



THE CROSSCUT

Maryland Forests Association, Inc.

P.O. Box 599 ~ Grantsville, MD 21536-0599

phone: (301) 895-5369 e-mail: director@mdforests.org

MFA website <http://mdforests.org>

news alerts and updates at <http://mdforests.blogspot.com/>

MARCH / APRIL (Vol. 32, Issue 2)

Karin E. Miller, Editor

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Words to Ponder....

No matter
how long
the winter,
spring is
sure to
follow.



From the President's Pen

Bob Eaton

As I write this we are about halfway through the Legislative session. I would like to share a couple of thoughts on that.

The first is to note some successes your MFA has had this session. In particular with regard to making Maryland forest products more marketable to our own state government. There are many moves afoot to enhance requirements that only wood from "green" sources may be used in state funded construction projects. Sounds good, but the definition of "green" currently used by the State includes only FSC certified sources. Why is that important to you? There are many good "green certification" programs available today, of which FSC is but one. It has begun to monopolize the regulatory environment. The problem with FSC is that it is cost prohibitive for most private land owners, among them the 1500 Maryland members of the American Tree Farm System who own about 269,000 acres of productive, well managed, woodland in our state. In fact, very little timber land in Maryland is FSC certified, so those regulations largely require your state government to import lumber from outside of the state. Your government could not buy your trees but will use your tax dollars to buy someone else's.

Your MFA Policy committee has been successful in getting legislators to amend both current law and to broaden the definition of "green" lumber. Please read your legislative alert (available at <http://mdforests.org/bills.html>) and help us by contacting your Delegates and State Senators and urging them to vote in favor of MFA's positions.

The other related thought is this – the monitoring of legislation and contact with legislators to protect your interests as forest landowners, forest professionals and people concerned about both our environment and our standard of living, is done by MFA volunteers!

In speaking with these volunteers an irony is disclosed. In this down economy these volunteers are busier than ever trying to keep up with their businesses and jobs (in this economy everyone's job demands more). Yet these already busy people are happy to volunteer to accomplish what is needed. I am not a sociologist and I will not try to understand or explain why very busy people are so willing to volunteer to help. I am very grateful for them, though.

I am also bold enough to humbly ask each of you if you are willing to do the same. Have you ever heard the adage "if you want something done ask a busy person to do it"? Speaking as a busy person, I hate that adage, but I love the satisfaction of doing something that helps a broader group. I want to invite you to join us. The MFA is working hard for you but we always have room for those willing to lend a hand. Contact one of your Board of Governors members (listed in this issue) and let them know that you would like to help out, too. The enduring benefit will be to you, your family, and to Maryland's forest resource.

Did you know.....

- On average, 11 percent of the world's forestland benefits from some type of conservation effort. In the United States, 20 percent is protected by conservation initiatives.
- The United States ranks fourth on the list of most forest-rich countries, following the Russian Federation, Brazil, and Canada, with 8 percent of the world's primary forest.
- In 2006, almost 8 percent of US forests—approximately 58 million acres—were at significant risk from insect and disease mortality.

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 phone / fax: (301) 895-5369
 e-mail address: director@mdforests.org

2010 MFA Officers

Officer	Phone
Bob Eaton, President	301-705-5843
John Jastrzembki 1st VP	301-784-5309
Dick Stanfield, Treasurer	410-922-5959
John Foster, Past President	302-378-9893

Board of Governors

Central Region

Chris Holmgren	Montgomery	Secondary FPI	2012
Mel Noland	Baltimore	Forest Landowner	2011
Tim Smith	Harford	Forest Industry	2011
Dick Stanfield	Baltimore	Forest Industry	2010

Eastern Region

Robert Hess	Somerset	Forest Landowner	2012
Kirk Rodgers	Dorchester	Forest Landowner	2011
Bob Tjaden	Queen Anne's	Forester - U of MD	2010
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
Chris Holmes	Anne Arundel	Retired USFS	2010
Brian Knox	Anne Arundel	Consultant Forester	2010
Gene McCandless	Charles	Business Community	2011
Steve McHenry	Anne Arundel	MARBIDCO	2012

Western Region

John Jastrzembki	Allegany	ACM Forestry	2011
Donnelle Keech	Allegany	Ecologist —TNC	2010
Pete Miller	Garrett	Forest Industry	2012
Bob Shives	Washington	Forest Landowner	2010

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.

