



# The Voice for Illinois Forests

To act on issues that impact rural and community forests and to promote forestry in Illinois

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**Message from the President**

Stephanie Brown

**Forestry is our Middle Name**

Parents put a lot of thought into what to name a newborn child. Family names, meanings of names, even how a name sounds. The same can be said for the Illinois Forestry Association – conceived in 2005, when it was just a gleam in the eyes of its founders.

It's my honor to be serving as IFA President, 7+ years after having led the steering committee that formed our not-for-profit organization. What a pleasure to see the progress that has been made! Those who have stewarded IFA through these formative years have done an excellent job of building a solid foundation with room to grow.

Over the past year, we've had some interesting board discussions about the meaning of that key word in our name and whether our members at large – and especially *potential* IFA members – really understand or appreciate the meaning behind the term *forestry*.

Put simply, **forestry** is the science and art of cultivating, maintaining, and developing forests. It implies that it is possible and advisable to *plan* and *manage* trees and forests for the betterment of property owners, the environment, the economy, and society at large. "Forestry in Illinois" has a history, a context that includes infrastructure that has faded over time, creating a sense of urgency to bolster learning opportunities, technical assistance, and incentives for forest management, both rural and urban.

IFA founders, most of whom were foresters like me, had a good handle on Forestry in Illinois and wanted to provide a new way for property owners to connect, learn, understand, and respond as one voice to the most pressing issues facing Illinois forests, 90% of which are privately owned. We also recognized the vast needs and powerful voice of urban and community tree stewards – and the love of trees, in general, that permeates our society. Trees are a necessary and valuable part of the backdrop of our quality of life! The broad term of "forestry" captures a full range of interests that can potentially coexist and support each other under the IFA umbrella.

That's a big vision for a young organization, still developing with each new term of governance, and growing through the good graces of our volunteer leaders and dues-paying members. Gradually, we have rippled out to attract "entry level" landowners to the mix of board members who govern the organization that we essentially built for people just like them. We have been listening closely to better understand their perceptions about IFA, making sure that our approach appeals to and addresses the needs of our target audience at large.

Toward that end, our November board meeting was devoted to revisiting and refining our mission, vision, and plans for the next few years. We are tweaking our message so it will resonate better with both current and future members, and better positioning our volunteer-led organization for success.

We raise our children with the hope that they will grow to reach their potential, whatever they decide that to be. The same can be said for IFA. With a solid foundation in place, we continue to learn and grow, to explore what we can *be* and *do* to best serve the needs of our membership.

Our middle name is forestry – it's an old family name that imparts a proud heritage of good stewardship – its meaning implies purposeful, informed management – a land ethic in which we all contribute to leaving this world better than we found it. I'm proud to be a member of this family, and hope you feel the same!



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**IFA Web site**  
[www.ilforestry.org](http://www.ilforestry.org)

Calendar of Events	
	November,
	December,
	January

**December 11**  
**NIFA Planning Meeting**  
 Stockton Public Library  
 Contact: Dick Pouzar at  
 pouzar@yahoo.com

**December 20**  
**Pest and Drought Update**  
 Dr. Fred Miller speaker  
 (NWMF meeting)  
 Location: City of Moline Public  
 Works Department  
 Contact: April Toney at  
 iaa@wi.rr.com or 877-617-8887

**February 12, 2013**  
**"First Detector" Tree Pest  
 Training Program**  
 U of I Extension Office,  
 Springfield, IL  
 Contact: Springfield Extension  
 Office at 217-782-4617

**February 26, 2013**  
**"First Detector" Tree Pest  
 Training Program**  
 Quad Cities, Deere-Wiman  
 Carriage House  
 Contact: Rock Island Extension  
 Office at 309-756-9978

For more information on events  
 and meetings go to:  
[www.ilforestry.org/events](http://www.ilforestry.org/events)

## Secretary Report

by Dave Gillespie

Another election of IFA officers and directors occurred at the annual meeting in October. I thank John Gunter for serving a President of the IFA this past year. His leadership and example has been outstanding, and the organization has moved forward. At the annual meeting Stephanie Brown assumed the leadership role as President of the IFA for the next year. Stephanie guided the formation of the organization during its first year of operation. It is great to have her back as our leader. I look forward to working with her, as I have done on many, many occasions down through the years. She is dedicated to forestry in Illinois, and to the IFA.

Susan Romano is back in a leadership role with the IFA as the new Treasurer. A big thanks to Mike McMahan who served as Treasurer this past term. He remains on the Board of Directors as a director from Region 4.

So the new IFA year begins, and our organization continues to grow. As I've said before, check out the IFA's website [www.ilforestry.org](http://www.ilforestry.org). If it is not the best forestry association's website, I'd be greatly surprised. If you have an e-mail address and have not shared that address with us, please do so. This allows us to better serve you, and your dues will be lower. You can contact me at 217-494-6982, e-mail at [dandgisp@aol.com](mailto:dandgisp@aol.com), or by mail at P. O. Box 224, Chatham, IL 62629.

