

# NEWS YOU CAN USE



**THE PENNSYLVANIA  
FORESTRY ASSOCIATION**

• FOUNDED 1886 •



**IF WE HAD NO WINTER THE SPRING WOULD  
NOT BE SO PLEASANT**

ANNE BRADSTREET

MARCH/  
APRIL 2022

#FORESTPROUD



## 2022 CONSERVATION DINNER



### PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Pennsylvania Forestry Association (PFA) leadership had a very busy winter searching for a new association management company. The task group, co-chaired by Richard Lewis and Ken Manno, completed the daunting tasks of reviewing proposals, interviewing prospective candidates, and presenting information to the Executive Committee on February 17, 2022. The Executive Committee approved the hiring of Celesta Powell of Powell's Presence from Spring Mills, PA to become our Association Manager. We thank Caleb Wright with Versant Strategies for their great work for the past seven years and look forward to a smooth and productive transition to Powell's Presence.

Celesta has been associated with PFA for many years attending our annual banquets and selling the chainsaw tickets with her husband, and board member, Mike Powell. We look forward to a long and productive relationship with Celesta. On June 16, 2022 the combined Tree Farm and Board meeting will be held at PFA's new office location at 106 School Street, Suite 208 in Spring Mills, PA.

The PFA Conservation Banquet was held at the Ramada Inn in State College and was a great success with all 350 tickets sold and 220 in attendance. Please plan to attend next years event on March 4, 2023 at the Ramada Inn and get your tickets early.

Randy White, President

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### GREETINGS.

I am beyond excited to have been chosen as the Association Manager for the PA Forestry Association. While my background is not environmental- obviously my personal interest as a landowner and wife of a forester offer me the opportunity to know the value of our woods and the mission of our association. I look forward to my future with the Pennsylvania Forestry Association and welcome the opportunity to meet everyone in person.

Please feel free to contact me with questions or comments. Join me at the Tree Planting Ramble. Get out there!!! Celesta



## WATCHING OUR WOODS

### **DRONE RELEASE OF A WEEVIL TO CONTROL MILE-A-MINUTE BY RICHARD REARDON, ENTOMOLOGIST, USDA FOREST SERVICE (RETIRED) AND REBECCA TRIGGER MARCH 25, 2022**



Mile-a-minute vine (MAM, *Persicaria perfoliata*) is a fast-growing annual invasive plant native to Asia. It has extensively invaded open areas, roadsides, utility rights-of-way, and forest edges in the mid-Atlantic and northeastern states. To combat this invasive plant, a weevil, *Rhinoncomimus latipes*, was introduced as a natural enemy. It is a specialist insect feeding only on MAM. Operationally, in an effort to control MAM, the weevils are hand-released close to the roads and trails. However, the MAM in hard-to-access areas (e.g., steep hillsides) could not be managed by hand releases of the insect.

To access difficult terrain areas a research project was initiated in southwest Pennsylvania to evaluate the use of drones with onboard sensors to map the locations of MAM. The drones were further developed with an aerial release system to distribute the weevils with precision onto MAM sites. The weevils are placed in a biodegradable container and released from the drone. Results of field tests evaluating the system showed no negative effects on survivorship and feeding ability of the weevils after release. The weevils were very successful in controlling MAM in the release sites as well as in surrounding sites.

One of the woodland study sites, owned by Rebecca Trigger, had MAM infested sites that were both easy and difficult to access. Hand and aerial release of the weevils were utilized on the property. The weevils were very successful in controlling MAM at both release sites as well to surrounding sites. R. Trigger states, "It's a wonderful feeling seeing the mile-a-minute patches decrease in size, knowing the weevils are munching away."

The weevils can be collected from previous release sites and released into new sites by hand or drone, depending on the accessibility of the site, within the same state. Dr. Yong-Lak Park, Professor of Entomology at West Virginia University, has developed a low cost, logistically practical, and effective system to map MAM and release weevils for use in hard to access areas (Park et al, 2018 Pest Management Science 74: 141-148).

If you don't know anyone with weevils on a MAM site, you may be able to purchase them. For information on weevil purchases for MAM control (depending on your state) contact the Philip Alampi Beneficial Insect Rearing Laboratory in New Jersey (<https://www.nj.gov/agriculture/divisions/pi/prog/buglab/>). This lab has a New Jersey Department of Agriculture 526 permit that also covers sales to Pennsylvania and West Virginia.



## **SPOTTED LANTERNFLY QUARANTINE INCREASES.**

as spring begins- take note of increased quarantine and things you can do to stop the spotted lanternfly.

follow the link to access Penn State Extension newest updates.

