

2017 TEACHERS' TOURS TAKE YOU TO MOOSEHEAD LAKE AND AROOSTOOK COUNTY PLUS MT. KATAHDIN

A couple of our favorite and special locations will be featured on our two Tours for Maine TREE's twentieth year of offering Teachers' Tours of Maine's Forests and Mills. Once again we will bring educators of all kinds, formal and informal, into close contact with the modern harvests and wood products manufacturing, wind energy and wildlife habitat that are basic to the environmental and economic benefits that Maine's renewable natural resource, our forest, provides.

Our first Tour will be based at The Birches Resort on Moosehead Lake (www.birches.com) from July 11-14. The second Tour of the summer will be held July 25-28 at Camp Wapiti on Davis Pond with a great view of Mt. Katahdin (www.campwapitiadventures.com). We expect the Tours will fill up quickly, so contact Maine TREE soon for more information and a registration brochure.



"The Landing" where Harvested Logs are Sorted and Await Transport

We will focus on both the traditional manufacturing of lumber as well as the new generation of forest products, energy in all its forest applications, and the crucial role forests play in water quality. Pat Maloney, Maine Project Learning Tree Coordinator, and her team of facilitators will connect these subjects with activities you will be able to use in the classroom. We'll learn about the energy contributions made by forests as sources of wood-fired energy and wind turbine sites.

The tours will connect math, science, technology, language arts, and social studies with information about forest practices that protect our drinking water and aquatic environment and hear about promising research into the new generation of high value forest products. The tours offer the chance to experience modern technology in the woods and mills and to meet and talk with the people who work there.

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HOLT RESEARCH FOREST ACTIVITY INCLUDES PLT, RESEARCH, PLANNING

Jack Witham, UMaine Resident Scientist at the Holt Research Forest in Arrowsic, reported on 2016 Activities to the Maine TREE Board of Directors at their March meeting. Highlights included the construction of an Outdoor Classroom and parking area and a grant from the National Science Foundation to UMaine to fund a strategic plan for the forest. Additional field work by Jack and associates has "helped to maintain many of the most important long-term datasets," and progress continued on the documentation and management of the long-term data, he reported.

Several events took place at the Holt Forest in 2016, including two PLT/FIG days of activities for students from the Georgetown Central School and a workshop, "Growing Oaks in Maine Woods," for forestry professionals. Thanks to a Project Canopy grant, Pat Maloney purchased "Tree Trunks" of forestry materials for student use and a comprehensive forest management plan for the Holt Forest has been completed by forester Rob Bryant.

Looking ahead to 2017, a Steering Committee will be led by Jack to carry out the NSF grant, Planning for the Future of the Holt Research Forest. Members include former Maine TREE President and UMaine School of Forest Resources Faculty Emeriti, Bruce Wiersma, Maine TREE President Kevin McCarthy and Executive Director Sherry Huber. Other UMaine faculty are Aaron Weiskittel, Malcolm Hunter and Jessica Leahey. Site visits, workshops and public outreach will be conducted during the year to produce a Strategic Plan for the Holt, resulting in, as Jack has written, "expanded opportunities for teaching, training and learning that engage graduate students, post-docs, undergraduate students, K-12 teachers and youth and adult learners."

PRIVATE LANDS PARTNERS DAY CONFERENCE IN BANGOR, OCT 3-5

Keeping Maine's Forests is 2017's local host for the event, which attracts people involved in conservation efforts from across the country and at the federal, state and local levels. The conference will showcase voluntary, incentive-based conservation collaborations that sustain ecologic, economic and sociologic systems. The conference is also sponsored by US Fish and Wildlife Service and USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service. The focus of 2017 Private lands Partners Day in Maine is how economic interests and conservation are being balanced in a multiple-use forested

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MAINE TREE FOUNDATION
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Mission: The Maine TREE Foundation educates and advocates for the sustainable use of the forest and the ecological, economic and social health of Maine's forest community.

The Vision of the Maine TREE Foundation: The public values and supports Maine's healthy forest ecosystems, forest professionals, scientific forest management, and sound public policies that sustain Maine's forest-dependent people and communities.

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MAINE TREE ELECTS NEW BOARD MEMBER AT ANNUAL MEETING

Katheryn (Katie) Manende was elected to the Maine TREE Board of Directors for a three-year term at the annual meeting. She works for the vegetation management division of Central Maine Power Company, and is the owner of her own forestry consulting business, Maine Woods Forestry. She received a BS in both Forestry and Wildlife Ecology, and a MF focused on forest certification from the University of Maine. Katie also holds licenses in the State of Maine as a forester, arborist, and pesticide applicator, in addition to being a certified forester.

Also at the annual meeting, Board President Kevin McCarthy, Vice President Marcia McKeague, Secretary Barrie Brusila and Treasurer Fred Morton were reelected for a one-year term.

If you shop on Amazon, you can support Maine TREE and our programs, Project Learning Tree, Tree Farm and Certified Logging Professional at no cost to you. To sign up, please go to smile.amazon.com and name the Maine TREE Foundation as your beneficiary. Thank You!



Kenny Fergusson, Huber Resources, (l to r) Mike Allen, Jason Nadeau, Jeremy Gibson and Mike St. Peter, CLP Director

2016 OUTSTANDING LOGGERS AND NEW CLPS RECOGNIZED AT ANNUAL BANQUET

The twenty-sixth annual Certified Logging Professional Banquet in December featured 2016 Outstanding Logger Awards and recognition of a number of the 106 loggers who completed CLP training during 2016. This year's class was comprised of 21 conventional, 79 mechanical, 2 associates and 4 contractor supervisor loggers.

