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WOODLOT TIPS



FALL 2018

Programs

Wednesday, November 28, at 7:00 p.m. — Use Value Appraisal: What the Landowner Needs to Know. Winston Prouty Center, 4th floor Brattleboro, Vt.

Windham County Forester Sam Schneski will give a talk on Vermont's Use Value Appraisal program (UVA). The program, also called "Current Use" or "Land Use" and established in 1980, is arguably the most successful state program for conserving Vermont's working landscape. By achieving a greater equity in property taxes on undeveloped land, the program has kept forest and agricultural land in active production. Another key to the forestland program is the commitment to manage the land to a state-defined standard.

Whether you plan to enroll, or recently enrolled, or you inherited enrolled land, or you bought your wonderful piece of Vermont and transferred UVA enrollment to your name, this program will provide important information regarding what your responsibilities as a steward of Vermont forestland entail.

Signing and submitting a forestry plan is only the first step for a landowner. You are joining a statewide community of forest stewards. There is much to learn about your own forest, and there is continuing communication with the county forester, your consulting forester, and the current use arm of the state tax department.

Sam will touch on the following topics and answer your questions.

- Requirements to enroll and maintain status in UVA
- What do you manage for (wildlife, timber, sugarbush)? What are your goals?
- How to pick a forester, what is in a forestry plan, how can you tailor it to your own goals?
- What are the benefits of an approved plan and eventual harvesting?
- Where else to go for information? Can properties with different management practices be visited?

Statewide, there are 19,000 parcels of land enrolled in the UVA program comprised of 1.9 million acres of forestland and 500,000 acres of agricultural land. Parcels enrolled in Windham County with management plans total 1,553 and 163,551 acres. Total Windham enrollment including agricultural land is 1,682 parcels and just under 200,000 acres.

Save the Dates!

April 27 and 28, 2019 — WRWA is co-sponsoring Game of Logging, Levels I and II, with the Windham Natural Resources Conservation District in Dummerston. Registration opens March 1, 2019. More information will be in the Winter *Woodlot Tips*.

Sam Schneski, Windham County Forester

The big news in this issue is that Sam Schneski has been named as the new Windham County Forester following Bill Guenther's retirement. Sam is wrapping up some projects in Windsor County but is working out of Holton Hall, still in the UVM Extension offices, and has been lending his time, energy, and expertise to WRWA. Working with WRWA, an independent nonprofit, fulfills some of the obligation of the County Forester, which includes outreach to forest professionals and the general public with educational offerings. Sam has been active with WRWA for years, but now we rely on him more than ever and are very glad that he is assigned to Windham County full time.

His extensive knowledge, good humor, openness, and practical experience are much needed as forestry seems ever more complex. He keeps us up to date on what is happening in the forest and in state government, so we can pass the information along to you. You can also contact him directly with forestry and UVA questions. The Department of Forests, Parks, and Recreation will be putting out an official notice of his new position that will provide more information. Congratulations, Sam! We are all lucky to have you and look forward to many good years working together for healthy forests!

President's Message

By Marli Rabinowitz

Resilience is a word that has gained in popularity recently, partially supplanting "sustainability" as a buzzword in forest and ecosystem planning. It is an English word crafted from the Latin root *salire*, meaning to leap, recoil, or rebound. In physics, it

refers to substances that regain their original form after a blow or compression. Resilience is a fashionable word in social work these days, referring to people who recover unusually well from blows and traumas. Resilience is what we wish for our

forests as they experience blows and traumas from changing seasons, intensifying storms, the introduction of new or migrating species, and other effects of climate change.

Climate change in Vermont can be summarized as a two-degree average temperature increase since 1960, a two weeks longer growing season compared to 1980, and a 15-20 percent increase in precipitation since 1970. Periodic high winds have increased. Seasons are less predictable.*

Forest resiliency is defined as the ability of a forest to “bounce back” after a disturbance and “maintain its ‘identity’ in terms of composition, structure and ecological functions.” This does not mean the forest is static; planning for species transition is part of resiliency too. Oaks and hickories may grow where maple, ash, and beech were once thriving.

Just as human resilience is partly intrinsic to the individual and partly a result of good social networks and support, so each species of tree has its genetic identity, but the soil (community) it grows in is crucial to its resiliency. Soil is the *underlying* required source of strength for all forest resiliency. What is soil? It is formed locally from the crumbling of bedrock, which determines what type it is, and thus what will grow well in that site. Living soil is also composed of a zillion small and industrious creatures digesting rotting wood and vegetation (carbon) and fixing nitrogen from the air. There are bacteria, fungi, and representatives from all orders of animalia living under the surface. Some emerge at times to eat leaves or lay eggs above ground. In this way, living native trees and plants form a link in maintaining soil cycles too. (Exotic trees support very little insect or bird life.)

