



NEW YORK STATE TREE FARM PROGRAM NEWS & NOTES

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Cashin Tree Farm

By Nathan Piché

It often seems as though the least productive forestland is managed and the most productive goes untouched. The last timber I sold was off a relatively unproductive site on the Helderberg Escarpment in Albany County where the soil was shallow and rocky with frequent rock outcroppings. Yet I manage a far more productive property just twelve miles to the east and federal cost share funds are necessary to do a thinning because selling the trees to be thinned proved to be unfeasible. Why is this? Logic would suggest that the most productive sites should be managed because they have the greatest potential to provide the quickest return on investment. However, on the most productive sites not only do trees grow well, but everything else does too. This means that these sites are often dense with vines, shrubs and other herbaceous plants, many of which are invasive, adding to the management complexity and investment required to manage the site. The secondary reason is the timber market. The market is highly motivated



Above: Photo of a northern hardwood stand on the Cashin Tree Farm. Notice it's a quagmire of invasive shrubs, vines and herbaceous plants.



This is a photo from the same northern hardwood stand. In this area the invasive shrubs have been removed, the low quality growing stock have been cut and Norway spruce seedlings have been planted. Planting on a site such as this ensures regeneration success. Without planting, invasives would likely re-populate the area, shading out any seedlings present on site and hindering their ability to advance past the seedlings stage.

by hardwood sawtimber. Many of these productive sites, particularly in the Mohawk and Hudson valleys, are growing white pine, which is generally of low quality due to the white pine weevil. If these sites are not within reasonable distance of a pulp mill, then they generally go unmanaged because the raw wood product to be produced

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Notes from the Chair

By Christopher Prentis, CF

I hope the summer is treating everyone well and that everyone is getting out to enjoy their Tree Farms during this time of the year. Since the last newsletter we held our Tree Farm Day on June 2nd in Morrisville. We had about 70 attendees, sponsors and vendors, so overall the day

was a success. The day included a variety of presentations and talks as well as a woods walk. A fun and informative day was had by all. A very special thank you to SUNY Morrisville for hosting and to Walt Friebe for putting together a great

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High Visibility for NYS Tree Farm: New Sign on US Route 15

By Edward Piestrak

About 20 years ago, I attended a woodwalk in Pennsylvania and encountered an interesting situation. It appears that the Pennsylvania tree farm organization supplied about eight large tree farm signs (8ft x 8ft) to tree farmers that were located bordering an interstate, or heavily utilized highways. It was a way to promote tree farm and get the general public aware that tree farm was a worthwhile program. This particular woods bordered Interstate 81 and the land owner was given a sign to install along the roadway to be observed from the highway. The sign was quite large and heavy. The landowner related it was quite difficult to install, but finally were successful with the install.

About 10 years ago I passed the sign and was impressed by it. After discussing the sign with my adult children, they

surprised me one father's day with the gift of the sign. We had a place to install it along future interstate 99 (present route 15) from Williamsport PA to Corning NY, just over the Pennsylvania border into New York. Our land borders the interstate and on the opposite side from our property a NY welcome center is in the planning stage. Thus, the sign can be very visible for people passing by or stopping for a rest and refreshments.

The construction of the frame work was quite intensive and when my son Jeffrey builds anything, it will last for generations. (See construction photo and material list). We have received many comments from people on the sign and a very good advertisement for tree farms.

We keep the area around the sign well-manicured on a regular basis. In June, I passed by the tree farm sign in

Pennsylvania along interstate 81 and the trees and brush have grown in front of the sign, hereby one could not see the sign. Hopefully the landowner will read this note and clear the path to the sign.

Materials list

- (2) 6x6x20 pressure treated lumber
- (3) 4x4x8 pressure treated lumber
- (15) 5/4 decking boards pressure treated lumber
- (4) 2x6x16 lumber
- (14) 80lb quickrete concrete mix
- (2) gallons white paint
- Various screws and nails
- 8x8x.080 aluminum sign



NY Tree Farm Woodswalk September 8

Property of Daniel Newman,
Newman Forest & Wildlife Management LLC
100 Sugar Bush Road, Windsor, NY 13865

PROGRAM THEME: YOU & YOUR FOREST'S HEALTH

- 8:30-9:00 am** Arrival & Sign In, Refreshments, info tables & Door prize tickets
- 9:00-9:10 am** Overview of morning woodswalk sessions
- 9:10-10:35 am** During forest work/ Before a harvest:
Bat's Healthy Forest Environment
*Robyn A. Niver, Endangered Species Specialist,
U.S Fish & Wildlife Service -
NY Field Office Cortland*
- 10:35-noon** Ginseng & Mushrooms:
Forest Foods for Fun, Health & Profit
*Anna Platner & Justin Wexler, Agroforestry
Educators, Catskill*
- 12-12:30 pm** Lunch
- 12:30-12:40 pm** Overview of afternoon woodswalk session
- 12:40-2:00 pm** American Chestnut:
The Problem, The Solution & Your Forest"
*Allen Nichols, President & District 4 Director
- NY Chapter of the American Chestnut
Foundation*
- 2:00 pm** Collect Door Prizes & Have a safe trip Home

