

# CONFERENCE SCHEDULE

## FRIDAY, MARCH 24

7:30AM	8:30 – 11:30AM	11:30AM – 12:45PM	11:30AM – 12:45PM	12:45 – 1:45PM	2:00 – 2:45PM	2:45 – 3:30PM	3:30 – 4:15PM	4:30 – 5:15PM	5:30 – 6:15PM	6:15 – 7:15PM	7:15 – 9:15PM	
Registration Opens	Field Tours and Extended Learning Workshops*	Boxed Lunch*	Exhibits Open – Deans Hall and Senate Lounge			Exhibits Open – Deans Hall and Senate Lounge • Refreshments – Deans Hall, First and Second Floor Break Areas	Session 1	Session 2	Session 3	Session 4	Exhibits Open with Refreshments and Cash Bar – Deans Hall and Senate Lounge	Banquet with Scott Weidensaul (pre-purchased ticket required)* – Presidents Hall
Opening Remarks and Keynote with Jennie Stephens – Presidents Hall			Legal Strategies to Protect Your Forest Land for Future Generations <i>Thomas Hoffman</i> <b>Room 208</b>	All about Ticks of Pennsylvania <i>Jessica Turpin</i> <b>Room 208</b>	Pitfalls to Avoid in Private Forestland Ownership <i>Sanford Smith, Dave Scamardella, Mike Wolf</i> <b>Room 208</b>		Planting for Pollinators: How to Plant and Maintain Native Wildflower Meadows <i>Laura Jackson</i> <b>Room 208</b>					
			Measuring and Managing Deer Forest Impacts on State Forest Lands <i>Emily Domoto</i> <b>Room 207</b>	Habitat Requirements and Management Considerations for Forest Birds <i>Josh Rittenhouse</i> <b>Room 207</b>	Prescribed Burning in Pennsylvania: Benefits and Opportunities <i>Jesse Kreye</i> <b>Room 207</b>		Climate-Smart Forestry: How We Can Manage Forests to Mitigate and Adapt to a Changing Climate <i>Kevin Yoder</i> <b>Room 207</b>					
			Identifying Common Pennsylvania Trees <i>Jessica Pierce</i> <b>Room 109</b>	Hemlock Woolly Adelgid and the Future of Hemlock <i>Calvin Norman</i> <b>Room 109</b>	Improved Private Forest Management Outcomes with Woodland Stewardship Networks <i>Ryan Davis</i> <b>Room 109</b>		Deer Keds in Pennsylvania: A Summary of Current Knowledge and Research <i>Michael Skvarla</i> <b>Room 109</b>					
			Watershed Stewardship: The Riparian Buffer of Volunteerism <i>Amber Stilwell, Travis Wingard</i> <b>Room 108</b>	Aligning Your Goals with the Land: Reading the Forest and Setting Realistic Expectations for Management <i>Annie Maloney, Guy Dunkle</i> <b>Room 108</b>	Autumn Olive: The Secret Healer <i>Akiva Silver</i> <b>Room 108</b>		Getting Started in Maple Syrup <i>Scott Weikert</i> <b>Room 108</b>					
			Creating and Updating a Dynamic Forest Management Plan <i>Jeff Osborne</i> <b>Room 107</b>	The Value of Vernal Pool Wetlands for Private Landowners <i>Taylor Blackman</i> <b>Room 107</b>	The Three “B’s” of Tree ID <i>Jacob Bausinger</i> <b>Room 107</b>		A Brief Summary of Tree Risk Assessment <i>Bill Elmendorf</i> <b>Room 107</b>					
			An Introduction to Biochar <i>Patrick Sherren</i> <b>Room 105</b>	Ramp Harvesting in Pennsylvania <i>Cat Pugh</i> <b>Room 105</b>	Working with Degraded Forested Stands <i>Austin Noguera</i> <b>Room 105</b>		Conservation Easements: What to Know about Land Protection <i>Matt Marusiak</i> <b>Room 105</b>					
			Land Surveying in Pennsylvania: Methods and Procedures for Boundary Retracement Surveys <i>Brian Sekula</i> <b>Room 104</b>	Proactive Steps to Increase Forest Resilience <i>Dave Cole</i> <b>Room 104</b>	Methods for Estimating Deer Numbers <i>Katie Brooks</i> <b>Room 104</b>		The Woods in Your Backyard Program: Small Forests, Big Benefits <i>Brian Wolyniak</i> <b>Room 104</b>					
			Getting Started with Bee Keeping <i>Monroe Cressley</i> <b>Room 112</b>	From Forest to Consumer: The Importance of the Forest Products Supply Chain for Our Environment and Our Economy <i>Matt Gabler</i> <b>Room 112</b>	What Happens to the Log after It Leaves Your Landing? <i>Marc Lewis</i> <b>Room 112</b>	The Pennsylvania Forestry Association: Your Conservation Connection <i>Randy White</i> <b>Room 112</b>						

