Forest Leaves

Volume 31, Number 4 • Spring 2022

Spring is here, and that means many invasive plants, like the multiflora rose above, will be leafing out early throughout Pennsylvania's woodlands. Penn State Extension's invasive plant fact sheets can help you identify and control plant pests on your property. Find a list of 14 common invasive plants and links to their downloadable fact sheets at **https://extension.psu.edu/announcing-new-invasive-plant-fact-sheets-series**.

Inside this issue...

PA Department of Agriculture Expands Spotted Lanternfly Quarantine

Adapted from an article by Amy Duke, Public Relations Specialist, Penn State

Sunny skies and rising temperatures have many on cloud nine with anticipation of summertime fun. But for residents in parts of Pennsylvania and beyond, these weather conditions also signal the return of a trespasser that aims to rain on their parade—the spotted lanternfly.

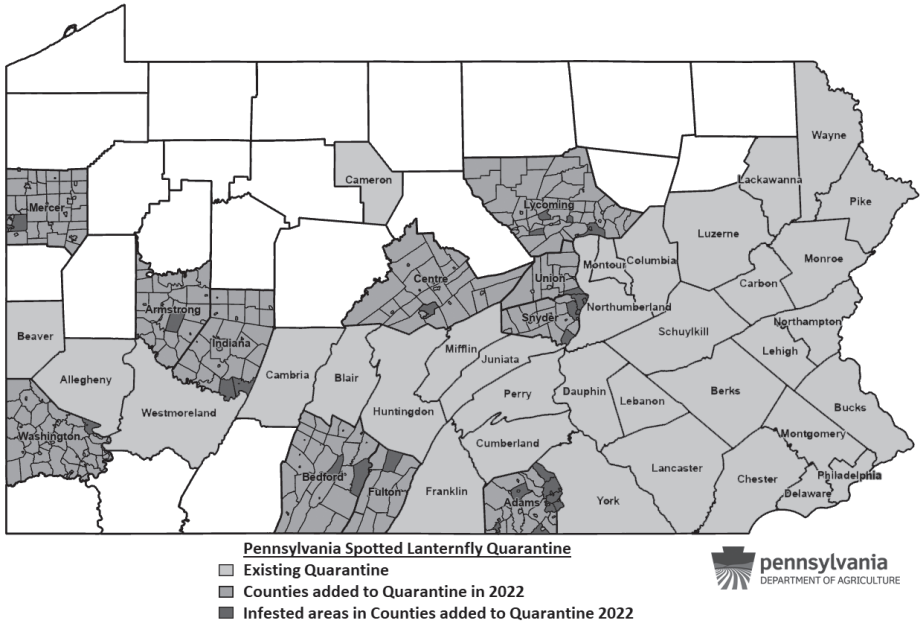
The pest, which feeds on the sap of grapevines, hardwoods, and ornamentals, strikes a double blow—not only does it stress host plants, but it also can render outdoor areas unusable by leaving behind a sugary excrement called honeydew, explained Emelie Swackhamer, a horticulture educator with Penn State Extension.

"Egg-hatching season is here, and that has some people on edge," said Swackhamer, who added that the pest now has been reported in 45 Pennsylvania counties. "The spotted lanternfly is an insect that takes time, energy, and money to keep under control, especially in heavily infested areas. Those dealing with this pest for the first time likely will be frustrated, but arming oneself with knowledge can help."

The nonnative spotted lanternfly (SLF) completes its life cycle in one year. It grows from egg to adult in three stages, with its appearance changing during the molting process for each stage, noted Amy Korman, an extension educator based in Northampton County.

Hatching lanternflies are initially white and can be observed from late April until June, depending on environmental conditions. Their exoskeleton hardens, quickly becoming black with white spots.

SLF Update, *continued on page 2*



Spotted Lanternfly Update: Map of Pennsylvania counties within current quarantine zone.

PennState
College of Agricultural Sciences

Forest Leaves is published by the Center for Private Forests and Forestry and Wildlife Extension, Department of Ecosystem Science and Management, The Pennsylvania State University, 416 Forest Resources Bldg, University Park, PA 16802 • Phone: (814) 863-0401 • Email: PrivateForests@psu.edu
Website: **ecosystems.psu.edu/research/centers/private-forests/news**

SLF Update, *continued from page 1*

As they enter their "teenage" days, the insect's primary color is red instead of black. By midsummer, the nymphs will become adults, measuring about an inch in length and sporting artfully patterned wings of red, black, white, and tan, accented by dots. During this last phase of their development as the last nymphal stage molts, Korman pointed out, the newly-emerged adults look odd, exhibiting a disfigured appearance.

