

Illinois Forests



"The Voice for Illinois Forests"

Inside this Issue...

A Message From the IFA President

IFA to Hold Virtual Conference

Ticks and How to Avoid Them

State Forester Report

Illinois Forestry Development Council Report

New Invasive Species Found in Illinois

***Invasive Plant Removal Project at Touch of Nature
and more...***

2019 Illinois Forestry Association Board of Directors

Executive Committee

PRESIDENT

Mike McMahan (Region 4)
Vienna, IL
618/977-3415
mcmahan3465@hotmail.com

VICE-PRESIDENT

Landon Satterfield (Region 4)
Boaz, KY (Benton, IL)
270/704-2687
lsatter@siu.edu

SECRETARY

Dave Gillespie (Region 2)
Chatham, IL
217/494-6982
dandgisp@aol.com

Interim TREASURER

Mike McMahan (Region 4)
Vienna, IL
618/977-3415
mcmahan3465@hotmail.com

IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT

Joe FitzSimmons (Region 4)
Vienna, IL
773/852-7120
fitzsimmonslawoffice@gmail.com

PROGRAM COORDINATOR

Zach DeVillez
Makanda, IL
618/8410932
ilforestry@gmail.com

Regional Directors

Region 1

Bill Fern
Chicago, IL
773/551-5561
bill@billfern.com

Lydia Scott
Lisle, IL
630/719-2425
lscott@mortonarb.org

Tom Walsh
Durand, IL
815/248-2234
walsh10@stateline-isp.com

Region 2

John Lovseth
Jerseyville, IL
618/374.5291
John.Lovseth@principia.edu

Lee Rife
Springfield, IL
217/652-2634
Lee.Rife@comcast.net

Kevin Bennet
Hopewell, IL
618/954-0113
kbennett@treesforever.org

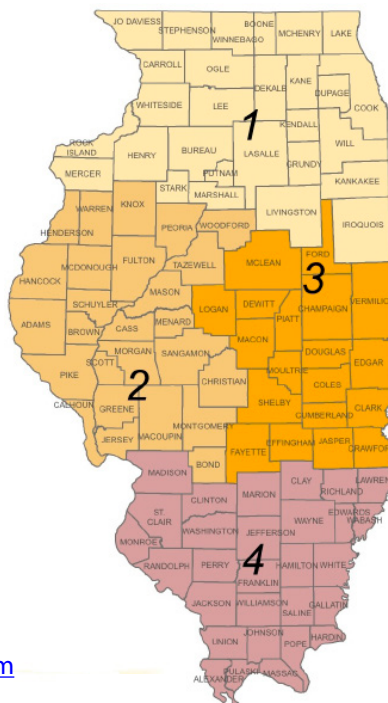
Region 3

Stan Sipp
Mansfield, IL
217/714-1855
sklipp@illinois.edu

John Edgington
University of Illinois (Retired)
217/840-5162
johnedg@illinois.edu

Region 4

Roger Smith
Benton, IL
618/927-2057
smithtreefarmllc@hotmail.com
Bill Buechel
Highland, IL
904/480-0006
wmjbuechel@yahoo.com



IFA Technical Advisors

Chris Evans (Chair)
University of Illinois
Extension Forester
618/695-3383 (office)
cwevans@illinois.edu

Wade Conn
State Forester, USDA-NRCS
217/353-6647 (office)
wade.conn@il.usda.gov

Paul Deizman
IDNR Forest Resources
217/782-3376 (office)
paul.deizman@illinois.gov

John Edgington
University of Illinois (retired)
217/840-5162
johnedg@illinois.edu

Jay Hayek
University of Illinois
Extension Forester
217/244-0534 (office)
jhayek@illinois.edu

Stan Sipp
Forester
217/489-9003
sklipp@illinois.edu

Gary Stratton
Forester - Retired IDNR
618/736-2854
stratton@hamiltoncom.net

Chris Whittom
IDNR Forest Resources
217/785-8264 (office)
217/280-3659 (cell)
chris.whittom@illinois.gov

Our Mission...

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

Our Goals...

- Promote forest management and help landowners manage their forests
- Educate members and the general public about rural and community forestry
- Advocate for favorable legislation and policies to benefit/protect landowners managing their forests
- Understand and engage our members, and increase IFA membership
- Govern the IFA efficiently and effectively to better serve our charitable mission

<https://ilforestry.org>

Message From the IFA President



Fellow IFA Members –

Your Executive Committee and Board of Directors have been working very hard over the last several years to build IFA from a group that puts on high quality field events several times a year and publishes a top-quality newsletter 4 times each year to something greater. Our efforts have been focused on providing information for you to use when working in your woodlands.

One of the ideas we have developed is a way to easily and quickly increase our membership as an organization. Increased membership translates to increased power within the forestry community. We are very active in the State-level Illinois Forestry Development Council which gives IFA direct access to the legislative process at the highest levels. Check the IFDC's Director's report elsewhere in this newsletter for details. With this increased influence comes increased responsibility to you and other woodland owners. That is the purpose of this article.

Soon you will be receiving a letter from me either by mail or email that asks you to help IFA by giving a gift membership in IFA to someone. In the past, membership drives consisted of us approaching someone to convince them to join IFA. I personally never felt really comfortable with this approach – I am not a good salesman. I can, however, accomplish the same goal without the "sales pitch".

Giving gift memberships works!! Recently I had friends over to look at the results of a TSI I had done on a section of my woods. They both thoroughly enjoyed the visit. They were so interested that I decided to give them each a gift membership. A week later I got a call from one of them saying "THANK YOU!!" and they were looking forward to hearing more from IFA. I assume they will know who I am referring to when they read this newsletter.

The structure of the program is straight-forward: Beginning in 2020, every two years from August to December, we will conduct this focused campaign to give gift memberships. The benefits to IFA are many but three significant ones are increased membership at the outset, income from the increased membership and, perhaps most important, higher probability of membership renewal in the future.