Annapolis Update ~ MFA Policy Committee

MFA's Policy Committee has held regular conference calls every Friday morning at 9:00 am. Bills are moving very quickly in the legislature at this stage with Senate and House committee reports and floor votes occurring daily. Session ends at midnight on April 12. All bills must pass both the Senate and the House with identical language by that time in order to go on to the governor for his consideration.



Of the nearly 2,800 bills that have been introduced by the legislature since its start on January 13th, MFA's policy committee has tagged only 30 unique bills as being of potential concern to one or more segments of our membership. A complete chart of the bills that the committee has been tracking can be found on MFA's Bills to Watch page at <http://mdforests.org/bills.html>. The Policy Committee is chaired by Board member Pete Miller. Comments can be sent via the MFA office by phone or email.

MFA's Policy Committee has been most active via testimony with regard to the following bills as they align with MFA's mission and vision:

- SB 479 State Capital Projects – High Performance Buildings – Green Globes Rating. **The bill is part of MFA's long-standing efforts to increase acceptance of locally grown wood products as a viable substitute for concrete.**
- SB 509/HB 667 Somerset, Wicomico, and Worcester Counties – Vehicle Laws – Exceptional Hauling Permits. This effort was started in Western Maryland as a pilot project to increase the gross vehicle weight of trucks hauling forest products from remote locations where weights would be unknown. MFA supported the original project and the renewal of the program for Garrett and Allegany Counties in 2009. This is a natural extension of the pilot program as we work to extend this project state-wide.
- HB 356 Forest Products Operators – Standards, Procedures, And Enforcement. MFA, through the Sustainable Forestry Implementation Committee, has been working with DNR to develop this concept. This bill will establish procedures for DNR to remove a **logger from the Forest Products Operator's list, as well as appeal and reinstatement processes for those loggers.** This effort modifies the current program, to create more of a license, which can be revoked for cause.

The committee is also corresponding with the State Highway Administration regarding SB 779/HB 216 State Highway Administration – Unauthorized Signs on Highway Rights-Of-Way. This bill targets the weekend Open House signs and campaign signs, but, inadvertently affects the ability of our Master Loggers to place safety signs, such as the Log Trucks Entering the Highway signs along the roadway.

Much of the Session's focus has been on the budget and state deficit. A weekly Legislative Wrap-up can be read online at <http://mlis.state.md.us/#othe>

Election day is November 2.

All 188 legislative seats as well as the Governor's will be up for re-election. Mark your calendars and remember to vote!



MFA's 34TH ANNUAL CONFERENCE ~ NOV 5TH & 6TH

Gaylord National Conference Center in National Harbor, MD

“Maryland's Working Woodlands”

From backyards to State Forests, managing your woodland makes a difference

Preliminary Agenda

Friday - November 5, 2010

1-5 pm Continuing Education Field Trip ~ Myrtle Grove Wildlife Management Area –
 Located in the forested bottomlands of Mattawoman Creek of western-central Charles County, Myrtle Grove Wildlife Management Area was once home to the Piscataway Indians. This 1,723-acre tract contains hardwood forests, wildlife plantings, natural and man-made wetlands and early succession habitats that provide critical habitat for all types of wildlife from the ever-popular white-tailed deer and the majestic barred owl, to fish, turtles, upland game, forest game, waterfowl and migratory birds.

