

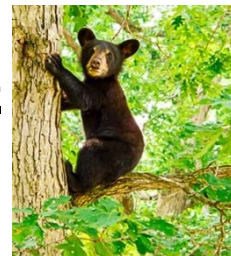


Branching Out

Volume 19: Issue 4 SUMMER 2025 Newsletter of the
Woodland Owners of the Southern Alleghenies

P. O. Box 253 Everett, PA 15537

www.theWOSA.org



UPCOMING EVENTS



Wednesday, Sept. 17 SDF Work Day #23: 9 – noon

We'll cut invasive trees and shrubs and do a cut stump treatment. Herbicide spray bottles and chemical gloves will be provided. Bring your loppers, or chainsaw and safety gear, plus water, hat, bug spray, chair, and lunch.

Tuesday, Sept. 23 SDF Work Day #24: 9 – noon

We'll cut invasive trees and shrubs and do a cut stump treatment. Herbicide spray bottles and chemical gloves will be provided. Bring your loppers, or chainsaw and safety gear, plus water, hat, bug spray, chair, and lunch.

Directions to SDF on last page.

Sunday, Sept. 21, 2025 Paw Paw Fest in Duncansville, PA

WOSA is a vendor - See flyer on page 3 for details.

Tuesday, Sept 30, 2025 Free Trees Delivered to Altoona

Tree Requests were due in June, so you should have received your approved list of trees by now. If not, email Laura Jackson.

Friday, Oct. 3 SDF Work Day #25: Plant Trees 9 – noon

We'll need lots of helpers since we have 140 trees to plant to replace trees that have died. Please bring a tree shovel, trowel, a small sledge hammer (optional) work gloves, water, hat, and sunscreen. Iced tea, water, snacks provided.

Sunday, Oct. 5: Walk in Penn's Woods - Check website for details:

<https://paforestry.org/where-are-the-walks-happening-in-2025>

Service Forester Dave Scamardella will lead a hike in **Franklin County** at the new mountain bike trail system on the Bear Valley Tract.

Friday, Oct. 10: Forestry for Birds Workshop 1:30 – 4:30 pm

Penn State and the Jacksons will host an afternoon workshop showing the importance of native meadows, tour a regeneration cut for habitat creation, and a walk through a mature forest. Be prepared to walk up to three miles on unpaved trails. This is sponsored by Penn State so more details will be emailed soon.

Thursday, Nov. 13, 2025 WOSA Annual Dinner and Meeting

Bedford American Legion 3721 Business 220, Bedford, PA

5 pm: Board Meeting – all are welcome to attend

6 pm: Dinner (plan to arrive by 5:45 if you are not attending the Board Meeting)

7 pm: “Coyotes in Pennsylvania” presentation by Thomas Keller, PGC Furbearer Biologist, followed by Annual Meeting and Awards

WOSA CONTACTS

President:

Laura Jackson
jacksonlaura73@gmail.com or
mljackson2@icloud.com
814-494-4439

Vice-President:

Joe Wolfe
jgwolfe@pa.net
717-816-2275

Secretary:

Debbie Magill
dmagill@embarqmail.com
814-623-5903

Assistant Secretary:

VACANT

Treasurer:

Mike Jackson
mljackson2@icloud.com
814-494-3631

Board of Directors:

Joanne Boggess Renee Hiteshew
John Boggess Dave Schreffler
Carolyn Hendricks Fred Veith

Website Administrator:

James and Donna Kuehn

Newsletter Editor:

Laura Jackson

Advisors:

Jennifer Lentz Kovacs, Bedford
Co. Conservation District
Dave Scamardella, Service Forester
Seleen Shives, Fulton Co.
Conservation District

More Details will be mailed to WOSA Members in October.

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.

Dear Friends,

A busy spring morphed into a hectic summer!

WOSA members have been busy since the last newsletter. On May 17, 2025, Joe and Janice Wolfe hosted an **Invasive Species Workshop** on their property just outside McConnellsburg. Service Forester Dave Scamardella also shared his expertise as we watched various techniques to control invasive plants. See more on page 4.

The **Annual WOSA Picnic** had to be postponed due to the forecast for a very rainy day on June 8 and the forecast was right! We could use another day of steady rain right now. See page 7.