Research into the life of soils is yielding amazing information about these vast underground net-

works that recycle nutrients from animals, plants, air and rock, sequester huge amounts of carbon, stabilize erosion, and produce clean water. The total mass of just the fungal mycelia in the soil is huge, accounting for maybe 25-50 percent of global carbon sequestration. (Warming soils may reduce this, as respiration increases with temperature.) Tree roots have their own vast underground networks that interact in fascinating ways with each other and with all of the above biota.

The leaves, limbs, roots, and trunks of trees in your woods are your contribution to this process. Alive, they support all sorts of life, absorb carbon dioxide, produce oxygen. Left to rot as they fall to the ground, they support the life of the soil, which in turn supports future trees. In addition, all the good forestry practices that you are doing anyway, such as increasing species diversity and age-class diversity, are protective too, since they give more options for recovery and continued growth after a disturbance. Retaining some larger trees and a mosaic of habitats, as sites and goals allow, can be good. Roaming your forest, reading, and being willing to change your own ideas about how it all works, is part of resilience too.

* I found most of this information in *Creating and Maintaining Resilient Forests in Vermont: Adapting Forests to Climate Change* (2015), published by the Vermont Agency of Natural Resources, Department of Forest, Parks and Recreation. I would recommend this book to all WRWA members. The first half of the book covers many topics concisely, with clearly recommended steps. There are 37 pages for familiar tree species, with site preferences, climate vulnerabilities, strengths, stresses, and more. You can download the PDF from the FPR site. I’m not sure if hard copies are available. https://fpr.vermont.gov/about_us/library

Annual Meeting 2018

by Margaret MacDonald, Trustee

Approximately 50 people showed up at the old Newfane Common on Newfane Hill for the first portion of WRWA’s 2018 annual meeting. After a brief introduction by WRWA president Marli Rabinowitz, Laura Bacon-Wallingford of the Windham County Historical Society summarized

the history of Fane (later New Fane), which was chartered in 1774, the year of the Boston Tea Party. When the town center was moved to its current location in 1825, the public buildings were not moved intact, but some of their timbers were incorporated into the successor structures. In the late

1800s, the Historical Society directed a committee to place markers at the locations of known public buildings and sites (such as the whipping post!) on the old common; the Historical Society maintains the site and the trails into the woods.

Laura led us to several of the markers, including the site of the jailkeeper's house, which is currently being cleared. We then followed Bill Guenther into the woods, where a small timber harvest had been conducted in 2010, from which the town netted \$2,829. Bill noted that the harvest left some ash trees as detection trees for the emerald ash borer (EAB) and carefully culled the large pines; many wind shear events have occurred since then, but the site lost only the forked pines.

Unless the trees are actually infested, retain ash 8" or less in diameter; maybe in the future researchers will find a remedy for EAB and those trees will be the ones on which to test it. While there is a "super treatment" that can make trees more resistant, it is very expensive and has to be repeated every two to three years.

We then moved to the next stop on our program, the current Newfane Common. Larry Robinson of the Historical Society gave us a history of the County Courthouse and the Common. Until the 1940s all cases in Windham County were heard in Newfane until the District Court building was built in Brattleboro. The state and the county split the bill for maintaining the Common and the Courthouse.

Bill has been the Newfane tree warden for 25 years (an appointment he will continue to hold), and he described the goals and approaches of the long-term tree care program he instituted at the Common in 1998–1999. The Common is a very popular tourist attraction; to forestall the possibility of injury to visitors some old, hazardous trees had to be cut and many of the trees have been cabled. Also, trees have been pruned so that the trunks are clear of branches for 12–16 feet. Bill's management plan made a point of retaining some "character trees," and re-creating the diagonal lines of trees that characterize the planting at the Common.

Road salt is especially hard on sugar maples, so Bill favored placing oaks next to the roads. Tree roots can extend two to three times beyond a tree's

dripline, and traffic on the roads compacts the soil; to promote deep root aeration (25 inches down) he encouraged the spread of the mycorrhizae fungus. The town strings lights on the trees on the Common; each year Bill makes certain that an adult can fit a finger between the string of lights and the tree trunk and alerts the town officials if wires have to be loosened to avoid constricting the trees' growth.

