



The Voice for Illinois Forests

To act on issues that impact rural and community forests and to promote forestry in Illinois

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Message from the President

Bill Gradle

Hello Illinois Forestry Association (IFA) Members and Partners:

As summer draws us towards Fall I hope you are all having a good year. There is some exciting news in the forestry arena in Illinois.

First, as I mentioned in our last newsletter, IFA was looking for a new Executive Director. After a search for candidates, effective August 1, 2014, Stephanie Brown began serving as IFA's Executive Director. Stephanie brings 29 year of relevant experience to the position, not only in statewide forestry issues, but nationally. She served as Tree Farm Deputy Director in Washington, D.C. for four years, returning to Illinois in a field operations role after that. She led the steering committee that created IFA, later serving as vice-president and president. Congratulations to Stephanie and I know we all look forward to working with her. And I'll emphasize this point; it will take all of us working **with** Stephanie to take IFA to the next level.

Second, if you remember, the State Forester position with the Illinois Department of Natural Resources (IDNR) has been vacant since last December. In January, I wrote Director Marc Miller requesting that a person be placed in the position that had a forestry background/degree and a working knowledge of forestry issues in Illinois. I was officially notified yesterday that Tom Wilson has been selected for the position. Tom has been with the IDNR for 33 years and holds B.S. and M.S. degrees in Forestry, both from Southern Illinois University –Carbondale. Tom was acting as the Interim –Chief of the Division of Forestry (State Forester) while the IDNR worked through the placement process. My experience during this time in working with Tom has been very positive and IFA and I look forward on working with Tom and his staff on forestry issues in our great State.

Also on the IDNR front, the FY-15 budget revealed nearly \$700,000 in cost share funds for applying forestry practices for this year. This is a substantial increase from the last few years and we thank Director Miller and his staff for keeping forestry a priority.

Speaking of Director Miller, he and a few other notable folks: Ivan Dozier, State Conservationist for the Natural Resources Conservation Service, and Gwen Kolb with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service will be speaking at IFA's 9th Annual Meeting in Springfield on September 26, starting at 1PM. James Veselenak, retired U of I professor, will be the keynote speaker later that evening. We will also be introducing our first recipient of the Bob Sloan Forestry Scholarship Fund. The meeting location is at Scheels in Springfield.

Information on the Annual Meeting is posted on the website, www.ilforestry.org. Hope to see you all there.

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...and more!

IFA Web site

www.ilforestry.org

Executive Director Notes

by Stephanie Brown

Seasons of IFA

It's the hottest week of the year as I draft this message to my fellow IFA members. Like many, I'm looking forward to fall. Changing colors on the landscape, the smell of wood smoke wafting through the air, the sound of leaves crunching under foot, and crisp blue sky mornings mark the time of year when nature starts to regroup and prepare for the next growing season. Behind the scenes at the Illinois Forestry Association, we are preparing for our next season of growth, too.

As IFA's new Executive Director, I've been busy laying some groundwork to assist our new President and Board of Directors in the coming year. My goal - make their work easier and more productive. Streamlined planning tools and committee charters will provide us with a fresh starting place for regional and committee activity. Working with board members and other volunteers to facilitate progress will be an important part of my job.

I'm excited to bring grant writing and program development experience to IFA. In order to truly grow this association, we need to grow our programs to better serve landowners and attract members. If we can secure funding to develop new educational programs, the cost of my work is covered and it allows time for new offerings to catch on. Member dues, modest fees, and generous contributions will ultimately sustain the programs that people value most.

Starting at square one, we can help people better appreciate the meaning of forestry – the IFA “brand,” so to speak. A project is under development that will tell our story in a new way, capturing the depth and breadth of what forestry is all about. With the guidance of our marketing committee, we will further hone our message and delivery methods so we can reach and influence more people – landowners, legislators, agency leaders, and contributors will learn to appreciate the diverse and interconnected benefits that forest management brings.

Effective branding, grant-funded projects, new programs, membership growth – seasons of change that will help IFA reach new heights. Baseline programs and services like this newsletter, regional events, our website, and annual meetings that steadily improve. Engaged board members united by a “can-do” spirit, each finding a way to help, together reaching toward a shared vision. That's the simple formula for success that I hope to foster in IFA. Happy Fall, y'all. Hope to see you at our Annual Meeting in Springfield!

Find IFA on Facebook!

