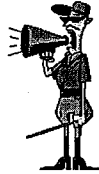


NORFOLK WOODLOT OWNERS ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER

Volume 1 Edition 11

January 2007

PRESIDENT's MESSAGE



Happy New Year, to all our members, and I hope everyone had a great Christmas as well.

We are quickly approaching our Annual Meeting at the end of the month and we are working on making this an interesting event again this year so I hope everyone will take the time to attend.

The weather seems to be on everyone's mind, the lack of snow in December, up to the time of this writing, is very unusual and we are wondering what will happen, New York's cherry trees are in full blossom and if our trees start to push buds it will be interesting to see what will happen if we get a sudden cold spell. 2007 is starting out to be very different than other years so I hope everyone takes advantage of this great weather and goes for a hike in their woodlot. See you at the meeting

We would like to hear from the members if they have any ideas for events that we might add to our list. Please contact me at 426-3762 or at

markruth@flarenet.com.

MARK SOMMERVILLE – PRESIDENT NWOA

WHAT's INSIDE?

- > NWOA Annual Meeting Overview
- > Hardwood Review
- > Tony's tales
- > Forest Funnies
- > There's Profits in those Woodlots
- > Woodn't You Like To Know
- > Career Opportunities

UPCOMING EVENTS!

MARK YOUR CALENDAR



Wednesday January 31st, 2007

NORFOLK WOODLOT OWNERS ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING DELHI GERMAN HOME ~ Delhi

Information Displays ~ 5:00 pm
Annual General Meeting ~ 7:00 pm

EVENING TOPICS:

Making a case for sustainable management of private woodlands

Steve Bowers

Stewardship Coordinator for the Huron County Stewardship Council

Norfolk County Forest Health Review

Linda Tucker

Ministry of Natural Resources – Forest Health Technician

Over 20 Information Displays!

\$1200 in Door Prizes!

3 Chainsaws up for Membership Draws!

** eligible winners must be a paid member of the NWOA

SEND YOUR MEMBERSHIP IN TODAY!

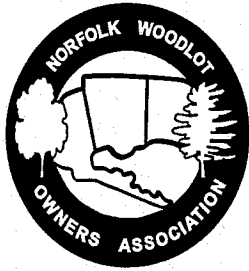
For more information call
Mark Sommerville 519-426-3762

Saturday February 24th, 2007 ~ 10 AM

A MARKED WOODLOT TOUR

- to be followed up in April – AFTER THE CUT TOUR

Meet at Walsh Public School at 10 am – we will drive to the woodlot.



NORFOLK WOODLOT OWNERS ASSOCIATION ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

After reviewing last year's Annual Meeting the Executive realizes that the revised format worked well! So you can expect the same interaction and light format – to allow everyone an opportunity to visit with their fellow members and peruse the information displays.

RENEW TODAY!

Every member in attendance will be given, if they wish, a copy of the Norfolk Environmental Advisory Committee' ~ State of the Environment Map of Norfolk County to complement the Forest Resource Manual:



Also a limited edition gift from the NWOA and Smokey the Bear will be available to all members!

Plus as an added bonus, new members in attendance at the AGM will receive a complimentary NWOA membership pin!



Once again the forestry-related displays of products and agencies will be there! Including:

| | | |
|--|------------------------|--|
| Ministry of Natural Resources | Nature Conservancy | Norfolk County |
| Farm Safety Assoc. | Exotic Wood Turning | Travel Only |
| Stripe ART | AgraTURF | Walpole Lawn & Garden |
| Norfolk Tractor | Rockford Timber | ForestCARE |
| Norfolk Field Naturalists | Bird Studies Canada | Micheal Interiors |
| Ontario Forest Health | Shermandale Farms Ltd. | Ont. Federation ATV – Talbot Trail Club |
| Southwestern Ontario Loggers Association | | National Wild Turkey Federation |
| Norfolk Land Stewardship Council | | Long Point Region Conservation Authority |

Our guest speaker will be Linda Tucker
Ministry of Natural Resources – Forest Health Technician
Speaking presenting the **Norfolk County Forest Health Review**

Also presenting will be Steve Bowers ~ Stewardship Coordinator for the Huron County Stewardship Council
Topic: Making a case for sustainable management of private woodlands

REMEMBER.....

WEDNESDAY JANUARY 31st, 2007
DELHI GERMAN HALL, Delhi

| | |
|-----------------|----------------------|
| Displays | - doors open 5:00 pm |
| General Meeting | - 7:00 pm |

BRING A NEW MEMBER & RECEIVE A FREE GIFT!
New members still get a Forest Resource Manual and a Metal NWOA Sign!

