

The Cutting Edge →



NEWS FOR THE DEDICATED PROFESSIONALS WHO WORK CONNECTICUT'S WOODLANDS

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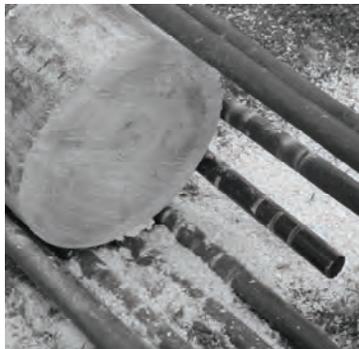
Galen Boucher
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These two containers (right) tell an interesting story about the value of so-called "waste" wood. The reality may be that there really is no such thing. Every scrap and shred of wood has some use, some value.



The Metropolitan Water Reclamation District of Chicago has found a use for wood from damaged or EAB-infested trees and limbs cut down by the Chicago Streets and Sanitation Department. The salvaged wood is finely chipped and composted with biosolids from processed sewage waste. The mixture results in a superior compost product that can be sold to landscapers at a profit.

Connecticut's own *Stormwise* project is also considering options for wood as it studies how to make our forests more resilient to storms. Proactive forest management of Connecticut's forests, particularly roadside trees, will help us avoid the widespread property damage and utility outages that followed 2012's Hurricane Sandy.



Also in this issue:

Our new members; News from our 2013 and 2014 scholarship winners: Kimi Sekorksi, Christian Allyn, and Griffin Bovich; Reports on our recent CPR, Game of Logging, and Log A Load events; Information from the USDA Invasive Species Workshop.

The Connecticut Professional Timber Producers Association, Inc. (TIMPRO CT) is recognized by the IRS as a 501(c)6 non-profit corporation. Our mission is to enhance the image and understanding of the forest products industry throughout the state through public outreach programs, education, and a commitment to professionalism among its members.

TIMPRO CT NEWS

TIMPRO CT's Second Heartsaver ® First Aid class

Our second Heartsaver ® First Aid class on September 26 was again directed by Jason Race. Twenty-five participants got a thorough grounding in CPR while earning CEUs. As before, TIMPRO CT provided lunch.

Below, Hailey Gillotti, daughter of Mike and Stephanie Gillotti, joined the class. Below right, Henry Gundlach and Bob Carrington practiced CPR.



In November the State of Massachusetts enacted a wood quarantine in an attempt to limit the spread of the Emerald Ash Borer. The order means that certain products will be prohibited from moving outside the regulated area, including all hardwood firewood (any piece of wood smaller than 48 inches), all ash nursery stock and any ash lumber that has not been treated. Proper wood treatments include the removal of bark and half an inch of wood, dry kiln sterilization, fumigation and heat treatments. TIMPRO CT Legislative Liaison Joan Nichols will keep us posted on possible statewide quarantines here and in Rhode Island.

MEET TIMPRO CT'S NEW MEMBERS

Scott Baker, Lebanon Ct. Timber Harvesting, Firewood

Patrick Hedden, Lyman Hall High School, Cheshire Ct. Student

Gregory Krol, GK Forest Products, Belchertown Mass. Timber Harvesting.

Richard Lafleche, Aerial Tree & Site Development, Woodstock Ct.
Timber Harvesting, Firewood, Trucking

Membership in the Connecticut Professional Timber Producers Association

Membership is open to sawmills, loggers, foresters, landowners, supporting businesses and anyone else interested in supporting the forest products industry in Connecticut. Benefits include educational programs, a voice in the Connecticut Legislature, a listing on the TIMPRO CT website, current information on issues affecting the forest products industry, discounts from area businesses, a free subscription to *The Cutting Edge* and more.

Dues are \$150/year. \$25.00 for student memberships.

Applications are available by calling TIMPRO CT at 860-948-0432 or visiting the website at www.timproct.org.

Log A Load Event Success

By Stephanie Gillotti

TIMPRO CT helped make the 2014 Log A Load event highly successful. \$716 was raised at the drawing the day of Ag Days, and \$1335 was given in monetary donations. A total of \$ 2051.00 was raised for the Connecticut Children's Medical Center in Hartford, CT. A special thank you goes to the following 2014 Contributors to Log A Load for Kids.



BENEFITING

Children's Miracle Network Hospitals®

GB Firewood & Logging
 Clark Forestry Services
 CT Chapter Society of American Foresters
 Bob's Landclearing Inc.
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 Mike & Cathy Bartlett
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 Kahn Tractor
 TIMPRO CT
 Bill Gerard
 Stephanie, Mike & Hailey Gillotti
 Gibson Hill Forest Products

Thank you, all, for your participation and support.



