



WOODLOT

WINTER
OWNER
2011

VOLUME 12, ISSUE 2

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2010 Woodlot Owner of the Year Celebrated!

Not even rain could stop people from attending the field day celebrating Jim and Donna Webber as *2010 Provincial Woodlot Owners of the Year*. The event, held on October 2, attracted more than 120 visitors despite the weather. While the Webbers represented the eastern region, George Post and family picked up the award for the central region and Dave and Sheila Thomas captured the honours for the western region.



MLA Maurice Smith, right, presenting the 2010 WOYA winners sign to the Webber family. Representing the Webbers from left are Jennifer Webber, Donna Webber and Jim Webber.

PHOTO BY PAUL DARROW

Visitors had the opportunity to meet Jim and his family as well as those who work on the woodlot, giving them a greater insight into work performed on the lot and the products derived. Many exhibitors and industry professionals were on site to share information and experiences. MLA Maurice Smith, who spoke on behalf of Minister John MacDonell, indicated that the success of events like the Woodlot Owner of the Year Award highlights the important role small private woodlands play in the lives of Nova Scotians and the significance of these woodlands to the forest industry and future growth of Nova Scotia. Mr. Smith reminded the participants that education is key to sustainable resource management, and programs such as Woodlot Owner of the Year (WOYA) provide a unique opportunity for woodland owners to share their experiences on various aspects of woodland management.



Participants at the Webber's field day had opportunity to try using longbows and crossbows.

PHOTO BY PAUL DARROW

The Department of Natural Resources advocates increased educational opportunities as a fundamental method to achieving sustainable use of forested land across the province. It is through education and information sharing forums such as WOYA that woodlot owners gain the competence to make informed decisions that are sustainable and environmentally responsible.



www.gov.ns.ca/natr
(902) 424-5444
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WOODLOT OWNER

Central WOYA Field Day - September 18, 2010

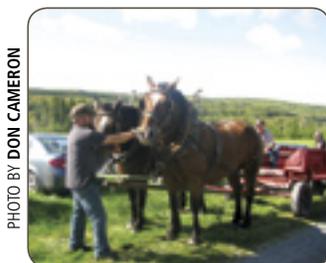


PHOTO BY DON CAMERON

George Post's main goal is to enjoy his 263 hectares (650 acres) of land and have it provide economic benefits in the process. What was an undeveloped woodlot nearly three decades ago, is now a property with many values that led to the Posts winning the Central Region Woodlot Owner of the Year Award.

Visitors enjoyed a wagon ride at the Post woodlot tour.

More than 100 people attended the field day on September 18, 2010 in West River Station, Pictou County including Natural Resources Minister John MacDonell who presented the woodlot sign to the Post family. Mr. MacDonell's speech recognized

the importance of the Woodlot Owner of the Year Award in providing opportunities for fellow woodlot owners to share their experiences and knowledge. Minister MacDonell congratulated all the winners, their family members, and their employees for the great work they've done over the years.

The Post woodlot is one of only two in Nova Scotia that produces organic Christmas trees. Post has demonstrated leadership in sustainable living by installing a windmill that supplies him with one third of his electricity needs.

Field day events included a tour of the property, demonstrations of organic Christmas tree management, non-timber forest product opportunities, hardwood management and various silviculture treatments.



PHOTO BY SIMON MUTABAZI

Minister John MacDonell, right, presenting the woodlot sign to the Post family. The Post family was represented by George and his wife Debbie, as well as their son Jordan.



PHOTO BY SIMON MUTABAZI

Participants listening to Dave Thomas.

Western WOYA Field Day - September 25, 2010

David and Sheila Thomas' woodlot in North Range, Digby County, has been in the family for six generations. Their sustainable practices have passed the test of time and their main goal is to maintain the land's healthy forest. This year was their second time winning the award.

The field day events included a tour of the 192 hectare (474 acre) property, a tour and demonstrations of the sawmill,

Christmas tree management with a display of shearing and tagging techniques by a Christmas tree specialist, and various silvicultural treatments.

Approximately 100 people attended the event, which was officiated by Minister of Environment, Honourable Sterling Belliveau. He congratulated Thomas and his family for setting an excellent example of sustainable forest management, and for their contribution to the stewardship of natural resources.



PHOTO BY SIMON MUTABAZI

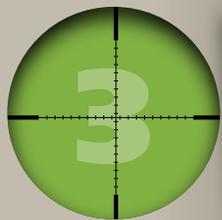
Honourable Sterling Belliveau, left, presenting the woodlot sign to Dave and Sheila Thomas.

