



Forestry News You Can Use

November 2016

produced for the PFA by Versant Strategies

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PFA EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE AND PA TREE FARM COMMITTEE MEET

Following up on the decision in late September by the PFA Board to respond positively to the request from the PTFC for PFA to become the administrative home of the Tree Farm Program, a joint meeting of representatives of the two entities was held in October. The following actions were taken:

- 1) PFA has requested Versant Strategies to handle the day to day activities of the Tree Farm Program.
- 2) Training on the Tree Farm database was conducted by the staff of the American Forest Foundation for the staff of Versant Strategies.
- 3) The Tree Farm account will be closed and the remaining amount in that account will be transferred to PFA for custodianship and for financial support of the program during the 2016 program year.
- 4) A series of joint communications from PFA and PTFC will be sent to current Tree Farmers informing them of the change and what it means for the future of the program.
- 5) The PFA Executive Committee members and the Tree Farm Program leadership will meet frequently for the first year to further coordinate the joint efforts to assure an orderly transition.
- 6) The Tree Farm Committee will become a PFA Standing Committee.
- 7) Tree Farm members will begin receiving *Pennsylvania Forests* magazine and the monthly electronic newsletter beginning in 2017. Tree farmers are encouraged to provide their email addresses to PFA at their earliest convenience.
- 8) Both PFA and PTFC are excited about the opportunity to move the Tree Farm program ahead in Pennsylvania in concert with the new national initiative to accelerate certification of Pennsylvania Tree Farms.

- 9) All future contacts by phone or email regarding the Tree Farm Program should be sent to the following address and phone number: 116 Pine Street, 5th Floor, Harrisburg, PA 17101 thepfa@paforestry.org, 1-800-835-8065 or 717-234-2500.

PENNSYLVANIA FOREST HERITAGE ASSOCIATION TO CONDUCT ANNUAL MEETING

The Pennsylvania Forest Heritage Association (formerly the Pennsylvania Forest Fire Museum Association) will conduct its Annual Meeting of Members on Saturday, November 12th at Caledonia State Park in Franklin County. Contact Paul Sebasovich for details at 717-215-8359.

PA GREEN RIBBON TASK FORCE REPORT ON FOREST PRODUCTS, CONSERVATION AND JOBS (contributed by Paul Lyskava, PFPA)

The Pennsylvania Green Ribbon Task Force was put together by DCNR Secretary Cindy Adams Dunn with the blessing of Governor Tom Wolf. The 36 member task force team was assembled with members from the forest products industry, academia, nonprofits, and government agencies. PFPA staff was part of this Green Ribbon Task Force, which met January through June. The task force report was released this week at the Governor's residence. Most of the recommendations will need added money or legislation.

The top five forest conservation sustainability recommendations:

- 1) Adopt a statewide forest conservation easement to conserve privately owned forestland while preserving access for sustainable timbering and other forest-dependent activities that support good jobs.
- 2) Establish a carbon offset program to attract a pool of voluntary contributions to finance forest conservation.
- 3) Revise the current state Clean and Green Program and the current Payment in Lieu of Taxes (PILT) program to better support forest communities and ensure forest is compatible with other needs.
- 4) Provide additional funding to combat invasive plant and pest damage and adopt a plant labeling program to ensure that consumers don't inadvertently contribute to the spread of invasive species.
- 5) Adopt legislation and identify funding to enable DCNR to assist the US Forest Service in increasing management activities on the Allegheny National Forest (ANF).

The top five workforce development and jobs recommendations:

- 1) Adopt legislation to exempt loggers from PennDOT roadbonding requirements, age-related workplace restrictions, and other benefits available to those in the traditional agriculture industry.

- 2) Expand safety and other training to encourage insurance companies to lower worker's compensation rates for forest industry workers, or find workable models that could be used in Pennsylvania.
- 3) Broaden recruitment efforts to attract students already interested in technology, machinery, other in-demand occupations and forestry careers.
- 4) Develop more formal and informal pipelines between industry and schools through internship, apprenticeships, and industry partnerships.
- 5) Broaden discussion and the inclusion of forestry and forest occupations in formal and informal K-12 education, including FFA, 4-H, Envirothon, Boy and Girls Scouts and children's literature.