Our brand new Facebook page is up and running! Members and their loved ones who use Facebook are urged to “Like” and “Share” the page, as well as our occasional posts. This doesn't replace any of our regular forms of member communication, but is intended as an enhancement. It offers a new way for people within and outside IFA to learn about forestry and our association. Our success depends entirely on the extent to which members are willing to share, so thanks in advance for helping to grow our audience!



Check it out! www.facebook.com/ILForestry

Secretary Comments

by Dave Gillespie

There's been a lot happening lately in the IFA. Good things.

We have a new Executive Director. Stephanie Brown began her new job on August 1. She has held leadership positions in the IFA and other forestry organizations in Illinois and Nationally. I have worked with her on many projects in the past, and am excited about the future.

Our IFA annual meeting is coming up at Scheels Sporting Goods in Springfield on Friday, September 26 and an informative field trip on Saturday, September 27, 2014. Carol Bryant and the rest of the IFA planning committee have developed a great program that will be very informative. If you have not made your reservation, go to the IFA website and do so. That weekend is also the big Rt. 66 car show in Springfield. You can make a great weekend in Springfield – forestry meeting, fellowship with friends, Scheels Sporting Goods and cars.

The IFA just awarded the first Bob Sloan Memorial Scholarship. (See an article in this newsletter about the scholarship.) The IFA Board of Directors will now award a scholarship annually to a deserving forestry student from funds donated in honor of Bob Sloan.

So, get involved in IFA activities locally. Good things are happening. Be a part of our association.

Silent Auction Donations Needed

The Silent Auction has become a popular feature of IFA's Annual Meeting. Proceeds help offset meeting expenses and keep registration fees affordable. Please consider donating one or more items to our upcoming meeting September 26 and 27. We are attempting to have two separate auctions, so more items are needed. Past donations have included wood projects of all shapes and sizes, framed prints, hand tools, certificates for consulting forester services, gift baskets, and even trees! If you have an item on hand, or can procure something in time for our meeting, please email Mary Murphy at mlmifa@yahoo.com. She will need the name and suggested lowest bid for each item. Many thanks!

!!!ANNUAL MEETING REMINDER!!!

It's time to register and arrange your lodging for the Annual Meeting of the Illinois Forestry Association, September 26-27, 2014. There is another large event being held in Springfield that weekend, so we are encouraging members to register and make their travel plans as soon as possible.

Our Region 2 Board Directors have been working hard to plan an event that will appeal to members and guests of all ages. The meeting will kick off Friday at 1 p.m. in the conference room at SCHEELS – a popular sports and outdoor recreation superstore located on the outskirts of Springfield. Special attractions include Wildlife Mountain, Buck Hunt shooting gallery, Archery Land, a golf simulator & putting green, a Home Decor and Gift Lodge, an on-site cafeteria, a salt water aquarium and a 65-foot Ferris wheel.

First on the agenda, we'll hear from a trio of agency and program leaders that provide technical support and financial incentives to Illinois landowners. Marc Miller is Director of the Illinois Department of Natural Resources, and Ivan Dozier, our State Conservationist leading the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service. Gwen Kolb is the State Coordinator for the Partners for Fish and Wildlife program with the US Fish & Wildlife Service. Hear the latest and be there to represent IFA as an important audience and partner to these agencies.

After a delicious evening meal catered by Scheels, featured speaker James Veselenak, retired professor from the University of Illinois Springfield, will tell us all about "Fungi in the Forest." That includes mushrooms, a popular subject for many forest landowners! A short business meeting, including election of officers and awards, will follow Dr. Veselenak's presentation.

This year's silent auction will offer double the fun. Upon your arrival in the Scheels conference room, you will find an array of donated items, ready for bidding. Friday's silent auction will end promptly at 7 p.m. The following day we will have *new* items available for bidding at the Hynes Farm. You'll want to bring your check book, and remember that all proceeds from the auctions go to a good cause! IFA is a charitable, not-for-profit organization. Donations are not only appreciated, they are tax-deductible.

On Saturday, groups will visit the Ralph Winch Sawmill where they will watch the operation of a WoodMizer LT40 Hydraulic portable sawmill. The other main field day site is the Hynes Farm, where small breakout woods sessions will include Tree ID, Tree Planting, Chainsaw Sharpening and Maintenance, Shiitake Log Plugging, and Forest Wildlife habitat. A lunch will be provided at the farm.

