



# Forest Leaves

Volume 32, Number 3 • Spring 2023



Over 430 forest landowners, natural resources professionals, and others interested in forest stewardship came together to learn, share, and connect at the 2023 Forest Landowners Conference.

## Inside this issue...

- Do You Have Questions about Your Woods? Ask Your Service Forester! ..... 2
- Spotted Lanternfly Update: 51 PA Counties Now under Quarantine ..... 3
- Controlling Tree-of-heaven, a Preferred Host Plant of the Spotted Lanternfly ..... 3
- New Leadership for the Pennsylvania SFI® Implementation Committee ..... 4
- PFA News: A Banquet, a Conference, and the Upcoming 2023 Timber Show.... 4
- Invasive Weeds Fact Sheet Series Links ..... 5
- Pennsylvania Tree Farm News..... 5
- At the Center: Looking Back at the 2023 Forest Landowners Conference..... 6
- Upcoming PA Forests Webinars..... 7
- Woods and Wildlife News and Notes: The Latest News from the Forestry and Wildlife Extension Team..... 7*
- Forest Leaves Calendar of Events ..... 8*

## What You Might Notice in a Warmer than Average Spring

By Jeff Osborne, Forest Stewardship Program Associate, James C. Finley Center for Private Forests at Penn State

With numerous days with temperatures in the 80s this March and April, you may wonder, “Have temperatures been warmer than average?” You also may wonder how much earlier can plants break bud, how insects and migratory birds can be affected by a warmer spring, and whether there are winners and losers when trees flush leaves early. Some of these questions are easier than others to answer as we consider a few of them.

Have temperatures been warmer than average this spring? This is a question you can easily find an answer for without taking your own thermometer readings. The National Oceanic Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) website has maps which show the ranking of average temperatures down to the county level over various periods as short as one month. Temperatures in the database go back 129 years. These maps show that small parts of Pennsylvania experienced record high average temperatures in January and February, but March temperatures were nearer to average, with less than half of the state experiencing a 0-3°F increase and just a few small areas experiencing a 3-6°F increase. For March, all Pennsylvania counties were near or above average, as shown on the map at the right. April seems like it will be above average when comparing average and observed high temperatures, but NOAA maps for April will not be published until after this article is in print.

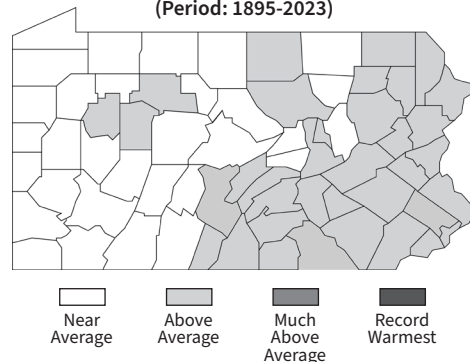
So, after you establish this early spring was warmer than average, what implications can that have on the timing of natural events? In the forest, spring ephemeral plants emerge and capture most of the sunlight they use to create carbohydrates and grow in just a few weeks

before trees and shrubs cast much shade. Most of these flowers are pollinated by bees and flies that time their emergence, based on temperatures, to hopefully occur while there are ample blooms to provide pollen for food. Also, in spring, neotropical birds move north to breed and eat emerging insects and ripening fruits and seeds. In general, these events occur earlier in warmer springs.

One study toward the beginning of the millennium noted how warmer temperatures affected bud break on lilac and birds’ spring migration. It found that for each 1.8°F increase in temperature, the arrival of the many bird species recorded occurred an average of one day earlier, and lilac would break bud three days earlier with the same temperature increase.<sup>1</sup> An article on pollinators and plants syncing up mentions many studies on various topics, including a study of bee emergence

Warm Spring, continued on page 2

County Average Temperature Ranks  
March 2023  
(Period: 1895-2023)



This map shows the deviation from average observed temperatures for March 2023. (Source: <https://www.ncei.noaa.gov>)



