Woodland Owners Association, Inc. 11 University Way, Suite 4, Brattleboro, VT 05301
802-257-7967 ext. 302

WOODLOT TIPS

Photo: FreeDigitalPhotos.net

SPRING 2014

Saturday, May 17, 9 a.m. – Noon — Invasive Plant Management: Working with Contractors

The Dummerston and Guilford Conservation Commissions are sponsoring a workshop on working with contractors for invasive plant management. Bill Guenther, Windham County Forester, and Andrew Morrison, an Antioch graduate student, will present an hour-long overview of the problem at the Grange hall, Dummerston Center, followed by field walks at 626 and 690 Rice Farm Road, Dummerston. The walks will be led by contractors Dan Healey (also a WOA Trustee) and Chris Polatin, who will discuss control measures.

Saturday, June 7, all day — Strolling of the Heifers — Visit the WOA booth!

Please be sure to stop by the Woodland Owners Association booth on the Brattleboro Common during the Strolling of the Heifers celebration. Our exhibit will focus on the forests of Windham County and the benefits they provide to individuals, to the environment, and to the local economy.

Once again a special focus of our exhibit will be the WOA scholarship program, which helps young people from Windham County to further their post-high school education in forestry-related fields. Come to our booth to learn more about some of the recent scholarship winners and what they have achieved. You'll also have a chance to win a beautiful hand-turned

wooden bowl crafted by WOA trustee Peter Wimmelman. Peter has donated the bowl to be raffled off at the booth, with the proceeds going to the Scholarship Fund. (See story and photo below.) What's more, anyone who signs up for membership at the booth will receive a free raffle ticket, so this is a great opportunity for your friends to join.

As usual, we could use your help in staffing the booth between 8:00 a.m. (when we'll set up) and 4:00 p.m., especially between 11:00 a.m. and 1:00 p.m., which is the busiest time at the exhibits. **If you would like to volunteer for an hour or two, please contact Carol Morrison at 802-257-7967 ext. 302.**

Wednesday, June 11, 7 p.m. — Tour of Waring Woodworking

For 40 years Nat Waring of Waring Woodworking has been making custom cabinetry and furniture. However, just 13 years ago he discovered the beauty of "defect" or "character" wood to use in his projects. His new wife wanted a kitchen built from trees that had survived natural disturbances and had character wood as a result. He completed that project and says he hasn't looked back to standard graded material since. He has built 114 kitchens from scratch and loves what he does. He currently stocks 15,000 board feet of specialty slabs up to four feet wide made out of such species as maple, cherry, ash, and black walnut. He is also a certified Corian fabricator for kitchen counter tops and has taken that to new heights by custom fabricating Corian bathtubs. Nat's shop is 95 percent solar powered. He also lives completely off the grid. Please join fellow Woodland Owner Association Members on a tour of Nat's workshop.

Space is limited, so please RSVP to Carol Morrison at: 802-257-7967 ext. 302 if you plan to attend the tour.

Waring Woodworking is located on Rte. 9 at 446 Marlboro Road, across from the Chelsea Royal Diner.

Friday, June 27, 3 p.m. — Managing Forest Invasive Plants

Join Dan Healey of Long View Forest Management and a WOA trustee in the field for an overview on strategy for control of invasive plants in your forest, rather than detailed treatment options. The program will take place on the property of Jim Betteridge of Marlboro.

Much of the program will consist of walking, looking, and discussing the invasive plants that are spreading throughout our forests and how they are outcompeting and replacing our timber resource. Harvesting and other silvicultural practices can give these plants a great opportunity to advance. Learn strategies to plan for and fund control work in conjunction with our goals of growing resilient timber and wildlife resources.

Discussion will take place in a forest setting and there will be ample opportunity for questions and answers. Dan also has put together some basic resources to hand out: a list of local contractors, NRCS contacts, and the website vtinvasives.org.

Directions: Log Landing on Barrows Rd., 1/4 mile from Cow Path 40 on the Marlboro (west) end.

