

NORFOLK WOODLOT OWNERS ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER  
www.norfolkwoodlots.com

Volume 4 Edition 16 Late Fall 2012

**President's message**

The summer was warm and dry. Many farmers have been very busy irrigating their crops. The ground water level in our pond has dropped more than three feet due to trees needing water to keep cool and lack of rain to compensate for this evaporation. But now that the cooler weather and rainy days have arrived I must admit that this season also brings a lot of enjoyment. It is Thanksgiving weekend and fall started already a few weeks ago. On September 24<sup>th</sup> we experienced the first night frost on our farm. Since that time the Poplar, Cherry and Maple trees have started to change colours from green to burgundy, red, orange and gold. On most rural roads this sight is breathtaking.

Through the winter I have kept you informed on the progress that we were making in establishing Black Oak Savannah. This is a rare habitat that together with Tall Grass Prairie only remains in 0.1% of its original area. Many prairie and savannah species are fire dependent. To provide proper management Glen had been cutting 400 Poplar trees last winter and we applied the prescribed burn in the spring through Lands and Forests, a consulting company for high risk prescribed burns. Due to proper management of stump treatment and drought the Poplars did not put out many shoots at first. But through the summer the root systems started to put out many new shoots. To keep these suckers at bay Glen has been clipping close to 10 000 shoots. This sounds like a lot of work and it is. But it is also very rewarding to know that we are working towards preserving rare habitat. And the physical activity if applied in moderation keeps one in good physical condition.

Good management of our forests is important to healthy forests. Most often forest management means opening up the canopy to let light in for young trees. This can be done by cutting dead or split trees. Doing this leaves room for straight trees and young trees to grow bigger. This improves the health of your forest. The fall and winter are usually good months to do this as the forest under storage dies down and it is easier to walk through the forest. It is important to work with a well maintained chain saw and wear protective gear, such as Kevlar pants to protect your legs and gloves. Your chain saw supplier can advise you on your best options.

If you have any suggestions or interests that you would like to learn about you can let me know by phone (519-428-1421) or by email (vankleef@kwic.com)

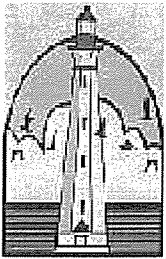
Angelle van Kleef



**ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**  
**Notification of Date Change**

**Wednesday March 6<sup>th</sup>, 2013 ~ Delhi German Home**  
Hopefully we will miss the snow storms this year!

## UPCOMING EVENTS



### **Annual General Meeting**

### **Long Point World Biosphere Reserve Foundation**

**Thursday, November 22<sup>nd</sup> at 7:00 p.m.**

**Backus Education Center**

**OPEN TO THE PUBLIC**

This year's guest speaker is Mr. Peter Zuzek, a world-renowned coastal geomorphologist, in the employ of W.F. Baird & Associates Coastal Engineers Ltd. His talk will provide an explanation of coastal littoral cells and key physical process in the coastal zone, with emphasis on erosional processes along the north shore of Lake Erie. Mr. Zuzek has conducted detailed studies of coastal processes along both sides of the Point Pelee Peninsula and will provide examples of the serious impact of the human disruption of coast processes. Of great importance to our Long Point Peninsula and community, Mr. Zuzek will describe the benefits of an integrated approach to coastal management and how cooperation between government agencies, communities and non-government organizations, can resolve resource issues.

Mr. Zuzek, MES, CFM, P.Geo. has twenty years of professional experience with hazard investigations and coastal zone management studies on the world's oceans, lakes, rivers and watersheds. He manages large multi-disciplinary projects at Baird and Associates, which investigates natural hazards in the coastal zone, resolves resource conflicts, and engages stakeholders. Mr. Zuzek has pioneered new techniques to simulate long-term coastal evolution, model flooding and erosion hazards, and quantifies the associated economic damages. He obtained a Master's degree in Geography from the University of Waterloo, is a registered Professional Geoscientist in Ontario, and a Certified Floodplain Manager. Mr. Zuzek is presently the Vice-President of the Coastal Zone Canada Association, which advocates for the integrated management of our coastal resources.