One benefit for you might be opening the door for discussion with the younger members of your family. Talking now about the value of caring for your woodlands may encourage the development of this same value in the generations that will come after us. We do not "own" our woods – we are caretakers. Someday it will be someone else's responsibility. You just might plant that seed by giving your children or grand-children IFA Gift Memberships this Christmas.

In closing, I ask you to consider this: An IFA Gift Membership could be like planting an acorn. It may or may not sprout next spring but if it does you will be able to watch it grow over the years, see it drop its first nuts, see it leaf-out each spring and change color each fall, watch the birds build nests high in its branches, watch the deer, squirrels and turkey as they scurry past, stopping only to pick up a nut or two for lunch. And you can claim some of the credit!

To find the IFA Gift Membership Form -

Go to:

<https://www.ilforestry.org/resources/Documents/Forms/IFA%20GIFT%20membership%20form.01-31-20.pdf>



IFA to Hold Virtual 15th Annual Conference

information out before the conference via email.

The IFA Annual Business Meeting

On Friday October 23rd, the IFA will conduct its annual business meeting. IFA members are allowed and encouraged to attend this meeting. For more information on this refer to the conference agenda that will be sent out in September.



The 15th Annual Conference

It has been a trying year for all to say the least. Under the circumstances of the pandemic, the IFA has decided to hold a virtual annual conference this year. While the IFA is disappointed that we cannot hold the warm, in-person experience that much of the IFA community is used to, we are determined to provide a virtual conference experience that can bring our community together.

The IFA will organize a week-long series of webinars covering a diverse range of forestry topics from experts in the field. These webinars will be conducted over the app zoom, which allows for attendees to view the speakers' presentations and hear their talks. The topics should be of

interest to both private landowners and forestry professionals alike. There will be no fee for admission to our conference, but donations are welcomed so that we can continue to create content like this in the future.

We are planning for the dates of October 19th - 23rd! Each day will contain an hour long webinar. A list of speakers and webinar topics will be sent out sometime in September.

At previous Annual Conferences, we have held a silent auction. We would like to do something similar this year. However, since we are doing a virtual conference this, we may do more of a raffle this year. We will send that



The Illinois Forestry Association 15th Virtual Annual Conference

**Save the Dates
October 19th - 23rd**

**- Access to Virtual Webinars Held Daily
on Multiple Forestry Topics**

**- Attend Our Virtual Annual Business
Meeting**



Ticks in Illinois and How to Avoid Them

by Zach DeVillez

Finally, summer is here. The sun is shining, the birds are chirping, and the days are long. For many, this means that it is time to make for the outdoors for numerous recreational activities. However, there is one pesky antagonist to your summer fun this time of year: ticks. For many of us, ticks are just a normal part of being in the outdoors. However, with all the recent talk about tick-born illness, it is now more important than ever to mitigate your exposure to this pest.

Contrary to the common misconception that ticks are insects, they are actually arachnids, like spiders and mites. These arachnids must feed on blood from a host to survive and advance through their life stages. To do this, they crawl onto animals or people by latching their mouth parts through skin to suck out blood from a host. Because of this direct contact with blood, ticks are quite efficient at carrying diseases from one host to another.



Figure 1: An American Dog Tick attempting to feed on a human host.

© Clemson University - USDA Cooperative Extension Slide Series

In Illinois, we have multiple species of ticks, but for the purpose of this article, we will focus on the three ticks you are most likely to encounter in Illinois forests and grasslands.

The American Dog Tick



Figure 2: The American Dog Tick (*Dermacentor variabilis*)

© Susan Ellis, USDA APHIS PPQ, Bugwood.org

The American Dog Tick may be the most frequently encountered tick by humans in Illinois. The adults of this species can be active from April to September. These ticks are capable of carrying multiple pathogens. Those pathogens include Rocky Mountain Spotted Fever, Tularemia, and Ehrlichiosis.

The Blacklegged Tick

The blacklegged tick, more commonly known as the deer tick, are also very common in Illinois. Larvae and nymphs of these species actively feed in the spring and early summer, while the adults are more active in the spring and fall. This tick is the culprit of carrying

and spreading the lyme disease bacterium.



Figure 3: A blacklegged tick (*Ixodes scapularis*)

© Scott Bauer, USDA Agricultural Research Service, Bugwood.org

The Lonestar Tick

The Lonestar Tick is mostly found throughout the southern half of Illinois. Lonestar ticks are most active from April through the end of July. Like the American dog tick, the lonestar tick can carry Rocky Mountain Spotted Fever, and Tularemia. The lonestar tick has also been linked to the spread of alpha-gal syndrome. This causes humans to develop an allergy to red meat.



Figure 4: A lonestar tick (*Amblyomma americanum*)

© Mat Pound, USDA Agricultural Research Service, Bugwood.org

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The Correlation Between Ticks and Wildlife

As mentioned earlier in this article, ticks need to feed during each of its life stages. Mammals, birds, reptiles, and amphibians can all be hosts for tick feeding. Therefore, anywhere with an abundance of wildlife generally has higher tick infestations.



Figure 5: A white-tailed deer infested with blacklegged ticks.

© Jim Occi, BugPics, Bugwood.org

When looking for a host, ticks will position themselves along wildlife frequented paths on vegetation such as tall grass. When the host brushes up against this vegetation, ticks quickly “climb aboard” and search for an optimal location on the body to feed.

Diseases Transmitted by Ticks

In the United States, ticks are responsible for spreading the most vectorborne pathogens. In 2018, a total of 47,743 cases were reported to the CDC, most of those cases being lyme disease (cdc.gov 2019). The following are the most common transmissible pathogens by ticks.

