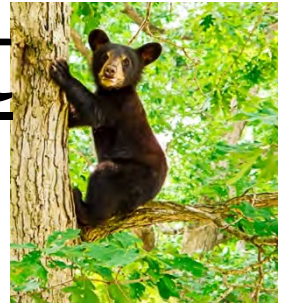




Branching Out

Volume 19: Issue 1 WINTER 2025 Newsletter of the
Woodland Owners of the Southern Alleghenies
P. O. Box 253 Everett, PA 15537
www.theWOSA.org



UPCOMING EVENTS



Please note that the WOSA Board has decided to send digital newsletters to all of our members who have email, due to the high cost of postage and printing. You will still get a printed copy if you don't have email.

Saturday, March 22, 2025: Annual WOSA Conference

8:30 am – 4:30 pm at Bedford American Legion

3721 US 220 Business, Bedford, PA. See registration details on page 4.

Conference: “Managing for Wildlife in your Woods”

Pennsylvania forests are blessed with an abundance of native trees, shrubs, and flowering plants that support a wide diversity of wildlife. Unfortunately, many animal populations suffer from habitat loss and disease. Learn how to enhance forest habitats to provide food, water, cover, and shelter for a wide variety of wildlife.

Saturday, April 19, 2025: Chainsaw Workshop

8:30 am – 4:30 pm at Sinoquipe Scout Reservation

677 Boy Scout Road, Fort Littleton, PA 17223

Tony Tresselt is back for a hands-on and comprehensive training on proper use of chainsaws - from how to sharpen saws to proper techniques of felling trees. More details on page 5 in newsletter.

Note: Advance Payment is due to WOSA by Friday, April 11.

WOSA Member: \$30 All others: \$35

Send payment to WOSA and mail to: WOSA P. O. Box 253 Everett, PA 15537

Saturday, May 17, 2025 Herbicide Workshop 9:30 am – noon

Joe Wolfe’s property: 1355 Lincoln Way East McConnellsburg, PA

FREE. Bring Your Lunch. More details to come.

Sunday, June 8, 2025 Annual WOSA Picnic: 2 pm – 5 pm

Sideling Hill Picnic Area Covered Dish Meal and Wildflower Walk

More details to come.

Saturday, July 19, 2025 Wildflower Walk 9:30 – noon

Mike and Laura Jackson’s property: 8621 Black Valley Road, Everett, PA

FREE. Bring Your Lunch. More details to come.

WOSA CONTACTS

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John Boggess Dave Schreffler

Carolyn Hendricks Fred Veith

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Advisors:

Jennifer Lentz Kovacs

Dave Scamardella

Seleen Shives

The Woodland Owners of the Southern Alleghenies (WOSA) encompasses Bedford and Fulton Counties in Pennsylvania, but anyone interested in forestry and wildlife is encouraged to join.

Our members are interested in the methods and benefits of sound forest stewardship practices of privately owned woodlands.

Our goals are to:

- Exchange information on best management practices for sustainable forestry while considering the landowner's interest in wildlife conservation, aesthetic values, watershed protection, recreation, and economic return.

- Educate landowners on stewardship and sustainable uses of resources.

- Provide forestry resources to our members and the public.

- Work with the community to educate the public about forest stewardship and sustainability.

- Achieve recognition as an organized voice of forest landowners in the region for sustainable forestry.

WOSA is a tax-exempt, not-for-profit, educational organization as described in section 501(c)3 of the Internal Revenue Code. Gifts are deductible for income tax purposes.

(Tax ID# 25-1835249)

Established January 7, 1999

Membership runs per calendar year.



Congratulations to **Craig Prescott** 2023 WOSA Scholarship Winner

Left: **Craig Prescott**, son of Wayne and Susan Prescott of Everett, is a freshman majoring in Fisheries, Wildlife, and Conservation Biology. He received the \$1,000 scholarship from WOSA to further his studies at North Carolina State University.