4:00 pm Exhibitor Setup ~ Hotel Check in ~ Meeting Registration Desk Open ~

6:00 pm Social Hour, I&E Exhibits, Silent Auction Opens ~

7:00 pm Awards Banquet

Keynote Speaker ~ Erika Svendsen, US Forest Service, Northern Research Project

Stewardship's Role in Community Building

Hear of stewardship's direct and purposeful role in individual recovery and personal development, community-building and local governance.

Saturday – November 6, 2010

8:30-9:00 Opening Session MFA Business Meeting

9:00-10:00 Educational Session I ~ *Update on National and State Issues of Concern*
 State of the Nation Report Michael T. Goergen Jr., Society of American Foresters
 State of the State Report, part A Steve Koehn, Maryland State Forester
 State of the State Report, part B Jon Hall, Maryland State Conservationist

10-10:30 Networking Break, I&E Exhibits, Silent Auction Round

10:30-12:30 Educational Session II ~ ***Just because it's green, doesn't mean it's healthy***
 Why manage - Brian Knox
 Invasive Insects and MD Forests – Stanton Gill, U of MD
 Planning for Success: *Unlocking Your Property's Potential* - Juls Wood

12:30 -1:30 Networking Lunch

1:45 – 3:45 Educational Session III ~ *The Forest All Around Us*
 Applying Forest Ecology Principles to Privately Owned Forests - Joseph Sullivan, U of MD
 Understanding Silviculture: *The Art and Science of Growing a Forest* - Jonathon Kays
 Forestry and the Farm Bill - Tom Morgart, USDA NRCS

3:45 –4:00 Closing Session Presidential Challenge and Silent Auction Results

MFA GROUP RATE ACCOMODATIONS AT THE GAYLORD NATIONAL

Single/Double Occupancy \$149 / night plus tax (Includes resort service fee)

Group rate available three days prior to, and following the conference

Room reservation deadline is OCTOBER 6th

Help MFA meet its contract obligation and make the most of your meeting experience by booking early.

Call the Gaylord directly at 301-965-2000

Plan to bring the family...National Harbor has something for EVERYONE!

Learn more at <http://www.gaylordhotels.com/gaylord-national/>

Educational and Networking Opportunities

TAKE CHARGE OF YOUR LEGACY -

A workshop for Maryland woodland owners

Saturday, April 24, 2010 8:45 — 3pm



Private woodlands do the public good! Do you own woods? Join us for this workshop to discover what opportunities & resources exist to help you care of for your land. You will also learn about various techniques and practices to improve your woodland's health while addressing some of its greatest threats.

Smithsonian Environmental Research Center (SERC)
647 Contees Wharf Road, Edgewater, MD 21037

Registration fee is \$10 and due by April 12th. See the registration brochure for details. <http://www.forestryforthebay.org/files/AA%20woodland%20workshop.pdf>

Workshop Agenda

8:45 a.m. - Sign-in – Schmidt Conference Center

9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

- The changing forest landscape in Maryland
- Developing goals & a plan for your property
- Conservation programs & new opportunities
- Plant invaders—threats to Maryland's forests
- A new web-based mapping & assessment tool for landowners

12:00 p.m. – 12:45 p.m. - Lunch will be provided

1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m. **Field tour of SERC's woodlands**

- Forest succession and ecology
- Invasive/exotic plant control methods
- Wildlife habitat management

Woods in your Backyard Workshop -

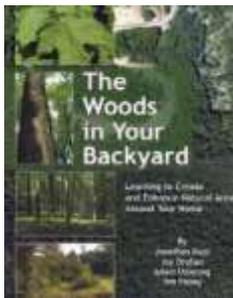
Wednesday, May 12th & May 19th,

6:30 pm - 9:00 pm.

Landowners of just a few acres can make a positive difference in the environment through simple stewardship practices. Learn to create and enhance the natural areas around your home.

Location: Arlington Echo Outdoor School, 975 Indian Landing Road, Millersville, MD 21108

For more information or to register visit <http://www.forestryforthebay.org/files/AA%20WBYBrochure.pdf>
Registration is due May 5th.



