



# THE CROSSCUT

## Maryland Forests Association, Inc.

August /September 2011 (Vol. 34, Issue 4)

### From the President's Pen

John Jastrzembski

#### Top 5 Issues for MFA and US Businesses

Last month, the Wall Street Journal assembled leading chief financial officers from some of the largest companies in the world to discuss the most pressing issues facing their companies. The CFOs ranked the top five issues in terms of urgency and importance. As I read these top 5 issues they immediately hit home for me as President of MFA. Perhaps they are also crucial for our members; especially those that manage their forests, forest products businesses, farms, and personal budgets.



Be strategic. As MFA President I must be deeply involved in the strategic direction of MFA. I must make all operational units of MFA part of the strategic direction of MFA. We must all work together within the same framework. Common goals are crucial for MFA's membership. MFA has to have a shared VISION and MISSION. The Board of Governors developed MFAs strategic plan and we must all work to achieve it.

Drive Value through capital allocation. We all know how bad the economy is! There is only so much money in the bank. We can only add new members so fast. We have to look at value generation through reallocation of assets rather than generation of value through income and dividend earnings. I must guide MFA so that we produce "more bang for the buck". I have to make certain that the members are getting their monies worth. We can't survive living off our savings account. We survive by insuring our committees (governance, policy, education, and membership) are adding value to MFA.

Develop a Leadership Pipeline. MFA talent must be constantly honed. I need to insure that we have a Board of Governors that can fill vacancies immediately within the Executive Committee. Leadership Succession is critical. MFA has been without a vice president for over a year! Several on our Board are thankfully very active. Many are not. This is my fault. I need to correct this before my tenure ends. Leadership Succession is our life insurance.

Cash is a strategic tool. I must insure that the cash on hand is used for long-term value additions to MFA. We are fortunate to have enough cash to develop and implement our goals. Our assets have been seriously depleted over the past six years, fortunately, we have a bit of a safety net that we will use to build MFA sustainability.

Short-term and Long-term balance. I must insure that the Board of Governors understands the sources of MFA's value creation and how those sources are being nurtured. We need to look at where MFA needs to be in 5 years, the options available to us, what we choose to do and why. We must also insure that we achieve short term goals. Our policy committee has accomplished a lot and is already at work formulating the 2012 Legislative Agenda and Policy Statements; the education committee has four upcoming educational sessions; the membership committee is organizing two events this fall including our fall picnic. Long term goals are accomplished by meeting short term tasks.

So, as I close this column I ask that you share MFAs vision. Go to our website [www.mdforests.org](http://www.mdforests.org) and read about what we are doing, look at our legislative testimony, read our legislative notebook, register and attend our fall picnic, enroll in one of MFA's upcoming short courses.

-John

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**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	MARBITCO	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:**

Jessika Wrabel, Communications Coordinator

**Founded in 1976**, MFA is a nonprofit [501(c)(3)] 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 participation in the *Safety Group Insurance*, *Timberland Liability* and *Hunting Lease Liability Insurance* programs.

**For more information on membership visit us on the web at [www.mdforests.org](http://www.mdforests.org)**

MFA's new website launches September 1st !

[www.mdforests.org](http://www.mdforests.org)

"LIKE" our new Facebook page for MFA related news and events.

<http://www.facebook.com/pages/Maryland-Forests-Association-Inc/124096451010533#!/>

Go paperless!

E-mail us with "go paperless" in the subject line to receive all of your MFA updates electronically.

MFA and Tree Farm will have booths at Farm Field Day !

For more information on the Farm Day, the ShinDig and Aspen House Raffle tickets, contact Maria at [maria@truntnarc@gmail.com](mailto:maria@truntnarc@gmail.com) or (410) 229-0530 or sign up on [www.marylandagriculture.org](http://www.marylandagriculture.org). You can also pay with [PayPal](http://PayPal).

**SAVE THE DATE !**  
**FAMILY FARM DAY AND FULL MOON SHINDIG**  
**SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 10, 2011**



MARC (Maryland Agricultural Resource Council) invites you and your kids to celebrate harvest with fresh food and flower vendors, annual events, informative exhibits and demonstrations for all ages. Then put on your dancing boots for the Full Moon ShinDig.



