



# THE CROSSCUT

## Maryland Forests Association, Inc.

P.O. Box 599 ~ Grantsville, MD 21536-0599  
phone: (301) 895-5369 e-mail: [director@mdforests.org](mailto:director@mdforests.org)  
MFA website <http://mdforests.org>  
news alerts and updates at <http://mdforests.blogspot.com/>

NOVEMBER / DECEMBER 2010 (Vol. 32, Issue 5)

Karin E. Miller, Editor

### Inside this edition:

#### Page 2

- MFA 2011 Leadership
- President's pen (cont)

#### Page 3

- 2010 Logger of the Year
- 2010 Legacy Award

#### Page 4 and 5

- Annual Conference photo highlights, sponsors, exhibitors, and committee thank-you's

#### Page 6

- Governor announces support for Dual Certification
- Educational Opportunities and Resources

#### Page 7

- Comments sought on W. MD Rail Trail
- MFA Insurance Programs via Web
- With Thanks-Giving

#### Page 8

- Dates to Remember

### Words to Ponder.....

*A thankful heart is not only  
the greatest virtue,  
but the parent of all  
the other virtues.*  
~Cicero



### From the President's Pen

John Jaztrzemski

This is not a 'hooray we are one big happy family- MFA can solve every forestry and tree problem' discourse. Political Spin is dangerous and honestly I am not very good at it.

Let's be realistic. Our forests and trees are getting beat up. The cogs of our forest economy infrastructure are in disarray. Our forest regulatory process ranges from lackadaisical to burdensome. Maryland's public sector resource management agencies have been abridged. The private sector continues to suffer from restricted credit, lackluster demand, global competition and uncertain regulatory systems. MFA members are worried about deflation, retirement investments, health care and balancing their checkbooks. Times are difficult.

On a positive note, Maryland is our home and MFA members care about our home. Advocating for Forests and Trees increases the value of our home. With healthy forests air quality improves, water quality increases, business opportunities grow, recreational opportunities flourish, and property values mature. I am excited to preside over MFA for the next year because I want to help us get our house in order.

Our Board of Governors is very committed to our mission and I am excited about working with our Executive Director and Executive Committee to conserve and enhance Maryland's trees and forests.

MFA members are getting their monies worth. MFA is a good deal! I'd like to highlight what we are working on for the 2011 calendar year.

**POLICY COMMITTEE:** This legislative session we want to be in a proactive position to support issues including multiple forest certification processes, forest products operator and licensed tree expert accountability, licensed forester authority, urban green planning, forestry regulation, and the right for Maryland's Family Forest Landowners to practice forest management. Our plan must be in place by mid January to insure we are politically active during the upcoming legislative session. MFA's theme this year: GROWING TREES -GROWING JOBS.

A MFA Legislative Day is in the works and we need your help. We are looking for the MFA to have a group of 50 to descend on Annapolis. More information will be forthcoming.

**EDUCATION COMMITTEE:** We had a great Annual Conference last month. Held at the Gaylord National in Prince George's County, the conference was very professionally done. Thanks to our Executive Director and the Planning Committee our conference was phenomenally educational. It is a shame that there were not more forest advocates at the Conference. All landowners, planners, tree farmers and forest landowners and resource managers could benefit from MFA's venue. Next year's meeting will be held November 11 and 12 in Ocean City. The theme is Fired up for Forestry. We are inviting other natural resource organizations to participate in MFA's conference. If you are reading this from another organization give us call perhaps we can help you. Why reinvent the wheel?

