



The Ohio Hetuch



Winter 2011

Chairman:

Tom Shuman

ODNR– Division of Forestry
P.O. Box 330, S.R. 278
Zaleski, OH 45698
740-596-5781
tom.shuman@dnr.state.oh.us

Vice-Chairman:

Jim Downs

Hocking College –Natural Resources
3301 Hocking Parkway
Nelsonville, OH 45764
740-753-6252
downs1_j@hocking.edu

Secretary-Treasurer:

Janice McMahon

3800 Clermont St. NW
North Lawrence, OH 44666
330-880-5051
jmcmahon@esinc.cc

District IX Council Representative:

Dave Walters

W: 615-837-5470
dave.walters@tn.gov

Hetuch Editor:

Casey Burdick

ODNR – Division of Forestry
777 Columbus Ave. 5-A
Lebanon, OH 45036
W: 513-932-6836
casey.burdick@dnr.state.oh.us

Inside this issue:

Chair's Comments	1
Science Report	2
Growing Trees From Seed	3
District IX Report	4
Iron Furnace Minutes	4
Memory Snippets	5
Winter Meeting	6
Urban Forestry Report	7
Upcoming Events	8

Chair Comments -Tom Shuman, OSAF Chair

As usual, there are many changes this time of year... changes in our Society leadership, leadership on the state and federal level, maybe even changes in our workplace or at home. But one thing remains; the important job we do every day that constantly deals with change. No matter what changes come about, foresters are always capable and willing to work with them. Our jobs require us to work within the framework of change whether it is from a new insect, disease, invasive plant, or perhaps some sort of stand disturbance. Whatever the change, we roll with the punches, get back up, and start again. I think this is very important to keep in mind. We can't let this discourage us from the important work we do. We must adapt and overcome the issue to keep doing the best job we can every day, and to me probably the most important part of our jobs is to educate people about the changes. Change is inevitable, but how we deal with it is the legacy that we leave.



I'd like to take a minute to update you on a few important items. First, if you hadn't heard, the State of Ohio finalized the purchase of the Vinton Furnace Experimental Forest late last summer. The new name of the area is the Vinton Furnace State Experimental Forest. If you have never been there, I highly recommend a visit. So much important research regarding Eastern forests has been done there. It is truly a gem to our state and profession. Congratulations are in order to all who made this purchase possible.

Secondly, I'd like to congratulate our Past Chair, Bob Boyles for recently being named Chief of the Ohio Division of Forestry. Bob will serve the foresters of our State well. With the change in administration Dave Lytle left his position as Chief. Also, Andy Ware, the Assistant Chief has left the Division to work for the Ohio Department of Agriculture. Currently Dan Balser is filling the role as Assistant Chief. We should wish Dave and Andy well in their future endeavors and thank them for their service to forestry in Ohio

Finally, I'd like to thank everyone for giving me an opportunity to serve you as Chair of the Ohio Chapter. I look forward to this challenge and opportunity. Please contact me any time about issues that you feel are important. The membership drives the job that I do. It is important for me to know your issues, concerns, and interests so that we have a successful year. I'd also like to congratulate Jim Downs for being elected our chair-elect. For those of you that don't know him, Jim is a forestry instructor at Hocking College. Jim will do a great job! Last and not least, I'd like to thank our past-chair Bob Boyles. Bob did a great job for us several years ago and liked it so much he came back to serve a second term! Seriously, I think we all need to thank Bob for the service he has provided OSAF over the years in his many roles.

I hope to see everyone at the Winter Meeting scheduled for March 8-9 at the OSU Campus. We already have a good selection of speakers and more to come. The theme is based on wildlife issues, so it will be good to get updates on a subject we haven't focused on at a winter meeting for several years. Best Wishes in the New Year and I'll see you in March!

Don't forget to renew your SAF membership!

<http://www.safnet.org/>

Take Me Out to the Ball Game

- Dan Yauss, USDA Forest Service and OSAF Science Chair

This article has nothing to do with baseball, but it will deal with bats. First, I'll be writing about singing. Singing blues – cerulean warblers, that is.