MARYLAND AGRICULTURAL RESOURCE COUNCIL

**Farm Field Day**  
**Open House**  
 1 pm to 4 pm

Local Farmers' produce and meat  
 BBQ, pastries, ice cream  
 Pony rides and farm animals  
 Farm Machinery -- old and new  
 Barrel Racing demo  
 Make your own stick pony and race it!  
 Historic Restoration info  
 Make your own butter  
 Cow milking contest  
 Kids gardening  
 Dog agility demo  
 Wine tasting  
 Bluegrass music  
 Custom Portraits  
 Bee Keeper Demo  
 Livestock skillathon

**Full MOON ShinDig**  
**Dance and Dinner \$75/ person**  
 6 pm to 11 pm

**Jody West Band**—Country Rock  
 Caller for Square dance segments  
 "Heel and toe Do Si Do"  
 Sing along Guitar  
 Bluejeans and Boots,  
 Bouses, Bawbies and Bustlers  
 Texas Two Steppin' lesson.  
 Wanted Dead or Alive Portraits

**Where:** BCCMA (The Ag Center)  
 1114 Shawan Road, Cockeysville MD

**Date:** Saturday, September 10, 2011

**Times:** Farm Field Day 1 pm till 4 pm  
 Full MOON ShinDig 6 pm till 11 pm

**Funds raised from ShinDig will go to:**  
 Programs to preserve and promote Maryland agriculture.

Menu:  
 Grilled Steaks and Chicken  
 Fresh Corn, Baked potatoes  
 Salads and Fruit Cobblers

Raffle: 4 nights at Aspen Ski Club in January 2012  
 Value: \$9000.  
 Up to 8 people.  
 Chances \$50 each





# MFA and Maryland Tree Farm Affiliation

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On May 15, 2011 MFA President John Jastrzembki, American Tree Farm System's Bob Simpson, State Forester, Steve Koehn, and MD Tree Farm Chairman Len Wrabel, and other members of their respective organizations met to develop a working affiliation between the DNR Forest Service, MD Tree Farm, MFA and National Tree Farm System.

The details of the relationship are complex and it is more appropriate for Tree Farm Chairman Len Wrabel to share those within the Tree Farm organization. However, it is important for MFA to share with its members how we will be involved to help Maryland Tree Farm restructure its organization.

Understand that we are not "taking over" MD Tree Farm! Keep in mind that MFA and MD Tree Farm had a very strong relationship through the 1980's. MFA envisions this type of collaboration. The MFA Board of Governors wants to see MD Tree Farm regroup and succeed and MFA would like to see MD Tree Farm regain its position as integral voice of Forestry in Maryland. There are things that MFA does very well that could help Tree Farm communicate more effectively to Maryland Tree Farmers. Tree Farmers could also benefit from MFA social, educational, and professional activities.

For the remainder of this year MFA will provide the following for Tree Farm:

- A Tree Farm page in the MFA newsletter to communicate to their 1200 MD Tree Farmers.
- Partnership in the MFA October 1 Picnic
- Tree Farmers can purchase new Tree Farm Signs, meet with the MD Tree Farm Committee members, and participate in educational workshops.
- Invitations / partnership in MFAs four fall workshops
- Electronic Newsletter mailings to Tree Farmers.
- A web page within the MFA website.

MD Tree Farm will cover all expenses for administration, mailings, publications, and coordination.

What does MFA get in return?

MFA has access to 1200 MD Tree Farmers – forest landowners -- that can network with our forest products industry members, professionals, and family forest landowners.

We hope to develop an affiliate membership category for these Tree Farmers, thus increasing MFA membership.

MFA Picnic  
October 1st, 2011  
10am to 5pm

Edrich Lumber Pavilion, Baltimore Maryland  
9500 Old Court Road  
Windsor Mill, MD 21244

BBQ, fishing rodeo, volleyball, a guided nature hike, speakers, & more!

**Cost per individual:**

MFA members, & students (w/ ID) - \$10  
non-MFA members & Tree Farm members - \$15  
Children under 12 - \$5

9:30 Sustainable Forestry Implementation Committee meeting

10:00 Registration

10:30 -11:15 John Jastrzemski, President MFA, *Welcome & new relationship with Tree Farm*  
Marikay Wrabel, President, Mar-Len Environmental, Inc. *Why be a MFA member?*

11:30-11:45 Tim Culbreth, Chesapeake Watershed Forester, Maryland Forest Service, *"Year of the Forests. Maryland's celebration of International Year of Forests includes a big tree geocache, Jr. Forest Ranger program, and participating in National Walk in the Woods day. Learn about the programs and ways to expand their outreach with your help".*

Noon-2:00 Lunch catered by Charcoal Grille

2:00 Helene Cleveland, USDA Forest Service, National Fire Prevention Program Manager, *The History of Smokey Bear.*

2:30 Steve Allgeier, Horticulturalist, University of Maryland, Carroll County Extension. *Stink Bugs: Impact on Home Landscapes.*