LOCATION/LODGING: Scheels is located in the Legacy Pointe Town Center at 3801 S. MacArthur Boulevard, one exit west of the junction of Interstates 72 and 55 on the southern edge of Springfield. Make your room reservations early, because the Route 66 Mother Road Festival will be held downtown that same weekend. A "courtesy" block of 20 guest rooms has been reserved at Holiday Inn Express, 3050 S. Dirksen Pkwy, for Friday 26 Sept., 2014 at a price of \$89.00 plus tax per night for 1-2 guests per room.

The hotel room block will be listed as Illinois Forestry Association, so mention IFA when calling: (Phone: 217-529-7771 or 800-465-4329). **The block will be released on August 26, 2014.** There are 18 motels within 15 minutes of Scheels. There are also 6 campgrounds in the area for those who want to make it an adventure. A map with their locations can be found on the Springfield Convention & Visitors Bureau website: visit-springfieldillinois.com.

You may register for the meeting on the IFA website, with the option to pay online or mail your payment at <http://ilforestry.org/event-862509>

Hope to see you at Scheels!

Funding Availability for Landowners

by Kurt Bobsin, Technical Advisor
IFA Technical Committee

It has been one of IFA's primary issues, the restoration of funding for implementing forestry practices and developing forestry plans for Illinois landowners. Illinois Department of Natural Resources [IDNR] Director Marc Miller has released funding for 2014 in the amount of nearly \$700,000.

The revenue for this comes from the collection of a 4% harvest fee from landowners who harvest timber on their lands. Last year, \$23,314,642 of timber was reported sold in Illinois generating \$935,962.79 in 4% money. Monies collected go towards assisting landowners in implementing forestry practices and operations for both the IDNR Division of Forestry and the IL Forestry Development Council.

Now is the time to apply for funding through the IDNR District Forester that covers the county in which your property is located at <http://dnr.state.il.us/conservation/forestry/Documents/DistrictForestersMap.pdf>

In order to be eligible to receive funding, you must have an approved forestry plan by IDNR. The money is available on a first come, first served basis. However, landowners who have harvested timber within the past two years receive a priority. Landowners in this category are eligible to receive the 4% harvest fee back in the form of a cost share payment for implementing any practice recommended in their plan. Tree planting, invasive species control and forest improvement practices accomplished through these funds contribute to healthy forest conditions. Forests provide 75 percent of the state's wildlife habitat. Sixty-one percent of the native and forty-seven percent of the threatened and endangered plants of Illinois are found in forested settings. This is truly an important resource to our state and landowners should take advantage of this funding opportunity.

IFA Awards First Sloan Scholarship

We are pleased to announce that the IFA has awarded the first forestry scholarship from the Bob Sloan Memorial Scholarship fund. The \$1000 scholarship was awarded to Makia Hoormann.

Makia is a junior forestry major at Southern Illinois University at Carbondale. She is from Bethalto, IL. Her focus is on forest recreation and park management, with a special interest in environmental education and interpretation. After graduation she plans to work in interpretation where she can help children discover the outdoors.

The IFA's forestry scholarship fund is named in memory and honor of Bob Sloan. For those who did not know Bob, he was a forest landowner who lived near Lacon in the Peoria area and had a strong passion for forestry. He served on many state wide forestry committees, organizations and groups. He chaired the Forestry Committee of the Association of Soil and Water Conservation Districts for many years.

When the IFA was formed in 2005, Bob served on the task force that developed the structure, goals and objectives and its By-Laws. He served as the IFA's first Treasurer. Because of his dedication and enthusiasm for forestry (even into his 80's it was common for Bob to drive to Carbondale for a forestry meeting one day, and then drive to the Quad City area the next day for another meeting) the IFA Board of Directors established the scholarship fund in his honor.

Congratulations to Makia. Each year the IFA will award a scholarship to a deserving forestry student. Money for the scholarship fund comes from donations given by IFA members, groups and organizations. If you wish to donate to the fund you may do so at any time by sending your donation to the IFA, P.O. Box 224, Chatham, IL 62629.



Springfield-Matt Peterson named 2014 Outstanding Forestry Contribution Award Winner

Schuylar County District Forester, Matt Peterson, was honored during the Association of Illinois Soil and Water Conservation Districts 66th Annual Meeting held Monday and Tuesday, July 28-29, 2014 at the Northfield Inn Conference Center in Springfield. The award was presented by Dave Gillespie, IL Forestry Association Secretary, one of the sponsors of the award at the Monday Recognition Luncheon.

