

President's MESSAGE

What are some of the issues that you are concerned about?

The main purpose of having a woodlot owners association is to assist our members in managing their woodlots for their own purposes and in keeping with "good forestry practices". We try to make information available to help our members make their own decisions.

"Good forestry practices" are a comprehensive set of practices that are accepted by forestry professionals such as including the latest technical knowledge about trees and their requirements as well as their environment. Good forestry practices differ from place to place and time to time. They could be compared to good medical practices as they change from time to time. Landowners who apply "good forestry practices" generally take pride in what they do and are happy to show their neighbours and friends.

Where formerly, our Provincial Government had an elaborate system of staff and programs to assist landowners it now encourages us to apply good forestry practices on our lands through M.F.T.I.P., C.L.T.I.P. and agricultural property tax reductions.

It seems, though that just as these programs are hitting some stride that other strong interests in the provincial government are nosing their way into them and trying to redefine "good forestry practices" in order to "protect species at risk", resulting in no harvesting being allowed at all. Protecting species at risk is part of the definition of good forestry practices.

As this debate develops, our association does not have a seat at the table. The discussions are between the Ontario Woodlot Owners Association and the Ontario Forestry Association and the Government. This concerns me and it may concern you.

I urge all members to attend the Annual Meeting of our Association on February 3rd and pay particular attention to Wade Knight, the executive director of the Ontario Woodlot Owners Association as he explains what that association is doing to represent the interests of woodlot owners in Ontario.

Dolf Wynia, President, Norfolk Woodlot Owners Association

KNOW SOMEONE WHO WOULD MAKE A GREAT NEW MEMBER?

FOR ALL NEW MEMBERSHIP APPLICATIONS RECEIVED FROM A SPONSORING MEMBER
~ EACH WILL BE ENTERED INTO AN EXCLUSIVE DRAW

ALSO COMPLETE THE SURVEY SENT OUT WITH THE LAST NEWSLETTER

- BRING IN YOUR PERSONALIZED BALLOT FOR A VERY SPECIAL DRAW.
 - LOST YOUR SURVEY? COPIES WILL BE MADE AVAILABLE AT THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
-

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Norfolk Woodlot Owners Association



Wednesday February 3rd, 2010 7:00 PM

Delhi German Home - Delhi

Forestry Information Forum & Information Displays – open 5 pm

Over 39 Information Displays!

With membership access a chance at \$ 2000 in Door Prizes! A chance to win a chainsaw!

SEND YOUR MEMBERSHIP IN TODAY!
AND WIN A CHANCE AT A SPECIAL DRAW FOR A CHAINSAW!

DEADLINE – APPLICATION WITH PAYMENT MUST BE RECEIVED AT
NORFOLK FORESTRY 95 CULVER ST. BY JANUARY 29th, 2010

SIGN UP A NEW MEMBER
AND YOU WILL BE ENTERED IN AN EXCLUSIVE DRAW

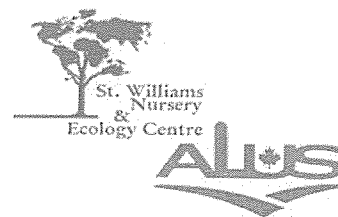
ALSO DO NOT FORGET TO BRING IN YOUR SURVEY AND
BALLOT FOR ANOTHER CHANCE FOR A GREAT PRIZE!

For more information call Tracey Boerkamp 519-443-8754

MEETING STARTS AT 7 PM

LEARN MORE ABOUT.....

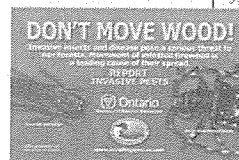
- The NEW St. Williams Nursery and Ecology Centre.
- Alternative Land Use Services



GUEST SPEAKER
Ontario Federation of Anglers & Hunters

Invading Species Awareness Program

In 1992 the Ontario Federation of Anglers and Hunters, in partnership with the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources, established The Invading Species Awareness Program. Our objectives are to raise public awareness of invasive species and encourage their participation in preventing their spread.



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

Answers to questions from members....



Q1. I have been offered money for my woodlot on a percentage basis... what does this mean?