"Their wings are soft and folded and not the typical colorful patterns that we see on adults," she said. "However, they are normal lanternflies entering the last phase of their lives. Once the insect emerges from its old skin, it expands its size, and additional physiological processes will cause the insect skin to harden and darken."

Photo by Melody Keena, US Forest Service

A spotted lanternfly nymph molts into an adult.

Throughout the transformation, one thing remains constant—the lanternfly's voracious appetite, and that has citizens looking for ways to control the clusters that have taken up residence on their properties. The educators offer the following management tips based on the pest's life cycle:

Destroy egg masses—fall, winter, and spring

Check for egg masses—gray-colored, flat clusters—on trees, cement blocks, rocks and any other hard surface. If egg masses are found, scrape them off using a plastic card or putty knife, and then place the masses into a bag or container with rubbing alcohol. The egg masses also can be smashed or burned.

Circle traps—spring and summer

Trapping is a mechanical control method that does not use insecticides. While traps can capture a significant number of spotted lanternflies on individual trees, they do not prevent lanternflies from moving around in a landscape and returning.

When the nymphs first hatch, they will walk up the trunks of trees to feed on the softer, new growth of the plant. People can take advantage of this behavior by installing a funnel-style trap, called a "circle trap," which wraps around the trunks of trees. Spotted lanternflies are guided into a container at the top of the funnel as they move upward.

Circle traps can be purchased commercially or can be a do-it-yourself project. A detailed guide on how to build a trap can be found on the Penn State Extension website at "How to Build a New Style Spotted Lanternfly Circle Trap."

Sticky bands are another method that has been used. Sticky bands have a major drawback: the sticky material can capture other insects and animals, including birds, small mammals, pollinators such as bees and butterflies, and more. To reduce the possibility of bycatch, a wildlife barrier of vinyl window screening or other protective material must be installed. Sticky bands deployed without a wildlife barrier are not recommended.

Removal of tree-of-heaven—spring and summer

While the spotted lanternfly will feast on a variety of plant species, it has a fondness for *Ailanthus altissima*, or tree-of-heaven, an invasive plant that is common in fencerows and unmanaged woods, along the sides of roads, and in residential areas. For this reason, there is a current push from spotted lanternfly officials to remove this tree. The best way to do this is to apply an herbicide to the tree using the hack-and-squirt method—a critical step to prevent regrowth—and then cutting it down after it is dead from July to September.

Use of insecticides—spring, summer, and fall

When dealing with large populations of the insect, citizens may have little recourse other than using chemical control. When applied properly, insecticides can be an effective and safe way to reduce lanternfly populations.

Penn State Extension is researching which insecticides are best for controlling the pest; preliminary results show that those with the active ingredients dinotefuran, carbaryl, bifenthrin and natural pyrethrins are among the most effective.

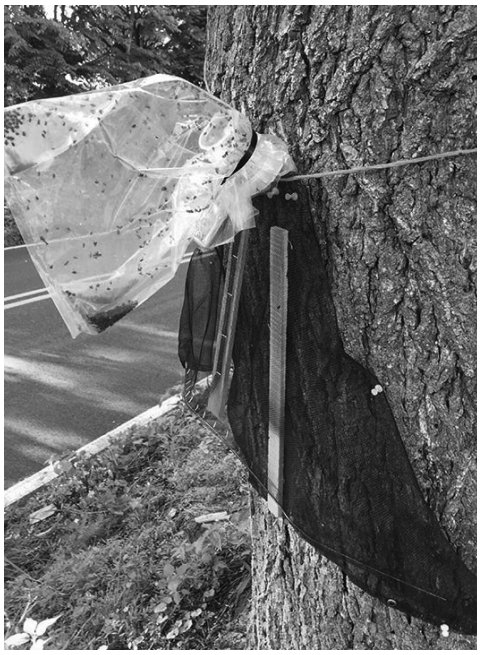


Photo by Emelie Swackhamer

A circle trap can reduce spotted lanternfly infestations on properties.

However, there are safety, environmental, and sometimes regulatory concerns that accompany the use of insecticides, so homeowners should do research, weigh the pros and cons, and seek professional advice if needed.