Remember that soil is 50% solid matter, 25% water, and 25% air – and tree roots need air!

Don't do "volcano mulching" – use no more than 2–3 inches of mulch.

Don't use black tar in pruning wounds. If pruning is necessary, it's better to do it on smaller trees.

Our third stop was Bill's property in Newfane, where we first feasted on burgers and hot dogs prepared by grillmaster Sam Schneski, and a variety of delicious side dishes and desserts supplied by WRWA members. Next, WRWA president Marli Rabinowitz chaired the annual business meeting.

After the business meeting, Bill handed out a map and description and history of his property, showing how much wood he has harvested from each of the four compartments of his 23.6 acres (2/3 mixed northern hardwoods; 1/3 eastern hemlock and white pine). He heats his home entirely with wood from his own land, and performs a timber harvest about every other year. He has never burned more than four cords of wood in a winter (admittedly, Bill likes it cold!), and has discovered that the timber from about 10 acres produces two years' worth of firewood (but after a 2010 wind shear event he harvested 10.5 cords of wood from downed trees).

- ***When cutting and stacking firewood, don't spend more than 2–3 hours on one task. Vary what you do—use different muscle groups, and don't get tired (and possibly careless).***
- ***Avoid being near hemlocks in a thunderstorm; a direct lightning strike causes the tree to literally explode, sending "tree shrapnel" up to a distance of 75 yards.***
- ***Dry firewood for at least a year.***

Bill first described how he "manufactures" his firewood: he cuts the logs to 16"–18" lengths and

emphasized that splitting the logs correctly is critical. He stacks the logs on pallets, makes certain that the end pieces are tight, inserts shims as necessary to support the logs, and covers the woodpile with 8-foot sections of galvanized metal roofing to avoid runoff and mold from rain and snow. Bill can walk on top in the winter and the pile does not move.

Bill then led us to the stumps of some trees he had cut near his house, including hemlocks he had to cut seven years ago after they became infested by hemlock woolly adelgid (HWA). He explained the techniques he had used, though forestry colleagues Sam Schneski and Robert Spring commented (sometimes critically) on his approaches. Bill also mentioned that about 10 years ago, when a wind shear snapped off the biggest, most dense-crowned hemlock in Bill's woodlot, it left an 18-foot stub, but moved the upper 80 feet of the tree about 20 feet through the air and "planted" it perpendicularly into the ground about three feet deep. It was one of the strangest events Bill ever experienced in the woods!

After that, Bill led us on a short hike through his woods, noting that when he bought the property he saw no invasive plants, fewer ferns, and far less deer browsing. Among other features, he pointed out a white oak he will not cut that is the northernmost example of the species he has found in the West River valley, but in the Connecticut River valley he has found white oaks up into Windsor County. Many trees downed during storms and wind shear events still remain on the ground. Bill reminded us that cutting such trees is especially dangerous because the wood is likely to be under tension and compression.

The understory contains a large amount of black

If you want to cut storm-downed trees, make test cuts first to observe what the fibers do when tension is released.

Cutting dead trees is very dangerous; you should leave this to professionals, as the tree could break in several sections from the vibration caused by cutting, and tree sections could fall down on you.

birch, which Bill considers to be Windham County's "tree species of the future," as well as Ameri-

can beech and striped maple. The black birches show signs of deer browsing; Bill commented that when deer browse black birch, you know that the size of the herd exceeds the land's carrying capacity. He acknowledged Putnam (Put) Blodgett of the Vermont Woodlands Association, who was attending the meeting, for drawing the attention of the Department of Fish and Wildlife to the deer browse issue. To gain some control over the problem, we need a high deer harvest for 8–10 years, and that means we need more hunters.

When we returned from our tour, WRWA trustee Munson Hicks shared some memories of his father, Halsey Hicks, the first Windham County Forester. The WRWA Education Fund is named after him. Among other activities, Halsey Hicks taught a course on woodland improvement at Marlboro; the students gained hands-on experience in forest management and Hicks gave many of them jobs working in the woods. He also worked with farmers to manage their timberland. Partly as a result, Windham County has the most *productive* forestland in the state, not just the most forest. In addition, Hicks bought ash for the Spalding company, which used it to make tennis rackets, and he gave "Timber Talks" on the radio at 12:15–12:20 on Saturdays; the American Forest Council still has the tapes.