**PennState**  
College of Agricultural Sciences

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## Warm Spring, continued from page 1

and the flowers they pollinate. This study examined collection records of bees and associated plants from the 1880s and determined bees were active and flowers were in bloom in the Northeastern United States about 10 days earlier in 2010 vs. the 1880s, but in some cases, there could be specialist bees active in a time with scarce preferred pollen sources for four to six days.<sup>2</sup> A study done by researchers to compare observations in spring wildflower emergence in Concord, MA examined first flowering dates of 14 herbaceous species and the first leaf dates of 15 overstory tree species taken during three periods from 1852 to 2018, compared them to temperature data, and determined that trees were more apt to flush leaves earlier in warmer springs than wildflowers, and were putting on leaves nearly 13 days earlier. They also measured spring and summer carbon gain in common wildflowers in a garden at Trillium Trail near Pittsburgh, PA. They then estimated the wildflowers in the 1850s were able to gain 12-26% more carbon through photosynthesis than today. There have been several studies in Japan's deciduous forest recording reduced seed production in some spring wildflowers during very warm springs, but not others.<sup>3</sup>

Generalist species, or species that depend more on overstory trees, may be winners in warmer springs. Some of the losers may be shrubs and trees that flower early like *Amelanchier* (serviceberry), and many orchard trees. They may be influenced to flower earlier in April by warmer temperatures, only to have flowers or fruits damaged by May frosts. Plants specializing in growing in a forest during the early spring—and species that utilize them during their lifecycle—may have more hardship in years with a warm spring. There seems to be so much to be learned in this area as many of the spring

wildflower studies state that there are few other similar studies measuring canopy closure and wildflower growth and reproduction.

What would happen to trees if there were no freezing period in the Northeast? Although we can't know all the effects, we can look toward apple trees as a clue. Apple trees were imported into tropical regions over the years, notably into a few areas in Indonesia like Batu in the 1930s. What happened to these trees? Without tending, they had no cold temperatures or droughts to trigger leaf die-off and fall, and thus were essentially evergreen. The ends of the limbs grew small tufts of leaves, and trees were not likely to flower or branch from lateral buds. The apples were cultivated more heavily in the 1960s due to pest problems with citrus fruits. Under cultivation, the trees were completely defoliated by hand after the fruit was harvested. Defoliation triggered flower and vegetative buds to break, and, in



*A gray squirrel with a mouthful of oak flowers. (Photo taken by author on April 17 in University Park, PA.)*

this manner, orchard owners could realize two apple harvests per year.

Are there management opportunities to consider if warmer springs continue? If you have spring wildflower populations, you could take your own notes on their vigor and seed production to determine if their population seems stable. If they seem in decline, removing low shade to make small nearby canopy gaps should provide them a boost of sunlight. If you have moist, fertile soils and invasive shrubs, you can remove those shrubs to provide a possible space for wildflowers to take root. Most spring wildflowers are less likely to inhabit dry or nutrient-poor soils.

Natural systems are dynamic, resilient, and fascinating, but they do have their limits, which, in some areas, are yet to be known. So, enjoy unseasonably warm weather as much as you can, and if you are concerned with successive warm springs and the effects on the forest or specific plants around you, learn more about those effects and whether you can make a positive impact. Creating a diversity in plant communities is a good first step.

### References:

- <sup>1</sup> Marra, P.P. et al. The influence of climate on the timing and rate of spring bird migration. *Oecologia* 142, 307–315 (2005). <https://doi.org/10.1007/s00442-004-1725-x>.
- <sup>2</sup> Willmer, P. Ecology: Pollinator–Plant Synchrony Tested by Climate Change. *Current Biology* 22, R131–R132 (2012). <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.cub.2012.01.009>.
- <sup>3</sup> Heberling, J.M. et al. Phenological mismatch with trees reduces wildflower carbon budgets. *Ecology Letters* 22, 616–623 (2019). [https://compassknex.com/wp-content/uploads/2019/03/Heberling\\_et\\_al-2019-Ecology\\_Letters.pdf](https://compassknex.com/wp-content/uploads/2019/03/Heberling_et_al-2019-Ecology_Letters.pdf).

## Do You Have Questions about Your Woods? Ask Your Service Forester!

Many of Pennsylvania's woodland owners aren't aware that the Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources Bureau of Forestry has a Service Forester assigned to each county to assist landowners in understanding and planning the care and management of their woodlands.

