



The Ohio Hetuch



Winter 2018

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Chair Comments -Jim Chattin, OSAF Chair

Greetings members and Happy New Year! I hope everyone is making it through the cold and/or muddy season without any major setbacks. I don't know about you but I'm ready for Spring. With the calendar change, I guess it's now my turn to lead this group of fine professionals. A big thank you goes out to Casey and the rest of the Executive Committee. Without you folks I'd be even more lost than I already am... (Does it show?) The Executive Committee truly helps this organization thrive. Thank You all!

Of course, active members are the key to a healthy organization. I hope that you plan to attend the 2018 OSAF Winter Meeting at the OSU Campus March 28-29. Plans are shaping up for a great winter agenda. SAF President Dave Lewis will be with us to discuss some of the things that National is doing. I look forward to spending some time with Dave and hope we can show him what Ohio has to offer the forestry community and beyond. Bring your questions or concerns you have about SAF for Dave. Additionally, some of your favorites will be here for updates including Brad Perkins from OFA and Chief Bob Boyles from ODNr Division of Forestry. Bob Mulligan, Forest Hydrology Manager with the ODNr Division of Forestry will be speaking about BMP's and Timber Harvest Plans. Our friends from the Collaborative Oak Management team also update us on their work. There's much more to come, so watch for a full agenda soon and register early (deadline March 21st) so that we can have plenty of food!

It's an honor to serve this great organization and I encourage all to step up and give it a go. The little bit of time it takes to serve is well worth it. A big thanks goes out to Jim Stafford for volunteering to be the 2018 Vice Chair. I look forward to working with Past-Chair, Casey, and the rest of the Executive Committee to keep this Ohio chapter a great one.



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Past Chair's Note -Casey Burdick, 2017 OSAF Chair



Thank you to all of the Ohio SAF membership for electing me as 2017 Chair and allowing me to represent Ohio at the National Convention. It was a neat experience sitting at the table with the other House of Society Delegates. It was good to hear in a "misery loves company" sense that most of the other states or societies are dealing with similar issues we are in Ohio. Recruiting and maintaining membership, involvement in leadership positions, and finding ways to encourage interaction between student and professional members are just a few common concerns. Ohio does a decent job of maintaining membership and interacting with students, but we have the constant challenge of recruiting folks to accept leadership roles.

Some chapters and societies have gone dark or were forced to combine when membership levels dropped or, more commonly, when no one was willing to step into leadership roles. I'm confident that we are not at risk of either of these situations, (continued on page 7)

Forest Science

Winter Visitors - Golden Eagles in Ohio

William Borovicka, Ecologist – USDA Forest Service Northern Research Station

Reprinted with permission from *The Ohio Woodland Journal*, Vol. 24, No. 4: Fall 2017.

On a crisp winter morning, a golden eagle, *Aquila chrysaetos*, flies over the trees of the Vinton Furnace State Forest. At a small ridgetop clearing--the site of an old log landing--it spots a pile of deer carcasses and lands to feed. Triggered by the motion, a camera mounted on a post documents the bird's presence, taking a picture every minute while the golden eagle feeds. Having fed, the bird takes off once more on its mighty wings.

Since 2012, Vinton Furnace has been a field site for the Appalachian Golden Eagle Camera Trap project, headed by Todd Katzner of the U.S. Geologic Survey. As one of more than 150 sites spread through every eastern state encompassing the range of the Appalachian Mountains, the site is maintained according to established protocols for site selection and camera set up to ensure all data are collected in a standardized manner.



A diverse range of wildlife species have been documented at the sites feeding on or investigating the bait. American crows, coyotes, turkey vultures, red tailed hawks, opossums, and raccoons are frequent visitors. Red shouldered hawks are less frequent but regular attendees. On evenings when the bait is fresh, bobcats will make an appearance with great horned owls, with grey and red fox sometimes participating. Skunks stop by for a meal and are well respected by the other animals.

When it is very cold, bald eagles find their way to the bait. Domestic dogs have been known to find the piles, though more frequent coyote activity seems to have diminished the dogs' visits, or perhaps the neighbors and hunters in the area are keeping better track of their pets. Visits by red-bellied woodpeckers have been captured by the cameras and also white tailed deer, which were probably not indulging. Unfortunately for the crew tasked with replenishing the bait, feral hogs also come in for the opportunity to scavenge. Unfortunate because feral hogs are non-native, nuisance animals with very large appetites.