The holiday season approaches. I wish all of you a very happy Thanksgiving and a most Merry Christmas.

## Legislative Report

by Jenni Purdue & Jennifer Ross

### Looking Ahead to 2013 in the Illinois Legislature

*Both Chambers Gain Seats to have Veto-Proof Majorities!*

With the defeat of four House Republican incumbents and a net gain of seven seats, House Speaker Michael Madigan secured a 71-47 veto-proof majority in the Illinois House. The results are similar in the Senate for Senate President John Cullerton, who picked up a net gain of five seats, giving him a 40-19 veto-proof majority. Two veto-proof majorities mean the Governor will have little hope of blocking legislation via a veto. Senate President Cullerton was quoted as saying, "The main thing is there's no overtime to worry about anymore."

#### Next Steps

While there are many new legislators coming in 2013 – those outgoing, "lame duck" legislators, are the ones most of the political world will be focusing on during the last months of 2012 (and maybe the first weeks of 2013). Pension reform, extension of the income tax increase, and prison closures, among other legislative issues, will likely be addressed in veto-session or in a special session called at the beginning of the calendar year. All of those members who lost elections and are not coming back will be free of the pressure of casting a vote that the electorate can hold them accountable for, so they will be able to vote in their best interest (whether that means what they really believe, or what will get them a job). It'll be a busy time in Illinois!



John Gunter presents Carol Bryant her Outstanding Achievement Award.

## IFA Annual Meeting

The 7<sup>th</sup> annual meeting of the IFA took place in the Effingham-Altamont area on October 5<sup>th</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup>. This year's gathering attracted around 50 members who came from as far north as the Galena area and from as far south as Marion.

Full story on page 10

## History of Conservation in Illinois

by Dave Gillespie, IFA Secretary

This account of the history of conservation in Illinois was written by Joseph P. Schavilje in 1941. This installment begins where the first installment ended.

One of the theories concerning the origin of the prairies is presented by Davidson and Stuve (1884). "The soil resulted from the decomposition of vegetable matter under water, and the attending conditions were incompatible with the growth of timber.

The absence of trees, the most remarkable feature, is attributable first to the formation of ulmic acid, which favors the growth of herbaceous plants and retards that of forests; secondly, trees absorb by their roots large quantities of air, which they cannot obtain when the surface is under water or covered by a compact sod; and thirdly, they require solid points of attachment which marshy flats are unable to furnish.

When, however, the lands become dry and the sod is broken by the plow or otherwise destroyed, they produce all the varieties of arborescent vegetation common to their latitude. Indeed, since the settlement of Illinois, the woodland area of many localities extends far beyond its original limits."

The explorations of Father Marquette and Louis Joliet in Illinois were soon followed by other men. LaSalle arrived at the great Indian town of Kaskaskia\* (Voigt, 1918) on January 1, 1680 and then proceeded down the Illinois River to the village of the Peoria Indians.

**History** *Continued on page 6*

## Purple Paint Law

The Illinois legislature in its closing hours last year passed a law to make it easier for woodland owners to mark their property boundaries. Patterned after laws in several other states, the Purple Paint Law allows landowners to use purple stripes on boundary trees in place of "No Trespassing" signs. By using paint, your trees need not be damaged from nails holding signs.

### The Law's Provisions

- 1) Landowners can still use "No Trespassing" signs
- 2) As an alternative to signs, landowners can mark trees or posts to indicate their property boundaries
- 3) Trees are marked with a vertical line at least 8 inches long and between 3 and 5 feet off the ground with no more than 100 feet between marked trees (the side of the tree facing away from the property is marked)
- 4) Boundary fence posts are marked by painting the top two inches which must be between 3 and 5 feet off the ground with no more than 36 feet between posts
- 5) Landowners must obtain agreement of their neighbors if using this post method, because the fence posts painted top is visible from both sides of the boundary (neighbor's agreement is not needed if marking trees)
- 6) Landowners using purple paint must also post a sign indicating their use of this method at the main entrance to their property (see below for signs)
- 7) Marking property boundaries with purple paint constitutes a valid warning against trespassing and those violating such marked boundaries can be prosecuted
- 8) Trespassing on property marked for "no trespassing" is a Class B misdemeanor, except when a person trespasses using a motor vehicle if the marked area is an orchard; an enclosed area containing livestock; a barn or other agricultural building containing livestock; or a field that is used or capable of being used for growing crops. Such trespassing constitutes a Class A misdemeanor.