\* Indicates events or items pre-purchased when registering

# CONFERENCE SCHEDULE

## SATURDAY, MARCH 25

7:30AM	Session 5 8:30 – 9:15AM	9:15 – 10:30AM	Session 6 10:30 – 11:15AM	Session 7 11:30AM – 12:15PM	12:15 – 1:45PM	1:45PM	Session 8 1:45 – 2:30PM	Session 9 2:45 – 3:30PM	3:30 – 4:00PM	4:00 – 5:00PM
Registration Opens	Protecting Yourself from Tick Bites <i>Emily Struckhoff</i> <b>Room 208</b>	Exhibits Open – Deans Hall and Senate Lounge • Refreshments – Deans Hall, First and Second Floor Break Areas	Expanding Habitat Restoration on State Game Lands by Recruiting and Supporting Nearby Private Landowners <i>Jake Tomlinson</i> <b>Room 208</b>	Herbicides and Strategies for Managing Invasive Plants <i>Emily Rojik</i> <b>Room 208</b>	Lunch – Presidents Hall • Exhibits Open – Deans Hall and Senate Lounge	Silent Auction Closes	Managing Your Forest for Wildlife <i>Mark Banker</i> <b>Room 208</b>	Want a Healthy Forest? Listen to the Birds <i>Laura Jackson</i> <b>Room 208</b>	Refreshments – First and Second Floor Break Areas	Closing Keynote with Akiva Silver – Presidents Hall
	Reading the Forested Landscape <i>Charlie Schwarz</i> <b>Room 207</b>		Pollinators in Pennsylvania's Timber Harvests: How to Manage Your Forest to Support Bee Communities <i>Codey Mathis</i> <b>Room 207</b>	Recognizing and Restoring Degraded Forest Stands <i>Susan Stout, Sarah Wurzbacher</i> <b>Room 207</b>			Vernal Pool Wetland Restoration <i>Betsy Leppo</i> <b>Room 207</b>	The Importance of Riparian Buffers: How to Improve and Protect Them <i>Brenda Costa</i> <b>Room 207</b>		
	Chronic Wasting Disease and White-tailed Deer: What You Should Know <i>Calvin Norman</i> <b>Room 109</b>		“Let’s Talk About the Woods”: Experience and Learn How to Conduct an Easy and Effective Forestland Owner Educational Program <i>Sanford Smith</i> <b>Room 109</b>	Success with Slash Walls to Exclude Deer <i>Brett Chedzoy</i> <b>Room 109</b>			Forest Regeneration Response to Deer Exclusion by Slash Walls <i>Peter Smalldige</i> <b>Room 109</b>	Basic Sugarbush Management <i>Scott Weikert</i> <b>Room 109</b>		
	Timber Harvesting: From Planning to Retirement <i>Julian Maza</i> <b>Room 108</b>		Whole Tree for Whole Forest Management <i>Garin Peck</i> <b>Room 108</b>	Fire-proof Landscaping <i>Scott Weikert</i> <b>Room 108</b>			Woods, Water, and Wheels: How to Champion Positive Change <i>Blaine Aikin, Amber Stilwell, Ron Steffey, Jeff Osborne</i> <b>Room 108</b>	A Closer Look at Chainsaw Design and Maintenance <i>Kevin Cook</i> <b>Room 108</b>		
	Habitat Management Projects for Small Woodlots <i>Michael Powell</i> <b>Room 107</b>		Utility Right of Way Management and Your Woodlot <i>Joshua Baublitz</i> <b>Room 107</b>	Mushroom Hunting in the Mid-Atlantic <i>Amy Wroblewski</i> <b>Room 107</b>			Timber Harvest Estimation Utilizing Geospatial Techniques <i>Mary Murdock</i> <b>Room 107</b>	Leaving a Legacy: Protecting Your Land, Your Way through Conservation Easements <i>Ryan Hamilton</i> <b>Room 107</b>		
	Forest Carbon Contract Calculator: Which Contracts Are a Good Fit for You? <i>Sadikshya Sharma</i> <b>Room 105</b>		Exploring Hardwood Lumber Markets Trends <i>Jonathan Geyer</i> <b>Room 105</b>	Seed Sourcing for Forest Resilience <i>Laura Leites</i> <b>Room 105</b>			Women’s Perceptions of Forest Management and Climate Change in the Eastern U.S. <i>Kripa Neupane</i> <b>Room 105</b>	Carbon Offsets and Credits Are Not the Best Way to Promote Carbon-Smart Forestry <i>Marc McDill</i> <b>Room 105</b>		
	The Pennsylvania Timber Market Report <i>Chuck Ray</i> <b>Room 104</b>		Forest Conservation Programs Available through the NRCS <i>Peter Hoagland</i> <b>Room 104</b>	Working in the Gap between Landowners and Officials <i>Sasha Soto</i> <b>Room 104</b>			Why Care about Community Trees <i>Bill Elmendorf</i> <b>Room 104</b>	Prescribed Fire in Pennsylvania <i>Arun Regmi</i> <b>Room 104</b>		
	What Is the Society of American Foresters? <i>Dave Trimpey</i> <b>Room 112</b>		What Can National Woodlands Do for You? <i>Mark Megalos</i> <b>Room 112</b>	Solar Siting: A Facilitated Discussion <i>Nicole Faraguna</i> <b>Room 112</b>			Finding Wellness in Penn’s Woods <i>Suzann Schiemer</i> <b>Room 112</b>	The Forestry Economy and You: A Hardwood Market Snapshot and Industry Outlook <i>Thad Taylor</i> <b>Room 112</b>		
	Building Confidence in Caring for Your Land: A Conversation <i>Marie North, Allyson Muth</i> <b>Room 211</b>			Making Conservation Profitable <i>Jason Woodfin</i> <b>Room 211</b>						

# PRESENTATION SUMMARIES

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## SESSION 1

**Friday, 2:00 - 2:45 p.m.**

### **Legal Strategies to Protect Your Forest Land for Future Generations**

*Thomas Hoffman, Attorney, Knox McLaughlin Gornall & Sennett, P.C.*

#### **Room 208**

Learn how to develop an estate plan using limited partnerships, limited liability companies, and trusts to protect your forestland for future generations. The estate planning strategies will illustrate the use of income-only trusts for Medicaid/long-term care planning, and generational trusts for multi-generational family planning. Examples will illustrate how one can protect assets transferred to trusts from Medicaid estate recovery, ex-spouses of your children, creditors of your children, and other events—all of which could otherwise necessitate the sale of forestland if owned outright by your children. The trust planning will also focus on reducing or eliminating federal estate and Pennsylvania inheritance taxes.

### **Measuring and Managing Deer Forest Impacts on State Forest Lands**

*Emily Domoto, Ecological Services Program Manager, PA Bureau of Forestry, DCNR*

#### **Room 207**

As the largest land manager in the state, the Department of Conservation and Natural Resources manages 2.2 million acres of state forestland, almost 500,000 acres of state park land, and also plays an important role in providing technical assistance to private forestland owners in Pennsylvania who own another 12 million acres of private forestland. DCNR's primary responsibility for deer management rests with the Bureau of Forestry. A deer population in balance with habitat conditions is essential to maintaining the long-term health of the forest, and healthy deer populations depend upon healthy forest habitat. This presentation will share information on how the Bureau of Forestry is measuring and monitoring for healthy forest habitat and potential deer forest impacts.

### **Identifying Common Pennsylvania Trees**

*Jessica Pierce, Forester, Clear Creek District, PA Bureau of Forestry, DCNR*

#### **Room 109**

This is a basic tree identification presentation where attendees will learn fundamental tree identification skills that they can use to identify trees on their own property. The presentation will also discuss how to identify a few of the most common trees found in Pennsylvania's woods.

### **Watershed Stewardship: The Riparian Buffer of Volunteerism**

*Amber Stilwell, Master Watershed Steward Coordinator, Penn State Extension*

*Travis Wingard, Master Watershed Steward Coordinator, Penn State Extension*

#### **Room 108**

The Master Watershed Steward (MWS) program is a Penn State Extension program that empowers volunteers with knowledge and training through a watershed curriculum driven by healthier streams and conservation techniques. Like a riparian buffer, this program works along streams to protect valuable natural resources and strengthen water quality. In this session, you will hear from two MWS coordinators about their programs and experience one of many lessons the program offers: a mini live stake workshop. Live stakes are branch cuttings of native trees and shrubs that, when planted along streambanks, grow into mature species. They are an effective, low-cost way to establish root networks along streambanks and prevent erosion. Participants will also learn about live stake nurseries which consist of shrubs that will provide future material for riparian buffers. Just like live stakes, Master Watershed Stewards create deep roots of understanding and grow water conservation efforts in their communities.

