

NORFOLK WOODLOT OWNERS ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER

www.norfolkwoodlots.com



April 2019

President's Message

Our March 6, 2019 AGM was a resounding success! We were informed by Adam Biddle, Norfolk County Supervisor of Forestry, about various invasive species affecting Norfolk County and a great tutorial about the local increasing gypsy moth population. He provided a detailed explanation of the gypsy moth life cycle and what contributes to their population increase and declines, including what landowners should look for in their woodlots to monitor gypsy moth population levels in order to determine what control methods need to be implemented (if any).

As a result of the Election of New Directors, Rimas Lukosius was welcomed as a new Board member. It is always good to inject new ideas and ways of looking at things. The current Board consists of a group of hard working volunteers. These people take on the duties as Board members, without remuneration, while conducting their lives as, we all do, working and playing. Thank you very much members of the Board your efforts are very much appreciated.

Thanks to the organizations and people that went through the effort of setting up education booths and chatting with members about things that impact their woodlot or just expanding their knowledge about ecological activities going on in Norfolk County.

To top it off, there was coffee and Timbits that was supplied by Delhi Tim Hortons while members viewed the booths and caught up with other members and friends. And the door prizes!!! Many prizes were supplied by local small businesses in support of NWOA. Please return the favour and shop local! We had two Early Bird Prizes; a chainsaw donated by three sponsors; Premier, Stihl and NWOA. The other prize is a comfy, office chair donated by Simcoe Staples. NWOA thanks all the sponsors of our Annual AGM.

Finally, many thanks to Tracey Boerkamp, AGM Convenor, for organizing the AGM. He and his family put in a lot of hours contacting sponsors, booth exhibitors and organizing the prizes for the AGM. Plus, the AGM paraphernalia is stored in a building at SpringView Golf, Waterford. Using this space reduces his golf cart inventory, so we thank him and his family very much.

We welcome your comments, thoughts and ideas for our newsletter, workshops and Annual Meeting. You can post them on our website www.norfolkwoodlots.com or call me at 519-426-2782 or email me at [johndewitt@kwic.com](mailto: johndewitt@kwic.com).

John de Witt

Dukelow Family Woodlot Tour

The Dukelow family woodlot “AFTER THE CUT” tour is scheduled to take place at 1 P.M. on Sat. April 27/19.

The following day, Sun. April 28/19 will be the alternate rain date.

This woodlot is located on the South side of the 8th concession road of Charlotteville Township. It is 1km West of the East Quarter line or 5 km East of the Turkey Point road.

The commercial cut was completed in August 2018 and the grounds have been left “as is” since then. Forester David Holmes, who knows this woodlot well, has again volunteered to be our facilitator. This tour offers an excellent learning experience for all woodlot owners.

Economic value of tree planting report

March 20, 2019

By: The Working Forest Staff

Queen’s Park — Forests Ontario has released The Economic Value of Tree Planting in Southern Ontario, a new report by Guelph-based consulting firm Green Analytics. Committed to re-greening Ontario through tree planting, education and awareness efforts, Forests Ontario is the not-for-profit charity that delivers the Government of Ontario’s 50 Million Tree Program (50MTP).

At the Ontario Legislature, Rob Keen, Registered Professional Forester and Forests Ontario CEO along with Peter Emon, long standing County of Renfrew Councilor and Reeve of Renfrew, described how the province has benefited from ten planting seasons of the 50MTP. Since 2008, the Program has facilitated the planting of more than 24 million trees over 14,800 hectares, an area equivalent to one-quarter the size of Lake Simcoe. These plantings sequester 19,000 tonnes of carbon each year – the same amount of carbon emitted from driving more than 80 million kilometres.

Reeve Emon observed that in addition to obvious environmental benefits, “Tree planting leads to jobs and economic gains, as nurseries, landowners, municipalities and forestry consultants engage in tree planting activities.” The County of Renfrew, Ontario’s largest county, is located one hour west of Ottawa in the Ottawa Valley – an area well-known for its history of forestry, where families have taken excellent care of the region’s forest resources for more than six decades. Through the 50MTP, more than one million trees have been planted in the County of Renfrew.