For membership information or email notices of upcoming programs, contact Carol Morrison, WOA Clerk, at woodlandownersassociation@gmail.com

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President's Column

by Margaret MacDonald

"Now, as the warm weather approaches, and the ganders begin to spawn …"
— Mark Twain, "How I Edited an Agricultural Paper"

Spring at last! After this seemingly endless winter, most of us probably rejoice that we can spend more time outdoors without risking hypothermia, but by raising pollen counts spring also causes misery for allergy sufferers. I speak from experience: during my childhood and well into my twenties I associated the woods and the fields primarily with constant sneezing, itchy, swollen, and watery eyes, and the desire to go indoors as soon as possible. While antihistamines suppressed my symptoms to some extent, they also made me feel woozy and exhausted, again hardly conducive to enjoying outdoor chores or walks through the woods. Therefore, I found my parents' love of rural New England at best puzzling and at worst annoying, and I was far less than enthusiastic when they purchased property in Vermont — especially because they expected me to take part in keeping the place looking decent. Yes, the countryside was beautiful, but I wanted to admire it from a distance. Only when I suddenly outgrew my allergies did I discover the joy of being — and even working! — outdoors, to the great relief of my woodland-loving parents.

My own experience made me wonder how many people base their response to the outdoors on their sensitivity to allergens. For example, I thought, people who sneer at "tree huggers" might associate trees primarily with runny noses. Recently I discovered that medical historian Gregg Mitman had looked at exactly this question, and found that historically the relationship was precisely the opposite: allergies actually helped to drive the conservation movement. In his book *Breathing Space: How Allergies Shape Our Lives and Landscapes* (Yale University Press, 2008) he points out that in the late 19th century "hay fever" was viewed as a symptom of upper-class degeneracy, and various well-to-do allergy sufferers — perhaps the most notable being Theodore Roosevelt, who had severe asthma as a child — turned to the natural world for a cure, or at least for escape. That experience, in turn, produced a continuing love of the "wilderness" and a continuing dedication to preserving it. Roosevelt, of course, established the National Parks system, and wealthy East Coast hay fever sufferers who had found relief from their symptoms in the White Mountains played a major role in the creation of the White Mountains National Forest.

Ironically, interest in protecting the natural environment may have declined partly because allergy sufferers could instead turn to widely available antihistamines and antibiotics rather than to "nature" for remedies. On the other hand, some people love the countryside enough that they are willing to undergo the expensive, long-term desensitization treatments that enable them to enjoy the countryside without having to cart boxes of tissues wherever they go.

Obviously, feelings about the natural environment depend on far more than one's sensitivity to allergens. But it seems we owe a debt of gratitude to those seasonal annoyances — or at least to their effects on people who experienced the healing effects of nature and then devoted their energy and resources to ensuring that the source of those effects would remain available to future generations.

Annual Sugarhouse Tour, March 22

by Margaret MacDonald

On what (in theory) was the second full day of spring, John and Debe Plummer hosted WOA members at a tour of Plummer's Sugar House in Grafton. As soon as we entered the sugarhouse John warned us to tread carefully: the persistent cold weather during the winter meant that some of the steam from the evaporator had congealed and frozen on the concrete floor. Although they had

boiled for the first time on February 24 and at that time were nearly done with their tapping, the weather turned colder after that, so on the day of our visit the Plummers were boiling for only the third time this season. John told us that so far they had made only 100 gallons of syrup this season – far less than usual for the end of March – and had not yet bottled any of the 2014 draw.

While his assistant Eric Tobey tended the evaporator, John led us on a tour of the sugarhouse. The Plummers use two reverse osmosis machines that enable them to make 25–30 gallons of syrup an hour, compared with the 3–4 gallons per hour they had produced before acquiring the reverse osmosis capability. They run the sap through the machines twice; on the first run the sugar content in the sap goes from about 2.5% to 8.5%; after the second run the sugar content is up to 18%. The machines remove some 12 gallons of water from the sap per minute.

Because the water extracted from the sap is completely pure, the Plummers use it to rinse and wash the filters of the reverse osmosis machines — an operation they repeat every 6–8 hours while they are boiling. John noted that if the rinse water were ever to have any syrup content that would indicate a problem with the membranes used in the machines — a good early warning sign, but so far the Plummers have not experienced this problem. Because the sap already has a relatively high sugar content before entering the evaporator, the Plummers can cut down on boiling time and on the amount of fuel they need.

John then took us outside and pointed out the hillsides where the Plummers run their taps; in addition to their own 6,000 taps, they buy sap from a neighbor who runs 4,000 taps. Because the weather had stayed cold, grey, and blustery, and the ground was still covered with snow, we did not venture into the sugarbush itself. John explained that they use T-joins to connect the dry lines (which exert the vacuum pressure) to the wet lines that bring the syrup into the holding tanks in the sugarhouse; gravity prevents the sap from flowing back into the dry lines. When sugaring season is over, the Plummers remove the taps and clean all the lines, but leave the lines in the woods to be reattached in the next season.