### **Creating and Updating a Dynamic Forest Management Plan**

*Jeff Osborne, Forest Stewardship Program Associate, Penn State*

#### **Room 107**

This presentation will cover the basic elements of an effective forest management plan, developing your own plan, when and how to update the plan, and possible professional and financial support for the creation of the plan.

### **An Introduction to Biochar**

*Patrick Sherren, Director, New Products, Metzler Forest Products, LLC*

#### **Room 105**

Biochar sequesters carbon, improves soil structure and fertility, and improves stormwater management; its production yields large amounts of heat and it opens access to carbon credit revenue. Large-scale biochar production will offer a significant additional market for forest residues.

### **Land Surveying in Pennsylvania: Methods and Procedures for Boundary Retracement Surveys**

*Brian Sekula, Registered Professional Engineer, Registered Professional Land Surveyor*

#### **Room 104**

The location of property boundaries is an important part of forestland ownership. Knowing the location of property corners is a necessary component of a timber harvest or other management activities. Having established corners and

# PRESENTATION SUMMARIES

identified property lines makes good neighbors and generally precludes other issues. This presentation will review the methods and equipment of land surveying and the references available to the surveyor. It will begin with a discussion of the difference between an original survey and a retracement survey and then focus on the research, general methods, and rules of boundary retracement in Pennsylvania. The work of the Registered Professional Land Surveyor is very similar to that of a detective solving a case. In the end, the completed survey—which typically includes a map, set corners, and blazed lines (if requested)—should leave evidence for others to follow.

## Getting Started with Bee Keeping

*Monroe Cressley, PA Forest Steward*

### Room 112

Bees and other pollinators are an important part of the ecosystem. Learn about how to get started—from prepping the hive to equipment needs to extracting and making use of products from the bees. Learn about the various roles within the hive and within the landscape.

## SESSION 2

**Friday, 3:30 - 4:15 p.m.**

## All about Ticks of Pennsylvania

*Jessica Turpin, Public Health Research Coordinator, Dr. Jane Huffman Wildlife Genetics Institute, East Stroudsburg University*

### Room 208

Our laboratory specializes in testing ticks' DNA and RNA to identify tickborne diseases, which include Lyme disease, Anaplasmosis, Rocky Mountain spotted fever, Powassan virus, and many more. Tick testing can provide early detection of potential exposure to a tickborne disease before symptoms occur. We offer FREE basic tick testing for all Pennsylvania residents and subsidized comprehensive panel testing through grant funds received by the PA Department of Health and Human Services. Our lab is very active in the community and on social media to raise awareness on ticks.

## Habitat Requirements and Management Considerations for Forest Birds

*Josh Rittenhouse, Forest Program Associate, Audubon Mid-Atlantic*

### Room 207

Learn about the habitat needs of forest birds at large and small scales, the threats to those habitats, and forest management practices to create and improve habitat for the birds.

## Hemlock Woolly Adelgid and the Future of Hemlock

*Calvin Norman, Assistant Teaching Professor of Forestry, Penn State*

### Room 109

Participants will learn about hemlock woolly adelgid biology and management, and the challenges the future holds for Eastern hemlocks.

## Aligning Your Goals with the Land: Reading the Forest and Setting Realistic Expectations for Management

*Annie Maloney, Executive Director, Foundation for Sustainable Forests*

*Guy Dunkle, Land Manager, Foundation for Sustainable Forests*

### Room 108

This presentation seeks to broaden a landowner's perspective by tempering what they want with what the woodlot can reasonably produce. If a woodland owner can accurately "read" the landscape, they will create more realistic goals for the land, thus finding greater satisfaction during the tenure of their ownership and stewardship. This presentation will include discussions of management for wildlife, timber selection, tree planting, and other ways in which a landowner typically interacts with their woodland.

## The Value of Vernal Pool Wetlands for Private Landowners

*Taylor Blackman, PhD Candidate, Forest Resources, Penn State*

### Room 107

Seasonal wetlands not connected to stream networks are commonly referred to as vernal pools. Unlike other wetland types, vernal pools are typically small, under forest cover, completely dry in the summer, and support a unique assemblage of aquatic species. These wetlands are found across Pennsylvania in predictable places because of the underlying bedrock and landscape position. Their presence in a watershed is important for amphibian breeding, food and water needs for terrestrial species, and can store carbon for thousands of years. This presentation will help private landowners identify these features on their property along with explaining the ecological services vernal pools provide. Locating these wetlands within, and making general maps of, private land can be accomplished using open-source data and tutorials found online. Attendees will leave with an understanding of both field and computer methods to manage vernal pools on their land.

## Ramp Harvesting in Pennsylvania

*Cat Pugh, Extension Educator, Forestry and Wildlife, Penn State Extension*

### Room 105

Foraging for ramps or wild leeks has gained interest across Pennsylvania as a locally sourced, wild food in recent years. Due to the slow-growing nature of ramps, and the current market demand, there is a need to share best stewardship practices to

# PRESENTATION SUMMARIES

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ensure that ramp patches remain healthy. Participants will learn strategies for sustainable harvesting and patch management to implement on their forestlands this ramp season.

## Proactive Steps to Increase Forest Resilience

*Dave Cole, Forester, Clear Creek District, PA Bureau of Forestry, DCNR*

### Room 104

Most woodland owners want to enjoy and benefit from their woods far into the future. However, challenges do present themselves, and changes do occur. If the woodlot is “resilient,” it can adapt to changes. It may look different and consist of different species of trees, but it can retain its viability and vitality as a forest if it was healthy to begin with. How can you encourage your woodlot to be healthy? How do you protect the health and future of your woods if you do a timber harvest? What are reasonable goals to set? What are the most important factors that affect your woods? We will explore practical answers to these and other questions you may have.

## From Forest to Consumer: The Importance of the Forest Products Supply Chain for Our Environment and Our Economy

*Matt Gabler, Executive Director, Pennsylvania Forest Products Association*

### Room 112

How should forest landowners feel about managing their timber? Is a timber sale just a financial transaction, or is it something more? Matt Gabler, Executive Director of the Pennsylvania Forest Products Association, will present a comprehensive view of Pennsylvania’s forest products supply chain. How do timber sales affect forest health and wildlife habitat? Why are low-grade wood markets important? How does the sustainability and carbon footprint of wood compare with other building materials? What can happen when forests are unmanaged or poorly managed? Matt will answer these questions and more, while providing you the opportunity to ask questions you have about forest products as they relate to our environment and our economy.