**Purple Paint** *Continued on page 7*

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## Legislative & Political Consultants

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**Do you have a passion for trees and forestry?**

**Are you interested in serving on a regional committee?**

**Contact an IFA officer today to find out how you can help!**

## Walnuts & Acorns

by Lee M. Rife



In mid-September I had the privilege of attending a *Forest Health and Protection Workshop* held at the State Fairgrounds in Springfield. We spent the first part of the workshop looking at trees on the grounds, determining what diseases beset them and what, if anything could be done. All of this proved to be very interesting, but I quickly came to the conclusion that for owners of larger woodlots (anything in excess of a few acres), little could be done, outside of praying for rain.

Most of the problems which trees face are caused by some sort of stress which weakens them and invites insects, airborne bacteria and or viruses, rots and or other maladies to take over. These stressors can be such things as storms, lightning, damage from animals or birds or as in the case this year- drought. I learned that much of the damage could be overcome by adequate water. And while yard trees, trees in urban parks, cemeteries, golf courses, etc., might benefit from other measures, including sprays, systemic treatments and the like, I concluded that those were not practical for a woodlot containing several hundred or thousand trees.

Another thing that I did hear at the workshop was that the full effect of this years' drought would not be seen for another three or more years. This is due to the warm winter, the late freeze and soil conditions which do not necessarily favor overwintering by some insects which can act as a host to pathogens. Insect pressure will go down, take at least one year to recover, and then we will start to see damage to our trees.

The second part of the workshop featured information about various forest diseases such as Emerald Ash Borer (EAB), *thousand canker disease* (TCD) of walnut and *Bur Oak Blight* (BOB). EAB is here, as readers are aware; TCD and BOB are on the horizon. Illinois has joined other nearby states in quarantining unprocessed walnut moving from out of state or areas where TCD is known to exist.

While much of the state is receiving adequate rainfall, we are still in a moderate drought situation. This brings about more questions than answers as a failure to adequately recharge groundwater will lead to stressed trees, and thus, greater opportunities for disease to start in our woodlands. The one thing that was emphasized at the workshop was that rainfall was, by far, the best solution to disease in the woodlot. It is a lot easier to control diseases, once they start in someone's back yard, than even a woodlot of a few acres.

Those of you who missed the annual meeting in Effingham/Altamont missed a very good opportunity to hear excellent presentations and to meet with fellow landowners as well as foresters. I came back with some ideas and a lot of handouts. IFA is working with a number of other organizations and is taking the lead in working with the Illinois General Assembly as well as IDNR to address forest and forestry issues common to all. However, money is going to be the issue. Legislators look at numbers and the more landowners represented by IFA, the more responsive they will be. Please ask your woodlot owning neighbors to join.

## Winter Tree Identification

by Jay C. Hayek, Extension Forester

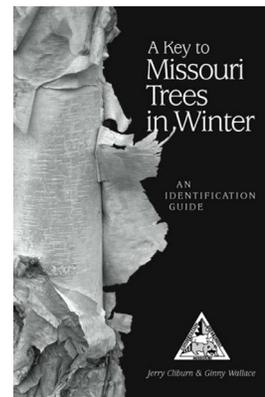
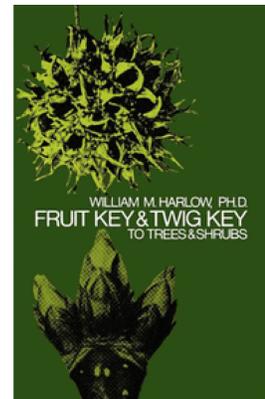
I'm a self-admitted hoarder when it comes to tree identification books and plant-related field guides. A quick peak at my bookshelf reveals a minimum of 30 various books and field guides on the subject of tree and plant identification. For example, I can see the spines for the following books: *Forest Trees of Illinois*, *101 Trees of Indiana*, *Oaks of North America*, *Trees & Shrubs of Kentucky*, *Textbook of Dendrology*, *Trees of Missouri*, *Trees of Wisconsin*, *Michigan Trees*, *Wildflowers of Iowa Woodlands*, *Wildflowers and Ferns of Indiana Forests*, and the list goes on and on.

Admittedly, many of these books and field guides fall a little short when it comes to dormant tree and shrub identification. Therefore, I would like to share with you today two of my favorite winter tree identification books/guides:

- Harlow, W.M. 1959. *Fruit Key and Twig Key to Trees and Shrubs: Fruit Key to Northeastern Trees*. Dover Publications, Inc., New York. 56 p.
- Cliburn, J. and G. Wallace. 1990. *A Key to Missouri Trees in Winter: An Identification Guide*. Missouri Dept. of Conservation. 47 p.

These two guides will make winter tree and shrub identification here in Illinois a breeze! Both field guides are compact and easy to transport – just shove them in your backpack or hip pack.

The guide by Harlow can be purchased for around \$6.00 + shipping (check the Dover Publication website and Amazon.com). The guide by Cliburn and Wallace can be purchased from the Missouri Dept. of Conservation for a mere \$3.00 + shipping ([www.mdcnatureshop.com](http://www.mdcnatureshop.com)).



## Regional News

Contact your Regional Directors anytime with questions, suggestions and assistance needs.