3:00 Tom Mathews, Maryland Habitat Biologist / Contractor for the Wildlife Management Institute, Appalachian Mountains Young Forests Initiative, *Appalachian Mountains Young Forest Initiative (AMYFI), an overview of AMYFI and make the case for the importance of young forests to a multitude of wildlife species.*

3:30 Tom Morgart, USDA NRCS Assistant State Conservationist, *Federal Cost Share Assistance for Private Forest Landowners.*

4:00-5:00 Cake & new Member sign ups

# Deadline for picnic registration is September 15, 2011

Please send Check or Money Order to:  
Maryland Forests Association, Inc. PO Box 42016 Baltimore, MD 21284

OR

PayPal to: [director@mdforests.org](mailto:director@mdforests.org). PLEASE list names of all attendees and their affiliation using the set pricing.

Please include this form in your mailing:

Name of Attendee: \_\_\_\_\_ Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Affiliation: MFA member \_\_\_\_\_ \$10

Student \_\_\_\_\_ \$10

Tree Farm member \_\_\_\_\_ \$15

Non MFA Member \_\_\_\_\_ \$15

Child (under 12) \_\_\_\_\_ \$5

Name of Attendee: \_\_\_\_\_ Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Affiliation: MFA member \_\_\_\_\_ \$10

Student \_\_\_\_\_ \$10

Tree Farm member \_\_\_\_\_ \$15

Non MFA Member \_\_\_\_\_ \$15

Child (under 12) \_\_\_\_\_ \$5

Name of Attendee: \_\_\_\_\_ Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Affiliation: MFA member \_\_\_\_\_ \$10

Student \_\_\_\_\_ \$10

Tree Farm member \_\_\_\_\_ \$15

Non MFA Member \_\_\_\_\_ \$15

Child (under 12) \_\_\_\_\_ \$5

Name of Attendee: \_\_\_\_\_ Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Affiliation: MFA member \_\_\_\_\_ \$10

Student \_\_\_\_\_ \$10

Tree Farm member \_\_\_\_\_ \$15

Non MFA Member \_\_\_\_\_ \$15

Child (under 12) \_\_\_\_\_ \$5

**Total Amount Enclosed:** \_\_\_\_\_



# Impacting!

## MFA /National Woodland Owners Association Affiliation



On May 19 MFA President John Jastrzembki ratified a Memorandum of Understanding with the National Woodland Owners Association (NWOA). This affiliation is intended to complement the services provided to both organizations. The NWOA works on national and federal forestry issues. The NWOA has 35 state affiliate members of which MFA will represent Maryland. Advocacy of open markets, fair timber and property taxes, extension education, landowner regulation, and forestry conservation are major issues of the NWOA. Keith Argo, President of NWOA and John Jastrzembki, President of MFA have worked creatively to define an affiliation that enables MFA members to receive additional benefits, including: Family Lands and Conservation magazine; national voice in congress. NWOA will receive more Maryland-specific perspectives on national issues and input in Federal policy, a “direct connection” to Maryland forest landowners and industry representatives. A copy of the Memorandum of Understanding is available on the website.

[www.woodlandowners.org](http://www.woodlandowners.org)

## MFA Member Red Rock Enterprises LLC awards Forestry Scholarship

Red Rock Enterprises awarded a \$500.00 forestry scholarship to Chad Rugg, a second year forestry student at Allegheny College of Maryland. Red Rock enterprises purchases logs, land and standing timber and is a turn-key forest management company for private landowners. The award is given annually to a forestry student when the forestry class visits the Red Rock facilities in Friendsville MD.

Pictured in the photo (left to right) are Professor Steve Resh, Forestry Program Coordinator at ACM, Chad Rugg, John Jastrzembki, Professor of Forestry and President of the Maryland Forests Association, and Norman Nicole, Red Rock Enterprises wood yard manager.

Forest Industry represents \$7 billion dollars of economic vitality in Maryland. Red Rock Enterprises is a significant contributor to the economy of Western Maryland. Red Rock Enterprises is a member of the Maryland Forests Association and recognizes the asset of ACM's forestry students as the next generation of Maryland's resource managers.

Chad Rugg, scholarship recipient, is from Garrett Pennsylvania and a graduate of Rockwood High School. He enjoys



## OCEAN CITY MARYLAND VOTES TO USE MD LUMBER ON THE BOARDWALK

In December 2010, Ocean City officials began to consider rebuilding the city's boardwalk. They gave consideration to rebuilding with various combinations of materials, such as: all concrete, wood and concrete, plastic decking and concrete, and all wood structures to replace the aging boardwalk. As the public became aware of the were plans to rebuild the boardwalk, many comments were offered. City officials, recognizing the impact of their decision on the tourism industry, decided to establish an internet poll and a public comment period.