## SESSION 3

**Friday, 4:30 - 5:15 p.m.**

## Pitfalls to Avoid in Private Forestland Ownership

*Sanford “Sandy” Smith, Teaching Professor and Extension Specialist in Forest Resources, Penn State*

*Dave Scamardella, Forester, Buchanan District, PA Bureau of Forestry, DCNR*

*Mike Wolf, Consulting Forester, Appalachian Forest Consultants, LLC*

### Room 208

Forestland ownership can be complicated and challenging. This session presents some of the worst pitfalls forest landowners

should avoid when managing their property. A few of these include: the do-it-yourself timber sale, the “Mother Nature knows best” rule, the “we don’t need a written management plan” approach, and the “my kids will work it out” legacy planning. By avoiding these and other pitfalls, landowners can save themselves grief, frustration, and financial loss. The session format will be part presentation and part group discussion.

## Prescribed Burning in Pennsylvania: Benefits and Opportunities

*Jesse Kreye, Assistant Research Professor of Fire and Natural Resources Management, Penn State*

### Room 207

Prescribed burning is being more widely used in Pennsylvania to manage forests and non-forest ecosystems (e.g., grasslands) since the passage of the Prescribed Burning Practices Act in 2009. While much of the burning is being conducted on public lands, there exists a strong demand for prescribed fire on private lands in Pennsylvania. This presentation will discuss the benefits of prescribed burning as well as the 2009 Prescribed Burning Practices Act and how it pertains to private landowners.

## Improved Private Forest Management Outcomes with Woodland Stewardship Networks

*Ryan Davis, Senior Forests Projects Manager, Alliance for the Chesapeake Bay*

### Room 109

Woodland Stewardship Networks are a simple and effective approach for forest landowners to overcome management barriers that face smaller-sized parcels, helping improve the ecological and economic benefits of management. Participating landowners retain their property lines and have individualized management plans, but coordinate plan writing and implementation to collectively increase the efficiency of management so that these activities are no longer cost-prohibitive. Learn about how Woodland Stewardship Networks work, how to build them on your own, and how they can help private landowners accomplish more in a time of limited resources.

## Autumn Olive: The Secret Healer

*Akiva Silver, Owner/Operator, Twisted Tree Farm; Author*

### Room 108

*Eleagnus umbellata* is one of the most maligned invasive plants in North America. For many people, that is the end of the story, but in this presentation, we will explore what these plants are really doing to the landscape and what they offer to people and wildlife.



## The Three “B’s” of Tree ID

Jacob Bausinger, Forester, Bald Eagle District,  
PA Bureau of Forestry, DCNR

### Room 107

We will look at tree identification in the dormant season and use clues to get species narrowed down. The three b’s are branching, buds, and bark. Identifying these traits will help any time of the year and promote outdoor activity. *Pennsylvania Common Trees* books will be used as tools and provided to participants, and links to other resources will be provided.

## Working with Degraded Forested Stands

Austin Noguera, Forester, Pinchot District,  
PA Bureau of Forestry, DCNR

### Room 105

Is your forestland degraded? Learn what makes a stand “degraded” and what actions you can take to get your forest on the right track. Tips on management activities, funding sources, and monitoring will be discussed.

## Methods for Estimating Deer Numbers

Katie Brooks, Extension Educator, Forestry and Wildlife Team,  
Penn State Extension

### Room 104

In order to properly manage forests in the presence of white-tailed deer, landowners and managers need to know the deer population impacting the forest. This presentation will cover different sampling techniques that will allow you to estimate the deer population and create a monitoring system to know if populations are increasing, decreasing, or stable.

## What Happens to the Log after It Leaves Your Landing?

Marc Lewis, Dwight Lewis Lumber Company

### Room 112

Have you ever wondered about the next step in the process after you’ve conducted a timber harvest and the logs have been sent off to the mill? Not many landowners get to see the inside workings of a sawmill. Take a virtual tour of the Lewis Lumber Sawmill, from the log hitting the log yard to final product. Learn about the processes and technology that make the most efficient use of the wood.

## SESSION 4

Friday, 5:30 - 6:15 p.m.

## Planting for Pollinators: How to Plant and Maintain Native Wildflower Meadows

Laura Jackson, Forest Landowner and PA Forest Steward

### Room 208

End the mowing madness! Learn how to turn part of your yard into a beautiful meadow that will nurture insects and birds. Native bees and Monarch butterflies especially depend on native plants. A native wildflower meadow looks peaceful and beautiful, but danger and intrigue abound for the insects that live there. This program will introduce you to the fascinating world of native wildflowers and their pollinators. Handouts available with “how-to” details.

## Climate-Smart Forestry: How We Can Manage Forests to Mitigate and Adapt to a Changing Climate

Kevin Yoder, Director of Land Management, The Nature Conservancy

### Room 207

Forests are under increasing stress from a host of impacts such as invasive species, deer browsing, poor management practices, and climate change. Will our forests be able to withstand these attacks? Can we help them adapt to these changes? Forests are also critical for absorbing and sequestering carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>). We can conserve and improve the management of our forests to increase CO<sub>2</sub> sequestration and storage—a concept known as Natural Climate Solutions. There has recently been a significant increase in landowner interest in, and funding available for, managing forests for increased carbon storage. For forests to fulfill their carbon sequestration and storage potential, they must also be resilient to the myriad of climate and non-climate related factors threatening them. This presentation will cover tradeoffs that landowners and managers must weigh when considering climate-smart forestry goals alongside their other conservation objectives. The importance of balancing forest carbon goals with other forest resource considerations will be stressed throughout.

## Deer Keds in Pennsylvania: A Summary of Current Knowledge and Research

Michael Skvarla, Assistant Research Professor of Arthropod Identification, Penn State

### Room 109

European deer keds are ectoparasites of deer, elk, and other cervids that occasionally bite humans in forests. They have been reported from the Northeast broadly and Pennsylvania specifically, but the precise boundaries of where they occur and where they are abundant are unclear. Recent reports have found nearly half a dozen pathogens in deer keds, but it is unknown whether keds are competent vectors of those pathogens or not. And while deer keds bite humans, there have been no studies on repellent efficacy to limit bites. During this presentation, we will

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discuss deer ked biology and natural history, as well as recent research into them in Pennsylvania, such as where they occur, how prevalent they are on deer, and which, if any, repellents can keep them from biting people.

## Getting Started in Maple Syrup

*Scott Weikert, Forest Resources Educator, Penn State Extension*

### Room 108

This presentation will teach participants how they can produce their own syrup to enjoy at home. Topics that will be covered include identifying maple trees, how to properly tap trees, equipment needed to collect and produce the syrup, when to collect sap, and more.