We then returned to the (relative) warmth of the sugarhouse. Vermont has changed its system for grading syrup, and Eric drew off a sample of syrup and displayed it against the new grading kit, which uses somewhat different colors to guide sugarmakers as they label their syrup. This new system is intended, in part, to remove the apparent stigma from "Grade B" and "Commercial Grade" syrup; it will be interesting to see if the use of these new names has a noticeable effect on consumer preferences, with the darker grades gaining popularity.

After the tour, several of us followed Debe into the sugarhouse store and loaded up on syrup, maple candy, and maple cream spread to be enjoyed by family and friends.

Many thanks to John and Debe for taking the time to show us their operation!

For more information about Plummer's Sugarhouse, see the Winter 2014 issue of *Woodlot Tips* and the Plummer's website: www.plummerssugarhouse.com

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Good News from the Scholarship Committee

By Barbara Cole, Chair, Scholarship Committee

Contributions from our members and the receipt of an anonymous $1,500 donation to the Scholarship Fund have enabled the committee to select three recipients this year. We wish to thank the generous donor.

The following high-achieving students received scholarships for the 2014 – 2015 year:

Wilmington resident Connor Hunt is a third year scholarship recipient and will be entering his

senior year at Lyndon State College. This spring Connor is enrolled in a Geology class that will visit and study in the Grand Canyon and Death Valley. He had worked on plans for building a maple-sugaring house on campus but unfortunately funding did not come through. Connor's goal is to become a Vermont game warden.

Marissa Smith, a resident of Guilford, is a second year scholarship recipient and will be entering her sophomore year at the University of Massachusetts. Marissa and is an Arboriculture and Community Forestry major. She has expressed an interest in staying in Vermont and working in the forest management field. This spring she has an internship with a tree company.

Brendan Douglass, a Bellows Falls resident and a senior at the River Valley Technical Center, Bellows Falls Union High School, has been accepted at Paul Smith's College with forestry his choice of study. Brendan participates in many school activities; areas covered in the Horticulture and Natural Resource Program are logging training, landscaping, equipment operation, plant propagation and greenhouse work. Students make and sell apple cider, Christmas wreaths and poinsettias as part of the funding for the program. Brendan also has been out in the field with two foresters and helped mark trees for harvest.

The committee questions its ability to continue awarding three or more scholarships per year while depending solely on yearly scholarship fund donations from our members. We will search for other resources as we attempt to increase our aid. Students are seeing college costs continue to rise and student debt is escalating at an alarming rate.

We will have a booth at the Strolling of the Heifers on June seventh this year. Again we are fortunate to have for our raffle a bowl created from local wood and donated by our trustee Peter Wimmelman.

Be sure to stop by the WOA booth to buy raffle tickets and take your chances at owning this beautiful and useful item to help support the scholarship fund.

What's in a Name?

WOA trustees have discussed a name change for the organization to eliminate the implied requirement that members be woodlot owners. The sense of the group is to aim for a more inclusive name so those who support the mission, which already refers to WOA as an association of "interested parties," may feel welcome as members and program participants. Reader opinions are welcome.

The following are some suggested names; your own ideas are welcome as well:

Windham County Woodlands Association
Windham Woodlands Association
Southern Vermont Woodlands Association
Windham Region Woodlands Association
Windham Regional Woodlands Association
Woodland Diversity Stewards
Guardians of Our Forests
Advocates for Wise Woodland/Forest Use
ForestShare
Woodland Management Advocates

Please send to woodlandownersassociation@gmail.com with Name Change in the subject line.

A Sobering Day in the Bay State Looking at Emerald Ash Borer (EAB)

By Bill Guenther, Windham County Forester

A diner leaving the Chinese restaurant China Blossom was very observant in looking across the road into the 140+ acre Osgood Hill Town Forest in North Andover, Massachusetts. He noticed that some of the trees right near the road did not look right. Having seen pictures of trees infested with EAB, he was concerned enough to call state forestry department officials. Thus was a new infestation of EAB discovered in eastern Massachusetts.

