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WOODLOT TIPS



FALL 2020

Programs

The WRWA has cancelled most of its programs due to the Covid pandemic. Please check www.windhamwoodlands.org for information and updates.

Retired Windham County Forester Bill Guenther plans to lead his annual March tour to the Somerset Old Growth Forest, depending on where things stand with the pandemic. Updates will appear in the Winter 2021 issue of Woodlot Tips and on the WRWA website.

Tentative Program: Friday, March 26, 2021—WRWA Members Only Field Trip

Somerset Old Growth Forest Tour

Retired Windham County Forester Bill Guenther will again lead a tour to a Somerset woodlot in what is believed to be a stand of old growth, which consists mostly of yellow birch. This 60-acre property was a gift to Leland & Gray High School many years ago. About 12–15 acres of this property are stocked with the big birches, the remainder in spruce/fir and beaver flowage.

Four years ago, Bill measured what was believed to be the largest yellow birch in the stand, but sadly this tree is now deceased. After a scouting trip out there this fall Bill located several other potential champions and took some preliminary measurements.

To keep the trip safe, attendees will *not* be carpooling, and Bill says only three other individuals can go. He and his girlfriend Anna are a “pod” and will travel in his vehicle. The three others will have to travel separately unless they are a couple/family pod. Bottom line is only four vehicles can go due to very limited parking. Additionally, Bill and Anna use four meters, a little over 12 feet, for Social Distancing, so a larger group would not work.

Please sign up by January 15th if you are interested in going and contact Bill by phone or email to let him know you want to sign on. (See below.)

Once at the Somerset Dam, the group will travel 1.5 miles up the Old County Road (this is a fairly heavily used snowmobile trail, hence the Friday date) to the western edge of the property, then bushwhack east out to the old growth. **Folks should bring either skis or snowshoes. This is a big snow belt and late March could potentially still bring snow depths of three to four feet.**

Around lunchtime, the group will stop at the woodlot’s campsite and have a picnic lunch. It will be a nice warmup if people also bring a thermos of their favorite hot beverage. After lunch the group will head out into the birch stand and go through the Vermont Big Tree Registry measurement process to crown a new champion yellow birch.

The day should end by about 4 p.m. Keep in mind that Somerset is the icebox of Windham County, and even though the trip will take place in March, some pretty severe winter conditions are possible! People should dress warmly and in layers to assure a safe and enjoyable day.

Call Bill Guenther at 365-4252 or e-mail him at billg@sover.net to reserve a spot (no later than January 15th), to get the specific meeting place, and to make sure you've got the right gear. This trip is moderate to somewhat strenuous, and the big trees are a long way from anywhere. Before the trip Bill will ensure that the private road up to the dam has been plowed. Adverse road conditions could cause cancellation. Spring comes very late out there!

President’s Message

By Munson Hicks

As I look out the window from my desk, the first snow of the year is falling. It shouldn’t be much, but it is a reminder of the change in the season. The garden, in advance of our first real freeze of the season, has been hastily put to bed after months of indifference. It has yielded the last of the cabbage, turnips, and herbs. The leeks have been mulched so that they

can be harvested through the winter. (Last year I pulled the last ones in May). The garlic is in for next year’s crop. The garden was very productive this year, most likely as a result of staying home because of the pandemic; I was more attentive than in previous years.

Early morning gunshots heralded the start of hunting season in my woodlot. I don't post, as I want everyone to be able to enjoy the land and also help cut down on the grazing of the young valuable trees (leaving the beeches to dominate). It also reminds me that my land will be less accessible to me for a while. I don't mind the blinds, but I find the tree stands annoying, particularly those surrounded by empty beer cans. There is also a timber cut planned for this winter so the landscape will be very different come spring.

For the WRWA, this year has been particularly frustrating. Our Zoom meetings are a poor substitute for

the enjoyable and productive face-to-face meetings, and our inability to hold our annual meeting out in the open air was a loss to our group. But we managed and got things done.