TIMPRO CT members were among the many attendees at the NELA conference in Maine this Fall.

News You Can Use

Highlights of the 2014 Connecticut Invasive Plant Working Group (CIPWG) Symposium

By Charlotte Pyle, Landscape Ecologist, USDA-Natural Resources Conservation Service, Connecticut

If you didn't attend the 2014 Connecticut Invasive Plant Working Group (CIPWG) symposium held October 7th at the University of Connecticut, you missed an excellent opportunity to net-

work on many levels and to get educated on topics ranging

from laws and policy to invasive plant identification

and control. CEUs for Certified Connecticut Forest

Practitioners, Connecticut DEEP Pesticide Applicator

Recertification, and several other professional fields

were available.

The 500 attendees were greeted by Donna Ellis on behalf

of CIPWG and Associate Dean/Associate Director, UConn Ex-

tension, Michael P. O'Neill on behalf of the University. Steven

Manning's "Tips for Contracting Invasive Plant Control"

presentation was jam-packed with information; and, the

only complaint heard was "Why didn't you give him more time?" The Keynote

talk, delivered by Dr. Sarah Reichard (University of Washington Professor and former member of

the National Invasive Species Advisory Committee), wove together threads of invasive plant re-

search, policy, and management. Comments received later indicated that the mainly manage-

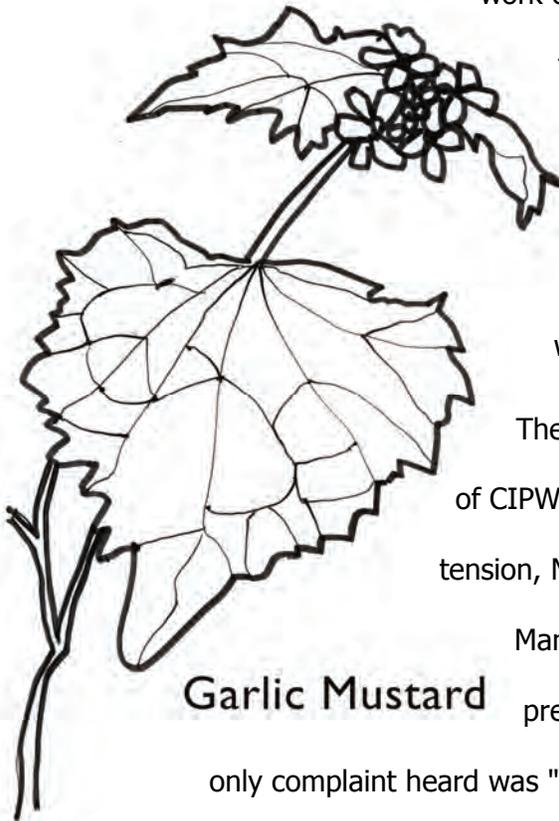
ment-oriented audience appreciated the wake-up call about the need for communication among

managers, researchers, and policy-makers in order to keep up support for field management

priorities.

Concurrent breakout sessions had people wishing they could clone themselves. In a variety of

ways, the sessions covered control techniques, alternatives to invasive plants for harsh sites,