A Master's Thesis and PhD Dissertation caught my attention recently. The thesis was by Felicity Newell, a student of Amanda & Paul Rodewald and Roger Williams in the School of Natural Resources, The Ohio State University. It was entitled, *A Bird's Eye View of the Forest: How Does Canopy Openness Affect Canopy Songbirds?* Newell compared how cerulean warblers, pewees, scarlet tanagers, yellow-throated vireos, and blue-gray gnatcatchers use shelterwood harvested stands versus. unmanaged stands in four state forests in southeastern Ohio.

These canopy birds were not negatively affected by the shelterwood harvests. Birds that had nested prior to the recent harvests preferred to continue nesting at those sites regardless of treatment site fidelity. Birds setting up house for the first time preferred doing so in the shelterwoods. Cerulean warblers seemed pretty finicky about their neighborhood preferring large white oaks on north-facing slopes with grapevines, while the blue-gray gnatcatchers and others avoided areas with red oaks.

Some of the stands used in Newell's study were part of a regional cerulean warbler study where the same treatments were applied in Tennessee, Kentucky, West Virginia, and Ohio. Taking advantage of this experimental design ("If you build it, they will come." another baseball reference,) Luke Dodd recently completed his PhD at the University of Kentucky under Lynne Rieske-Kinney in the College of Agriculture. His dissertation was entitled, *Forest Disturbance Affects Insect Prey and the Activity of Bats in Deciduous Forests*. Dodd looked at *lepidoptera* (moths), *diptera* (flies), and *coleopteran* (beetles) populations and *lasiusine* (eastern red) and *myotine* (northern, little brown, Indiana) bat populations in four treatments: undisturbed, single-tree (light shelterwood,) shelterwood, and seed-tree (clearcut with standards.)

Dodd found that the abundance of moths declined with increased disturbance, unlike other insects that did not appear affected by disturbance. Bats, on the other hand, increased their hunting as basal area decreased. By examining bat guano, Dodd discovered that bat diets consist largely of moths, regardless of the level of disturbance. Then the question arises, are there fewer moths in disturbed stands because they prefer the more abundant vegetation in undisturbed stands as forage for the caterpillars? Or are there fewer moths in more disturbed stands because there are more bats to eat them?

References:

Dodd LE. 2010. *Forest Disturbance Affects Insect Prey and the Activity of Bats in Deciduous Forests*. PhD Dissertation. University of Kentucky. Lexington, KY. 156p.

Newell FL. 2010. *A Bird's Eye View of the Forest: How Does Canopy Openness Affect Canopy Songbirds?* MS Thesis. The Ohio State University. Columbus, OH. 219p.

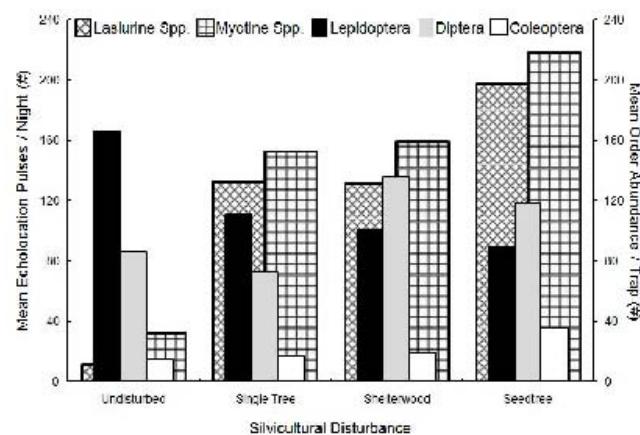


Figure 2.1. Synthesis of bat activity and insect occurrence across a gradient of forest disturbance in Central Appalachia, 2007-2008. The left axis depicts surveys of bat activity (via Anabat II system) and the right axis depicts surveys of insect occurrence (Coleoptera and Lepidoptera via blacklight traps; Diptera via malaise traps).

In Memorandum

J.M. "Dick" Byrd passed away on Monday, October 11, 2010. He is survived by two daughters, Margaret Hoffman, and Patricia Rinella, four grandchildren and two great-grandsons. He was a World War II veteran, serving in the European theater 1942-1945. He was a graduate of the University of Michigan, School of Conservation and Environment.