October, 2006

Concentration yards showed very little interest in green Ash even though prices continued to slip. 4/4 #1 Common Ash was particularly difficult to move, one seller noted, because its yields aren't much better than 4/4 #2 Common.

Far Eastern end-users reduced their Basswood purchases amid growing concern about shaky U.S. demand for window blinds and moulding. Domestic markets for #1/Btr Basswood were quiet, and #2 Common order files were slimmer.

North American Beech producers — and you can almost count them on one hand — reported challenging business conditions.

Distribution yards reported steady sales of FAS/1F Cherry to cabinet and furniture shops. Cherry shipments to cabinet manufacturers were decent last week, which is notable because the industry reduced its demand for several other species. 4/4 #2 Common Cherry continued to gain favor in both domestic and international markets.

Flooring plants showed unprecedented interest in 4/4 #2&3A Common Hickory, and sales of 4/4 #1/Btr Hickory were steady to cabinet plants. KD 4/4 FAS/1F Hickory prices slid, as producers had more lumber than orders.

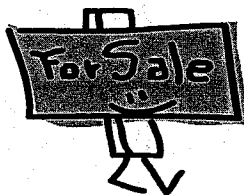
While many sellers offered price concessions to keep 4/4 FAS/1F and 5/4 #1/Btr Hard Maple moving, fair demand for 4/4 #1 Common Hard Maple kept its prices firm. Flooring manufacturers bought some 4/4 #2&3A Common Hard Maple, but not enough to prevent another round of price declines. Soft Maple producers noted good FAS/1F business and poor markets for the common grades. Even sales of Sap/Btr #1 and #2 Common Soft Maple, which had been quite good, were slow.

Shipments of FAS/1F Red Oak were extremely slow to distribution yards and millwork manufacturers, and prices continued to tumble. Flooring plants purchased steady volumes of 4/4 #2&3A Common and larger volumes of 4/4 #1 Common Red Oak last week. The strip flooring industry also showed very strong interest in 4/4 common-grade White Oak. That, combined with robust overseas demand, kept most White Oak items firmly priced and scarce.

Walnut logs and lumber were moving extraordinarily well, particularly in export markets.

The above observations are provided by Hardwood Review, www.hardwoodreview.com.

ADVERTISERS CORNER



TRAVEL ONLY ADVENTURES

MEMBERSHIP REBATE

THIS CERTIFICATE ENTITLES

NORFOLK WOODLOT OWNERS ASSOCIATION MEMBERS

Full 2007 Membership Rebate (\$20.00)

With the purchase of Cruise or Resort Holiday

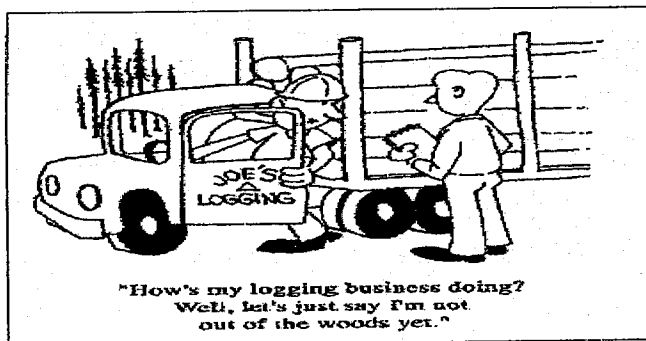
Offer Expires December 31, 2007



Contact:

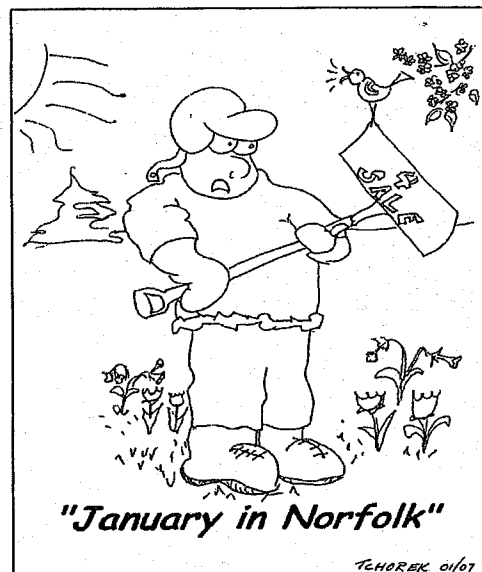
Patty & Ron Tchorek
108 Hwy #5, Norfolk,
N.R.#3,
Simcoe, Ontario
N3Y 4K2
519-426-3476

FOREST FUNNIES



If trees could scream, would we be so cavalier about cutting them down? We might, if they screamed all the time, for no good reason.