A Presently the prices of standing timber are volatile and are suppressed by a number of factors. These factors include the ongoing downturn in the economy, the decline in house starts in North America, a strengthened Canadian dollar, European protectionism, and growing hardwood supply from eastern block countries.

Does this mean woodlot owners should not consider harvesting? Not necessarily, but a woodlot owner should be prepared to investigate a number of options to maximize return, if revenue is their main objective.

If revenue is not the main motivating factor – this is an ideal time to undertake improving your woodlot through a fuelwood harvest. Fuelwood demand remains strong and will continue to grow as non-commercial wood is sought for biofuel.

Alternatively, allowing time to pass does have its own rewards – trees grow – mother nature continues to sort out the impacts and influences of man – but remember “doing nothing” does require some effort – whether that be controlling invasive plants, monitoring for disease, maintaining property boundaries and preventing encroachment, maintaining trails, etc., etc. This all requires some effort.

Remember - each woodlot is unique and has been influenced by past management activities. And these past management practices may require an investment in undertaking a series of smaller less intrusive harvests to achieve a woodlot that can sustain your objectives – and this could range from moving towards sustainable revenue to the diversification of the composition in your woodlot.

Remember when considering any woodlot management – it is your woodlot! DO NOT feel pressured to undertake a harvest – if your woodlot has value today it will have value tomorrow.

As of late a number of woodlot owners have undertaken a commercial harvest and entered into an agreement in which the profits are shared with the contractor versus the more traditional option of payment up front based upon an estimated volume of standing timber.

Usually the profits are split 60/40 (60% to the landowner ~ 40% to the contractor) but have been as high as 70 / 30.

There is risk in entering into such an agreement but if a landowner has a high valued stand – this maybe the preferred option – as the value is assessed once the logs are harvested.

WOODN'T YOU LIKE TO KNOW...continued

Answers to questions from members....



A woodlot professionally marked can provide an estimated volume for either scenario – and many woodlot owners prefer the security of payment based upon this estimated volume prior to harvest.

With any agreement a contract is highly recommended – especially if a profit sharing option is being considered.

A contract on a profit sharing scenario should always require an independent assessment ~ calculation of the volume harvested. Documented volume measurement from the purchaser should be a requirement – NEVER let the contractor scale (measure) your logs if they are planning to sell them to a saw mill. The measurement made by the saw mill sets the value ~ as the saw mill sets the price they are willing to pay. Further your payment should be based on this measurement with payment made for your share directly from the saw mill, NOT the contractor.

If at any time a contractor disagrees with your position – move on.

Remember check references, visit other woodlots the contractor has completed. If unsure contact the County Forestry Division to see if the contractor has ever been charged with violations. And be sure you have documented proof of your contractors insurance, WSIB, and cutting and skidding certification.

Also be sure the contractor is fully aware of your boundaries – better yet walk and mark the boundaries with your neighbours and double check such before harvesting occurs.

The decisions you make will influence the outcome. Remember you are the owner of the resource and the contractor is employed by yourself – if you are not satisfied at any time you are fully entitled to do so.

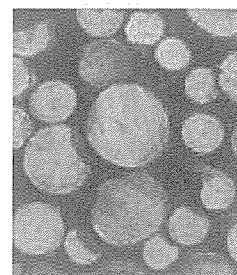
A professional logger will ensure your concerns are addressed as they want to return to your property in the future.

An unprofessional (and I refrain from referring to these individuals as loggers) will only look out for their own interests and have no plans on returning to your woodlot – thus they have no problem taking full advantage of your trust.

WEBSITE OF THE MONTH

http://www.communitiescommittee.org/pdfs/Selling_timber_guide2.pdf

A Guide to Selling Standing Timber



NWOA Directors – 2009

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

| Name | Position | Term * | Phone | E-mail |
|--|--|------------------------------|----------|--|
| Mark Sommerville | Past President | | 426-3762 | markruth@flarenet.com |
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| 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 |

WHAT DOES IT TAKE TO BE A DIRECTOR?

An interest in natural resources management We meet once a month except July & August....
We need new members to keep the momentum of our associations growth moving forward.....

If interested please contact an existing director to learn more.....