After graduation, Dick was employed for 26 years as a forester with the Ohio Department of Natural Resources. He initiated the Forestry Program at Hocking College in 1968 and was its first Department Chairman. He was a member and officer of the Society of American Foresters. Dick was the Ohio Chapter Chair in 1955 and the Central States Section Chair in 1968 which consisted of the Illinois, Indiana, and Ohio Chapters. He was the 1968 Ohio Chapter Outstanding Member. In 1973 he was awarded the National Wildlife Federation's Outstanding Conservationist of the Year. Dick was an avid Duplicate Bridge player, belonging to the Athens Duplicate Club and the American Duplicate Bridge Club.

Remembrances may be made to a charity of choice or to the Athens Humane Society or the Friends of the Dog Shelter (Athens County) c/o Hughes-Moquin Funeral Home. You may send the family a message of sympathy at www.hughesmoquinfuneralhome.com.

Growing Trees From Seed: Part 2

- James Stafford, Consulting Forester, Muskingum Valley Woodland Services

Last issue we talked about how to germinate seed. This issue I'd like to cover how to handle the seed once it has germinated. Again, for a complete discussion of an individual species, I recommend the *AG Handbook 450, Seeds of Woody Plants in the US*. This article will be devoted to a general approach.

Unlike the last article, where the key to successful germination is mimicking nature as closely as possible, we need to steer in a different direction to successfully grow seed to a plant. Why? Because in nature the majority of seed never becomes a tree, but enters the "food chain"! Insects, fungi, rodents, large mammals, and birds heavily impact the percentage of seeds that grow into seedlings. Therefore, we can't simply scatter seeds and hope for the best. We need to provide a controlled environment to minimize the impact of variables like weather and fauna to improve the odds of getting tree seedlings to outplant. The average landowner will not have a greenhouse or a production bareroot nursery at his disposal, so we will discuss alternatives that may work for you.

Picking up where we left off last issue, remove the seed from soak or stratification. In review, spring released seed will need to be removed from soak by simply pouring the water/seed slurry over an old window screen and drained. Naked, stratified seed should be removed from the plastic bag. Seed stratified in a medium should be screened or sorted out from that medium. Spread the wet seed clumps out on old newspaper to absorb excessive moisture. **Avoid drying out the seed too much or it will weaken or kill the embryo.** Draw off just enough moisture to be able to separate the seeds for easy handling. Depending on the relative humidity of the area you are working in, this could take one to six hours. As soon as the clumps break up, begin transferring the seed to your growing medium.

A note of caution, seed coming out of stratification may have already begun to sprout. This is common with white oak and buckeye. White oak germinates immediately in the fall, and buckeye sprouts even in 33 degree refrigeration after 90 days. That's okay, just be very careful. They will tolerate breaking off the end of the radical (the white part of the root that first comes out.) In fact, you can use that technique to increase the root surface. When the end of the radical is broken off, it will generally fork at that point and produce two tap roots (more surface area for absorption!) **However, if it is broken all the way back to the seed coat, chances are great that it cannot grow any root at all!** In other words, handle with care. A good rule of thumb is to watch the stratifying seeds and when you see radicals start to grow, take it out and get ready to sow.

At this point you have two routes to choose. You can either take them outside to sow in a garden seed bed or start them like tomato plants in the house. If you have a large quantity of seeds and can afford to share some with mice, insects, fungi, turkey, and crows, a garden seed bed is the least expensive option. Prepare the ground like to do for your first planting of lettuce and scatter the seed into the soil. Larger seeds such as acorns should be planted into freshly tilled soil like for your cabbage plants. How deep to sow? Deep enough to keep the seed from drying out. The deeper the seed, the longer you can wait between watering. But, remember too, the deeper the seed the colder the soil temperature and the greater the chance for loss due to fungi. Another good rule of thumb is to put the seed no deeper than three times the width of the seed.

Do not let the soil layer containing the seeds completely dry out! Drying soil pulls moisture from the embryo (you remember that equilibrium thing from science class) and can desiccate it! This is a major cause of seed mortality. Your unique situation will dictate how to control moisture loss. Mulch is okay if it doesn't hide pests or keep the soil temperatures too low or moisture too high to encourage dampening off fungus. Your other option is to water daily which is important during hot, windy periods. Once the first leaves poke through the ground, care for it like you would any other plant.

Do not fertilize until the stem at the ground level becomes woody. You can tell when it changes from green to red or brown. "Extra" nitrogen causes dampening off fungus to go wild and it will aggressively attack and girdle the young seedlings. This is another major cause of seedling mortality often blamed on ants or other insects.

