



# 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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**It's here on the World Wide Web...**

IFA Web site  
[www.ilforestry.org](http://www.ilforestry.org)

## **President's Message**

*J. B. Gates, IFA President*

'Tis the season for snow and colds. It seems like only yesterday that I was writing my check for payment of dues. This is a reminder that dues for 2009 are now payable, send your check to the secretary. Your officers thank you for your involvement this past year and we encourage you to become more active in the association in the coming year.

It is also the season to work on getting HB4549 passed. In the article from Ms. Purdue, you will note that January 12<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup> the Illinois Legislature will again meet for a two day session. It is my opinion that this bill should be passed. But to do that it will require each of us to email or call our legislators and ask them to move promptly on HB4549. If only one or two send emails or call, legislators do not take the issue as being of much importance and therefore work on another project bill. To get a legislator's attention they need to hear from 20 or more people from their district. Do not say, "let the other guy do it"; it takes each member doing their part. I challenge you to contact your legislator on the 9<sup>th</sup> of January and ask them to take up HB4549. Also copy the secretary [Dandgisp@aol.com] so he can have the data to pass on to our lobbyist.

If you do not know your Legislators, you can go to "www.il.gov" which brings you the State of Illinois web page. On the left side bar, a place called Legislature is listed, click on Legislature and it will take you to the officials' listings. If you do not have a computer, call your local newspaper or check at the Library.

Ms. Purdue is doing a wonderful job for us in Springfield. She has been a great help in taking our interests to the House and Senate. Next year will be even better as she works for us in talking with and getting their attention focused on forestry in Illinois.

On another issue, if you are receiving this newsletter by USPS delivery and you have email, please contact the secretary and give him your email address. When you mail your check for dues, this might be a time to save \$0.42, so enclosed your email address.

The economy has caused all of us to look at our finances this past 4 months. We have all changed our priorities. The Illinois Forestry Association is your association and we need to conserve our dollars as best as we can to better serve you, our members. Ways we can save is by each of us volunteering to help the IFA. Any way we can save is a benefit to us all.

Next year, some of the issues, in addition to those we have for 2008, will be: Timber Use Tax, urban forestry, carbon credits, Illinois Forestry Development Council, and developing a program for IFA members to assist state foresters. If you have someone you would like considered for an appointment to IFDC, please submit that person's name to the secretary along with a résumé. With the economy in its current condition and the need for state programs to operate, citizens are going to have to step up and offer help to agencies such as IDNR etc.. Also if you have an issue you would like to see addressed – please email the secretary. I cannot say it enough: this is an association of its members.

Also, if you have items of interest to be included in the newsletters please send them to the secretary so he can forward them to Kathy McTighe, our newsletter editor. Again another fine job being done by a volunteer.

As we conclude another year and prepare for a New Year let me say, I know the reason for the season and so to each of you **MERRY CHRISTMAS**. May we each enjoy the season and look forward to a good New Year in 2009.

## Calendar of Events 2008

### IFA Region 4 Workshop

January 15<sup>th</sup>, 2008, 5:30 pm, Pinckneyville, IL., Pinckneyville United Methodist Church

### Mid-America Horticultural Trade Show

January 14-16, 2009  
McCormick Place West,  
Chicago, Illinois  
www.midam.org

### Trees and the Law

Northeast Municipal Foresters Luncheon  
January 15, 2009  
Morton Arboretum, Lisle, IL  
10:00 am- 12:00 pm  
1-877-617-8887

### Midwest Organic Production & Marketing Conference & Trade Show

January 21 - 22, 2009  
Adams Mark Hotel-Airport,  
Indianapolis, IN

### RFP Mapping

Northeast Municipal Foresters Luncheon,  
Bolingbrook, IL  
February 19, 2009  
1-877-617-8887

### Timber Harvest Training

February 11-14, 2009  
near Galesberg, Illinois.  
217/529-0061

### Permeable Concrete – Great alternative for trees and more!

Northeast Municipal Foresters Luncheon  
March 19<sup>th</sup>, 2009:  
10:00 am– 12:00 pm  
iaa@wi.rr.com or  
7877-617-8887

## Secretary's Report

*Dave Gillespie, IFA Secretary*

Our goal was to grow the Illinois Forestry Association to 800 members by the end of 2008. We came pretty close. As of December 12, 2008, we have 787 members. Not too bad. We can feel proud of this accomplishment. Who knows, we still have about two and one-half weeks left to get thirteen new members. New memberships received during November and December of 2008 get 2009 memberships. So, if you know someone who should be a member of IFA, go to our web site, [www.ilforestry.org](http://www.ilforestry.org), get the Membership Registration Form and sign them up. Consider giving a deserving person an IFA membership as a Christmas gift. This has been done in the past.