### Region 1

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**Region 1** was busy in October with several events. On October 20, a Fruit Tree Pruning workshop was held by the University Extension Service. The three hour workshop had 40 attendees and was located on the Becker Farm near Woodbine. The presenter was Mosbah Kushad.

Also on October 20, a Post-harvest Regeneration workshop was held by the Northwest Illinois Forestry Association (NIFA) with 15 attendees. The three hour workshop included a field tour at the Arnold Farm near Elizabeth. The workshop was lead led by Tom Arnold.

Chain Saw Safety, Game of Logging Level 1 and Level 2 where held on October 27 and 28 respectively by NIFA. Each eight hour session was located at Tom Arnold's farm near Elizabeth. There were five attendees for Level 1 and four attendees for Level 2. Ken Lallefont was the trainer for both sessions.

### Region 2

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### Thinning/Pruning Workshop

Eleven individuals attended the Thinning/Pruning Workshop conducted by Dan Schmoker on October 12th at Carol Bryant's Tree Farm near Mt. Olive. There were five attendees from Macoupin County, five from Sangamon County, and one from Clinton County (Region 4). The principles of tree identification, thinning the understory, crop tree selection, and crown-release Timber Stand Improvement were demonstrated. While the guests were enjoying sandwiches, there was a drawing for door prizes. The weather was gorgeous and Dan's give and take, answering questions, was splendid. Hopefully we can do it again next fall.

**Media** - An announcement in the Carlinville Macoupin County Inquirer attracted one new IFA member. One non-member attended because of an article in the Mt. Olive Herald.

### Region 3

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### No Report

### Region 4

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### IFA Co-Sponsors Sustainable Living Expo

More than 2100 people attended the 2012 Sustainable Living Expo, held on October 27th at the Dixon Springs Agricultural Center (DSAC) in Pope County. The Expo drew participants from at least 35 Illinois counties and 6 other states in its third year. A 76% increase over 2011 attendance (1200) is remarkable, considering that the weather was quite chilly on an otherwise sunny and beautiful fall day.

The program included sessions and demonstrations in tents and outdoor learning stations scattered across the DSAC grounds. The Main Tent featured agencies, organizations, and local businesses providing products, services and programs related to sustainability.

**Region 4** continued on page 6

## HELP BRING BACK THE BARN OWL!

Prepared by Illinois Endangered Species Protection Board, Illinois Department of Natural Resources



Barn owls are endangered in Illinois, but they remain broadly distributed in the state. From 1990-2010, barn owl nesting has been reported from 37 counties, mostly in the southern half of the state. In addition to being endangered in Illinois, barn owls are federally protected like other birds, and having them in possession without permits is illegal.

**You Can Help!** People are encouraged to help bring back the barn owl: putting up and monitoring nest boxes, reporting barn owl nests, and improving grassland habitat.

To learn more about putting up a nest box such as what kind of box to use, and where to put it, and what to do if finding a barn owl nest or injured barn owl, go to IFA's website at [www.ilforestry.org/wildlifevideos](http://www.ilforestry.org/wildlifevideos) for the full story and illustrations.

## Region 4 continued from page 5

The Artisan Tent showcased the talents of 24 different artists and crafts persons, while giving attendees a chance to shop locally for unique Christmas gifts made from natural or recycled materials.

Major sponsors of the Expo included the Shawnee RC&D Area, Connect SI Foundation, USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service, U of I ACES Office of Research, Shawnee Communications, US Forest Service, WSIU Public Broadcasting, Shawnee College, Southeastern Illinois College, and the Illinois SARE program.

The Illinois Forestry Association sponsored at the Bronze level (\$500), as did the Illinois Tree Farm Committee. Mike McMahan, IFA Region 4 Director, and David Gillespie, IFA Secretary, manned the IFA booth in the Main Tent and had the chance to visit with many people about forestry and our association. Ray Herman, IFA member and 2012 IL Tree Farmer of the Year gave a featured presentation in the Conservation Tent. Roger Smith, IFA Region 4 Director, manned an outdoor station on Shade Tree Care and Removal in the Conservation Area.

Other conservation topics covered at the Expo included:

- Tree ID;
- Shade tree planting;
- Chainsaw safety;
- Small engine maintenance;
- How to build your own ATV spray rig;
- ID and control of tree insect pests;
- Find your pace – learning to pace distances;
- Forestry incentive programs;
- Managing woodlands for wildlife;
- Prescribed burning;
- Preventing deer and drought stress on young trees;
- Repairing old wooden handle tools; and
- Barn owl restoration.

Additional program tracks included Local Foods and Energy. For a complete listing of sessions, speakers, and descriptions visit the Expo's official website: [www.SLEexpo.org](http://www.SLEexpo.org) and download the 2012 program. Those on Facebook are encouraged to visit [www.facebook.com/SLEexpo](http://www.facebook.com/SLEexpo).