We continue to struggle with getting programs up and running in this new environment. They play a vital role in the organization and are sorely missed.

In the meantime, everyone, be sensible and safe throughout this new world, and we will come out the other side.

Programs and updates can be found at www.windhamwoodlands.org

Comings and goings

WRWA held the annual meeting via Zoom this year. We said goodbye to three board members: Marli Rab-inowitz, Bob Deservio, and Penfield Chester as their terms expired.

Marli served as president for two terms and Bob as treasurer. Penfield was very active on the Program committee, as well as helping to get the newsletter out. They will all be greatly missed.

We welcomed two new board members; Jessalyn Stockwell and Andrew Morrison. Jessalyn has been a recipient of several of our scholarships and so impressed the board that we asked her to join, which she happily accepted.

Andrew Morrison is a consulting forester who lives in Dummerston and is a welcome addition to the board.

Barbara Evans told us that this edition of the newsletter will be her last after putting it together for so many years. It will be a great loss for us, but we understand her desire to retire. She encourages us to have a discussion about the future of the newsletter in all its aspects: style, content, distribution, etc. Any input from the membership is encouraged.

How the WRWA works

The Board of Trustees is an all-volunteer group that meets quarterly to plan activities and promote the organization. All members are welcome to attend. The work of the organization is divided into committees. They are:

Program committee

This committee is responsible for creating and producing the various events that are held throughout the year. Usually one member shepherds the process of each event, with others pitching in to help.

Membership Committee

This group keeps track of the membership, sends out the annual membership renewal letters, keeps track of the paid and unpaid dues, and works with the treasurer to see that the money goes where it should.

The Scholarship Committee

This committee seeks out likely candidates to receive our scholarships, vets them for suitability, then makes recommendations to the board. They distribute information about the scholarships to places where candidates are likely to be found.

The Publicity Committee

The publicity Committee is responsible for getting the word out to the public about programs and about the organization in general.

The Newsletter Committee

It is their responsibility to get the quarterly newsletter written, edited, assembled, printed, and distributed.

The Library Committee

Yes, we have a small library of donated material outside the Extension Service office. Due to the pandemic, like all libraries, it currently is unavailable for visits. The Committee oversees it. When

available, members can borrow and return materials on the honor system.

The Nominating Committee

This group is tasked with finding willing and able members to serve on the board and bring their names to the board. As trustees can only serve for two terms (six years) according to the bylaws, this is a continuous search process.

Membership drive reminder from Munson Hicks, WRWA president

As you all know, we began our annual membership drive in August. As of this writing, 207 members have signed up—193 paid members, 13 lifetime members, and 1 scholarship member.

At the end of last year, we had a total of 240 members. Once again, woodlot ownership is not necessary to enjoy and support the WRWA, as love of the outdoors works just fine.

If you have not rejoined, now would be a great time to do it so you can continue to enjoy the benefits of membership, including this quarterly newsletter!

Joining is easy. In the unlikely event you still have the membership envelope we sent you, just slip in your basic membership check for \$20 plus any tax-deductible donations you might want to make to The Halsey Hicks Education Fund and/or The

Scholarship Fund and send it back. The Halsey Hicks Fund supports WRWA's educational programs—our hikes and walks, our talks on woodland and wildlife topics, and more. The Fund is named in honor of my father, the first Windham County State Forester. The Scholarship Fund committee works hard to offer meaningful support for the education of future foresters and environmental stewards.

If you have lost the envelope or assigned it to your recycling bin, please go to the WRWA website; you can donate there as well.