IFA dues for 2009 are due in January. Notices will be sent soon either by e-mail, if I have your e-mail address, or by mail if I do not have your e-mail address. If you have not sent your e-mail address to me, please do so to help save postage. My e-mail address is [dandgisp@aol.com](mailto:dandgisp@aol.com).

The calendar has been set for IFA Board of Directors meetings through September of 2009. The Board will meet January 14, 2009; March 18, 2009; May 20, 2009; July 16, 2009; with the Annual Meeting scheduled for August 15, 2009. The locations of these meeting will be determined prior to the meeting dates and posted on the IFA web site. Please attend if you so wish.

If you have any questions or concerns that I might help you with, please contact me.

## Legislative Committee

In addition to the legislative activity report provided by our lobbyist Paula Purdue, the Legislative Committee has some exciting news to report. The Illinois Forestry Association (IFA) has just entered into a cooperative agreement with the Illinois Arborist Association (IAA) to work together on legislative matters.

Following contacts made by Past IFA President Ray Herman with the IAA on how our two organizations could work together on mutual forestry issues, our Legislative Committee and IAA's Legislative Committee have met several times to see how we could pool our resources in legislative matters. The IAA, whose membership consists of municipal arborists and urban foresters, has been very active in the urban and community side of forestry, but lacked a lobbyist to held with their legislative program. The IFA has been somewhat lacking in urban and community forestry input. Now both problems are solved. The IFA and the IAA will work together to coordinate forestry issues with IFA's lobbyists that involve legislative matters.

This arrangement is a great example of forestry related organizations working together to present a united voice for forestry in Illinois. It has been demonstrated many times that the only way to provide an effective voice for forestry in Illinois is for all forestry organizations to work together. The IFA will continue to lead the way.

### Correction

In our last newsletter there was mention of a December 9 date for the upcoming Forest Leaders Institute. While this date had been floated to a few people to check for major conflicts, it had not been finalized. Our instructor developed a conflict and was not able to conduct the training on that date. She was not aware that the date was being announced in the newsletter, and whoever submitted the item was unaware of the conflict that had developed. We regret the misunderstanding.

All IFA members with a valid e-mail address will receive a special invitation, including registration materials, when new dates for the institutes are announced. Information will also be posted on the IFA web site. To express your interest in attending, send an e-mail to Stephanie Brown at [sbrown63@shawneelink.net](mailto:sbrown63@shawneelink.net).

## IFA Legislative Update

Paula Purdue and Jenni Purdue

This has been a very exciting election year, especially for Illinois. We have a new President-Elect of the United States from Illinois that is shifting the entire structure of our elected officials. Also, the Illinois legislature was in session from November 19<sup>th</sup> - November 20<sup>th</sup> for veto override session. In this brief session many things happened to change the shape of the legislature.

Senator Obama will be the 44<sup>th</sup> President of the United States, which is having major impacts on the State of Illinois. Someone will be appointed to fill the open U.S. Senate seat, and at this time, there are many hats in the ring, but no clear choice has been decided. President-Elect Obama has named Congressman Rahm Emanuel as his Chief of Staff, and this leaves a vacant U.S. Congressional seat open. Again, there are many who have shown interest in this seat, but no one has yet been named to fill this opening. If an elected official gets appointed to either seat, then that person's seat will need to be filled. (For example, Congressman Jesse Jackson Jr. has expressed interest in the open Senate seat, if he is appointed, then there will need to be an appointment for his newly vacant Congressional seat). So, as you can see, there will be a lot of changes in the Illinois delegation, and it will be interesting to see what happens.