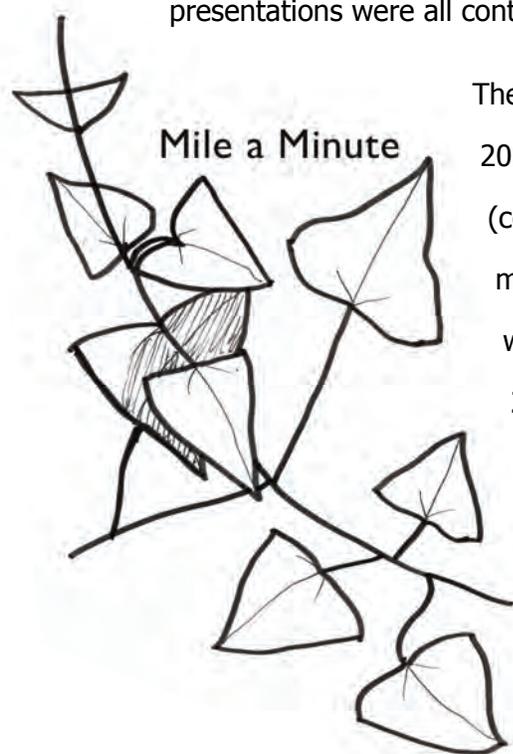
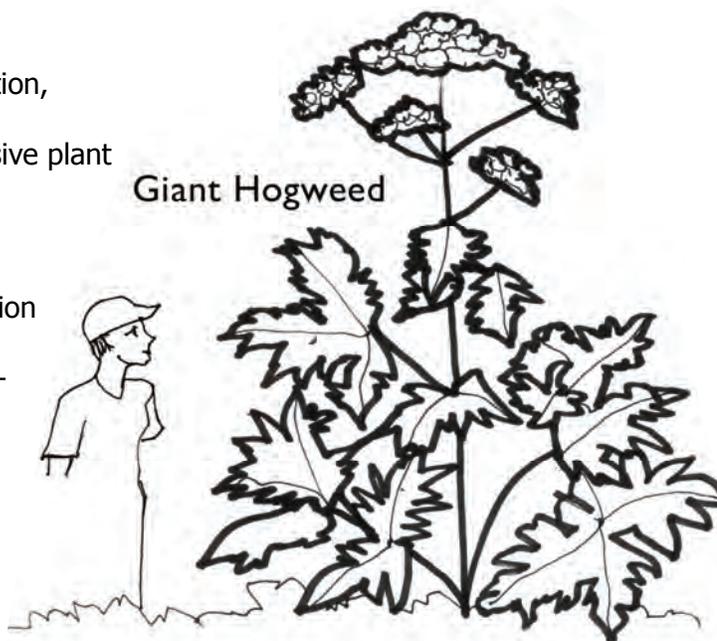


Garlic Mustard

wildlife and other uses, plant identification, aquatic issues, and partnering for invasive plant management.

Other highlights included the presentation of the Leslie J. Mehrhoff award to Kathleen Nelson for her long term activities and innovative approaches to invasive plant education, early detection, and control. Posters and displays were on view all day including a large hands-on display

of live plants, both aquatic and terrestrial. David Gumbart (Connecticut Nature Conservancy) gave the wrap up. Throughout the day, attendees were engaged and, as one put it, "The presentations were all content, no fluff."



The next CIPWG invasive plant symposium will be held in 2016. CIPWG also maintains a speaker's bureau (contact Donna.Ellis@uconn.edu (860) 486-6448 for more information). In the meantime, plans are underway to post Powerpoints and other highlights of the 2014 symposium on the *Get Involved* page of CIPWG website <http://cipwg.uconn.edu/>.

Illustrations by Deborah Roach

THE GAME OF LOGGING

by Jerry Bellows

The 2014 Game of Logging (GOL) event was held at the Woodstock, CT fair grounds in conjunction with the Celebrating Agriculture event on September 20th 2014 under the direction of GOL instructors Bill Girard from Lansboro Mass. and Bill Lindloff from Endicott NY. To compete in any of the nine events, entrants must complete four levels of GOL training.

Exercising his knowledge of geometry and physics, Jeremy Bellows determines the point of equal reaction. Shaving the underside of the sapling (at a predetermined point) allows Jeremy to safely release the tension in this bent over sapling, commonly referred to as a spring pole.

in



Cookie cutting is no cinch. The object of this event is to test the log bucking skills of the competitors. The bolt of white pine is ringed with red dowels simulating a stone or other hard object. Competitors had to cut a complete cookie with points being deducted for any dowels that were hit. An extra \$50 goes to the person who leaves the black dowel untouched. Harder than it looks.

Speed cutting (right) is a real test of the operator's ability to sharpen his chainsaw.



photos courtesy of Charlene Bellows



Marshall McKenna works on the precision stump. He must make his notch 70% or more while making the apex of the notch meet in line with the marker at the lower end of the bolt.



Limbing is still another challenge. Marshall Jamison and Bill Carver (left to right) must remove all limbs close to the main stem in a timed event. Point deductions are made for safety violations as well as limbs over 3/8". The red pine poles were donated by E & F Wood of Eastford, Ct.

The contestants, (left to right), flanked by Instructors Bill Girard and Bill Lindloff: Marshall McKenna, Paul Burk, Pete Jordan, Marshall Jamison, Richard Jordan, Jeremy Bellows, Bill Carver, Jerry Bellows, and Mike Gillotti.

Winners:
1st Place, Paul Burke
2nd Place Jerry Bellows
3rd 3rd Place, Bill Carver.





Bits and Chokers

Stormwise: Preparing Connecticut's Forests for the Future

TIMPRO CT members have seen this time and again in Connecticut: A storm rages through leaving downed trees and limbs tangled in power and telephone lines or blocking streets and driveways. In the course of restoring service and access, the offending branches are cut away and many surviving trees often undergo severe pruning to prevent future outages. The aesthetic results are rarely pretty.