Hope to hear from you soon (so we don't have to yell at you later in the year)! Don't forget that if you know people who would be interested in joining, please let them know how to do it.

www.windhamwoodlands.org

Forest Health Update

By Sam Schneski, Windham County Forester

Weather

After a dry summer and dry start to fall we are finally seeing a little more precipitation but far less than needed. According to the Northeast Regional Climate Center, our corner of Vermont was at 50 percent of the normal expected precipitation level for September and remained that way to mid-October. Data has not been released yet for the second half of October. Anecdotally it seems as though we have received a few good days of rain and some snow so I can only imagine we may be edging away from the 50 percent mark and little closer to "normal."

Emerald Ash Borer (EAB)

Unfortunately, the weather hasn't done a thing to

lessen the incidence of emerald ash borer (EAB) detections in the state. On October 23rd, we were notified of two new EAB detections, the first up in Richmond, Vermont, making that detection the first one in Chittenden County. The next find was in Shaftsbury, expanding the infested area in Bennington County. As always, for an up-to-date map of infested areas visit www.VTinvasives.org. Remember, confirmed infested areas are within five miles of a known infestation. While symptoms may not be obvious, high risk areas extend five miles from the outer edge of a confirmed infested area. EAB is likely expanding into and present in some of this area. Forest landowners, homeowners, logging contractors, municipalities, and utilities in the infested area should evaluate the options available to them to

protect their ash trees and immediately implement Vermont's "[Slow the Spread](#)" recommendations. October 1st was the beginning of EAB's non-flight season and the start of the least risky time to move ash materials from the infested area according to the "Slow the Spread" recommendations. Follow "Slow the Spread" recommendations to help protect uninfested forests and to allow time for landowners, communities, and businesses to plan and budget for the arrival of EAB. Visit VTinvasives.org to learn more about EAB and what you can do to "Slow the Spread."

Market update

Speaking of ash, ash sawlog prices are really pretty good right now as well as white pine sawlog prices. Firewood markets are seeing strong demand, and pine and hardwood pulp markets are bad if not terrible. Selling woodchips right now is hard with New Hampshire plants pretty much all shut down.

Hemlock Woolly Adelgid (HWA)

Hemlock trees in our region continue to be

threatened by HWA. The recent drought conditions add to the stress on our hemlock trees. This year there has been no large spread of the infested area but the populations in known areas seem to be higher. A likely reason for population growth is that last year's winter mortality was 61 percent, which is below the threshold of 91-92 percent that restricts expansion of an infestation.

General information from the Department of Forests, Parks and Recreation's (FPR) impact plots showed smaller and thinner crowns than in previous years. This year's survey season begins around the end of November and ends in April. Jim Esden, Forest Health Forester with FPR is looking for a few volunteers who would be interested in helping him with phenological observations. This will mainly be documenting when the adelgids lay eggs and when they hatch (all of which come in early spring). If you are interested in helping Jim feel free to contact him at 802-777-1591 or jim.esden@vermont.gov

More Invasive Plant Management Webinars

By Andrew Morrison, WRWA Trustee

Southeastern Vermont now has its very own Cooperative Invasive Species Management Association. The aptly named Southeast Vermont CISMA is a partnership of organizations helping to coordinate education, information and outreach efforts about invasive plant species. One of these efforts is a series of webinars held this fall. The most recent in the series was about the use of chemical herbicides for invasive plant control. The webinar focused heavily on the importance of understanding that herbicides should always be used as part of an Integrated Pest Management (IPM) strategy in order to have the best opportunity for success.

Chemical herbicides, while often controversial, are a very important tool for invasive plant management and the webinar explored the details as it weighed

the risks and rewards between the impacts of invasive plants on forest ecosystems and the risks associated with chemical control. Hopefully it is not too much of a spoiler to say that the webinar argues the case that the judicious use of herbicides is worth the risk. If you want to learn more by watching the full webinar, this one, as well as previous webinars in the series including a webinar on mechanical control options, are archived and available for viewing at:

<http://windhamcountynrcd.org/recordings-of-cisma-webinars/> The next webinar in the series will occur in December and focuses upon the importance of Early Detection and Rapid Response in invasive plant management. This webinar series was partially funded by a Grow Grant from the New England Grassroots Environmental Fund.