2011 WOYA: CALL FOR NOMINATIONS

We're looking for the 2011's winners! Anyone can nominate deserving candidates for 2011 WOYA campaign. Please note that the nomination deadline is April 15, 2011.

For more information about WOYA program please visit: www.gov.ns.ca/natr/woodlot/woya

The WOYA program has been honouring outstanding stewardship of small private woodland owners for more than 20 years. The program encourages woodland owners to practice sustainable woodland management. It also increases public awareness on the importance of private woodlots in Nova Scotia and to facilitate information exchange among woodland owners through demonstration (learning by seeing/doing).



WOODLOT OWNER

Kids in the Forest (KITF) 2010



PHOTO BY SIMON MUTABAZI

Kids enjoyed their day; stops visited included fire fighting using a helicopter.

Kids in the Forest was developed by the Department of Natural Resources for school classes as a way to share woodland management activities and options with these future stewards of the land. This year students learned various aspects of natural resource management including hunting as a recreational sport and a resource management tool, silvicultural treatments, blueberry production, as well as career options within the realm of resource management. The KITF days were held the day prior to the public field day at each regional WOYA winner's woodlot.

The Future of Nova Scotia's Forestry Sector

The economic, social and environmental values to provide guidance for future forestry policy, key strategic directions include:

- * To reduce the proportion of wood harvested by the clear cut method to no more than 50 per cent of all forested lands over a five-year period. Commercial harvests will be registered with the Department of Natural Resources and progress will be reported annually. The Code of Forest Practice will provide consistent principles and standards of ecosystem-based science to support this goal.
- * To prohibit the removal of whole trees from the forest site in order to maintain woody debris at these sites, with the exception of Christmas tree harvesting.
- * Public funds will not be directed to herbicide spraying for forestry.
- * Private land owners will not be required to have management plans to harvest their woodlots for non-commercial energy use.
- * To undertake an analysis of options regarding a province-wide Annual Allowable Cut in order to limit total harvested amounts.
- * To incorporate the requirements for harvesting forest biomass in the Code of Forest Practices and, as stated in the Renewable Electricity Plan, revise the regulations under the Forests Act to ensure commercial users of biomass for energy or fuel production are registered buyers and subject to the same rules as the existing forest industry.

New Minister and Deputy Minister Join DNR



The Department of Natural Resources is pleased to welcome the Honourable Charlie Parker as our new Minister. Mr. Parker was first elected to the Nova Scotia House of Assembly as MLA for Pictou West in 1998. He was elected again in 2003, 2006 and 2009. Prior to that he was involved in municipal government and has worked in real estate sales, owned and operated a garden centre business, and has taught at the junior high and elementary school levels.

Most recently Mr. Parker served as the Speaker of the Nova Scotia Legislative Assembly and the Chair of the Assembly Matters Committee and the House of Assembly Management Commission.

The Department also welcomes Duff Montgomerie as Deputy Minister. Mr. Montgomerie brings a wealth of experience to the position. Most recently he was deputy minister of Health Promotion and Protection, a position he held since March 2007. Prior to that he was HPP's assistant deputy minister. He has also worked in the Premier's Office, Department of Health and Treasury and Policy Board throughout his career in government.





WOODLOT OWNER

Event Listings

Do you want to learn more about resources that can help you better understand and manage woodland sustainably? Explore various objectives such as harvesting timber, providing wildlife habitats, exploring non-timber forest products, or simply maintaining forest health? Hear experts and woodland owners talk about woodland issues? If so, plan to attend one of these informative sessions coming to a community in your region.

Dates for:

The Woodland Conferences 2011



MARCH 5, 2011: Western Nova Scotia: West Kings High School, Auburn, Kings Co.

APRIL 2, 2011: Central Nova Scotia: Wentworth Recreation Centre, Wentworth Valley, Cumberland Co.

APRIL 9, 2011: Eastern Nova Scotia: Port Hawkesbury, Port Hawkesbury Civic Centre, Inverness Co.

Cost: \$25 and includes lunch. Visit www.woodlotinfoshop.ca or call 1-855-638-7277 to pre-register for a chance to win a GPS.

DNR Youth Hunting and Trapping Camp

February 15 – 16, 2011



Join Department of Natural Resources staff and local experts for a two-day, overnight hunting and trapping camp. This hands-on camp gives participants the chance to learn skills and gain experience in hunting, snaring, and outdoor recreation safety. The camp will take place at the Chaswood Educational Woodlot in Halifax County and provides an opportunity to make and set snares, construct survival kits, practice outdoor cooking and learn the basics of wilderness navigation and interpreting the environment. Day Two will have youth travel to the local rifle range to fire crossbows and .22 calibre rifles. The camp is open to boys and girls between the ages of 12 and 15. There is a limit of 12 participants, so register soon!