Matt was nominated for his most outstanding work on numerous Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP) easements in Schuylar County; he was very instrumental in making CREP successful in that area with walking timber, and writing plans for Timber Stand improvement on many of the easements; in fact, he leads the state in CREP. Matt is a member of the American Forests, a Tree Farm Inspector, and a member of the IL Forestry Association. Matt is very hard-working and committed to his job of protecting the forested lands not only in his county, but throughout his entire District.



Dave Gillespie presents award to Matt Peterson

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Three Important Forest Measurements

By Tom Vorac

Tree *diameter* is probably the most common measurement taken in a managed forest but followed closely by *height* and *age* determinations. Measuring and quantifying just these three tree attributes provide basic forest management data for the calculations used in determining tree growth, timber stocking level (trees per acre), tree wood volume and even the growing potential of a particular tree species on soil sites (site index).

Tree Diameter

Tree diameter is important in the estimation of tree growth and volume. The diameter can also be used to determine actual tree wood volume over a particular stand using the cross-sectional area of a tree's diameter compared to the total area of the forest area (called basal area). Tree diameter is measured at diameter breast height (or DBH) and is measured at 4.5 feet above the stump.

The diameter tape or d-tape is the most popular instrument used. It is easy to use by wrapping the metal tape around the tree at the appropriate spot and reading the diameter in inches or centimeters. The larger the measured diameter indicates a larger tree with greater mass and age in years.



Basal area (or BA) is an important forestry measurement derived from tree diameter. BA defines the area occupied by the cross-section of tree trunks at DBH on a given area of land (ex: a square acre). The larger the BA, the more wood volume and canopy cover occupies an acre and the higher the tree stocking level. How to calculate DBH. *For trees:* the cross section area of a tree stem in square feet commonly measured at breast height (4.5' above ground) and inclusive of bark, usually computed by using d.b.h. or tallied through the use of basal area factor angle gauge.

The basal area factor is the number of units of basal area per acre (or per hectare) represented by each tree. The formula for basal area = $(3.1416 \times \text{DBH}^2) / (4 \times 144)$. This formula simplifies to: basal area = $0.005454 \times \text{DBH}^2$

0.005454 is called the "foresters constant", which converts inches into square feet.

The basal area of a 10-inch tree is: $0.005454 \times (10)^2 = 0.5454$ square feet (ft^2). So, 100 of these trees per acre would calculate out a BA of 54 ft^2 .

Tree Height

Tree heights are important as they indicate the length of the trunk cylinder to a desired stopping point depending on whether you need total height or a height to the live crown base. Procurement foresters typically use a height where tree merchantability ceases (point where tree wood value diminishes to non-profitability due to stem size or defect).

There is also the *stump height* or that point at the base of the tree where there is a reasonable expectation that the tree will be severed by a saw or shear. That is to say, the distance from the ground-line to the point the tree is cut and felled. This point can be from 0 to 12 inches in southern pine stands. Appalachian hardwoods can often exceed 12 inches to several feet while western tree giants like redwood can be as tall as the sawyer.

Instruments used to measure tree heights are called clinometers and hypsometers. From simple cruiser or Biltmore sticks to mechanical height finders, most use a fixed horizontal distance to the tree base where an angle is calculated by sighting the tree's base and top. These types of instruments rely on a basic trigonometric principle to derive tree height measurements.



Tree Age

A tree's age is an important measurement and relatively easy to determine. Count annual ring increments and combining this age data with total heights of trees in the upper canopy you can very accurately estimate the productivity of the site. You can also estimate the growth rate of a tree by counting a recent number of year's growth and measure the radial growth for the period.

An increment borer is an instrument used to extract a small cylindrical core of wood from a tree. When bored directly toward and into the center of the tree pith a total tree age can be determined. The tool is typically "screwed" into the tree using the attached handle and hollow borer bit. The core sample is removed with an extractor.



Nearly all conifers and most hardwoods produce two visible ringed layers per year. There is the spring wood layer which

is a lighter color and a smaller, darker colored latewood layer. These two layers are counted together as the growth ring to estimate age and past growth. The combination of the two segments constitutes one annual growth ring and equal a year of tree growth. Measuring periods of years in inches will give you the rate of a trees growth and rates of return can be calculated by the increase in periodic volume.