The bait, consisting mainly of deer carcasses, is brought to two sites operated by the USDA Forest Service Northern Research Station staff throughout the January to March camera trapping season. Roadkill deer is abundant through the winter in southeast Ohio. Many miles of highway are cruised in search of suitable bait, and our local Ohio Department of Transportation garage assists with delivering what they find. Hunter harvested deer are not used because many of them contain lead fragments that would poison the animals.

The bait is staked to the ground in view of the camera in an effort to prevent animals from dragging it away. In spite of that, the feral hogs seem quite able to push the bait off of the rebar and the coyotes are then able to drag the carcasses into the forest. During the field crew's biweekly visits to the bait sites to check the bait supply, battery levels, and swap out the data card in the cameras, they also re-center the bait that has been moved out of the camera's field of view.

The over 10,000 pictures a season of golden eagles and other wildlife taken by the cameras at Vinton Furnace are sent to a regional coordinator who compiles them with pictures from the other regional sites. A tally is recorded of all the species that visited the sites, and the data are available for use to study golden eagles and any other wildlife.

The current project grew out of a research effort by Todd Katzner's team that started in West Virginia baiting and trapping golden eagles for the purpose of placing tracking devices on the birds to study migration patterns. The success of those early bait sites in attracting golden eagles and other wildlife sparked a much larger monitoring endeavor across the range of the Appalachians. Using the photographs to study population dynamics will allow the researchers to estimate the abundance of golden eagles wintering in the eastern United States. Golden eagles are migratory. In the eastern United States. Golden eagles are migratory. In the eastern northern hemisphere, the birds breed in northern Canada in the summer and spend the winter south through the Appalachian Mountain range. The birds' winter range and migration paths take them *(continued on page 7)*

Welcome New Ohio SAF Members!

Skyler Babcock	Benjamin Crawford	Justin Fisher	Kathryn McKinney	Jason Roop	Logan Thornsley
Neil Baker	Adam Daugherty	Maria Hart	Jared McLellan	Keith Schmuki	Luke Walters
Joseph Becker	Barrett Ditte	Whitney Irion	Morgan McWilliam	Allyson	Drew Wilson
Ted Bishop	Coleen Dowler	Nathaniel Jones	Antonio Olivo	Schoendorf	Michael Woolum
Allison Cline	Caleb Edgar	Tyler Lykins	Cody Owen	William Smith	Jesse Work
Clay Cochran	Homer Elliott	Sean Marino	Jim Palus	Nathaniel Stacklin	Henry Yeager

Iron Furnace Chapter Update

Submitted by Phil Perry

The Iron Furnace Chapter of OSAF held a dinner for members and spouses at Lake Hope Lodge in Vinton County on November 8, 2017. 32 people attended including 12 Hocking College Forestry Students. We were scheduled to meet in the Log Cabin Room, but because so many people came we moved into the larger main dining room. Few people were dining there, so it worked out very well. This is the fourth year the chapter has held a dinner at Lake Hope and we all enjoy the beautiful setting, the excellent food, and the good company.

After dinner we moved back into the Log Cabin Room where Lee Crocker gave a short report on SAF Council workings. Then the Hocking College students gave a presentation of their *Forestry Club Goes West* trip in May 2017, chaperoned by Jim, Stephanie, and Joshua Downs. They drove to California camping most of the way in national parks and national forests. For many of the students it was the first time to see the Pacific Ocean, redwoods, and sequoias. The students said they had a great trip and learned a lot.

Urban Corner

The Future of the Urban Forestry Profession

-Excerpts from the Urban Forestry 2020 Website <http://urbanforestry.frec.vt.edu/2020/>

Urban Forestry 2020 is a study funded by the US Forest Service through the National Urban and Community Forestry Advisory Council to assess perceptions of the urban forestry profession and make recommendations for future development. Urban forestry is maturing as both a profession and an academic discipline, yet the public and those in allied professions have differing impressions of what urban forestry is, what an urban forester knows, and the implications of various types of education, certifications, and credentials. This project aims to develop strategies based on solid research for moving the profession forward through developing a consensus-building framework among regional organizations and stakeholders as well as a rigorous research to determine current perceptions of the profession and what influences those perceptions. We will be sharing some of their findings over the next few editions of the Hetuch.

What are US Employers Looking for in an Entry Level Urban Forester?

We surveyed employers (municipal, county, companies and consultants) in the United States on what skills set they expect when they hired entry level urban forests and whether their recent hires meet their expectations.

