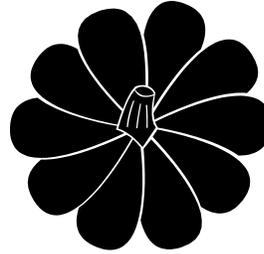


SWPWO



Southwest PA Woodland Owners

Nov. 2011

Next Meeting: November 9 (Wednesday):

Best Practices for Reclaiming a Development Site

Jeremy Kelly, Environmental Program Specialist from the Greene County Conservation District, will be speaking to our group about best practices for reclaiming land from gas development operations. With the economic boom of Marcellus Gas exploration in our area, many of us are dealing with lease language for this development or working with contractors to get our land reclaimed from a well-development or pipeline installation. Jeremy will talk to us about best practices to prevent erosion from this type of development and also inform us of the resources available from the Conservation Districts. Lisa Snider, the District Manager, and Lindsay Kozlowski, Environmental Program Specialist, will also be there to answer any questions.

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

Field Trip: November 12(Saturday):

Seeding at Catherine's Knob

Fall is a great time to plant certain trees by seed. We will be visiting Arlyn Perkey's tree farm in West Virginia where we will see 2-year old red oak seedlings that are approaching 3 feet tall! These seedlings were started in 8-inch diameter prototype tree tubes designed to provide more growing space for seedlings. This is the area that was occupied by sycamore saplings 2 growing seasons ago when SWPWO last visited Catherine's Knob. We will install a new OMNI Plant Tube on an established seedling using the new fiber glass stakes and a driver. We will examine the red oak and chestnut we planted 2 seasons ago, as well as look at 3-year old chestnut that are out-of-the tube and standing on their own. If time permits, we will look at 1-growing season old seedlings established in 18-inch tubes and learn what is planned for them. See established red oak seedlings/saplings that are out-of-the tube, above the deer, and ready to compete. Arlyn has some gas development on this property and, if there is time and interest, we will look over the reclamation efforts. Wear appropriate shoes for hiking and dress for the weather.

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

SWPWO Business Notes:

We will take a few moments to hold elections during the November meeting. Jesse Wise resigned as Secretary (She graduated from college and got a job in southern WV). Dave Cressey has been nominated for the position. Dave's place on Board of Directors is up and Raul Chiesa has been nominated for this position. Mike Irvin will run for another term as VP, Maria Piantanida will run again for Treasurer, and Mark Fajerski will run again for the Board of Directors. Thanks to everyone who has volunteered their time to our organization.

This is the end of another year for SWPWO. Next year we will once again try to see a maple sugaring operation in February or March (I know, we have tried this for two years- one was snowed out and this spring just did not have much of a sugaring season). Notification of this event will be by email only. Our regular meetings start in April 2012. Some of the planned topics are forest succession, a tour of the JR Young Foundry in Rices Landing, ideas for your own hobby arboretum, and learn how to use herbicides safely and effectively. Don't miss out on another exciting year. Pay your 2012 dues today! Unlike many things in our live, the cost has not changed.



Forestry Related Events of Note

Timber Tax and Finance Workshop: This workshop is being offered through Penn State Cooperative Extension and this particular topic is very useful in helping us value our woodlots. Forestry professionals, financial advisors, accountants, attorneys, and forest landowners are welcome to attend. Topics to be covered are Forest Valuation and Appraisal, Operating and Management Expenses, Timber Sales and Income, Capital Gains on Timber Sales, Depreciation Methods, Cost-sharing Expenses, Reforestation Expenses, Conservation Easements, Estate Planning and Property Taxes, and Pennsylvania Inheritance Taxes. This workshop will be held on Thursday, November 10, 2011 from 8:00 AM to 4:00 PM at the Clinton County Resource and Education Center in Mill Hall, PA. Register online at <http://www.cvent.com/d/4cq7yp>. For questions contact Mike Jacobson (mgj2@psu.edu) or Darlene Jury (dkk2@psu.edu).