Now a joint state and private forestry effort, *Stormwise*, is developing an "innovative approach to forest stewardship" to help prevent both the outages and the unsightly pruning of roadside trees. At stake is more than the beauty of our streets and highways: limbs and trees cost the state of Connecticut and utilities millions in cleanup, to say nothing of the cost of private property damage.

With funding from the US Forest Service and utilities, *Stormwise* seeks to develop a multi-faceted approach to the problem. It includes new ways to survey existing forests, to predict potential damage, to carry out preventive thinning and cutting, and, above all, to identify more storm-resilient trees along our roads. The project is deploying a range of tools from high-tech LiDAR (light detection and ranging technology) to on-the-ground assessment at twelve locations throughout the state. The data will help identify trees at risk of damage

from extreme weather and of causing damage to utility lines. This will enable the state to develop management practices to produce resilient roadside forests.

Without question, storm damage will still require removal of some trees within the proposed 100' roadside buffer zone, a strip that includes the public right of way and additional public or private land. To cover the cost of removal, the study is identifying high-value utilization options for wood from harvested or trimmed trees.

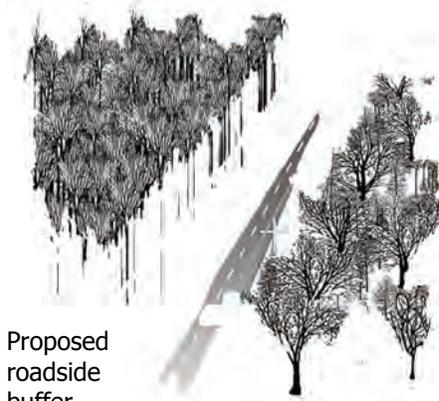
Of special interest to TIMPRO CT, the project is working on protocols for loggers to collaborate with utility companies in harvesting trees adjacent to utility lines. Understandably, few loggers will cut trees if there is even a

chance that the trees fall onto lines. The risk of electrocution or paying for damages to lines or poles is not worth the value of the sawlogs. However, if the utilities drop those trees as part of their enhanced line treatment immediately before or during a harvest, everyone wins. Utilities will have removed trees that will eventually fall on power lines (gravity always wins), loggers will be able to move those trees to the log deck, and landowners may get a few extra dollars.

The project is being led by: Thomas A. Worthley, Associate Extension Professor, Middlesex County Extension Center; Dr. Mark Rudnicki and Dr. John Violin, University of Connecticut, Department of Natural Resources and the Environment; and Dr. Jeffrey Ward, Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station. Additional participants are the Forestry Division of the CT-DEEP, Northeast Utilities, the Metropolitan District Commission, Audubon Connecticut, White Memorial Foundation, and the Natural Resources Conservation Service.



A CLP Lineman at work



Proposed roadside buffer

But *Stormwise* goes well beyond a consideration of forestry issues. It also includes a look at how utilities can improve infrastructure, how communities can enhance the delivery of services, and how land-use policies can reduce the sprawl that adds to risk and maintenance costs. With climate change models suggesting Connecticut will experience more severe storms and damage in the future, *Stormwise* is a first step to preserving our state's forests.

Putting Downed Trees and Limbs to Good Use



Left, a plant growing in commercial compost. Right, one in biosolid/wood compost.

biosolids and wood from trees that had already been downed by storms or infested with EAB. The chipped wood is delivered to processing sites where it is mixed with biosolids and stacked in open windrows. Following strict Environmental Protection Agency guidelines, temperatures in the stacks are allowed to rise to 60' C – higher than the mandated 55' C – for 15 days to kill any pathogens in the biosolids and to sterilize the chips. Backhoes and loaders flip windrows more than the mandated 5 times in 15 days to improve the resulting quality of the compost. The careful processing results in a compost that is stable and gives off little odor.

Dr. Lakhwinder Hundal, Supervising Environmental Scientist for MWRD, says, "This started as a pilot project. So, we'll be buying windrow turners and other special equipment now that we're established."

MWRD is planning to sell the compost. Commercial compost here sells for \$35/cubic yard. "But it isn't close to ours in richness or quality. Ours has many more nutrients," Dr. Hundal notes. And the picture bears him out. He concludes, "Even a small municipality can do this and it's a good use of something available continuously through the year in large quantities."

As this picture illustrates, composting waste wood with biosolids can be a win-win solution for communities faced with a growing number of downed or diseased trees to dispose of.