Don't Move Firewood

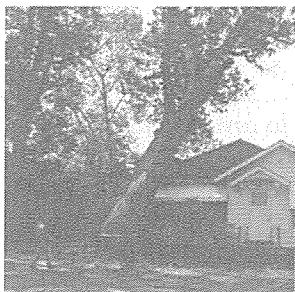
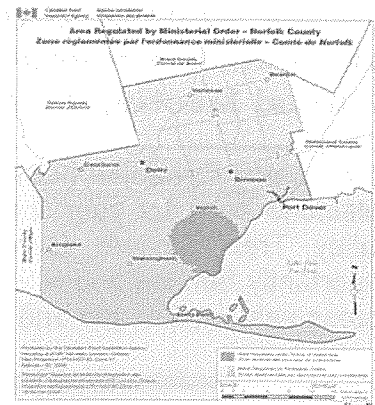
Buy Local!

Throwing a few pieces of firewood into the trunk of the car before a camping trip might seem like a good way to plan ahead, but those logs could destroy a forest.

Firewood can carry small but harmful hitchhikers that are often hidden in the bark or wood. The damage caused by invasive species such as the emerald ash borer can expand exponentially when they get rides from families on vacation—even if it is only a few kilometres away. In fact, the emerald ash borer has killed millions of ash trees across Canada.

When forests are destroyed, everyone bears the consequences. Workers who depend on the lumber industry can lose their livelihoods. Animals and birds can lose their habitat. And our environment can lose the cleaning power forests provide for the air we all breathe.

The solution is easy: leave your firewood at home and pick some up locally instead. If everyone takes care of our forests we will be able to enjoy them for years to come.



How Not To Cut Down a Tree

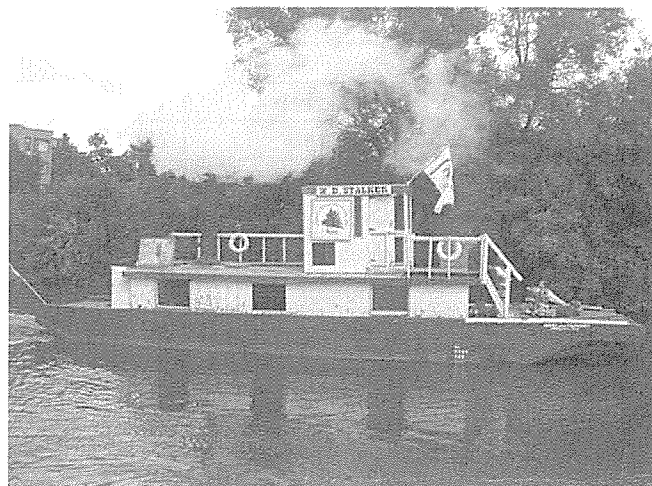


Alligators of the North

Our second publication from our Forest Capital of Canada designation is the new book

"Alligators of the North".

**ONLY \$30.00
for NWOA Members!**



The publication has gone to press and will be available in March 2010. The Canadian Forestry Association has been the promoter of this project, and its involvement goes back to the early 1980s when the late Clarence Coons was commissioned to research and write a history of the Alligator. Now, with the addition of Norfolk County historian Harry Barrett, this text has been updated and emotionalized and features over one hundred images. The front cover is graced with a Tom Thomson painting of a derelict alligator. The back cover carries another Thomson as well as a painting done by none other than our forestry colleague, the late Ewan Caldwell.

Enclosed with your newsletter is a copy of the front and back cover of this new publication.

This book will retail at \$34.99. And will be limited in production. This book will be the one and only covering this topic in a lifetime.

Norfolk Woodlot Owners Association Members will be offered this one time deal of pre-purchasing the Alligators of the North at their Annual General Meeting on Wednesday February 3rd, 2010 for only \$30.00.

If you enjoy Canadian north woods nostalgia, forest lore and even technical innovation, this is a milestone book for your library. There are numerous references to Pembroke and other Ottawa Valley, Trent System, Georgian Bay and Québec locations, as you can imagine – but most importantly Simcoe and Norfolk County. The Alligator was a common sight in the forest operations across eastern Canada and US from the 1890s through to almost the 1950s.



Please come to the AGM with your cheque made payable to:

Canadian Forestry Association

Please contact any NWOA Director to arrange for purchase if you cannot make it to the NWOA Annual General Meeting.