We had a **Work Day #22** at the Sulzbacher Demonstration Forest (SDF), on June 16, WOSA's property along Big Creek Road south of Clearville. More on page 5.

July brought hot weather, but more rain than last year, so Mike and I hosted a **Wildflower Meadow Walk** for WOSA members on our property. Photos page 6.

WOSA's **Tree of Heaven Community Demo** in Everett on Aug. 16 brought 23 people together to learn about this invasive tree and how to control it. Many thanks to Dave Scamardella for explaining and demonstrating the hack and squirt method. This year we had live Spotted Lanternflies for the first time to show everyone. UGH! See photos on the bottom of page 6.

What are you doing on your property? I'd love to hear from you – whether it's managing invasive plants, enjoying woods walks, planting a wildflower meadow, growing mushrooms, planting native trees and shrubs, or observing a special part of nature. I'm sure you have stories to share and maybe even photos that add to your story. Please jot down a few thoughts and send them to me for our next newsletter. Or send some photos with a caption. Just email me at jacksonlaura73@gmail.com. We can learn from each other!

Kind regards,

Laura Jackson, WOSA president

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

David & Diana Worthing

Troy Bolinger & Family

Shirlene Knopsnyder & Family

Drew Kondylas & Adrienne Ellis



Paul & Dorothy Vensel

Mark & Susan Thomas

Len & Jessie Kohan

Travis Hoover & Family



WE APPRECIATE OUR 2025 SPONSORS!

American Forest Foundation

Dr. Vincent Acampora

John Butler

Duane and Sandra Kinzer

Penn Forest Natural Burial Park

Mark and Susan Thomas

The Creation of a Thousand Forests is in One Acorn

— Ralph Waldo Emerson

- There is a vacancy for the office of **Assistant Secretary**.
- Duties:** Attends board meetings, takes minutes if Secretary is absent. Must use email and attend most board meetings.
- Interested? Call Laura Jackson: 814-494-4439.

Stop by the WOSA Table for a free sample of paw paws and to say hello!

Note that the Fest is **10 am – 5 pm** on Sunday, September 21, 2025

Duncansville Memorial Park is located at
828 8th Ave. Duncansville PA



We will also be selling shade grown, bird friendly coffee from Honduras.
2 lb. bags are \$32 ground or whole bean
12 oz. bags are \$16 ground or whole bean
Plus decaf coffee from Columbia

CLICK BEFORE YOU CUT

Click Before You Cut is a partnership initiative focused on delivering key information about forest health and sustainability to landowners considering a timber harvest.

It is our mission to ensure that landowners have access to the resources they need to make an informed decision about the management of their property.

LEARN MORE

Visit our new website today!

- Get information on the basics of forest management
- Find resources on creating wildlife habitat
- Connect with forestry professionals for free

www.ClickBeforeYouCut.org

A square QR code located at the bottom right of the poster.

CommUNITY Events Committee of Duncansville

Join Us To Celebrate The Paw Paw

2ND ANNUAL PAW PAW FEST - 2025



Considering a Timber Harvest?

Click Before You Cut

Before harvesting timber on your land, it is important to learn a few key things about your woods to protect the value of the resource now and for generations to come.

CLICK BEFORE YOU CUT is a dynamic project to help forest landowners learn more about forest management.

The QR code to the left will take you to the website or you can click here: www.ClickBeforeYouCut.org

Even if you don't intend to cut any trees, this website is a great resource. There is information on controlling invasive plants and how to obtain funding to help you manage your forest.

May 17, 2025 Invasive Species Workshop hosted by Joe and Janice Wolfe, with technical assistance from Service Forester Dave Scamardella

It was a gorgeous spring day full of sunshine, blue skies, and green invasives!



L & R:
A few of
the many
woods
tools that
Joe uses to
tackle
invasives.



Below: Joe designed a nifty herbicide applicator out of PVC so he doesn't have to bend over to do a cut stump treatment.

Right: An expert on cutting and extraction – Joe honed his technique by pulling teeth for many years!



Below: We all appreciated the lunch provided by our hosts and a chance to visit.



