



Branching Out

Volume 17: Issue 2 SPRING 2023 Newsletter of the
Woodland Owners of the Southern Alleghenies
P. O. Box 253 Everett, PA 15537
www.theWOSA.org



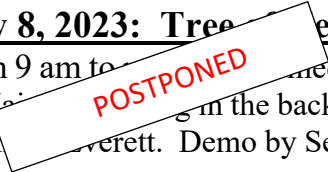
UPCOMING EVENTS



Please Mark Your Calendar for upcoming WOSA Events

Saturday, July 8, 2023: Tree Heaven Herbicide Demo

Everett, PA from 9 am to 12:00 pm. Meet in back of the Everett Methodist Church, 221 E. Main St. in the back. This will include short walks to various infestation sites in Everett. Demo by Service Forester Dave Scamardella.



Friday, August 25, 2023: WOSA Board Meeting and Lunch:

11:30 am – 1:30 pm. All members welcome. Lunch is Dutch Treat at Homewood at Spring House Estates at 150 Victoria Ave., Everett, PA.

Sunday, Sept. 24, 2023: WOSA Annual Picnic: 2 pm - ?

hosted by Joe and Janice Wolfe at 1355 Lincoln Way East, McConnellsburg. More details in Fall Newsletter.

Wednesday, Oct. 11, 2023: SDF Workday 9 am - noon

We'll tackle invasive plants and work on trails. Bring your own lunch. More details in Fall Newsletter.

Tuesday, Oct. 24, 2023: SDF Tree Planting 9 am - noon

We'll plant native tree seedlings in tree tubes in the big field. A jiffy john will be on site. WOSA will provide a delicious lunch. More details in Fall Newsletter.

Thursday, Nov. 2, 2023: SDF Workday 9 am - noon

We'll tackle invasive plants and work on trails. Bring your own lunch. More details in Fall Newsletter.

Wed., Nov. 8 OR Thursday, Nov. 9, 2023: WOSA Annual Meeting and Dinner 5:30 – 8:30 pm

at the Bedford American Legion – actual date to be determined. More details in Fall Newsletter.

WOSA CONTACTS

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Newsletter Editor:

Laura Jackson

Advisors:

Michael Knoop
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.

Recap of the WOSA 23rd Annual Forestry and Wildlife Conference held March 11, 2023

Our first conference since Covid was a success: sixty members attended, in addition to 12 other participants.

Many thanks to the excellent presenters:

Laura Jackson: "Want a Healthy Forest? Listen to the Birds."

Ryan Reed: "Adapting Our Forests to a Changing Climate."

Josh Rittenhouse: "Paying for Non-commercial Forestry."

Melissa Krye: "Forest Carbon Opportunities for Family Forest Owners in the United States."

E J Rock: "Pennsylvania Game Commission Update."

Jill Rose: "Fungal Pathogens You Should Know."

The Chainsaw Raffle was a success! **We raised \$233.**

Congratulations to WOSA member Sharon Frola who won the chainsaw raffle. Did she keep it or give it to her hubby?

We so much appreciate all the items that members contributed, plus all the bids in the **Silent Auction**, which raised a whopping \$1,122 – the highest ever!



WOSA STUDENT SCHOLARSHIPS DUE OCTOBER 1, 2023

All the donations from the Silent Auction and Chainsaw Raffle mean that we have a healthy Student Scholarship Fund. If you know a college student majoring in forestry or wildlife, please encourage them to apply for the Scholarship – it's worth \$1,000.

Application materials are found on the WOSA website:

<http://www.thewosa.org/awards.html>

WELCOME NEW WOSA MEMBERS:

Mardell R. Huss

Greg Gdula

Ron & Ann Guyton

John Johnston

Dave & Rachel Schmit

Edgar Wright

Scott & Suzy Stover

Denny Nurkiewicz

James Snider



THANK YOU!!

WOSA VALUES ALL THE TIME AND ENERGY THAT OUR MEMBERS CONTRIBUTE

Just a few highlights from the 2023 Annual Conference



Top Left: Time to network in between presentations.
 Top Right: WOSA President Mike Jackson was master of ceremonies.
 Left: Sharon Frola won the chainsaw!

Below: A few scenes from the April 14, 2023, Tree Planting at SDF



Tree Planters: (L to R):
 Front: Patrick Flanigan, Mary Lou Pelin, Marti Higgins, Laura Jackson, Mona Dunn, Ray McCann, Mike Jackson, Stephanie Jellison, Debbie Magill
 Back: Bob Steward, Joe Wolfe, Steve Higgins, Greg Gdula, John Dunn, Jack Gilbert, Zack Claycomb, John McKlindon, Tim Clingerman, Dave Scamardella



The reward for all that hard work was a delicious lunch catered by Debbie Magill. Thank you, Debbie!!

