# NORFOLK WOODLOT OWNERS ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER www.norfolkwoodlots.com

Volume 7 Edition 14

September 2010



# Change of President

by Angelle van Kleef, President

A change has taken place in the Board of Directors of your Norfolk Woodlot Owners Association. Dolf Wynia has ended his term as president. He has brought lots of knowledge & experience to our board meetings, field trips & projects. We are very grateful for all the dedicated work he has done over the years. We want to thank Dolf for his work that he has done as president & we are looking forward to working with him as a board member in the future.

A new president has been installed by the Board of Directors. My name is Angelle van Kleef. My husband and I have been a member of NWOA since we moved to this area in 1999. We have a 48 acre farm of which 16 acres is bush. Our farm business is growing house plants in our 1 acre poly greenhouse. On 30 acres we have established tall grass prairie and black oak savanna in the ALUS program.

As president of NWOA I am looking forward to get to know many people. I realize that our membership consists of both professional involved members as well as nature interested people and by-accident-woodlot-owners. We want to be an organization that serves all these different interests. Therefore I am looking forward to meeting all of you when possible during field trips, workshops and the AGM. If you have a particular interest or concern I would like to hear about that. This will get the board informed and able to follow up upon it. You can reach me by email at <a href="mailto:vankleef@kwic.com">vankleef@kwic.com</a> or by phone at 519-428-1421.

## WHAT'S INSIDE?

- AUTUMN & YOUR WOODLOT
- > FOREST FUNNIES
- > SEED COLLECTION FOR DIRECT SEEDING
- > MFTIP

# **UPCOMING EVENTS!**

# HALDIMAND & AREA WOODLOT OWNERS' ASSOCIATION

An invitation to the Norfolk Woodlot
Owners, Niagara
Woodlot Owners, and
Hamilton Stewardship:
presents a

TREE GROWING NURSERY TOUR at **EarthGen International** 

Sat. Sept. 25th 2010 - 10 a.m. to 12 noon

at 85766 Canborough Road (near the village of Attercliffe, just to the right of the Robinson Road)

EarthGen president **Adam Koziol**, will be talking about and giving a tour of his operation and his plantation of native trees. Learn all about **RPM Technology** - a Root Production Method for growing deciduous trees. This system allows **EarthGen International** to finish most native species to a marketable **5 foot height in one growing season** or approximately 210 days from germination.

This event is open to all. For more info contact Kelly at 905 772 1393 or check our website <a href="https://www.hawoa.com">www.hawoa.com</a> for more info and a map.



# **NWOA Directors – 2010**

year indicates the term the year expires at the AGM, the (number) indicates the number of terms served

Name	Position	Term *	Phone	E-mail	
Dolf Wynia	Past President	2013 (2)	875-3350	wynia@kwic.com	
Angelle van Kleef	President	2013 (1)	428-1421	vankleef@kwic.com	
Clen van Kleef	Vice President	2013 (1)	428-1421	vankleef@kwic.com	
Eric Ferguson	Treasurer	2011 (1)	443-7928	emferguson@silomail.com	
Martin Perrin	Secretary Website Ctte	2012 (1)	875-2481	mkperrin@kwic.com	
Mike Rothery	Secretary	2011 (1)	586-9535	wmrothery@hotmail.com	
Garrett Reid	Director	2011 (1)	429-9288	garrettreid42@hotmail.com	
Vic Janulis	Director	2013 (1)	443-5828	vicj@kwic.com	
Joe Stechly	Director	2013 (1)	428-0374		
Tom Bradstreet	Director	2013 (1)	426-3405	tom.bradstreet@natureconservancy.ca	
Kyle Racz	Director	2012 (1)	427-6010	friendlylumberjack@yahoo.ca	
Paul Beischlag	Director	2012 (2)	426-8591	pbeischlag@hotmail.com	
Ron Tchorek	Director	2013 (2)	426-5708	tchorek@kwic.com	
Mark Sommerville	St. Williams Conservation Reserve Community Council	Advisory	426-3762	markruth@flarenet.com	
Tracey Boerkamp	Annual General Meeting Chairman	Advisory	443-8754	springview@simcom.on.ca	
David Reid Stewardship Co-ordinator	Norfolk Land Stewardship Council	Advisor	426-4259	dave.j.reid@ontario.ca	
Steve Scheers Superintendent	Norfolk County Forestry Conservation Service	Advisor	426-5999	steven.scheers@norfolkcounty.ca	

# PROJECT 1:1

If each member of the NWOA convinces ONE family member, friend or neighbour to join the NWOA we will reach our goal of representation of 80% of Norfolk's private forest lands!

Working together we can benefit from what we learn from one another!



INTERNATIONAL YEAR OF FORESTS - 2011

Celebrating Forests for People

## Looking Ahead...

The United Nations has designated 2011 as the International Year of Forests.