Lyme Disease - This disease is caused by the bacterium *Borrelia burgdorferi*. Symptoms can include fever, headache, fatigue, and the famous “bullseye rash”. The infection can spread to joints, the heart, and nervous system if not treated.

Ehrlichiosis - This pathogen is caused by the bacteria *Ehrlichia chaffeensis*. Symptoms include fever, intense headaches, nausea, muscle aches, and confusion. Long term effects if not given antibiotics can include nervous system damage, respiratory failure, organ failure, and in some cases death.

Rocky Mountain Spotted Fever

- This infection is caused by the bacteria *Rickettsia rickettsii*. Symptoms can include common symptoms associated with many illnesses such as headaches, nausea, muscle aches, fever, and chills. However, the development of a itchless rash is one of the more distinguishing symptoms. If left untreated, Rocky Mountain Spotted Fever can lead to inflammation of the brain, heart, and lungs, kidney failure, serious infection, and death.

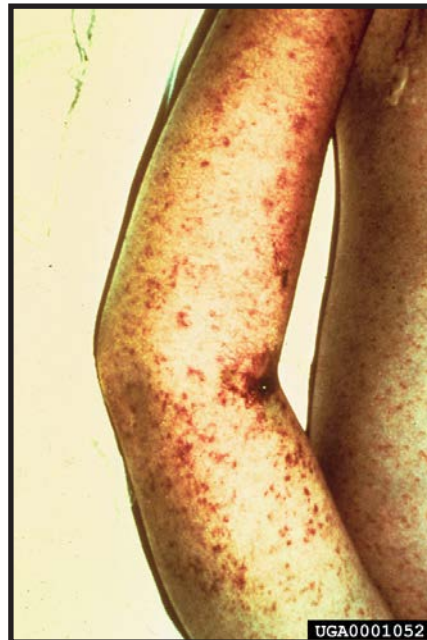


Figure 6: The Rocky Mountain Spotted Fever rash.

© Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Bugwood.org

Strategies to Avoid Ticks

1.) Stay on the Trail -

Ticks are most likely to be encountered around dense tall grass and wooded areas. If a trail is available to navigate through an area, this can minimize your exposure to ticks.

2.) Use Insect Repellent Sprays -

The Centers for Disease Control say that you should use spray repellants containing “Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)-registered insect repellants containing DEET, picaridin, IR3535, Oil of Lemon Eucalyptus (OLE), para-methan-diol (PMD), or 2-undecanone” (CDC).

3.) Treat Clothes and Gear With Permethrin -

Treating your clothes with 0.5% permethrin is a very effective way to repel ticks. You can also purchase pre-treated clothing that will guarantee effectiveness through x amount of washes.

4.) Check for Ticks -

This one may seem like a no brainer, but make sure to check clothes, and check your body for any ticks after outdoor activity. It’s also a good idea to shower soon after possible tick exposure.

References:

Tickborne Disease Surveillance Data Summary. (2019, November 04). Retrieved July 10, 2020, from <https://www.cdc.gov/ticks/data-summary/index.html>

State Forester Report

By Paul Deizman
IDNR State Forester

The Division of Forest Resources (DFR) is healthy, as is the DNR at-large from COVID-19; yet it has changed a lot of the ways we conduct business at the DNR. Field work was resumed shortly after the stay-at-home order due to the solitary nature of a person on the land. To many of our staff it is not a whole lot different under COVID restrictions, and for some we are adjusting to working from home offices. I see the office at DNR headquarters about once a week for urgent in-person matters.

Here are some highlights of the here and now; and the future:

- Field offices and DNR buildings remain closed to the public but the DNR is fully open.
- All field foresters are working from home and in the field via their trucks.
- Most office professionals are telecommuting or working up to two days per week at offices.
- Field projects, resource management and contracts for any sort of forestry projects continue.
- DNR by way of the Governor see the current situation to continue for some time.
- The Mason forestry nursery was granted early exception due to our crops and continues open.

Staffing issues continue to be a challenge despite making big strides toward a better DFR as COVID-19 emerged and a standstill has replaced the progress made. That said we will still finish the hiring process of the vacant Wayne Co. field office and a forester will be placed there soon. In addition, we will soon be posting the statewide fire program manager position to be located at Benton office. The hiring situation otherwise is frozen, though deemed a fluid situation that will change. Until the fluidity flows our way we must wait on all other needed positions. We have been told back-fills also have restrictions now which further threaten our ranks at all levels.

All DNR programs from DFR are ongoing including the Nursery to federal and state rural and urban forestry mandates. This means private landowners and community forests are our priority as usual. We continue to manage the state forests within a good playing field which has been very positive since 2010 when then Director Miller; then Director Rosenthal; and now Director Callahan, supported the active management of the State Forests under the DFR as mandated.

The DNR Forestry Fire team will deploy this next week as the national preparedness level for the Forest Service is approaching PL4. We waited a long time for this out-of-state travel authorization we were told was the only travel approved by the Gov. from DNR. Seven or Eight



DFR personnel and a mix of other DNR staff, federal and/or local government firefighters comprising the balance of our 21-person wildland crew. We may send smaller suppression crews of 10 or single resources as the fire season plays out nationally.

The DFR is committed to the long-term protection and active management of all Illinois forests and through our allies, partners, and state staffs will continue to carry that torch - and light what fires are needed to continue in that mission. Our staff is top-notch in all respects and the organizations and partners helping us are excellent and wonderfully appreciated.

Links to the Latest...

[Illinois District Foresters Map](#)

[Illinois Timber Prices Report](#)

[Mason Tree Nursery](#)

[Directory of Consulting Foresters](#)

Illinois Forestry Development Council Report

By Eric Holzmüller

IFDC Director and Southern Illinois University Professor of Forestry



Illinois forests cover nearly 5,000,000 acres across the state, most of which is privately owned. These forest resources are used by our citizens for multiple reasons, from recreation to job creation, and contribute billions of dollars to the Illinois economy. As required by the Illinois Forestry Development Act (525 ILCS 15), the Illinois Forestry Development Council (IFDC) submits this report outlining its activities and analysis of Illinois' forest resources.