Craig won the scholarship in 2023 as a student at Bedford High School, but just recently received the monetary award after successfully completing the first semester at NC State with a Term GPA of 4.0. Congratulations, Craig!!

The 2024 scholarship winner was Jacob Yokum, a Bedford H.S. Senior who will receive his award after he successfully completes his first semester at Allegany College of Maryland in 2025.

The Ben & Carole Tresselt Scholarship is awarded to high school seniors or college students from Bedford and Fulton Counties majoring in the field of Forest Resources, Forestry, or Wildlife Studies. The scholarship is awarded based on academic merit, quality of the written essay, and career goals consistent with wildlife studies and/or forest stewardship.

The application is on the WOSA website: www.theWOSA.org. Click on "Awards" Tab and scroll down.

Applications for the 2025 Scholarship can be downloaded from WOSA's website: www.theWOSA.org. Applications for the 2025 Scholarship are due by October 1, 2025.

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Rodney/Marti Clark

Renee Nicholson/Matt Miller

Sam/Elizabeth Baum

Jeff/Julie Stone

Michael Gilbert and Melissa Barkman, Consulting Foresters

Alvin Jackson

Jeffrey/Samuel Pratt

Gary/Kathy Schrift

Jeannie Zimmerman

The Creation of a Thousand Forests is in One Acorn

— Ralph Waldo Emerson



**WE APPRECIATE OUR
2025 SPONSORS!**
American Forest Foundation
Dr. Vincent Acampora
John Butler
Penn Forest Natural Burial Park

Our condolences to the family of John Edmiston, a valued and longtime member of WOSA who passed away in December 2024.

WOSA Board Gathers for First Board Meeting of 2025



WOSA couldn't exist without our members volunteering time and talents.

L to R, front: Laura Jackson, President; Dave Schreffler, Board; Debbie Magill, Secretary.
L to R, back: John Boggess, Board; Fred Veith, Board; Dave Scamardella, Advisor; Carolyn Hendricks, Board;
Joe Wolfe, Vice-President; Renee Hiteshow, Board; Joanne Bogess, Board; Mike Jackson, Treasurer.

The WOSA Board meetings are held the 4th Friday of the month at 11:30 am – you are welcome to join us for a meal and the meeting. We order from the menu and each person pays for their meal.

Friday, Feb. 28, 11:30 am we meet at Wild Annie's in McConnellsburg.

Friday, March 28, 11:30 am: Spring House Café at Homewood in Everett.

Friday, April 25, 11:30 am: Spring House Café at Homewood in Everett.

Please call Laura in advance if you'd like to join us. Meetings conclude by 1:30 pm.



There is a vacancy for the office of **Assistant Secretary**.

Duties: Attends board meetings, takes minutes if Secretary is absent. Helps with correspondence.

Must use email and attend most board meetings.

Call Laura if you'd like to be nominated for the position, or want to know more.

TREE QUIZ

What animal plants the most acorns that grow into oak trees and help forests increase in size?

Blue Jay?

Or

Gray Squirrel?

Answer: page 6





MANAGING FOR WILDLIFE IN YOUR WOODS

CONFERENCE

Presented by the



WOODLAND OWNERS OF THE SOUTHERN ALLEGHENIES

Saturday, March 22, 2025 from 8:30 am – 4:30 pm



Bedford American Legion –UPPER LEVEL

3721 US 220 Business, Bedford, PA

Cost: WOSA Members \$15 Non-members: \$20

Tickets will be sold in a strip of 10 for \$10. No single tickets sold.