## A Brief Summary of Tree Risk Assessment

*Bill Elmendorf, Professor of Community Forestry, Penn State*

### Room 107

This presentation will provide a brief overview of the techniques and tools professional arborists use to assess risk in large trees, such as street, park, campus, and other trees. It will discuss compartmentalization of decay, what tree risk is, and provide an overview of protocols and tools used to help assess and manage tree risk.

## Conservation Easements: What to Know about Land Protection

*Matt Marusiak, Land Protection Manager, Western Pennsylvania Conservancy*

### Room 105

The concept of forest stewardship extends care beyond an owner's tenure and into future generations of owners. As many landowners make plans for their land, concerns about keeping the forest intact and functioning as working woodlands often arise. The idea of forestland protection enters thinking, but just what does that mean?

## The Woods in Your Backyard Program: Small Forests, Big Benefits

*Brian Wolyniak, Extension Educator, Renewable Natural Resources/Urban Forestry, Penn State Extension*

### Room 104

Launched in 2006, the Woods in Your Backyard program developed as a model for educating small acreage (1-10 acres) property owners in the mid-Atlantic region on how to develop and manage wooded areas for personal and environmental benefits. Since its development, this program has reached thousands of property owners through in-person and online workshops along with printed publications. More recently, a natural areas management component is educating green industry professionals on how they can branch out into a different kind of landscape management for clients seeking

a more natural landscape. The success of the Woods in Your Backyard program is the result of a partnership between University of Maryland Extension, Penn State Extension, Virginia Cooperative Extension, Alliance for the Chesapeake Bay, and Virginia Department of Forestry. Learn more about the program partnership and how this small-scale forest management will be increasingly important with continued urbanization and land parcelization.

## The Pennsylvania Forestry Association: Your Conservation Connection

*Randy White, President, The Pennsylvania Forestry Association*

### Room 112

Since 1886, the Pennsylvania Forestry Association (PFA) has provided information to help the forest resource community and the public understand the benefits of sustainable natural resource management, connecting with forest/woodland landowners, natural resources professionals, and agencies to share science-based information. PFA is your grass-roots conservation connection.

## SESSION 5

**Saturday, 8:30 - 9:15 a.m.**

## Protecting Yourself from Tick Bites

*Emily Struckhoff, Education Program Specialist, Penn State Extension*

### Room 208

In this presentation, participants will learn about ticks and tick-borne diseases in Pennsylvania. This presentation will include an overview of tick biology, the common tick species found in forests throughout the state, and the best strategies for protecting yourself from tick bites. Best practices and options for approaching tick control will also be discussed.

## Reading the Forested Landscape

*Charlie Schwarz, Land Manager (retired)*

### Room 207

The forest isn't just a place to cut firewood, or hunt, or watch birds, or grow valuable timber, or seek respite from the stresses of every day. Imprinted on the land is the history of how humans have used it, the fires and storms that have also had an impact on it, and the land's reaction to those alterations. Learning to read that history will help you understand what you have and how it got to be the way it is.

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# PRESENTATION SUMMARIES

## **Chronic Wasting Disease and White-tailed Deer: What You Should Know**

*Calvin Norman, Assistant Teaching Professor of Forestry, Penn State*

### **Room 109**

Participants will learn what chronic wasting disease is, how it impacts landowners, hunters, and venison-eaters, and what can be done about it.

## **Timber Harvesting: From Planning to Retirement**

*Julian Maza, Forester, Pinchot District, PA Bureau of Forestry, DCNR*

### **Room 108**

Undergoing a commercial timber harvest could be one of the most altering and impactful management activities you perform on your property. Proper steps must be taken to ensure you and your forest will benefit the most out of a timber harvest. This presentation will cover steps you should be taking to properly plan for a timber harvest, as well as what to do post-harvest.

## **Habitat Management Projects for Small Woodlots**

*Michael Powell, Extension Educator, Forestry and Wildlife, Penn State Extension*

### **Room 107**

The majority of forest landowners own properties of less than 20 acres in size. Together, these lands can provide important habitat and corridors for wildlife across the landscape. This presentation will discuss projects forest landowners can do to enhance wildlife habitat on their properties—from DIY to larger scale activities. This is ideal for the landowner with 10 to 30 acres, but smaller property owners will receive ideas as well.

## **Forest Carbon Contract Calculator: Which Contracts Are a Good Fit for You?**

*Sadikshya Sharma, PhD Student, Forest Resources, Penn State*

### **Room 105**

Decision makers and investors are looking to expand forest carbon incentives to family forest owners. However, payments for forest carbon are still not competitive with most other land uses (i.e., timber harvest, agriculture, and development). Because carbon contracts can put constraints on management activities, owners looking to supplement their income need to consider if the requirements in a forest carbon contract are a good fit for their broader management objectives. When tradeoffs are not well understood, it is helpful to consider what other forest owners consider acceptable compensation for changing management behaviors. The new Forest Carbon Contract Calculator tool is based on 20 years of data describing landowner choices about various hypothetical forest carbon contracts. This tool offers an innovative way of crowd-sourcing the opinions of many landowners to gain better insights into what options are a good fit for different types of owners.

## **The Pennsylvania Timber Market Report**

*Chuck Ray, Associate Professor, Ecosystem Science and Management, Penn State*

### **Room 104**

The Pennsylvania Timber Market Report has been a reliable source of timber market information to Pennsylvania timberland owners and the logging industry for over three decades. This presentation will help attendees learn about the product, how to interpret its data, and how to use the information provided to plan for future timber sales.

## **What Is the Society of American Foresters?**

*Dave Trimpey, Certified Forester, Allegheny Section, Society of American Foresters*

### **Room 112**

The Society of American Foresters is the largest national scientific and educational organization representing the forestry profession in the U.S. SAF is committed to educating natural resources professionals through peer-reviewed scientific publications, workshops and training sessions, continuing education opportunities, and credentialing. Learn more about the professional society supporting the work of the foresters who serve the hundreds of thousands of Pennsylvania forest landowners.

## **Building Confidence in Caring for Your Land: A Conversation**

*Marie North, Private Forest Landowner, Registered Stewardship Forest, Lehigh County*

*Allyson Muth, Director, James C. Finley Center for Private Forests at Penn State*

### **Room 211**

Woodland owners around Pennsylvania and the region have many and varied reasons for owning their woods—wildlife, beauty, recreation, solitude, water, and on and on. Yet, despite significant variation in size, there are often commonalities such as challenging situations, seeking opportunities for best care, establishing goals, along with a deep abiding love for and connection to the land. Join us for a conversation around the woods as we discuss potential solutions to problems, favorite resources, and build a network to help you care well for your land.



