



Woodland Owner

Winter 2015 Edition
Volume 17, Issue 2

Woodland Owner
of the Year Award
2015 Celebrations!

PAGE 1

First Open Forest Day
in Nova Scotia

PAGE 3

Woodlot Management
Home Study Series

PAGE 2

Upcoming Events

PAGE 3

Woodlot Management
Mentorship Program:
Fall Update

PAGE 4

Facts about trees (forests)

PAGE 4

Nomination Form

INSERT

(902) 424-5444 or 1-866-226-7577



Martha Brown receiving the woodlot sign from Minister Delorey, from left Bill English, Minister Randy Delorey, Martha Brown, and Walter Fanning

The **Nova Scotia Woodland Owner of the Year Award** has recognized outstanding woodland stewards since 1990. The award recognizes landowners who practice sustainable stewardship of their land with the goal to encourage other woodland owners to practice sustainable forestry, and to increase public awareness of the importance of small private woodland in Nova Scotia. Martha Brown, this year's eastern winner, also took the title of the provincial woodland owner of the year. Mike Oulton and family received the title for the central region, and Norman, Gary and Brian Melanson were recognized for western region.

EASTERN AND PROVINCIAL FIELD DAY – OCTOBER 3RD

About 125 people from all walks of life attended the field day in celebration of Martha Brown's achievement.

"I feel very honored today to represent the many Nova Scotians who sustainably and productively manage their diverse, and constantly changing resource. In my previous career as a physical educator; I have been involved with many teams – as an athlete, a coach, an official, and a manager. Today, I feel like a team owner since I pay the bills and reap the profits."

- Martha Brown

Hon. Randy Delorey, local MLA, on behalf of Hon. Lloyd Hines, the Natural Resources Minister, presented the award to Martha Brown and congratulated all winners and nominated candidates for all the great work they have done over the years to support and promote sound management of our natural resources.

Martha Brown welcomed the participants to her little corner of the world and reminded theme to take home a renewed appreciation for the natural world, and the wonderful resources that we have in our privately owned woodlands in Nova Scotia.



WESTERN WOYA FIELD DAY – SEPTEMBER 12TH



From left Gary, Norman, Patrick, and Brian Melanson, Image 3234 Chicken BBQ at the event

Norman, Gary, and Brian Melanson hosted more than 200 people at the western woodland owner of the year event on their family woodlot in Concession, Digby County. Field day event included information sessions on wildlife habitat, woodlot diversity, Forest Ecosystem Classification (FEC), silvicultural treatments, and drone photography.

Visitors had the opportunity to meet the Melansons and learn more about this historic property that holds over 100 years of sweet memories. In the words of Gary: *"this woodlot has provided everything any woodland owner could wish for. Walking, hunting, and some income from timber sales"*.

Woodlot Management Home Study Series

Want to learn more about woodland management? This free program consists of a series of easy-to-understand modules on topics that relate to woodland stewardship. The modules can be done right in your home at a time convenient to you! By following the principles and ideas in this series, woodland owners can turn their woodland goals into reality. To request a copy of any of the modules please visit woodlot.novascotia.ca or call 1-866-226-7577.



Fire and Woodland Management, this module describes preventative measures to reduce the likelihood of damaging woodland fires and what to do in case of wild fires. Get in touch with us today to order your copies!



Revised Income Tax and Estate Planning, the updated version of the Income Tax and Estate Planning module will outline and discuss the main income tax rules and business issues that apply to woodland management and operations in Nova Scotia. Coming soon.



FIELD GUIDE TO PESTS OF THE ACADIAN FOREST

This guide and the companion woodland management home study have been written to provide woodland owners, forest workers, and other interested parties information to gain better understanding of the insect forest pests they may encounter and the damage they may cause in our forests.

CENTRAL WOYA FIELD DAY – SEPTEMBER 19TH

Mike Oulton and family warmly welcomed 150 people to their woodland on an exceptionally warm day in September. The Oulton family philosophy over the years has been to improve the health and quality of the forest stands, and protecting sensitive environmental conditions while



MLA Keith Irving presenting the award to the Oultons

making a modest income. Hants East County MLA Keith Irving who presented the award to the Oulton family on behalf of Natural Resources Minister applauded the efforts taken by the Oulton family as a positive contribution to both Nova Scotia's economy and environment.



The public during the award presentation ceremony

The field day events included a tour of the property, horse logging demonstration, small scale and innovative equipment, pre-commercial thinning and selection management demo, big Hemlock trees, wagon rides and informative displays.

First Open Forest Day in Nova Scotia

Over 600 Nova Scotians opened their eyes to the wonders of the woods, the value of our forests and the diversity of nature at the Nova Scotia first **Open Forest Day** on Saturday, Oct. 24. Held at Maskwa Aquatic Club and along the hiking trails of the Blue Mountain Birch Cove Lakes Wilderness Area, the day featured interesting presentations, information booths, and family-fun activities.

Open Forest Day was led by the Department of Natural Resources, who partnered with over 30 organizations to inform woodland owners and the general public on developing and maintaining woodlands, and the important role natural resources play in our economy, the environment, and our health.