## History continued from page 3

The French followed their explorations by actual occupation. In 1683 land grants were made by the French government at Fort St. Louis on the Illinois River to men in recognition of their services in both the discovery of Louisiana and the construction of the fort (Pease and Werner, 1934).

The first conservation measures in Illinois were expressed by the French government land grants. Rights were stated as to hunting and fishing privileges as well as to timber lands.

Grants were made (Pease and Werner, 1934) to keep certain acres in forest trees at full growth which no one shall take without owner's consent, saving always the right for the French to use the wood to build lodges and other buildings at the fort only and for no other use.

Rights were also reserved by the French government in land grants to take stone, slate and clay which they needed, provided that in taking them from the earth, it be not necessary to spoil land that has been seeded or planted with fruit trees, or that is in forest timber, or to take them with the enclosures of the owner's buildings.

Payments were made each year to the government for the rights granted. Beaver hides were usually used in payment of services and in trade goods.

\*Note: The first town, known as Kaskaskia, was located at the present site of Utica, Illinois. (To be continued in the next issue of "The IFA Newsletter".)

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When eating a fruit,  
think of the person  
who planted the  
tree.

Vietnamese Proverb

## Identification and control of woody invasive species in fall and winter

by Chris Evans – Illinois Wildlife Action Plan,  
Invasive Species Campaign

With the arrival of autumn comes the changing of the colors of leaves and the ripening of fruits. The onset of the fall and winter seasons also brings an opportunity to easily find woody invasive plants. Many of these invaders turn distinctive colors or stay green longer than native species, allowing for easy identification.

Also, with the cooler temperatures, the disappearance of ticks and chiggers, and the senescence of poison ivy, it is a great time to be out in the woods. As the leaves fall on the trees in our forests, you can see a long distance through the woods and find invasive plants that otherwise would be hard to find.

Even in winter, when the leaves are gone from the invaders, you can still use characteristics like bark color and texture, plant growth habit, stem arrangement, and even fruit to correctly identify these plants.

This article, summarizing a November 2012 IFA webinar on "Dealing with Invasive Species in Fall and Winter", will discuss the characteristics used to identify several common invasive plants in the dormant season as well as give recommendations for control methods.

For more details on this subject, a recording of the full webinar can be found at [www.ilforestry.org](http://www.ilforestry.org).

It is important to be sure of your identification in the dormant season before conducting control applications. Misidentification could lead to accidentally controlling a desirable native species. Try to make sure at least three different characteristics check out to verify identification.

**Identification continues on page 7**

**Identification** *continued from page 6*

### Bush Honeysuckle

Perhaps the greatest invasive plant threat to forests in Illinois is bush honeysuckle. This invader is actually a complex of several species, all of which look similar and have comparable impacts.

Bush honeysuckle is a tardily deciduous plant, meaning that it holds on to its leaves longer than most shrubs and trees in Illinois. You can commonly see bush honeysuckle with leaves still hanging on into early winter.

The normally dark green leaves typically turn a distinctive yellow-green color in fall. This leaf color, along with bright red (orange-colored in some bush



Figure 1

honeysuckle species) berries usually occur in pairs or fours make fall identification extremely easy (Figure 1).

Leaves are opposite on bush honeysuckle. If all the leaves have fallen off, then the buds or arrangement

of small branches will also be opposite.

Bush honeysuckle also has very distinctive bark, light tan in color and somewhat stringy looking (Figure 2).



Figure 2

Once a suspected bush honeysuckle plant is found, a great way to verify its identification is to cut open a small stem. Honeysuckle stems have hollow piths (Figure 3).



Figure 3

**Identification** *continued from page 8*

**Purple Paint** *continued from page 3*

- 9) No landowner or lessee is authorized to post purple marks if doing so would violate any applicable law, rule, ordinance, order, covenant, bylaw, declaration, regulation, restriction, contract, or other instrument.
- 10) The new "Purple Paint Law" does not apply to real property located in a municipality of over 2,000,000 inhabitants.

### The Paint

There is currently no standard for type of paint or shade of purple or width of stripe, so landowners have many options.

Darker purples will not be seen as easily as lighter or vibrant shades.

Quality brand paint will probably last longer than no-name brands, and since not much paint is needed, the cost of quality paint is justified if it lasts two or three more years. An exterior latex, semi-gloss is considered your best choice.

For smooth-barked trees, a 3" brush works fine. Two brush widths will give you an easily seen 6" wide, 8" long stripe. For rough-barked trees (like walnut, hickory, or oak), spray paint is a better choice. This is not an endorsement, but some landowners have found the purple Krylon spray paint works well. Also, Nelson Paint Company ([www.nelsonpaint.com](http://www.nelsonpaint.com)) that specializes in tree marking products sells a purple spray paint for less than \$5 per can.