In mid-April I travelled down to North Andover with several other members of the Vermont Department of Forests, Parks & Recreation's EAB Incident Management Team, to attend a workshop hosted by our Massachusetts counterparts on the latest EAB outbreak. After pulling into the parking lot, a quick scan across the road at some white ash showed the distinctive "blonding." When an infested tree has lots of larvae feeding on the cambium, woodpeckers are attracted to the trees. They peck at the thick corky bark of ash and once the lighter inner bark is exposed, it gives off a much lighter or more "blond" appearance. The most likely area to see this is at the top of the bole of the tree where it branches out into the main crown. This is perhaps the best diagnostic tool when trying to determine an EAB infestation.

The first presentation demonstrated a tool called "Arborjet," which is used to inject a systemic insecticide called "Tree-age"™ into the tree's vascular system. This material is $400/quart and can treat "400 inches of tree diameter," so a 10-inch diameter (at breast height) tree would have a chemical cost of $10 (this is not an inexpensive method!). The process begins by drilling a small hole near the base of the tree. Then the Arborjet nozzle is inserted and the insecticide is injected into the tree by 300 psi of pressurized air from a small tank carried as part of the kit. This treatment gives very good control and generally lasts for three years.

Next Joe Francese from the USDA Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) showed us the new plastic Green Funnel Traps (GFT) that recently have been developed. They cost considerably more than the purple prism traps that folks have seen for a few years, but the GFTs last several years, compared to one year for the purple ones. The traps have 12 collapsible segments and use one of three different types of lures. The plastic is coated with Fluon,™ which creates a slippery surface that keeps the insects from climbing out of the traps. The insects are "lured" into the trap in one of the segments, and then fall to the bottom, which contains a solution of antifreeze. The traps need to be checked every 1–2 weeks and have been found to be quite effective. While their initial cost is much more than the purple prism traps, the higher number of service years actually make them cheaper.

Julie Gould from APHIS specializes in biological controls and presented us with information on three promising insects (they are all types of wasps) that are EAB predators. Two of these prey on the larvae and the third feeds on the EAB eggs. The process begins by creating "trap sink trees" which are girdled trees that are stressed and will attract EAB. Then the wasps are released at the appropriate time based on which one is used. The trials done so far look promising, but it is not known how long it will take to establish a breeding population. Currently the rearing cost is a pretty pricey $4/wasp.

Nate Siegert, an entomologist with the US Forest Service, is working on this infestation with Ken Gooch, who heads up the Massachusetts state forestry response. They are developing a plan to try to "slow the population down from spreading long enough to get the bio-control established." They will fell the most heavily infested trees along the power line and chip all of the smaller material. The felled main trunks of the trees will be left and the chips from the topwood blown onto those trunks. Given the very high cost of chipping the whole tree, they feel that once the trunks are buried by the chips, any insects left will soon die off. The Osgood Hill town forest provides watershed protection around a large pond that serves as the water source for North Andover. The town's conservation commission has forbidden the use of any chemical applications. This will mean that the main control measure will need to be the wasp biocontol mentioned above. We are hopeful that

the wasp population will proliferate and provide some measure of control for this infestation.

After the formal presentations, many of us used draw knives and did some bark peeling to extract the EAB larvae. It was mind boggling to see how much mortal damage these small insects could do to the cambial surface of an ash tree.

During the day we also learned of yet another outbreak in Loudon, New Hampshire. This is fairly close to the Concord infestation, but is still considered an outlier. It seems like we get more surrounded by EAB each day, but I still try to be the optimist…. Studies have shown that the ash mortality rate of an EAB infestation is 99.8 percent, which I agree sounds pretty bad, but when you do the math, that means that 2 trees out of 1,000 survive, and those two might just hold the gene that provides resistance to EAB!

WOODLAND SECRET #14 — Mosses

By Arthur H. Westing, Former WOA Trustee

Mosses are a common groundcover component especially of our moister woodlands (with some also found growing on tree trunks, etc.). They contribute to the ecosystem's nutrient cycling, Ruffed grouse (*Bonasa umbellus*), some other birds, and small rodents feed on their spores, and some birds use moss in nest building. Mosses are so-called lower plants (within in a group known as bryophytes). They do not produce flowers and fruits, neither do they have a true plumbing (vascular) system to move water with its dissolved minerals, or the food (dissolved sugars) made in their green cells, throughout the plant — such transport occurring via capillary action (like water moving up a blotter). Mosses are thus somewhat less advanced in evolution than the ferns. The moss plants we see are technically referred to as gametophytes [gameto– = sex cell; –phyte = plant] and produce the equivalent of sperm and egg cells which subsequently fuse and then divide to form tiny plants, technically sporophytes, which remain attached to the gametophytes, those tiny sporophytes in turn producing spores that drop to the ground to divide many times to produce the new moss plants (gametophytes) we see. (The liverworts are another group of bryophytes, being closely related to the mosses and similar looking, but less commonly found in our woodlands.)