*Continued on next page*

Maryland Forests Association, Inc.  
 P.O. Box 599 ~ Grantsville, MD 21536-0599  
 phone / fax: (301) 895-5369  
 e-mail address: [director@mdforests.org](mailto:director@mdforests.org)

### 2011 MFA Officers

Officer	Phone
John Jastrzembki President	301-784-5309
Dick Stanfield, Treasurer	410-922-5959
Bob Eaton, Past President	301-705-5843

### Board of Governors

#### Central Region

Chris Holmgren	Montgomery	Secondary FPI	2012
Tim Smith	Harford	Forest Industry	2011
Dick Stanfield	Baltimore	Forest Industry	2013
Marikay Wrabel	Carroll	Environ. Consultant	2013

#### Eastern Region

Jim Culp	Kent	Forest Landowner	2013
Robert Hess	Somerset	Forest Landowner	2012
Kirk Rodgers	Dorchester	Forest Landowner	2011
Tom Wieland	Wicomico	Forest Industry	2012

#### Southern Region

Joan Hill Bearden	Charles	Business Community	2011
John Colton	St. Mary's	Forest Landowner	2012
Bob Eaton	Charles	Forest Landowner	2011
Craig Highfield	Anne Arundel	Ecologist	2013
Brian Knox	Anne Arundel	Consultant Forester	2013
Gene McCandless	Charles	Business Community	2011
Steve McHenry	Anne Arundel	MARBDICO	2012

#### Western Region

John Jastrzembki	Allegany	ACM Forestry	2011
Jonathon Kays	Washington	Extension Forester	2013
Pete Miller	Garrett	Forest Industry	2012
Francis Zumbrun	Allegany	Forester—retired	2013

Staff: *Karin E. Miller, Executive Director*

Founded in 1976, MFA is a nonprofit [501(c)(3)] citizens' organization of forest landowners, foresters, loggers, wood-using industries and resource-based interests.

The mission of Maryland Forests Association is to conserve and enhance forests in Maryland by:

- increasing awareness of the diverse, public benefits of forests;
- supporting the sustainable use of forest resources;
- promoting economic opportunity for forest landowners; and
- maintaining a viable local forest products industry.

Membership benefits include subscriptions to *The Crosscut*, *Legislative Updates*, *MFA E-news*, and for qualified members, participation in the *Safety Group Insurance*, *Timberland Liability* and *Hunting Lease Liability Insurance* programs. For more information on membership call or write us.

*President's Pen (continued from page 1)*

Additionally, the education Committee is working on four regional meetings focusing on green heat, firewood, sustainable resources use, urban wood utilization, and forest products operator networking.

#### MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE:

The membership committee is working to "activate" our members. We have many members that we can turn to for help if we simply tell them what to do. We must do a better job engaging our members. MFA will also explore the opportunities that a membership consultant could provide.

#### GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE:

This committee is not in the spotlight but working on some pressing issues, including leadership development and recruitment, fiscal responsibility, employee contracts and evaluations.

**In closing, I leave you with three thoughts:**

First we must build partnerships! MFA has initiated meetings and is working to strengthen relationships with the State Forester, Association of Forest Industries, and Alliance for Green Heat, Partnership for Sustainable Forests, Maryland Arborist Association, Natural Resources Conservation Service, Soil Conservation Districts, Association of Forest Conservancy District Boards, Secretaries of MDA, DNR, MDE, the Woodland Owner Association and Maryland Tree Farm. Working together we can significantly improve Maryland's Forests.

Second, healthy forests are not an accident! Green planning, management, and advocacy are critical to Maryland's Forests

Third, have fun being the ultimate environmentalists. We are working together to create forests that are more appreciated and valued by this generation and more healthy and economically vibrant for the next generation of Marylanders.

Sincerely,

John Jastrzembki, LFF

### MFA DUES are DUE

**Membership renewal notices for 2011 will be sent out on January 3. Please pay promptly as your continued financial support is what allows MFA to keep working for you!**

### MFA 2010 Master Logger of the Year

*presented for Excellence in Forestry to F.D. Eure, Inc. of Hebron, MD*

The Eure family has been in the logging business since 1954, through four generations. The Eures are known for their sensitivity to environmental conditions and their willingness to adapt to new market conditions. The crew consists of Frankie, Donna, Frank, and Steve Eure, and Bob Merritt. Frankie's daughter, Candace, is currently attending high school and college classes, but still finds time to work part time with the family, doing light maintenance and running a skidder.