Programs, updates and *Woodlot Tips* archives can be found at www.windhamwoodlands.org

Wildland/Forest Fire Suppression Methods a.k.a. How Do You Put Out a Forest Fire?

By Bill Guenther, retired Windham County Forester, and former Wildland Firefighter

Part 1

The year 2020 will go down in history for many reasons, mostly due to the COVID-19 pandemic, but also the unprecedented wildfires that occurred and are *still* occurring, as of October 28, in the western states.

Up until 2002, Colorado had never seen a forest fire over 100,000 acres, but that year the Hayman Fire scorched 138,000 acres, setting a new record. But in the last two weeks of October, three fires in Colorado exceeded that with one going over 200,000 acres, which made an astronomical run of over 100,000 acres in *one* night, previously thought to be unimaginable.

With factors such as our warming climate, a history of suppressing almost all fires, and an unprecedented amount of standing dead trees from the mountain pine bark beetle, the West will likely see more of these conflagrations in the coming years.

In Vermont, we have a fairly low risk of large wildfires, although our drought this year has allowed some fires to get established and burn underground, creating a very difficult fire to suppress. We should not forget the great fires of October 1947 in Maine, which burned over most of Bar Harbor and blackened 250,000 acres while destroying nine towns.

Fire needs three things to happen (often called The Fire Triangle): Fuel, Oxygen, and Heat. Structural or wildland (forest) firefighting attempt to eliminate one or more of these elements. Remove one or more and the fire will be out.

In wildland fires, there are three major groups that work on suppression. First are “Air Ops,” the folks who fly in for direct suppression work and also support ground troops. Their arsenal includes a wide variety of small to

behemoth sized helicopters that are used to drop water or a slurry known as “fire retardant.” The water is used to directly extinguish the fire while the retardant creates a “fireline,” which creates a break in the fuels (by covering flammable materials making them difficult to ignite), which can stop or at least slow a fire’s spread.

The smallest “choppers” have a payload of only 75–100 gallons but are able to fly into small or difficult to reach areas to make a precision drop. At the other end, the Sky Crane or twin rotor Chinook can drop as much as 2,500 gallons.

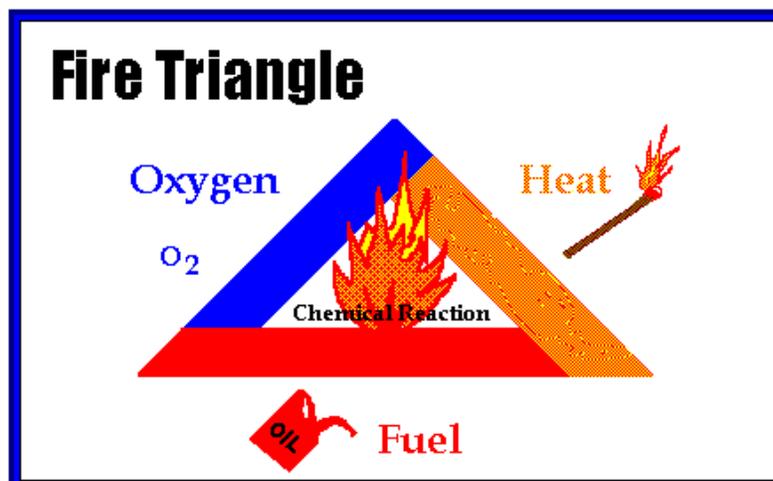
In addition, fixed wing aircraft (prop planes or jets) are used in the same fashion by dropping water or fire retardant. The granddaddy of these is the huge DC-10 that can drop 12,000 gallons of retardant creating a fireline 300 feet wide and one mile long!

