

Massachusetts Forest Update September 2016

Sign up by September 14th for 2016 Tree Farm Field Day at Flat Brook Tree Farm in Ware

You still have time to sign up for the 2016 Tree Farm Field Day!

The 2016 Massachusetts Tree Farm Field Day will be held at Byron & Nancy Stutzman's Flat Brook Tree Farm in Ware on Saturday, September 17th, from 9 am to 4 pm.

The Stutzman's beautiful 540 acre property includes a wide variety of habitats and forest types. A morning tour led by Byron Stutzman and forester Scott Gerrish will show how they have managed the woodlands in recent years to remove lower quality trees to promote regeneration and diversify wildlife habitats. They have also done extensive work to reduce populations of invasive plants and clean up environmental damage from a prior owner.

There will be wagons to ride on during the tour over the Tree Farm's extensive road network.

To learn more, see www.massforestalliance.org

MassWildlife to Hold Habitat Tours in September & October

MassWildlife Ecologists and Foresters will lead a series of habitat site walks on state lands to highlight active habitat management projects in recent years.

These management projects and others scheduled for the future are aimed at improving habitat for rare and declining animals and plants along with game animals. These walks allow the public to learn about the management being done on state lands, to learn why different management practices are chosen, and to understand the resulting impacts on wildlife. Landowners interested in managing their property for wildlife may find these habitat walks particularly useful.

To learn more, see www.massforestalliance.org

Massachusetts Town Forest Conference in North Brookfield September 25th

The 2016 Massachusetts Town Forest Conference will be held at the North Brookfield Elementary School in North Brookfield on Sunday, September 25th, from 9 am to 4 pm.

Engaging speakers will present a local historical perspective on forests and farms; including examples of successful town forest projects in North Brookfield.

Stephen Long, author of *Thirty Eight: the Hurricane that Transformed New England*, will discuss the changes in local forests due to the hurricane. Ed Lonergan will give a second presentation on the history of North Brookfield's Quaboag Plantation.

To learn more, see www.massforestalliance.org

SAF Oak Regeneration Workshop on September 29th

The Massachusetts Chapter of the New England SAF will hold an *Oak Regeneration following Group Selection and Patch Cutting: Mixed Success in Different Forest Types* silvicultural workshop to discuss different strategies available to land managers on Thursday, September 29th, from 1 to 6:30 pm in New Salem, MA.

The workshop will examine two adjacent stands where essentially the same treatment was employed at the same time, by the same operator, and subject to the same deer browse, yet resulted in dramatically different regeneration.

To learn more, see www.massforestalliance.org

Chapter 61A Applications Due October 1st

Landowners who want to put land under or keep land under Chapter 61A must complete and file the required paperwork with the local Board of Assessors prior to October 1 in order to maintain your Chapter 61A status.

The forms required are:

Property owners acknowledgement of rights and obligations:
<http://www.mass.gov/dor/docs/dls/mflb/forms/cl161a-ack.pdf>

And the Application:
<http://www.mass.gov/dor/docs/dls/mflb/forms/cl1.pdf>

Gypsy Moth Defoliation hits 350,000 Acres – Worst Since 1981

Aerial mapping by the Department of Conservation & Recreation has shown that 352,774 acres of woodlands were defoliated by gypsy moth feeding this year – the largest outbreak since 1981. In 2015, gypsy moths defoliated just 38,000 acres. Defoliation was widespread in some areas of Cape Cod and eastern Hampden and southern Worcester counties, with the moths stripping oaks, maples, apples, birches and other hardwoods, and even softwoods such as spruce and pine of their leaves and needles.

To learn more, see www.massforestalliance.org

Foresters Council Meeting & Workshop October 19th

The Massachusetts Foresters Council will hold its fall meeting and programs on October 19th from 1 to 7 pm at the Mass Wildlife Field Headquarters in Westborough.

The program will include presentations on Big BAF double point sampling, Mass Wildlife's Young Forests Initiative, and the Northern long-eared bat.

More information will be posted after arrangements are finalized.

MFA Forest Update: Now accepting adds, both graphic and text based!

Upcoming in September and October

- September 13 -16 Hardwood Lumber Grading Short Course -- Pennsylvania
- September 15 Project Learning Tree workshop – Canton
- September 17 Tree Farm Field Day -- Ware
- September 17 Project Learning Tree workshop – Sutton
- September 20 Western Mass Tree Wardens meeting -- Northampton
- September 22 Massachusetts Clean Energy Conference – Worcester
- “ Mass Wildlife Habitat Site Walk -- Southwick
- September 25 Massachusetts Town Forest Conference – North Brookfield
- September 29 Oak Regeneration Workshop – New Salem

- September 29 Mass Wildlife Habitat Site Walk – Montague
 “ Habitat Management on Montague Plain talk – Turners Falls
- September 30 Walnut Hill Woods Hike – Buckland
- October 4 Mohawk Trail Woodlands Partnership – Charlemont
- October 5 Map Your Land & other Tools for Landowners – webinar
- October 6 Mass Wildlife Habitat Site Walk – Hardwick
- October 13 Mass Wildlife Habitat Site Walk – Mashpee
 “ Mass Wildlife Habitat Site Walk – Falmouth
- October 14 – 15 Tree Steward Training -- Petersham
- October 15 From Woods to Home tour -- Gill
 “ Moose in Massachusetts – Turners Falls
 “ Farm Tractors in Forestry workshop – Bridgewater, NH
- October 19 Mass Foresters Council Meeting – Westborough
- October 29 Managing Mass Forests Conference -- Holyoke

For information about these events, and more, go to www.massforestalliance.org