The IFDC met six times over the course of FY-2020. All meetings are open to the public.

The start of the fiscal year brought about a change in leadership to the Council. Bill Gradle retired as Director of the IFDC and Jim Zaczek stepped down as Council Chair. The Council thanks these individuals for their many years of service and dedication to Illinois forestry. In their place, I (Eric Holzmüller) will be serving as Director. In addition to this role, I am a Professor of Forestry at Southern Illinois University. Jay Hayek was selected to serve as Council Chair. He is a Forestry Extension Specialist at University of Illinois.

Despite the Covid-19 crisis over the past few months, the Council had an active year. We have provided feedback to the IL DNR on a number of legislative issues that affect the forest resources in our State. We also reinstated our small grants program that attracted applicants from across the State. While there are challenges ahead for Illinois forestry, we look forward to continuing to work with our partners to have a successful FY21.

THE IFDC Small Grants Program

The IFDC provided funding to five agencies for the implementation of small grants. These grants helped address forestry issues defined by the Council and included actions to mitigate these issues as outlined in the Illinois Forest Action Plan.

This includes small grants to the Illinois Forestry Association who obtained funding to provide landowner education through a series of webinars and print educational materials that promote forest management.

Regional Conservation Partnership Program

The IFDC continued to serve as the lead organization for the "Improving Oak-Hickory forest type" project with the USDA/Natural Resources Conservation Service. This project has brought over \$2,000,000 in funding to Illinois to implement management practices that benefit Illinois forests. Unfortunately, funding for this project has been all allocated.

State Forest Stewardship Coordinating Committee

The IFDC serves as the State Forest Stewardship Coordinating Committee for the Illinois DNR – Division of Forestry. Over 500,000 acres of private forest land are enrolled in management plans approved by Illinois DNR foresters. These plans provide management recommendations that improve forests for better wildlife habitat, timber production, recreational opportunities, and more. The Council also provides guidance in urban forestry through the Urban and Community Forestry Program. In 2019 Illinois' UCF program touched 7,781,108 Illinois residents through local urban and community forestry assistance and included communities as small as Cerro Gordo's 492 acres and as large as the Forest Preserve of Cook County's 70,000 acres of managed land.



Recommendations Made to the General Assembly

Private Landowner Funding

As documented in the Illinois Forest Action Plan, Illinois forest health is declining. One reason for this is that there is a lack of cost share assistance programs to encourage landowners to engage in management activities that will improve forest health. While the Regional Conservation Partnership Program with the NRCS provided a temporary band-aid solution, funding for this program has run out and is not likely to be renewed. Illinois timber harvest taxes generate nearly \$2,000,000 annually. A portion of this should go back to landowners to improve forest health on their properties as the original IL FDA law (525 ILCS 15) intended.

Recommendation: Direct \$1,000,000 to a statewide forestry practices cost-share program.

Illinois DNR Division of Forestry Funding

Early retirement and subsequent budget cuts to Illinois DNR have reduced the Division of Forestry professional, technical, and clerical staff by as much as 86%. Not only do these losses reduce the ability of the Division to engage with private landowners to assist them with the technical expertise needed to improve forest health on their property, it also reduces the ability of the Division of Forestry to acquire Federal dollars that are available at a national level on a competitive basis.

Recommendation: Increase Division of Forestry budget by \$3,000,000 for additional field and urban foresters.

Workman's Compensation

Illinois grows some of the finest hardwood timber in the Midwest. Annual sales of hardwood logs from private landowners exceed \$50,000,000. While we have about 75 mills in the State that process this timber into higher-end products, the bulk of our wood goes out of state. One reason for this is that our Workman's Compensation rates are not competitive with adjacent States.

Recommendation: Revamp Illinois Workman's Compensation system so that Illinois can compete with our neighboring states for jobs and keep our wood industry strong.

The Illinois Forestry Development Council was created in 1983 upon passage of the Illinois Forestry Development Act (525 ILCS 15). The Council's charge is to identify and evaluate the social, economic, scientific, and educational value of Illinois' forest lands and forest products industries.

For more information on the Illinois Forestry Development Council go to: ifdc.nres.illinois.edu/



New Invasive Species Found in Illinois

by Chris Evans

Extension Forester, and Research Specialist

Photos by Chris Evans



Illinois forest landowner already have their hands full with a host of invasive species. Unfortunately, here is another one we need to keep an eye out for.

Wineberry, also called wine raspberry or Japanese wineberry, is an invasive raspberry that can form dense thickets and has the potential to impact native ecosystems. A couple of new populations were recently discovered in Madison and Jackson counties.



Figure 1: Ripe fruit of the wineberry
© Les Mehrhoff, Bugwood.org

Wineberry looks different than the other raspberries that we are used to seeing. It is taller with canes anywhere from 3-10 feet. The canes are covered in dense glandular hairs (usually reddish) and thin straight prickles, giving the plant a reddish coloration.



Figure 2: Cane showing dense hairs and straight prickles

Leaves are compound with 3-5 (usually 3) leaflets. Each leaflet is coarsely toothed with silvery to bright white, wooly underside. Flowers are greenish-white with 5-petals and bloom in late spring. The leafy structure below the flower petals (calyx) closes after flowering is complete and covers the developing fruit until it is almost ripe. Fruit are bright red when ripe. As is typical of raspberries, the fruit core remains on the stem with the ripe fruit is picked. The stalk and the calyx of each flower has the same dense covering of reddish hairs as the canes.



Figure 3: Leaves showing white wooly underside

Wineberry may be confused with other blackberries and raspberries, but the combination of white, wooly underside of the leaves and the dense reddish hairs on the canes will separate this from the other species.