On a statewide level, there are also many changes going on. Earlier this year, the Senate President, Emil Jones, announced his retirement, and more recently, the Senate Minority Leader, Frank Watson, stepped down from his leadership position due to health issues. This week two new people were elected by the Senate to fill those positions. Senator Cullerton will be the Senate President and Senator Radogno will be the new Senate Minority Leader (and will be the first woman to hold one of the 4 leadership positions in either house). We do not know yet how this shift in the Senate leadership will impact the overall legislature, or what impact this will have on the troubles between the House, Senate, and Governor, but there may be room to hope for a better legislative year. On the other hand, not much may change as the other legislative branches (Governor and

House) will stay the same. We will just have to wait and see to find out.

Also on the state level, State Senator Debbie Halverson won a congressional race on November 4<sup>th</sup> and she will be heading to Washington D.C. in January, so there will be an appointment to her State Senate seat as well.

HB4549 did not pass in the veto session; there are still two more days left of the 95<sup>th</sup> General Assembly (Jan 12<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup>) so we will see if anything can be done to pass the bill during that time. If the bill continues to be hung up, we will work on putting the language in a new bill for the next session. Hopefully, we will be able to avoid adding any problematic rule-making language and the bill will be able to sail through the legislature. We will also be working on some other legislative goals in conjunction with the Illinois Arborist Association.

Next session will not be easy due to the state revenue not coming in and the recession, which will probably get worse before it gets better. The State of Illinois is around 800 million dollars in the hole and around 4 billion dollars are backed-up in payments. How the state manages the current shortfall for this year's budget and how we manage next year's budget crises will be tough and interesting. Right now, we are waiting to see how the political landscape will change in the upcoming months, and are gearing up for Session 2009.

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## Timber Harvest Training and Game of Logging (GOL)

Dan Schmoker, IFA Vice President

The Illinois Walnut Council will sponsor and facilitate an intensive, hands-on training on safe and efficient use of chain saws. Joe Glenn, professional logger with 30 years experience and a certified GOL trainer, will teach the four day course on February 11-14, 2009 near Galesberg, Illinois.

Anyone interested in learning new safe methods for tree felling is welcome to register. The class of 12 students may be a mix of professionals, semi pros and beginners. Since registration is on a first come, first served basis, you should register early. Cost for the training is \$350 and is payable in advance and postmarked not later than January 20, 2009.

For more information contact Dan Schmoker, 217/529-0061 or cell 217/416-1587. Or you can call John Torbert at 309/337-0879.

**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!**

## Past President's Perspective

Ray Herman

While I am no longer IFA president, I will continue to do what I can actively do to promote the growth of the association, both internally and externally. I hope each of you renew your membership as the key starting point for continued support. Then, record one or two or more activities that you will do during 2009 to add your voice for Illinois forestland. There are so many ways to be active and really make a difference. The old adage "many hands make light work" must be applied for IFA to move ahead.

Start by getting active in your region. Call your regional director(s) and just say "hi", and let him or her know who you are, what your interests are, and offer to get involved. Activity builds interest! Be active in 2009!!

### Is There a Lawyer IFA Member?

Call Ray Herman at (217) 377-7568 if you are a lawyer or know a lawyer with forestry interests. Just an inquiry – nothing eminent.

### Past Workshops

Throughout this newsletter are pictures taken at several of the workshops held in and around the state this last September-October. Maybe you will see yourself!

### **WELCOME NEW BOARD MEMBERS**

The election report at the 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Meeting resulted in the following changes to your board:

- Ray Herman is now past-President.
- J. B. Gates is the new President.
- Dan Schmoker is Vice President
- Region 1 Directors: Mark Duntemann and Bob Sloan
- Region 3 new Director: Mike Medley
- Newly elected at-large Directors: Paul Deizman and Stan Sipp

Officers and directors who agreed to stay on for another term were:

- Bob Sloan – Treasurer (double duty)
- Dave Gillespie – Secretary
- Region 2 Directors: Susan Romano and Lee Rife
- Region 3 Director – Roy Bailey
- Region 4 Directors – Stephanie Brown and Joe Newcomb

Thanks to outgoing directors and officers Mary Duff, Debbie Jones, Rollie Spaniol, Beth Riley, Mike Kiefer, and Ray Herman.