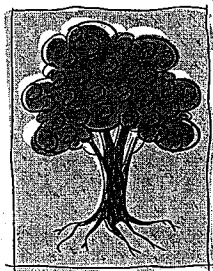
- Jack Handey



NWOA Directors – 2006

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

| Name | Position | Term * | Phone | E-mail |
|--|--|----------|----------|--|
| Mark Sommerville | President | 2008 (1) | 426-3762 | markruth@flarenet.com |
| Reg Smith | Past-President | | 443-4448 | |
| John Ryan | Treasurer | 2009 (2) | 428-5327 | shiitake@xplornet.com |
| Graham Post | Vice-President | 2008 (1) | 426-5669 | gpost@kwic.com |
| David Sandor | Secretary | 2009 (2) | 875-4689 | d.sandor@tvdsb.on.ca |
| Tony Boerkamp | Social Director | 2009 (2) | 443-8939 | |
| Bauke Vogelzang | Director | 2009 (2) | 443-8128 | |
| Albert Lava | Director | 2008 (1) | 582-0604 | |
| Paul DeCloet | Director | 2009 (1) | | ppdecloet@hotmail.com |
| Paul Beischlag | Director | 2008 (1) | 426-8591 | pbeischlag@hotmail.com |
| Henry Heimbuch | Director | 2008 (1) | 426-6085 | |
| Tracey Boerkamp | Norfolk Federation Agriculture Liaison | Advisory | 443-8754 | springview@simcom.on.ca |
| David Reid Stewardship Co-ordinator | Norfolk Land Stewardship Council | Advisor | 426-4259 | dave.j.reid@mnr.gov.on.ca |
| Steve Scheers Superintendent | Norfolk County Forestry Conservation Service | Advisor | 426-5999 | steven.scheers@norfolkcounty.on.ca |



How Trees Help the Planet

One large, healthy tree can:

- lift up to 4000 litres of water from the ground and release it into the air
- absorb as many as 7000 dust particles per litre of air
- absorb 75 per cent of the CO₂ produced by the average car
- provide a day's oxygen for up to four people

THERE'S PROFITS in WOODLOTS

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Ontario Farmer Publications Box 7400 London Ontario N5Y 4X3

Out Here

PUBLICATION

Over the last 10 years, the Barries have had timber sales of \$108,000 from their 45-acre woodlot for about \$216 annual income per acre BY HELEN LAMMERS-HELPS

Father and son team, George and Sandy Barrie, farm 250 acres of gravelly loam near Cambridge, Ontario. They grow the typical cash crops on their land: corn, soybeans and wheat. But their biggest profit per acre comes from their 45-acre hardwood bush. In fact, the Barries made twice as much money per acre from their woodlot than their farmland over the past ten years according to a study by the Ministry of Natural Resources that compares profit from agricultural and forested land over the long-term.

"We're trying to put a number on the value of a woodlot," explains Terry Schwan, one of the study coordinators and District Forester at the Ministry of Natural Resources in Guelph.

The Barries have kept records of their sales from their woodlot for the past twenty-seven years. Profits from comparable agricultural land were estimated by the George Morris Centre using the Ontario Ministry of Agriculture and Food Crop Enterprise Budgets and assuming one-third of their cultivated land was in each crop each year.

The Barries have three main sources of income from their woodlot: sawlogs, maple syrup and firewood. Their bush is predominantly maple with some red oak, cherry and ash. The bush was never cleared since the slopes are too steep to be cultivated for crops.

According to the Case Study information sheet found on the Huron Stewardship Council web site, about 1100 maple trees are tapped in the Barries' woodlot. Most of the syrup is sold at the farm although some is sold at the Cambridge Farmers' Market. Using an industry average of 0.8 litres per tap and a \$5 profit per litre, they average \$88 profit per acre from the maple syrup. Sandy Barrie questions how much longer they will continue to produce maple syrup though. It's labour intensive and some equipment will need to be replaced in the near future.

The Barries do most of their own logging, harvesting trees one at a time and cleaning up the tops for firewood. Over the last 10 years, they have had timber sales of \$108,000 from their 45-acre woodlot for about \$216 annual income per acre. Cutting the trees down yourself can be dangerous work, acknowledges Barrie. "You have to be aware of what can happen," he says.

They also sell 150-200 face cords of firewood per year. Firewood sales have averaged \$26 per acre for the past ten years. "We can sell all the firewood we can cut," explains Barrie, "but the value of the wood is in the labour to cut and dry it."