To quote: "...2011 offers a unique opportunity to raise public awareness of the challenges facing many of the world's forests and the people who depend on them. Great success stories and valuable lessons on how to promote sustainable forest management already exist. The Year provides a means of bringing those voices together and building momentum towards greater public participation in forest activities around the world..." - July 2010-Update report for the International Year of Forests, 2011



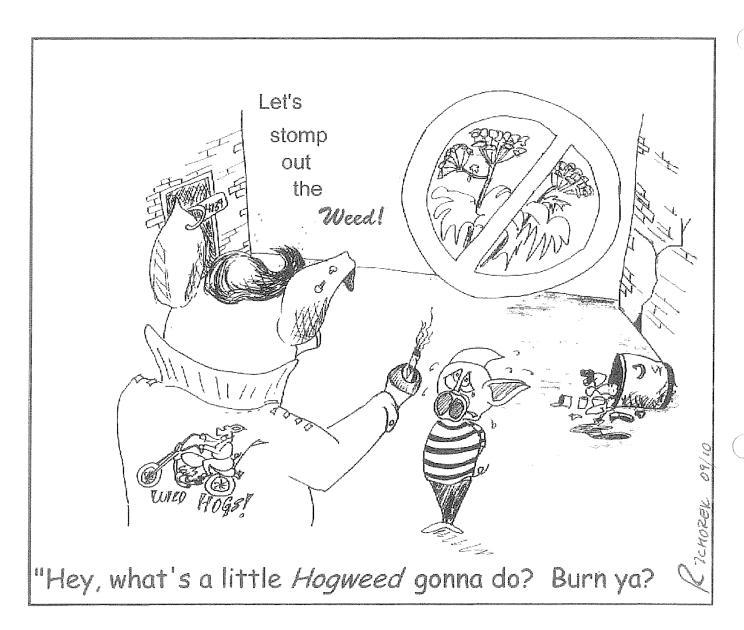
# Autumn & your Woodlot

Cool, fresh air. Crisp leaves crunching beneath your feet. There is no better time of year to enjoy your woodlot than the months of Autumn. With summer crops being harvested, and no mosquitoes to contend with, autumn is a great time to have a walk through your woodlot. As you enjoy a leisurely stroll with your dog, spouse or friend, you may want to take the time to have a good look 'hrough your forest and take stock of what is there. Some things to look for or take notice of in your woodlot include:

- Any signs of trespassing or encroachment: you may want to have a look for survey bars and flag your property line, or have professional surveyors out to mark the boundary
- Invasive plants: keep an eye out for Garlic Mustard, Norway Maple, Dogstrangling Vine, Autumn Olive, European Buckthorn
- Pests and disease: Gyspy Moth, Emerald Ash Borer, White Pine Weevil, Beech Bark Disease, Armillaria Root Rot, Butternut Canker
- **Signs of wildlife:** keep an eye out for deer and turkey tracks, any stick nests, fox dens, cavity trees
- Regeneration: what species of young seedlings do you see?

Take the time to jot down a few notes or observations, they may be helpful to vou in the future if you are interested in doing some silvicultural management, or if you just want to monitor your forest's health.

# FOREST FUNNIES By Ron Tchorek



# Website of the Month

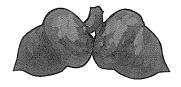


# LandOwner Resource Centre WWW.Irconline.com

The LandOwner Resource Centre is part of the Rideau Valley Conservation Authority, and was designed to provide landowners with easy access to free publications and extension notes on how to manage their land. If you're looking for more information on agroforestry, attracting wildlife to your woodlot, insects and disease, and how to care for young trees, this website is full of useful and did I mention FREE publications for you to browse and download.

# **Seed Collection for Direct Seeding**

by John Olds, One Stop Forestry



Admittedly, establishing hardwood forest by direct seeding is unique. But, admittedly, this truly is not rocket science! Nature has been doing a good job of regeneration for a long time.

If you consider what a seedling endures during a typical planting regime--yanked out of the soil in a nursery, refrigerated, shipped, and then planted by a landowner on an 89 degree day--it's no mystery that another option for regeneration was needed for landowners.

Direct seeding is the process of establishing a stand of trees by planting tree seed instead of the conventional use of seedlings. Not all sites may be suited for direct seeding (e.g., steep slopes, rocky ground), but where it can be used, there is a great potential for establishing thousands of seedlings per acre.

High density plantings result in seedlings growing faster to compete for the limited available sunlight, which in turn results in better formed trees. These plantings, if properly maintained, will often canopy or shade the ground after three or four growing seasons. The shade inhibits the growth of competing weeds and grasses and also reduces evaporation resulting in a more favourable growing environment.

Other advantages include the more natural appearance of the ensuing forest, improved wildlife habitat, and often the fact that direct seeding overwhelms the wild critters and seed survive.

