 15235**

If sending in dues, please include name, address, phone number and an e-mail address. Membership to the Southwestern Pennsylvania Woodland Owners Association is \$10 per year for an individual and \$15 per year for a household.. Keep your membership up to date to receive a calendar of the 2010 programs and to continue to receive the newsletter.

View photos of the June Summer Tour to the Cooperage on our SWPWO Website www.cs.pitt.edu/~daley/swpwo for the most up to date information about our organization and connections to other resources to help you manage your woodlot

Newsletter Info.

This newsletter is published about eight times each year. The editors are Gay Thistle and John Burnham. Articles written by our members are welcome. Please submit them to Gay at thistle@windstream.net.

Next newsletter- around September 1, 2010.