A Service Forester can tour your property, answer questions, and recommend how to manage it for maximum benefits: timber, water, wildlife, and/or recreation. They can help you with resources and

planning, provide advice and information about pest management, and help you decide on a plan of action that will focus on your goals—timber production, wildlife, or other goals important to you.

Service Foresters are knowledgeable about federal, state, and local programs that you may be interested in using to manage your woods. They can give you an idea of what your future forest could look like and point out any potential problems such as insects, disease, invasive species, or fire. They can also provide advice and

information on timber sales (but they cannot mark or sell timber) and give you a list of forestry consultants in PA.

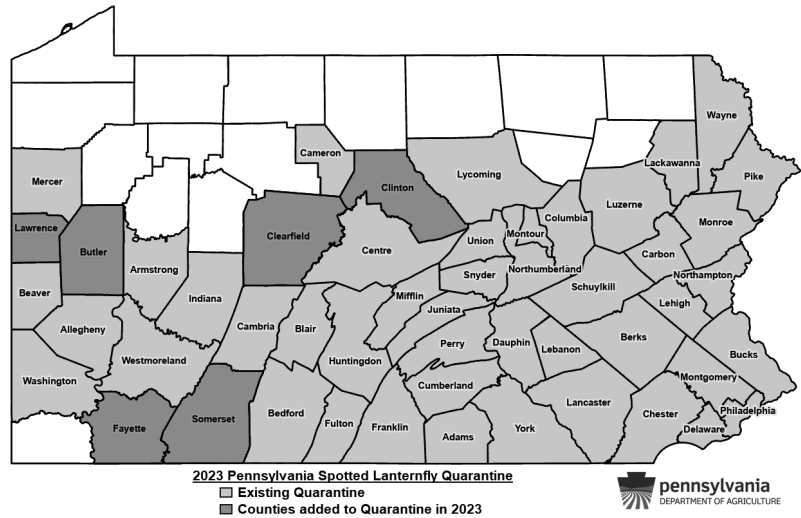
How can you find your Service Forester's contact information? Go to [dnr.pa.gov/Conservation/ForestAndTrees/ManagingYourWoods](https://dnr.pa.gov/Conservation/ForestAndTrees/ManagingYourWoods) and click on “service forester to each county (PDF)” under the Service Foresters heading. And while you're there, check out other links, including “Forest Landowner Assistance Contact Information GIS Map” under “Additional Information.”

# Spotted Lanternfly Update: 51 PA Counties Now under Quarantine

Spotted lanternfly (SLF), now found in 51 counties in Pennsylvania, continues to be a serious threat. This invasive pest has a healthy appetite for our plants, and it can be a significant nuisance, affecting the quality of life and enjoyment of the outdoors. If not contained, spotted lanternfly potentially could drain Pennsylvania's economy of at least \$324 million annually, according to a study carried out by economists at Penn State.

The spotted lanternfly uses its piercing-sucking mouthpart to feed on sap from over 70 different plant species. It has a strong preference for economically important plants including grapevines, maple trees, black walnut, birch, willow, and other trees. The feeding damage significantly stresses the plants which can lead to decreased health and potentially death.

As SLF feeds, the insect excretes honeydew (a sugary substance) which can attract bees, wasps, and other insects. The honeydew also builds up and promotes the growth for sooty mold (fungi), which can cover the plant, forest understories, patio furniture, cars, and anything else found below SLF feeding.



The spotted lanternfly has been confirmed in 51 of PA's 67 counties.

The map above shows the 51 counties where SLF is found, including the six counties added so far in 2023. All 51 counties are under a state-imposed quarantine. 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, plants, wood, 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 and find out more at: [agriculture.pa.gov/Plants\\_Land\\_Water/PlantIndustry/Entomology/spotted\\_lanternfly](https://agriculture.pa.gov/Plants_Land_Water/PlantIndustry/Entomology/spotted_lanternfly).