New members are welcome. For more information please contact Brian Craig at (519) 582-4264.

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**Saturday November 24<sup>th</sup>, 2012 2:00 PM**

### **GYPSY MOTH SURVEY FIELD TRAINING WORKSHOP**

#### **Walsh Community Hall ~ Walsh**

Participants will meet at Walsh Community Hall for a brief overview of field techniques. Followed by a field session in the County Woodlot in the Pinegrove area.

Please dress for the weather. If you can bring a clipboard and a pencil for taking field notes it would be appreciated.

For more information please contact Morgan Van Laeken at 519-426-5999 ext. 2220.

## MISSION STATEMENT

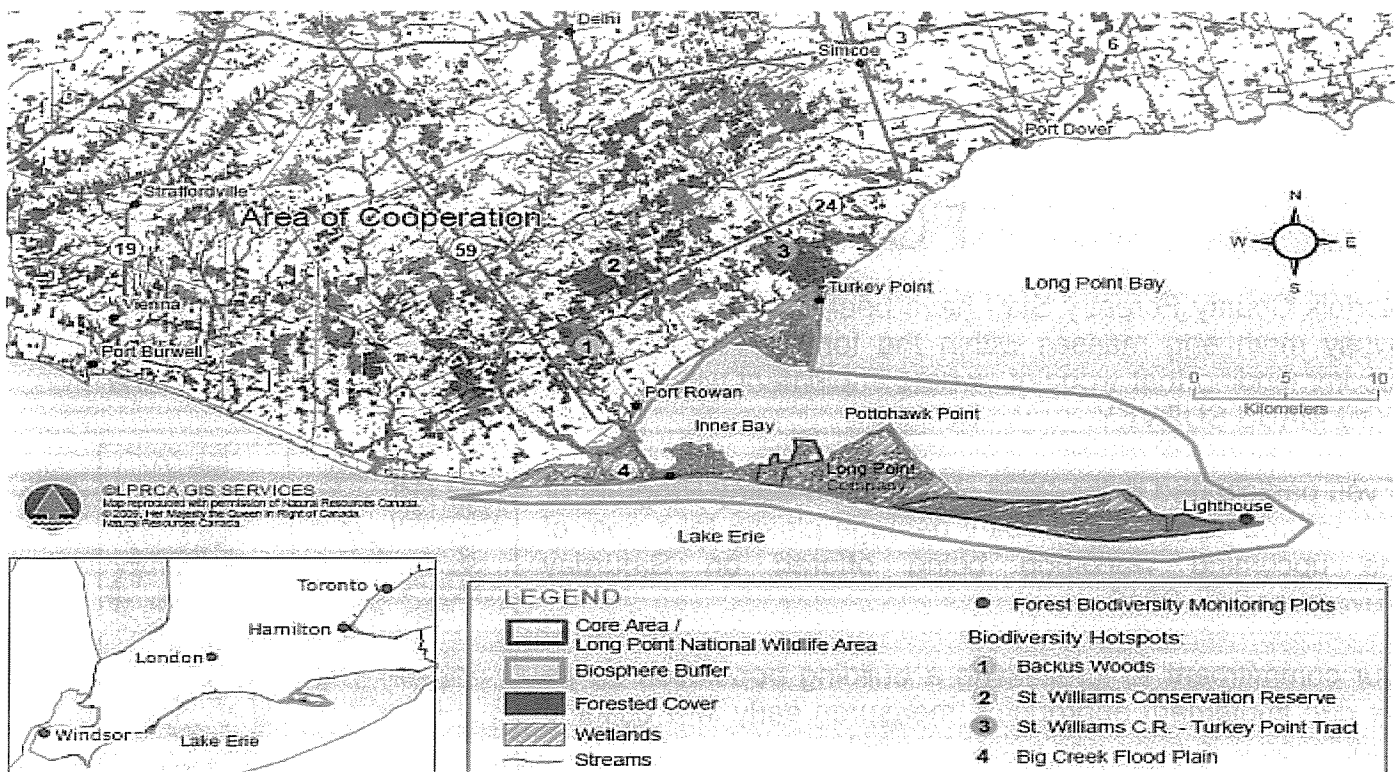
The **Long Point World Biosphere Reserve Foundation** is dedicated to conserving biodiversity; promoting sustainable communities; and partnering in research, monitoring, outreach and education.

