

SWPWO



March 2009

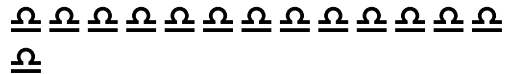
Southwestern Pennsylvania Woodland Owners

Our First Meeting of 2009 March 11 Meeting

Tree Propagation Techniques with Rollie Daniels, Assoc. Prof. of Horticulture, Penn State U. (Ret.) Dr. Daniels will speak to us about propagation techniques used in the culture of trees. Dr. Daniels will introduce the principles of grafting and budding, the conditions necessary and, the tools used. The meeting begins at 7:00 PM and will be held in a **new location found on Waynesburg University** (formerly Waynesburg College). We will meet in the new wing of the Eberly Library in the Deweese Room. It is found on the second floor of the library. There is plenty of street parking available at night on the campus.

A field trip will follow on **Saturday, March 14** to Little Greene Apples greenhouse on Rt. 19 in Ruff Creek to see demonstrations of plant propagation techniques. Dr. Daniels will demonstrate the techniques discussed during the Wednesday meeting and be available for questions. This will be an indoor field trip but dress warmly. We will be working in a barn like facility. Time: 1:00 PM. Place: Little Green Apples Greenhouse, Ruff Creek, PA. Meet at 12:30 PM at Building #10, Greene Country Fairgrounds, Waynesburg, PA.

This issue Contains 2009 Calendar



A Forests Web Seminar Series

Note from Editor: The Cooperative Extension Services of Greene County and Washington County are offering a web seminar series on Forestry issues. The following information was passed along to me from Lee Young of the Washington Cooperative Extension Office.

Live seminars are scheduled for the second Tuesday of every month at noon and 7 p.m., skipping July and August. Each session is recorded and loaded onto the Web Seminar Center along with a copy of the presentation and any handout materials. So, if you are unable to participate in the "live" session, a recording of it will be available for you to view at your convenience. Of course, none of the interactive elements will be available when watching the recording.

To participate in the live seminars you must register and have a "Friend of Penn State" user ID. The "Register Now" page on the website will walk you through this process. If you are a member of the Penn State community,

you already have your User ID, but we would ask you to register on the website so that you can receive reminders of upcoming programs.

Participation in the web seminar does not require any special software. To view live and previously recorded seminars all you need is a high-speed Internet connection and sound.

To register and take part in the live seminars or to view the upcoming seminars schedule, visit <http://rnnext.cas.psu.edu/PAForestWeb/>. We look forward to having you join these discussions and learning experiences. "See" you there.

The scheduled seminars are:

March 10: Wildlife Habitat on Your Property. By Gary San Julian, Penn State Professor of Wildlife Ecology, Noon and 7 pm.

April 14: Invasive Insects in Your Forest. By Greg Hoover, Senior Extension Associate, Penn State Department of Entomology, Noon and 7 pm.

Contact information is as follows: David R. Jackson, Forest Resources Extension Educator, Penn State Cooperative Extension-Centre County, 420 Holmes Avenue > Willowbank Building, Room 322 Bellefonte, PA 16823 814-355-4897

Farm Bill Update

The Farm Bill is now called The Food, Conservation and Energy Act of 2008. Congress has strengthened support for forest landowners in this bill. However, we are waiting for the federal agencies to write the rules on how the benefits of the Farm bill will be delivered to the landowners. The process has been delayed by a change in the administration in Washington.

Nevertheless, the bill contains language that makes more money

available to forest landowners. One of these programs is called Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQUIP) and has been expanded to include forest management. The first step in getting some of these funds is to enroll in the Forest Stewardship Program. It appears that there may be cost sharing funds again, to help landowners with these costs. If you are interested in enrolling in this program please call your Service Forester, Ralph Campbell. If you are already enrolled in the Stewardship Program, there are other programs that may assist you in the management of your forests. Contact your Conservation District or your Service Forester for more information.

By Gay Thistle from information provided in "Forest Leaves" publication, Winter 2009

Congratulations to Arlyn Perkey

We know we are blessed to have Arlyn Perkey among our ranks to help us manage our forests. Others in Pennsylvania also realize this. Arlyn's picture is in the latest issue of "Pennsylvania Forests", receiving the 2008 Sandy Cochran Award for Excellence in Natural Resource Conservation presented by PA Forestry Association.

Arlyn was also given the 2008 Forest Conservationist Award from the Greene County Conservation District. Congratulations Arlyn and thank you for your service. *Submitted by Nadine Obermiller and Gay Thistle*

Book of Interest

OWNING AND MANAGING FORESTS, a Guide to Legal, Financial and Practical Matters, by Dr. Thom McEvoy, Associate Professor and Extension Forester, U. of Vermont, Island Press, 1998.