BRANCHING OUT

Maryland's Forest Stewardship Educator

The current issue of Branching Out is available online at

<http://www.naturalresources.umd.edu/Publications/BranchingOut/2010Spring.htm>

Highlights include:

- Low Impact Logging – Will it Work for You?
- Forest Certification: A Brief Lesson
- What is Killing My Trees this Winter?
- How to Keep Your Land in the Family
- Webinars are Worthwhile

Branching Out is a publication of the MD Cooperative Extension Service

Western Maryland "Green Energy Day"

Saturday, May 22, 2010



Come and join forest Landowners, friends, farmers, conservationists, local businesses and MFA members for a green energy educational day atop Warrior Mountain in Allegany County.

All are welcome on Saturday, May 22, 2010 from 9am to 4pm. There will be demonstrations on several viable and operational green and renewable energy systems including small wind, solar, thermal and wood gasification. Also view water conservation, gathering, storage and pumping demonstrations.

This is a great opportunity to meet with manufacturers and have questions answered about energy conservation products and hear from companies including Bergey Wind Power, Alternate Heating Systems, Stiebel Eltron, Mahoning Outdoor Furnace and ESP Insulation. Qualified contractors knowledgeable about equipment installation will be on hand.

Tree Farmers Henry & Nancy Maier are hosting the event and are anxious and willing to share their valuable real life experiences and results. Also invited are representatives from USDA Rural Development, MD Dept. of Energy, University of MD Cooperative Extension, MD Forest Service, Soil Conservation, Frostburg State University Physics and Engineering Department MD Energy Administration and the Maryland Forests Association.

Come early and stay late! There is a lot to see. Stay for lunch - Kentucky Style Pig Roast by Gary & Cindy Smith and partially supported by the Maryland Forests Association.

For food purposes, you must make a reservation by April 29 MFA members are to contact John Jastrzembki at 301-784-5309 or by email at jjastrzembki@allegany.edu.

FORESTRY SEMINAR SLATED FOR

SATURDAY MAY 8th 8:30 am-3:30 pm

at Washington College, Chestertown, MD with an afternoon field trip. The focus will be on invasive species—their origin, effect on the landscape, and management. The annual Seminar aims to stimulate excitement about woodland stewardship and give woodland owners the up-to-date knowledge and skills they need to improve their management.

This seminar is open to all woodland owners, businesses and others who have an interest in managing forestland on the Delmarva Peninsula. The opening session will focus on the changes humans have made in the landscape over time that have led to its current condition. Following sessions will go into depth on invasive species management and identification, wildlife habitat changes and management, and woodland pests and pathogens. Tentative stops on the field tour include examples of grasslands, quail management, and riparian buffer planting, with a focus on successful invasive species management.

Early registration is \$20.00/person, which covers lunch, refreshments, and instructional materials. After May 30th, the registration fee will be \$25.00/person. The 22nd DELMARVA FORESTRY SEMINAR is sponsored by University of Maryland Extension, University of Delaware Cooperation Extension-Renewable Resources Program, and Washington College Center for Environment and Society.

For a copy of the registration brochure or more information, contact Carol Taylor at 410-827-8056, ext. 135, or carolt@umd.edu. For more information, visit www.naturalresources.umd.edu.



MD DNR Forest Service Announces Online Public Meeting Public can comment on State Forest annual work plans

<http://www.dnr.state.md.us/forests/workplans/>

The Maryland Department of Natural Resources (DNR) Forest Service is conducting an online public meeting to solicit comments on the proposed 2011 fiscal year work plans for the three western State Forests: Green Ridge, Potomac-Garrett, and Savage River. Public input will help us to ensure that our State Forest's resources are prudently managed for the benefit of all our citizens and the resource itself. The proposed work plans are now available for public viewing and comments running through April 23, 2010.