# PRESENTATION SUMMARIES

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## SESSION 6

**Saturday, 10:30 - 11:15 a.m.**

### **Expanding Habitat Restoration on State Game Lands by Recruiting and Supporting Nearby Private Landowners**

*Jake Tomlinson, PA Conservation Coordinator, Ruffed Grouse Society*

#### **Room 208**

The Ruffed Grouse Society, PA Game Commission, Indiana University of PA, American Bird Conservancy, and Audubon Mid-Atlantic are recruiting and supporting private landowners to expand the landscape-scale habitat being implemented on certain state lands. Around State Game Lands and State Parks where habitat restoration is being implemented through forest management, partners are 1) working with consulting foresters with landowner clients, and 2) reaching out to the PGC's Hunter Access cooperating landowners and connecting them to consultants. Thanks to the support of the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation, partners are providing funding to help offset costs of implementing management plans, including herbicide and non-commercial vegetation management. Learn more about this program and its large-scale impacts.

### **Pollinators in Pennsylvania's Timber Harvests: How to Manage Your Forest to Support Bee Communities**

*Codey Mathis, PhD Candidate, Entomology, Penn State*

#### **Room 207**

Forested landscapes, where the impacts of habitat loss/degradation are minimized, are known to support robust pollinator populations in eastern North America. Within heavily forested landscapes, timber management is already implemented as a means for improving forest health and enhancing wildlife habitat; however, little is known regarding the characteristics within regenerating timber harvests that affect forest pollinator populations. In 2018 and 2019, we monitored insect pollinators in 143 regenerating (nine or fewer growing seasons post-harvest) timber harvest sites across Pennsylvania. During 1,129 survey events, we observed over 9,100 bees and butterflies and 220 blooming plant taxa, and collected over 2,200 pollinator specimens. In this presentation, Codey Mathis will discuss the results of that study, make management recommendations to support pollinator communities, and highlight some of the unique insects that were found on private and public forestlands across Pennsylvania.

### **"Let's Talk About the Woods": Experience and Learn How to Conduct an Easy and Effective Forestland Owner Educational Program**

*Sanford "Sandy" Smith, Teaching Professor and Extension Specialist in Forest Resources, Penn State*

#### **Room 109**

"Let's Talk About the Woods" presents a novel approach to organizing landowner educational presentations and tours, one that encourages interaction and exchange among peers and

includes the expertise of forest resources professionals as well. This method has been field-tested for eight years with strong results, and it is easy for landowners and others to learn and facilitate. During the session, participants will learn about forests and forestry while they learn how to stage a similar program for others on their own property or in their community. Participants will go home with all they need to try it out.

### **Whole Tree for Whole Forest Management**

*Garin Peck, Estimating and Procurement Manager, Metzler Forest Products, LLC*

#### **Room 108**

This presentation will cover how whole tree harvesting can increase your long-term return while sustainably managing your forest. This topic is for large acreage landowners or groups of landowners willing to work together.

### **Utility Right of Way Management and Your Woodlot**

*Joshua Baublitz, Right of Way Program Manager, Claverack Rural Electric Cooperative*

#### **Room 107**

This presentation will provide insight and discussion into the techniques and processes used in utility right of way maintenance adjacent to and through a woodlot. Participants will learn what the overall long-term objectives are for managers and who is responsible for what parts of the process. The approaches used at the cooperative and in the industry will be outlined.

### **Exploring Hardwood Lumber Markets Trends**

*Jonathan Geyer, Executive Director, PA Hardwoods Development Council*

#### **Room 105**

Buckle up and keep your arms and legs inside the vehicle! During this presentation, Jonathan Geyer, Executive Director of the PA Hardwoods Development Council, will provide insight on the roller coaster-like hardwood lumber market and explore the many factors that have and continue to affect lumber prices, including the housing market, U.S.-China trade war, global pandemic, Russia-Ukraine conflict, and U.S. and Pennsylvania exports.

### **Forest Conservation Programs Available through the NRCS**

*Peter Hoagland, Forester, State Forester, USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS)*

#### **Room 104**

Forest conservation assistance programs can help private landowners plan and implement practices that achieve conservation benefits on their land such as improving forest health, decreasing invasive plant species, expanding wildlife

# PRESENTATION SUMMARIES

habitat, reducing erosion, and addressing water quality issues. This presentation focuses on how to apply for and utilize the conservation programs available to Pennsylvania forest landowners offered by the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service.

## What Can National Woodlands Do for You?

*Mark Megalos, Executive Director, National Woodland Owners Association, Inc.*

### Room 112

Learn the latest media outreach options for woodland owners, natural resources professionals, and friends of the forest. And get a glimpse of the breadth of policy and regulatory inputs that National Woodlands is making in Washington, DC and with partners across the nation.

## SESSION 7

**Saturday, 11:30 a.m. - 12:15 p.m.**

## Herbicides and Strategies for Managing Invasive Plants

*Emily Rojik, Research Technologist, Penn State Extension*

### Room 208

This presentation will discuss common forestry herbicides and application strategies, including methods and timing, to effectively manage different types of invasive plants and promote desirable native plants.

## Recognizing and Restoring Degraded Forest Stands

*Susan Stout, USDA Forest Service Project Leader (Retired)*  
*Sarah Wurzbacher, Forest Program Specialist, Pennsylvania Game Commission*

### Room 207

Forests can be degraded by insects and diseases, by wind and other weather events, and by past management. We will talk briefly about how to recognize a degraded woodlot, focusing on whether there are enough trees to serve as seed source for future regeneration. Then we will discuss some strategies to begin restoring these forests, based on the seedlings on the forest floor and the remaining seed source in the existing forest. The approach we'll discuss was developed collaboratively by the Allegheny Forest Health Collaborative.

## Success with Slash Walls to Exclude Deer

*Brett Chedzoy, Regional Extension Forester, Cornell Cooperative Extension of Schuylers County*

### Room 109

In 2017, the first slash walls (linear brush piles) were incorporated into commercial harvests at Cornell University's Arnot Forest to temporarily exclude deer through the

regeneration phase. This practical and cost-effective approach has since been adopted on a growing number of regeneration harvests across the Northeast. This presentation will discuss layout and implementation considerations. To learn more, visit [www.slashwall.info](http://www.slashwall.info).

## Fire-proof Landscaping

*Scott Weikert, Forest Resources Educator, Penn State Extension*

### Room 108

While Pennsylvania is not known for the large wildfires that occur in other parts of the United States, there is still a danger of significant damage to vulnerable properties. This presentation will provide information for homeowners on how to make the area around the home or other buildings safer from wildfires.