Submitted by Ed and Nadine Obermiller

2009 SWPWO Schedule of Events

March 11 Meeting

Tree Propagation Techniques

Rollie Daniels, Assoc. Prof. of Horticulture, Penn State U. (Ret.) Dr. Daniels will speak to us about propagation techniques used in the culture of trees. Dr. Daniels will introduce the principles of grafting and budding, the conditions necessary and, the tools used. Time: 7:00 PM
Place: The Dewese Rm of the Eberly Library of Waynesburg U, Waynesburg, PA

March 14 Field Trip

Hands-On Grafting Demonstration

SWPWO has planned a field trip to Little Greene Apples greenhouse on Rt 19 in Ruff Creek to see demonstrations of plant propagation techniques. Time: 1:00 PM. Place: Little Green Apples Greenhouse, Ruff Creek, PA. Meet at 12:30 PM at Building #10, Greene Country Fairgrounds, Waynesburg, PA

April 18 Tour and Buying trip

Native Trees and Shrubs of PA

We will be given a tour of Ecoscapes nursery in Washington County which grows native trees and shrubs of PA. A list of the trees and shrubs that are available will be printed in the March newsletter. Come for the tour and the owners will allow us to purchase plants. Time: 1:00 PM. Place: Ecoscapes Nursery. Meet at the Crown Center, Sears Parking lot (in front of garage bays) at 12:30 to carpool.

May 13 Meeting

Ponds in Your Woodlands

Dana Rizzo, Extension Educator for Water Quality, Penn State Extension and Westmoreland County Conservation District will speak about the process of

permitting, building and maintaining ponds on our woodlands.

Time: 7:00 PM Place: Building #10, Greene Country Fairgrounds, Waynesburg, PA

May 16 Field Trip

Visit to Ponds at the Irvin's

Time: 1:00 PM. Meet at 12:30 PM at Building #10, Greene Country Fairgrounds, Waynesburg, PA

June 13 Tour

Ryerson State Park Bird Walk

Marjorie Howard, Pres. Ralph K. Bell Bird Club Time: 1:00 PM Place: Ryerson Station State Park in western Greene County. Meet at 12:00 PM at Building #10, Greene Country Fairgrounds, Waynesburg, PA

July 18 Summer Tour

Tour of The Homeplace:

From Civil War-era Farm to 21st Century Tree "Plantation"

Come visit the scenic southwest corner of Green County. This will be a good review of SWPWO touchstones: battling invasives, crop tree ID and release, microclimate, reforestation, drainage, road and trail maintenance, wildlife habitat, and other assorted notions of place, time and change. Time: 1:00 PM. Meet at 12:30 PM at Building #10, Greene Country Fairgrounds, Waynesburg, PA

August 14 Field Trip

Visit to a Sawmill

Note Unusual Day Friday
Time: 3:00 PM Place: Summit Forest Resources, Inc., Markleysburg, PA
Meet at 1:30 PM at Building #10, Greene Country Fairgrounds, Waynesburg, PA

September 9 Meeting

Owls of SW PA

Rodney Burns, PA Wildlife Conservation Officer will speak to us

about owls that are commonly found in our area . We will learn about their habits and habitats. Time: 7:00 PM
Place: Building #10, Greene Country Fairgrounds, Waynesburg, PA

**September 12 Field Trip
Owl Spotting Tour**

Note Unusual Time
Time: 6:30 PM. Place to be determined.

**October 17 Picnic with Plant
Identification Competition and Potato
Gun Competition**

(Members, Friends and Family)

Time: To be determined
Place: To be determined

**November 18 Meeting
Managing Your Forests: Where to
Begin**

Arlyn Perkey, US Forest Service (Ret.), and John Burnham, Past President SWPWO .Do you have a Stewardship Plan, but still find yourself struggling with the questions of what should I do, where should I do it, and how should I do it? Maybe starting to manage a few acres with good access will help you build your confidence. 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 21 Field Trip
Visit to a Recently Treated and
Untreated Portion of John Burnham's
Forest Land**

This field trip will visit the woods discussed at the previous meeting. We will look at a similar untreated portion of the woods. We will discuss observations about the site and alternatives for landowners to consider. We will look at what John decided to do and talk about how he did it. You can decide how it

looks to you. We will discuss how it is likely to change in the next 20 years. Time: 1:00 PM. Place: John Burnham's Woodlot in SW Washington County
Meet at 12:30 PM at Building #10, Greene Country Fairgrounds, Waynesburg, PA.