Swackhamer also warned against the use of home remedies, such as cleaning and other household supplies, as they can be unsafe for humans, pets, wildlife, and plants.

Slow the Spread

SLF is currently found in 45 counties in Pennsylvania, all of which are under a state-imposed quarantine (see map on page 1). The quarantine is in place to stop the movement of SLF to new areas within or out of the current quarantine zone and to slow its spread within the quarantine. The quarantine affects vehicles and other conveyances, plant, wood, and stone products, and outdoor household items.

In addition to Pennsylvania, SLF is also found in New Jersey, New York, Ohio, Connecticut, Maryland, Delaware, Virginia, and West Virginia. Do your part to slow the spread by complying with the SLF quarantine regulations.

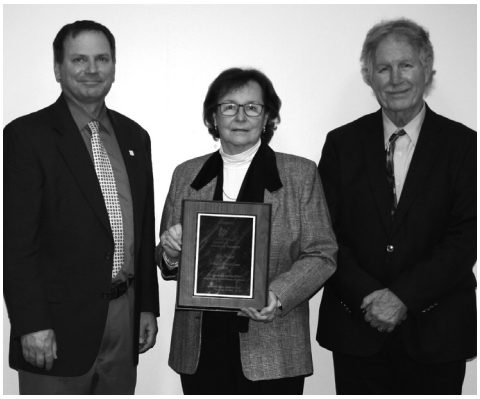
More information about the spotted lanternfly's life cycle, management techniques, and quarantine regulations is available at the Penn State Extension SLF website: **https://extension.psu.edu/spotted-lanternfly**.

James C. Finley Becomes First ASAF Foresters Hall of Fame Inductee

By Dave Jackson, Penn State Extension Educator, Renewable Natural Resources

The Allegheny Society of American Foresters (ASAF) Hall of Fame Committee selected James C. Finley as their first official inductee into the newly-created ASAF Foresters Hall of Fame. The award honors foresters who made outstanding and significant contributions to the profession throughout the course of their career. The ASAF includes the states of Delaware, Maryland, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, and West Virginia. Selection to the ASAF Foresters Hall of Fame requires a record of outstanding contributions in the broad field of forestry.

After a long career at Penn State, Jim retired as Professor Emeritus of Private Forest Management and Human Dimensions and Natural Resources in 2017. In 2011, Jim co-founded the Center for Private Forests at Penn State, serving as its inaugural director and following retirement, serving as the Center's Council Chair until the time of his death. He was also the Pennsylvania State Extension Forester and dedicated his life to working at the intersection of people and forests. For decades, Jim shared his knowledge and deep understanding of the woods with peer volunteers attending forest stewardship training programs. Jim suddenly and tragically lost his life on October 2, 2021.



Left to right: Mike Huneke, Immediate Past Chair, Allegheny Society of American Foresters; Linda Finley; and Champ Zumbrun, Hall of Fame Committee Chair, Allegheny Society of American Foresters (photo provided).

His legacy will live on, as will his decades of work which helped shape the forestry community's understanding of forests and the people who own them.

Dr. Kim Steiner, a longtime Penn State colleague of Jim's, presented the award to Jim's wife Linda during the February 17 Awards Banquet at the 2022 Allegheny SAF Winter Training in Clarion, PA. In accepting the award on behalf of Jim, Linda shared the following comments from Jim's heart and soul as a forester.

"Thank you for inviting me to join you. Jim would be so very honored to receive this recognition. His membership in SAF was important to him and he always encouraged others, especially students, to become SAF members.

"Jim always said from the time he was very young, the only thing he ever wanted to be was a forester. His early vision of being a forester was to work in the woods every day and have his lunch by a stream. Although his childhood vision faded, and his career took a different path from being in the woods every day, he was always very proud to say he was a forester.

"Jim was, and you are, part of an honorable profession. You deserve the highest respect. Being a forester can take many different paths, and every path is so important. What you do is special and essential. You are stewards and caretakers of the natural resources that are vital to the well-being of all humanity. Thank you for what you do and be very proud to say you are a forester."

Jim touched innumerable lives with his passion for the woods. This profound loss will echo through personal and professional relationships. His induction into the ASAF Foresters Hall of Fame will help his legacy to live on.