For many years the Barries also hosted paid school tours in the sugar bush. This was a great way to connect with current and future consumers. However, there is less emphasis on outdoor education in the school curriculum now so the tours have been discontinued. With all the sources of revenue added together, the Barries have made an average of \$330 per acre from the woodlot over the past 10 years. It has taken a long time to get the bush producing at this optimum level. The Barries have been actively managing their woodlot since 1968.

If they had to do it over again, Barrie says he's not sure he would tap the maple trees. Once tapped, the trees are often only good for firewood which is worth a lot less than timber. "Sometimes a portion of a tree can be salvaged though," adds Barrie.

The case study doesn't take into consideration other benefits such as wildlife, aesthetics, environmental protection, etc. Some farmers are charging for access or leasing hunting and fishing rights. Woodlots have some advantages over agricultural crops. Input costs are low, prices for wood are more stable than agricultural commodities and you can choose what year you want to harvest.

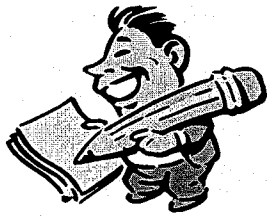
The Barries' woodlot is one of ten included in the study. Other study partners include the Huron Stewardship Council, George Morris Centre, Huron-Perth Chapter of the Ontario Woodlot Association, Maitland Watershed Partnership Initiative and the Ontario Stewardship Opportunity Fund. For more information, go to the Huron Stewardship Council web site at www.huronstewardship.on.ca or call Terry Schwan at the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources at 519.826.4933 or email terry.schwan@mnr.gov.on.ca.

QUOTABLE QUOTES

Hmmm ... we chop down trees and chop up wood.

Author unknown





Tony's Tales

By Tony Boerkamp - Director / Social Cttee. - NWOA

At the time writing this, we had our first snow fall, about six inches. The bush lot is laden with snow, the birds are busy at the feeders, also the chipmunks and squirrels. Winter is here.

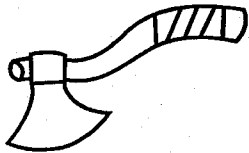
We had some great outings, and events.

On Nov.8th the chainsaw safety and maintenance night was held at Springview Farm Golf Course. Tracey Boerkamp arranged this, a display of new chainsaws, three makes and draw prizes for everyone. Speaking on safety was Randy of Norfolk Tractor and Reg Smith answered many questions on logging. Everyone had a good feed of pizza, pop and coffee. Fifteen members attended. "Thank you Tracey."

On Nov.22nd the bus tour to Guelph Lake Dam and Sleeman Brewery was great. George Demaiter arranged this outing, thanks George. We had twenty-nine members on the bus, left OMAF at 3pm and got back at 10:30pm. We tested some good beer.

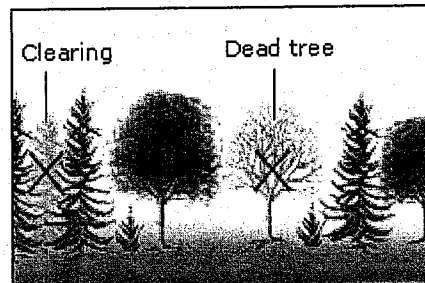
On Nov.25th the Outdoor Wood Furnace event had about twenty members show up at Steve Penicks Farm. Steve explained the installation of the furnace, the cost of installing and the payback over the next four years the logging of the fire wood and storing. Henry Heinbuck arranged this event. Thanks Henry and Steve.

See you at our next outing!



Selection cutting

Selection cutting is used to maintain uneven-aged stands (where the trees are all different ages). The forest regenerates naturally, with the young trees and seedlings benefiting from the protection of existing trees.



Selection cutting

Harvesting is planned to ensure the forest is constantly renewed. Priority is given to sick and injured trees. This technique is preferred in hardwood forests, where excessively large cuts create huge openings. Such cuts promote the growth of trembling aspen and other **pioneer species**, which are not very shade tolerant, to the detriment of species in the original stand.

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



Answers to questions from members....

Q. What do I do if I get an offer to sell wood out of my woodlot?

A.



Do not accept a cold offer to sell timber from your woodlot!

There are a few things to consider...

Firstly there are good loggers out there and none of the following questions will scare them away.

BUT, you must first ask yourself how does this individual know I own a woodlot, and further has he walked through it without my prior knowledge. If he has or worse yet he has already marked it without your permission – call the OPP and the Forest Conservation Service immediately!