The options were:

- all-wood surface

- wood surface with a plain concrete tram lane

- wood surface with a concrete tram lane stamped to look like wood

**The Maryland Forests Association Policy Committee** wrote to comment that not only should

the boardwalk be replaced using the all-wood option but that Ocean City should specify that the lumber be Maryland grown and sawn. By specifying Maryland grown and sawn, the city would support Maryland's family forests which provide: rural jobs, lumber, clean water, carbon sequestration, wildlife habitat and scenic vistas for those travelling to Ocean City.

The City of Ocean City officials voted 5-2 at their March 7, 2011 meeting in favor of rebuilding the boardwalk with an all wood surface on a concrete substructure. While it does not appear that the City limited its suppliers to Maryland grown and sawn lumber, we are pleased to see that Louis J. Grasmick Lumber Company of Baltimore has won the bid to provide the lumber for the project. Grasmick Lumber has provided lumber for boardwalk repairs for 13 of the last 15 years.

**For more information:**

<http://www.grasmicklumber.com>

<http://ocboards.com/>

[http://www.oceancitytoday.net/news/2011-07-22/Top\\_News/TimberSIL\\_lumber\\_claims\\_debated\\_by\\_Ocean\\_City\\_Coun.html](http://www.oceancitytoday.net/news/2011-07-22/Top_News/TimberSIL_lumber_claims_debated_by_Ocean_City_Coun.html)



# MFA Educational Trainings Coming to you!

The Maryland Forests Association, in cooperation with University of Maryland and Forestry for The Bay is conducting 4 Educational Workshops for forest landowners, MFA members, Tree Farmers, and forest conservationists. Registration and Payment is required two weeks in advance. Seats are limited and on a first registered-first served basis.

Register via PayPal to: [director@mdforests.org](mailto:director@mdforests.org) or by mailing a check to MFA PO Box 42016 Baltimore, MD 21284  
If mailing a check indicate on the memo line the workshop(s) you are registering for, and be sure to include your email address/phone. When using PayPal indicate the information in the "notes" box.

Direct registration questions to Jessika Wrabel at [director@mdforests.org](mailto:director@mdforests.org) & individual workshop inquiries to the listed speaker.

## Region: MFA -Western

Topic: [Understanding Landowner Liability for Recreational Activities on Your Property](#)

Location: Western Maryland Research & Education Center, 18330 Keedysville Road, Keedysville, MD

Time: Tuesday, August 23, 7-9 p.m.

Cost: \$10.00 Registration and Payment in advance to Jessika at MFA

Speaker: Jonathan Kays, UME Natural Resource Specialist & George Timko DNR Wildlife Division, Deer Biologist.

Details: This workshop will cover the basics of landowner liability for recreational activities that take place on private land such as hunting, fishing, ATV, etc.. It will also cover how to deal with trespass issues and setting up written leases for hunting for free or for a fee.

## Region: MFA \_Central

Topics: [Managing Invasive Plants on Your Property](#)

Location: Baltimore County UME office, 114 Shawan Road, Cockeysville, MD 21030

Time: Wednesday, August 31, 6:30 - 9 p.m.

Cost: \$10.00 Registration and Payment in advance to Jessika at MFA

Speaker: Craig Highfield

Details: This workshop will introduce participants to the harmful effects invasive plants have on our woods and natural areas. We will also discuss various methods to avoid their introduction and spread on your property and management techniques to help control their proliferation.

## Region: MFA - Southern

Topics: [Emerald Ash borer & Your Woodland](#)

Location: St. Mary's County Library, Charlotte Hall Branch, 37600 New Market Road, Charlotte Hall, MD 20622

Time: Tuesday, October 5, 7-9 p.m.

Cost: \$10.00 Registration and Payment in advance to Jessika at MFA

Speaker: Nevin Dawson

Details: Focus on forest and tree landowners in the ash quarantine areas of Maryland. Management options and forest resource implications for wildlife, watersheds, and forest ecology.

## Region: MFA - Eastern

Topics: [Timber Tax Workshop](#)

Location: Wye Research & Education Center 18330 Keedysville Road, Keedysville, MD

Time: Tuesday, January 17, 2012. 6:30 - 9 p.m.

Cost: \$10.00 Registration and Payment in advance to Jessika at MFA

Speaker: Bob Tjaden Details: This program will focus on record keeping, how to handle cost share payments on practices such as reforestation, rental payment for federal programs such as CRP, how to report timber sales and capital gains and ways to treat casualty losses on your forest lands. This program is guaranteed to save you money by properly reporting your timber sales and cost share payments on your federal and state income tax forms.





*On the web at [www.mdforests.org](http://www.mdforests.org)*

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