

West Virginia Division of the Society of American Foresters February 2013 Newsletter



Get ready for the West Virginia Division of the Society of American Foresters Winter Meeting

March 20-21, 2013, Glenville State College. (Note: March 21st is also the International Day of Forests (see story below)). The theme is *Drawing the Fine Line: New Techniques and Practice in Woodland Boundary Assessments*, and includes special training sessions on Remote Sensing for Foresters, and Introduction to GPS, GIS and Mapping on the morning of March 20. The afternoon of March 20 will include a tour of the American Chestnut Demonstration Orchard, and a tour of forestry practices on private land. —The March 21st session will be held in the Molohan Center on the Glenville State campus and will start at 8 a.m. with the WVSAF business meeting. The rest of the day there will be sessions on Interpreting Deeds, and Boundary Law Implications for Foresters. Noon and afternoon sessions will provide updates on activities on State Forests, the American chestnut restoration effort, and forest health issues in WV. CFEs are available. If there are any questions about the meeting call Charles Copeland at 304-643-5265 or email at Copeland@zoominternet.net.

The **2013 Allegheny SAF Winter Meeting** will be hosted by the Western Gateway Chapter in Johnstown, PA.

Dates: February 20-22, 2013

Location: Holiday Inn, Johnstown, PA

Program: Today's Forestry Issues

(7.0 SAF CFE Cat.1 credits)

The meeting agenda includes energy issues that affect us as foresters. Silvicultural sessions address land management for endangered and threatened species and prescribed burning. Because markets and jobs are influenced by current economic conditions as well as management, we will also discuss the implications for timber markets today and tomorrow. Finally, we will look at the status of forestry education today.

Note from the Chair....

Contributed by Dave McGill

We have just passed a season of intense storms and accompanying damage to vast areas of West Virginia forests. Salvage and restoration efforts are still underway in certain areas. It may be a long time before we understand the consequences of the impact of these disturbances to our forested ecosystems.



As the forestry and natural resources community is figuring out what to do in times of both economic difficulty and catastrophic disturbance, we are still faced with issues from the past. I encourage everyone to pick up the most recent issue of the *Journal of Forestry* and read Dr. James Coufal's *It continues: Exploitation and greed in eastern hardwood forests*. The paper brings us back to an article written in 1992 where Professor of Silviculture Dr. Ralph Nyland brought to the forefront of SAF members and other JOF readers, the issues and conditions of exploitive timber harvesting and the role that professional foresters take in these "forestry" activities.

On a related note, it has been a year since our WV SAF Winter Meeting at Flatwoods where speakers brought out different points of view regarding our West Virginia Forest Practices Standards, a document that was published in 1972. Our upcoming winter meeting March 21-22 at Glenville has an excellent agenda focusing on property issues and forest health. I hope as well that this meeting might serve--at least among the membership--as a continuing forum for discussing the role of the WV Society of American Foresters in advancing policy and practices that aim to promote long-term productivity and health in public, industrial, and private forestlands of the state. I hope to see you there!

International Day of Forests – March 21

The United Nations General Assembly has proclaimed **21 March** the International Day of Forests. The Day will celebrate and raise awareness of the importance of all types of forests. On each International Day of Forests, countries are encouraged to undertake local, national and international efforts to organize activities involving forests and trees, such as tree planting campaigns. To help in celebrating the International Day of Forests, FAO has produced a 1-minute video spot presenting the International Day of Forests. To view the video spot, or for more information, visit this web site <http://www.fao.org/forestry/international-day-of-forests/en/>. FAO encourages promoting tree planting on this day, with the idea of a symbolic global tree planting on the first International Day of Forests. **See information below on some tree planting opportunities in West Virginia.**

Volunteers Wanted:

WHAT: American Chestnut Restoration and Surface Mine Reclamation: A workshop

WHEN: Friday, February 15, 2013, 10am-12pm

WHERE: Glenville State College, Eberle Hall room 207

Hosted by the West Virginia Chapter of the American Chestnut Foundation. Free and open to the public. Contact Michael French (michael@acf.org) for questions. CFEs may be available.

WHAT: Planting American Chestnuts on Reclaimed Mine Land

WHEN: Saturday, March 9, 2013 starting at 9am

WHERE: Webster County, WV (near Cowen)

Contact Michael French (michael@acf.org) for questions. CFEs may be available.

WHAT: 2013 NATIONAL BOY SCOUT JAMBOREE

WHEN: JULY 15-24

WHERE: SUMMIT BECHTEL RANCH, WEST VIRGINIA

Assist with: On-site presentations, program development, volunteer management

For more information, please contact: Mike Powell at mjp175@psu.edu or by phone 814-863-1113. Bob Radspinner will also be helping coordinate efforts within West Virginia. Contact Robert.E.Radspinner@wv.gov.