Tree Farm News: Forest Monitoring After Enrollment in a Carbon Program

By John Hoover, PA Tree Farm Committee Chair

In December 2020, I enrolled about half of my property in the Family Forest Carbon Program, making a 20-year commitment on a large portion of my tree farm. The extent of follow-up forest monitoring has surprised me but has proven to be good for reasons beyond the data collection needed by the program. In my case, a qualified forester walking to random locations on my woodlands last November brought my attention to some invasive tree-of-heaven (*Ailanthus altissima*) that I was not aware was present. Beyond this, I inquired about how the collected data from my tree farm was being used in this program sponsored by the American Forest Foundation and The Nature Conservancy.

I learned that Family Forest Carbon Program (FFCP) monitoring evaluates a statistically significant sample of enrolled landowners who are selected for the type of monitoring that includes my property. This is used to match the FFCP-enrolled properties to the most similar baseline properties found in Forest Inventory and Analysis data, which serves as a baseline for evaluating how much carbon is being sequestered on enrolled properties compared to similar properties in the local landscape which are not enrolled. Monitoring is done at regular intervals throughout a landowner's enrollment so the carbon benefit can be observed and verified in real time. Details about how FFCP addresses carbon accounting issues are given in the blog posts below (go to **www.forestfoundation.org/why-we-do-it/family-forest-blog** and find **Determining a True Carbon Benefit** articles by date).

- **Part 1–Additionality**: how the FFCP makes sure the carbon benefit attributed to its program goes beyond what's happening naturally on the landscape (Apr 13, 2021).
- **Part 2–Baselines**: how an appropriate baseline is determined to compare enrolled areas to those not part of the program so that additionality is credible (May 26, 2021).
- **Part 3–From Intention to Action**: the role landowner intentions play in determining carbon benefit (Sep 2, 2021).
- **Part 4–Permanence**: how the FFCP ensures the carbon benefit of the program lasts at least 100 years, while keeping landowner agreements at a manageable length of 20 years (Dec 2, 2021).

Soon two foresters from the program will visit my property and audit the 20 randomly-selected sample plots to collect more data. Lynn Riley, Analysis Manager with the Family Forest Impact Foundation, assisted in providing current information for this update. For PA Tree Farmers considering enrolling in a carbon sequestration program, I encourage you to ask questions, do your homework, talk to others you know who are already enrolled, and then make an informed decision.

For more information about the PA Tree Farm program, visit their webpage at **www.paforestry.org/treefarm**.

Part Two of a Two-part Series on Purchasing and Restoring Rural and Agricultural Properties

Steps to Restoring a Farm or Rural Property

By Paul Solomon, Pennsylvania Forest Steward and Master Watershed Steward,
and Jeanne Riley, Pennsylvania Forest Steward and Center for Private Forests Council Member

This article, which offers suggestions for planning and carrying out restoration activities on a newly-purchased rural or agricultural property, is the second of two articles in a series. The first article, published in the Winter 2022 edition of Forest Leaves*, offered advice on how to find and select rural or agricultural properties for restoration.*

Introduction

Purchasing and restoring a rural or agricultural property is a worthwhile and rewarding way to forge intimate connections with the natural world and leave a distinctive legacy that our families, friends, neighbors, and communities can enjoy well into the future. The first article in this two-part series offered advice on finding such properties. This article provides advice on how to embark on restoration of a property you have purchased, drawn from my experience in restoring eight properties totaling 1,126 acres over the past six decades.

Steps in Restoring a Property

A rural or agricultural property purchased with restoration in mind is likely to contain a diverse landscape with multiple land uses as well as several buildings in various states of repair. When getting started on restoration of such a property, the opportunities to improve the agricultural, environmental, historical, and aesthetic values seem boundless, as do the number of issues seeming to require immediate attention. In my experience, taking some time to develop a detailed knowledge of the property at the outset and then pursuing the restoration in phases or steps has been the most effective approach.

Phase I. Perform a Comprehensive Assessment of the Property's Features.

- Identify the major tracts of land and their characteristics to assign each a land use to which it is best suited.
- Evaluate the historic features and structural soundness of each building to determine whether it potentially merits restoration or whether it should be removed.
- Observe the water flow within and through the property under a variety of conditions, including the aftermath of torrential rainstorms. Determine the direction and magnitude of any runoff.

Phase II. Address Structures or Landscape Characteristics Needing Urgent Attention.