## Mushroom Hunting in the Mid-Atlantic

*Amy Wroblewski, PhD Candidate, Ecology, Penn State*

### Room 107

Mushrooms are trendy right now—all you need to do is go to Walmart and everything is printed with *Amanita muscaria*. But does this popularity mean that more people are getting out into the woods and learning to hunt for mushrooms in our region? And if they are, what mushrooms are they most interested in? Since spring 2022, presenter Amy Wroblewski has been working with mushroom hunting clubs around the state to answer these questions and will present some preliminary results—mainly showing that mushroom hunting has been growing in popularity for several years, with a dramatic spike early in the COVID-19 pandemic (2020, 2021). The survey will be open for another mushroom season this year, so attendees will get a chance to respond if they are interested and receive a free mushroom art print at the presentation.

## Seed Sourcing for Forest Resilience

*Laura Leites, Associate Research Professor, Quantitative Forest Ecology, Penn State*

### Room 105

Forests provide myriad ecosystem services. Past exploitive practices, pests and diseases, invasive plants, and a changing climate are increasing the need for reforestation and restoration practices that may include tree planting. To enhance planting and future forest success, the seeds and seedlings need to be adapted to current and future planting site environmental conditions. Learn more about seed sourcing strategies and preparing your forest for future conditions and join in a discussion of what you might need to make your planting projects and future forest successful.

## Working In the Gap between Landowners and Officials

*Sasha Soto, PhD Student, Forest Resources, Penn State*

### Room 104

It is clear many private forest landowners are striving to do what is best for their land but may not always know the best

# PRESENTATION SUMMARIES

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steps to take to achieve their land management goals. Although many government resources and programs are made available to assist in land management decisions, recent studies have shown those resources are under-utilized. Some seek assistance through agency-networks, others have joined landowner-networks, and many choose to go it alone. Through surveys and landowner interviews, we are seeking to understand barriers between advice-givers, advice-takers, and collaborators. Come learn about this applied research and help inform solutions for overcoming those barriers to accessing useful tools and help for caring well for the woods.

## Solar Siting: A Facilitated Discussion

*Nicole Faraguna, Director, PA DCNR Office of Planning and Policy*

### Room 112

As Pennsylvania's conservation leader and trustee of the commonwealth's natural resources, the PA Department of Conservation and Natural Resources (DCNR) has developed guidance for landowners, developers, planners, and local officials for the siting and construction of grid-scale solar projects. Join DCNR's policy director for this interactive session where we'll review DCNR's *Conservation Considerations for Siting, Planning, and Maintaining Grid-Scale Solar Systems in Pennsylvania* guidance document and discuss what landowners are experiencing on the ground and opportunities to advance sustainable practices and responsible siting of grid-scale solar across Pennsylvania.

## Making Conservation Profitable

*Jason Woodfin, Appalachian Regional Forester, Forest Carbon Works*

### Room 211

In this presentation, we will cover the basics of how carbon programs work. Using Forest Carbon Works as an example, landowners can see what obligations and requirements they have when joining a project. We will also cover how these projects can integrate with your current forest management plan, the benefits of enrolling, and whether a carbon project is right for you.

## SESSION 8

**Saturday, 1:45 - 2:30 p.m.**

## Managing Your Forest for Wildlife

*Mark Banker, Forest Wildlife Biologist, Private Consultant*

### Room 208

This presentation will provide a relatively general overview of maximizing benefits for wildlife in mature forests, middle-aged forests, and young forests. The presenter will define habitat types, emphasize techniques for managing for various habitat effects, and use individual species as examples as well as species groups such as songbirds. We will also touch on management and benefits of special habitats such as old fields and aspen.

## Vernal Pool Wetland Restoration

*Betsy Leppo, Invertebrate Zoologist, Western Pennsylvania Conservancy*

### Room 207

This session will introduce participants to wetland restoration techniques that were implemented at three State Parks in Pennsylvania. We will discuss identifying sites for restoration, planning stages, permitting, selecting and implementing construction techniques, establishing native plants, and post-construction monitoring. Hosted by the Western Pennsylvania Conservancy, Pennsylvania Natural Heritage Program, and the Pennsylvania Bureau of State Parks.

## Forest Regeneration Response to Deer Exclusion by Slash Walls

*Peter Smallidge, New York State Extension Forester, Cornell University*

### Room 109

Selective browsing by deer of tree seedlings and other vegetation has negatively impacted the ability of the forest to regenerate. Cornell University's Arnot Forest developed the practice of building walls of slash around the perimeter of regeneration harvests to exclude deer. The regeneration response of tree seedlings has been monitored and is favorable. This presentation will discuss the extent of forest seedling regeneration, seedling growth, and variation in regeneration response.

## Woods, Water, and Wheels: How to Champion Positive Change

*Blaine Aikin, Forest Landowner and PA Forest Steward*

*Amber Stilwell, Master Watershed Steward Coordinator, Penn State Extension; Coastal Outreach Specialist, PA Sea Grant*

*Ron Steffey, Owner/Consultant, Steffey Trail Connections*

*Jeff Osborne, Forest Stewardship Program Associate, Penn State*

### Room 108

People make their mark on nature—for better or worse. This presentation is for outdoor enthusiasts who desire a deeper understanding of how to interact with nature in ways that contribute to positive change. Three programs that offer hands-on training and ample opportunities to make your mark on the natural world around you are profiled: Pennsylvania Forest Stewards, Master Watershed Stewards, and Rail-Trail initiatives. An innovative project involving all three of these programs in Northwest Pennsylvania will be featured as a model for collaboration that can produce amazing results. If you are pondering next steps to (a) learn more about sound stewardship, (b) apply best practices on land that is important to you, and (c) participate in a community of people creating a legacy of positive change, this presentation will help you chart your path forward.

# PRESENTATION SUMMARIES

## Timber Harvest Estimation Utilizing Geospatial Techniques

Mary Murdock, Graduate Student, Penn State

### Room 107

Collecting detailed data to establish the commercial value of logging operations is time-consuming and complex. It is generally difficult to fully quantify how the forest environment is fully affected from the harvest. This presentation will demonstrate the estimation of a timber harvest using geospatial techniques and analyzing the impact of the logging process. Using Lidar and NAIP imagery, the biomass value of timber harvested at the Coopers Rock State Forest, WV will be estimated and compared to the timber harvest data in order to assess the accuracy of this estimated harvest. The potential efficiency of geospatial tools to provide detailed information on the amount of timber available for harvest based on remotely sensed data could not only save resources and time, but also allow for a deeper understanding of how forests recover post-harvest.