## What is the Long Point Biosphere?

The Long Point area, comprising 26,250 hectares, was designated as a Biosphere Reserve by UNESCO in April, 1986, the third to be named in Canada and one of 15 biosphere reserves found in this country today. It provides an example of the Great Lakes coastal ecosystem and a unique blend of habitats – long uninterrupted beaches, undisturbed sand dunes, grassy ridges, wet meadows, woodlands, marshes and ponds, coldwater streams, and the shallow Inner Bay. Its delicate dunes and marshes teem with songbirds, spawning fish, turtles and frogs.

Long Point is a world-renowned refuge and stopover for migrating birds in fall and spring, and waterfowl viewing is excellent in March and April. In August and September tens of thousands of Monarch Butterflies congregate on Long Point, briefly resting before continuing on their way to their Mexican wintering grounds.

The Long Point World Biosphere Reserve Foundation promotes research, monitoring, community outreach and education, partnerships, and projects that support the goals of biodiversity, conservation and sustainable communities in the Long Point World Biosphere Reserve. We exchange information and work collaboratively with the Canadian Biosphere Reserves Association and other biosphere reserves in Canada and internationally. Our UNESCO/MAB Biosphere Reserve designation does not bring with it any new authorities over lands, water or resources.



# NWOA Directors – 2012

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

Name	Position	Term *	Phone	E-mail
Dolf Wynia	Past President		875-3350	<a href="mailto:wynia@kwic.com">wynia@kwic.com</a>
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Clen van Kleef	Vice President	2013 (1)	428-1421	<a href="mailto:vankleef@kwic.com">vankleef@kwic.com</a>
Eric Ferguson	Treasurer	2014 (2)	443-7928	<a href="mailto:emferguson@silomail.com">emferguson@silomail.com</a>
Martin Perrin	Secretary Website Ctte	2015 (2)	875-2481	<a href="mailto:mkperrin@kwic.com">mkperrin@kwic.com</a>
Mike Rothery	Director	2014 (2)	586-9535	<a href="mailto:wmrothery@hotmail.com">wmrothery@hotmail.com</a>
Vic Janulis	Director	2013 (1)	443-5828	<a href="mailto:vicj@kwic.com">vicj@kwic.com</a>
Joe Stechly	Director	2013 (1)	428-0374	
Tom Bradstreet	Director	2013 (1)	426-3405	<a href="mailto:tom.bradstreet@natureconservancy.ca">tom.bradstreet@natureconservancy.ca</a>
Ron Tchorek	Director	2013 (2)	426-5708	<a href="mailto:tchorek@kwic.com">tchorek@kwic.com</a>
Brett Schuyler	Director	2014 (1)	427-9696	<a href="mailto:brett@schuylerfarms.ca">brett@schuylerfarms.ca</a>
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Garret Reid	Director-at-large	2014 (2)	429-9288	<a href="mailto:garretreid42@hotmail.com">garretreid42@hotmail.com</a>
Gunther Csoff	Director-at-large	2014 (1)		<a href="mailto:gandhcsoff@execulink.com">gandhcsoff@execulink.com</a>
David Reid	Director-at-large	2015 (1)		<a href="mailto:dave.reid@eastlink.ca">dave.reid@eastlink.ca</a>
Mark Sommerville	St. Williams Conservation Reserve Community Council	Advisory	426-3762	<a href="mailto:markruth@flarenet.com">markruth@flarenet.com</a>
Tracey Boerkamp	Annual General Meeting Chairman	Advisory	443-8754	<a href="mailto:springviewgolf@xplornet.com">springviewgolf@xplornet.com</a>
Eric Cleland	Norfolk Land Stewardship Council	Advisor	426-4259	<a href="mailto:eric.cleland@ontario.ca">eric.cleland@ontario.ca</a>
Steve Scheers Superintendent	Norfolk County Forestry Conservation Service	Advisor	426-5999	<a href="mailto:steven.scheers@norfolkcounty.ca">steven.scheers@norfolkcounty.ca</a>