The Eures always operate with concern for environmental conditions. They install dual tires on equipment when needed to reduce the risk of damage to the site, and will not enter a site when there's potential for heavy rutting. All of the Eure's jobs involve a forester, and Frankie will always meet with the forester or the landowner before closing out a job to ensure that everyone is satisfied with the work and the condition of the site. The Eures often log on land certified by Sustainable Forestry Initiative (SFI), Forest Stewardship Council (FSC), and American Tree Farm Program (ATFS), and have no trouble meeting the rigorous standards mandated by these programs.

The Eure operation has the skills and personnel to keep most of their work in the family. They do almost all of their own equipment maintenance and repair at their own shop, which is heated with used oil. They also run a firwood operation at the shop to utilize slash and top material. In 2008 the Eures recognized a change in market conditions and decided that they could no longer base their business on clear-cutting jobs. Frankie traded in his tracked feller/buncher for two three-wheel feller/bunchers and took up the art of thinning, mostly in Glatfelter timber. Although these jobs required much more finesse and resulted in fewer loads per day, their ability to adapt has kept them thriving through times that have been tough enough to put many other operations out of business.



Frankie and Donna Eure (center) receive the 2010 Master Logger of the Year Award. Assisting with the presentation are Carl Neutzel who donated the saw, MFA President Bob Eaton, nominating forester Steve Dimer of GPW and MLP Coordinator Nevin Dawson.



### MFA 2010 Outstanding Legacy Award

*presented posthumously to the family of Melvin L. Noland (Oct. 1921 - Aug. 2010)*

*for his lifetime of commitment to the guiding principals of forest conservation, and his tireless efforts on behalf of forest conservation education and outreach*



Shown accepting the award from Bob Eaton is Mel's grand-niece Karen Svezese and her husband.

After retirement from C & P, Mel Noland became a tireless volunteer for forestry education and tree planting efforts. Mel received the Maryland Forest Association's "Educator of the Year" award in 1999 for his volunteer efforts and had served on MFA's board since 2000. He worked tirelessly with educators, helping to develop both the Schoolyard Reforestation/Wildlife Habitat Manual and an instructional video entitled *More Trees, Please*. He has also been a key figure in the Chesapeake Bay Reforestation and Class Tree Programs through which almost all of Baltimore County's 150 elementary, middle, and high schools have planted more than 3,000 trees.

He also won the 2003 Ellen Fraites Wagner Award from the Chesapeake Bay Trust for promoting public awareness and involvement in the restoration and protection of the Chesapeake Bay and its tributaries. A volunteer with the Baltimore County Forestry Board since 1978, Noland contributed more than 1,500 volunteer hours each year promoting tree planting and wise forest management in Baltimore County. He has facilitated hundreds of tree plantings, pioneered school-based tree grow-out stations now used throughout the state, and conducted countless workshops.

For many of the above years, Mel served as Chair of the Baltimore County Forestry Board, and one finds fleeting references in DNR communications of his work with the Forest Service and other groups. In 2004 Mel became the President of the Maryland State Association of Forest Conservancy District Boards. He had hoped to use this platform to provide a more organized effort to promote sustainable forestry practices, but soon found himself working with DNR Forest Service to provide additional resources as budget cuts prompted cutbacks in Forest Service programs. It was a tiring and difficult process, as he himself admitted, but he cheerfully shouldered the extra requirements.

In 2009, Governor O'Malley named Mel an honorary "Admiral of the Chesapeake". This is the highest award the Governor can give a private citizen of Maryland and Mel joined a list of prominent recipients.

Truly, Mel has left an outstanding legacy and Maryland's forest community has lost a great steward of its resources.