These annual work plans identify the work that is to be accomplished on the forest in the next fiscal year within the scope of the forest's long-range management plan. The work that will be accomplished includes silvicultural operations, maintenance and construction projects and other work to be performed on the forest.

This public forum is the third step in a three-step review process to establish the work plan. The first is an internal review by a team of resource professionals from the fields of wildlife, fisheries, heritage, forestry, recreation, water resources, and resource planning. The second step is a review by an appointed advisory committee. After the period of comment, the forest manager will make final adjustments to the plan. Participants can offer comments [via email](#) for each specific State Forest Annual Work Plan. Each proposal is accompanied with a description, field data summary, objective, and a map of the vicinity. We ask that all comments to please be specific for each annual work plan. Comments, which are too general or vague, may make it difficult to utilize your concerns and expertise in making modifications to the work plan proposals.

The Maryland Department of Natural Resources (DNR) is the state agency responsible for providing natural and living resource-related services to citizens and visitors. DNR manages more than 446,000 acres of public lands and 17,000 miles of waterways, along with Maryland's forests, fisheries and wildlife for maximum environmental, economic and quality of life benefits. A national leader in land conservation, DNR-managed parks and natural, historic and cultural resources attract 11 million visitors annually. DNR is the lead agency in Maryland's effort to restore the Chesapeake Bay, the state's number one environmental priority.

*Trees Are the Answer - But what is the question?
Everyday, trees give us the answers to some of challenging questions:*

- What protects our rivers and streams and provides us with clean water?
- What provides us with the goods that we depend on every day?
- What helps you save on your heating and cooling?
- What helps us clean the air?
- What do we have as much of now as we did 100 years ago?
- What do we, and a wide variety of other species, depend on for our well-being?
- What, along with the wind, sun, and waves, provides us with clean, sustainable energy?
- **What renewable resource plays a vital part in our nation's economy?**

The LEAD Maryland Foundation

The LEAD Maryland Foundation will soon be accepting applications for its next class of LEAD Fellows. It is anticipated that application forms will be available in June 2010 from the LEAD Maryland Foundation's website www.leadmaryland.org or by requesting a form at leadmd@umd.edu or calling 410-827-8056.



The LEAD Maryland Foundation, Inc. (also known as LEAD) is a partnership 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization dedicated to identifying and developing leadership for Maryland agriculture, natural resources, and rural communities. Fellows are selected through an application and interview process from a pool of identified emerging leaders from all regions of the state, and representative of a diversity of backgrounds, work, education, and other experiences.

The new class will be "Class VII (2011-2012)" and will join 136 others who have participated as LEAD Fellows since the first training seminar was held in early 1999. Each class is designed to operate with 20 to 25 participants each. There are no age restrictions.

Applications are due October 1, 2010. The class members will be selected in November 2010, and the new class will begin meeting in February 2011. During 2011 and 2012, Fellows will complete a series of 10 multi-day seminars within various locations of Maryland and Washington DC. Additionally, the LEAD Maryland Foundation provides Fellows with an international or domestic study tour as part of their educational and personal growth training. Previous class groups traveled to the Netherlands, Belgium, China, Cuba, Brazil, Finland, Estonia, and Russia. The current class, Class VI (2009-2010), will be traveling to Vietnam and Taiwan in January 2011.

Program sponsors provide funding to meet a large portion of program costs. An estimated \$10,000 is invested into each Fellow's training. Executive Director Susan Harrison stated, **"Once the application packet is finalized by the Foundation's Board this spring, expect to see** Fellows paying a tuition (participation fee) of about \$2,600 (up from the current \$2,400) and committing about 40 days over two years. The Foundation leadership will also make a decision, primarily budget driven, regarding whether or not the new class will complete a domestic study tour as a substitute to an international study tour. A domestic study tour might prove to be more manageable for participants who may otherwise find it difficult to get away for a longer period of time needed for international travel."