## Women's Perceptions of Forest Management and Climate Change in the Eastern U.S.

Kripa Neupane, PhD Student, Forest Resources, Penn State

### Room 105

As the primary owner or co-owner of private forest lands, women have the potential to be a major contributor to climate change solutions through forest management. In the gender studies literature, however, there is little inquiry into the role women may have on forests and climate change in the United States. We interviewed 12 women community leaders and forest landowners in Pennsylvania and South Carolina to understand which values about forests women share, what women risk losing by not being engaged forest landowners, and what are the barriers to women acting in this space. Preliminary findings show that women see forests as interconnected systems important for people and nature. Women appear divided as to the level of threat climate change may have on forests. This presentation will also discuss education programs for women on forest carbon and climate change mitigation.

## Why Care about Community Trees

Bill Elmendorf, Professor of Community Forestry, Penn State

### Room 104

This presentation will cover community tree and landscape management and provide examples such as tree removal and preservation standards from both the State College and Penn State University Tree Commissions. A brief history of tree commissions and an overview of municipal tree commissions in Pennsylvania will also be included. Time will be provided for questions and answers and engagement with the audience.

## Finding Wellness in Penn's Woods

Suzann Schiemer, PA Master Naturalist, Educator, and Certified Forest Therapy Guide

### Room 112

Recent research has found that time spent in a natural environment can promote various health and wellness benefits. Studies also found that several environmental characteristics of wooded areas were linked to these benefits. Do you have access to a wooded area that you could utilize to benefit your health and wellness? This presentation will explore the health and wellness benefits of several woodland characteristics (tree species, tree canopies, moving water, natural sounds, fresh air, etc.) found in Penn's Woods. Support your health and well-being by turning your next walk in the woods into a wellness walk.

## SESSION 9

Saturday, 2:45 - 3:30 p.m.

## Want a Healthy Forest? Listen to the Birds

Laura Jackson, Forest Landowner and PA Forest Steward

### Room 208

Forest landowners have the unique opportunity to help forest birds while improving forest habitats. Follow the Jacksons' journey as they worked in their woods for the past 25 years, tackling the impacts of invasive plants, deer, and climate change, attempting to create a sustainable forest to support a diversity of birds and other wildlife. Learn about funding possibilities that help achieve a forest healthy for both people and birds.

## The Importance of Riparian Buffers: How to Improve and Protect Them

Brenda Costa, Executive Director, French Creek Valley Conservancy

### Room 207

Riparian buffers are made up of the trees and plants on the banks of a waterway, and they are critical for its health. These areas hold banks in place, prevent erosion, improve water quality, serve as habitat, and shade the waters below to keep them cool for aquatic animals. This presentation will review the values of healthy riparian buffers, present ways to improve buffers, and examine current riparian improvement projects from French Creek Valley Conservancy as case studies. Options for conserving land, including conservation easements, donation, and sale, will also be discussed.

## Basic Sugarbush Management

Scott Weikert, Forest Resources Educator, Penn State Extension

### Room 109

Actively managing a sugarbush will not only help to maintain the health of the maple trees and the forest in general, but it can also improve the yield from the maple trees.



# PRESENTATION SUMMARIES

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## **A Closer Look at Chainsaw Design and Maintenance**

*Kevin Cook, Forester, Penn State Forestland Management Office*

### **Room 108**

This presentation will review inherent chainsaw design characteristics to gain a better understanding of how to properly take advantage of the safety and ergonomic features built into modern chainsaws. Furthermore, a few chain sharpening systems will be presented along with saw maintenance so that owners can keep their chainsaws cutting sharp and safe.

## **Leaving a Legacy: Protecting Your Land, Your Way through Conservation Easements**

*Ryan Hamilton, Land Conservation Manager, ClearWater Conservancy*

### **Room 107**

Have you ever wondered what will happen to your land after you're gone? What about many generations beyond then? Conservation easements are the most effective tool for keeping forests as forests and farmlands in farming, forever. Easements protect the natural resources on a property and can restrict future uses such as subdivision and development, while also maintaining landowners' property rights. Join members of ClearWater Conservancy's staff and board for a discussion about conservation easements that will cover (1) a basic understanding of conservation easements and how they differ from other legacy planning options, like trusts; (2) the pros and cons of conservation easements; and (3) tips for navigating the easement process to ensure flexibility for working farms and forests.

## **Carbon Offsets and Credits are Not the Best Way to Promote Carbon-Smart Forestry**

*Marc McDill, Associate Professor, Forest Management, Penn State*

### **Room 105**

Forests can play an important role in mitigating the growing concentrations of greenhouse gases in the atmosphere.

However, forest carbon offset trading is likely not a good way to promote carbon-smart forestry. A forest carbon offset is a tradable instrument that assures the buyer that their emissions are being cancelled out by the seller. Such a trade can be a cost-effective way to achieve greenhouse gas emissions reductions, but only if certain conditions are met. Unfortunately, in most cases these conditions are not met with forest-based carbon offsets. When these conditions are not met, carbon offset trading works against efforts to reduce global greenhouse gas emissions. Presenter Mark McDill will discuss questions forest landowners should consider before participating in carbon offset programs.

## **Prescribed Fire in Pennsylvania**

*Arun Regmi, PhD Candidate, Forest Resources, Penn State*

### **Room 104**

Fire benefits many types of ecosystems, and many ecosystems depend on regular burning for their existence. Decades of putting out all fires have disrupted this natural process and resulted in the loss of many fire-adapted plant and wildlife communities. In Pennsylvania, the use of prescribed fire has increased since the passing of the 2009 Prescribed Burning Practices Act, but with most acres being burned on public lands. This presentation will discuss the potential role of prescribed fire on private lands in Pennsylvania. Topics include the benefits of prescribed fire, landowner opinions about prescribed fire, prescribed fire laws in PA, and risks of prescribed burning.

## **The Forestry Economy and You: A Hardwood Market Snapshot and Industry Outlook**

*Thad Taylor, Director of Corporate Strategy, FORECON, Inc.*

### **Room 112**

This presentation will shepherd attendees through an overview of the several macroeconomic trends affecting today's domestic and global forest products markets, along with their implications for forest owners.

# CONTINUING ED CREDITS

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## CONTINUING EDUCATION CREDITS

We are pleased to offer Continuing Education (CE) credits for most of the presentations in Sessions 1 through 9 from:

- Society of American Foresters (SAF)
- Pennsylvania Sustainable Forestry Initiative® (SFI) Implementation Committee (all presentations are approved)
- International Society of Arboriculture (ISA)

**If you need CE credits from one or more of these organizations, pick up a list of the presentations that have been approved for credits—with the number of credits earned—at the Conference Registration Desk.**

**To receive credits, you will need to make sure that you complete any paperwork/steps required by your respective credit granting organization(s). Please follow each organization's instructions for completing paperwork/submission in order to receive credits.**