



Woodland Owner Review

Winter 2006 Vol. 7, No. 2

2006 Nova Scotia Woodland Owner of the Year Award celebrated in style!

The Western Woodlot Owner of the Year Award was celebrated at Tom Ernst woodlot located at Spondo, Lunenburg County on September 15 and 16, 2006.

During the morning of September 15, 2006, the opportunity to see and learn from Tom Ernst, his crew members, and also from various resource persons from the Department of Natural Resources, Bowater, was given to school going children. A total of two hundred and eighty (280) from neighbouring schools visited the property, and learned various aspects of natural resource management including, Christmas Tree management, aquatic life, tree identification, fire management and many more..

This out door activity provides opportunity for children to go out , exercise, explore, and reconnect with mother nature!



Photo: Tomorrow's generation appreciated Tom's achievements.
Taken by Maurice Comeau.

The award presentation on the September 16, 2006 was presented by Honorable Carolyn Bolivar-Getson the MLA of Lunenburg West on behalf of Honorable Michael Baker MLA of Lunenburg county. A certificate of appreciation, various prizes including the woodlot sign, the Nova Scotia atlas book were presented to Tom Ernst. The public, mainly woodlot owners, and exhibitors from different sectors were exposed to activities including PCT, saw milling demo, fire management, Christmas tree shearing and grading, pond's life, tree management for speciality product, and many more. Tom's family also made a surprise presentation. It was a day well spent on a beautiful property!



Photo: Tom Ernst better known as Mr. Christmas tree, receives the WOYA award for the western region.
Taken by Bruce Carter.

Think green! Grow trees!

The Eastern WOYA award was celebrated at Eldon Taylor's woodlot located at West Lochaber on September 22 and 23, 2006.

Like in the west, September 22 was reserved for school children, and about one hundred children (100) and their teachers attended the event. Discussions about marine life, wildlife habitat, wood turtles, minerals, fire management, law enforcement, and various insects were enjoyed by both teachers and children. It was a day to remember, and almost everyone requested the Department of Natural Resources to organize and conduct such events on regular basis.



Photo: WOYA kids event at Eldon Taylor's woodlot.
Taken by Simon Mutabazi.



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On September 23, the Eastern WOYA award was presented to Eldon Taylor by Honorable Angus MacIsaac, who congratulated the winner, and supported the DNR's education efforts. Such efforts include public field days like WOYA, field visits by DNR officials, short courses, on line information exchange, and much more. The MLA asked the general public to use such free and readily available services for the socio-economic benefits of all residents of this beautiful land.

Participants visited Eldon Taylor's property, and enjoyed a live discussion on Wildlife Habitat and Watercourses regulations in a mature spruce stand, Christmas tree management, and economic aspects, hardwood management, and much more..

If you missed out this opportunity, it's time now to start planning for the WOYA celebration in your area, and book your seat on time!



Photo: Participants at Eldon's WOYA field day witnessed a well managed woodland.
Taken by Simon Mutabazi.

**Don't grow old! Grow trees!
Eldon Taylor Does!**

The Central and Provincial WOYA award celebrated at Duncan and Laurie Johnson's woodlot in Hants county.

Like the two regional winners, two days were allocated for WOYA field events at the Johnson's place. On September 29, 2006, more than one hundred school children visited the majestic property of the Johnsons and were entertained by DNR officials. During this exceptional learning experience, children were exposed to various activities such as integrated resource management, wildlife habitat, silvicultural treatments, minerals, river rafting business, ... The tour ended with a visit to the Johnson's orchard where everybody was allowed to pick fresh apples, a unique experience for many.



Photo: The Johnson's family during the WOYA celebration.
Taken by Simon Mutabazi.

September 30, 2006, the culminating WOYA event!

About 300 people attended the much anticipated provincial woodlot owner of the year award field day on September 30 and toured the property of the Johnson's family. The general public visited several sites and activities organized including a guided river rafting tour, the historic aspects of the gypsum mine located on the property, wildlife habitat, Christmas tree management, various silvicultural treatments, pet crematorium, dog training, saw milling demo, exhibits, and above all, tree planting ceremony by Honorable David Morse, Minister of Natural resources together with Laurie and Duncan Johnson and their sons Dakota and Garret.



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In all WOYA events, the Natural Resource Minister congratulated all the winners, their family members, and their employees. He also congratulated all nominated candidates for all the great work they've done over the years to support and promote sound management of our natural resources. It's during this period that we were again reminded that sustainable woodlot management means sustainable livelihood for many generations!



Photo: Honorable David Morse, Minister of Natural Resources in the center, together with Laurie and Duncan Johnson and their sons Dakota and Garret planted a Sugar Maple tree.

Taken by Simon Mutabazi

Today's Resources, Tomorrow's Legacy !

The Brown Spruce Longhorn Beetle (BSLB), *Tetropium fuscum* (Fabr.); a quarantine pest!

Written by Andrew Fedora, coordinator of Nova Scotia Federation of Woodland Owners.