TOP 10 VALUED SKILLS

These skills were the most important to employers:

- Tree identification
- Public relations/customer service
- Oral communication
- Tree pruning and removal techniques
- Tree planting techniques
- Professional ethics
- Written communication
- Shade and street tree species selection
- Tree assessment and risk management
- Worker safety

MOST VALUED CREDENTIALS



- ISA Certified Arborist
- Commercial pesticide applicator license
- ISA Certified Arborist Municipal Specialist
- Commercial driver's license
- SAF Accredited Urban Forestry Degree
- SAF Accredited Forestry Degree

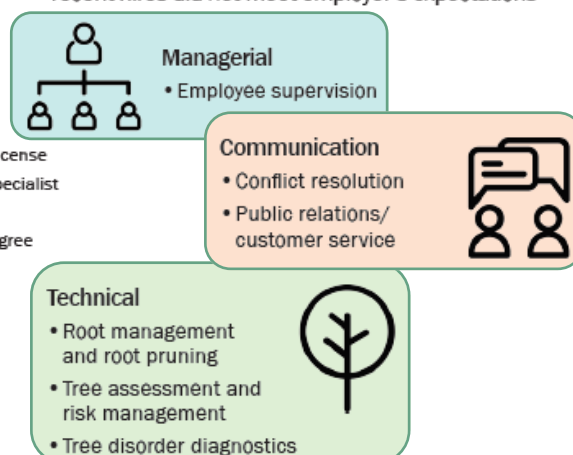
MOST VALUED MAJORS



- Urban Forestry
- Arboriculture
- Forestry
- Horticulture
- Natural Resources Management
- Urban Planning
- Environmental Science

WHERE EXPECTATIONS ARE NOT MET

These skills were highly valued but recent hires did *not* meet employer's expectations



Data taken from survey "What are Employers Looking for in an Urban Forester?" Data were collected in 2016-17 as part of the Urban Forestry 2020 project, funded by the US Forest Service through the National Urban and Community Forestry Advisory Council. <http://urbanforestry.frec.vt.edu/2020/>
Send inquiries to Gregory.Dahlin@mail.uvu.edu. Release date: 2017.

OSAF Summer Meeting Highlights

Submitted by Dave Apsley, OSU Extension

The 2017 OSAF Summer Meeting was held at the Vinton Furnace State Forest (a.k.a. Experimental Forest) on August 2nd. The meeting was well-attended with more than 50 folks making the trek to the heart of Vinton County. The program featured several scientists and foresters working on a variety of forestry issues in Appalachian Ohio.

Todd Hutchinson, Research Ecologist, USDA Forest Service-Northern Research Station, updated us on the oak restoration efforts that are taking place at the forest. We had the opportunity to visit two of Todd's study sites, one focusing on the use of prescribed fire and another one studying herbicide treatments to remove mid-story and understory competing vegetation.

Andrew Hoffman, a graduate student in the Bill Peterman lab at OSU's School of Environment and Natural Resources, gave an update on his research on the effects of forest management on the timber rattlesnake. Andrew demonstrated how he is using radio telemetry to study the movements of these fascinating creatures. We were happy to see one of his subjects in the on the way to Todd's field site.

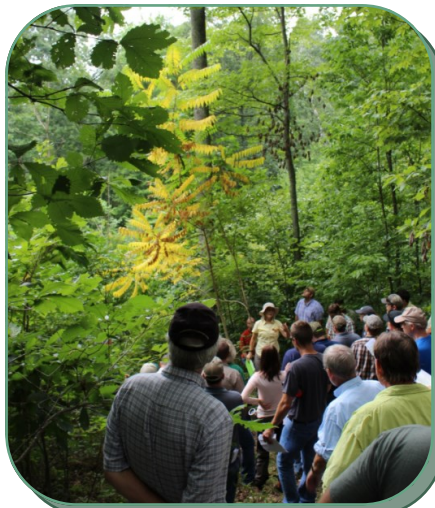
Joanne Rebbeck, Plant Physiologist, USDA Forest Service-Northern Research Station gave us an update on her work with Ailanthus wilt. We had the opportunity to witness this Verticillium Wilt in action. We are all excited about the possibility of having this tool in our toolbox to control the tree that Joanne affectionately calls the "stink tree."

Jarel Bartig, liaison with the USDA Forest Service-Wayne National Forest and Ohio NRCS, and Dave Apsley, Natural Resources Specialist with Ohio State University Extension, gave an update on the Ohio Collaborative Oak Management Initiative taking place in Ohio's Appalachian Forests. The focus of this effort is to bring folks together from federal, state, and private woodlands to work collaboratively to raise awareness and increase the knowledge base about the lack of oak regeneration in the region. Most importantly they are working on creative ways to get treatments that work on the ground to manage oak woodlands.