Site index (SI) is a measure of the productivity of a forest soil to grow a tree. Dominant and co-dominant trees by species are measured by forest scientists who develop site index curves based on tree species and their average height over a 25 or 50 year period called base age. These curves are determined by a tree's height at a base age - you measure the tree height and determine tree age and the curve will give you a site index number (the larger the number, the better the site quality).

Information gathered from About.com forestry website.

Opinions & Commentary Walnuts & Acorns

by Lee M. Rife



A headline in the State Journal-Register earlier this summer pointed out that the Springfield Park District had to remove a number of dying 100+ year old oaks. The reason given was the drought of 2012. According to the report, each tree removed would be replaced with two more trees of the same species later this year.

All of this got me to thinking. Just how many trees are now dying due to the drought of 2011-12? Now I realize that trees in a park are different than trees in a woodlot or forest; they must compete with grass for water, something that trees in a forest setting do not have to do. They are also more apt to suffer wind damage as well as mechanical damage from lawn and weed trimming equipment. However, forest trees have their own unique problems. For example, trees in the Shawnee Hills are on very thin soil which does not hold a lot of water. Trees in a river bottom are subject to flooding, and often to very high water tables. Those on sandy soil generally have feast and famine, with plenty of nutrients followed rather quickly with no nutrients and so forth. How are your trees doing? Have you had some older trees succumb to drought? What are you doing to help the situation if it is occurring in your woods?

I stopped by the forestry tent in Conservation World at the Illinois State Fair. They had some very good exhibits of sections of several species of trees, cut lengthways about 1/4 of their circumference to show what the lumber would look like. While there I got to meet the 2014 Illinois American Tree Farm System family of the year.

Illinois Forestry Association

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Congratulations to Anthony and Jill Kreke of Effingham, IL. Anthony is an IFA Director in Region 3.

While there, I also learned that Tom Wilson has been appointed to the position of State Forester. Tom has been a District Forester as well as a Program Manager for State Fire Program. I have had the pleasure of meeting him several years ago when I was still with the State of Illinois and he was a district forester. Congratulations, Tom.

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"The History of Conservation in Illinois"

(Installment # 9)

By: Dave Gillespie, Secretary

This account of the history of conservation in Illinois was written by Joseph P. Schavilje in 1941. This installment begins where the eighth installment ended.

One day while in Shawneetown, Mr. Wood took a walk and saw a cypress swamp. He says, "The cypress is a singular tree, having a great many conical knobs growing round it, at some distance from the stem; they are called Cypress Knees and are sometimes used for pails and bee-hives. This tree, at a distance, resembles the yew, but is not an evergreen." On travelling north of Shawneetown near the mouth of the Big Wabash River, Mr. Wood relates the following, "Our road was chiefly through woods, and part of it lay through the Hurricane Track, that is where a strong wind some years back, opened a passage through the woods for a mile in breadth, and some hundred miles in length. This Hurricane Tract is a great harbor for wild animals and game, as it keeps a large tract of country unoccupied. In the autumn, the hunters set fire to the grass and weeds for the benefit of hunting. These fires do much damage to the woods and sometimes to the plantations, but clear the country of weeds and destroy much of the harbor for wild beasts."

(To be continued in the next issue of "The IFA Newsletter".)

Do you have a passion for trees and forestry?

Are you interested in serving on a regional committee?

Contact an IFA officer today to find out how you can help!

Is Your Pine Tree Having Problems?

Kurt Bobsin, Technical Advisor
IFA Technical Committee

There is something intuitively unnatural when you think of coniferous, or cone bearing, trees in Illinois. Illinois has an oak-hickory forest cover that dominates the landscape. However, there are some small areas in both northern and southern Illinois where pine is known to have been native. People often refer to any evergreen needled tree as a pine tree. Spruce and fir are also part of the mix found in the landscape of coniferous trees in Illinois. Although the soils and hot, droughty summers here are not particularly friendly growing environments, pine, spruce and fir trees can grow when planted on the correct sites.