- Take prompt action to either restore or demolish buildings which are structurally unstable and pose an immediate risk of hazard.
- Identify and address any existing or potential water damage to buildings. Repair any roofs which may be leaking, as leaks may cause structural damage.
- Intervene immediately to address landscape characteristics which contribute to significant stormwater runoff. Consult with a conservation expert (see below) to determine how best to alter the contours of the land to intercept and retain or infiltrate all runoff, thereby eliminating erosion on the property and discharges into local streams.

Phase III. Undertake a Comprehensive Clean-up.

- Remove all buildings that are not restorable or are otherwise undesirable, saving any reusable materials.
- Clean out all buildings potentially to be retained. Doing so will improve the aesthetics and sanitary conditions of the buildings and can help uncover any issues or defects not already apparent.
- Collect all debris located throughout the farm and discard it responsibly away from the property, recycling as much as possible. Consider renting a dumpster as well as making use of a dug-out fire pit for non-toxic material (open burning permit may be required) to enable debris to be removed from the site quickly and safely.

Phase IV. Establish Your Long-term Goals for the Property.

Drawing on what you have learned about the property from your initial assessment, emergency interventions, and clean-up activities, develop a list of the land and building features you would like to retain and improvements you would like to make. In doing so, consider:

- The major agricultural activities you would like to undertake;
- Your interests in attracting wildlife, a goal of many property restorers;
- The types of spaces you would like to create for both active and passive recreation, if any; and
- Your functional needs for buildings, depending on the planned uses of the farm.

Phase V. Develop Stewardship Plans for the Property that Reflect Your Goals.

- Obtain a conservation plan from your county's Conservation District (CCD), with a particular focus on stormwater flow. Request that your county's Conservation District prepare a conservation plan for your land with your input. Diversion terraces, contour strip cropping and grassed waterways are commonly recommended best management practices in such plans. After receiving the proposed plan, stroll through your property during a heavy rainstorm and note the direction and intensity of any runoff. If the Conservation Plan as written does not address all runoff issues, request changes as needed.

Article photos by Paul Solomon

McCarthy Farm: *This beautifully restored 193-acre Cherry Valley, NY property lies between two wooded mountain ranges in the Northern Catskills region.*

Restoring Property, *continued on page 5*

Restoring Property, *continued from page 4*

- Design the landscape. Enhance the aesthetics, and thereby the value, of your property with thoughtfully designed landscaping efforts, particularly for the farmstead area.
  - Remove unwanted, invasive, or otherwise undesirable shrubs and trees. Remove all stumps mechanically or treat with an herbicide to prevent regrowth.
  - Consider planting native trees, shrubs, wildflowers, and native grasses on land ill-suited for crops and at other locations to beautify the property and attract wildlife, including pollinators.
  - Construct a pond or ponds. Ponds are attractive features of farm landscapes and provide recreational enjoyment for fishermen and observers of nature of all ages.
  - Create wildlife habitat. Construct and place ornithologically correct wildlife boxes, plant food plots, and brush piles[1] for wildlife cover in suitable locations. Retain snags, or wildlife cavity trees, where safe to do so.
  - Improve farm driveway(s) to reduce runoff and enhance aesthetics. Relocate or stabilize them and repair or enhance surfaces. Divert any runoff accumulating on driveway(s) by building suitably spaced breakers/water bars to direct water to safe outlets such as grassed waterways, rain gardens, or woodlands. Enhance the driveway with suitable plantings and stone structures. Consider a circular driveway or a gently curved driveway if the property lends itself to one, as these designs are more attractive than a straight driveway.

  The landscape design should specifically address lawn areas, keeping these to the minimum necessary for recreational and social functions or access.
- **Obtain a forest management plan.** Develop and design the forest management and planting initiatives needed on the property. Forests are among the most important features of rural properties, and as such should be given considerable attention in restorations. They contribute to air quality, stormwater mitigation, water quality, temperature regulation, property aesthetics, and wildlife habitat, while also providing economic, ecological, and social benefits to the community as well as the landowner. In Pennsylvania, most counties have a professional Service Forester who can advise you in the preparation of a Woodland Management Plan for woodlands or forests located on a property at your request. Cost sharing to implement best management practices may be available through county, state, or federal governments.

Phase VI. Restore, Remove, or Replace Buildings as Needed.

Restore, remove, or replace farm buildings, including the farmhouse, in accordance with your goals, with timing dependent on your individual needs and your budget.

[1]A brush pile is most commonly designed as a collection of tree limbs or branches, organized in a latticework pattern, with logs and large limbs placed at the bottom and smaller limbs placed toward the top, within which woody vegetation such as leaves and twigs is interspersed.