## IFA 3rd Annual Meeting

Ray Herman, Past President

Approximately 60 members and guests attended the 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Meeting, held in Charleston, Illinois on August 23, 2008. The event was hosted by Region 3 Directors, Rollie Spaniol and Roy Bailey, with significant assistance from Tom Benjamin, Lincoln Heritage RC&D Coordinator. Pictures of the meeting were also provided by Tom.

The morning session allowed time to mingle before welcoming comments by out-going president, Ray Herman, started the business meeting. Several partners and guests were introduced and spoke briefly. They were: Mike Mason, IDNR State Forester; Bill Gradle, NRCS State Conservationist; Bill Calvert, Illinois Consulting Foresters; and Craig Willenborg, President of IWPA. The key business items were: (1) vote to make several minor changes to by-laws; (2) Lobbyist report by Paula and Jenni Purdue; (3) Leadership Institute report by Stephanie Brown; (4) PowerPoint review of IFA's accomplishments by Kurt Bobsin; and lastly, election results. (See a separate article that shows a complete listing of new and outgoing officers and directors.)

The afternoon session began with the presentation of several recognition awards. The Outstanding Partner Award went to three NRCS employees, Paige

Buck, Cara Clark and Jody Christiansen, for their great work on our IFA banner, brochure, and newsletter. Betty Joubert, who was chair of the PR and Communication Committee, received the Special Achievement Award for newsletter efforts and publicity of workshops. Our secretary, Dave Gillespie, was given the President's Award for outstanding service. Kurt Bobsin received IFA's top award – Special Achievement Award for Exceptional Service and Dedication.

The program section of our meeting was shared by two speakers. Dick Johnson of the Southern Illinois Prescribed Burn Association, spoke on the value of burning as a forest management tool. Jay Hayek spoke about the Big Trees of Illinois project. Sandwiched between the speakers was the first politician to come to our annual meetings. Chapin Rose, Republican Representative, was energetic and informative, speaking on the Springfield dilemma and bills of interest, as well as fielding questions from the floor. It was unfortunate that Jay's time was shortened.

Next year's annual meeting will be hosted by Region 1. We're growing and getting better. We hope to join forces with Northwest Illinois Forestry Association, Illinois Tree Farmers, and the Walnut Council Illinois Chapter next year.



Kurt Bobsin receives award.



Stephanie Brown gives Leadership Institute Report.



Left to right: Legislative Lobbyists Paula Purdue and Jenni Purdue.

## Meet Your Board of Directors!

### Officers

J. B. Gates, **President**  
 Phone: 618/384-9888  
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Dan Schmoker, **Vice President**  
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Dave Gillespie, **Secretary**  
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Bob Sloan, **Treasurer**  
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 Email: rsloan@joysta.com

### Immediate Past President

Ray Herman  
 Phone: 217/687-2712  
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 brherman154@gmail.com

### Directors

#### Region 1

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#### Region 2

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### Directors at Large

Paul Deizman  
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Stan Sipp  
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### Technical Advisory Committee

Kurt Bobsin, Regional Forester  
 Office: 217/935-6860  
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 Kurt.bobsin@illinois.gov

Jay Hayek  
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Kathy McTighe, NRCS Agroforester  
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#### Region 3

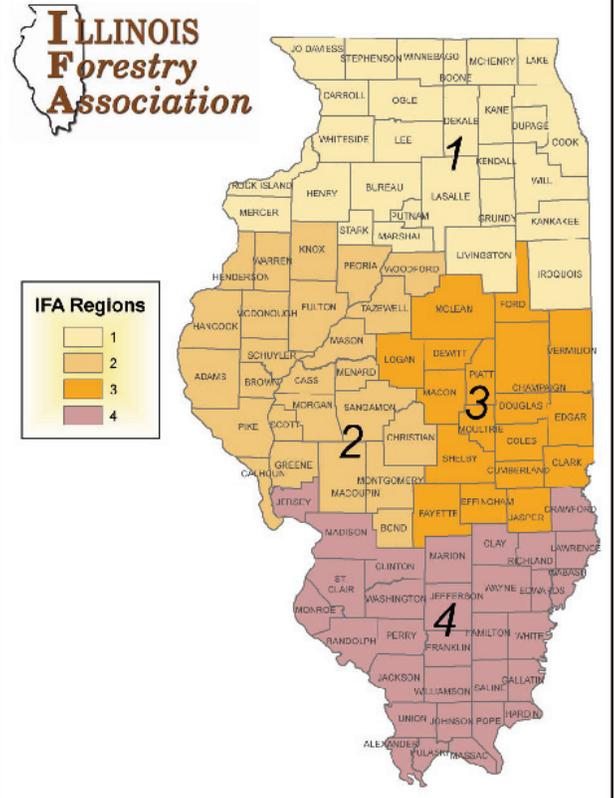
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#### Region 4