Figure 4: Wineberry with developing fruit

Wineberry may be confused with other blackberries and raspberries, but the combination of white, wooly underside of the leaves and the dense reddish hairs on the canes will separate this from the other species.

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Wineberry is a perennial plant with new canes produced each year, but each cane is biennial (lasting two years). Plants only produce fruit on the second-year canes. Wineberry seem to prefer open disturbed sites such as canopy gaps in forests or old fields, though established populations have been found a wide variety of site conditions including from growing in relatively heavy shade to full sun, dry soils to seasonally flooded bottomlands, and rocky infertile sites to rich soils. Dense stands in natural ecosystems have the potential to limit tree regeneration and development of the native understory flora.

Wineberry has previously been found escaped in Illinois in Jersey, Lake, and Massac counties though the status of those populations is currently unknown. More recently, populations were found in Cook, Jackson, Madison, and Morgan counties.



Figure 5: Unripe fruit showing dense, reddish glandular hairs

This is a priority species to watch since several new populations of wineberry have been recently reported in Illinois. Report any suspect populations of wineberry in Illinois by either emailing Illinois Extension Forester Chris Evans (cwevans@illinois.edu) pictures of the suspect population and location information or, preferably, submit a report to the EDDMapS database using an app such as EDDMapS Pro or the Great Lakes Early Detection Network. Both apps are available at apps.bugwood.org. These apps are free downloads but you do need to create an account to use them.

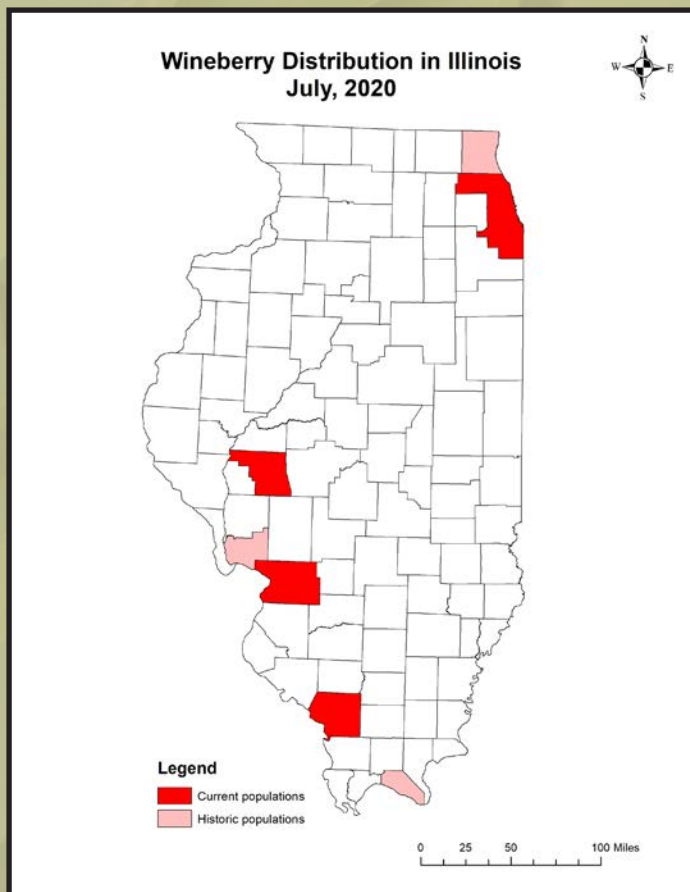
amazonsmile
You shop. Amazon gives.

If you shop on Amazon, consider entering the site through this link:

<https://smile.amazon.com/ch/27-0134781>

Even without the specifics, it's easy to search for the Illinois Forestry Association as your preferred charitable organization. Just remember to enter "smile dot" before amazon dot com. At no cost to you, Amazon will donate 0.5% of eligible purchase totals to the IFA.

Every little bit helps.
Thanks for your support!



Invasive Woody Plant Control Projects at Touch of Nature Environmental Center

By Roger Smith
Certified Arborist and Consulting Forester

This article is a combination of how a collaborative project was completed and a thank you to all that helped make this project possible. At Touch of Nature Environmental Center, a few years ago, we held a class of students, led by three instructors and a few volunteers from the Illinois Forestry Association and the Illinois Arborist Association. The day consisted of the instructor's Dr Charles Ruffner, Dr John Groninger, and Dr Eric Holzmüller reviewing what the students had learned earlier in the week from tree care and forestry professionals. To review the students' knowledge, we worked on invasives in the camp 1 area of Touch of Nature. The invasive infestations were primarily autumn olive and bush honeysuckle. The day was productive and educational to the students as they got to do hands on work with what had recently been taught to them about invasive species control. The evaluation of this program was well received. Therefore, we decided that we would like to move forward with additional classes like this in the future. We continue to do similar classes each year and expand when possible.

The issue with invasive species management at Touch of Nature is simple when you consider the acreage involved with the property. There are more invasive issues than one day a year can control. While control was not the goal of the educational opportunity, it was a conversation that continually came up. When the Illinois Forestry Development Council had some funding available going into 2020 a few Illinois Forestry Association board members and technical advisors quickly discussed a couple of invasive projects to assist in adding to the education of students, Illinois Forestry Association membership and general public as well. The quick action was necessary because we wanted to be approved at the next IFDC meeting being held within the week. Chris Evans took the lead on writing the grants. Wording the grant proposals correctly is critical to approval. Chris is an excellent wordsmith as he is a prolific writer of articles and his knowledge of the grant process is extraordinary. Once written it was sent to the group for approval. All issues involved were considered and finetuned. The proposals were submitted.