Contact Dan Newman with questions:
(607) 655-1411, newmanforestwildlife@live.com

Photos from June Tree Farm Day at SUNY Morrisville

By Kaylee Resha, National Wild Turkey Federation



Other upcoming educational program:s

Game of Logging Level 1 - August 27, 2018

Time: 8am-4pm w/lunch break (lunch not included)

Cost: \$25

Location: Orange County. 5 Pleasant Hill Rd Cornwall, NY 10953
(Black Rock Fish & Game Club)

Register: Chainsawsafety@bassett.org or 800-343-7527

Upon registration, a confirmation letter with all info needed, as well as the invoice for the cost will be sent to the participate.

Woods Forum - Thursday September 6, 2018

Time: 1:00 – 3:30 PM

Location: CCE of Orange County Education Center & 4-H Park
300 Finchville Turnpike, Otisville, NY



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program and day.
As I fly back from a family vacation in Europe I was reminded of one of the sides of the Tree Farm sign....

Wood. Why would I be reminded of wood while on a plane you ask? Well, on transcontinental flights passengers are usually given a small toiletry kit with some person items in them such as a toothbrush, toothpaste, pen, etc. Usually these items are made of plastic so you could imagine my surprise to

find a wooden toothbrush and comb as well as a pen made of cardboard. It is good to see that renewable materials are being used for these type of one time use items. This is just another way that our world is changing the way we use day to day items. Who knows, maybe someday wood from your Tree Farm will end up 35,000 feet in the air flying over the Atlantic Ocean!

Welcome Aaron Earl from Veritas Forestry in Lafayette, NY – the new area chair for Region 8, including Tompkins, Cortland, Cayuga, Onondaga, and Oswego Counties.

As the summer comes to a close here are some dates to put in your calendar:

August 19-21 NY Woodsmen Days in Boonville. Last year 50,000 people attended over the course of the weekend. Go to meet new people, see some pretty impressive (and expensive) logging equipment and just have a good time.

September 8 Woods walk hosted by Area #9 Chairperson Daniel Newman in Windsor (Broome County). Topics to include wildlife management and restoring American chestnut.



NYS Tree Farm Program
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Salem, NY 12865

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PLEASE SHARE YOUR EMAIL ADDRESS – Send to nytreefarm@gmail.com

Regular updates (like this newsletter) about the Tree Farm Program in New York State are sent via email throughout the year. Don't miss receiving important information about your Tree Farm. If you are no longer interested in the Tree Farm Program, please let us know that as well.

Cashin Tree Farm: continued from page 1

through management does not have a market. These are the challenges that our most productive properties face. So, I am always pleased when I meet someone willing to take on those challenges!

In the winter I do a fair amount of cross country skiing. It's excellent exercise, it's another way to enjoy the great outdoors and I often meet like-minded people while skiing. One brilliant, sunny winters day skiing in the Adirondacks I met John Cashin. John owns a farm in Montgomery County, directly south of the Mohawk River. Like many parcels in the Mohawk Valley, it's a highly productive site with a multitude of management issues such as invasive

species, Dutch elm disease, emerald ash borer, white pine weevil and beech bark disease. John has a background in forestry and is determined to improve the health and quality of his forestland. He has done improvement cutting, mowed invasives and planted seedlings. However, one man can only cover so much ground. Realizing that he couldn't do all the management tasks alone, John applied for federal cost share funds to be a catalyst. When I introduced myself as a forester while skiing, John decided to employ my services.

Over the next few months we developed a management plan that identified forest health issues and explained how

best to tackle these issues. Removing invasives, improvement cutting and planting seedlings with a high likelihood of success, such as Norway spruce, is the overarching theme of the plan.

Tree farm recognition was the next step as it provides a symbol of sound forest management. John displays the tree farm sign proudly in front of his farm, showing friends and neighbors that despite many forest health issues he continues to strive for the betterment of his forest resource.

Nathan is a consulting forester for New England Forestry Consultants, Inc. and works out of his home in Hoosick Falls, NY. Nathan also serves as NY Tree Farm's Area 3 Chair, covering Albany, Columbia, Greene, Rensselaer and Schenectady Counties.