## FOREST HEALTH WARNING

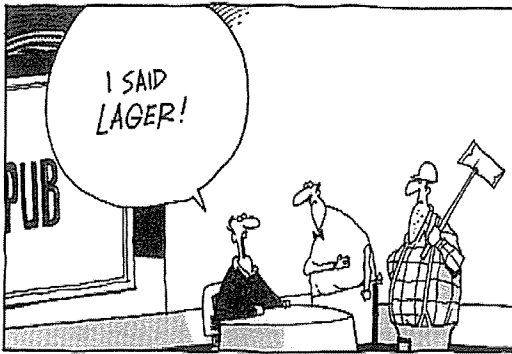
Norfolk County Forestry Staff have been fielding a number of calls and observing healthy gypsy moth egg masses within the former Township of Charlotteville as such we are recommending that woodlot owners implement within their own woodlots a GYPSY MOTH EGG MASS SURVEY.

If you participated in the 2008 Gypsy Moth Spray Program or did not and suffered significant damage please take note of the upcoming workshop being offered on Saturday November 24<sup>th</sup>, 2012.

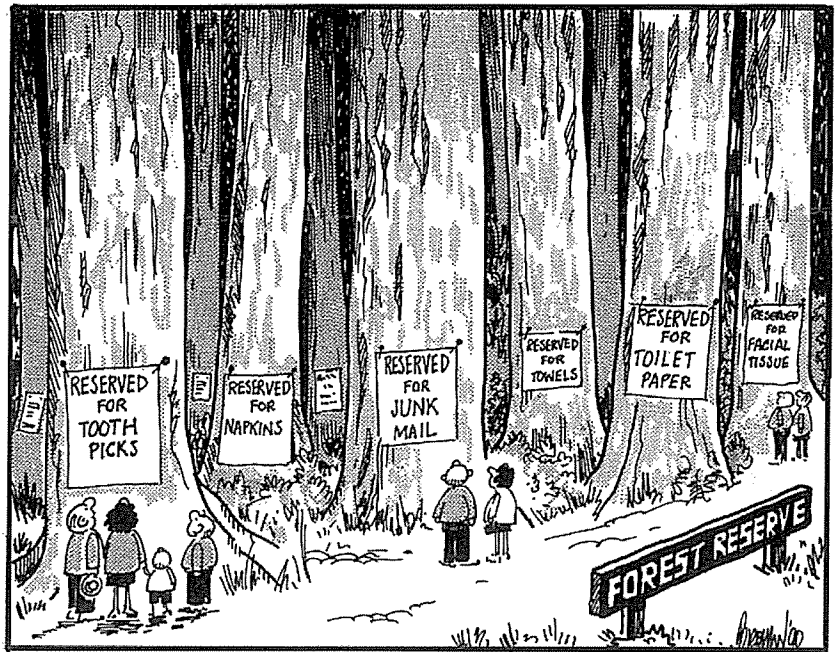
Our commitment to forecasting a building population so as we can implement appropriate measures early in a building population is in everyone's best interest.



# FORESTRY FUNNIES



"... up close THIS one's not so hot ..."



## Why Ontario Wood?



**It's local.** Ontario's forest products industry is a significant contributor to the provincial economy. Our industry helps to support about 200,000 jobs in more than 260 communities across our province.

**It's Planet Friendly.** Ontario is a world leader in sustainable forest management. Less than 1/2 of 1% of Ontario's forests are harvested each year and by law plans to renew the forest must be in place prior to harvest and that planned renewal must occur. More than that, wood is renewable, reusable and recyclable.

**It's about Quality and Choice.** Ontario's forests offer a rich variety of hardwood and softwood species that are highly valued worldwide. Ontario manufacturers and craftsmen use this wood to produce hundreds of different products from lumber to flooring to furniture. Whatever your project, you can find a high quality Ontario Wood solution.