If your source of seed is limited, or you don't have garden space to spare, grow them inside like tomato plants. Use sterile soilless potting mix and soil at the depths discussed above. To keep them from drying out, cover the flat or pots with food wrap during the day. Uncover them at night for air exchange and to keep them from getting so wet that they mold. When they get a woody stem (at ground contact point, not the whole thing,) plant them out into a garden or directly into their finally planting spot.



Photo Credit:
<http://www.glaciereoaksnursery.com/>



Photo Credit: <http://www.wvforestry.com/2010-2011SeedlingCatalog.pdf>

(Continued on Page 5)

District IX Report - Dave Walters, District 9 Council Representative

Greeting District IX SAF,

I appreciate meeting District IX folks in Springfield Missouri and in Albuquerque. I was especially impressed with the great work HSD did at the Albuquerque convention. Much of the HSD discussion surrounded the proposed 15% dues increase. Council members heard very clearly that HSD felt there was much work to be done before implementing a dues increase and they are concerned about doing anything that might reduce SAF membership. Council decided in Albuquerque to consider HSD's input and to take more time to deliberate a dues increase. I expect Council to decide on the proposed dues increase during the March meeting, so please let me know your position on dues before then.

SAF's membership dues represent about 47% of the total operating revenues of the organization. The remaining 53% of revenue comes from advertising, convention, and investments. Staff initiated a strong effort to increase advertising revenues this year and it appears that convention revenues will be stronger this year.

SAF has not raised national dues for all membership categories in 13 years – since 1997 (a \$3 inflation increase did occur for professional members only in 2004.) During these 13 years, the national average cost of living has increased 35.5%. Council has been considering the entire cost and revenue situation of SAF since early 2009. Besides cost cutting measures that have been implemented over the past years (e.g. a 40% national staff reduction since 1997) and expansion of other revenue sources such as grants, contributions, and sponsorships, the Council believes that a dues increase is necessary to adjust for inflationary increases of costs and to position SAF for the future with adequate revenues for members services and programs.

Forester rings will be presented to all student members of SAF who are graduating this spring. SAF staff will be working with faculty advisors and society chairs to make this process of recognizing forestry students' transition into the professional ranks memorable. Look for more information on how the process will unfold in January.

Paver bricks are for sale to raise money to maintain the headquarters building. Order yours today.

I'm putting together a team to plan and host a **District IX leadership academy** for incoming society chairs, chapter chairs and student leaders. The plan is to hold it this summer beginning on a Friday afternoon and adjourning on Sunday at an affordable location central to the District. There has been some conversation about conducting it jointly with folks from District 5. I'll be looking for volunteers soon and plan to initiate a series of conference calls with Chairs to conduct SAF business.

A **District Student Representative is needed** to participate in the national student congress at convention, initiate communication between schools within our district, and communicate with the National Student Representative who is a non-voting member of Council. To apply, submit a paragraph describing the student's current activity in SAF and why the student wants to take on the leadership role. The application and a letter of recommendation from the Faculty Advisor should be submitted to me by March 15.

Please give me your input via phone or e-mail.

Invite a colleague to join SAF today!

Iron Furnace Chapter Minutes, January 26, 2010 - Roger Weaver

Attendees: Walt Smith (chair); Mike Besonen (vice-chair); Eric Roush, Gary Vollrath, Jim Downs, Stephanie Downs, Jim Chattin, Chad Fitton, Wayne Lashbrook, Dave Chamberlain, Walt Saaranen, and Roger Weaver (secretary)

Wayne Lashbrook opened the meeting following the buffet dinner by reporting on the Annual Chapter Cookout at his farm in October. Wayne and Benita graciously opened up their Tree Farm for our 2nd Iron Furnace SAF Chapter annual cookout for the 29 foresters and guests in attendance. The cost of \$10 per person worked out perfectly, so all costs were covered.

Wayne then turned the meeting over to the new Chapter Chair, Walt Smith. Walt gave recaps of the 2 Executive Committee meetings he has participated. Mentioned the dates for the upcoming OSAF Winter Meeting, March 8-9, 2011 at OSU in Columbus. Several other issues, the Biltmore Plaque and Legislative Breakfast plans were brought up as well as Marcellus and Euclid Shales, the new hot topic among forestry circles.