Figure 1: The skid-steer parked in front of a dense wall of woody invasives

The proposal for IFA was a static display of a forestry mower/mulcher on a skid steer. The display will be an area approximately 50' deep and approximately 1000' long showing three different possibilities in forestry management. One third of the display will be left as is and called a "Control" area. No work was done in this area. One third is mown with the forestry mower/mulcher. This area has the invasives removed to ground level, leaving only desired trees. There is no follow up treatment, meaning no chemical treatment of mown/mulched invasives. The final one third is mown/mulched and follow up chemical treatment is being used to control the re-sprouting from all the vegetation which was mown/mulched. Signage is being put up along the roadway in Touch of Nature to educate all visitors to the project. Volunteers



SIU SOUTHERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY
CARBONDALE **TOUCH OF NATURE ENVIRONMENTAL CENTER**

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from IFA and SIU Forestry faculty and forestry students have performed all the labor involved. A field day was originally proposed to educate the public about this forest management technique. However, under the circumstances of Covid-19, the IFA decided to create an educational video.

The second IFDC grant proposal was sent in by Touch of Nature Environmental Center. This proposal was in partnership with IFA, SIU Forestry faculty and students also. It consists of similar work using a skid steer with a forestry mower/mulcher in the 'Right of ways' on Touch of Nature. We used the same, 50' deep parameter and worked along most of the roads from Giant City Road in to camp I and camp II. In addition to using the forestry mower/mulcher, a follow up chemical treatment is being used. The use of chemicals to control the invasive populations is critical following the mechanical control. The combination of these two projects at Touch of Nature Environmental Center are great examples of forestry management with these tools. Once the Center opens post covid-19 restrictions, it will provide a wonderful opportunity to observe these practices in person.



Figure 2: Aftermath of the forest after woody invasive removal

I would like to express my gratitude to J D Tanner, director of Touch of Nature Environmental Center, Tom Brummer, assistant director of Touch of Nature Environmental Center, Chris Evans, University of Illinois extension forester at Dixon Springs facility, Mike McMahan, IFA president, Zach DeVillez, IFA program coordinator, as well as the SIU Forestry faculty mentioned above and the IFDC committee for approving the grants.

A special note to this activity. Like Isaac Newton, I have found that once we got in motion we have kept in motion. To date we have received donations to keep up the good work being done and at this point we have completed near 150 acres of right of way (ROW) along Touch of Nature's roadways and powerlines. There are over 1800 acres on the Touch of Nature campus, if anyone wants to visit the site please contact Touch of Nature. If you want to help extend the program you may volunteer, or you may donate funds to assist in keeping this project in motion.

The Illinois Forestry Association Educational Video:

As mentioned earlier in this article, the IFA has created an educational video for private landowners and forestry professionals about using a forestry mulcher to control woody invasive infestations. That video can be accessed through the Illinois Forestry Association website, under the "videos tab", or our youtube channel at: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=D1hxeRmU9_Q&t=6s



Figure 3, 4, & 5: The crew hard at work , erradicating non-native invasive woody plant infestations

History of Conservation in Illinois

Installment #32

by Dave Gillespie, IFA Secretary

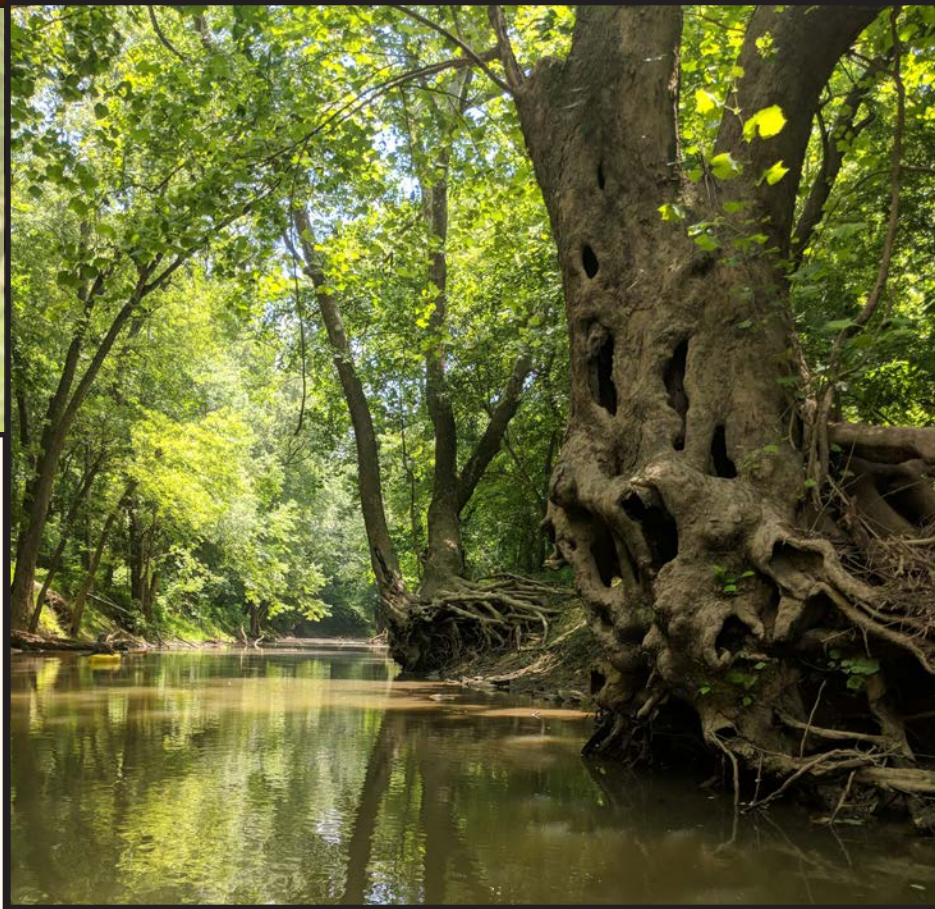
This account of the history of conservation in Illinois was written by Joseph P. Schavilje in 1941. This installment begins where installment # 31 ended.