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### IFA Region 4 Workshop

Joe Newcomb and Stephanie Brown Region 4, Directors

Region 4 will be hosting a workshop called 'Money Doe\$ Grow on Tree\$.' The workshop will be held on Thursday, January 15<sup>th</sup>, 2008, at 5:30 pm at the Pinckneyville United Methodist Church, S. Mill St., Pinckneyville, IL. From the Perry County courthouse go west, two stop signs and then south.

- 5:30 Registration
- 6:00 Sandwiches, etc.
- 7:00 Opening Remarks – Stephanie Brown
- 7:10 Financial Incentives for Forest Management
  - IDNR – State Forester
  - EQIP – NRCS
- 7:30 Maximizing Profits on Timber Sales – A Panel Discussion
  - Landowner
  - Forestry Consultant
  - Timber Buyer
- 8:00 Minimizing Taxes on Income from Timber Sales -- Dr. John Gunter, PhD in Forest Management and Economics.
- 8:30 Lowering Property Taxes via Woodland Assessment -- Tax assessor
- 8:50 Wrap Up – Stephanie Brown

## Region 2 Report

Lee Strife and Mark Duntemann, Region 2 Directors

The Region 2 IFA Workshop was held November 8, 2008, from 9 am – 3:30 pm, at Dan Schmoker's tree farm located in Greene County, near Hillview, IL. Fifteen members enjoyed a beautiful day in the woods discussing regeneration techniques, bush honeysuckle and garlic mustard control, and tree felling, bucking, and skidding. Tree identification was followed with burgers and fries at the local American Legion. Our thanks to Dan and his friends for providing an enjoyable and enlightening workshop!



Logging demonstration uses "Game of Logging" techniques.



The log pile at Dan's Cabin - We got to look these over and say how we would try to sell them. We also learned a few tricks to improve the wood quality.



Our tree-hugging vice-president with his favorite (Kentucky Coffee) tree. One cabinet and three bowls one of these days!

## Region 3 Report

Roy Bailey and Mike Medley, Region 3 Directors

IFA joined several other conservation organizations in Sept to offer woodland-wildlife workshops south of Mason in Effingham Co, and also in Crawford Co near Palestine. The Mason event was hosted by IFA charter members Joe Jansen and Floyd Pagel. Joe's sawmill and wood processing facility was a featured. "I do this work as a hobby" Joe said, explaining that he gains more satisfaction than big dollars from his operation. He does custom sawing and operates his 275 Tree Farm acres. Joe built his kiln and uses a variety of wood finishing machines. District Forester Dave Johnson demonstrated techniques of chainsaw maintenance and safe operation. District Conservationist Bart Pals from NRCS presented an explanation of federal and state programs for assistance with woodland management. Joe and family were named Outstanding Wildlife Conservationists of the Year by the Effingham Co. Soil and Water Conservation District in 2003.

The 80 some Mason visitors rode a wagon train a mile south to Floyd Pagel's Tree Farm where Craig Willenborg of Heartland Hardwards conducted a short course on safe directional tree felling. Eric Stanley assessed the harvest value of several of Floyd's trees. NWTF biologist Kent Adams helped visitors understand the many wildlife benefits of Floyd's timber stand improvement. Floyd showed visitors where TSI and controlled burning has helped shift 300 acres of woodland to more desirable timber and wildlife species. Floyd, with extensive woodland experience, was the Illinois Tree Farmer of the Year in 2000.