Roger Weaver mentioned the formation of a Leadership Academy for District 9 and District 5 being led by Bernie Hubbard, past SAF President. June 2011 is the tentative date for a Friday – Sunday meeting targeted for Chair-elects and young leaders. The location would concentrate around some type of group camp, military training facility or university campus near central Illinois, NE Missouri or SE Iowa. More plans to come.

Memory Snippets of Mine- American Chestnut -Walt Smith

My first recollection of trees was when I was 8 or 9 years old on what became known via my mother as the Hawthorne Farm. I believe that family history would show that this property was the first property Dad and Mom owned, located in Adams Township, Guernsey County, Ohio. They borrowed money, invested in some dairy cows, and stepped into the real world of farming. Dad had previously worked on farms as a hired hand and so they had only lived in rented houses. Mom and Dad already had three sons. I was the oldest and the fourth child, my sister, was born there.

One day I asked my Dad what those light gray-colored trees were - more specifically, the large diameter light gray tree located over on the side of a hill near a large, 20 x 30 ft chicken brooder building. This building was located a couple hundred yards west of the main house. Although we periodically kept chickens in the building, we never used it in the fashion of the previous owners. It was situated parallel to the contour of the hill and the roof eave was not very high off the ground – we boys often played on the roof. The downhill roof eave was much higher off the ground than the upper. As a side bar, the building and the roof became famous in Smith history when Mom and we three boys were going over to feed the chickens. Regen, the large ‘mean’ Jersey bull, showed up on the scene with a belligerent attitude. Mom lifted us three boys up onto the roof. Then Mom went after Regen. She was not afraid of Regen and she had a reputation with and a concern by the neighbors to the point that they talked to Dad about Mom’s safety in her handling the bull. Mom (at this point my brother Clyde helped me with the story) grabbed the chain that was connected to the ring in Regen’s nose and led him to the barn. So much for a belligerent bull. Mom would have been about twenty-eight years old at that time. Anyway, concerning the light gray trees, Dad informed me that the trees were dead American chestnut. The trees had succumbed to the blight some time ago, lost their bark, and the trunk wood had turned the light gray color.

Dad talked about the American chestnut, mostly in layman terms, and would discuss his childhood and roasting chestnut nuts over the flame of a fireplace. He would comment that he and his brothers collected sacks of chestnut nuts, but I do not recall his saying that his family used them as a staple in their diet or for sale. In contrast, boiled, fried, and mashed turnips were a family staple in several of his childhood hard time periods. Back to the American chestnut. Dad had a working knowledge of chestnut’s wood qualities and their value in squirrel hunting and other features of the species. I cannot say in all fairness that this conversation changed anything in my life at that time. But later as forestry became more important in my life, I recalled this American chestnut tree introduction.

My second incident with the American chestnut species was many years later when I was attending West Virginia University, School of Forestry. Like many college students I always could use extra money, so I would occasionally work for the faculty on their forestry research projects. While working for Dr. Kenneth Carvell, I ran across a 4-5 inch diameter tree that I thought was American chestnut. I had really only seen chestnut leaves as lab specimens. I asked Dr. Carvell and he confirmed that, “Yes, it was American chestnut and that the tree would re-sprout and grow to roughly this diameter. But when it flowered, the effort of flowering would weaken the tree and the blight would kill it.” In the course of my career, especially on Mead timberlands, I would be advised by other fellow foresters or would myself run across American chestnut sprouts but we never saw chestnut trees of any size. It is always good to hear of efforts to “make” the species resistant to the blight, but my story is some 60 years old. The American chestnut’s is even older.

And so went my introduction to the American chestnut species (*Castanea dentata L.*) and maybe even forestry. I have wondered lately what “forest management” would have been like if we would have had the American chestnut in the forest species mix. Wonder if any silviculturalists ever discussed such a scenario.