"We are looking for individuals who have a willingness to learn and a willingness to share knowledge and perspectives with others. We have great expectations of LEAD Fellows as they go on to solve problems, take leadership responsibilities, and shape public policy important to us all," said Harrison.

LEAD provided the first training program of this type in Maryland in 1999 and is modeled after other successful agricultural, rural, and forestry programs operating in most other states plus some international locations. These leadership courses are based on early training curriculum first developed in the mid 1960s by the W. K. Kellogg Foundation.

The LEAD Maryland Foundation operates with a volunteer board of directors and receives grant and other support from the University of Maryland Extension, the Maryland Farm Bureau, the Maryland Grain Producers Utilization Board, the Maryland Agricultural Education Foundation, the Maryland Soybean Board, the Farm Credit System, the Keith Campbell Foundation for the Environment, and many others.

For more information, please contact Susan Harrison at 410-827-8056, or leadmd@umd.edu



Save the Date: May 11 & 12 The 2010 Southern Region Rural Convening!

The Rural Maryland Council and its State Rural Development Council colleagues throughout USDA's Southern Region will convene in Charlotte, North Carolina, May 11 - 12 to focus on USDA's key priority areas and critical issues facing the region, especially Energy, Broadband, Workforce Development and Rural Economic Development. The goal of the meeting is to address these issues with a local and regional strategy that (1) promotes the creation of new partnerships and regional collaboration, (2) enables regions to share "best practices", and (3) focuses on using regional partnerships to enhance rural program delivery and shape rural economic development policy.

We hope you will be able to participate and use this opportunity to share your views with USDA. More logistical information will be sent next week, but we hope you will mark your calendars now.

The purpose of the Southern Region Convening is to establish stronger partnerships with key participants at cross state and regional levels and to encourage communities to work together at the regional level. The deliverables are expected to strengthen regional partnership building, to improve regional collaboration, to enhance rural policy program delivery, and to focus on the economy in multi-county regional collaboration and strategic planning.

Who Should Attend?

State Rural Development Council representatives
Regional Rural Development Center representatives
USDA Rural Development State Directors
Representatives from all levels of government
Resource Conservation & Development Council representatives
Economic Development & Planning District representatives
All relevant local, state and national rural service and development institutions

Mark your calendars now. ~ Details online at www.rural.state.md.us Or contact: Vanessa Orlando, Executive Director Rural Maryland Council 50 Harry Truman Parkway, Suite 406, Annapolis, Maryland 21401 410-841-5774

Estate Planning for Forest Landowners

The USDA Forest Service Southern Research Station has released *Estate Planning for Forest Landowners: What Will Become of Your Timberland?* a book that provides private forest owners with practical information about tax and estate planning and techniques involving forest properties.

The book presents a working knowledge of the federal estate and gift tax law with particular focus on the unique characteristics of owning timber and forest land. The book consists of four major parts that:

- Develop the practical and legal foundation for estate planning.
- Explain and illustrate the use of general estate planning tools.
- Explain and illustrate the use of additional tools that are specific to forest ownership.
- Describe the forms of forest land ownership, as well as the basic features of state transfer taxes and the benefits of forest estate planning.

The book is posted on the Southern Research Station website at http://www.srs.fs.usda.gov/pubs/gtr/gtr_srs112.pdf. A webinar, "Timber Tax Tips for the 2010 Tax Season," which features John Greene and other tax experts, also is available at <http://www.forestrywebinars.net/previous-webinars>



Bicentennial Tree Project

In 1975, at the urging of the Maryland Bicentennial Commission, most local jurisdictions appointed a local commission to plan for the coming celebration. Among other activities, these commissions worked with the local forester to develop a list of trees that were thought to be alive at the time of the signing of the Declaration of Independence. Some foresters took increment bore samples; others relied on local history and growth patterns to compile the list. 292 trees were identified state-wide; Harford led the list with 66 trees. Frederick, Kent and Queen Anne's Counties choose to only submit one tree.