*Excerpts from PA Department of Agriculture and Penn State Extension publications.*

## Controlling Tree-of-heaven, a Preferred Host Plant of the Spotted Lanternfly

Tree-of-heaven (*Ailanthus altissima*), commonly referred to as ailanthus, is an invasive plant commonly found in Pennsylvania—and it is a preferred food source of the invasive, destructive spotted lanternfly. Controlling tree-of-heaven is important in the work to control the spotted lanternfly.

Tree-of-heaven is a rapidly growing deciduous tree native to both northeast and central China, as well as Taiwan. It was first introduced into the United States in the Philadelphia area in the late 1700s.

The tree was initially valued as a unique, fast-growing ornamental shade tree with the ability to grow on a wide range of site conditions. It was widely planted from New York City to Washington, D.C. By the early 1900s the tree began losing popularity due to its "weedy" nature, prolific root sprouting, and foul odor. Tree-of-heaven has spread and become a common invasive plant in urban, agricultural, and forested areas.

### Controlling Tree-of-heaven

Due to its extensive root system and resprouting ability, tree-of-heaven is difficult to control. Treatment timing and following up the second year are critical to success. Mechanical methods, such as cutting or mowing, are ineffective, as the tree responds by producing large numbers of stump sprouts and root suckers. When cutting tree-of-heaven is necessary to remove potentially hazardous trees, it is best to treat with an herbicide first, wait for symptoms to develop (approximately 30 days), and then cut.

Hand pulling young seedlings is effective when the soil is moist and the entire root system is removed. Small root fragments are capable of generating new shoots. Seedlings can be easily confused with root suckers, which are nearly impossible to pull by hand.

To control tree-of-heaven, target the roots with systemic herbicides applied in mid- to late summer (July to onset of fall color) when the tree is moving carbohy-

drates to the roots. Herbicide applications made outside this late growing season window will only injure aboveground growth. Following treatment, repeated site monitoring for signs of regrowth is critical to prevent reinfestation.

*Tree-of-heaven, continued on page 5*



*This tree-of-heaven sapling signals the spread of this invasive plant in a recently disturbed part of a woodlot.*

# New Leadership for the Pennsylvania SFI® Implementation Committee

By Chuck Coup, PA SFI Implementation Committee Program Manager

The Pennsylvania Sustainable Forestry Initiative® (SFI) Implementation Committee (SIC) is comprised of many knowledgeable and dedicated volunteers who, in addition to their regular day-to-day duties, make the commitment to show up to meetings, support and guide the program, and contribute their valuable input.

SIC leadership is provided by our Chair and Vice-Chair. December 31, 2022 marked the end of Jason Wenrich's two-year term as Chair of the organization. Jason is FORECON's Director of Business Development/Chief Forester and is based out of



Garin Peck



Kyle Troutman



Doty McDowell



SIC Program Manager Chuck Coup (left) and former SIC Chair Jason Wenrich (right)

their State College office. Under his leadership, the SIC navigated the unprecedented challenges posed by the global pandemic and expanded the availability of logger training through online offerings. Jason was presented with an engraved clock on behalf of the SIC in appreciation of his service. He will continue his involvement with the program as a member of the SIC.

Garin Peck assumed the Chair position at the beginning of the year and will serve for 2023-2024. Garin is the Clearing and Environmental Project Manager at Metzler Forest Products. Kyle Troutman, Forester and SFI Coordinator at Weaber, Inc., was elected as Vice-Chair.

The Pennsylvania SIC is also pleased to announce the hiring of Doty McDowell as the new Director of Outreach and Development. Doty spent many years with the Pennsylvania Game Commission and more recently worked with the Keystone Elk Country Alliance. In his new role with the Pennsylvania SIC, Doty will be helping to spread the word about the importance of SFI and the Pennsylvania Implementation Committee and will be coordinating our outreach efforts.

For more information about the PA SFI Implementation Committee, visit their website at [www.sfiopfa.org](http://www.sfiopfa.org) or call 888-734-9366.