Wolf Farm: *Paul Solomon's (above) 113-acre farm in New Freedom, York County, contains agricultural tracts, woodland, and a spring that flows year-round.*

Once you have found and purchased your special property, you can begin to imagine how you might enhance the landscape and structures to create a masterpiece of your own.

Paul J. Solomon is a retired Shrewsbury Township Supervisor in York County, PA. His insights into restoration are based on a combination of hands-on experience and formal education and training. He has a Bachelor of Science degree from the College of Agricultural Sciences and a Master's degree in Regional Planning from Pennsylvania State University. He is a private forest landowner, a Pennsylvania Forest Steward, and a Master Watershed Steward. He resides in Shrewsbury Township, York County, PA, where he owns and operates a farm. Jeanne Riley is a Pennsylvania Forest Steward and volunteer Council member with the Center for Private Forests at Penn State.

Pennsylvania Forestry Association: Conservation Banquet a Success

By Randy White, Pennsylvania Forestry Association President

On March 5, 2022, we held our Conservation Banquet, "Raising Funds for Forestry Education," at the Ramada Inn and Conference Center in State College, PA. The Pennsylvania Forestry Association (PFA) depends on this event to finance its forest conservation mission and invests dollars directly back into forestry education in Pennsylvania.

We had an outstanding banquet, with 220 in attendance, after skipping last year's event due to COVID-19 concerns. We sold 350 tickets and had a great evening with several raffles and auction items sold to benefit PFA. Mark your calendars for the next Conservation Banquet on March 4, 2023 and plan to join us.

Versant Strategies has been excellently running the association management activities of PFA since August 2014. In the last year, Versant has made the strategic decision to step away from management and to concentrate on other activities. We thank them for their great service to PFA.

After a search for a new management organization to support the operations of PFA, the Executive Committee has chosen Celesta Powell, owner and operator of Powell's Presence in Spring Mills, PA, to take on the role. The day-to-day activities and correspondence transitioned during March. We welcome Celesta to our organization and look forward to a great relationship.

For more information about PFA, visit their website at **www.paforestry.org** or call 800-835-8065.

At the Center: Sharing Our Work

By Allyson Muth, Center for Private Forests Director

At the start of each new year, through the compilation of the Center for Private Forests' annual report, we think about how best to present the work and outcomes of the previous year—how to highlight the events, the accomplishments, the challenges, and new directions, and demonstrate how those efforts align with our vision—a world where stewardship practices sustain healthy and resilient private forests which contribute to the social, ecological, and economic well-being of society.

As we think about how best to share our work, one thing becomes clear: we accomplish our best work in service to others—the private forest landowners, the professionals who work to support them, and the public who benefit from the goods and services derived from that forest. At the core of the Center's work is applied research: research for and with those who are looking for answers to pressing questions, challenges faced, and opportunities sought.

This foundation of applied research has been evident through the work of our graduate students. Most recently, former master's student Abby Jamison's work on the relationship between landowners and those who advise them has led to a couple of academic papers. Her research has framed a challenge to those of us in the forestry community that we hope to get out more widely in response to widespread skepticism of our motives uncovered in this work—how do we carry and present our expertise as we engage the landowners who we're trying to help?

Building off Abby's research, and utilizing the results of the 2021 private forest landowner survey (results coming soon!), PhD student Sasha Soto's work will look at who landowners trust to gain information about caring for their land. Her work will inform how agencies and organizations that engage and educate landowners can overcome the aforementioned barriers of skepticism to move more people into active engagement with their land.

Recent research with Pennsylvania's land trust community has turned into multiple training opportunities and larger conversations across the state to help their staffs consider enhancing forest conservation values on properties with conservation easements held by their organizations, as well opportunities to re-state old conservation easements that have been overly restrictive to allow for management in response to our changing forest conditions. There is positive response to the work and the conversations stemming from it, with more partners coming together to address the hurdles to these organizations' abilities to become more proactive in supporting the tending of the lands which they protect. While research is the foundation on which the Center's work is built, it is imperative that our research serve others—informing practice, affecting policy, enhancing programs and resources, and supporting those who own the majority of forestland. We want our work to make a difference.

SFI, *continued from page 8*

products play a central role in the carbon cycle and, with proper management, can be one of the most effective nature-based solutions to the climate crisis. SFI-certified organizations are required to ensure forest management activities address climate change adaptation and incorporate mitigation measures.