The Department of Natural Resources, Maryland Forest Service, compiled the list and printed a booklet, "**Maryland's Bicentennial Trees and A Listing of Species of Trees Believed to be Living in Maryland in 1776.**" They also provided a certificate to each owner. The Maryland Bicentennial Commission purchased and distributed bronze plaques to each tree owner (see photo). The inscription reads, "It has stood its ground, survived the American Revolution, and continues to serve an appreciative nation, July 1976"

After the Bicentennial Year, these commissions were disbanded and their records went various places. In some cases the original Bicentennial Tree application and hand drawn maps remained in the local forestry office. In some cases the records were stored with the local historical society. We have not been able to find any records at the State level, either in the archives or at the Department of Natural Resources.

In 2009, members of the Maryland Big Tree Program were made aware of the project and the publication by an owner of one of the remaining Bicentennial Trees in Harford County. He also had a copy of the above publication. Members of the MBTP made copies of the original and began to distribute them to other volunteers to begin searching for these trees. Since the project began, the volunteers have located over several dozen trees still alive.

A few of the trees were easy to locate, as they have become historical icons in their counties. These include the Manchester White Oak in Carroll County, the Calvert Oak in Cecil County, the St. Paul's Swamp Chestnut Oak in Kent County, and the Linden Oak in Montgomery County. Famous Bicentennial Trees that have died since 1976 include the Wye Oak (Talbot County), the Liberty Tree (a yellow poplar in Annapolis), the Richard's Oak and the Holly Hall Oak (Cecil County), and the Treaty Oak (Dorchester County).

The Maryland Big Tree Program has undertaken to locate and document as many of these trees as possible in preparation for the 250th birthday of our country in 2026. Should you have any information about any of the Bicentennial Trees, please contact John Bennett at 410-287-5980, or at mdbigtreeprogram@aol.com. The entire DNR document is over 50 pages and cannot be reproduced for the general public, but a list of the Bicentennial trees for a particular county can be mailed upon request.



Did you know...

The U.S. forest products industry accounts for approximately 6 percent of the total U.S. manufacturing GDP, placing it on par with the automotive and plastics industries. The industry generates more than \$200 billion a year in sales and employs more than 1 million people earning \$54 billion in annual payroll. The industry is among the top 10 manufacturing employers in 48 states

TAX ESTATE PLANNING TIPS

Forest landowner in Maryland can increase the financial returns on their forest stewardship efforts by minimizing property, income, and estate taxes as described in this publication—Tax and Estate Planning for Maryland Forests Landowners, Fact Sheet number 630 by Maryland Cooperative Extension.

The publication is available online at <http://extension.umd.edu/publications/PDFs/FS630.pdf> and includes an extensive list of resources and basic information on tax issues.



Study on private working forests and the economy

A new study, commissioned by the National Alliance of Forest Owners (NAFO) and conducted by Forest2Market, quantifies the economic impact of private, working forests on the U.S. economy. The study found a significant gap between the contributions made by privately-owned forests over other ownership types. On average, they generate \$277,000 in state GDP per 1,000 acres, while public forests generate just \$41,000. Results

of the study are available using the interactive map on NAFO's Web site. The full study is available at <http://www.forest2market.com/f2m-impact>.



More Tax tips for forest landowners

A bulletin released by the U.S. Forest Service summarizes federal income tax information useful to woodland owners in preparing their 2009 tax returns. To read the two-page tip sheet, visit www.timbertax.org/developments/TaxTip09-Final.pdf

EXPO RICHMOND 2010



32nd East Coast Sawmill and Logging Equipment Exposition,
Friday, May 21st and Saturday, May 22nd 2010
Richmond Raceway Complex in Richmond, Virginia.