## PFA News: A Banquet, a Conference, and the Upcoming 2023 Timber Show

By Randy White, Pennsylvania Forestry Association President

The Pennsylvania Forestry Association (PFA) held its annual Conservation Banquet fundraiser on March 4 at the Ramada Inn in State College, and it was a great success. We had high quality live and silent auction items and provided a live band for entertainment while raising vital funds for PFA to further our sustainable forestry conservation education. Tickets for this year's event sold out very early so mark your calendars now for next year's event on March 2, 2024.

PFA was proud to be a Stewardship sponsor at the Forest Landowners Conference, and there were many members in attendance. The opportunities to receive instruction and interact with professionals on such a variety of forestry-related topics is unparalleled. The James C Finley Center for Private Forests and its staff did a great job. Congratulations!

PFA will continue our participation in the PA Timber Show 2023 June 9-10 at

Penn State's Russell E. Larson Agricultural Research Center in Pennsylvania Furnace, PA (the site of Ag Progress Days), as well as being an educational sponsor. It is important that we support the timber and lumber manufacturing industry to maintain markets for Pennsylvania's high quality hardwoods. If you would like to assist at the booth, please contact our office at 800-835-8065 or email us at [thePFA@paforestry.org](mailto:thePFA@paforestry.org).

For more information about PFA, visit their website at [www.paforestry.org](http://www.paforestry.org) or call 800-835-8065.

*Top photo: The house was full at PFA's annual Conservation Banquet fundraiser March 4. Bottom photo: PFA staffers shared resources and conversation with many of the over 430 attendees at the 5<sup>th</sup> Biennial Forest Landowners Conference in March.*



## Tree-of-heaven, continued from page 3

There are many effective herbicides available for use on tree-of-heaven. Herbicides applied to foliage, bark, or cuts on the stem are effective at controlling tree-of-heaven. Cut stump herbicide applications do not prevent root suckering and should not be utilized.

Foliar herbicide sprays are used where tree height and distribution allow effective coverage without unacceptable contact with nearby desirable plants. Treatments are applied in mid- to late growing season with equipment ranging from high-volume truck-mounted sprayers to low-volume backpack sprayers.

For dense or extensive infestations, treat initially with a foliar application to eliminate the small, low growth. Then follow up with a bark or hack-and-squirt application on the remaining larger stems.

Basal bark applications provide a target-specific method for treating tree-of-heaven that are generally less than 6 inches in basal diameter. Using a low-volume backpack sprayer, a concentrated

mixture of herbicide containing the ester formulation of triclopyr in oil is applied from the ground line to a height of 12 to 18 inches, completely around the stem. To maximize translocation to the roots, apply herbicides from mid- to late summer.

Hack-and-squirt herbicide applications are highly selective with a concentrated herbicide solution applied to downward-angled cuts in the stem. For effective hack-and-squirt applications, apply to cuts spaced evenly around the stem. Leaving uncut living tissue between the hacks allows the herbicide to move to the roots. Again, apply in mid- to late summer.

Well-established tree-of-heaven stands are only eliminated through repeated efforts and monitoring. Initial treatments often only reduce the root systems, making follow-up measures necessary. Persistence is the key to success.

*Excerpts from Tree-of-heaven Invasive Weeds Fact Sheet, Penn State Extension. Full article at [extension.psu.edu/tree-of-heaven](https://extension.psu.edu/tree-of-heaven).*

## Invasive Weeds Fact Sheet Series Links

For information on controlling other common invasive plants found in Pennsylvania's woodlands, Penn State Extension offers the fact sheets below:

Autumn Olive: [extension.psu.edu/autumn-olive](https://extension.psu.edu/autumn-olive)

Buckthorn: [extension.psu.edu/buckthorn](https://extension.psu.edu/buckthorn)

Burning Bush: [extension.psu.edu/burning-bush](https://extension.psu.edu/burning-bush)

Callery Pear: [extension.psu.edu/callery-pear](https://extension.psu.edu/callery-pear)

Garlic Mustard: [extension.psu.edu/garlic-mustard](https://extension.psu.edu/garlic-mustard)

Japanese Barberry: [extension.psu.edu/japanese-barberry](https://extension.psu.edu/japanese-barberry)

Japanese Knotweed: [extension.psu.edu/japanese-knotweed](https://extension.psu.edu/japanese-knotweed)