**It is time to clean out your
bluebird nesting boxes**
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**It's Time to Take
Measurements**

Most of the trees in your woods, except red maples, are dormant at this time. However, time is running out to take a dormant spring measurement for a base reading of crop tree growth. Please refer to your November newsletter about how to take the measurements. If you don't have it handy, it is found on the SWPWO website (listed on the last page) under the November 2008 newsletter. There is a form in your Crop Tree Management book that will help you organize your data. We would like to start publishing this data periodically in the newsletter. If you have some years of measurements, please do send it to me. I would also like a little information on the type of site that the trees grow in. Gay Thistle

Plants Available April 18 Field Trip

On Saturday, April 18, SWPWO has been invited to tour a nursery that grows and sells native plants of PA. The owners of this nursery want out of the business (Their son started the business, than moved away.) After the tour, the nursery will be open for us to purchase plants. This is great opportunity to update or add to your landscaping in a responsible and sustainable way or to fill-in those spots in your woodland where you have cleared invasive plants. The owner has sent me a list of plants that are available. I have added information about the plants that you may be less familiar with so that you can select your purchases based on the site in which you are planting. The list is found on the last page of this newsletter and will available on the website. *By Gay 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 2009

Membership dues for 2009 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. Our first meeting of 2009 is scheduled for March 11. Keep your membership up to date to receive a calendar of the 2009 programs and to continue to receive the newsletter.

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

Executive Committee for the year 2009

Officers

Bob Daley- President
Maria Piantanida-Vice Pres.
Gay Thistle- Secretary
Earl Novendstern- Treasurer

Board of Directors

Joe McNaney
Dave Cressey
C. Michael Irvin

Advisors

Bill Wentzel Arlyn Perkey
Ralph Campbell

Past Presidents

John Burnham
Harold Thistle

Plant list from EcoScapes, April 18, Field Trip

| | | |
|--|------|--|
| American Cranberry - <i>Viburnum trilobum</i> | 3-5' | upright, spreading multistemmed plant, white, mid to late May flower |
| American Holly - <i>Ilex opaca</i> | #1 | |
| American Hornbeam - <i>Carpinus caroliniana</i> | 6-7' | 40-60' oval to round habit, good Landscape plant |
| American Redbud - <i>Cercis canadensis</i> | 3-5' | |
| Arrowwood Viburnum - <i>Viburnum dentatum</i> | 2-3' | multistemmed, dense, colonizes, filler shrub |
| Black Chokeberry - <i>Aronia melanocarpa</i> | 3-4' | upright, suckering shrub, good Fall color |
| Canadian Hemlock - <i>Tsuga canadensis</i> | 2-4' | |
| Eastern White Pine - <i>Pinus strobus</i> | 3-4' | |
| Eastern White Pine - <i>Pinus strobus</i> | 4-6' | |
| Gray Dogwood - <i>Cornus racemosa</i> | 4-5' | upright suckering shrub, poor soil |
| Red Ash - <i>Fraxinus pennsylvanica</i> | 6-7' | 50'-60', irregular habit |
| Hazelnut - <i>Corylus americana</i> | 3-4' | 15'-18' multistemmed shrub |
| Inkberry - <i>Ilex glabra</i> | 2-3' | small leafed holly, dk color, blue berries |
| Maple-Leaved Viburnum - <i>V. acerfolium</i> | 3-5' | 4'-6' sparsely branched shrub, shade tol |
| Mountain Laurel - <i>Kalmia latifolia</i> | #1 | |
| Pin Oak - <i>Quercus palustris</i> | 6-8' | |
| Pinxterbloom Azalea - <i>R. perichlymenoides</i> | #1 | 4'-6' flrs before lvs, early May, wh->viol |
| Red Maple - <i>Acer rubrum</i> | 2-3' | |
| Red Maple - <i>Acer rubrum</i> | 4-6' | |
| Red Oak - <i>Quercus rubra</i> | 3-4' | |
| Rosebay Rhododendron - <i>R. maximum</i> | #2 | 4'-15', rose-purple, shade, moist site |
| Sassafras - <i>Sassafras albidum</i> | 3-4' | |
| Serviceberry - <i>Amelanchier laevis</i> | 3-5' | 25-16", multistem, allseason shrub |
| Sour Gum - <i>Nyssa sylvatica</i> | 4-5' | |
| Sugar Maple - <i>Acer saccharum</i> | 6-8' | |
| Sweet Bay Magnolia - <i>Magnolia virginiana</i> | 3-4' | 10'-20', multistem shrub, late spr. flr, wh |
| White Oak - <i>Quercus alba</i> | 2-3' | |
| Winterberry - <i>Ilex verticillata</i> | 2-3' | 6'-10' oval shrub, need male and femal plants to |
| Winterberry - <i>Ilex verticillata</i> | 3-5' | prod. berries on female-like all holly |

indicates gallon size of container