## **SELLING STANDING TIMBER**

Managing a woodlot can provide landowners with many benefits — all at the same time. You can grow more valuable wood products faster, improve wildlife habitat and increase the diversity and overall health of the forest ecosystem. When the time comes to harvest your trees, you'll need to sell your timber to a logger and ensure that the trees are harvested in ways that improve the long-term health and commercial value of your woodlot.

If you don't already have one, you should consider developing a management plan for your woodlot. Forests are complex ecosystems that contain many life forms — trees, shrubs, herbs, birds, mammals, amphibians, reptiles, insects, microorganisms, mosses, lichens, fungi and many others. And each life form is linked to other life forms and to the air, the water and the soil. If you are going to take wood from the forest over the long term, you'll need to harvest in ways that sustain these complex relationships and the commercial productivity of the forest. A management plan will help you do this.

After you have established the goals of your management plan, select the silvicultural system that best suits the forest region in your area, your particular site and the species you want to cut and regenerate. Silvicultural systems are ways of promoting the growth of new forests, tending the developing forest and harvesting mature trees.

The selection system is often the best choice for hardwood forests in southern Ontario. It removes individual or small groups of trees in 10- to 20-year intervals and encourages the growth of a healthy, diverse forest, with trees of all ages. It can also increase wildlife habitat and the value of future wood products. In the past, loggers took the trees with the highest commercial value and left defective trees and species of lower commercial value to grow and to regenerate the forest. Called high grading, this approach generated the greatest immediate returns. But it reduced the health and future commercial value of the forest.

Today, we harvest a mix of high and low value trees. This kind of selective harvest opens up the forest to give the remaining high-value trees the sunlight and the room they need to grow and achieve their greatest commercial potential. The sunlight also stimulates natural regeneration. Leaving trees of all species ensures that there will be sources of seed to regenerate a diverse forest.

If you choose the selection system, your management plan should provide details on:

- The tree species you want to grow as future “crop” trees
- The tree species you want to retain as seed trees to naturally regenerate the site
- The tree species and features you want to retain for their value to wildlife
- The timing and size of future harvests

Developing an effective management plan is a complex task. For help with your plan, as well as advice on marking trees and estimating the volume of wood for sale, contact the Norfolk County Forest Conservation Service at 519-426-5999 x 2217.

## **MARK THE TREES FOR HARVEST**

Be sure to hire a professional forester to assist to implement your objectives. A professional forester should work for you directly not the logger.

The forester will prescribe how the trees are to be marked, and they usually complete the marking themselves ideally with the help of yourself. Select the trees that you want to harvest and the crop trees that you want to grow for the future.

Pay attention to the density of the stand, taking care not to thin the stand too much. Thinning encourages the more valuable trees to grow to a commercial size in less time. But if too many trees are removed, new branches may sprout along the stems of remaining trees, reducing their commercial value.

In Ontario, we place two strokes or spots of yellow paint on trees to be harvested. Mark each tree at eye level to make the tree easy for loggers to see. Place a second mark at the base of each tree, just above the ground. As you inspect the harvest operation, this mark will help you ensure that the loggers have cut the correct trees.

Mark the trees you don't want to harvest or damage at this time with blue paint. Mark your property boundary with red paint. If your property boundary is unclear meet with your neighbours before marking to agree upon the property boundary.

## **ESTIMATE THE VOLUME OF WOOD**

The forester or tree marker will determine the number, species and size of the trees marked for harvest. They will prepare an estimate of the volume of wood to be sold.

## **CONTACT LOGGERS**

Ask the Norfolk County forestry staff for a list of local loggers or sawmills who might want to buy the timber on your land. Be sure to ask if they have ever been charged with a violation under the Forest Conservation By-law. Then call or write the loggers about the details of your timber sale. Their level of interest will depend on the amount and value of the timber to be sold and the market for those products. If several loggers show an interest, competitive bidding could give you the highest return.

Look for a logger who makes protection of the forest ecosystem a priority. Some loggers may be able to help you design landings, skid trails, stream crossings and roads that reduce the potential of damage to your crop trees and woodlot. Ask the loggers about their logging methods.

