



# WOODLAND OWNER

SUMMER  
2014  
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## Inside this issue...

2014 Woodland Owner of the Year Award Winners  
... page 1

Upcoming Events  
... page 3

Past Events

- Woodland Owner Conferences
- Small Scale Equipment Demo Day

... page 3

Announcements

- Woodland Management Home Study
- Cape Breton Privateland Partnership

... page 4

WOYA 2015 Nomination Form  
... insert A

## 2014 Woodland Owner of the Year Award Winners

Celebrating its 25th year, the Woodland Owner of the Year Award has recognized many Nova Scotia landowners who practice and promote sustainable woodland management. This year's winners are inspirational with their attempts to continuously improve the health of their forests.

*"My sincere congratulations to the Carver, Simons and Rowter families on being recognized by their peers as innovative and skilled woodland managers," said Natural Resources Minister Zach Churchill. "They demonstrate the important contribution that individual woodland owners make to maintain healthy and diverse forests in Nova Scotia."*

The 2014 provincial, and western region, winners are Hiram and Ernest Carver and family of New Germany, Lunenburg County. This father-son pair sustainably manages 142 hectares (350 acres) of woodland. In the past they grew Christmas trees, but now focus their efforts on selection management and regeneration efforts.

Hiram stresses the importance of talking and networking with other woodland owners when getting involved in woodland management. Since purchasing the land 40 years ago, their connections with other woodland owners have helped them to get where they are today.



Hiram (left) and Ernest Carver are this year's provincial and western region winners!

Avid snowmobilers, the Carvers welcome recreation on their property so others can enjoy the beauty and peace of the woods. They aim to protect the beauty and biodiversity of the forest by setting aside some of the property for conservation.



Safety is a priority for the Carvers; arrows signal where they are on the property in case of emergency

## 2

## WOODLAND OWNER

**In the central region,** John and Sharon Simons and family took the honour due to the dedicated management of their 263 hectare (650 acres) property in Springhill, Cumberland County. With the help of his son, Justin, John is actively improving his woodland by harvesting pulpwood and firewood, while also expanding their sugar woods – once operated by John's father-in-law. Perhaps it is the legacy of the land that inspires John to manage for the future with long-term thinking and sustainability inherent in his harvesting practices.



*Central region honours went to John and Sharon Simons*

*The Simons have approximately 600 maple trees tapped for syrup production*

**In the eastern region,** Richard and Carol Rowter and family are celebrated for their attitude toward managing their 54 hectare (133 acres) property in Boularderie East, Victoria County. One of the first members of the new Cape Breton Private Lands Partnership, Richard has shown great ambition and initiative for sustainably managing his land purchased in 2006. He continues to work toward his management objectives of recreation, wildlife habitat maintenance, and economic return, and encourages all woodland owners to have a current management plan.



*Richard and Carol Rowter celebrate their eastern region award with their grandson, Jacob*

*Richard does all the harvesting himself with small-scale equipment, such as this ATV trailer using ramps to load large logs*

**The 2014 Woodland Owners of the Year will be celebrated this fall. Come meet the winners and walk their woodlands September 20, 27 and October 4!**

#### HONOURABLE MENTION TO OTHER 2014 WOYA NOMINEES

- **Douglas Keddy** – New Ross, Lunenburg County
- **Doug & Verna MacLeod** – Oxford, Cumberland County
- **David & Claire Burton** – Newton Mills, Colchester County
- **Fred Sweet** – New Russell, Lunenburg County
- **Greg Elliot** – MacPhee's Corner, Hants County
- **Douglas Langille** – Truro, Colchester County

Do you know how to identify Nova Scotia's native trees? Get quick tips from our interactive guide online @ [novascotia.ca/natr/forestry/treeid](http://novascotia.ca/natr/forestry/treeid)

## Upcoming Events:

**August 11 – 14<sup>th</sup>**; Teacher's Tour, Fredericton, NB  
[teacherstour.com](http://teacherstour.com)

**September 12 – 14<sup>th</sup>**; Becoming an Outdoors-Woman®  
NS Workshop [novascotia.ca/natr/outdoor](http://novascotia.ca/natr/outdoor)

**September 19<sup>th</sup>**; Kids in the Forest Day, Eastern

**September 20<sup>th</sup>**; Woodland Owner of the Year Field Day, Eastern

**September 26<sup>th</sup>**; Kids in the Forest Day, Central

**September 27<sup>th</sup>**; Woodland Owner of the Year Field Day, Central

**October 3<sup>rd</sup>**; Kids in the Forest Day, Western

**October 4<sup>th</sup>**; Woodland Owner of the Year Field Day, Western

## Past Events

### WOODLAND OWNER CONFERENCES

Nearly 200 people attended the 2014 Woodland Owner Conferences held this past spring. Woodland owners, landowner groups, government, and others shared their knowledge about forest pests, endangered species protection, silviculture funding opportunities, and much more. Missed the conferences? You can still check out the presentations by visiting our website – [novascotia.ca/natr/woodlot](http://novascotia.ca/natr/woodlot)

### SMALL SCALE EQUIPMENT DEMO DAY



Landowner Walter Rodler has modified much of his small-scale equipment to be safer and more efficient



Visitors observe an Oxtrac 1000 skidder in action

Outdoor enthusiasts had a unique opportunity to meet a local inventor and observe small scale forestry equipment in action this past June. The Dept. of Natural Resources and landowner Walter Rodler hosted a public demonstration day with low impact equipment. This type of equipment, among other things, makes it more feasible for woodland owners to implement selection harvesting and support uneven-aged forest management.

Interested in more events like this? Get in touch and let us know!



## WOYA is a Winner!

Our Woodland Owner of the Year program received the 2013 John C. Currie Award for its contribution to sustainable resources management through shared stewardship. Thank you to everyone who has been a part of this program over the last 25 years – organizers, winners, and visitors!

## Announcements

### WOODLAND MANAGEMENT HOME STUDY PROGRAM

This program is bigger and better than ever! New for 2014: *Harvesting on Your Woodland*, *Hiring and Working with a Woodland Contractor*, and *Pests of the Acadian Forest*. Also coming soon: *Fire Management and Your Woodland*. Get in touch with us today to order your copies!

The home study program is a series of booklets on topics related to woodland stewardship and sustainable land management. Participating in the program is free and open to anyone with an interest in woodland management.



### CAPE BRETON PRIVATELAND PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM

The Cape Breton Privatelands Partnership (CBPP) – a pilot project to test a new way of providing forest management services to woodland owners – was officially launched May 5th. CBPP is a partnership of organizations that promotes and facilitates services for private woodland owners in Cape Breton. The partnership acts as a one-stop shop to help landowners and contractors connect with one another, along with providing technical support and services to landowners. If you own a private woodlot in Cape Breton, visit [www.cbwoodlots.org](http://www.cbwoodlots.org) or call 902-623-1132 for more information on how to join.

### TRIVIA:

1. How many Woodland Management Home Study modules are currently offered, and how much does each module cost?
2. What anniversary is the Woodland Owner of the Year Award program celebrating in 2014?
3. What forest pest is currently impacting the forests of Quebec, and may spread to Nova Scotia's forests?

Help us reduce costs! If you'd be willing to receive this newsletter by email rather than by mail, or if you want your name removed from this mailing list, please let us know. Our contact info is below.

*Trivia answers: 1) 17 modules are currently offered; all are completely free! 2) 25<sup>th</sup> 3) Spruce budworm*

### OUR CONTACT INFORMATION

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