George Weir, who had been one of Hicks's students at Marlboro, then added his own anecdotes about Hicks, which included that he once fell asleep in his own lecture class, was an avid skier, and seemed impervious to cold and fatigue. He measured distance in chains and could pace out the exact distance and get the exact basal area of a timber stand by ocular estimation. As he led his students through the woods he would tell his students to "walk faster," which in practice meant "run."

Everyone enjoyed the annual meeting, and thanked Bill for his hospitality and for his 30-plus years of service to Windham County. Bill will remain involved in protecting Vermont's woodlands and is already planning to lead some WRWA events in 2019, but for members to see someone else – even long-time WRWA member Sam Schneski – in the County Forester role will mean quite an adjustment!

Welcome to New WRWA Trustees

At the business portion of the annual meeting, two new trustees were elected — Bob Zimmerman and Nick Haskell. They both submitted brief bios:

Bob Zimmerman

Born: Columbus, Ohio 10/20/1940
Education: U Cincinnati BSEE 1963, MSEE 1967
Employment: Brigham & Women's Hospital and
Harvard Medical School, Radiology Dept. 1970-2010
Vermont connection: 1971-to present

Our family became connected to Vermont through a friend in 1971 and has remained connected ever since. After renting for a few years we bought our own property in 1979, in Marlboro, built a cabin on our 100+/- acres in 1980, expanded it in 1990 and then built a house in 2008. In addition to our original 100 acres, we are in a partnership with our nearby neighbors in Marlboro holding 125+/- acres, with development rights donated to the Vermont Land Trust and recently purchased 48 acres of adjacent property, also in Marlboro. All of our lands are in current use and are productive forestlands.

I believe strongly in responsible land ownership and maintaining a vibrant community of landowners, foresters and the wood products industry.

Nick Haskell

I was born and raised in Brattleboro. Grew up hunting in the woods. I first considered a career in the woods during my junior year of high school when I took the Forestry class at the Windham Regional Career Center. I went on to attend the University of New Hampshire, where I earned my Associate's degree in Forest Technology and my Bachelor's in Forestry. After graduating I returned to Vermont and started working for two different private consulting foresters where I have now been for almost five years. I recently purchased six acres of land in Chester, Vt., and plan to build a house within the next few years. I believe that active forest management plays an important role in keeping forests as forests so that we will always have them to enjoy.

2018 Cersosimo Mill Tour

By Margaret MacDonald, Trustee

For the third year in a row, Cersosimo Lumber hosted WRWA members and other area residents for a tour of Cersosimo's softwood mill in Vernon. On the evening of July 26, Eric Parenti, Cersosimo's Forestry Manager, and Jeff Hardy, General Manager, welcomed the group, offered us snacks and water, and provided a brief history of the company. The Vernon mills process 25 million board feet (bf) of lumber a year; of that total, some 12 million bf come from Windham County (as Bill Guenther commented, the county is Vermont's "timber capital") and 7 million bf are hardwood. In order of volume, Cersosimo processes pine, red oak, and hard maple. This mill also has the greatest drying capacity among Cersosimo's five mills.

As we walked through the log yard, Jeff explained that the mill had a low log inventory (in fact, was

"close to the last log") because on the following Thursday Cersosimo would replace the mill's combination gang edger, and would not be processing lumber for the three weeks it will take to install the new equipment and train the staff on how to use it. The edger cuts the round edges from the logs; the new machine will be safer to operate than the current one and will be able to cut two edges of the log at the same time. Cersosimo does not expect that the new equipment will greatly increase the volume yield, but productivity will go up by 30%. This is important, because to remain competitive Cersosimo has to do more with fewer people; employee-related expenses (for wages, insurance, and training) are those that have increased the most among all the company's costs.

Jeff said that when pine logs come in to the mill, a scaler measures the diameter and assigns one of

five grades based on a straight cylinder in the log, and generates a tally for the logger and landowner. Low-grade logs have half the value of high-grade ones. He also commented that late July was the worst time for logs; staining spreads fast in the type of hot, humid weather we had been experiencing. Cersosimo waters the oak and ash (not maple) logs, which reduces the amount of oxygen in the wood and slows the growth of mold that causes stains.

When asked if the company has started to see Vermont landowners dumping ash because of the approaching emerald ash borer, Jeff said that ash has gone up from 8–10 percent of Cersosimo's hardwood products to over 15 percent. The demand for ash is strong at the moment because tool manufacturers such as TruTemper use ash for tool handles and are struggling to find the wood.