### Sign Required

As to the sign needed at the entrance to your property, the Illinois Forestry Association has those for sale. It is an aluminum sign (pictured), 18" wide and 12" high. IFA Members receive preferred pricing, as follows:

Number of Signs	1	2	3	4	5
IFA Member Price	\$20	\$33	\$45	\$58	\$71
Price for All Others	\$25	\$45	\$63	\$82	\$101

Prices include shipping, packaging, insurance, and sales tax.

Checks for the above amount made out to the Illinois Forestry Association can be mailed to Richard Pouzar, 2303 West Cording Road, Galena, IL 61036. The sign(s) will be shipped upon receipt of your check, and you will be notified. Questions about the law can be sent to [purplepaint@ifforestry.org](mailto:purplepaint@ifforestry.org).

# WARNING

## PURPLE PAINT

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Illinois Forestry Association - The Voice for Illinois Forests

## Autumn Olive

Autumn olive is one of the most common invasive plants in Illinois. Most landowners can easily identify this plant in the growing season by the silvery underside of the leaves. Luckily, autumn olive usually retains at least some of its leaves well into the dormant season. Additionally, the rusty red berries often hang on into winter.



Figure 4

The twigs of autumn olive are covered in lenticels, small dots, which give the twigs a rough texture (Figure 5).

Often just running a twig through your fingers is enough to verify identification.

Thorn-like small branches may be present on autumn olive but is also often missing.

Autumn olive is usually a multistemmed bush with younger stems being light tan to gray in color and smooth with the older stems becoming more gray and rougher (Figure 4).



Figure 5

## Oriental Bittersweet

Oriental bittersweet is a woody vine that can drastically impact forests. Bittersweet has a somewhat patchy distribution across the state, with some areas



Figure 6

being overrun and other areas having no bittersweet. Bittersweet loses its leaves somewhat early in the fall, but does turn a distinctive lime-green to yellow color before fading (Figure 6).



Figure 7

These berries occur along the stems in the axils as compared to American bittersweet which would only have berries at the end of the branches.

The bark of Oriental bittersweet is very distinctive and, since often the leaves and fruit occur high in the trees, is a good characteristic to learn! Unlike grapevines, which have dark bark, or trumpet creeper and Japanese honeysuckle, which have papery bark, bittersweet has a light-gray bark with diamond-shaped lenticels, becoming more flaky as the vines age (Figure 8).



Figure 8

## Multiflora Rose

Multiflora rose has long been a thorn in the side of Illinois landowners. This invader is better known for its damage to fields and pastures but also can be a problem in woods.

While this plant doesn't turn a noticeable color, it does usually retain a few green leaves into late fall. The stiff, curved thorns occur along the stem usually in pairs that break off easily (Figure 9).



Figure 9

The stems of multiflora rose are round (compared to the square stems of blackberries) with the smaller stems being green or sometimes reddish with the larger stems having brownish rough bark.

The berries can remain on the female plants late into winter. These berries are bright red under an orangish-yellow capsule that peels back (Figure 7).

## Management

While there are many more invasive species that can be identified in the fall, the species listed above are four of the biggest threats to forests in Illinois.

Controlling these, and other woody invasive plants, in the fall or winter is often best done using either a cut stump or basal bark application of herbicide.

There are some times when you can apply the herbicides to the foliage and some non-chemical methods of control (both of which are discussed in the webinar listed at the beginning of this article).

The advantage of using a cut stump or basal bark treatment is that the method and herbicides recommended works for all of these species, giving a landowner the option of treating more than one species without needed to change equipment or remix herbicides.

For any herbicide application, it is required that the entire label be read and followed including what type of safety equipment is needed to mix or apply.

## Cut Stump

Typically, cut stump treatments of woody invasive plants utilize either glyphosate- or triclopyr- based herbicides. Examples of a glyphosate-based herbicide would be RoundUp, though there are many generics available as well. Examples of triclopyr-based herbicides are Garlon (both 3a and 4), Crossroad (mixed with 2,4-d), and Ortho Brush-B-Gone.

Since these herbicides come in many different formulations and strengths, it is crucial that the label be consulted for the specific herbicide used to determine the correct mixing rates and instructions before use.

A ready-to-use premixed formulation of triclopyr, called Pathfinder II, is effective both for cut stump and basal bark and does not need mixing (though shouldn't be used in temperatures below 30 degrees).

**Identification** continued from page 9

Cut stump treatments are basically just what they sound like. Cut down the plant near the ground (within 6 inches, but not so close that dirt gets on the cut surface) and treat the cut surface with herbicide.

Typical rates would be a 50% solution of glyphosate mixed with water or a 20% solution of triclopyr mixed with water (for amine formulations like Garlin 3a) or oil (for ester formulations like Garlon 4). Oil used can be a commercially available basal oil (like Bark Oil Blue or AX-IT) or a seed or crop oil.



Figure 10

Adding some herbicide dye into the mixture will help you keep track of what has been treated and avoid misses (**Figure 10**).

It is important to treat the stumps soon after cutting (ideally within 15 minutes) for best results.