Contact the Natural Resources Education Centre at 384-3420 or nrec@gov.ns.ca for more information, or to request a registration package.

Woodlot Management Home Study Series

This free program consists of a series of 15 easy-to-understand modules on topics relating to woodland stewardship. By following the principles and ideas in this series, woodlot owners can turn their woodlot goals into a reality.

REVISED WOODLOT ECOLOGY MODULE COMING SOON!

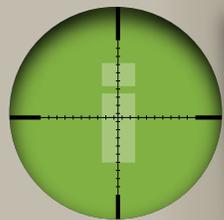
The DNR Home Study woodlot ecology module is being revised to include new information on key regulations to support healthy ecosystems. Topics will include wildlife habitat and water course protection regulations, issues of sustainability and integrated resource management, planning and managing for changes, climate change related issues, global warming and our forest ecosystem, as well as the Nova Scotia Ecological Land Classification.

To reserve your copy, or any other home study module, please contact: Simon Mutabazi (see contact information) or your local DNR office.

More information can be found at www.gov.ns.ca/natr/education/woodlot

If you are interested in receiving any of the 15 free modules don't hesitate to contact us.





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Event Listings continued...

The *Nova Scotia Outdoor Leadership Development* (NSOLD) program will be offering an outdoor survival course January 28 -30, 2011 at Gittens Lodge just east of Bible Hill. Join us for this highly experiential program. This module offers participants an opportunity to test their mental and physical survival skills in a winter wilderness setting.

The cost is \$65 (\$55 for students). For more information, or to register, please contact the course coordinator, Sandra Fraser at 424-5481, frasersx@gov.ns.ca

For more information visit www.nsold.ca.



Did you know?

2011 is the International Year of Forests

The United Nations General Assembly declared 2011 as the *International Year of Forests* to raise awareness on sustainable management, conservation and sustainable development of all types of forests.

Chainsaw Use and Safety Course

The Nova Scotia Department of Natural Resources will host a chainsaw use and safety course in the Eastern, Western and Central regions in March and April 2011. If you are interested in attending one of these courses please pre-register by contacting your local DNR office or Simon Mutabazi at 424-5444.

Winter/Evening Courses!

To be announced soon. Please visit our website for upcoming classroom course sessions on various woodlot management related topics.

Atlantic Teachers' Tour

August 2011

The *Atlantic Teachers Tour* is an annual event, held throughout the Maritime provinces. Interested forestry companies and organizations sponsor the event, covering all costs to educators. It is a unique opportunity for teachers who want to know more about Maritime forests and how they are used and managed.

Further information can be found at www.teacherstour.com or contact Peter Robichaud probichaud@cwcof.org

From Our Atlantic Woods second edition. Call for new listings.

Have you received a copy of the 2009 - 2010 *From Our Atlantic Woods* non-timber forest product directory?

To order copies for yourself, or for distribution at your place of business, please contact Simon Mutabazi at 424-5444.

Are you interested in free advertising in the second print edition of the *From*

Our Atlantic Woods Non-Timber Forest Products Directory? To see if your business qualifies, or to apply please contact

Telephone:

506-450-8787,

Toll Free (in the Maritimes):

1-877-450-8787,

Fax: 506-454-0652,

or Email: infor@infor.ca

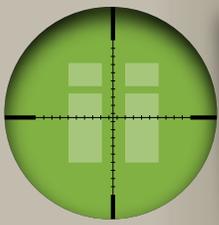


OUR CONTACT INFORMATION

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E-mail: woodlot@gov.ns.ca
Web: www.gov.ns.ca/natr/extension/



WOODLOT OWNER

Woodlot Owner of the Year Award 2011 Nomination Form

(Please note: Deadline for nominations is April 15, 2011)

WOODLOT OWNER INFORMATION

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Address: _____

Email: _____

Woodlot Location(s): _____

Woodlot Size: _____

NOMINATOR INFORMATION

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Address: _____

Why is this owner a good candidate for the Woodlot Owner of the Year Award?

PLEASE RETURN FORM TO:

Stewardship & Outreach Section, Department of Natural Resources, P.O. Box 698, Halifax, NS B3J 2T9, Phone: 902-424-5444

Toll-Free: 1-866-226-7577

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Web: www.gov.ns.ca/natr/woodlot