1900-1925

The first important field work in forest extension in Illinois by R. s. Kellogg, Forest Agent and E. A. Zeigler, Assistant Forest Expert of the U. S. Forest Service, was in 1904. During the field season of that year, the men carried on an investigation along two lines. An extensive study of Forest plantations was made in order to determine the kinds of trees best adapted to planting in the prairie sections of the State, as well as the rate of growth of these trees, the quality of their products, and the financial returns to be derived from forest planting were computed. Careful note was made of the silvicultural requirements of the various species and attention was given to local conditions affecting the thrift of plantations. An examination of the natural timber in the central and northern parts of the State was made as the second line of investigation.

Kellogg's work was published as a United States Forest Service Bulletin in 1905 under the title, "Forest Planting in Illinois", and republished as a Forest Service circular, No. 81, in 1907. Ziegler's manuscript "Natural Forests in Central and Northern Illinois", was for office reference only, according to a letter by Mr. Kellogg to S. S. Lock.

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



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***“He that plants trees loves others
besides himself”
- Thomas Fuller***

After a very prolonged early spring and a very short late spring, summer finally arrived, and with it, temperatures that rivaled mid July. However, with temperatures in the 90's and being quarantined at home since mid-March, I have come to appreciate central air conditioning. Never mind, there is still grass to mow and a never ending supply of weeds to pull in the garden. Did I mention that we have had several days in the low to mid 90's!

Anyhow, ever since covid-19 hit, we have heard very little about climate change, or any other environmental happening. I remain very interested in planting more trees, primarily as windbreaks and as a means of controlling odors from livestock facilities. I am also aware that in Europe, particularly Germany and perhaps France, forestry commands much more respect than here in the U.S. because of the forests being stripped centuries ago, when people did not realize the value of having trees. I remain convinced that trees are a first line solution to many of the conservation problems that we have today. Not just windbreaks, but streambank stabilization and other

problems can be mitigated by planting trees. In addition, trees become a renewable supply of building materials; not just lumber, but pitch from pine from pine trees have many uses. The lowly Eastern Red Cedar is another example of a tree which makes a fragrant lining for closets, shingles and many other items.

My own take on covid-19 is that it has become a game changer. As I write this, we are witnessing an explosion of cases in the Southern and Southwestern regions of our country. I've said from the start that this would be a "game changer" with many changes coming to the way that we live and the way that we conduct our affairs. Even if we can create a vaccine in the next 10-12 months and make sufficient supplies to get everyone vaccinated, I doubt that we will be willing or able to go back to our old ways of doing things. Things that we have taken for granted may no longer exist. On the other hand, I can see many new opportunities for those who are willing to take the time and risk to become entrepreneurs. The service industry has taken a big and I do

mean BIG hit in the past few months, but therein lays an opportunity to develop new services, especially in rural areas. Call me crazy, but tree/vineyard planting and custom sawmills come to mind. There are many other idea, some which haven't been thought of yet, but will come as the opportunity presents itself. We definitely live in some very interesting times.

Shawnee National Forest

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Closer
than you think.

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Peoria - 222 miles
Effingham - 130 miles
Belleville - 64 miles






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Questions? Contact
Stan by email at
sksipp@illinois.edu

Trees of Illinois Identification

Photos courtesy of Chris Evans & Zach DeVillez

Shagbark Hickory (*Carya ovata*) -

These trees can grow to approximately 70-100 feet. The leaves are pinnately compound, and finely sawtoothed. In the fall, the leaves turn a golden-brown color. The bark is light gray, and appears to peel at the bottom in curved strips. These trees occur in moist soils and upland slopes of mixed hardwood forests in Illinois.



Common Persimmon (*Diospyros virginiana*) -

The common Persimmons grow anywhere from 20-70 feet. The leaves are simple, smooth margined, and ovate. The leaves turn yellow in the fall. The bark is thickly furrowed and appears as blocky squares. This tree is known for its orange fruit, which is sweet and edible.



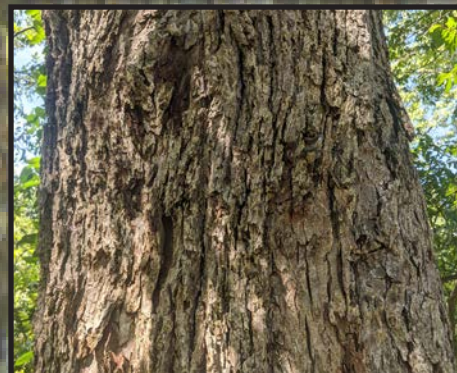
Post Oak (*Quercus stellata*) -

These trees can grow from 30-70 feet tall. Post oaks are in the white oak group. The leaves have smoothly, rounded lobes, with the two middle lobes being the largest. The leaves turn brown in the fall. The bark ranges from light gray to blackish in color. The bark is easily identifiable. It is usually patchy and like other oaks is fissured.



Pecan (*Carya illinoensis*) -

Pecan trees can grow from 70-100 feet tall when mature. The leaves are pinnately compound and consist of 9-17 leaflets. The leaflets are curved, dark green on top, and pale green on bottom. The bark is thick, narrowly fissured, and light gray to light brown.



