

# Maine Tree Farm NEWSLETTER

Summer 2017

A publication of the Maine Tree Farm Committee

Issue No. 13



## **63rd Annual Maine Woodland Owners & Tree Farm Forestry Field Day Program**

**Location:** Maine Youth Fish and Game Association Camp and Wells Forest, Milford, ME

**Date:** Saturday, September 9, 2017

*For those who prefer not to drive their vehicles on gravel roads, parking and bus transportation to the MYFGA Camp will be available from the Madden Timberlands headquarters located off Route 2 in Milford/Costigan – the address is 506 Main Road, Milford (blue shop with “Fernald Madden and Sons” on the side).*

**8:30 a.m. – ongoing**                      **Welcome Tent Open**

**8:50 a.m.**                                      **Opening Remarks & Welcome**

*Exhibitors’ tent, education stations, children’s activities, and refreshments all day.*

*Children 15 and under are encouraged to fish Pickerel Pond, which is literally a spin cast away from the Camp building. The pond is frequently stocked with trout from Maine State fish hatcheries.*

**9:00 – 11:30 a.m.**

Education Stations & Booth displays:

*Flume Table* Fun and interactive demonstration of stream crossing techniques for forest management activities – Sustainable Forestry Initiative.

*Spruce Budworm & Invasive Insect Awareness* – MFS Division of Forest Health and Monitoring.

*Invasive Plant Awareness and Control* – Soil and Water Conservation Districts

*“Operation Game Thief”* -in cooperation with the Maine Warden Service, will show the “Wall of Shame,” a mobile display of the bad effects of poaching on Maine’s fish and wildlife.

*The Northeast Master Logger Certification* program will have an informational display

Vendor displays: Old Town Canoe (invited); Northern Solstice Alpaca Farm

**Guided Tours of the Tree Farm:** *vans will shuttle folks from the MYFGA Camp to the Wells Tree Farm*

Guided Forest Walking Tour – Walking tours of moderate length will reveal a gorge on the beautiful Sunkhaze Stream, and showcase artifacts of the 1800’s era LeBallister shingle mill, as well as other aspects of local history and natural beauty. Walking trail construction and surfacing work done with a mechanized mulcher on a tracked skid steer machine will be demonstrated live.

Guided Motorized Van Tour – See live demonstrations of cut-to-length in-woods processing and forwarding, as well as the results of restorative silvicultural practices such as crop tree release, pre-commercial thinning, and low-density pine thinning. All the live equipment demonstrations will feature Madden Sustainable Forestry Inc., winner of the Professional Logging Contractor’s 2017 Logger of the Year Award. Kirby Ellis, recipient of the 2017 New England Chapter of the Society of American Foresters Austin Cary Practicing Professional Award, will be on hand to answer questions.

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**63rd Annual Maine Woodland Owners & Tree Farm Forestry Field Day Program (continued)**

**11:45 a.m. – Lunch provided (cash only)**

-----Door prizes given out throughout the lunch program-----

**12:15 p.m. – Lunch Speaker Program**, including remarks from:

*Kyle Burdick*, Chair of the Maine Tree Farm Committee

*Jessica Leahy*, President, Maine Woodland Owners

*Doug Denico*, Director of the Maine Forest Service (invited)

*Senator Jim Dill* (invited), *Representative Michelle Dunphy*

*Tom Martin*, President and CEO of the American Forest Foundation (invited)

**1:15 p.m. – Repeat of Guided Forest Tours** (see above.)

*\*Program is subject to change, as Maine Woodland Owners & Maine Tree Farm organizers confirm and add more education stations, and/or demos. Please check <http://wellsforest.com/tree-farm-field-day/> for latest information.*



## Third Party Assessment Results

Thanks to all of the Maine Tree Farmers, inspectors, and volunteers that participated in the recent Northeast Regional Tree Farm assessment. Every year, two states are selected from each region, and Tree Farms within those states are randomly selected based on parcel size and geographic location. This year, Maine and Maryland were selected to represent the North East. (That's right, Maryland is considered part of the Northeast!) While it's too early to be official, the Northeast was recommended for certificate renewal! That determination will be finalized once the assessment reports are published.

How did we really do? As we mentioned in the last newsletter, the Maine Tree Farm Committee received high praise for management, policy, and functionality. Our committee is very active and involved compared to some other states. As expected, the quality of the work being performed on the ground was also excellent. Thank you, Tree Farmers! We do however have room for improvement in updating management plan materials to meet the current 2015 standards. We also need to find a way to better monitor changes in acreage, ownership, and the general interest of Tree Farmers. The most difficult part of the audit was verifying the status of the selected Tree Farms, and subsequently collecting all the required management plan material before the site visit. It was a common occurrence to reach out to a Tree Farmer, only to find the information we had about their Farms was incorrect or outdated, or they were unwilling to participate. A key part of forest certification is documenting a verifiable origin of harvested forest products.

In the coming months, the Maine Tree Farm Committee will contact you about your continuing interest in the program, the size and makeup of your Tree Farm, and the status of your management plans. With your help and cooperation, the next assessment will be stronger and less stressful for all of those involved. Thanks again, and great job Maine!

### SAVE THE DATE

Maine Project Learning Tree

40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration

and

Midcoast Conservancy

“A Day in the Woods”



When: Saturday, October 14, 2017 9:00 am – 5:30 pm (rain date Oct. 15)

Where: Hidden Valley Nature Center (2014 Outstanding Tree Farmer of the Year) - Jefferson, ME

Come out to this 1000 acre-plus forest in Jefferson for a full day of information and fun in the woods. A few of the highlights include:

- Learn by listening and talking to experts! Discuss low-impact forestry, improving the ability of forest practices to sequester carbon and enhance wildlife habitat, the benefits of conservation easements, land trust experiences with forestry, and more.
- Learn by seeing, doing and walking with pros! There will be guided walks and talks; demonstrations of logging with horses, small scale equipment, and a small European cut-to-length processor; workshops on trail building and tree pruning, dealing with invasive plants and bugs; exhibits and more.
- Learn by having fun! There will be several university woodsmen team competitions, guided walks for kids with readings in the woods, and more.
- Stomp your feet, dance, or just listen to The Gawler Family Plus performing new and old logging songs.

Food and beverages available for purchase.



Watch for updates on Maine PLT & HVNC Facebook pages.

## Upcoming Events and Call For Volunteers!

September 9th - [Forestry Field Day](#) - Milford, ME

September 22nd, 23rd, 24th - [Common Ground Country Fair](#) - Unity, ME

October 1st-8th - [Fryeburg Fair](#) - Fryeburg, ME

October 14th - A Day in the Woods (see previous page) - Jefferson, ME

We need volunteers to help staff our educational display booth at these upcoming events and hope you will consider donating a few hours of your time to talk with other potential Tree Farmers and share your experience with the program. ***As a thank you, all volunteers will get a Tree Farm t-shirt or coffee mug!***

***Reminder:*** Switching to an electronic version will help us save on printing and postage costs, and stretch our limited budget even further. You can access the online version and subscribe today at: [www.mainreefarm.org/newsletter.html](http://www.mainreefarm.org/newsletter.html)

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