Figure 1

Eastern white pine [Pinus strobus] is commonly used for ornamental and conservation plantings. It is common to find this species planted in windbreaks and as border plantings throughout the state. It is a five

needled pine [fig.1] meaning the needles are bundled together on the twigs in clumps of five needles. Over the years, I have seen relatively few insect & disease problems with white pine. The problems that do develop are not catastrophic. The biggest problems usually encountered are "wet feet" and salt. White pine does not like to be in wet or poorly drained soil and does not enjoy the salt spray off of our winter roads. More recently, however, I have encountered a more serious problem attacking white pine, Cytospora canker.

Cankers are diseases that produce localized dead areas in the bark of twigs, branches and trunks. Fruiting bodies of the fungus, leaking sap from cracks

that create patches of white crust are indicative of the problem [fig. 2]. As the canker grows and enlarges, the infected areas become girdled whereby the flow



Figure 2

of water and nutrients are cut off. The tree or parts of the tree infected die. Environmental stressors, as mentioned previously, are at the root of and a major contributing factor to the conifer problems. Cool, wet weather promotes the development and spread of these fungal spores. Infection occurs through bark wounds or other openings in tree stems from bark injuries and limb breakage. Pruning tools may also spread the spores.

The best control comes in the form of prevention. No chemical treatment has been shown to be effective to prevent or arrest the development of this canker. Infected limbs and branches may be pruned in the early stages of infection to reduce spreading. Clean your tools and disinfect them during use with a 70 percent solution of rubbing alcohol.

Avoid planting white pine in heavy, poorly drained soils. Keep the white pine away from road areas where salt damage may occur. Mulching your trees and watering properly during extended periods of dry weather will promote good plant health and vigor. This benefits trees as well as your flowers and shrubs. An ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure. For more information, Publication RPD No. 604 from the University of Illinois Extension Service is available on line at <https://ipm.illinois.edu/diseases/pds/604.pdf>

New Publications from the Northern Research Station of the USDA Forest Service

RB-NRS-84. Urban trees and forest of the Chicago region. Nowak, D. J.; et al. (106p)

An analysis of trees in the Chicago region of Illinois reveals that this area has about 157,142,000 trees with tree and shrub canopy that covers 21.0 percent of the region. The most common tree species are European buckthorn, green ash, boxelder, black cherry, and American elm.

RB-NRS-86. Illinois' Forest 2010. Crocker, S.J.; et al. (52p.)

The second full annual inventory of Illinois' forests, completed in 2010, reports more than 4.8 million acres of forest land and 97 tree species. Forest land is dominated by oak/hickory and elm/ash/cottonwood forest-type groups, which occupy 93 percent of total forest land area.

(Comment: In 1924 our Illinois forest declined to a low of 3 million acres, in 1948 forest was estimated at 4.0 million acres, and in 2005 the forest was estimated at 4.5 million acres.)

GTR-NRS-124. Central Hardwoods ecosystem vulnerability assessment and synthesis: a report from the Central Hardwoods Climate Response Framework project. Iverson, L: et al. 254 p.

The forests in the Central Hardwoods Region will be affected directly and indirectly by a changing climate over the next 100 years.

GTR-NE-318. Atlas of climate Change effects in 150 bird species of the Eastern United States.

This atlas documents the current and potential future distribution of 150 common bird species were derived from the Breeding Bird Survey (BBS) from 1981 to 1990.

Note: These publications are available online at www.nrs.fs.fed.us or hardcopy can be requested by mail at USDA Forest Service, Publication Distribution, 359 Main Road, Delaware, OH 43015-8640 or by Fax: 740-368-0152

Illinois Forestry Association
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Upcoming Events

You can find more information on our website, www.ilforestry.org/Events

September

- 09/13/2014 - (NIFA) Fall Treatment of Woody Invasives. 1 – 4pm at the Stockton Township Library .To register, please contact the U of I Extension office in Jo Daviess County at 815-858-2273 or go online to: <http://web.extension.illinois.edu/jsw/>
- 09/20/2014 - IFA/NIFA Tour of Plantings and Harvest Site. Tour of the Lee Luebke Tree Farm. located about 7 miles south of Stockton off Route 78. Check back in September to confirm times and directions.
- 09/26-27/2014 - Sangamon County: **“A Taste of the Forest” IFA Annual Meeting.** Meeting will be held at the large sporting goods store, SHEELS, in Springfield. Register on the IFA website or mail a check made out to the “Illinois Forestry Association” to: Carol Bryant, 7841 S. Panther Creek Road, Mount Olive, Illinois 62069.