Japanese Stiltgrass: [extension.psu.edu/japanese-stiltgrass](https://extension.psu.edu/japanese-stiltgrass)

Mile-a-Minute: [extension.psu.edu/mile-a-minute](https://extension.psu.edu/mile-a-minute)

Multiflora Rose: [extension.psu.edu/multiflora-rose](https://extension.psu.edu/multiflora-rose)

Oriental Bittersweet: [extension.psu.edu/oriental-bittersweet](https://extension.psu.edu/oriental-bittersweet)

Privet: [extension.psu.edu/privet](https://extension.psu.edu/privet)

Shrub Honeysuckles: [extension.psu.edu/shrub-honeysuckles](https://extension.psu.edu/shrub-honeysuckles)

## Pennsylvania Tree Farm News

By Susan Benedict, PA Tree Farm Committee Chair

Things are changing fast for the Pennsylvania Tree Farm Committee. In January, the American Tree Farm System (ATFS) announced a change in strategy to emphasize climate change solutions through forest stewardship. I was excited to see this strategy change, as it aligned perfectly with an idea Nancy Baker, Tree Farmer and Chair of the PA Forest Stewards Steering Committee, and I had been discussing to revamp the PA Tree Farm program to focus on improving and recognizing good forest stewardship, as we take the program from certification to recognition.

Nancy and I recently “met” with Kyle Brown, our regional ATFS representative and Jasmine Brown of the Family Forest Carbon Project via Zoom to discuss our new PA Tree Farm program ideas and received the enthusiastic encouragement to pursue them.

By the time you are reading this, we hope to have had a meeting with several key PA forestry leaders in government, academia, and industry to lay out our ideas and seek statewide agency support. Hopefully, we will have had a Tree Farm Committee meeting to discuss it with the whole committee as well. We believe that developing a program as we have envisioned could transform how we engage

forest landowners across the entire state of Pennsylvania. Hold on—I heard that eyeroll—yes, we have tried new programs before and failed. What has been missing from past efforts, in our opinion, is asking landowners what they want to improve about their land and then actively connecting them with resources to accomplish these goals. To do as we envision, every single one of us will have a role to play. Landowners will need to identify improvements they would like to make as part of a forest management plan of some sort. Agency partners will need to have their programs ready to go for landowners



Susan Benedict,  
Tree Farm Committee Chair

seeking support, and landowner peers will need to help their friends and neighbors identify programs and resources to accomplish their goals. Industry partners will need to help us identify where and how to implement exceptional harvest practices to achieve landowner goals while producing adequate forest products to market.

This is truly a program on a scale not imagined before and will take time to design and implement. We ask for patience as we work toward excellence for Pennsylvania's forests. While waiting for program updates, it is never too late to begin thinking about your forest and how you would like to make it better. Write your ideas down, contact your consulting forester, if you have one, and/or your DCNR Bureau of Forestry service forester and discuss your ideas with these professionals. That way, when we get the new program together, you will be ready to go. As always, there is information on the PFA website at [paforestry.org](https://paforestry.org) to help you find forestry professionals—and other cool stuff too.

For more information about the PA Tree Farm program, visit their webpage at [www.paforestry.org/treefarm](https://www.paforestry.org/treefarm).

# At the Center: Looking Back at the 2023 Forest Landowners Conference

By Allyson Muth, James C. Finley Center for Private Forests Director

After a four-year hiatus, instead of the usual two, the 2023 Forest Landowners Conference returned to great success. For two days in March, over 430 forest landowners, natural resources professionals, and others interested in forest stewardship came together to learn, network, get help with questions, and build the community of people who care about the woods.

With a day and a half of presentations, plus tours and workshops, keynote speakers, and access to professionals who could provide advice and technical services, the goals of the conference were to inform, educate, and connect. Based on evaluations, we more than met those goals.

On Friday morning, over 140 participants took part in pre-conference in-depth field tours and workshops. Field trips to the Penn State Deer Research Center and a winter tree identification session were well-attended, with many others taking trips to learn about biochar application,



## THE JAMES C. FINLEY CENTER FOR PRIVATE FORESTS

woods safety, and timber harvesting aesthetics. Back at the conference venue, other participants spent time in workshops around wood identification, things landowners should know about carbon and carbon contracts, and conservation-based estate planning.