MLA Lena Metlege Diab, Professor Peter Duinker, MLA Diana C. Whalen, Marjorie Willison



Bruce Stewart (DNR) – sharing the passion



Marlene Companion – All Nations Drum



Terri Peace of Halifax Adventure Earth sharing her knowledge with the next generation

UPCOMING EVENTS

Events Calendar

The Woodland Conferences 2016

Join us this spring at the 2016 Woodland Owner Conferences to hear experts and woodland owners talk about woodland management issues and how to resolve them. Explore various objectives such as harvesting timber, providing wildlife habitats, or simply maintaining forest health. Cost is \$25 and includes lunch. Mark your calendars with the following dates; more details on location and how to register will be available in early 2016.

CONFERENCE DATES

March 5th 2016

Western Nova Scotia, Forties Community Centre, New Ross

April 2nd 2016

Central Nova Scotia, Oxford Education Centre, 249 Lower Main Street, Oxford, NS

April 16th 2016

Eastern Nova Scotia, St Andrew Community

MAY/JUNE 2016

Basic Chainsaw Operation, Maintenance and Safety course: The Nova Scotia Department of Natural Resources will host chainsaw use and safety courses in the Eastern, Western and Central regions in May/June, 2016.

This is a one day course designed for new and casual chainsaw users. The course will cover safety requirements and safe operating techniques, maintenance and troubleshooting, filing and understanding chain design, directional felling techniques, limbing and bucking techniques.

If you are interested please register by contacting your local DNR office or Simon Mutabazi

March 10-11 NS – CIF, RPF and FTA AGM, Truro, Holliday Inn

May 5-6 NS Envirothon, Acadia University in Wolfville, the topic for this year is **Invasive Species**.

Our Contact Information

PRIVATE LANDS, STEWARDSHIP & OUTREACH DIVISION

Department of Natural Resources
P.O. Box 698
Halifax, Nova Scotia
B3J 2T9

Phone:
(902)-424-5444 or
Toll Free:
1-866-226-7577

Fax: 902-424-7735

E-mail: woodlot@novascotia.ca

Web: woodlot.novascotia.ca

Like us on



WOODLOT MANAGEMENT MENTORSHIP PROGRAM: FALL UPDATE

Late summer and fall saw many landowners enjoying three Woodlot Management Mentorship field days around the province. These field days are a part of the Woodlot Management Mentorship Program, funded by the Department of Natural Resources, aimed at creating opportunities for family forest owners to learn from each other, and to give those with many years of experience a chance to share their knowledge. Several experienced woodlot owners from around the province have been working with partner organizations (the Nova Scotia Woodland Owners and Operators Association, the Federation of Nova Scotia Woodland Owners, and the Mersey Tobeatic Research Institute) to host field days for woodland owners keen to learn about woodland management from those who have been “walking the talk” for many years. Each field day aims to enhance information provided in the NSDNR’s *Woodlot Management Home Study Series*.



A woodlot tour at Jim Bremnar’s woodlot

In late August, woodlot owners gathered at Dave Thomas’s woodlot in Digby County and spent a day in the sunshine learning about thinning to improve quality, looking at different small scale equipment, a harvesting demonstration, and a tour of the sawmill that Dave used to co-manage. On Sunday, 26

September, Robert and Sheila Frame welcomed landowners to their woodlot near Stellarton in Pictou County to explore long-term planning on a family woodlot, and non-timber forest products such as maple syrup and wild mushrooms. In early November, the sun shone once again for a field day on Jim Bremnar’s woodlot in Falmouth, focusing on thinning treatments, non-timber forest products and recreational use of his land, as well as wildlife and other values. Many thanks to these three mentors who so willingly shared their learnings with over 70 participants in total, and continue to be an inspiration to us all. Watch this space to find out more about future mentorship days in 2016!

EASTERN SPRUCE BUDWORM – 2015

During the summer of 2015 the Forest Health Group with NS DNR in Shubenacadie, along with Pest Detection Officers in the Regional offices, placed 148 pheromone traps province wide for Eastern spruce budworm (SBW). The captured moths provide a snapshot of the SBW population for the given year. The data collected from this survey shows a slight increase in the number of positive trap catches and also a small rise in the average number of moths per trap when compared to 2014 data. It is predicted that the population of SBW in Nova Scotia will continue to rise in the coming years. Forest Health is currently working on the SBW overwintering survey from which population predictions for the coming year can be made.

FACTS ABOUT TREES (FORESTS)

- ▶ A single tree produces approximately 260 pounds of oxygen per year. That means two mature trees can supply enough oxygen annually to support a family of four.
- ▶ Over the course its life, a single tree can absorb one ton of carbon dioxide.
- ▶ Trees receive an estimated 90% of their nutrition from the atmosphere and only 10% from the soil.
- ▶ Some trees can “talk” to each other. When willows are attacked by webworms and caterpillars, they emit a chemical that alerts nearby willow of the danger. The neighboring trees then respond by pumping more tannin into their leaves making it difficult for the insects to digest the leaves.