Forestry District Offices

May 2020

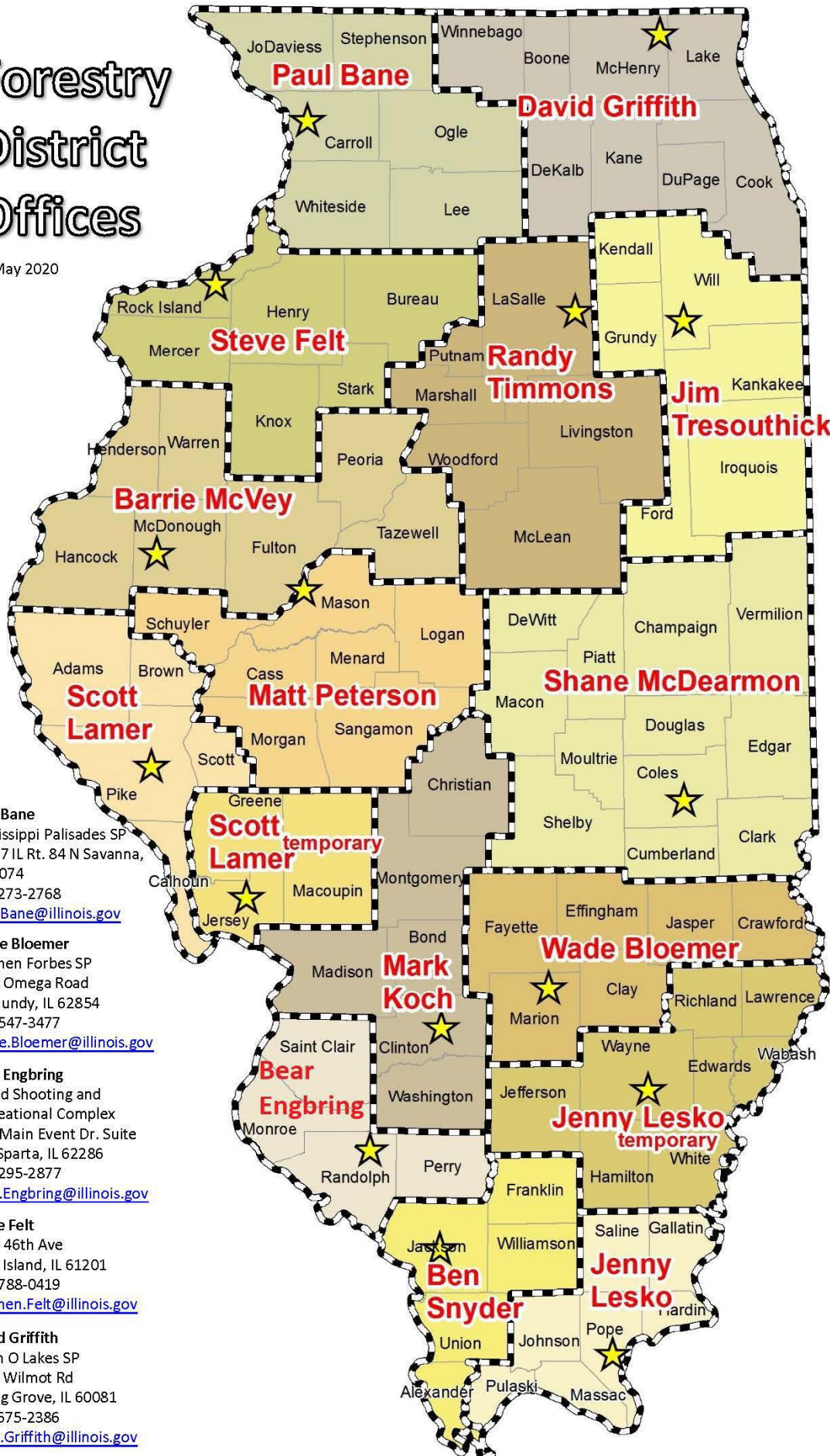
Paul Bane
Mississippi Palisades SP
16327 IL Rt. 84 N Savanna,
IL 61074
815-273-2768
Paul.Bane@illinois.gov

Wade Bloemer
Stephen Forbes SP
6924 Omega Road
Kinmundy, IL 62854
618-547-3477
Wade.Bloemer@illinois.gov

Bear Engbring
World Shooting and
Recreational Complex
One Main Event Dr. Suite
140 Sparta, IL 62286
618-295-2877
Bear.Engbring@illinois.gov

Steve Felt
1510 46th Ave
Rock Island, IL 61201
309-788-0419
Stephen.Felt@illinois.gov

David Griffith
Chain O Lakes SP
8916 Wilmot Rd
Spring Grove, IL 60081
815-675-2386
Dave.Griffith@illinois.gov



Mark Koch
Eldon Hazlet SP
20100 Hazlet Park Rd
Carlyle, IL 62231
618-594-4475
Mark.Koch@illinois.gov

Scott Lamer
1252 W Washington
Pittsfield, IL 62363
217-285-2221
Scott.Lamer@illinois.gov

Scott Lamer (temporary)
604 E. Franklin Jerseyville,
IL 62052 618-498-1627
Scott.Lamer@illinois.gov

Jenny Lesko
Dixon Springs SP
945 State Hwy 146W
Golconda, IL 62938
618-949-3729
Jennifer.Lesko@illinois.gov

Jenny Lesko (temporary)
106 Andrews Dr.
Fairfield, IL 62837
618-847-3781
Jennifer.Lesko@illinois.gov

Shane McDearmon
1660 West Polk Ave
Charleston, IL 61920
217-348-0174
Shane.Mcdearmon@illinois.gov

Barrie McVey
Argyle Lake SP
640 Argyle Park Rd
Colchester, IL 62326
309-776-5271
Barrie.Mcvey@illinois.gov

Matt Peterson
700 South 10th
Havana, IL 62644
309-543-3401
Matt.Peterson@illinois.gov

Benjamin Snyder
Lake Murphysboro SP 52
Cinder Hill Drive
Murphysboro, IL 62966
618-565-2828
Benjamin.Snyder@illinois.gov

Randy Timmons
P.O. Box 860
124 W. William St
Seneca, IL 61360
815-357-8846
Randy.Timmons@illinois.gov

Jim Tresouthick
30550 Boathouse Rd
Wilmington, IL 60481
815-476-0256
Jim.Tresouthick@illinois.gov