Dr. Jennie Stephens, Executive Director of the Center for Heirs' Property Preservation, opened the conference on Friday with a keynote on the work of her Center and the challenges of management and legacy planning on properties without clear title. Akiva Silver, author and tree farm operator, closed out the conference on Saturday afternoon with a talk about his approach to stewarding and improving a property in western New York. On Friday night, almost 200 conference participants joined Scott Weidensaul, ornithologist and author, for a banquet and keynote about birds, bird habitat, and challenges to their systems as caused by human impacts on the land.

*Clockwise from top right: The popular winter tree ID field tour drew 25 participants; a Saturday morning presentation on habitat management projects for small woodlots was a favorite; landowners found conversation and resources at the 34 exhibits in Exhibit Hall; opening keynote speaker Jennie Stephens shared about the challenges of managing properties without clear title.*

Between keynotes, participants had their choices of 74 different presentations to attend to learn more about the various topics that most captured their interests and needs. Popular talks included autumn olive, forest forensics, pollinator plantings, restoring degraded forests, wildlife habitat, cost share assistance programs, surveying, forest resilience, and many more. And once attendees had learned about a new idea or resource in a learning session, they could then go to the exhibit hall to find someone from the 34 exhibitors present to help them make those things happen.

We are so grateful for all the partners who made this event successful for so many—from the presenters sharing their expertise, the planning committee helping to structure the event to be most useful, the exhibitors sharing their resources to assist woodland owners, to the 34 sponsors who shared resources to reduce costs for attendees. We couldn't have made this event happen without you!

Thank you to all who joined us, and we hope to see you in two years' time at the 6<sup>th</sup> Biennial Forest Landowners Conference.

To find out more about the Finley Center, visit our website at [ecosystems.psu.edu/private-forests](https://ecosystems.psu.edu/private-forests).





## Upcoming PA Forests Webinars



### PA FORESTS WEB SEMINAR CENTER

<https://extension.psu.edu/pennsylvania-forest-online-seminar-series-to-begin-september-13-2022>

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.

### Upcoming webinar topics:

**June 13:** Wildlife Adaptations  
July-August: No webinar  
(Webinars will resume in September)

## FOREST LEAVES Spring 2023

### Editors:

Allyson Brownlee Muth  
Jeff Osborne  
Barb Sellers

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

September 15, 2023

### 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](http://www.dcnr.pa.gov/about/Pages/Forestry.aspx)
- **The PA Tree Farm® Program**  
[www.paforestry.org/treefarm](http://www.paforestry.org/treefarm)
- **The PA Forestry Association**  
[www.paforestry.org](http://www.paforestry.org)
- **The PA SFI Implementation Committee**  
[www.sfiopa.org](http://www.sfiopa.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](http://ecosystems.psu.edu/research/centers/private-forests)
- **Penn State Extension**  
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## 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 want to check out any of these articles, it's easy! Go to <https://extension.psu.edu> and type the article title in the search bar.

### Two New Educators Join Forestry and Wildlife Team

The Forestry and Wildlife Team welcomes new Extension Educators, Mike Powell of Lycoming County and Cathryn Pugh of Centre County.

### A Sign of Spring

With the return of Spring, wildlife and human interaction increases.

### Ramps (*Allium tricoccum*): Factsheet

A ramp or wild leek (*Allium tricoccum*) is an edible wild onion found across the eastern and midwestern United States. This article describes ramp biology and ecology (habitat).

### How Growth Form Affects Invasive Plant Management

Learn how the different growth forms of target plants affect management strategies and timing.

### Inspiring Future Forest Stewards

The Future Forest Steward Program, designed for youth ages 8-13, broadens understanding about forest stewardship. It inspires youth and adults involved to adopt a stewardship ethic.

### Understanding Prion Diseases

This article explains what prion diseases like chronic wasting disease (CWD),

bovine spongiform encephalopathy (BSE), and Creutzfeldt-Jakob disease (CJD) are. People can find understanding these fatal neurological diseases difficult to grasp.