Mike St. Peter, owner of St. Peter Safety Services and CLP Program Director, and Erik Carlson, Chair of the CLP Board of Directors, awarded certificates to graduates and Mike drew the numbers of many ticket holders to distribute articles of donated equipment. Another lucky ticket holder won the chainsaw-carved bear, created and donated by CLP Mike Thurlow to benefit Log-A-Load for Kids Children's Miracle Network. Kevin Hancock, CEO of Hancock Lumber, gave the excellent keynote address.

The Mechanical Operator award went to Mike Allen of Presque Isle. Jeremy Gibson of Solon received the Conventional Operator award and Jason Nadeau, owner of Nadeau Logging of Ft. Kent, was recognized in the Supervisor/Contractor category. Huber Resources sponsored the awards for the eighteenth year. The recipients were nominated by co-workers and received a plaque, a monogrammed jacket and a check for \$1,000. They were recognized for demonstrating the highest level of professionalism throughout their careers.

The Bangor Daily News, also for the eighteenth year, donated a half page ad to recognize the award winners and describe the CLP program to the public. Over 6,400 loggers have received CLP training since the Maine TREE Foundation started sponsoring the program in 1991; 1,553 of them are currently active. Thanks also to those who supported the loggers and the Banquet. To see a complete list of contributors, go to www.maintreefoundation.com and click on "CLP Program."

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT IN 2016!

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L to R: Bryan and Pam Wells, Tree Farmers of the Year, Governor LePage and Forest Service Director Doug Denico

WELLS DEMONSTRATION FOREST IS MAINE'S 2017 OUTSTANDING TREE FARM

Pam and Bryan Wells, owners of the Wells Demonstration Forest, were recognized as 2017 Maine Outstanding Tree Farmers by Governor Paul LePage and Maine Forest Service Director Doug Denico on behalf of the Maine Tree Farm Committee, at the Maine Agricultural Trade Show on January 11 at the Augusta Civic Center.

The Wells Demonstration Forest was first certified as a Tree Farm in 2014, although the Wells have worked on the 1,031-acre woodland in Milford for ten years. When they purchased it, says their forester, Kirby Ellis, “the property was a classic example of woodland abuse, having been repeatedly highgraded until the final harvest and sale.” Pam worked to restore the property to a productive state and the Wells have shown other landowners how to actively manage their forests, hosting UMaine research, field trips and working with the Maine Forest Service and the Maine Society of American Foresters. Their primary objectives also include managing for recreation, wildlife and timber enhancement.

They are members of SWOAM and are active in the forest community. Says Ellis, “Pam is working with UMaine staff to educate landowners about forest ownership and uses her psychology and social work background to enhance that education.” The annual Tree Farm/SWOAM Forestry Field Day will be held at the Wells Demonstration Forest in September.

ATTENTION WOODLOT OWNERS:

Do you own a woodlot? Would you like to learn more about your land and how to take care of it? Maybe you want to improve the health of the trees on your land or enhance the wildlife that is there but you don't know where to begin. If this sounds like you, then it's time to check out the Woodland Steward Program, a web-based course that covers topics like wildlife habitat, timber harvesting, invasive species and woodlot finances. Go to www.woodland-steward.org and click on Becoming a Woodland Steward to take a free preview of the course.

Private Lands Partners Day, continued from page 1

landscape. Day one will feature field trips to forested land and day two will be devoted to speakers who will provide insights into conservation practices that balance economic interests with improving wildlife habitats and forest health.

Topics will include:

- Stream connectivity and riparian protection projects on working forestlands
- The Penobscot River Restoration Project
- Working forest conservation easements
- Managing for public recreation on private lands
- Conservation planning and
- Habitat management

Maine TREE is the Administrative Agent for Keeping Maine's Forests and is a member of its Steering Committee.

ADOPTION OF CARBON CREDIT PROGRAMS AMONG SFI PARTICIPANTS IN MAINE

Last spring Keeping Maine's Forests was awarded a grant from the Sustainable Forestry Initiative's Conservation Grant program to conduct this study. Alison Truesdale has been the principle author, aided by an Advisory Panel consisting of the following members:

Mark Berry, M.S.; President and CEO, Schoodic Institute
 Ivan Fernandez, Professor, School of Forest Resources, Climate Change Institute and UMaine School of Food and Agriculture, Sherry Huber, Maine TREE and KMF Steering Committee, George Jacobsen, Ph.D.; Climate Change Institute, Maine State Climatologist and UMaine Professor Emeritus, Dylan Jenkins, M.S.; Vice-President of Portfolio Development, Finite Carbon, Kenneth Laustsen, M.F.; Biometrician, Maine Forest Service, John McNulty, President and CEO, Seven Islands Land Company, David Publicover, D.F., Senior Staff Scientist/Assistant Director of Research, Appalachian Mountain Club, Tom Rumpf, M.F. former Conservation Strategy Advisor of The Nature Conservancy in Maine and KMF Steering Committee chair, Patrick Sirois, Director of the Maine Sustainable Forestry Initiative.

The study will be available after final edits are made this spring and presentations to interested audiences take place. One recent panel discussion featuring Mark Berry, John McNulty and David Publicover took place in early March for the SFI Implementation Committee.

2017 Teachers Tour, continued from page 1

Each tour will begin with a Project Learning Tree workshop. There will be training in the PLT curriculum materials, which link to NGSS including the Common Core standards and STEM applications. There will be opportunities to use PLT activities throughout the week. Participants will receive 30 contact hours. 3.0 CEUs are also available for \$20.00.

Non-formal educators are most welcome. If you are an educator (preK-12, Pre-Service, youth groups such as Scouts, home schoolers, conservation commission members, adult education leaders, etc.) call (207) 621-9872, e-mail mtf@ghi.net or www.mainetreefoundation.org for more information or to download a registration brochure.