<https://extension.psu.edu/spotted-lanternfly-update>



## STAY IN THE KNOW

### GAME COMMISSION UPDATES



#### ROCK-CLIMBING ACTIVITIES TO END ON TWO STATE GAME LANDS 04/05/2022

HARRISBURG, PA - The Pennsylvania Game Commission in conjunction with the Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission (PFBC) announces the closure of all rock-climbing activities on State Game Lands 51 and State Game Lands 138 in Fayette County.

#### SPRING GOBBLER BEGINS APRIL 30!

**PURDUE UNIVERSITY RELEASES** Impact of Renewable Fuel Standard (RFS) on biofuels production shown in study.

"The model takes into account the use of commodity feed stocks for food and fuel, and the competition or trade-offs between those and other market uses," Taheripour said. "It also traces land use and handles intensification in crop production due to technological progress, multicropping and conversion of unused cropland to crop production. This is the first biofuels study to be able to piece out all of these factors individually and to combine that information with short-term models to capture finer and shorter-term impacts."

**READ THE FULL PRESS  
RELEASE HERE**

## COLLEGE CONNECTIONS



#### FOLLOW THE CARBON: RE-ENVISIONING THE BIOECONOMY

APRIL 20, 2022, AT 1:00 P.M.

Dean Rick Roush will be joined by Professor of Agricultural and Biological Engineering Tom Richard and Assistant Professor of Forest Resource Management Melissa Kreye. Every year forests and agricultural crops remove tens of millions of tons of carbon dioxide from the atmosphere. Hundreds of millions of dollars are now on the table to incentivize producers to store more of that carbon. The discussion will focus on how these new carbon markets can help improve soil health and enhance ecosystem resilience, and how landowners and communities may benefit from this bio-economy, all while slowing and eventually reversing climate change. Discussion will also focus on how private landowners may plan to engage in the bio-economy and the need for continuing landowner education.

**CLICK HERE TO  
REGISTER**



**PennState Extension**

**AS ALWAYS PENN STATE  
EXTENSION CONTINUES TO  
OFFER SOMETHING FOR  
EVERYONE!**

**CLICK HERE TO  
REGISTER**

**ROTHROCK WEEK  
APRIL 24- 30, 2022**

THE PENNSYLVANIA FORESTRY ASSOCIATION (PFA) IS PLEASED TO SHARE THE 2022 SPROUL FOREST RAMBLE. THIS REPLANT CONTINUES TO SUPPORT REGROWTH OF TREES ON THE SPROUL STATE FOREST AFTER THE TWO ROCK RUN FOREST FIRES IN CLINTON COUNTY.

# 30TH ANNUAL SPROUL FOREST TREE PLANTING RAMBLE

**APRIL 30, 2022**

*REGISTRATION OR QUESTIONS:*

ROY SIEFERT SIEFERTROY@GMAIL.COM  
DOUG DAMORE DOUGJENNYDAMORE@COMCAST.NET

THESE TREE PLANTING RAMBLES ARE POSSIBLE DUE TO NORM LACASSE, A LONGTIME PFA MEMBER, AND HIS SPEARHEADING OF THIS EFFORT AND IS FRIEND HENRY 'HANK' WESSEL. HANK ESTABLISHED A FUND TO EXPAND PLANTING EFFORTS ON STATE FOREST LAND ACROSS THE COMMONWEALTH. THROUGH THE HENRY WESSEL FUND WITH PFA.

THE SPROUL STATE FOREST STAFF WILL BE PREPARING PLANTINGS AND PROVIDING THE SEEDLINGS TO BE PLANTED.

LUNCH WILL BE PROVIDED. \*\*\*\*\*PREFERRED REGISTRATION BY APRIL 25 FOR LUNCH.

**DIRECTIONS:**

MEET AT 0845 AT THE FLAMING FOLIAGE LOT NEAR THE RED LIGHT IN RENOVO (IT'S THE ONLY LIGHT IN TOWN). THE PLANTING SITE WILL BE NEAR AND JUST NORTH OF THE HICKS AND JEWS RUN ROAD INTERSECTIONS WITH ROUTE 144 IN BEECH CREEK TOWNSHIP, CLINTON COUNTY.



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have you checked out the PFA You Tube Channel?  
Now is the perfect time if you haven't!  
Enjoy the 5th video in the Discovering PA's Forest Heritage  
<https://youtu.be/lrQDhRgJwPA>

Our office has moved.

Please note that mailings and information will  
come from:

Pennsylvania Forestry Association  
PO Box 208  
106 School St. Suite 208  
Spring Mills PA 16875

800-835-8065



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