



Woodland Owner

Summer 2018 Edition
Volume 20, Issue 1

2018 Woodland Owner of The Year Award Winners

The Nova Scotia Woodland Owner of the Year Award has recognized outstanding woodland stewards since 1990. The award promotes landowners who practice sustainable stewardship of their land with the goal to encourage other woodland owners to practice sustainable forestry. The program also aims to increase public awareness, of the importance of small private woodlands in Nova Scotia.

We are proud to present the 2018 WOYA winners...



The Veinotte Family, Western and Provincial Winners

PROVINCIAL & WESTERN WINNERS: KEVIN VEINOTTE AND FAMILY

Congratulations to Kevin Veinotte and his family for winning both the Provincial and Western awards.

Located in Lunenburg County, Kevin Veinotte and his family operate an “Out to Pasture Farm”, which integrates their active farm, woodlot, a Christmas tree U-Pick, and the recent addition of a poultry processing facility. The livestock on the farm includes Belted Galloway cattle, sheep, chickens and ducks, which the family breeds and raises to sell at local farmers’ markets.

The Veinotte’s woodlot is an authentic and spectacular working farm and forest. Kevin and his family work hard to maintain a sustainable natural habitat for present and future generations.

Kevin is known as a pillar in the community. He is a mentor, an employer and an educator.

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Woodland Owner of the Year Award Nomination Form
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(902) 424-5444 or 1-866-226-7577



The Veinotte's 400-acre (160 ha) woodlot provides year-round employment. Work on their land includes activities like silviculture, harvesting, road improvements, boundary line maintenance, and Christmas tree management. Their Christmas tree U-Pick occurs during the five weekends leading up to Christmas and horse rides, hot chocolate and cookies are offered around a campfire.

Kevin and his family have applied various silviculture treatments on their woodlot including appropriate selection harvest methods, commercial thinning, pre-commercial thinning, crop tree release and some crop tree pruning. They have a wide range of management certificates under their belts and they are currently venturing into an exciting and new forest carbon management plan.

Kevin and his family previously won the **provincial and regional awards** in 2007.

Come visit this well-managed woodland and learn more about sustainable woodlot practices from Kevin and his family as they host a field day on their lands on **Saturday, September 29th**.

LOCATION: Out to Pasture Farm, Civic #300 Mossman Road, West Northfield, Lunenburg County

CENTRAL WINNERS: SNELL FAMILY



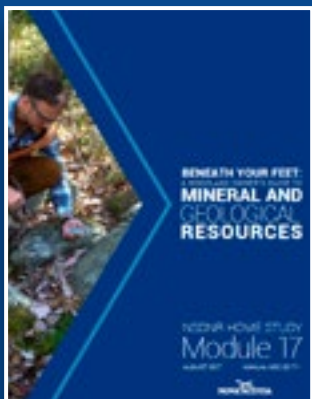
The Snell family

Jaime Snell owns and operates family woodlot in the Wentworth Valley, which has been passed on from generation to generation, and could enter its fourth generation of Snell ownership in the future.

As Jaime says, *"the family's love for the woods and nature has been a real Canadian love story"*.

Jaime's father wrote a letter to his family describing how he valued the property and what the woodlot means to the family. It reads: *"I have always loved forestlands and I hope, with walking and talking about trees, brooks, trout, birds, animals, flowers, bees, ferns and even fiddleheads, which I found this year, that you both will carry on the*

Woodland Management Home Study Program



MODULE 17 BENEATH YOUR FEET: A WOODLAND OWNER'S GUIDE TO MINERAL AND GEOLOGICAL RESOURCES

Our newest edition to the ever-expanding series in our woodland management home study program. The module includes topics such as: types of mineral and geological resources, ownership and regulation of geological resources, developing geothermal energy, and geo-tourism or aggregates on your woodlot. Contact us to receive your free copy today and get started. You can access this module online at: woodlot.novascotia.ca/content/module-17-beneath-your-feet-woodland-owners-guide-mineral-and-geological-resources-0



NEW PUBLICATION: ECOLOGICAL LAND CLASSIFICATION FOR NOVA SCOTIA: A GUIDE THAT SHOWCASES THE PROVINCE'S BIODIVERSITY AND NATURAL FEATURES.

The Guide organizes the province's geography into zones and regions with detailed descriptions of climate, elevations, geology, topography, soil, vegetation and other indications. Ecological Land Classification is a method used to describe and map ecosystems allowing us to study and understand the relationship between wildlife and the physical environment. A free PDF download of the book is available online at novascotia.ca/natr/forestry/ecological/ecolandclass.asp. Printed copies can be ordered from the Department of Lands and Forestry for \$10 plus GST, by calling **902-424-8633**, or e-mailing DNR.library@novascotia.ca, or visit novascotia.ca/natr/forestry/ecological/ecolandclass.asp



Simon and Peter looking at the cabin on the woodlot, that's being refurbished

tradition of the managed forest after I am gone.
 – Jaime Snell Sr.