**MFA... "MD's Voice for Forest, Wildlife, and Natural Resource Management" since 1976.**

**FOREST FOREVER CIRCLE**

**Bituminous Insurance Companies**  
Luthersville, MD

**MARBIDGO**  
Annapolis, MD

**Chainsaw for LOY**  
Carl Nautzsel Services, Inc.

**Decoys for Speaker Gifts**  
Tim Smith ~ The Mill

**GOLD CIRCLE**

**Edrich Lumber Company**  
Windsor Mills, MD

**MAR-LEN Environmental**  
Westminster, MD

**NewPage Corp** Luke Mill  
Luke, MD

**Outdoor Underwriters**  
Columbia, SC

**Sustainable Resources Mgt.**  
Davidsonville, MD

**USI Insurance Services**  
Falls Church, VA

**SILVER CIRCLE**

**Hess Tree Farm**  
Marion, MD

**Forest Resources Association**  
Rockville, MD

**Pete Richardson Auction Sales**  
Willards, MD

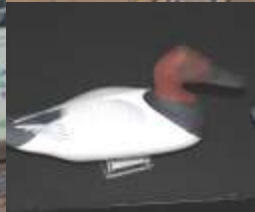
**The Laws Corporation**  
Snow Hill, MD

**BRONZE CIRCLE**

**Raywood Forest Mgt, Inc.**  
Cumberland, MD

**Southern MD RC&D**  
Waldorf, MD

*Thank you to all who made MFA's 34th Annual conference a success!*





**COMMERCIAL EXHIBITORS**

Outdoor Underwriters, Inc.  
Columbia, SC

**I & E EXHIBITORS**

Audubon Maryland – DC

Forestry for the Day

Center for Agro-Ecology

**MALPF**

MD Chapter ~ American  
Chestnut Foundation

Master Logger Program

NRCC ~ Forestry Board  
Foundation

The American Forest  
Foundation

The Nature Conservancy

U of MD Cooperative Extension

**STUDENT SPONSORS**

Ben and Wendy Clements  
Wade Dorsey  
John and Kit Foster  
Bob Shires  
Dick and Bobbie Stanfield  
Len and Marikay Wrabel

**CONFERENCE COMMITTEE**

Brian Knox, Donnelle Kaech  
Bob Tjaden, Chris Holmgren &  
Craig Highfield

Technical Assistants  
Pete Miller - AV Coordinator  
Tracy Pops - Photographer

Exhibit Coordinator  
Donnelle Kaech

Silent Auction Coordinator  
Brian Knox

Welcome Registration Desk  
Bobbie Stanfield / Tracy Pops

*Join us next year in Ocean City, November 11 & 12*



### Governor Announces Plans for Dual Certification of Western Maryland Forests

Governor Martin O'Malley announced on October

9th, during an appearance in Garrett County, that the Maryland Department of Natural Resources is seeking dual certification for all three Western Maryland State Forests, a move that will protect forest industry jobs and garner national recognition of the State's commitment to sustainable forestry management. The announcement came at Poto mac-Garrett State Forest, on the donated tract of land upon which Maryland's extensive public lands system was founded.

"Dual certification of these forests will protect important jobs in Western Maryland by providing certified 'green' products to businesses like NewPage that will allow them to meet increasing customer demand," said Governor O'Malley. "It will also publicly validate the great work our State Foresters are doing in managing our working lands for sustainability. Once again, by relying on sound science, Maryland is proving we can protect our environment and our economy to the benefit of our citizens and our planet."

The Western Maryland forest products industry has a \$950 million total economic impact in the region, contributes \$35 million in State and local tax revenues, and employs 9,200 people. Dual certification will directly benefit these employees -- including nearly 1,000 Marylanders who work at NewPage -- by providing the forestry industry the tools it needs to compete in the global market and meet the demand for certified wood.

"NewPage applauds Maryland in its efforts to certify State forestlands in Western Maryland," stated Fred Souba, Vice President of Wood Supply and Sustainability for NewPage Corporation. "These third-party certifications are necessary for our company to remain competitive in the marketplace, and they are also an excellent way to validate the quality forest management that is already being performed by the Maryland Forest Service on State lands."

Forest certification is a system for identifying well-managed forestland. Conducted by an accredited third-party organization, the voluntary certification is based on internationally recognized principles and criteria with locally developed and approved standards. "Dual certification under both the Forest Stewardship Council and the Sustainable Forestry Initiative demonstrates that Maryland's State Forests protect and restore sensitive natural resources while maintaining sustainable levels of forest products to local industries, thus preserving local jobs and creating rural wealth," said Steve Kohn, Director of the Maryland Forest Service.