Jarred Collins then took us inside the mill building and showed us the cut-to-level machine where the bandsaws are sharpened and repaired, and several saws waiting to be sharpened. The normal life of a saw is eight hours before it has to be resharpened; Cersosimo recycles worn-out saws. Jarred pointed out the circles at the base of each saw tooth, which show how much the saw has shrunk as it is repeatedly sharpened and ground back. He also showed us large chunks of wood with screws, bolts, and insulators embedded in them, and told us that the hardwood sawmill has an inline metal detector for such objects. He explained that if the saw hits metal it might take six hours to repair, but hitting a porcelain insulator would destroy the entire saw.

We then climbed the stairs to the observation area, and first looked at the computer displays in the control room. One display shows in real time how many logs have been processed, how many board feet were produced, and the pounds of chips produced. For each thousand board feet sawn, one ton of chips will be produced. A scanner opens the logs to view in three dimensions so that the sawyer can decide how each log should be cut (for example, making a board longer by going deeper into the log). The mill can saw logs with a diameter of up to 4 feet, but Cersosimo does not want logs more than 36 inches in diameter.

We then watched the sawmill in action, and admired the skill of head sawyer Kevin Murray,

who manually adjusts the chute through which each log passes according to how it should be sawn and routed. Murray makes these decisions in real time; very impressive!

Our group then went into the grading mill, where the boards are marked according to posted standards set by the National Hardwood Lumber Association (NHLA). Graders have 6 seconds to assess a board, and they use the worst face of the board to assign a grade. Jeff explained that there are four graders, each of whom uses a different color crayon to mark the boards. That way, if Cersosimo detects discrepancies in grading accuracy the company can retrain employees whose grading is off. For pine, the Northeast Lumber Manufacturing Association (NELMA) based in Maine, performs spot audits each month; the grading has to be accurate within four percent of the approved standard or NELMA will quarantine the mill's products. Bill Guenther asked about grading schools, and Jeff said that the NHLA runs a school in Memphis, Tenn. The course is six months long, and graders have to be good at math.

Cersosimo sells wood throughout the world: two organizations in China buy hardwood, and Cersosimo exports both hardwood and pine to Europe and Canada. The pine market is currently good in the United States, but because most furniture making has moved overseas, there is less overall demand for hardwood. Overall wood prices have not changed much since last year, but pallet-grade boards now sell for less than Cersosimo paid for the logs.

New England has seen a 50 percent reduction in paper production over the last 10 years, which has greatly reduced the market for wood byproducts. The mill burns its least valuable byproducts – sawdust and chips – to heat the boilers for the drying kilns. We looked inside a boiler furnace, where the temperature is some 1,300 degrees; the boiler produces about 180 pounds of steam.

WRWA thanks Eric Parenti, Jeff Hardy, and Jarred Collins for taking the time to show us around this fascinating operation. Thanks also to former trustee John Caveney, who originally arranged these tours. The Summer 2016 and Fall 2017 issues of Woodlot Tips have more details. This article covers the 2018 tour.

Recognizing Trees: a Walk with Mark Mikolas

by Margaret MacDonald, Trustee

On September 8, Mark Mikolas, author of “A Beginner’s Guide to Recognizing Trees of the Northeast,” led 14 local residents on an easy walk along the West River trailhead. The purpose was to demonstrate his unique approach to recognizing trees, an approach that does not depend on leaves, flowers, or seeds. He pointed out some of the problems encountered when using guides that depend on leaf illustrations: they can be confusing when there are similar leaves, they show the top of leaves when we usually are looking up at their bottoms, and perhaps most importantly, in the northeast leaves are only useful half the year.

Before we started our walk, Mark explained that we learn the names of all the animals at a very young age, dinosaurs as well, but nowhere in our culture do we get exposed to learning the names of trees. That’s the void he set out to fill by researching and writing his book. His research consisted mainly of walking and hiking with experts, such as Bill Guenther, and learning how they were able to recognize trees without closely studying them. That led to identifying key characteristics for each tree that “gave away” its identity without looking them up in a tree guide.

Here are some samples of how he demonstrated this approach as we walked the trail:

Maples: Maples differ from almost all other trees in that they have branches that grow opposite each other from the limb. Mark then pointed out some easy ways to distinguish between certain kinds of maples. One easy way to recognize red (soft) maple is that it’s the first to turn color in the fall. Mark also told us to remember the “U” in sugar maple, because the leaves have U-shaped indentations rather than the V-shaped notches in the leaves of other maples. As for silver maples, the leaves are “airy” and light on the bottom. Silver maples grow fast, so they’re a good tree to plant if you can’t wait to sit in the shade.