SFI is mobilizing forests for climate change mitigation by leveraging the scale of SFI-certified forests, which span across 370 million acres of North America, ensuring that their management contributes positively to carbon capture, climate resiliency, and long-term carbon sequestration. Through science-based management and third-party validated requirements, we can ensure healthy forests for our shared future.

Reducing the Impact of Wildfires

Forest fires have long played a role in the evolution and function of natural ecosystems, but now we are seeing an increase in catastrophic fires that have dire consequences for our forests, wildlife, and communities. Sustainable forest management is also a key mitigation tool in the fight against catastrophic wildfires. The SFI Forest Management Standard has a new Fire Resiliency and Awareness Objective that requires SFI-certified organizations to limit susceptibility to undesirable impacts of wildfire, promote healthy and resilient forest conditions through management techniques, support restoration of forests following wildfire damage, and engage in efforts to raise awareness of the benefits of fire management and minimization of undesirable impacts of wildfire.

Social Responsibility and Indigenous Rights

SFI's standards are built on mutual trust and engagement. They help SFI-certified organizations meet societal expectations by ensuring that important issues such as civil rights, equal employment opportunities, gender equality, diversity inclusion, and anti-discrimination and anti-harassment measures are addressed.

An important component of the SFI standards is to recognize and respect Indigenous peoples' rights. The SFI standards promote respect for Indigenous peoples' rights, representative institutions, and traditional knowledge, and are aligned with the principles of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples. Specific measures require that SFI-certified organizations are aware of traditional forest-related knowledge, such as known cultural heritage sites, the use of wood in traditional buildings and crafts, and flora that may be used in cultural practices for food, ceremonies, or medicine.

SFI's standards, when leveraged with its three other pillars of work—conservation, community, and education—provide practical, scalable solutions for markets and communities working to pursue a growing commitment to a sustainable planet.

For a summary of the major enhancements in the SFI 2022 standards, please visit **www.forests.org/sfi-2022-standards-and-rules-revision-process**.

For more information about the PA SFI Implementation Committee, visit their website at **www.sfiofpa.org** or call 888-734-9366.

Forest Leaves Calendar

Check out the Center for Private Forests website at **ecosystems.psu.edu/private-forests** and follow our Facebook page at **facebook.com/privateforests** for the latest list of events submitted from organizations around the state.

PA FORESTS WEB SEMINAR CENTER

ecosystems.psu.edu/research/centers/private-forests/outreach/pa-forests-web-seminar-center

The Pennsylvania Forests Online Web Seminar series is held September through June on the second Tuesday of each month. Webinar topics are geared toward private forest landowners as well as the general public. Webinars are free; registration is required.

You can also view previously-recorded webinars at the website above.

Upcoming webinar topics:

May 10, 2022: Silvicultural Options for Degraded Woodlots. This program will discuss factors to consider when making silvicultural decisions in degraded stands as well as some common scenarios and their corresponding recommended management approaches.

June 14, 2022: Topic to be announced.

(Webinar sessions end in June and resume September 13.)

Woods and Wildlife News and Notes: The Latest News from the Forestry and Wildlife Extension Team

Penn State Extension's team of Forestry and Wildlife experts publishes an e-newsletter, *Woods and Wildlife News and Notes*, containing the most recent information, events, demonstrations, partnerships, and activities coming from the team. *Forest Leaves* shares the titles and thumbnails of these articles with you each quarter.

If you're interested in checking out any of these articles, it's easy! Just visit **https://extension.psu.edu** and type the article title in the search bar.

PA's Newest Noxious Weeds

This article discusses the most recent plants added to the PA Noxious Weed List, including general ID and background info, control methods, and native plant alternatives for landscaping.

Spring Phenology Notes

This article is a collection of phenology notes specifically focused on the spring months: April, May, and June.

Pennsylvania Timber Market Report: Fourth Quarter, 2021

Stumpage prices as reported by Pennsylvania timber and logging companies, forestry consultants, and state land management agencies to analysts at the Pennsylvania State University.

Protected Species in Pennsylvania: The Indiana Bat

This article provides practical ways the public and landowners can aid in the survival of the Indiana bat.

Woodland Wisdom, Part 2

Woodland Wisdom, Part 2 introduces the two main sources of assistance and educational information for forestland owners, and the importance of developing a management plan to better care for a forest.

Reducing Wildfire Hazard Around Your Home or Camp

Tips to prevent damage to structures by wildfire.