Products from certified forestland can be labeled to ensure consumers that they are buying the product of a sustainably managed forest. Nearly 87,000 acres of forest on Maryland's Eastern Shore - Chesapeake Forest Lands -- already maintain dual certification status. In today's marketplace there is strong, increasing demand for certified forest products.

### Educational Opportunities and Resources

#### Webinar: Crop tree release of hardwoods for improved growth and survival - December 15

Hosted by Cornell University Extension's ForestConnect  
Register at ForestConnect: <http://www.forestconnect.info/>

Crop tree release is a management tool to simultaneously manipulate stand composition and concentrate growth on individual stems of high value species. It is a versatile technique that can increase survival and growth of sapling oak in young stands or provide income while retaining non-commodity amenities in mature sawtimber stands. This webinar will examine both individual tree and stand level responses to crop tree management with an emphasis on upland oaks and black birch.

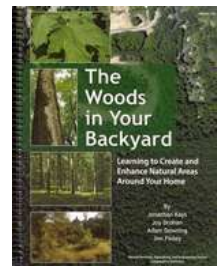
#### The Woods in Your Backyard Workshop

January 15, 2011; 8:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.  
Hosted by Carroll County Forestry Board and  
University of Maryland Extension

The vast majority of land owners in Maryland have less than 10 acres. By enhancing or creating natural areas and woodland on your lot, you can enjoy recreation, aesthetics, wildlife and water quality. Owners of even just a few acres can make a positive difference in their environment through planning and implementing simple stewardship practices learned at The Woods In Your Backyard Workshop.

Location: UM Extension Building-Carroll County; 700 Agricultural Center Drive; Westminster, MD 21157 Cost for Workshop: \$30 per individual which includes morning refreshments, lunch, course manual and CD. [Register by January 7th.](#)

For more information, please contact Jonathan Kays, Extension Specialist Natural Resources at 301-432-2767 x323 / [jkays@umd.edu](mailto:jkays@umd.edu) or, Donna Davis, Carroll County Forestry Board, at 410-343-9290 / [dldavis@dnr.state.md.us](mailto:dldavis@dnr.state.md.us)



#### New Fact Sheet ~ FS #926: Heating with Wood in Maryland

<http://www.naturalresources.umd.edu/Publications/PDFs/FS926WoodFuel.pdf>

The University of Maryland Extension is proud to release a new Natural Resources Fact Sheet #926, Heating with Wood in Maryland. This Fact sheet includes valuable information that will help you make the decision to heat with wood, or help you improve your current wood burning situation. Included topics are:

- How wood burns
- Improving woodfuel efficiency and emissions
- Comparing wood to other fuel
- Seasoning wood
- Burn wood safely
- How to buy firewood
- Selecting trees for firewood



The fact sheet also contains several illustrations that help explain how wood burns as well as many complete tables of information including comparisons and guides

### Proposed Extension of the Western Maryland Rail to Trail



Recreational trails attract and involve the public in outdoor activities. As the public becomes more involved and engaged in outdoor recreation activities, good for the body, soul & spirit, they are more likely to become more committed and more likely to support forest conservation and other related important environmental matters. When this recreational trail project is completed it has the potential to attract many people to the Green Ridge State forest area in Allegany County, who otherwise would not discover this great natural treasure.

Comments are being sought by the National Park Service (NPS) to evaluate the proposed extension of the western Maryland Rail Trail (WMRT) Chesapeake and Ohio Canal National Historical Park from Pearns Station near the C&O Canal Lock 58 to the public access parking lot for the C&O Canal NHP/Paw Paw, West Virginia. The NPS is initiating work on an Environmental Assessment to evaluate potential impacts of the proposed project to the natural, cultural, and human environment. The study area involves the abandoned Paw Paw Bend segment of the Western Maryland Railway located within the C&O Canal NHP property. A section of this proposal goes through Green Ridge State Forest following the old western Maryland railroad corridor.

The Superintendent is accepting written comments only, and must be postmarked before **December 20, 2010**. Written comments may be sent to:

National Park Service  
 Denver Service Center-Transportation Division  
 CHOH WMRT EA Planning Team  
 12795 West Alameda Parkway  
 P.O. Box 25287  
 Denver CO  
 80225-0287

You also may submit comments electronically to the National Park Service's Planning, Environment, and Public comment website (<http://parkplanning.nps.gov>).