Most importantly everyone had the opportunity to interact with fellow foresters and enjoy a wonderful lunch catered by Cindy Oliver, the unofficial caterer for "all things forestry" in Appalachian Ohio.



Andrew Hoffman sharing his timber rattlesnake research



Foresters admiring struggling Ailanthus.



Beautiful sassafras leaves. Oh! There's Dan Yaussey! Retired, US Forest Service Research



Todd Hutchinson on one of his oak regeneration study sites



Oak regeneration study site



2018 Ohio SAF Winter Meeting

March 28-29, 2018

Ag Administration Building, Ohio State University

Full Agenda Available On-line March 1st, 2018

<http://www.safohio.org/upcoming-events/>

SAF CEU's will be offered



8:30-9:00 Registration & Refreshments Daily

9:00-4:00 Wednesday Education Sessions

9:00-3:30 Thursday Education Sessions

OSAF Business Meeting

Awards

Outstanding Member of the Year
Communicator of the Year
Outstanding Contribution to Forestry
Hocking & OSU Scholarships
Membership Pins

Special Guest

David Lewis

2018 SAF President



Other Presenters

Bob Boyles, Chief, Ohio Division of Forestry

Brad Perkins, Ohio Forestry Association

Bob Mulligan, Forest Hydrology Mgr, Ohio Division of Forestry

Collaborative Oak Management Team

And More!

Bring items to donate to the Silent Auction, your checkbooks, and cash for the annual drawing! All proceeds go to the Forester's Fund and Cowen/Embree Scholarship.

Detach Before Mailing

Detach Before Mailing

Ohio SAF Winter Meeting Registration

Name _____

Parking Pass Needed (Y/N) _____

Only necessary for personal vehicles.

Address: _____

OSAF Member (\$50) \$ _____

E-mail _____

Students (Free With \$ _____
Registration)

Phone: _____

Non Member (\$75) \$ _____

Special Gifts:

Cowen/Embree Scholarship \$ _____

Forester's Fund \$ _____

Total Enclosed \$ _____

Please Return Registration Form by **March 20** to

Allie Cline Phone (812)350-0102

6487 Finch Lane Email: Allison.Cline@dnr.state.oh.us

Canal Winchester, OH 43110

Make Checks Payable to **Ohio Society of American Foresters**

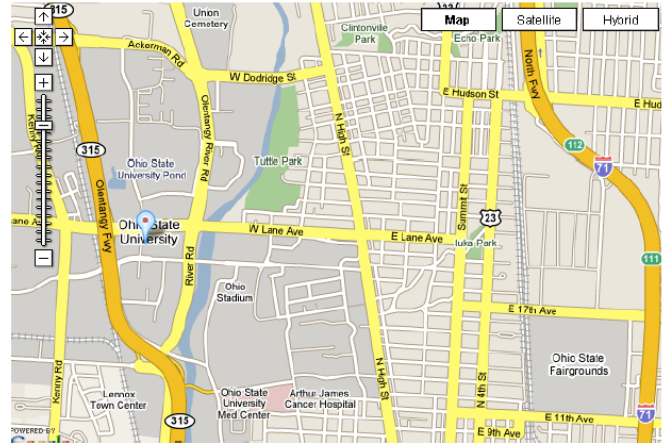
Directions

Ag Administration Building, Ohio State University
2120 Fyffe Rd
Columbus, OH 43210

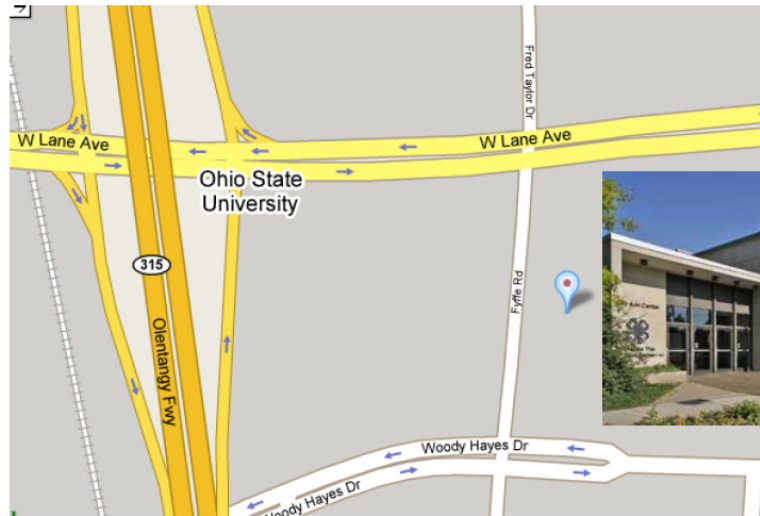
North on SR 315: Lane Avenue Exit; East (right) onto Lane Ave 1 block; Turn right immediately onto Fyffe Road; 1 block to parking lot entrance on left.