Managing for Forest Resilience in a Changing Climate

A Factsheet for Forest Landowners in the Ridge and Valley Region



Your Forest and Climate Change



Climate change is impacting our forests. The Bureau of Forestry recommends taking steps to establish forests resilient to a changing climate.

Current and Projected Climate Shifts

Pennsylvania's climate has already warmed by 1.8°F since the early 1900s. Scientists know the rate of warming is accelerating and expect as much as a 5.9°F increase by 2050.

Average winter temperatures are increasing more than any other season, by 1.3°F per decade since 1970.

Our climate has also become wetter. Average annual rainfall has increased 10% over the last century and heavy downpours have increased by 71% in the north-eastern US.

The following information identifies potential forest vulnerabilities to climate change and management strategies to encourage forest resilience.

Forest Vulnerabilities

- New forest pests and greater impact of existing forest pests
- More invasive plants
- More fungal outbreaks
- More windthrow
- More soil erosion



- Streambank destabilization
- Changing forest community
- Unpredictable seasonal temperatures and extremes

Management Strategies

- Increase vigilance for forest pests, invasive species, and pathogens (with aggressive follow-up)
- Protect existing forests
- Reforest deforested lands
- Ensure biodiversity through a mix of age classes
- Plant a diversity of native trees, including known climate resilient trees in your region
- Work with your county service forester and consulting forester to create a forest management plan

Resilient Trees

Oaks: white, chestnut, black, chinkapin, scarlet, pin, N. red

Hickories: bitternut, mockernut, pignut, shagbark

Other: black walnut, sycamore, elms, black gum, eastern redbud, persimmon, sweet gum, hackberry, sassafras, Virginia pine, black locust, Am. holly, yellow poplar, flowering dogwood, Am. beech

Trees at Risk

Aspens: big tooth, quaking

Birches: black, paper, yellow

Spruces: black, red, white

Other Evergreens: hemlock, red pine, table mountain pine, white pine

Other Deciduous: striped maple, mountain maple, fire cherry, black cherry, basswood, serviceberry, swamp white oak

*Resilient and At Risk lists are based on modeling by the USDA Forest Service. With all models, there is some uncertainty. Some species may fare better (or worse) in different settings depending on prevailing ecological factors at the site. Landowners should enhance diversity to improve climate resilience and not necessarily limit their management decisions based solely on these models.

More Information

DCNR Bureau of Forestry
PaForester@pa.gov
717-787-2703

DCNR's Climate Change Page
<https://www.dcnr.pa.gov/Conservation/ClimateChange/Pages/default.aspx>

Service Forester Directory
<https://maps.dcnr.pa.gov/landownerassist/>



pennsylvania
DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION
AND NATURAL RESOURCES
www.dcnr.pa.gov



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(a lot more photos are posted)

[Woodland Owners of the
Southern Alleghenies](#)



Top Photo: WOSA President Mike Jackson painted yellow blazes on the trail through the Old Growth Forest Stand after Service Forester Dave Scamardella blazed the trees.



Right: New gate at SDF

Directions to Sulzbacher Demonstration Forest (SDF) (WOSA property):

The WOSA property is located along Big Creek Road, about 8 miles south of Clearville, Pa. There is no street address and limited cell service.

If you want to try your GPS, set it for **3057 Big Creek Road, Clearville, Pa.** Going south, this is the house just before the curve to the right and then the lane onto WOSA's property. You'll see the large WOSA sign.

From Bedford: Take Rt. 30 East toward Everett, then take the Right exit into Everett. Travel Business Rt. 30 through Everett and turn Right at the 2nd light onto Hopewell Street. Travel across the east end bridge, go up the hill, and turn left to stay on Rt. 26 South. Take 26 South for about 8 miles to Clearville.

In Clearville, **stay straight ahead.** The road becomes Rockhill Rd/Rock Hill Church Rd (Rt. 26 is a righthand turn – don't take 26S.) Stay on Rockhill Road for 0.6 miles.

Then take a right onto Big Creek Road. Stay on Big Creek Road for 6.3 winding miles. Continue past Shreves Chapel Road (dirt road on the Right) for 0.6 miles. You will pass a house on the Right before the road curves to the right. Just after the curve, **turn right** when you see the large WOSA sign. Follow the gravel lane up the hill. Park beside other vehicles in the big hay field.

UPDATE: The gate is finished and locked. The trails in the Old Growth Forest stand and Louie's Campsite stand are now blazed and painted, but we need to do more trimming and trail definition before the trails are really functional.