### With Thanks-Giving

As I put the final touches on this issue of THE CROSSCUT and send it on its way for printing, it is the day before Thanksgiving; a day set aside solely for reflections, spending time with friends and family, and above all ~ 'giving thanks'.



This past year has been a tough one, in many ways, not only for me but for many of you as well. In April, Pete and I lost our eldest son, Mike. Over the past few months, the Maryland forest community lost leaders like Mel Noland, Al Zentz and Jay Gessaman. Early this year when the 2010 Annual Conference planning committee began looking for a keynote speaker, little did they know how profound Erika Svendsen's presentation on "Healing Landscapes" would be to our audience.

Those that work with our forests, our trees and landscapes, work with a resource which often takes quite a bit of time to yield the fruits of their labor. It has been said that, **"He who plants a tree, Plants a hope."** I think that quote sums up in but a few words what the many photos and testimonies that Erika shared with us are all about. And so we plant, we prune, we nurture, we harvest and we begin again, and we HOPE.

I thank you for your cards and calls, prayers offered, poems and stories shared, and especially your hugs over these past months. Since I was in 'conference mode' I did not get to speak personally with very many of you while we were at the Gaylord, but I want you know that yes, we are doing okay; yes, it's okay to ask; and yes, it's good to share a hug and a tear. Part of our healing comes from being able to share our story and tell of God's goodness, grace and mercy.

So on this Thanksgiving Eve I leave you with this thought:

Thanksgiving is the holiday of peace,  
 the celebration of work and the simple life...  
 a true folk-festival that speaks  
 the poetry of the turn of the seasons,  
 the beauty of seedtime and harvest,  
 the ripe product of the year - and the deep,  
 deep connection of all these things with God.  
 ~Ray Stannard Baker

May you and yours be truly blessed throughout the holiday season and in the year to come! ~ Karin Miller, MFA



### Timberland and Hunting Lease Liability Insurance Programs now accessible through the internet

The Maryland Forests Association and Outdoor Underwriters are pleased to announce that we have a web based application process for Timberland and Hunting Club Liability insurance. A simple and fast application process will give you 24 hour turnaround on your coverage request. Your insurance premium and membership dues can be paid with a credit card online. For specific application process and coverage information go to [www.mfa.outdoorund.com](http://www.mfa.outdoorund.com) or call Outdoor Underwriters at 1-866-961-4101.



## THE CROSSCUT

Maryland Forests Association  
P.O. Box 599  
Grantsville, MD 21536-0599

FIRST-CLASS  
MAIL  
U.S. POSTAGE  
PAID  
Grantsville, MD  
Permit No. 1

DATED MATERIAL  
DATED MATERIAL  
FIRST CLASS MAIL

*MFA... "MD's Voice for Forest, Wildlife, and Natural Resource Management" since 1976.*

### Dates to Remember

for further information on any of these items, contact the MFA office unless otherwise noted. For updates and alerts between issues of THE CROSSCUT, sign up for MFA E-news by emailing a request to

#### December

- 15 MFA Executive Committee Conference Call
- 15 Webinar ~ see page 6
- 21 MFA Office closes for Christmas and New Year holiday.

#### January

- 12 Maryland General Assembly Session for 2011 begins. Follow details online at <http://mlie.state.md.us/> and via MFA's Bills to Watch page at <http://mdforests.org/bills.html>
- 15 Woods in Your Backyard Workshop ~ see page 6
- 26 MFA Executive Committee Conference Call

#### February

- 9 MFA Board of Governors, quarterly meeting

**LOOKING AHEAD** ~ MFA's 35th Anniversary Celebration and Annual Conference, November 11 & 12 in Ocean City, Maryland

The MFA office in Grantsville will close for the Christmas holiday on December 21 and reopen on January 4th.

Office hours will be Tuesdays and Thursday afternoons.

Wishing you and yours a Merry Christmas and a Safe, healthy and peaceful New Year!