

SWPWO



August 2007

Southwestern Pennsylvania Woodland Owners **Summer Notes**

Upcoming Summer Tour Changed: CREP in Action, Aug 18

The next summer tour has changed its topic and location. In March we learned about the Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP) when Shawn Cunningham from the Western PA Conservancy spoke to us on a Wednesday evening in Washington. The follow up field trip to Joe McNaney's tree farm was cancelled due to snowy weather so we decided to visit this site on Saturday, August 18th. The visit to Raccoon State Park will be rescheduled for next summer. Our member, Joe McNaney is participating in the CREP program and will show us what this collaboration has done for his woodland property. The CREP program is being funded until December of this year. Join us for this tour to see if this program could benefit you and your land. Joe's address is 336 Craig Run Rd in Waynesburg. **The tour will run from 1:00 PM Saturday, August 18 and will go to about 4:00 PM. We will meet at 12:30 PM at building #10 at the Greene County fairgrounds to car pool. Directions to Joe's place are: From Ruff Creek exit of Rt 79, go east on RT 221. Take 4th left onto Craig's Run Rd., at .8 of a mile look for a brown mailbox with #336, go past**

this about 300 ft to a brown mobile home, then 200-250ft more to a gate on right. Enter the property at this gate. Dress for the weather and wear comfortable walking shoes.

September Meetings have New Dates

In September we will be learning about and exploring the mushrooms of SW Pennsylvania. Please make note, that the date of both meeting dates have been changed to **Wednesday, September 18 at the Greene County fairgrounds and the field trip will be on Saturday, September 22.** Our speaker tells us that we will have a better chance of seeing a larger variety of mushrooms at this later date. More information will be forthcoming in the September newsletter. Please change these dates on your calendar.

It's All About Change

"Things do not change, we change."
(Henry David Thoreau, 1817-1862, from *Walden*). It struck me that the cover of this newsletter was about changes in our schedule and I just couldn't resist bringing up this quote. In this fast paced world, we think that sometimes we are not in control. We have to take a walk in the woods and realize that we are in command of what we do. Join us for a walk in the woodlands.

Emerald Ash Borer has been spotted in Allegheny County!

On June 21, 2007, emerald ash borer was detected for the first time in the state in Cranberry township, Butler County, PA by two USDA APHIS surveyors. They collected two adults using a sweep net while conducting visual surveys that are part of the joint Emerald Ash Borer taskforce detection effort. State and federal officials are currently working to intensify surveys near the detection site in order to determine the extent and severity of the infestation. PA Department of Agriculture has imposed a quarantine in Butler, Allegheny, Beaver and Lawrence Counties to slow the spread of emerald ash borer. The quarantine is designed to help slow the spread of the beetle. Pennsylvania's quarantine restricts the movement of ash nursery stock, green lumber and any other ash material, including logs, firewood, stumps, roots and branches, and all wood chips from the quarantined area. Due to the difficulty in distinguishing between species of hardwood firewood, all hardwood firewood—including ash, oak, maple and hickory—are considered quarantined. The spread of emerald ash borer has been linked to the transportation of infested nursery stock and firewood.

Emerald ash borer is an invasive beetle that is native to China and eastern Asia. The larvae (caterpillar) of this wood boring insect feed just under the bark of the green, white, black and blue ash trees. Preventing the spread of this insect is best done by early detection of its presence. Signs and symptoms of emerald ash borer infestation include;

1. D-shaped emergence holes through the bark of ash trees that are 1/8th of an inch in diameter.
2. Serpentine, S-shaped galleries tunneled just beneath the bark and do not extend far into the sapwood (the outer wood, just under bark).
3. Legless, flattened, heavily segmented, white to cream colored larvae found beneath

the bark. Each segment of the "worm" is almost bell-shaped.

The adult emerald ash borers have long, narrow bodies that are shiny, metallic green in color. Adults emerge from the D-shaped holes in late May to early August. There is only one generation per year. Adult females produce about 50 to 100 eggs, which are laid individually on the bark surface or within bark cracks and crevices. Observations indicate that upper portions of the trunk are colonized first, making it difficult to detect early infestations.

As larvae hatch, they tunnel into the tree, where they feed on the phloem and outer sapwood, excavating S-shaped, serpentine galleries just under the bark. Larvae continue to feed through summer and into the fall, with most completing their development prior to over-wintering in the outer bark or just under the inner bark within the outer inch of sapwood. Pupation occurs in mid- to late-spring of the following year. Adults emerge soon thereafter to complete the typical one-year cycle. *(Information for this article was provided by member Peggy Woods and the websites www.ashalert.osu.edu and paemeraldashborer.psu.edu).*

SWPWO

Committee for the year 2007

Officers

Harold Thistle- President

Bob Daley - Vice Pres.

Nadine Obermiller- Secretary

Earl Novendstern- Treasurer

Board of Directors

Joe McNaney

Max Loughman

Maria Piantanida

Advisors

Bill Wentzel`

Arlyn Perkey

John Burnham- Past President

Calendar of Meetings for the 2007 Year

- **August 18 Summer Tour Woodland Plant Identification**
CREP in Action at Joe McNaney's tree farm in Greene County
Time: 12:00 PM
Meet at: Building #10, Greene County Fairgrounds, Waynesburg, PA
- **September 19 Meeting (NOTE NEW DATE)**
Mushrooms and Decomposers
Denise Binion from the USDA Forest Health and Technology Enterprise Team in Morgantown, WV
Time: 7:00 PM
Place: Building #10, Greene County Fairgrounds, Waynesburg, PA
- **September 22 Field Trip (NOTE NEW DATE)**
Identifying Mushrooms in Your Woodlands
Place to be determined
Time: 1:00 PM
Meet at: 12:30 PM Building #10, Greene County Fairgrounds, Waynesburg, PA
- **October 20 Picnic with Plant Identification Competition and Potato Gun Competition (Members Only)**
Time and Place to be determined
- **November 14 Meeting Successful Management of Woodlands Through Low Impact Logging**
Jim Finley (??)
Time: 7:00 PM
Place: Courthouse Square Building Washington, PA
 - **November 17 Field Trip Tree Felling, Horse Logging, and Timber Sawing**
Burnham's Tree Farm

SWPWO Website

The SWPWO official website can be accessed at the following address www.cs.pitt.edu/~daley/swpwo.

This website is available to us because of the talents and time of webmaster and officer, Bob Daley. The SWPWO website has the calendar of events for 2006, current information about our group, and photos from our outings. If you find a website that may interest others in our group e-mail Bob Daley at daley@cs.pitt.edu

and give him the web address. He is looking for interesting links and photos to post on our site.

Elections 2008

At the November meeting we will be electing new officers for the positions of President, Secretary and one Board of Directors position. Both the current President and the Secretary have reached their term limits so they cannot serve another year. If you are interested in volunteering your time to help run SWPWO, please contact one of the officers by October 2006 meeting.

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

Membership to the Southwestern Pennsylvania Woodland Owners Association is \$10 per year for an individual and \$15 per year for a household. Dues are expected to be paid by January in order to ensure a timely receipt of the newsletter and notice of the next meeting. To join, please send name, address and phone number to:

SWPWO,
195 E., High St
Waynesburg, PA 15370

This newsletter is produced about 8 times per year. It is published about two weeks prior to the meetings. Articles and/or ideas are welcome. Contact the editors John Burnham at 724-223-8781 or e-mail at burnhamjc@msn.com or Gay Thistle at 724-499-5190 thistle@windstream.net