For small stems (less than 2-inch diameter) then treat the entire cut surface just to the point that the herbicide is starting to run down the sides. For larger stems, only the out one inch of the cut surface needs to be treated.

If you are using a solution mixed with water, only use this method if temperatures are above freezing. Cold temperature can freeze the mixture and prevent it from working. Oil-based solutions can be utilized anytime throughout the fall and winter up until the plants start breaking buds in late winter /early spring.



Figure 11

A simple hand-pump spray bottle works great for cut stump treatments (**Figure 11**) but the herbicide can also be applied with a sponge or paint brush.

#### Basal Bark

It is recommended that an ester-based triclopyr herbicide (for example – Garlon 4 or Crossroad) in oil is used for basal bark treatments. Typical rates would be a 20% solution, though be sure to check label information for the herbicide to be used for specific recommendations. Water-based herbicide mixtures are not effective using this method.

As with cut stump, Pathfinder II is a ready-to-use formulation of triclopyr that can be used for this method. Basal bark is similar to cut stump, but removes the necessity of cutting down the plant first. Instead, the herbicide is applied directly to the all sides of the bark of the plant from ground level to 12-16 inches high. For multi-stemmed shrubs, all of the stems need to be treated (**Figure 12**).

This method does use somewhat more herbicide than cut stump but is quicker to apply.



Figure 12

Because of the higher volume of herbicide needed, a backpack sprayer is the ideal equipment for this method. Hand-carried pressure sprayers or ATV or vehicle-mounted spray rigs can also be used if access allows. As with cut stump, mixing in herbicide dye is a good idea to track treatments.

Basal bark can be used throughout the fall and winter. Heavy snow cover seems to reduce effectiveness as do wet – or silt-covered stems.

Don't be alarmed if the plants treated in the dormant season using basal bark leaf out in the spring. This sometimes happens but usually the leaves will wilt and the plant will then die. Just keep an eye on the treated plants and be prepared to retreat if necessary.

Utilizing these tips for identifying and controlling woody invasive plants will hopefully allow landowners to better address invasive plants in their woods. Don't expect to get rid of all of the invasives with just one round of treatments. Plan on eradication taking 3-5 years with the most of the work occurring in the first two years.

For information on invasive plants and management can be found in the Invasive Plant section of the IFA website and on [www.illinoisinvasives.org](http://www.illinoisinvasives.org).

#### Illinois Forestry Association

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# IFA Annual Meeting

## You Should Have Been There

by Kurt Bobsin – Technical Advisor

The 7<sup>th</sup> annual meeting of the IFA took place in the Effingham-Altamont area on October 5<sup>th</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup>. This year's gathering attracted around 50 members who came from as far north as the Galena area and from as far south as Marion.

What a fantastic tour of the John Boos Industries butcher block plant led by the CEO, **Joe Emerich**. They have been doing this for 125 years and are the leading manufacturer of butcher block products in the USA. Boos blocks, as they are known, are often seen on the Food Channel during the various cooking show programs.



Joe Emerich, CEO speaking with group in outlet store #6.

"Remember when Oprah gave out cars to everyone in her audience on one of her shows?" Joe asks. "Around that same time, Rachel Ray called up and wanted to do the same thing on her show with butcher blocks. So we shipped her somewhere around 150 of them for her to do that."

{You ladies know who I am talking about!}

Following a catered meal by Niemergs, a local favorite, the group was treated to a presentation by SIU forestry professor **John Groninger**. Dr. Groninger shared some of his exploits and experiences in Afghanistan. It was a revealing talk on how tribal culture, economics and politics in that country influence the way in which natural resources are viewed, managed and used....just like here!



SIU forestry professor Dr. Groninger shares his experiences in Afghanistan.

Saturday we shifted location to the **Ballard Nature Center** for the day's activities. The business meeting occupied our time in the morning. There are some outstanding folks leading and involved with the organization.

**Carol Bryant** [Macoupin County] received the Outstanding Achievement Award this year. Carol's passion and enthusiasm for trees along with her educational efforts are both noteworthy and contagious. She is very deserving. We thanked and said goodbye to some of the Director's as we welcomed in the new ones who will continue to carry the torch for the issues that will impact the trees in our communities and on the rural landscape.

The afternoon was filled with presentations beginning with **Jay Hayek**, U of I Forestry Specialist. Jay administers the state's Big Tree Register program. He is available to talk to and train citizen volunteers in this enjoyable adventure of seeking out and measuring some of our state's biggest specimens.

**Emily Hanson**, an urban and community forester @ SIU – Carbondale, joined us to highlight what she is doing. Emily is available to assist any community and small town that requests information and advice on how they can manage their trees.

Finally, **Dr. Ian Munn** drove up from Mississippi State University to share what his research had turned up regarding the economic value and importance the forests and the forest industry contribute to Illinois' economy.