Aircraft are also used to deploy specially trained firefighters called Smokejumpers who parachute directly into a small inaccessible fire area. Helicopters are used to fly crews and supplies into remote sites. In cases where there is insufficient landing space, crews trained in rappelling can slide down a rope and then engage the fire.

The next group in the firefighting arsenal are “engines” which are a wide variety of motorized vehicles. These units differ from regular structural firefighting apparatus in several ways. They are designed to operate on much steeper and rougher

ground (often off road) than your local fire department engines and have high ground clearances with 4-wheel drive. Engines typically are staffed by two to six firefighters, depending on the fire’s size.

These vehicles are not designed to pump water from fire hydrants, but rather



have self-contained tanks to carry water. Their tank capacity ranges from as small as 50 gallons up to 984 gallons. In much of the west, low humidity causes water to evaporate very rapidly, so a foaming agent can be added but is quite expensive and used in limited applications. Foam's best use is applying it to homes or other structures which can provide an effective barrier against fire for 8–16 hours, whereas plain water may only give a few minutes of protection.

The last and largest element of wildland firefighting are the “boots on the ground” which are 20-person crews of trained firefighters who attack the fire. Their leader is the Crew Boss and the unit is broken down into three squads, each with a Squad Leader. Each crew typically has between one and three sawyers—those who have high expertise in chainsaw operations and are able to fell trees safely with precision and speed, but never sacrificing safety.

The crew's primary suppression technique is to cut a “fireline” around the perimeter of a fire to rob it of fuel. If in forested conditions, this process involves creating a fire break where typically the sawyer(s) will first cut all of the large trees and brush, followed by the rest of the crew mostly using cutting and scraping tools to dig a 2-3- foot wide swath down to bare mineral soil. This fireline may only be a few feet wide but is often enough to halt the progress of a wildfire as long as it is a surface fire and

not a “crown fire” where it is burning in the upper reaches of the tree crowns. Crown fires are the most dangerous, and hand crews normally cannot work directly under them. If there is no wind to drive the fire, just a two- to three-foot-wide fireline can stop a very hot fire, as the lack of fuel will break the Fire Triangle.

If a fire is a relatively slow-moving surface fire with flame heights no higher than about 10 feet, crews often utilize a method called “direct attack,” where the fireline is cut right at the very edge of the active burning fire. If fire conditions are more extreme, then “indirect attack” is used. This usually involves making a much wider fireline, and if terrain allows, might also involve the use of bulldozers that can carve out a wide line in short order. Large crown fires have the potential to jump a pretty wide line, so wider is better, especially if “firebrands” (flaming embers carried aloft, then floating to the ground some distance in front of the main fire front) are starting “spot fires” far ahead of the main fire front. If there are high winds pushing a fire, even a fireline as wide as an interstate highway is often not enough to stop the blaze.

In my follow-up article, I will give you an inside look into what a two-plus week fire deployment is like. It has sometimes been defined as 75 percent hard brutal work, 20 percent boredom and 5 percent sheer terror. Until next time....

Book Review

By Robert Zimmerman WRWA trustee

Stone By Stone. By Robert M. Thorson, published by Walker Publication Company, 2002. Paperback 2004.

Robert Thorson is professor of geology at UConn with a strong interest in the origin and nature of landforms. If you have ever thought about all the stone “walls” in your woods this book can give some insight into the hows and whys of the ubiquitous Vermont artifacts.

In 10 chapters and about 250 pages Thorson explains how these walls came to be. Of course, we all know they were made by the farmers who had to clear their fields. Then these farmers moved west, and the wood grew up around the walls.

But the story is not that simple in reality. Why are all those stones there in the first place. They were put there by the glaciers, right? Answer: Yes, they

were, but did you know that the first settlers did not see all those stones? The first settlers, those subsistence farmers of the prerevolution actually had soils that were relatively stone free. They just had to cut down a forest, plant their crops and do pretty well at it. After several generations and years of erosion, the original soils were gone and the stones started to appear and with every freeze/thaw cycle they kept coming.