Left: Dave demonstrated the hack n'squirt technique on a large Norway Maple. Their dark shade inhibits regen.

Right:
Paulownia
Trees have
huge
heart-
shaped
leaves and
are
invasive.



June 16, 2025: SDF Work Day # 22 – Many hands make light work!!



Above: R-L: Steve Behe, Mike Jackson, Steve Hendricks, Dave Scamardella, Don Russell, Jon Zuck, Braden Davis, (PGC intern & Senior at Juniata College), & Laura Jackson

R: Why do invasives out-compete natives? One reason is they grow so fast! Don Russell extracted this 5 ft. Oriental bittersweet vine from a tree tube. Below L: Steve Behe and Dave Scamardella attacked the autumn olives near the swale. Below R: Even chainsaw experts, like Dave Scamardella, sometimes bite off more than they can chew!



Below: Steve Hendricks is pointing to a Red-bellied Woodpecker nest cavity in a tree that he and Carolyn found on the edge of the Old-Growth Forest stand. Just a bit farther on the right they found a nest cavity of a Pileated Woodpecker. One young Pileated stuck its head out of the hole so we got to see two active nests that morning.



July 19, 2025: Walk among The Jacksons Native Wildflower Meadows



Top L: July & August are peak bloom times, but it's important to have native flowers blooming spring through fall for pollinators. (photo by Steve Behe)

Top R: We discovered the first Monarch caterpillar in the meadow – on a milkweed, of course.

Left: Most stayed for lunch and a visit on the Jackson's side porch.

August 16, 2025 The Tree of Heaven/Spotted Lanternfly Workshop was a Success!
Dave Scamardella and Laura Jackson conducted the workshop near LaSalle's Garage in Everett with Dave providing the technical know-how on the best way to kill these pesty trees.

Twenty-three people attended and learned a lot about controlling Tree of Heaven – kill before you cut! We had lots of handouts, answered lots of questions, and Dave showed how to do the hack 'n squirt method on lots of trees.



September 7, 2025: WOSA Annual Picnic

We enjoyed the gorgeous fall-like weather, a nice variety of cuisine, and a chance to visit with each other. Dave Scamardella led a nature walk through the wildflower meadow after the picnic. Although there weren't many flowers blooming, there was a lot to see and talk about. Who knew that an osage orange tree was planted by the meadow? Who knew that showy tick trefoil seeds were so annoying? Who knew there was a marker commemorating George Washington's bicentennial birthday in 1732 where 13 hemlock trees were planted? We found the marker, but alas, only two hemlocks were barely hanging on.



R (L-R): John Boggess, Joe Wolfe, Mike Jackson, Jerry Clark & Ed Miller were "chewing the fat" before the picnic.

L Below: The Welcoming Committee: Ron & Ann Guyton and Laura Jackson



R photo: Lots of good food. L -R: Loretta Radechi, Judy Russell, Ruth Shriver, John Boggess

Photo below: L-R: Debbie Miller, Joe Wolfe, Joanne Boggess, Sheila and Dave Scamardella, Mary Lou Pelin (getting a close look).



Dave Scamardella is a wealth of information about plants and local history. Thanks for leading the walk!



**Some Summer Nature Discoveries from WOSA Doings....
See if you can ID the following – answers below.**

Invasive Plants Workshop at the Wolfes – can you name these (only one is invasive)?

1.



2.



3.



4.



Wildflower Meadow Walk at the Jacksons
Can you name the (5) butterfly and (6) flower?

Tree of Heaven Workshop
7. Name this invasive. 8. What insect prefers this tree?

5.



6.

7. & 8.



WOSA Picnic
9. What is so special about this generation of Monarch caterpillars?

10. What type of milkweed is it feeding on?



ANSWERS

1. Insect gall on a tree with tiny larvae inside 2. Jack in the Pulpit – a native wildflower
3. Tulip tree flower 4. Paulownia tree leaves (native to China and Korea – invasive.
5. Eastern tiger swallowtail butterfly on 6. Wild bergamot or bee balm (Monarda fistulosa)
7. Tree of heaven (Ailanthus) 8. Spotted lanternfly 9. The butterflies overwinter in Mexico 10. Common