EXPO RICHMOND 2010 will be the year's largest showcase of sawmill, portable sawmill, dry kiln, firewood processor, logging/harvesting, pallet manufacturing/recycling, trucks/trailers and related machinery and equipment, supplies, software and services in the Eastern United States. With over 12 acres of outdoor exhibit space and hundreds of indoor booths, *The Richmond Show* provides over one-half million square feet for active equipment demonstrations, exhibits and static displays. It will be the most comprehensive, all-encompassing forest products industry exposition of the year.

Attendees have the opportunity to compare their current equipment to the latest state-of-the-art, most technologically advanced equipment on the market. The extensive amount of equipment displayed, along with active product and machinery demonstrations both indoors and outdoors, provide the unique "hands-on" aspect of the Richmond show.

The exposition is co-sponsored by the Virginia Forest Products Association and the Cooperative Extension Service at Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University. Attendee pre-registration forms will be available in early 2010 in trade publications and direct-mail forms from the exposition office. On-line registration will also be available in early 2010. There will be no charge for any forest products industry member who pre-registers, and a small fee will be collected from on-site registrants.

For more information on attending or exhibiting in EXPO RICHMOND 2010, please contact:

Mike Washko, Exposition Manager
EXPO RICHMOND 2010
PO Box 160, Sandston, VA 23150-0160
Telephone: (804) 737-5625, Fax: (804) 737-9437

info@exporichmond.com

WVU ALUMNUS DESIGNS "TreeID" iPhone APPLICATION



TreeID, a successful application for iPhone, was created by Division alumnus Jason Siniscalchi, PhD. Jason holds a doctorate in Forest Resources Management with emphasis in Recreation, Parks and Tourism Resources. According to the product website, "wanted a way to share his research and interest in tree identification with the world for all nature enthusiasts. This app will also be helpful for allergy sufferers who can now easily identify the plants they are allergic to. TreeID allows the user to identify almost any tree in Northern America based upon its name, scientific name, bark, leaf, fruit or location. Because many of us using the app may not know the proper name for identifying particular types of leaves or fruit, the app will walk the user through the various methods of tree identification. The app contains thousands of images, illustrations and notations."

Jason currently resides in southeastern Connecticut, where he works at the Coast Guard Academy. For more information or to purchase the app, visit <http://www.medlmobile.com/Applications/TreeID/treeid.shtml>.



THE CROSSCUT

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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

April

- 12 **Sine Die**—MD General Assembly Adjourns
- 21 **MFA Executive Committee Conference Call**
- 23 **End of public comment period** on 2011 State Forest Work plans. See pg 5 for details.
- 24 **Take Charge of Your Legacy Workshop.** See pg 4 for details.

May

- 8 **22nd Delmarva Forestry Seminar.** See pg 4 for details
- 11 & 12 **Rural Development Convention.** See pg 6 for details
- 12&19 **Woods in Your Backyard Workshop.** See pg 4 for details
- 19 **MFA Board of Governors—Second Quarter Meeting**
- 22 **Western Maryland Green Energy Day** on Warrior Mtn. See pg 4 for details
- 23

Looking Ahead.....

October

- 8 **Room block** for MFA Annual Conference at Gaylord National is released. See pg. 3

November

- 5&6 **Maryland's Working Woodlands ~ MFA's 34th Annual Conference.** See pg. 3

DUES are DUE

Membership Directory to go to press

MFA's 2010 Dues Campaign is nearing its end. *Have we heard from you?* Check your mailing label above.

If "FY10" or "FY100" does not appear after your name then MFA has not received your dues. In accordance with Association Bylaws, your membership will need to be suspended until dues are received.

MFA's 2010 Handbook and Membership Directory will be going to press at the end of April. The handbook portion will **include all the information on MFA's new leadership and** governance structure, vision, mission and key strategies that the Board spent last year defining and refining.

The membership portion will list contact information for all members by membership category with an A-Z index included.

If you do not want to be listed in the directory, please contact the MFA office at 301-895-5369 or director@mdforests.org by April 16th.