Don't be Deceived by this Beguiling Springtime Plant

Lesser celandine may be an attractive plant, but its invasive nature negates any physical beauty. Learn how to identify and control this exotic spring ephemeral.

Requesting the *Woods and Wildlife News and Notes* newsletter's delivery to your personal inbox involves the same opt-in process you may have already used to communicate your areas of interest among the full suite of Penn State Extension offerings. To make sure you are on the distribution list, visit the Penn State Extension website to manage your email preferences (**https://extension.psu.edu/extevents/newsletter**), and select any of the "Forest and Wildlife" topic areas of interest.

FOREST LEAVES
Spring 2022

Editors:

Allyson Brownlee Muth
Barb Sellers

Calendar contributions and news items are welcome. Submissions for the next hardcopy issue of *Forest Leaves* are due:

June 1, 2022

***Forest Leaves* Publication Partners include:**

- **The Pennsylvania Forest Stewardship Program** administered nationally by the USDA Forest Service under the direction of the PA DCNR Bureau of Forestry in conjunction with the Center for Private Forests and Penn State Forestry and Wildlife Extension.
- **PA DCNR Bureau of Forestry** **www.dcnr.pa.gov/about/Pages/Forestry.aspx**
- **The PA Tree Farm® Program** **www.paforestry.org/treefarm**
- **The PA Forestry Association** **www.paforestry.org**
- **The PA SFI Implementation Committee** **www.sfiofpa.org**
- **Penn State College of Agricultural Sciences** research and cooperative extension programs funded in part by Pennsylvania counties, the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, and the US Department of Agriculture.
- **The Center for Private Forests at Penn State** **ecosystems.psu.edu/research/centers/private-forests**
- **Penn State Extension** **extension.psu.edu**

Forest Leaves
c/o The Center for Private Forests at Penn State
Department of Ecosystem Sciences and Management
The Pennsylvania State University
416 Forest Resources Building
University Park, PA 16802

PRSRT STD
U.S. Postage
PAID
State College, PA
Permit No. 1

Spring 2022

This publication brought to you by:

We welcome your letters, ideas, and contributions! Send them to the address shown above.

NEXT DEADLINE:
June 1, 2022

SFI Rolls Out New 2022 Standards and Rules

By Chuck Coup, PA SFI Implementation Committee Program Manager

Sustainable forest management and the procurement of wood products from sustainably managed sources are critical tools that support the long-term sustainability of forests and ensure the multitude of benefits that forests provide for future generations. When supported by the right policy frameworks, sustainable forest management acts as a bold but proven approach to tackling multiple global challenges by doing good instead of just avoiding harm.

The Sustainable Forestry Initiative®'s (SFI) updated forest certification standards provide solutions to some of the world's most pressing sustainability challenges. SFI is the largest forest certification standard in the world and its requirements are backed by third-party verification audits. Among other things, SFI certification ensures healthy forests that mitigate climate change, reduce the impacts of catastrophic fire, protect and maintain biodiversity, and verify that fiber is sourced legally and sustainably.

Standards Built Through Collaboration

SFI regularly revises and updates the SFI standards to incorporate the latest scientific information, respond to emerging issues, and ensure continual improvement. This open and transparent process includes engaging thousands from the conservation community, Indigenous communities, the forest products sector, brand owners, private forest landowners, public forest managers, government agencies, trade associations, landowner associations, academia, and the public. By leveraging this diverse expertise through focused engagement, and by including open comment periods, SFI creates standards that are grounded in science, include diverse perspectives, and benefit consumers, communities, and, ultimately, forests across North America.

Starting in October 2019, SFI officially launched a two-year process that included two public comment periods, a dozen webinars, and over 30 task group meetings. Nearly 2,300 individuals and organizations participated in webinars and/or submitted comments on the draft SFI 2022 standards. From this two-year process, major innovative improvements in the SFI standards were made to address key sustainability challenges. The newly-released 2022 Standards and Rules are available online at **https://www.forests.org/standards**.

Proactively Addressing Climate Change

Forests and forest products capture almost 15 percent of our global carbon emissions each year. But to harness and maximize this nature-based solution to climate change, we need to acknowledge and support the role of sustainably-managed forests.

The new SFI Climate Smart Forestry Objective is a highlight of the new standards. It supports a commitment to ensuring SFI standards address critical global sustainability issues. Forests and forest

SFI, *continued on page 6*