WHAT: Tree planting on reclaimed mined lands with Appalachian Regional Reforestation Initiative (ARRI)

WHEN: May 25, 2013

WHERE: Lambert Run, Monongahela National Forest, Randolph Co, WV

For more information, contact Scott Eggerud: 412-266-0726, seggerud@osmre.gov

Publications of note

Maryland Forestry Extension has produced a lengthy but valuable *Landowner Liability and Recreational Access* publication (Extension Bulletin 357). It helps landowners deal with general liability issues on their land, trespass and property rights, hunting lease issues, and overall timber security. Find it at <http://extension.umd.edu/publications/pdfs/eb357.pdf>.

Evaluating forest biomass utilization in the Appalachians: A review of potential impacts and guidelines for management. 2012. Michael R. Vanderberg, Adams, Mary Beth; Wiseman, Mark S. **Publication:** Gen. Tech. Rep. NRS-106. Newtown Square, PA: U.S. Department of Agriculture, Forest Service, Northern Research Station. 39 p. <http://www.nrs.fs.fed.us/pubs/42306>

To find out about **new publications** from the Northern Research Station of the USDA Forest Service, visit the new publications webpage. Find it at <http://www.nrs.fs.fed.us/pubs/updates/>

WVSAF Members in the News:

(From Elkins Intermountain January 8, 2013.)

WVSAF member Glen Juergens was featured in a recent article in the *Elkins Intermountain*. Glen retired after a career with the US Forest Service and many years on the Monongahela National Forest. Since his retirement, he has been working with the Sustainable Harvest Foundation of Honduras, helping farmers to rebuild and improve their forests. He is a certified forester and independent forest management consultant, who has been working with farmers in Honduras since he was in the Peace Corps in 1977. The article details his on-going work in Honduras, a poor country with 65% of the population living in poverty. It also describes the importance of forests to water quality and ultimately to the health of the Hondurans who rely on the forest. Kudos to Glen for his excellent work and long-term commitment to making Honduras a better place! Check out the article (<http://theintermountain.com/page/content.detail/id/558406/Honduras-project-explained.html>).

Information about Sustainable Harvest International is available at www.sustainableharvest.org

Some thoughts after SuperStorm Sandy

Contributed by Mary Beth Adams

SuperStorm Sandy was a truly unusual storm in its size and power, and in its effects on the forests of West Virginia. Damage from the heavy snowfall included broken tops and uprooted trees, and resulted in large amounts of down wood and woody debris. According to an article in the January 17, 2013 Exponent Telegram, the clean-up from Super Storm Sandy was one of the largest in West Virginia's history. Gary Brand, FEMA's public assistance branch chief in Charleston, said, "This is the largest debris mission in the history of West Virginia. More than 1.5 million cubic yards of woody debris were scattered over the 18 declared counties. FEMA dollar totals for the Hurricane Sandy public assistance cleanup and infrastructure repair in West Virginia may top \$11 million."

There are several large piles scattered throughout the area affected by the storm. The adjacent photograph was taken of



the debris pile on the Pulp Mill Bottom in Parsons in early December 2012. The volume of this pile in January 2013 was 110,000 cubic yards, according to Travis Ray of the West Virginia Division of Highways, collected from an estimated 60-75 miles of roadside, mostly in Tucker Co. The Division of Highways will be accepting bids for disposal of the material.

While clean up along road ways has progressed well, large amounts of downed trees and dead wood remain in areas that are not immediately accessible or along roadways. The implications of this fuel loading for wildfires, forest health, insect outbreaks, wildlife habitat, wood supply

and other forest properties are unknown. Researchers are formulating study plans to evaluate the impacts of Sandy so that we can manage forests to make them more resistant to such events in the future. Finally, many WVSAF members were directly impacted by the heavy snow loading after SuperStorm Sandy. Many of you spent a great deal of quality time with a chainsaw felling trees, clearing debris on your land, and helping neighbors and your communities. WVSAF members provided assistance to the WV Division of Highways with opening up roads, and then helping to make them safe for travel. To all of you who helped out in the aftermath, thank you! And we have one more request. We are looking for stories about WVSAF's role in Sandy relief, clean up and follow up activities for a press release, to *Forestry Source*, and other possible outlets. Please send a brief description of your activities to Mary Beth Adams (mbadams@fs.fed.us) for compilation. And again, thank you for all that you did to help our Communities and our forests recover from this storm.



1 Forest Service Road 701, Fernow Experimental Forest, November 2, 2012.

Safety Training.

For details see the West Virginia Forestry Association webpage, or the SAF national web page.

Date	Event Name
3/12/2013	First Aid,CPR & BBP for the forest Industry
2/12/2013	First Aid,CPR & BBP for the forest Industry
2/28/2013	Tree Felling Safety and Personal Safety Equipment Workshop
3/28/2013	Tree Felling Safety and Personal Safety Equipment Workshop
4/3/2013	First Aid,CPR & BBP for the forest Industry
4/16/2013	First Aid,CPR & BBP for the forest Industry
4/25/2013	Tree Felling Safety and Personal Safety Equipment Workshop