Basswood/linden: This tree often grows by rivers. The bark has vertical furrows and smooth ridges. It looks like the bark of an ash tree that someone has sanded down. It also has the unusual property that you can identify it by sound: hit an oak with a rock and it goes “dud;” hit a basswood with a rock and it sounds remarkably hollow. Because its

wood is soft and has almost no visible grain, it’s often used by woodcarvers to fashion such things as duck decoys.

Birches: Paper birch is the only birch whose bark peels horizontally, thus distinguishing it from gray birch. Paper birches are self-pruning. i.e., as they grow, the lower branches fall off. When a branch does fall off, it leaves a telltale triangular mark on the trunk. Yellow birch and black birch can be identified by smell. Scratch the bark off a small twig and a very strong wintergreen scent is released. Black birch is only found up to 1800 feet in elevation, while yellow birch can thrive at higher elevations and in cold winters. You may see a yellow birch standing on “legs.” That’s because it likes to germinate on fallen trees (called “nurse” trees). It sends its roots down around the nurse tree and then, when the nurse tree finally decomposes and disappears, the yellow birch is left standing on its “legs.”

The only hickory that can be easily recognized is shagbark hickory: one glance at its bark illustrates how well it lives up to its name.

Black cherry: Another tree that is easy to identify solely by its bark is black cherry. Once you hear that its bark looks like it is covered with burnt potato chips, you’ll never fail to spot it.

Oaks: Red oaks can be spotted by looking up: while the branches of most trees tend to taper down as they rise, red oak branches are massive by comparison, giving it its reputation as a symbol of strength. The furrows in the bark of red oaks have been described as looking like ski trails. On younger trees, there are red streaks dividing the trails. The bark of white oak is quite different from that of red oak: it is lighter and it breaks up horizontally. The trunk often has a big flare at bottom. Mark noted that across from and to the left of the main entrance of Brattleboro Memorial Hospital, one can find a red oak and a white oak growing side-by-side almost conjoined, making it easy to compare the two.

Mark pointed out the unique characteristics of many other trees on our walk, and they often led to interesting discussions and good questions. What was most evident was the truth of Mark’s

contention that nearly everyone relates to trees in a personal way, and they would dearly like to know their names and learn more about them.

When we reached the foot of the I-91 bridge over the West River, Mark and WRWA trustee Munson

Hicks commented that the faces of the bridge pylons intentionally complement the colors of the trees growing along the river. Munson led us in thanking Mark for a very enjoyable and informative talk, and for writing such a useful book.

A Tribute to Bill Guenther, Newly Retired Windham County Forester

By Bill Schmidt, Former WRWA President and Trustee

One of a kind that Bill Guenther,
a true keeper of the wood in the old-fashioned sense,
a committed and passionate forestland steward
on Bensch Mountain and
throughout Windham County
in his 34 years as woodland owner and County Forester.

A sustainable and green forester to the hilt,
his property harvest story makes clear.
Over 30 years he harvested 146 cords of firewood and 1.2 MBF,
most of it from the first 10.24 acres he bought.
Records for all meticulously kept
along with narrative whys and hows he did it all.

Bill's work as County Forester was something else,
many facets it had,
the most time demanding of which was administering
the State's UVA program,
a program he knows inside out.

He's a born learner and teacher as well,
always learning by researching what he doesn't know,
always ready to communicate his expansive knowledge of trees to others,
sometimes to a fault in his sharing of detail amassed.
Bill doesn't hold back in forestry conversations! He's a talker!

A staunch supporter of WOA now WRWA,
through guidance in program planning, articles in *Woodlot Tips*,
and in programs of his own, most notably his Big Tree Walks:
all of these and more have been invaluable.

What more is there to say about this man?
Friendly, approachable, a genuine human being, Bill's the real thing!



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Upcoming Programs

(See inside for details)

Wednesday, November 28, at 7:00 p.m. — Use Value Appraisal: What the Landowner Needs to Know. Winston Prouty Center, 4th floor Brattleboro, Vt.

This program will provide important information regarding what your responsibilities as a steward of Vermont forestland entail.

Presenter: Sam Schneski, Windham County Forester

Save the Dates! — April 27 and 28, 2019

WRWA is co-sponsoring Game of Logging, Levels I and II, with the Windham Natural Resources Conservation District in Dummerston. Registration opens March 1, 2019.

Mission of Windham Regional Woodlands Association

WRWA 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, WRWA 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.