In Chicago, the Metropolitan Water Reclamation District (MWRD) treats over 1 billion gallons of sewage and rainwater a day. Treatment leaves behind about 165,000 dried tons of biosolids to process into fertilizer for agricultural and landscape use.

In 2013 MWRD began an experiment mixing



Turning windrows of mixed biosolids and waste wood
Photos courtesy MWRD

HERE'S WHAT OUR 2013 AND 2014 SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS ARE DOING

CHRISTIAN ALLYN



Christian at Ward's Wholesale Nursery, Sheffield, MA

Christian Allyn continues to be active on many fronts, from helping formulate legislation to planting trees. He reports: "Last spring semester at the Torrington Campus of UConn was challenging but rewarding. While taking Genealogy and a History of Farming in Litchfield County there, I was able to research my family's origins and their role in farming in my hometown of North Canaan, CT. I even discovered that my Second-Great-Grandfather purchased two wood lots to sell wood to support the charcoal industry. This summer, I helped the North Canaan Beautification Committee plant 15 trees received through an America

the Beautiful Grant. I got to plant trees, play with big machines, and share my love of urban forestry and public service with the town. Then I began working with the Arboretum and Landscape Committee and the Alumni Association of Housatonic Valley Regional High School (HVRHS), my alma mater, to prepare for its 75th Anniversary. I documented the DBH, height, spread, and estimated age of all trees on the HVRHS grounds, worked with artist Robin Conkcerline on a new HVRHS Arboretum map, and helped rededicate the David Hayes statue, *Women Undressing*. Now back at the main UConn Campus, I have joined the UConn chapter of Public Interest Research Group (UConnPIRG) and have been working with the chapter and state organization to bring back Housatonic Railroad Line passenger service, a project a few friends and I began back home in 2013 as well as exploring other student organizations such as EcoHusky, United Student Government, and others. I have been nominated to UConn's Leadership Legacy Experience Program, a group of 15 other students mentored by leading professors and alumni employed or elected in leading positions.



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Funded in part by the CT Professional Timber Producers Assoc.



KIMI SEKORSKI



Kimi Sekorski's enthusiasm for the outdoors is undimmed. She recounted in an email: "The year is going well so far! I have been SUPER busy with classes this semester but definitely enjoying every bit of it. I've been hard at work with the Woodsmen team here too! This past April I competed on stage for Stihl Timbersports doing the stock saw, underhand chop and single buck which was awesome!! Our meets start this Saturday at Fingerlakes Community College, then we go to SUNY ESF and finally at the end of October we have our home meet here at Paul Smith's. When I'm not writing papers and swinging axes I've been spending a lot of my time outside enjoying the scenery of the Adirondacks in the fall." Above, she is doing a Boom Run (running across logs that are strung together in the water) and fire building with another team member (lighting a fire with three matches, a single piece of cedar or bass wood, and two axes to boil a can of water). From the wisps of smoke curling from the wood, I'd say her team was successful.



GRIFFIN BOVICH

Reached by phone at the University of Maine, Griffin Bovich declared, "I love it up here!" Besides Anthropology and Calculus, he is studying Forest Vegetation – "A new science, very challenging" – and is taking a Mapping and Navigation Course which involves learning to use a compass – "Very cool. I love that class. We bushwack."

BEST OF LUCK TO ALL THREE IN THE COMING YEAR



PO Box 508
Oneco, CT 06373

CALENDAR OF EVENTS 2014-2015

Check calendar on Timpro website for any changes.

CT Professional Timber Producers Association

Look for mailings or check the website for further details and any changes to the Calendar of Events.

Ideas for classes you would like offered?

Contact TIMPRO CT:

PO Box 508

Oneco, CT 06373

860-948-0432

info@timproct.org

Articles, ideas, pictures
you'd like to see?

hallie.metzger@rcn.com

CHECK YOUR EMAIL AND THE WEBSITE FOR HEARINGS REGARDING POSSIBLE STATEWIDE EAB-RELATED QUARANTINES IN CT AND RI.

Further information, contact TIMPRO CT 860 948-0432 or info@timproct.org

Get Involved

The Board of Directors is seeking members who are interested in helping out with various activities throughout the year such as CEU programming, fairs, Ag Days at the State Capitol in March, Plant Science Day in August in Hamden, programs at the Agriscience Centers and more. The Board, made up of business owners, just like yourselves, is keenly aware of the demands on your time. Any amount of time, no matter how minimal, is greatly needed.

Contact TIMPRO CT for more information:

860-948-0432 or e-mail: info@timproct.org.