A couple of disadvantages of direct seeding include the need to make many passes over a field, and the fact that seed availability and quality varies widely from year to year, making the planning of these projects a bit uncertain.

Seedings are typically done in fall because this is when most of the seed drops and becomes available. Fall seeding also allows for the natural, over-winter stratification most seeds need prior to germinating.

# Seed Collection and Handling

Most native hardwood species, such as black walnut, oak species, ash species, sugar maple, black cherry, and hickory drop their seed in the fall. Collection should take place as soon as possible after the seed drops. The season may begin in late August with bur oak and end in late October or even early November with red oak and walnut.

Walnuts can be sown with husks on. If they are husked keep the nuts moist to prevent loss of viability. In addition, avoid large piles of walnuts. This creates heat that will destroy the seed. Smaller piles of 10 inches or less will more effectively dissipate any heat.

Consider the following when handling acorns:

- Acorns lose their viability if they become dehydrated, so collect them soon after they drop.
- Store the collected acorns in breathable bags such as onion sacks, burlap bags, or standard feed sacks. These bags will reduce heat buildup, allow the seed to breath, and permit excess moisture to drain off.
- Immediately after collecting, immerse the acorns in water for up to 24 hours, remove, and allow the bags to drain for 30 minutes. Store the soaked acorns in a cool (34-40 degrees Fahrenheit) dark place until planting. If the acorns have been stored for an extended period, rehydrate for several hours prior to planting.

sh and maple seed should be air-dried and stored in a cool, dry place until sown.



# Collecting Seed for hardwood tree establishment

Species	Seed crop freq.	Time to collect seed	Shape and app.	Collection method*	Cleaning	Storage until seeded in fall	Comments
Basswood	1+ yrs	Sept to Dec	Brown peas with propeller on a stalk	Rake, T/S, H	Crush stems and wings, separate hard, round seed	Dry-Store in moisture-proof container at 40°F or lower	Second year germination. Needs cold/warm/cold cycle.
Black Cherry	1-5 yrs	Aug to Sept	Purple-black berries	Rake, T/S, H	Mascerate soft fruit, separate hard seed, dry	Dry-Store in moisture-proof container at 40°F or lower	Collect from high-quality trees
Hackberry	?	Oct to Dec	Purple-black berries	Rake, T/S, H	None	Store dried fruits or cleaned seeds in moisture- proof container at 40°F	
Shagbark Hickory	1-3 yrs	Sept to Dec	Four football- shaped segments together	H, Rake	Remove leaves and twigs	Can be stored in feed bags at 40°F	Stay within natural range
Silver Maple	1 year	June	Green to brown propellers	Rake	Remove stems and leaves	Plant as soon as possible in early summer	Seed shallow
Sugar Maple	3-5 yrs	Late Sept to early Nov	Green to brown propellers	Rake, T/S, H	Remove stems and leaves	Dry-store in small seed sacks at 40°F	One bushel per person per day is maximum yield for hand picking
Bur Oak	2-3 yrs	Aug to Sept	Acorn almost fully covered by a cap, which has a furry fringe	Rake, Pick	Cut open a handful to test for viability; hand sort	Only for a few weeks at 40°F - soak overnight before storage	Race with squirrels and deer for acorns
Red Oak	3-5 yrs	Sept to early Oct	Reddish-brown acorn	Rake, Pick	Float, then remove "floaters" or hand sort	Only for a few weeks at 40°F – soak overnight, sow in fall	Race with squirrels and deer for acorns
White Oak	4-10 yrs	Late Aug to Sept	Tan to light- brown acorn, thinner and smaller than most red oak acorns	Rake, Pick	Float, then remove "floaters" or hand sort	Only for a few weeks at 40°F - soak overnight, sow in fall	Race with squirrels and deer for acorns
Black Walnut	1-2 yrs	October	Golfball-size nut with green to black husk	Rake, Pick	Remove leaves and twigs	Only for a few weeks-small piles to prevent the heating of seed	Stay within natural range.

## \*Collection methods:

H – Hand pick from cut or standing trees

T/S – Tarp ground and shake branches when seed is ready to fall

P – Pruning hook on a pole

Rake – Rake fallen seed from street or lawns

Pick – Gather fallen seed by hand from ground



# WOODN'T YOU LIKE TO KNOW?.....



Answers to Questions from Members....

## Q. What is MFTIP?

**A.** MFTIP is an acronym for the Managed Forest Tax Incentive Program. This voluntary program was established by the Ontario Ministry of Resources in 1997, replacing the previous Managed Forest Tax Rebate Program. The program focuses on providing a direct property tax reduction for forest owners who are good managers and stewards of their lands.