South on SR 315: Lane Avenue Exit; East (left) onto Lane Ave under the overpass; Travel 1 block; Turn right immediately onto Fyffe Road; 1 block to parking lot entrance on left.

Or visit www.osu.edu/map/buildingindex.php for an OSU Building Index with additional map options




Have a Safe Drive!



SAF Anniversaries

Congratulations to the sixteen members listed below who will be recognized for milestone anniversaries at the OSAF Winter Meeting. Recipients must be in attendance to receive your commemorative pin.

10 Years	30 Years	40 Years	50 Years	70 Years	
Bryan Feicht	Marty Michel	Charles Egbert	Terry Robison	Dave Embree	Bill Lebold
20 Years	Eric Roush	George Comstock	Jim Stafford	Stephen Brown	
John Jolliff	Mike Besonen	Dave Bienemann	Gerald Western		
Joe Puperi	Tim Morgan	Barry Weber			
Andrew Londo	Kathy Smith	Michael Bowden			



Winter Visitors-Continued from Page 2



through areas of established and proposed wind farms, which can be hazardous to birds. Golden eagles can serve as an indicator species for many other migratory birds, and the data collected through this project can help inform wind farm site selection and operating procedures to minimize impact on the birds.

A history of sightings is created for all the other wildlife species visiting the bait sites and other research projects may grow from those records. The ODNR Division of Wildlife developed a bobcat study based on the data the USDA Forest Service collected the first winter on the project. Using the Vinton Furnace bait sites and a network of other sites specifically focused on bobcats, the Division of Wildlife was able to trap and track bobcats, leading to a better understanding of the

estimated abundance, range, and habitat use of the bobcat population in southern Ohio.

USDA Forest Service staff at Vinton Furnace State Forest plans to continue participating with the project for its duration. There is hope to purchase and deploy a transmitter on a golden eagle visiting one of the Vinton Furnace bait sites, adding to the understanding of the species' migration patterns. Monitoring will continue on other wildlife that come into the sites to scavenge or investigate, and other research may develop from that data.

The next time you are out driving in the winter and you see a large bird on a carcass at the side of the road, take a moment to slow down and safely take a look. It may be a turkey vulture or a red tailed hawk, or maybe it will be a golden eagle.

Bill Borovicka has been at the Vinton Furnace State Forest since 2002 and currently manages the facilities and field work at the site. He has an active role with the research and education outreach being conducted by the Forest Service and its many partners. Photos courtesy USDA Forest Service

Past Chair's Notes-Continued from Page 1

but it has taken extreme encouragement in recent years to entice Chair-elect candidates into running for the position. I challenge each of you to evaluate your level of involvement with the Ohio Society and consider doing a little more if you aren't already involved with at least a sub-committee. A good baby step is attending an Executive Committee meeting. I know that I've gotten a great deal more out of being an SAF member when I actively attend.

The Executive Committee has been updating the membership survey originally created over 10 years ago. Our goal is to send the survey to the membership this fall. The responses a decade ago have been extremely helpful in maintaining the strength of the Ohio Chapter by identifying the best forms of communication and offering educational opportunities that are important to *you*. Your input is critically important in continuing these efforts and identifying member needs, so please take a few minutes to complete and submit the survey.

Thank you again for allowing me to serve as Chair. I am happy to chat with anyone about workload and responsibility that go along with this position. I look forward to seeing all of you at the Winter Meeting in March. Stay warm and safe out there!



Adam Beichler
9877 Alabama Ave. SW
Wilmot, OH 44689

Upcoming Events

Ohio Society of American Foresters Winter Meeting

March 28 & 29, 2018

Ag Administration Building, Ohio State University

2120 Fyffe Road

Columbus, OH 43210

Announcements

Remember the Winter Meeting Silent Auction.

Donate an Item and Come Prepared to Bid!