The top economic development and products recommendations:

- 1) Increase sustainable staff and funding for the Hardwood Development Council to expand its work on many of the recommendations included here.
- 2) Create a PA Hardwood Stands for Quality slogan and marketing campaign to promote Pennsylvania hardwoods.
- 3) Conduct forest tours and develop demonstration areas to showcase best practices in forest management on federal, state and private forestland.
- 4) Conduct a comprehensive study to quantify and document the values of Pennsylvania forests.
- 5) Expand public awareness and education efforts to promote the importance of forests to clean water.

THREE FORESTRY JOB OPENINGS AT GLATFELTER

The Glatfelter Paper Company is seeking qualified applicants for three forestry positions. Please click on the links (Titles) for each position for full details on duties, responsibilities, requirements, qualifications and on line application.

[Area Forester - Spring Grove](#)

To assist the Logistics & Woodland Operations Manager in the management of procurement related activities associated with the Spring Grove Haul Truck system. The successful applicant will be responsible for working with the team to maximize efficiency, increasing effectiveness and reducing overall risk in the handling of pulpwood from stump to mill. This role will work with all logistics suppliers of pulpwood, and will focus on deliveries to the mill through the Spring Grove Haul Truck system and partner hauling contractors. This role will work closely with procurement foresters, loggers, road builders, and business leaders to maximize effectiveness.

[Eastern Shore District Manager](#)

The Eastern Shore District Manager is responsible for all aspects of the Eastern Shore operations. Responsibilities include safety programs, timber procurement, chipping operations and management of internal and external suppliers. This role is tasked with leading the team to meet company goals of safety, profit, capital management and human capital.

[Area Forester - Eastern Shore District](#)

The Eastern Shore Area Forester is responsible for timber procurement, and forest operations coordination. This role will work closely with The Eastern Shore District team to procure timber, manage the timber harvesters, and coordinate with internal operations to meet company goals of safety, profit, capital management and efficiency.

IN CELEBRATION OF HALLOWEEN – NATIONAL BAT WEEK

New Jersey celebrated National Bat Week October 24 – 31 with a podcast by Division of Fish and Wildlife biologist Mackenzie Hall, leader of bat projects, who discusses the value of bats. You can check out her podcast at www.nj.gov/dep/podcast/.

REGULATORY NEWS

[GAME COMMISSION: PROPOSED RULEMAKING: PRELIMINARY PROVISIONS; REPLACEMENT COSTS FOR WILDLIFE KILLED](#)

The Game Commission proposed at its September 19 meeting to amend §131.8 (relating to replacement costs for wildlife killed) to increase replacement costs for osprey from \$200 to \$2,500. Comments should be submitted by January 27, 2017, to Director, Information and Education, Game Commission, 2001 Elmerton Avenue, Harrisburg, PA 17110-9797.

[GAME COMMISSION: PROPOSED RULEMAKING: WILDLIFE CLASSIFICATION; BIRDS](#)

The Game Commission proposed at its September 19 meeting to amend §133.21 (relating to classification of birds) to remove the osprey from the Commonwealth's list of threatened and endangered birds. Comments should be submitted by January 27, 2017, to Director, Information and Education, Game Commission, 2001 Elmerton Avenue, Harrisburg, PA 17110-9797.

Articles of Interest

Following are articles specific to your interests:

Products and Wood Energy Markets

WASHINGTON, Oct. 19, 2016 — Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack today announced that the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) will invest up to \$7 million in grants for projects designed to expand wood products and wood energy markets that support sustainable forest management, especially in areas with high wildfire risks. These grants are available through the U.S. Forest Service's Wood Innovations Program.

Promotion of wood products is one of the ten "building blocks" in USDA's [Building Blocks for Climate Smart Agriculture and Forestry](#), the Department's framework for helping farmers, ranchers, and forestland owners respond to climate change. Through this initiative, USDA is committing to reducing greenhouse gas emissions and increasing carbon stored in forests and soils by over 120 million metric tons of carbon dioxide equivalent per year by 2025. That amount is equivalent of taking 25 million cars off the road, or offsetting the emissions produced by powering nearly 11 million homes.

In 2017, the Wood Innovation Program will invest up to \$7 million in projects designed to have a long-term impact on National Forests and other forest lands by leveraging the market for low-value wood. Funding is available for a diverse range of activities, from facilitating the establishment of new building codes to support expanded use of wood materials to developing a cluster of wood energy projects in a geographic area. Funding may also support business planning and efforts to accelerate the manufacturing, market adoption and demonstration of innovative wood products, such as cross-laminated timber.