Landowners who participate in MFTIP have their forested lands taxed at 25% of the current residential tax rate set by the municipality. This is the same rate set for agricultural lands. Identical treatment is essential to prevent a taxation disparity between forestry and agricultural land use, which would give owners an incentive to remove trees from the land in order to have the land taxed at the agricultural rate.

# Q. How do I participate in MFTIP?

**A.** First of all, you must determine that your land is eligible for MFTIP. The MNR has established the following requirements for program participation:

#### Location

The land must be in Ontario.

# Ownership and Use:

The land must be owned by

- a Canadian citizen(s) or permanent resident(s), or
- a Canadian corporation, partnership or trust, or
- a Conservation Authority

# Land is not eligible if:

- it is subject to a Registered Plan of Subdivision;
- it is licensed under the Aggregate Resources Act, or is zoned for aggregate extraction (gravel pits) in areas outside the jurisdiction of the Act; or
- it is owned by the municipal, provincial or federal, governments that pay grants in lieu of taxes



#### Area

The forest area must: cover at least 4 hectares (9.88 acres) excluding all residences; and be on one property with one municipal roll number. Residences are not eligible and at least one acre is deducted for each building as defined by the Regional Assessment office. There is no area deducted for outbuildings used strictly for forest management purposes

#### Number and Size of Trees

The MFTIP requires forests to have a minimum number and size of trees on each hectare (acre) to be eligible for the program. A forest must have at least:

- 1,000 trees of any size per hectare (400 trees per acre); or
- 750 trees per hectare (300 trees per acre) measuring more than 5 centimetres (2") in diameter at breast height (DBHdefined as the diameter of a tree at a point 1.3 m (4.5 ') off the ground); or
- 500 trees per hectare (200 trees per acre) measuring more than 12 centimetres (5") DBH: or
- 250 trees per hectare (100 trees per acre) measuring more than 20 centimetres (8") DBH

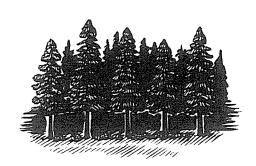
## Open Areas

Areas that have fewer trees than the numbers listed above (such as beaver floods or rock outcrops are eligible if:

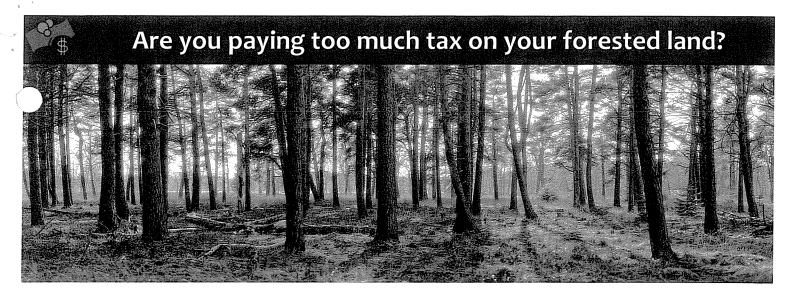
- The areas contribute to the objectives of the Approved Managed Forest Plan; and
- The areas make up no more than 10% of the total eligible managed forest area, by roll number.

# Q. What is a Managed Forest Plan?

**A.** A Managed Forest Plan is the basis of your MFTIP application. The plan includes a description of activities and management you will carry out in over a 20 year time period, renewing the plan every 10 years. A Managed Forest Plan Approver can assist you in designing your plan, and will approve your plan before you submit it to the Ontario Woodlot Association or the Ontario Forestry Association. To locate a Managed Forest Plan Approver in your area, check out the following link: http://www.extranet.mnr.gov.on.ca/mftip/form/mfpa.cfm







# Participate in the Managed Forest Tax Incentive Program (MFTIP) and you can save 75% on your property taxes!

# **Qualifications:**

- Greater than 9.88 acres (4 hectares) of forested land
- Property is owned by a Canadian citizen or permanent resident, or Canadian corporation

# **About the Program:**

Certain forested lands in Ontario may be privately owned, but they benefit all Ontarians. The Ontario Managed Forest Tax Incentive Program (MFTIP) recognizes the importance of these lands. The goal of the MFTIP is to bring greater fairness to the property tax system by valuing forestland according to its current use. The program is designed to increase landowner awareness about forest stewardship.

Landowners who apply and qualify for the program have the eligible portion of their property classified and assessed as Managed Forest under the Managed forests property class. The eligible land is taxed at 25% of the municipal tax rate set for residential properties.

For more information about MFTIP, to start the application process, or renew a previous MFTIP plan, please contact:

Amanda Dooney Norfolk County Forestry Division 519-426-5999 x 2245 amanda.dooney@norfolkcounty.ca

# Would you like **FREE** admission to the Norfolk County Fair?

Want to promote the NWOA?



If you are interested in volunteering to help with the Fair booth this year, please contact:

See you at the Fair!

Amanda Dooney 519-426-5999 x 2245 amanda.dooney@norfolkcounty.ca