In 1966, Jaime's grandfather purchased 95 acres (34 ha) of land to start a timber company. Currently the woodlot is about 500 acres (202 ha) and is known for its exotic trees. Jaime's father's full-scale planting took place between 1975 and 1996, when he planted a variety of non-native tree species ranging from Norway spruce to redwoods. He experimented with non-indigenous trees such as Sitka spruce, Douglas fir, Austrian pine and redwood. Mr. Snell had each exotic seedling flown in from British Columbia. Out of all the non-indigenous trees that were planted, the redwoods

were the only type that did not survive, the other tree species are flourishing.

EASTERN WINNERS: RUTHE MACAULAY AND BILL OPREL



Ruthe and Bill, the Eastern Region Woodland Owner of the Year Winner

During 2011, Ruthe and Bill purchased land in the small community of Glencoe Mills near Whycocomagh. Prior to purchasing the property, the woodlot was in poor condition.

Since then, both Ruthe and Bill have been working tirelessly on the 330 acres (134 ha) property; however, they thoroughly enjoy the work. Ruthe says: *"When we initially bought the property, we never really had a goal/objective. We were naive, and we just wanted a trail to ski on."*

That soon changed when they came across the many useful resources and tools offered by the Department of Lands and Forestry, including the Home Study Program, which they continuously refer to for guidance.

Their perspective on the forest is unique and worth noting. Ruthe and Bill see the forest as their teacher, and they continue to learn from it in new ways every day. Through the experience and knowledge gained from their time in the forest, Ruthe and Bill have put a new focus on conscience stewardship. With the various activities implemented, such as pre-commercial thinning, the woodlot has seen a drastic change for the better. The biodiversity of the property is thriving and will continue to do so under their watch.

The woodlot has a mixture of tree species, including red maple, white birch and white pine. There is also an area of old growth forest. Both Ruthe and Bill have noticed several trails of different wildlife such as moose, bear, coyote, nesting Red-tailed Hawk and rabbits. The increase in biodiversity serves as a testimony to the caring and productive management of this couple.



Ruthe Macaulay and Bill Oprel

UPCOMING EVENTS

Events Calendar

September 16 Furharvester Education course

Location: Shubenacadie, Hants County. 8:30am-5:00pm

September 22 Furharvester Education course

Location: Tusket, Yarmouth County 8:30am- 5:00pm

Course fee is \$40+HST. Space is limited. Register online at hmcgroup.ca/education

If you have any questions, contact the Trappers Association of NS:

Website: trappersassociationofnovascotia.ca

Email: trapperassociationns@gmail.com

Giants of Nova Scotia Photo Calendar contest

September 14 submission deadline. 2019 calendar celebrate the beauty of Nova Scotia's trees and forests.

Visit GiantsofNovaScotia.com

September 28 Kids in the Forest

Location: Kevin Veinotte Civic #300 Mossman Road, West Northfield, Lunenburg County

September 29 Woodland Owner of the Year Award (WOYA) public field day.

Location: West Northfield, Lunenburg Co, 462 Mossman Road

October 24-26 Nova Scotia Forest Festival.

Location: Memory Lane Heritage Village, Lake Charlotte, N.S.

Visit: heritagevillage.ca

Our Contact Information

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Like us on Facebook

@ Nova Scotia Woodlands and
stay tuned to any upcoming family
events and other information



In Your Community

Since the Fort McMurray wildfires and structure loss occurred in 2016, the general interest in community preparedness and the wildfire risk around homes has increased significantly. As an example, there have been multiple public sessions in and around Halifax. The suburban community of Tantallon took it a step further and applied for a FireSmart Grant of \$500, and became the first community in Nova Scotia to receive it. The community then developed an emergency evacuation plan and a community awareness blitz to inform residents of the things they can do around their home to reduce wildfire risk.

There are numerous communities across the province that have taken part in some sort of awareness campaign and/or training in wildfire preparedness and mitigation within their community. Recently, the confederacy of Mainland Mi'kmaq reached out to Lands and Forestry's Wildfire Prevention division and coordinated wildfire risk assessments within seven First Nation communities.

If your community is interested in learning more about wildfire risk assessments and or education on how to become FireSmart in a wildfire, please visit firesmartcanada.ca or email kara.mccurdy@novascotia.ca.



Welcome Iain Rankin

The Department of Lands and Forestry welcomes the Honourable Iain Rankin as the new Minister of Lands and Forestry. Mr. Rankin was first elected to the Nova Scotia House of Assembly as MLA for Timberlea-Prospect in 2013 and was re-elected in 2017. He served as Minister of Environment before joining Lands and Forestry.

The New Department Name

As of July 5, the Department of Natural Resources has been renamed the **Department of Lands and Forestry**. Also, the former geoscience and mines division has transferred to the new Department of Energy and Mines.

WHAT DOES THIS MEAN FOR PEOPLE WHO USE OUR SERVICES?

Forestry is a huge economic driver in Nova Scotia and the industry will continue to have a strong department focused on regulation, management and monitoring. Lands and Forestry will continue to focus on achieving balance between conservation and use sustainable development and inclusive economic growth. Nothing will change in terms of our structure. Clients and the public should continue to use our offices and have access to the service as always, as this will not affect daily activities in any way.