Since 2005, more than 240 grants have been awarded to small businesses, non-profits, Tribes, States, and local governments to improve forest health while creating jobs, renewable energy and healthy communities. Since 2013, this funding has also helped establish 22 Statewide Wood Energy Teams and six Statewide Wood Utilization Teams that collectively expand and support wood energy and wood products markets.

The deadline for proposals is Jan. 23, 2017. Information on how to apply is available on the [Wood Education and Resource Center](#) website.

10-31-2016 [**DCNR Announces Key Appointments to Forestry Districts, State Nursery Overseen...**](#)

(Press Release)

10-30-2016 [**PSU scientist offers climate change plan**](#)

HARRISBURG — Nobel Prize winner Richard Alley, Ph.D., offered a big-picture view of the impact of climate change in Pennsylvania this week. He said that while Pennsylvania's coal, oil and gas resources have historically been important sources of energy on a worldwide scale, the... - [Wilkes-Barre Citizens' Voice](#)

10-28-2016 [**DCNR Offering Series of Workshops to Aid Grant Applicants, Inform Municipal...**](#)

(Press Release)

10-28-2016 [**Mystery surrounding 26 acres of forested area chopped down in Bensalem**](#)

It's a whodunit. A previously forested area between Interstate 95 and State Road in Bensalem has been reduced to piles and piles of chopped up tree trunks, and authorities are trying to figure out who is responsible. The necessary permits were not obtained to cut down the trees on an... - [Levittown Bucks County Courier Times](#)

- 10-27-2016 **PGC: Deer on the Move, Motorists Use Caution**
(Press Release)
- 10-25-2016 **Governor Wolf Commends Task Force to Maximize Job Creation in PA Forest...**
(Press Release)
- 10-21-2016 **Tree Pittsburgh collects seed samples at Fallingwater**
Tree Pittsburgh is collecting seeds at Frank Lloyd Wright's iconic house Fallingwater in Fayette County. The native seeds collected will be taken back to Tree Pittsburgh's Heritage Nursery in Lawrenceville to be prepared for sowing. Most of the resulting seedlings will be used in forest restoration, including a portion sent back... - *Pittsburgh Tribune-Review*
- 10-20-2016 **Governor Announces Membership of the Advisory Council for Hunting, Fishing...**
(Press Release)
- 10-20-2016 **EPA Awards \$10.8M for National Environmental Education Training Program**
(Press Release)
- 10-19-2016 **Invasive ash borer decimating trees locally and in state**
It could get very scary walking through the city's parks and woodlands, a feeling that has nothing to do with clowns or next week's boo-fest, and everything to do with tiny bugs that have killed thousands of ash trees. The emerald ash borer, an Asian invasive that arrived in Pennsylvania in... - *Pittsburgh Post-Gazette*
- 10-13-2016 **DCNR Secretary, Others Rename Penn Nursery In Honor of Environmentalist Mira...**
(Press Release)
- 10-12-2016 **DCNR Secretary, Others Dedicate Former Lackawanna State Forest District in...**
(Press Release)
- 10-11-2016 **PDA: Spotted Lanternfly Quarantine Expands to Allentown, Seven Other Lehigh...**
(Press Release)

10-11-2016 **Commentary: Wilderness areas no place for bike trails**
By Kirk Johnson Many do not know that Pennsylvania has two federally designated wilderness areas, both part of the Allegheny National Forest northeast of Pittsburgh. Wilderness! The word itself entices Americans, as it speaks to our living connection with our pioneers. Wilderness areas differ from the rest of the... - *Philadelphia Inquirer*

10-11-2016 **Climate Change Blamed for Half of Increased Forest Fire Danger**
Forest fires are burning longer and stronger across the western United States, lighting up the landscape with alarming frequency. Residents are forced to flee, homes are incinerated, wildlife habitats are destroyed, lives are lost. Last year, the Forest Service spent more than half its... - *New York Times*

Questions? Contact the PA Forestry Association at thepfa@paforestry.org or 1-800-835-8065. The PA Forestry Association is located at 116 Pine Street, 5th floor, Harrisburg, PA 17101. The newsletter is produced for the PFA by Versant Strategies.