Mosses are small (being low-growing owing to their lack of a true vascular system), non-woody (herbaceous) perennials. Mosses generally live in moist sites. (Many species of moss are found in the wet tropics.) Mosses generally have short upright stems, and their leaves come out in all directions and have smooth (sometimes slightly dentate) margins, often with a midrib. Here are a few of the more common mosses to be found in our southeastern Vermont woodlands:

Hair-cap moss (*Polytrichum commune*): Forms mats with each stalk ending with its leaflets star-shaped, often growing on soil in either shady or open woods. Spores are carried on erect stalks about 3 inches [8 cm] long.

Pin-cushion moss (*Leucobryum glaucum*): Forms small mounds (up to 12 inches [30 cm] or so across) that resemble pin cushions, often growing on rocks in shady woods.

Sphagnum moss = **Peat moss** (*Sphagnum* spp): Forms extensive green (sometimes reddish) mats in damp to wet areas, often around bogs. The mats grow out onto the bog and are strong enough to walk on (their bouncy nature giving rise to the term “quaking” bog). The live moss absorbs much water. The dying mosses on the underside of the mat fall to the bottom to form peat. Ultimately, the bog fills in entirely and the peat dries. It can then be removed for use as a garden mulch or as a fuel.

Finally, please note that **Reindeer lichen** = “**Reindeer-moss”** (*Cladonia [Cladina]* spp) — common in dry rocky sites — is *not* a moss, but rather a lichen (a symbiotic fungus plus green alga or cyanobacterium), so named because it looks a

bit like a moss (and because it is a favored food of reindeer [*Rangifer tarandus*] and similar animals such as moose [*Alces alces*]). Neither are **Club-mosses** (*Lycopodium* spp etc.) — common in our woodlands — mosses, but rather plants quite closely related to the ferns.

The Woodland Secrets *are available as individual .pdf files. They may be ordered by e-mailing Dr. Westing at* westing@sover.net.

NOTES FROM ELYSIAN HILLS: STEWARDSHIP

by Bill Schmidt

Several years ago each newsletter had a column on happenings at Elysian Hills, especially in the Elysian Hills woodlot. Many of them had a stewardship focus. Mary Lou and I are now experiencing what for us is an especially significant stewardship action as we prepare for the sale of Elysian Hills to Jack and Karen Manix of the nearby Walker Farm. The Manix family and Walker Farm staff will be our successor stewards of the land.

Elysian Hills in its entirety is 138 acres in size with 100 aces of managed woodland and 35 acres of open land on which Christmas trees, organic rhubarb, gilfeather turnip and asparagus have been commercially grown over the years. Mary Lou came to Elysian Hills in 1959 and l came in 1975.

This article is focused primarily on our stewardship of the woodland. The Elysian Hills woodlot is blessed with balance and diversity in the species and ages of its trees as well as the uses made of it. There are mature and maturing maple stands, mixed hardwoods, white pine at all stages, hemlock, and all manner of individual trees prized for particular characteristics.

Our forest management thinking is similar to that of the Swiss forester discussed in the book *Tree Talk,* by Ray Raphael. Based on the concept of stewardship, the forest is viewed "as a complete entity that grows timber, nourishes wildlife, stabilizes hillsides, provides water, and serves recreational (and spiritual) needs of human beings. The (landowner) is the caretaker — not the owner — of this entity. He (with support from his forester and others) is the 'ranger' in the old-fashioned sense: the keeper of the wood." In the broadest sense the Elysian Hills forest and all forests belong to all of us and we to them, as with the water we use and the air we breathe. The Elysian Hills forest and all forests ask to be respected and treated accordingly. Our task is to follow the golden rule: to complement rather than contradict nature's actions as much as possible.

We believe in working holistically with nature in the Elysian Hills woodlot, recognizing that the forest has a life of its own as well as the life that we want for it. We see our relationship to the forest as a symbiotic relationship, one that can benefit the forest as well as the human stewards. We've tried to see the forest's potential into the future as well as what it can provide now.

