



Red oak saplings
in a wire cage

Figure 1: Tree Cages & Croptree Release

At the “**Cultivating Desirable Tree Species in WV Woodlands**” walk and workshop, recently held on, July 23, 2011, at the Kochenderfer property on the Tucker-Randolph County line, Jim and Jeff Kochenderfer explained and demonstrated to the 28 folks who attended, the importance of placing protective cages around stump sprouts, planted trees, and seed produced saplings of desired tree species, like red oak, for protection from deer browsing and bears (figure 1). They also highlighted and gave a demonstration of a tree thinning method called *croptree-release*, and the benefits it provides. This tree thinning method is used to promote “crop” trees by providing them with more space to grow. The result of releasing “crop” trees are an improved acorn crop as a wildlife food source and tree seed; and better form, improved growth rate, and timber value of the “crop” trees (figure 1).

Additionally, Jim and Jeff took the group to various sites to explain the importance of properly laying out and constructing forest access roads, which includes the use of water drainage control devices like culverts, broad-base dips, and terrain steepness. Even after lunch many stuck around to converse about what they had learned.

For more information on these topics contact Jim Kochenderfer at: jkochenderfer@frontiernet.net

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Figure 2: Wildlife Food Plot

At the “**Woodland Owner Regional Workshop**” recently held, on September 17, 2011, on the property of Nick Casto in Morgan County. Nick explained to the 50 folks in attendance, how to successfully establish and maintain wildlife food plots and tree plantings. He explained the importance of soil tests to determine any minerals that may need to be added to create soil fertility. Nick also explained what types of plant species to plant such as red clover, crab-pear trees, etc. and how to protect planted trees from damage by wildlife with wire cages and wrapping the main stems (figure 2).

Nick additionally explained the importance access roads, tree thinning and timber harvests. During lunch, both Nick and Sheldon Owen, WVU Wildlife Extension Specialist discussed Chronic Wasting Disease (CWD) and how it affects deer health and how to manage deer in areas where the disease exists. All in all it was a fantastic day and discussion continued even after the event concluded. For more information on these topics contact Nick Casto at: nickcasto@atlanticbb.net



REMINDER!-

Fall Forest Fire Season in West Virginia begins on October 1st and continues to December 31st, 2011. During this time period, it is unlawful to burn anything outdoors between the hours of 7 AM until 4 PM EST. During the hours it is legal to burn, you must have 10-foot safety strip scraped down to the bare mineral soil completely around the burning area. Someone must stay with the fire the entire time the fire is active!

For more information go to the website: <http://www.wvforestry.com> or call the WV State Division of Forestry at: (304) 558-2788



Figure 4. Emerald Ash borer

EMERALD ASH BORER FOUND IN MORE WV COUNTIES

State and federal officials have recently in 2011 detected emerald ash borer (EAB) in five West Virginia counties – Brooke, Berkeley, Greenbrier, Hancock and Summers. Those counties join a growing list where EAB has been detected, according to the West Virginia Department of Agriculture (WVDA). The destructive insects – which have killed an estimated 25 million ash trees in North America – have been found in 10 West Virginia counties this summer alone.

“The discovery of emerald ash borer in 10 new counties this summer is a real eye-opener,” said Commissioner of Agriculture Gus R. Douglass. “It is a documented fact that invasive insects can spread through something as simple as moving firewood from one area to another.”

WVDA reported earlier this year that EAB had been detected in Gilmer, Kanawha, Mingo, Webster and Wirt Counties. WVDA found EAB in Fayette County in 2007, Morgan and Roane Counties in 2009, and Raleigh, Calhoun and Nicholas Counties in 2010 – making a total of 16 infested counties in WV.

Anyone with questions about EAB can contact the WVDA’s Plant Industries Division at: 304-558-2212, or visit: <http://www.emeraldashborer.info>



Figure 3.

Woolly adelgid white mass infestation on an Eastern Hemlock limb, twigs and needles.

The West Virginia Department of Agriculture (WVDA) is conducting a cooperative pilot project that will assist woodlot owners in treating hemlock trees in Fayette County and part of Nicholas County for hemlock woolly adelgid (HWA) on a cost share basis. HWA is a non-native insect that causes decline and death to hemlocks. Signup began August 15 and will continue through September 30, 2011. “This project is the first attempt by any state to assist woodlot owners with hemlock woolly adelgid control,” said Commissioner of Agriculture Gus R. Douglass.