**CHAINSAW
RAFFLE**

**DOOR PRIZES
SILENT AUCTION
VENDORS**



8:30 am: Registration - coffee and donuts
9 am: Clay Lutz: Benefitting Wildlife through Forest Management
10 am: Josh Rittenhouse: What is Bird-Friendly Forest Management?
11:30 am: John Chenger, President: Bat Conservation and Management
12:30 pm: LUNCH Soup, sandwiches, homemade apple dumplings/ice cream
1:30 pm: Pennsylvania Game Commission Update
2 pm: Jeannine Fleegle: Impact of Chronic Wasting Disease
3:30 pm: Robert Bush, Sr.: Wildlife Videos: Life on The Log
 Silent Auction ends at 3:30 pm
4:30 pm: Winning Ticket drawn for Chainsaw - must be present to win

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Send check payable to WOSA P. O. Box 253 Everett, PA 15537. Mail by Monday, March 10 to guarantee lunch.

Conference Cost: WOSA Member: \$15 per person Non-member: \$20 per person **QUESTIONS? Call 814-494-4439**

Name(s) _____

Address _____ Phone _____

Street City State Zip

Enroll me as a WOSA member: New _____ Renewal _____ Email _____

Regular (\$15) Family (\$20) Associate (\$15) Sponsor (\$50)

Regular and Family memberships are open to forest landowners. Associate (non-voting) membership is open to others that support healthy forests. Sponsor is open to business or individuals.

Membership benefits : -Meeting discounts -Reduced costs to monthly programs -WOSA Newsletter -Field trips

Amount Enclosed for Conference: _____ Membership: _____ Total: _____

APRIL 19, 2025 8:30 AM TO 4:30 PM

CHAINSAW

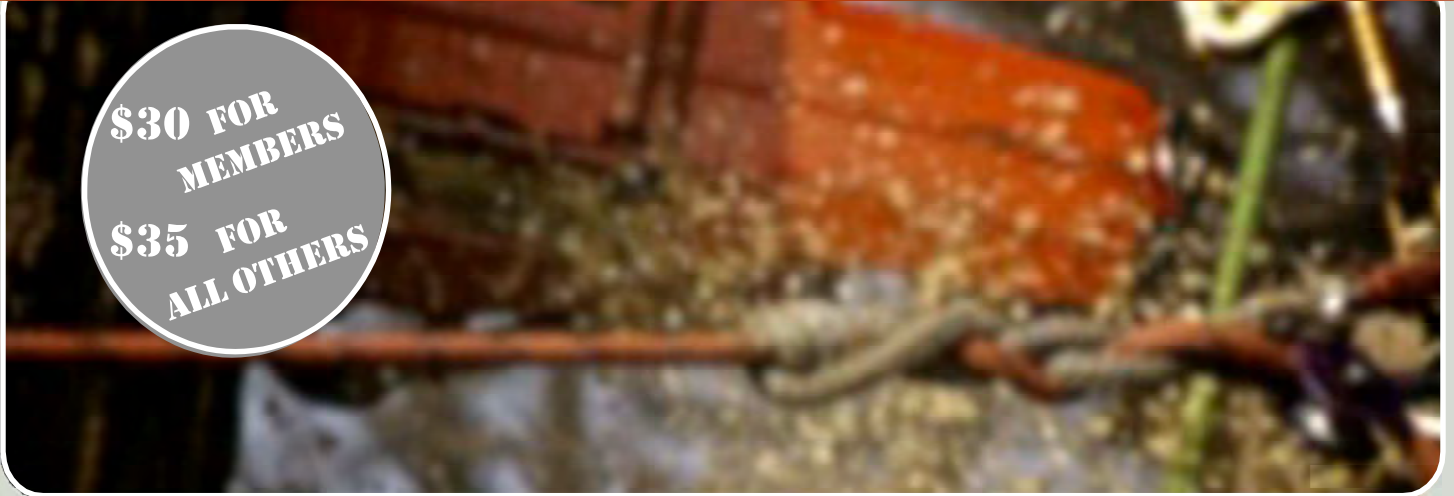
Location:

Sinoquipe Scout
Reservation

677 Boy Scout Road
Fort Littleton, PA 17223



**\$30 FOR
MEMBERS**
**\$35 FOR
ALL OTHERS**



WANT TO BE A BETTER CHAINSAW OPERATOR?