Sustainable forestry and multiple uses have been our forestry goals. Sawlogs, pulp wood, cord wood, maple sap and Christmas trees are among its physical products. Wildlife habitat is appreciated. Care occurs, for example, in such places as the edges between fields and forest, with the pruning of scattered apple trees, preservation of den trees, efforts to control invasive species, and two two-acre patch cuts for aspen regeneration for grouse and other critters. Social products include the recreational pleasures the woodland gives walkers, joggers, skiers, snowmobilers, hunters and others who enjoy the roads and trails throughout the property. The woodlot has educational value too, for groups and individuals who come to learn more about the forest ecosystem and woodland management.

For support, knowledge and guidance, we have communicated and worked with others who have similar goals. Heading the list are our foresters over the years: Charlie Richardson, Andy Sheere and Ian Martin. Others are people in the Woodland Owners Association, Vermont Coverts, the Vermont Tree Farm Program, Vermont Woodlands Association, Vermont Land Trust (VLT), and the

County Forester and other State forestry and wildlife resource persons.

Echos of our stewardship ethic are in Vermont's stewardship ethic* and WOA's mission statement which is in this newsletter and every WOA newsletter.

Elysian Hills is enrolled in Vermont's Use Value Program, certified in the Tree Farm Program and permanently conserved as a working farm through the Vermont Land Trust. Under the conservation easement the land is to be used for agriculture, forestry, noncommercial recreation and education, and a maximum of two dwellings that can't be any larger than 2,200 sq. ft. Provision is made in the easement for successor stewards who will truly be "keepers of the wood (and land)."

Conservation of the land is one thing, having stewardship minded people on the land is another. Our five children are aware of our stewardship ethic but their lives and interests are centered elsewhere. Efforts we've made over the past seven years to find successor stewards through attempts with three young couples were not successful. Now, with help from VLT since last November, we have found a successor steward in the Manix family, a family that has been practicing stewardship on their own farm for many years.

The Walker Farm Garden Center/Farmstand provides the local community with a wide selection of horticultural plants and Certified Organic produce. The farm has been in the family line since 1770. It employs 30–35 local, seasonal workers and markets most of its crops locally through the farmstand and three seasonal CSA programs.

The Manix family sees Elysian Hills as a partner in local agriculture and forestry. Under their stewardship the 35-year-old Elysian Hills Christmas tree business will continue, as will cultivation and sale of heirloom Knapp rhubarb. The possibility of securing organic certification for the Christmas tree operation will be explored. Forest management will continue under the existing management plan. Other crops will be added to further diversify the farm operation and more events and opportunities for community involvement and agricultural and forestry education will occur.

Aaron McFarland and his partner Justine of Walker Farm will be the ones primarily responsible for the Christmas tree operation and forest management stewardship. They're now living in the second home on the farm. Other Walker Farm staff will be involved in other activity on the land. Mary Lou and I will continue to live at Elysian Hills. We'll orient the Walker Farm folks to Elysian Hills and continue to participate in some of the farm activity.

A final word on stewardship: it's an ongoing, learning venture as we listen and respond to all that the land has to say to us.

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**** Vermont's Stewardship Ethic:***

"*Stewardship is an ethic recognizing that the land and its natural inhabitants have an inherent worth and that we have a responsibility to manage our actions as part of that. It guides us to manage our activities to the best of our abilities, to insure the future health, productivity, and well-being of the land, its natural communities and species, and to allow our successors opportunities at least equal to ours to use the land and its resources."*

Remember to come to the WOA booth at the Stroll on June 7!

Buy a bunch of raffle tickets for a chance to win a beautiful wooden bowl crafted by WOA trustee Peter Wimmelman.

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Upcoming Programs

(See inside for details)

Saturday, May 17, 9 a.m. – Noon	**Invasive Plant Management: Working with Contractors**
Saturday, June 7, *All day*	**Strolling of the Heifers — Visit the WOA booth!**
Wednesday, June 11, 7 p.m.	**Tour of Waring Woodworking**
Friday, June 27, 3 p.m.	**Managing Forest Invasive Plants**

Mission of Woodland Owners Association

WOA is a non-profit association of woodland owners and managers, members of the wood products industry, and other interested parties in the Windham County Region who advocate both sustainable management practices and the enjoyment of forests and their ecosystems. In support of these ends, WOA offers educational opportunities for all age groups. Areas of interest include: biodiversity; clean air and water; cultural and historic resources; fair and equitable taxation of woodland; forest products; recreation; scenic beauty; and wildlife habitat. We recognize that these concepts are continually evolving and therefore will strive to consider the most current thinking and values regarding them.