Careful loggers leave harvestable trees standing along skid trails until all the other trees have been harvested. These trees are damaged by the harvest, but they protect the other trees in the forest from damage. In some areas, they also cut trees to create protective barriers. Before accepting offers, visit properties that the loggers have recently logged and discuss their performances with the landowners.

# NEGOTIATE A TIMBER SALE AGREEMENT

When you have chosen a logger and agreed to the terms and conditions of sale, you should develop a formal contract called a "Timber Sale Agreement." A signed contract is important, even if you are selling a small amount of wood. It protects your personal interests and legal rights, as well as those of the logger. It also addresses liability for accidents, damage and other important concerns.

A logger or sawmill that does not want to sign a contract indicates that this is a person whom you should avoid. A good contract protects the landowner and the operator. A reputable operator will always agree to work with the landowner in hopes that in the future they can return to bid on future timber harvests.

Items which should be spoken to and included in a contract;

- **PAYMENT FOR WOOD SOLD – two options**
  - Lump sum payment – payment for estimated volume of standing timber
  - Percentage payment – landowner / logger
    - 60 / 40 – sawlogs - mills should pay you directly & you pay logger their share
    - 70 / 30 – is a fair value for logs to be sold as veneer
  
- **ACCOUNTABILITY OF THE SELLER**
  - Guarantee of Title – ensures the timber is not encumbered by a mortgage
  - Property Boundaries – definition and how they are marked
  - Removing Wood – how, where and when
  
- **ACCOUNTABILITY OF THE PURCHASER**
  - Starting Date
  - Expiry Date
  - Damages to Remaining Trees and the Woodlot – define penalties
  - Cutting Unmarked Trees – define penalties
  - Damage to Fences, Roads and Property – define penalties or compensation
  - Assignment of Contract – prevents sub-contracting
  - Fire Precautions
  - Maintaining a Clean Site
  - Responsibility for Injury
  - Responsibility for Damage to Equipment
  - Responsibility for Adhering to Legislation to Protect the Environment
  - Responsibility for Adhering to Legislation to Protect Employees
  - Liability of the Purchaser – ensure proof of insurance and WSIB
  
- **JOINT ACCOUNTABILITY OF THE SELLER AND PURCHASER**
  - Damage to Trees Marked for Harvest
  - Delaying the Harvest During Wet Periods
  - Contract Modifications
  - Inspection of Logging Operations and "Stop Work Orders"
  - Arbitrator Clause



## **BE DILIGENT & INSPECT THE CUTTING OPERATIONS**

Plan to be close to your woodlot during the harvest. Loggers are more likely to listen to your concerns while the logs are still in the woodlot. Visit your woodlot on the first day of the harvest and inspect it regularly. Check all the stumps for yellow marks to ensure that the trees were supposed to be cut.

If trees without yellow marks were harvested, you should be paid for damages according to the terms of the contract. Look for excessive damage to streams, fences, ditches, trails and roads. After the harvest, check to see that all damages have been repaired and that there are no hung-up trees in the forest.

## **STOPPING THE HARVEST**

You have the right to stop the harvest if conditions in the agreement are broken. To stop the harvest you should first discuss the situation with the logger or contractor, and try to work out your differences. If this is not possible, stronger methods may be employed, including legal action or contacting the Norfolk County Forest Conservation Service or in the worst case scenarios the police.

REMEMBER it is your woodlot first and foremost!!!

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FOR A SAMPLE CONTRACT PLEASE VISIT

**<http://www.lrconline.com>**

EXTENSION NOTE: Selling Standing Timber

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## **FOREST FACTS AND FIGURES**

- Ontario's landscape is dominated by forests. We have over 71 million hectares of forest and about 85 billion trees. Hardwood species such as maple and oak forests are found in the south, while conifer species such as jack pine and spruce forests dominate the north. Our forests cover a land area equivalent in size to the landmasses of Germany, Italy and the Netherlands combined.
- Sustainable forest management requires that today's decisions involve a balance between social, economic, and environmental factors.
- Ontario has a flexible, adaptive and comprehensive system of legislation, regulations, policies and technical guides, for forest management that promotes public consultation and sustainable resource management.