This history and, just as important, the geology is explained in detail in the book starting with the glacier that covered New England and Vermont, the forests, the natives, the settlers, the denuding of the land and what we see today. I bought the paperback in 2013 and I highly recommend it to anyone who has a bent for geology and its relationship to our forests.

Book Review

By Marli Rabinowitz, past president, WRWA

Woods Whys: An Exploration of Forests and Forestry. By Michael Snyder, published by Bondfield Books and Vermont Department of Forest Parks and Recreation, 2019. \$14.95

When Michael Snyder was a young research forester at UVM, he started writing articles for the new Vermont Woodlands Magazine (now Northern Woodlands Magazine). Later, he became the Chittenden County Forester and his articles became a regular column called Woods Whys, and he was the Whyse Guy. The columns were answers to questions he heard from landowners and drew on his wide-ranging knowledge of natural history, plant physiology, ecology, and more. In 2011, Governor Shumlin appointed him Commissioner of Vermont Forest, Parks and Recreation, and Governor Phil Scott kept him on. Snyder's care for trees, forests, and forest health is rooted in research and practice and goes beyond politics. A year or so ago he compiled 63 of his columns into a book called, of course, Woods Whyse.

Each of the 63 mini chapters, two or three pages each, addresses a specific question over a range of topics; questions that you may not have even known you needed answered but that pique your curiosity. While short, each one is packed with facts and it is worth reading slowly, one at a time, so that you can really absorb the lesson. Thankfully there are no quizzes at the end. A few examples of chapter titles are: 1. *Why Are Spruce and Fir Trees so Conical?* (There are several reasons, and not just so that they

make good Christmas trees.) 10. *Does a Hilly Acre Contain More Land than a Flat One?* (This one broke my brain with a geometry lesson.) 23. *How Small a Woodland is too Small for Forestry?* (It depends on what you want to do, size of machinery, site, and more. But there is no forest too small for enjoyment, wildlife, and some level of forest products like family Christmas trees, a few maple taps, mushrooms, etc.) 42. *Why are Paper Birches so White?* (A chemical called betulin crystallizes in the bark and reflects light. This keeps the cambium at more even temperatures and promotes survival in northern climate.) 50. *What is a Site Index?* (It is a compilation of several environmental factors, rated, to predict what will grow well on a site.) 51. *Are Frost Cracks Really Caused by Frost?* (Not really, they are caused by a variety of injuries and the freeze-thaw cycle enlarges them.) 57. *What do tree roots do in winter?* (Read and find out!) There are 56 more just like these.

At the risk of sounding like a fifth-grade book report, I recommend this book. It reminds me somewhat of Woodland Secrets that "our own" Arthur Westing wrote and kindly let us publish in this newsletter. Everyone will learn something from Woods Whyse, and you will probably read each chapter twice over the course of the winter. Sit down to relax and enjoy a short, worthwhile, nonpolitical read with a cup of tea. You can look at the forest out the window as you learn some of its secrets and then have a deeper appreciation of its processes when you go out among the trees.

Club Mosses

Excerpted from the late Arthur Westing's Woodlot Secret No. 25

The club-mosses—also known as lycopods—are lower plants closely related to the ferns and not at all related to the mosses. They produce spores and have a plumbing (conducting or vascular) system. The club mosses are attractive small non-woody evergreen perennials found here and there on the shaded forest floor. They can spread widely by "running," their horizontally growing underground stems (rhizomes), sending up new plants at frequent intervals. Club mosses are eaten by opossums (*Didelphis marsupialis*), and in harsh winters also by moose (*Alces alces*) and white-tailed deer (*Odocoileus virginianus*).

So-called Lycopodium powder (dried club-moss spores) was much used in the 19th century to produce a relatively harmless flash of light in magic acts and in theaters as Mephistopheles appeared on the stage. It was also used as a baby powder.