The 50MTP plants 2.3 million trees each year. According to the report, these plantings create a direct annual expenditure stimulus of \$7.2 million per year and result in a Gross Domestic Product (GDP) stimulus of \$12.7 million annually.

“The employment generated by the 50MTP is equivalent to 103 full time jobs per year, or more than 300 full-time seasonal jobs,” explains Mr. Keen. This does not even begin to consider the jobs

supported by the extra 180,000 trees planted annually through other programs leveraged by Forests Ontario.

Mr. Keen shared more good news by referring to the report's calculations of the ecosystem service benefits derived from tree planting. Ecosystem services are the direct and indirect contributions of ecosystems to human well-being, and can include carbon sequestration, recreation opportunities, gas regulation, water supply regulation, and nutrient and waste regulation.

Using standardized techniques for calculating ecosystem services, Green Analytics demonstrated that the trees planted through Forests Ontario's efforts are conservatively valued at \$82.7 million annually. From Reeve Emon's perspective as an elected municipal representative for 30 years, he wishes that there were more programs that provide this kind of value, both in terms of cost efficiency, and economic, environmental and societal benefits. "This report is important, because it speaks to all three of these 'legs of the stool,'" explains Emon, who went on to say, "Renfrew County landowners know trees; they believe planting trees is important for the environment and economy. This makes the 50MTP a good use of taxpayer dollars. When I talk with other politicians across the province, nobody ever says I want fewer trees." Government of Ontario provides Forests Ontario to support tree planting, no less than \$19.85 in ecosystem service value is derived; this translates to an 11:1 return on investment. "The value of the ecosystem services will increase over time as planted trees mature and new trees continue to be planted," notes Mr. Keen.

Keen concludes, "Minister of Natural Resources and Forestry Yakabuski can tell his cabinet colleagues that even before the ecosystem services are calculated, he is realizing a 3:1 return on his investment in the 50MTP."

THE SAWMILLS OF YESTERYEAR A CUT IN TIME

This is the final in a series of articles describing the development of the sawmill industry in Norfolk County from the mid-1700s to the early 1900s. The information has been provided by the **Forestry Station Interpretive Centre**.

THE SAWMILL INDUSTRY DECLINE AND LEGACY

Without concern for sustainability, the forests declined. By 1860 it is recorded that timber used for lumber was depleted to about 60%, leaving only 10 years until the supply of "good pine" was gone. This is reflected through the number of mills in Norfolk declining from 77 in 1861 to 62 in 1871. The number of mills was further reduced in 1881 to just 59.

Peak production was reached in 1880 when 528,000 cubic feet of lumber was sawn. Aiding the decline were improvements in saw milling technology; ease of shipping, broader markets, and population growth. By the mid 1880's, Norfolk County was completely denuded of saleable logs, and the industry collapsed. By 1910, only 10% of the original forest remained.

People began to rely more on industries like buckwheat gristmills, fishing and agriculture to generate employment. For more than 100 years lumbering sustained Norfolk's prosperity, but it did not last forever. The foresight of Edmund Zavitz, Walter McCall and MPP A. J. Pratt recognized the peril of the forests and did something about it. Their story is told in the Interpretive Centre and in the late Harry Barrett's book, They Had A Dream. Reforestation continues today and has become an understood part of the lumbering industry.

Research grant addresses pollution in Lake Erie Watershed

February 12, 2019

By: The Working Forest Staff

Vancouver, BC — Ostara Nutrient Recovery Technologies Inc. ("Ostara") has announced that the company has been awarded a grant from the Environment and Climate Change Canada (ECCC) for a research project that will address both non-point and point source phosphorus pollution in the Lake Erie watershed.

Phosphorus is an essential nutrient and a building block of life, but if mismanaged, it can cause nutrient overload in waterways contributing to toxic algae blooms that are harmful to aquatic life.