### What Exactly Are Growth Rings?

This article will explain how growth rings are formed in trees and what they can tell us about the tree.

### A Heart for His Forestland: Profile of a Forest Steward

Forest landowners are inspired by others who exemplify stewardship and care for their land. This profile features Glenn Early's interests and management on his 33 acres of forest.

### Protected Species in Pennsylvania: Allegheny Woodrat

This article describes possible reasons why the Allegheny Woodrat is declining and what actions are being taken to support the species.

### Pennsylvania Timber Market Report, Fourth Quarter, 2022

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

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/forestry-team-sign-up>), and select any of the "Forest and Wildlife" topic areas of interest.

## Forest Leaves

c/o The James C. Finley Center for Private Forests  
Department of Ecosystem Sciences and Management  
The Pennsylvania State University  
416 Forest Resources Building  
University Park, PA 16802

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## Spring 2023

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

NEXT DEADLINE:  
September 15, 2023

## Forest Leaves Calendar of Events

As more woodlands-related events are being scheduled across the state, we are bringing back the *Forest Leaves* Calendar of Events. For the most up-to-date listing, visit [ecosystems.psu.edu/research/centers/private-forests/events](https://ecosystems.psu.edu/research/centers/private-forests/events).

**Sunday, May 21.** Raising Native Bees at Seasons View Farm, 11 AM - 2 PM. 203 Detwiler Rd, Mansfield, PA 16933. Tioga County Woodland Owners Association: [www.tcwoa.org](http://www.tcwoa.org).

**Saturday, June 3.** State Game Lands #44 (Gamelands near Ridgway) Tour, 1 - 4 PM. Pollinator and young forest habitat. North Central Forest Landowners Association: [ncfla2.wixsite.com/website](http://ncfla2.wixsite.com/website).

**Saturday, June 3.** Woods Walk for the Wonders of Bedford County, 9 AM - 12 PM. 8621 Black Valley Rd, Everett, PA 15537. Woodland Owners of the Southern Alleghenies: [www.thewosa.org](http://www.thewosa.org).

**Friday-Saturday, June 9-10.** Pennsylvania's Forest Products Equipment and Technology Exposition (Pennsylvania Timber Show), Fri 8 AM - 4 PM, Sat 8 AM - 3 PM. Russell E. Larson Agricultural Research Center, 2710 W Pine Grove Rd, Pennsylvania Furnace, PA 16865. [agsci.psu.edu/timber](http://agsci.psu.edu/timber).

**Saturday, June 10.** Identifying and Treating Invasive Plant Species, 8 - 11 AM. 11920 State Hwy 198, Guy Mills, PA 16327. Northwest PA Woodland Association: [www.facebook.com/NWPAWoods](https://www.facebook.com/NWPAWoods).

**Wednesday, June 14.** Habitat Development and Maintenance both Large and Small, 1 - 4 PM. 212 Birch Rd West Finley, PA 15377. Southwestern PA Woodland Owners: [swpwopa.com](http://swpwopa.com).

**Thursday, July 13.** Federal, County, and State Cost Share Programs, 6 PM. Washington County Conservation District Office, 50 Old Hickory Ridge Rd, Washington, PA 15301. Southwestern PA Woodland Owners: [swpwopa.com](http://swpwopa.com).

**Saturday, July 15.** Tree Farm Tour (follow-up to July 13 event listed above—directions to be provided at that event), 12 - 4 PM. Southwestern PA Woodland Owners: [swpwopa.com](http://swpwopa.com).

**Saturday, September 16.** The Art of Pennsylvania Woods in a Gallery and in Penn's Woods, 10AM - 4 PM. Meet at World West Galleries, 56 N Main St, Washington, PA 15301. Southwestern PA Woodland Owners: [swpwopa.com](http://swpwopa.com).

If you have an event to share, send your information to Jeff Osborne at [jao5194@psu.edu](mailto:jao5194@psu.edu). Events will be posted on the James C. Finley Center for Private Forests online events listing and shared with our *Forest Leaves* readers.