Growing Trees From Seed, Part 2 (*continued from page 3*)

Take all the usual steps to keep them growing like you would any other plant. Control weeds, mulch to retain moisture, and control summer’s hot root zone temperatures, etc. I was taught early in my career three keys to successfully growing a crop of seedlings:

1. **Control seed bed density:** Too many trees per square foot results in seedlings using all their energy trying to get ahead of their neighbors instead of storing enough energy in their root systems to survive outplanting. Too few seedlings and their root system spread out so much that you can’t dig up enough of the roots when you lift the seedlings.
2. **Eliminate weeds:** Weeds smother seedlings, robbing them of sunlight, water, and nutrients. Similar to overcrowding, the seedlings don’t have enough energy to survive outplanting.
3. **Eliminate weeds:** No, I didn’t make a mistake. This is my way of emphasizing a point. Weeds and grass are the greatest threats to seedling survival in the nursery *and* planting in the woods or field. Weeds especially grass, outcompete trees for nitrogen and water.

If all of your best efforts fail, keep in mind that there are nurseries staffed with folks who grow trees from seed and they are more than happy to sell you some! Check with your local Service Forester or Extension Educator for a list of private nurseries and local SWCD’s to purchase seedlings from. Remember to ask about the seed source before buying. Poorly adapted sources stand a slim chance of reaching maturity, if they survive at all. Good luck with helping nature perpetuate the Central hardwood forest!

OSAF 2011 Winter Meeting

The Wild Side of Forestry

March 8-9, 2011

The Ohio State University, Agriculture Administration Building, Columbus

OSAF Members- \$45 per person

Students— Free with registration

Non-SAF Members- \$75 per person

<http://www.ohiosaf.org/>

The winter meeting is an excellent opportunity to learn and to earn SAF Continuing Forestry Education (CFE) Credits. Please join us for informative presentations, OSAF business, fellowship, and good food.

OSAF Winter Meeting Parking

OSU parking is now required at the “Pay-n-Display” Machine located near the entrance of the Agriculture Administration building.

The cost for parking at OSU is \$1.50 per hour. These meters accept credit cards (Visa, MasterCard, or Discover) or coins. The machine prints a ticket that you must place on your lower driver side dashboard.

Silent Auction Items Requested

The Winter Meeting Silent Auction has very successfully benefited the Forester's Fund and the Cowen-Embree Scholarship fund in recent years. Ohio has utilized the Forester's Fund for several projects including the "Contact a Forester First" brochure and many

OSAF professional members were past recipients of the Cowen-Embree Scholarship.

For the auction to be a success, we need your help! Please consider donating an item to the auction. Any new or gently used contribution will be a great addition. Forestry, outdoors, or wood related items are preferred and will likely sell the best, but if you have something else you are considering please offer it up. Something as simple as a hat or book or as elaborate as a handmade item are all welcome.

Let's make this the best year yet!

If you have a donation please contact Greg Guess at gregwgues@yahoo.com or call (740) 285-5585. He would like to have a list of items compiled by March 1st (the week prior to the meeting). Bring the items with you to the Winter Meeting. If you are unable to attend, please call or email Greg ASAP to make arrangements to get the item to the meeting.

Don't forget to renew your membership to SAF at www.ohiosaf.org

Membership Milestone Recognition

Each Winter Meeting, Ohio SAF honors our members who have reached membership milestones . Members who are present at the meeting receive service pins for 10, 20, 30, 40, 50, and 60 years as a Society of American Foresters member. OSAF has many members who will be receiving their service pins. Please congratulate and thank them for their membership! If you are listed, please plan to attend the Winter Meeting so we can honor you with your pin and congratulate and thank you in person!

(Remember you have to attend the Winter Meeting to receive your pin)

10 Year

Jed Coldwell

Chad Fitton

Mike Jurkiewicz

Cotton Randall

Jeremy Scherf

Robert Wiley

20 Year

Jim Bishop

Dale Egbert

Robert Sabo

Rick Tyler

30 Year

Mark Jukich

Gary Kaster

Greg Smith

Rick Stahn

Gary Vollrath

40 Year

Dan Kincaid

50 Year

Dr. James Brown

Dr. Robert Douglass

Song Birds in the Urban Forest? Trees Make It Possible

This article is one of many great articles found on the ODNR Division of Forestry, Urban Forestry website <http://ohiodnr.com/Home/urban/UrbanForestryHome/tqid/5438/Default.aspx>.

Did you know birding is one of most popular pastimes in North America? Many homeowners invest large amounts of time and money in birdfeeders and birdseed in hopes of attracting birds with their bright plumage and happy songs. In fact, an estimated 60 million people spend close to a billion dollars annually on seed and associated products. Countless others travel to far off places in search of winged friends.