It was quite shocking. The IL Forestry Development Council had contracted with him to do the research and analysis. That information is now available and a brochure that highlights the findings was given out to all legislators during the IFA Lobby Day this past spring in Springfield.

The meeting ended with time to spare for those that wanted to enjoy the crisp fall day walking the trails that meandered through the woods and wetlands at Ballard. Some of the spouses ducked out of the meeting to get back to the Boos Outlet store for some early Christmas shopping.

The nearby Tuscan Hills Winery also provided an opportunity for tasting some local cuisine and sampling the local wines in a casual, relaxed atmosphere. Wished you had been there? We do too but there is always next year. We will be heading up into the northwest part of the state for the 2013 meeting. I am sure the planning committee will have a variety of things to see, hear and do ... see you then!!



Board members at the Annual meeting.



Participants at the Annual meeting.

## WHAT'S UP

### Finding Wild Mushrooms in Illinois

by Joe McFarland, IL DNR

It's easy to decide mushroom hunting season has ended by November, a sad month of useless mourning when it arrives. One scans the horizon for signs of life.

There is nothing.

A few dead leaves remain on trees. It's freezing at night. People no longer believe what they did just a few months ago, in happy summer.

None of that now.

The annual suffering of winter is upon us. Now we must bear what November inflicts.

#### And what a heavy burden November can be.

Elephant Ears--commonly called Oyster Mushrooms in Illinois--can pop out of trees and logs around wetlands just before the dead of winter, and often in spectacular quantity. Experienced mushroom hunters embrace the cold damp by pulling on warm boots and coats and heading to the woods to find their share. Anybody can do this.

It's really no hardship. In November, educated mushroom hunters might find as many Oyster Mushrooms as they need for supper--and tomorrow's supper, and many suppers thereafter.

You might fill a basket twice. And you still didn't pick them all.

November is no place for complainers and quitters.

#### Get out there.

To view other What's Up -- Finding Mushrooms in Illinois articles, visit the website at <http://illinoismushrooms.com/What%27s%20Up%2011.html>

### Edible Wild Mushrooms of Illinois and Surrounding States

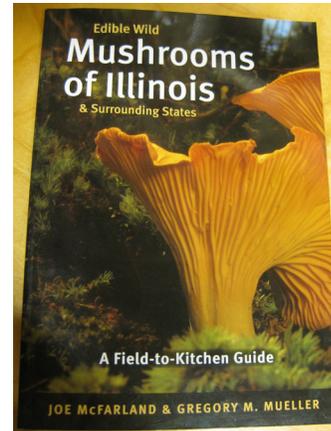
by Joe McFarland and Gregory M. Mueller

#### A Field-to-Kitchen Guide

The comprehensive guide to wild mushrooms in the heartland--perfect for the coffee table, glove box, and kitchen

Lavishly illustrated with nearly three hundred gorgeous full-color photos, this engaging guidebook carefully describes forty different edible species of wild mushrooms found around Illinois and surrounding states, including Iowa, Wisconsin, Missouri, Indiana, and Kentucky.

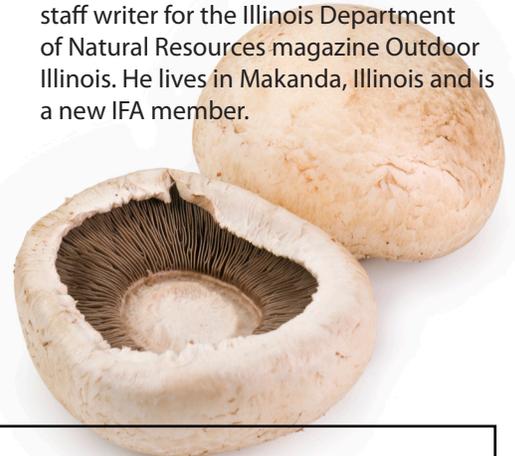
With conversational and witty prose, the book provides extensive detail on each edible species, including photographs of potential look-alikes to help you safely identify and avoid poisonous species.



Mushroom lovers from Chicago to Cairo will find their favorite local varieties, including morels, chanterelles, boletes, puffballs, and many others.

Veteran mushroom hunters Joe McFarland and Gregory M. Mueller also impart their wisdom about the best times and places to find these hidden gems.

Joe McFarland has been an outdoor writer for nearly twenty years and is a staff writer for the Illinois Department of Natural Resources magazine Outdoor Illinois. He lives in Makanda, Illinois and is a new IFA member.



### More Mushroom News

If you like Mushrooms and live around the Shawnee National Forest in Southern Illinois, This is your club!

The mushroom club for southern Illinois residents called the Southern Illinois Mushroom Co-op.

The Mushroom Co-op members are local mushroom growers, wild mushroom foragers, organic farmers, professional mycologists, nature photographers, naturalists and anyone else who appreciates nature and mushrooms. No membership fees.

To learn more and join go to <http://mushroomco-op.org>

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