IFA President Ray Herman hosted the Palestine field day on his Tree Farm with side trip to an 80 acre woodland site owned and managed by Marathon Oil Co. The Marathon tract is managed for wildlife and includes a water supply system for their refinery. The agenda featured Timber Stand Improvement (TSI), control of exotic invasive species, pruning, direct woodland seeding, and wildlife management. Ray has about 200 acres of woodlands.

Sponsors of the Palestine and Mason events were IFA, Illinois Southern Tree Farm Committee, National Wild Turkey Federation, Post Oak and Wabash Valley RC&Ds, and local conservation districts.



IFA members and neighbors Joe Jansen, left, and Floyd Pagel sized up some sawlogs in preparation for their woodland-wildlife field day.



Attendees learn more even more at outdoor workshops and discussions.



Ray Herman walks through preserve area.



Group attends workshop.

## Garlic Mustard, an Invasive Plant in Illinois' Forests

By Chris Evans, River to River Cooperative Weed Management Area

### Identification

Garlic mustard is an herbaceous biennial plant that is aggressively invading wooded areas throughout the eastern and middle United States. First-year plants are basal rosettes with green heart-shaped leaves (1-6 inches tall).



Photo: U of GA

Second-year plants produce a 1-4 feet tall flowering stalk with small, white flowers. Fruits are long seeds pods with small, hard, black seeds. Garlic mustard is most easily recognized by a garlic odor present on actively growing parts of the plant when crushed and the strongly toothed, triangular leaves in the second-year plants.

### Habitat

Garlic mustard invades hardwood forests, savannas, woodlots, forest edges, and roadsides.



Photo: U of GA

Disturbed forests are most often invaded, but high-quality, undisturbed forests are also vulnerable. Stream sides and bottom land forest are the most common habitat invaded, but infestations can also be found on slope and upland sites. Garlic mustard does best in partial light but can tolerate deep shade and full sun. It grows in a variety of soils with limestone or sandstone substrates and neutral to basic pH. Infestations usually start along an edge, trail or stream and spread throughout the remaining forest.

### Impacts

Once introduced, garlic mustard can form dense stands that shade and compete with the native understory, lowering species diversity and reducing wildlife habitat. It can quickly become the

dominate vegetation once introduced. It emerges early in the growing season, competing with and shading the spring wildflowers. Garlic mustard is notable because a high shade tolerance allows it to invade high-quality mature forests, once thought to be relatively resistant to invasion. It has little or no value as a wildlife food and white-tailed deer preferentially avoid garlic mustard to feed upon the other species, possibly aiding in the dominance of garlic mustard in the landscape. Once established, garlic mustard is very difficult to remove and spreads rapidly.

### Management

The best time to manage for garlic mustard is before you have it. Garlic mustard has tiny hard seeds that are often carried in the mud on boots, ATV tires, and forestry equipment. Be sure to clean the mud off of your shoes and any equipment before they come onto your land. Watch for garlic mustard plants and be sure to get rid of any new infestations before they get large and difficult to manage. It is always easier and cheaper to control new infestations of invasive species than to wait until the infestation is large and well established. If you already have an established population of garlic mustard, then several management techniques will help reduce or eliminate the infestation. First, start off by focusing on the edges of the infestation or the small spots of garlic mustard and work your way back towards the large or dense spots. Garlic mustard dies after setting seed in late spring, so be sure to time any control activities to prevent seed production. Hand-pulling of small infestations is easy and quick. For larger infestations, spray with a herbicide like glyphosate. Since garlic mustard stays green throughout the winter and starts growing earlier than most other understory plants, very early spring treatments can be effective at controlling garlic mustard and avoiding your desirable species.

### Assistance

If you live in one of the southern 11 counties in Illinois, you may be eligible for financial assistance to help to control high-priority invasive species, like garlic mustard, in your forest. The River to River Cooperative Weed Management Area (CWMA) has a private lands control program that is offered to landowners seeking help controlling invasive plants. For more information on this program and the CWMA, contact Chris Evans at 618-998-5920 or [rivertoriver@gmail.com](mailto:rivertoriver@gmail.com). You can find out more about the CWMA at [www.rtrcwma.org](http://www.rtrcwma.org).



Photo: U of GA

### Illinois Forestry Association

A non-profit, tax-exempt organization under IRS 501(c)3

Illinois Forestry Association  
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Chatham, IL 62629-0224



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

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