The Woodland Owners of the Southern Alleghenies (WOSA) and Keystone Training Solutions, LLC have the answer.



To bring the best possible instruction to you for the best value possible, Woodland Owners of the Southern Alleghenies (WOSA) and Keystone Training Solutions, LLC have teamed up to present a one day, comprehensive, hands on learning experience. Qualified, experienced instructors with a passion for learning and teaching will guide participants through the basics of selection, maintenance, handling, ergonomics, limbing, bucking, felling, and sharpening chainsaws for the woodlot owner.

A thorough hands-on and classroom experience awaits. Do you know the difference between a bucking and a felling wedge? How can you tell if your saw is sharp before you even start it? Do you realize the impact of tree dynamics, lean and overall health affect every chainsaw operation in the woods? What is a five-step felling plan and how can it get you home for

dinner on time? How do you safely remove leaning hung-up trees? What is mechanical advantage and how can it be used to make tree felling safer and more productive?

Whether you use a saw daily or once a year you will gain valuable insight and knowledge, tips, and tricks to make your work easier.

Bring your saw, personal protective equipment (PPE) to include chaps, gloves, hard hat, eye and hearing protection. (Some PPE will be available to lend), your sharpening/maintenance tools and lunch. Be prepared for a fun, interactive and informative day in the woods.

**Advanced registration is required
by April 11, 2025.
No admittance at the door.**

**Contact: Laura Jackson
814-494-4439**



Anthony Tresselt

Arborist, climber, teacher and writer
Anthony knows the ins and outs of safe,
efficient chainsaw use.



Did you ever wonder how trees survive the winter?

Native trees and shrubs are really remarkable in their adaptations to cold.

BARK: provides insulation and protection against freezing and cracking during winter. Sequoia trees take the prize for the thickest bark (up to 18 inches), allowing them to withstand most fires, as well as bitter cold. As trees age, their bark tends to get thicker, protecting the living cambium just below the bark.

WAX: Evergreen trees and shrubs have a waxy outer coating that protects rhododendron leaves (left) or conifer needles, which limits water loss. Deciduous trees (below) drop their leaves in the fall to reduce water loss. Leaf drop also prevents snow from building up on leaves, which can be disastrous!



SUGAR: Of course, water freezes when it expands so trees do a number of complex preparations to survive winter in a state of dormancy. Cells shrink, dehydrate, and increase their sugar content so they harden and become glasslike. This helps to prevent freezing and damage to a tree's living cells.

There are observations of trees exploding due to extreme cold. If tree sap does begin to freeze, it puts pressure on the bark, which then breaks in an explosive manner!!

Tree Quiz Answer: Blue Jays eat and store acorns for the winter, but in a way that benefits the potential future tree sprouts too. While a squirrel may bury acorns up to 200 feet away from the tree, a Blue Jay can move the acorn up to a mile away. Blue Jays can also carry up to five acorns at a time. They carry one in their mouth, one in the tip of their bill and two or three in a specialized pouch in their throat called a gular pouch. They also store one acorn at a time, often in the ground.

Blue Jays and oak trees have a well-studied relationship. In one study, six birds with radio transmitters were found to cache 3,000-5,000 acorns each in one fall. Not only do jays have a fondness for acorns, they are also good at sensing which acorns have been infested with weevils and which haven't. Acorn weevils lay their eggs in the developing acorn and the larva eats the entire flesh of the acorn. In the fall, the weevil emerges through a tiny hole in the acorn, but the acorn will no longer grow. Blue Jays are very good at not storing weevil infested acorns.

Blue Jays inadvertently plant trees that will grow and produce seeds long after they are gone. With the number of acorns Blue Jays cache, they can start a forest in their lifetime. In fact, it is thought that Blue Jays are the reason oak trees spread north so rapidly after the last glacial period. So yes, it's the Blue Jay!!

From: <https://audubonnc.org/oaks-and-jays/>