The three most common club mosses growing in our region are:

Flat-branched tree club-moss or Princess-pine (*Dendrolycopodium [Lycopodium] obscurum*): Found in dry, shady woods; rarely more than 6 inches (15 cm) tall; upright stem, much branched and re-branched;

covered with tiny leaves (not prickly to the touch); looking a bit like a pine tree seedling.

Common club moss or Staghorn club moss (*Lycopodium clavatum*): Found in shady woods, especially under conifers; rarely more than 8 inches (20 cm) tall; upright stem, once or twice branched; covered with small bristly (toothed) leaves. Sometimes called “Running club-moss.”

Northern ground-cedar (*Diphasiastrum [Lycopodium] complanatum*): Found in dry, partly shaded woods; rarely more than 12 inches (30 cm) tall;

upright much branched stem; covered with tiny flattened leaves.

Finally, it will be of interest to note that many species of now long extinct large tree club mosses (as well as of large tree ferns) existed during the Carboniferous Period (thus roughly 360 to 300 million years ago). These woody plants fossilized to become the coal we now mine and burn in such profligate amounts—thereby becoming the major contributor to worldwide environmental (biospheric) degradation and a pervasive cause of serious human health problems.

Riding the Winds

By Daniel N. Dubie, WRWA Trustee

Welcome to our annual time of darkness, cold, and rest which for most of us is known as Winter. This time is distinguished by the celestial period that begins halfway between the Autumn Equinox and the Winter Solstice, usually on Halloween, and ends at the point halfway between the Winter Solstice and Spring Equinox, known to many of us as Groundhog Day. Though the cold Winter period of our year typically starts and ends later in the calendar year, the celestial period of shorter daylight and shallower sun angle is the underlying driver of the Earth’s climatic and ecological changes.

As we now walk the land we do it knowing our days are short, the sun is low in the sky, and our shadows are long. For those who frequent the forests now, they have a quietness to them as they get ready for deep sleep. The hustle and bustle of the spring and summer is over and the much of the work of the year is done. Young have been raised, seeds have been made, and those that travel to other lands are now gone. Some that stay have made their stores, either under their skin, in their homes, or in well-known hiding spaces. Many of our feathered friends now gathered together in flocks fill the short days with eating, the communion of numbers helping with finding sometimes rare winter food sources. Though this quietness is a big change from the excitement of Spring and Summer, it somehow fits and brings a time of needed rest.

Though the excitement of the long warm days is gone, there is another type of excitement that,

though sometimes rare, may be visiting our forests and orchards this winter. Periodically, when food is scarce in lands to the North, we are visited by large numbers of special winter birds. As Fall rains finally appear and cool weather settles in, some of these visitors are starting to be seen. Most well-known of them are the finch-like birds that include Pine Siskins and Redpolls. Other species include the White Winged and Red Cross Bills, the Evening and Rose-breasted Grosbeaks, and the Bohemian Waxwings. All these species noted here are typically found in large, loud, and active flocks. This is why I note the excitement of their visitation, for when they are found one morning at a feeder or in a random apple tree, there is an excitement and flurry in the air. Sitting and watching these flocks is amazing. You can feel their energy that has come together to wander long distances to find the food that will sustain them till their time of dispersal and summer work returns.

With both this excitement and quietness come yet more opportunities to observe both changes upon the land and the ways we and our friends handle them. Though the lack of light affects many of us, living much of our lives outdoors upon the land will both enrich our connection with it and fuel our spirits, ultimately sustaining us.

Winter brings a wonderful unique world here in the north woods. May this world with its short days, snow, cold weather and our resilient, exciting friends bring you enjoyment and pleasure during these testing times.

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CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED

Upcoming Programs

**The WRWA has cancelled most programs due to the Covid pandemic.
See inside for information about Bill Guenther's annual March outing
to Somerset's big trees.**

Please always check www.windhamwoodlands.org for information and updates.

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.