In September 1999, the BSLB was discovered in Point Pleasant Park, Halifax, Nova Scotia, where it was found to be killing apparently healthy spruce trees. The BSLB is believed to have been introduced into Halifax area prior to 1990 through the import of infested wood packaging materials from Europe. In its native range, BSLB is recognized mainly as a secondary forest insect, attacking trees that have already been subjected to stresses such as insect attack or other environmental stresses. During the summer of 2000, a Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA) Pest Risk Assessment (PRA) identified BSLB as a quarantine pest.

The CFIA is responsible for implementing, regulating and monitoring the brown spruce longhorn beetle area.

BSLB has the potential to spread throughout the range of red, white, black, and possibly other species of spruce. No hardwood tree species are known to be affected. There is significant risk that the establishment and spread of the insect to the forest would allow it to attack and kill valuable forest resources, affecting their economic, ecological and aesthetic value. Reduction in timber quality would also significantly devalue lumber. There is no doubt that the BSLB may reduce the frequency of mature red spruce stands or even eliminate them completely as this species does not begin to produce seeds until about 75 years of age or greater.

The BSLB quarantine area

There have been eighteen confirmed sightings of the BSLB outside the initial quarantine area since 2002. In response to these findings, the CFIA is considering expanding the quarantine to include all of the Halifax County and parts of East Hants and Colchester Counties. There is much speculation regarding how the proposed expansion will affect woodland owners and forest management practices in Nova Scotia, however, CFIA has indicated that if the quarantine area is expanded, the new regulations will be less restrictive and provide more options for landowners and forestry companies. The new area may include more forestry processing facilities, and hence increase chance of finding potential buyers for various forestry products in the affected areas.

Currently, the Federation of NS woodland owners, Maritime Lumber Bureau, Forest products Association of NS and Nova Scotia Department of Natural Resources are working with CFIA and the Canadian Forest Service to determine the most practical and effective way of dealing with the brown spruce longhorn beetle. The CFIA is expected to release its decision by early spring 2007. Meanwhile, people are advised to carefully consider their options when making harvest decisions. There is no reason for panic.



Brown Spruce Longhorn Beetle (enlarged -actual size 10mm).

For more information please visit the following site :
www.gov.ns.ca/natr/protectio/ipm/sheets/bslbeetle.pdf



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Did you know?

The Brown Spruce Longhorn Beetle

Removing or burning the affected host trees may help to reduce brood materials. It is imperative to contact relevant authorities for advice in case the BSLB is noticed on the property.

The Wildlife and Forestry module (4) is under review

The revised module 4 will be available in spring 2007! The revised module will include the new understanding of wildlife, managing the diversity, wildlife habitat and watercourses regulations, a primer on wildlife types found on a woodlot, life styles and strategies, ecological relationship, and many more.. If interested in this exciting second edition, please contact your local DNR office to ask for your copy or simply contact the Extension Forester by phone, fax, mail or electronic mail.

Small Scale Harvesting Equipment (Module 12)

The module 12 , Small Scale Harvesting Equipment of the Department of Natural Resources Home Study series is now available. This module is for woodlot owners who want to harvest wood from their land themselves or who wish to make informed decisions about equipment or attachments acquisition. If you need a copy of this module, please contact your local DNR office or the Extension Forester.

The New Home Study CD

The new Home Study CD including module 1A up to 12 is now available for just \$10 per copy. For more information, please contact the extension forester or your local DNR office.

Chainsaw use and safety course

The NS Department of Natural Resources will organize and conduct a chainsaw use and safety course in both central and eastern regions. The schedule for the training is as follows:

Central Region, Truro , **January 27th, 2007**

Eastern Region, Antigonish, **February 03rd, 2007**

If you would like to participate, please contact the Stewardship and Outreach Section of DNR in Halifax or contact your local DNR office..



Woodlot Owner Conferences 2007

Woodlot owner conferences will be held for Western, Central, and Eastern woodlot owners in March, 2007. The conferences will be organized by the NS Dept. of Natural Resources, Nova Forest Alliance, Regional Development Authorities, and the Federation of NS Woodland Owners. The conferences will focus on woodland management related issues and resources that can help you manage your land in a sustainable way. Venues and dates are as indicated :

Western Nova Scotia : Saturday, march 3rd
Canning District Lions Club, Canning, Kings County

Eastern Nova Scotia : Saturday, March 24th
Chedabucto Place, Guysborough, Guysborough County

Central Nova Scotia : Saturday, March 31st

Hants North Rural High School, Kennetcook, Hants County

For more information or to register:
Please call toll-free 1-866-477-2494 or register online at
www.woodlotinfo.ca

How to reach us:

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Woodlot Owner of the Year Award - 2007 Nomination Form

Owner's Name: _____ Phone: _____

Address: _____

Postal Code: _____

Woodlot Location(s): _____ Size (ha or acres): _____

Nominator's Name: _____ Phone: _____

Nominator's e-mail address: _____

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