"Protecting precious natural resources drives to the core of our business and we are honored to receive continued support from the Canadian government to champion these efforts as part of the ECCC's Great Lakes Protection Initiative. Delivering opportunities for conservation practices that increase yields to Canadian agriculture helps close the loop on phosphorus and set the tone for the future of sustainable crop nutrition," said Dan Parmar, CEO, Ostara.

The research aims to demonstrate how municipalities and farms can both help battle nutrient pollution with one solution: nutrient recovery. Reclaiming nutrients from municipal, livestock and industrial wastewater Ostara's Pearl® technology produces a land-applied, high-yielding granular fertilizer proven to reduce nutrient runoff (Crystal Green®).

The agronomic research, being conducted on Crystal Green in partnership with the University of Guelph, will include:

- phosphorus runoff data focused on the reduction of non-point source pollution comparing Crystal Green's citrate-soluble release to a traditional fertilizer application;
- multi-year field trials focused on provincially viable crops – corn, beans and winter wheat;
- yield data comparing combinations of traditional fertilizers with Crystal Green.

The goal is to reduce up to 33% of traditional water-soluble fertilizer sources, which contribute to phosphorus run off, replacing it with Crystal Green.

“This partnership is uniquely valuable in that it advances innovative solutions for both point and non-point sources of phosphorus with broader implications for water, food security and beyond,” said Dr. David Hooker, University of Guelph. “Working alongside Ostara to learn more about the phosphorus recovery process will help provide us with the data necessary to revolutionize agriculture practices while protecting natural resources. We are excited about the possibilities.”

The phosphorus recovery research will explore pathways to implement nutrient recovery at eligible wastewater treatment plants in the Waterloo Region. This project will serve to:

- highlight the benefit of updating infrastructure to leverage technologies that can reduce point source pollution by returning cleaner water to area lakes and streams;
- reduce phosphorus content in biosolids produced by wastewater treatment plants (reducing water-soluble phosphorus land applied within the watershed);
- renewably recover phosphorus for responsible reuse as a phosphate fertilizer that reduces runoff.

“Resource recovery is one of the innovative strategies recently recommended in the Region of Waterloo Wastewater Treatment (WWT) Master Plan. We believe this project is an excellent opportunity for the Region of Waterloo to optimize the operation of the Elmira WWT plant to remove phosphorus biologically and then recover it in a sustainable and efficient way,” said José Bicudo, Senior Project Engineer, Wastewater Operations, Region of Waterloo.

Working with the Community

This project also presents an opportunity to increase public participation in citizen science, specifically:

- the public will be invited to an open house at the treatment plant;
- a student(s) from a local post-secondary institution will assist in managing day-to-day operations of the pilot;
- University of Guelph students will participate in executing the agronomic trials.

Currently, Ostara has 22 commercial installations recovering nutrients that are then sold as Crystal Green through a global network of industry partners, including into the Canadian market through Taurus Agricultural Marketing Inc.

About Ostara Nutrient Recovery Technologies Inc. & Crystal Green:

Ostara helps growers and cities protect precious water and food resources by providing nutrient management solutions to communities around the world. The company's Pearl technology recovers phosphorus and nitrogen from industrial, agricultural, and municipal water streams, transforming them into Crystal Green, a premium, sustainable fertilizer. Crystal Green is the first fertilizer to release nutrients in response to plant demand. It's Root-Activated granule (5-28-0 with 10%Mg), sold globally to the turf and agriculture sectors, is proven to improve crop yields, enhance soil health and significantly reduce phosphorus tie-up, leaching, and runoff, improving food security while protecting local waterways from nutrient pollution. To learn more about how Ostara is closing the loop on phosphorus, visit www.ostara.com and www.crystalgreen.com.



INVITES YOU
TO OUR
OPEN HOUSE
Date: Saturday, May 4, 2019

COME ON OUT!

Come to find out just how Oxford Pallet operates on a daily basis, and enjoy a delicious Meal prepared by Norpac, drinks, and ice cream served by Shaw's. Door prizes will be available as well!

**Please find the formal invitation attached for more information.
Kindly forward this invitation on to others in management within your company.**

R.S.V.P. to heather@oxfordpallet.com.

If you plan to attend, be sure to contact Heather.