For more information about the Project or to receive an application, call WVDA Plant Industries at 304-558-2212. Applications and brochures may be downloaded at: <http://www.wvagriculture.org/images>

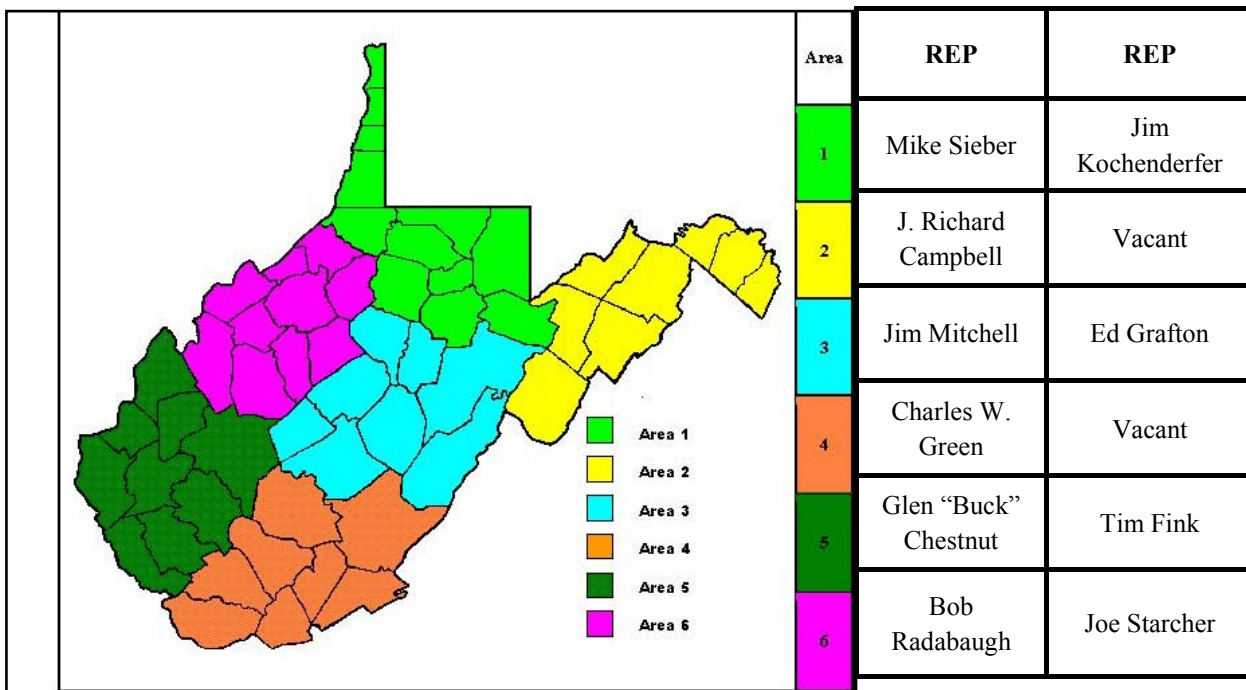
WV Woodland Owners Association Officers & Regional Board Members

As a member of the WV WOA do you know who the officers and regional board members are in your part of WV? Getting to know these folks (figure 5) and getting involved with them is a good way to create more educational opportunities and legislative support for properly managing your woodlands. Also getting more involved with them can help to increase the membership in the association, which gives the WOA more strength in gaining legislative support to assist you in more easily owning and managing your woodlands.



Figure 6. WOA workshops are a good way to meet others and learn ways to achieve your woodland management priorities.

Figure 5. WV Woodland Owners Association Officers & Regional Board Members



WV WOA Officers 2011-2013

President: Tim Fink

Vice President: Jim Mitchell

Secretary/Treasurer: Ed Murriner

WV WOA Phone (304) 400-8646

E-mail WOA woamem@woaofwv.org

Upcoming Woodland-Related Educational Opportunities

For more woodland related workshop information go to: <http://wvstewards.ning.com> or <http://www.woaofwv.org>

Walk in the Woods, Monongalia County

Saturday; October 8, 2011; 10 am-12pm: To pre-register and for more information contact: Ellen Voss at: 304-293-5741 or by e-mail at: ellenvoss@frontier.com

Meet Your Forester in West Virginia: Come out for an evening with your local forester! Listen to, meet, and talk with state and consulting foresters about the services they provide to private forest woodland owners. Learn ways to make your woodland more productive, beginning with forest stewardship plans, cost share opportunities and more! All of these Meet Your Forester workshops will be held from 6:30 PM to 8:30 PM: Registration starts at 6 PM. Call Meg McCuen at (304) 293-5741 to RSVP and for directions. Additionally, Dr. Dave McGill, WVU Extension Forester will be a speaker at all of these type workshops.

Metro-Valley - Kanawha County on Wednesday; October 5, 2011

Metro Valley - Cabell County on Wednesday; October 19, 2011

Featured speakers will be Larry Six, WV Landowner Assistance Forester; and Mark Metz private consulting forester.

Eastern Panhandle - Jefferson County on Monday; October 17, 2011

Eastern Panhandle - Morgan County on Monday; October 24, 2011

Featured speakers will be Ben Kunze, Landowner Assistance Forester; and Dave Warner, private consulting forester.

Technology Corridor – Harrison County: Wednesday; October 26, 2011

Technology Corridor – Marion County: Wednesday; November 2, 2011

Featured speakers will be Juergen Wildman, Landowner Assistance Forester; and John Bell, private consulting forester.



Woodland Owner's Assoc. of West Virginia, Inc.

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