WV Woodland Owners Fall Meeting/Seminar: *Meeting with other woodland owners allows you to find ways to work smarter, worry less, and enjoy your woods more.*

Sutton, West Virginia; located near Flatwoods, WV off of I-79 in Braxton County

November 12, 2011; 10 AM to 3:30 PM. **Featured topics include:**

***Allegheny Mountain Naturals and other Ethnobotanical topics (medicinal herbs; ginseng, etc.):** Mimi Hernandez, *Appalachian Center for Ethnobotanical Studies*

***Some basics of forest mushrooms:** Dr. Dan Panaccione, *Professor of Mycology and Genetics*

***Current trends in timber prices and markets:** Dr. Ben Spong, *Forest Operations Extension Specialist*

***The ABCs of Conservation Easements:** Joe Hatton, *WV NRCS Easement Specialist*

***Do foresters matter? The influence of professional foresters on NIPF timber harvests in**

WV: Dr. Stuart Moss, *WVU Assistant Professor of Forest Business*

Cost: \$10 Registration that includes lunch. To **RSVP** or for more information about this meeting/seminar contact: Dan Magill at [304-293-9419](tel:304-293-9419) or dmagill@wvu.edu



Meet the New State Forester

By Bill Wentzel, retired DCNR Service Forester

After Bill Wentzel's retirement five years ago, forest landowners will once again have a service forester permanently assigned to work in this area. His name is Russell Gibbs and he started this past September with the PA Bureau of Forestry, Department of Conservation and Natural Resources.

Russell originally hails from the Uniontown area of Fayette County. After graduating from Penn State University's School of Forestry in 2008 where he received his Bachelor's degree in Forest Management, he worked as a forester for two and a half years with the PA Game Commission in N.E. PA. From 1999 to 2007 Russell served in the U.S. Army Reserve as a military policeman. He participated in two tours of duty overseas in Bosnia and Iraq.

The new service forester will work primarily in Greene and Washington Counties, but will also spend time assisting with the Tree Vitalize Urban Forestry program in the Pittsburgh area. He will assist private landowners by providing them with technical advice in the areas of forest and wildlife management, tree planting, insect and disease matters, and public outreach programs.

Russell enjoys hunting and coaching youngsters in the midget football program. He has wasted no time in his new position by becoming involved in a recent outdoor festival at Ryerson Station State Park and by joining in with the SW Pa Woodland Owners Association.

His office will be located in the old R.C.A. building in the Meadowlands area of Washington County, which also houses the Natural Resources Conservation District and the Farm Service Agency (F.S.A.). Contact information will be forthcoming from the Conservation Districts of Greene and Washington counties as soon as Russell gets situated. Russell is enthusiastically looking forward to working with the forest landowners and the general public in this corner of the Commonwealth.

Oct 22nd Program and Picnic Review

The weather certainly cooperated for us on Saturday. It was a beautiful sunny day! SWPWO hosted about 50 people who spent a few hours learning about art in nature, directional tree felling, growing walnuts from seed, winter tree id, crop tree management, sawmill operation and drying and bat ecology. We were introduced to Russell Gibbs, the new Service Forester for Greene and Washington counties. Gary Gilmore from the Tree Farm Association gave us information about the importance of becoming an official Tree Farmer, and we had a fabulous meal of roasted pig, applesauce, potato salad and baked beans! Thanks to everyone who assisted in making this day successful and thank you to John Burnham for hosting it on his award winning tree farm and party pavilion.

Executive Committee for the year 2011

Officers(date elected)

Gay Thistle - President (2011)

Mike Irvin -Vice Pres.(2010)

- Secretary (2012)

Maria Piantanida – Treasurer (2010)

Board of Directors

Dave Cressey (2008)

Mark Fajerski (2010)

Russell Orme (2011)

Advisors

Bill Wentzel Arlyn Perkey

Russell Gibbs, - Service Forester, PA Bureau of Forestry

Past Presidents

John Burnham, Bob Daley, 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 2012

Membership dues for 2012 are due by January 30, 2012 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 2012 programs and to continue to receive the newsletter.

This issue was edited by Gay Thistle (temporary editor)

We Wish You a Happy and Safe Holiday Season!