If trekking to the tropics is not an option and you don't have lots of money to spend on seed, don't despair! You can invite a wide variety of birds to your own backyard simply by investing in – and planting – suitable trees. Bird song will fill the air as your specially chosen trees provide nesting sites, food and cover for native warblers.

Why is creating a backyard bird haven beneficial to urban dwellers? In addition to the pleasures of majestic trees and trilling notes, laboratory research out of Texas A&M University shows that returning to more natural, less artificial settings produces significant recovery from stress. With a large part of the state dedicated to cities and towns (Ohio has over 940 municipalities) and 80% of Ohioans living in urban settings, maintaining a balance with nature is an easy, economical way to maintain emotional well-being.

If preserving your own sanity isn't motivation enough, creating local ecosystems of trees and plants that attract songbirds serves a larger purpose: helping to protect bird species. As rural development continues to spread, many species of songbirds are declining or at risk because of habitat loss.

Like people, birds need food, water, and shelter to survive. Planting trees of different types, sizes, and form helps encourage diversity. Think of your yard in tiers and try to include a mix of large "canopy" trees and smaller mid-story trees, as well as shrubs and vines.

Top Tier: Baltimore Orioles, Red-Eyed Vireos, and Scarlet Tanagers nest in tall-growing hardwood species like oak, hickory, maple, sycamore, and elm. These trees also provide acorns, nuts, and fruits for feathery denizens – homegrown "energy bars" help birds build up fat reserves for winter.

Pines, spruces, junipers, hemlocks, and cedars provide year-round cover from predators and weather because they retain most of their needles. Brown-Headed Nuthatches find these evergreens agreeable nesting sites. In addition, sap, needles, twigs, buds, and seeds also double as food.



Photo Credit: www.ohiodnr.com

Mid Tier: Wood Thrushes gravitate to mulberry, redbud, plum, serviceberry, dogwood, crabapple, and apple trees during fall migration. They refuel on the fruits and berries from these trees on their way south. These trees also offer great places for nesting as well as escape cover.

Lower Tier: Shrubby dogwoods and viburnums are attractive to many bird species while Ruby-Throated Hummingbirds love to nest and forage among trumpet vine thickets. Cardinals and Gray Catbirds nest in holly bushes and eat the fruit.

Ground Level: Some birds, like the American Robin and Bluebird require open habitats in suburban landscapes. Selective clearings between trees will help encourage these bird species to visit.

Don't forget tree arrangement when planting. Be sure to position food sources near cover. For example, conifers should be planted on the northwest side of your property to give shelter from prevailing winds. Plant different trees, like crabapples, inside the windbreak. Last but not least, don't feel like you have to have a huge spread with dozens of trees to reel in songbirds. You can plant just a few and get delightful results.

Viewing songbirds on your property is not only educational...it's fun. The variety and numbers that visit your yard regularly will depend on what trees you plant. Take your cue from the list provided here, study local forests, or consult your local urban forester, nursery, or county Extension office for advice.



Photo Credit: www.ohiodnr.com/forestry , Wind-break guide

Jeremy Scherf
ODNR - Division of Forestry
2050 E. Wheeling Ave.
Cambridge, OH 45601-0480



Upcoming Events

2011 Ohio Woodland, Water, & Wildlife Conference

Tuesday, March 1, 2010 8:45 AM to 3:30 PM

Mid-Ohio Conference Center, Mansfield Ohio

Registration is \$60 before 2/15/2011, after \$80. Registration closes 2/22/2011.

For more information and for online registration visit <http://woodlandstewards.osu.edu>

Iron Furnace Chapter 2011 Events

Iron Furnace Chapter will be hosting Social Hour at the Forest Health Conference April 12, 2011

Iron Furnace Chapter Summer Meeting July 27, 2011, location to be determined

Iron Furnace Annual Cookout: Saturday, October 15, 2011 at the Lashbrook Tree Farm, \$10 per person

Commercial Pesticide Recertification Sessions for 2011

General Conference including Turf, Ornamental, Industrial Vegetation, Pest Control

Akron– March 2 Columbus– March 9

For more information about these events or to get registration visit <http://pested.osu.edu>