If a logger is in the area, this maybe a legitimate inquiry as to your intentions. In any case, do not feel pressured into agreeing to sell – if it is worth something today it will be worth something tomorrow.

There are a few loggers operating locally which are placing landowners at risk of impacting the future value of their woodland and placing them in a position of being found guilty of violating the County's Forest Conservation By-law. The Forest Conservation By-law is only a guide, a minimum standard, and does not imply landowners should forego applying good forestry practices which compliments your objectives for the woodland, ie; sustained revenue, recreation, etc.

Worse than this ~ there are a few unscrupulous operators who are not paying full value or even paying for the timber harvested. Unfortunately if you do not sign a contract nor have provisions which dictate how the value of the trees are to be calculated, you could be out of pocket potentially tens of thousands of dollars in some cases.

So, before you cut CALL Norfolk County Forest Conservation Service!

519-426-5999 ext 224

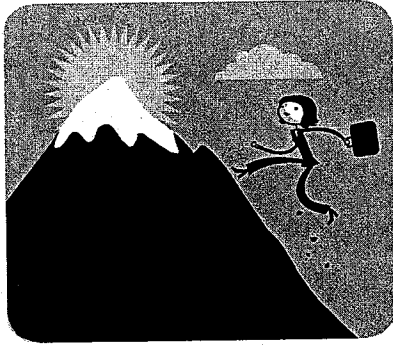
The first few questions to ask is

- ~ has this operator ever been charged or issued a warning for violations to the Forest Conservation By-law?
- ~ is this operator a member of the Southwestern Ontario Loggers Association?
- ~ can I have the names of owners of woodlots which you have recently cut? ~ and check these references personally!
- ~ would they be interested in bidding on the standing timber if you had it independently and professionally marked?
- ~ ask to see a copy of the contract you would sign if you were to consider selling marked, standing timber?
- ~ ask if all their employees certified chainsaw and skidder operators? ~ can they provide proof of such?
- ~ if they have employees they will have a WSIB number, can they provide a clearance certificate proving such?
- ~ if they are an independent operator (working alone) do they have proper private insurance and can provide proof of such?

If at any time the individual(s) balk or hesitate to the above simple questions do not waste your time with pursuing the matter further. If you still want to harvest your timber then call the Norfolk Forest Conservation Service and they will help you through the steps to assist you protect your resource.

REMEMBER IT IS YOUR WOODLOT!

WOODLOT OWNERS INHERIT THE VALUE, AND BENEFIT FROM THE REWARDS OF PROPER MANAGEMENT!



Career Opportunities

Ontario Forestry Association to promote career opportunities.

STRONG DEMAND FOR FORESTRY AND NATURAL RESOURCES PROGRAM GRADUATES.

Over the past five years, post-secondary institutions have seen a decline of almost 30% in enrolment into forestry programs. As one of the largest exporters of forest products in the world, and contributing close to 375,000 jobs and \$21 billion dollars to GDP, Canada's forestry industry is a key contributor to the economic wealth of our country.

With this current trend and an additional influx of students attending higher education this fall, post-secondary institutions are faced with the decision to concentrate financial resources on other more popular programs.

The industry's ability to employ graduates is evidenced in the Ontario Student Assistant Program (OSAP) performance indicators for 2002, showing an employment rate of 83% for those graduating with a diploma in the natural resources field, and 100% for those graduating from a forestry degree (B.Sc. Forestry). In fact, forestry educators question whether Canadian forestry schools have the capacity to sustain the current demands of the forest sector, let alone drive the innovation strategy necessary to maintain the huge economic contribution of the sector in the future.

Ontario Forestry Association (OFA) Executive Director, Carla Grant says that forestry has become a highly technical field that provides solutions and continuing research and advancement for some of today's critical issues; climate change, water quality etc.

"There is a need now, more than ever, for qualified experts to maintain and manage our natural resources, particularly since the majority of the current forestry workforce is slated to retirement within the next 10 years," says Grant.

The Ontario Forestry Association is currently focusing on increasing the promotion of educational opportunities and careers for youth in the fields of forestry and natural resource management. This involves providing information and resources to school boards, guidance counselors, teachers, and students regarding specific programs, course descriptions, and direction to employment opportunities – thus offering high school students with the facts needed to make informed career decisions. This information will be disseminated via the OFA website (www.oforest.on.ca), teacher workshops, and using the well-developed Ontario network of educators and students currently involved in the OFA's Envirothon and Focus on Forests programs.

It is hoped that this endeavour will be supported by institutions, government agencies and the public; allowing students to realize the potential and rewarding opportunities that exist in the forest industry.



www.workingforest.com

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