

2015 Rhode Island Woodland Summit

Sponsored and presented by RIFCO, the RI Tree Farm Program, and the RI Woodland Partnership

Saturday, May 9, 2015 • Camp Canonicus, Exeter, RI

Program (subject to revisions)

Morning Indoor Sessions

8:00 – 8:30 AM	Registration & Coffee with Exhibit Viewing
8:30 – 9:00 AM	Welcome & Introductions William Fortune, President, RI Forest Conservators Organization Opening Remarks Bruce Payton, Deputy Chief & State Forester, RI DEM Division of Forest Environment
9:00 – 9:45 AM	Plenary Session I: Where Have We Come From? Looking Back to Understand Where We Are Today Tom Dupree, URI Natural Resources Science Lecturer and Retired State Forester
9:45 – 10:30 AM	Plenary Session II: Looking Ahead What will our forests be like in the future? What's influencing changes? Whitney Beals, Director of Land Protection, New England Forestry Foundation
10:30 – 10:45 AM	Break and Exhibit Viewing
10:45 – 11:30 AM	CONCURRENT SESSIONS I A. Deer Management: Browse Impacts on RI Forest Composition and Health Tom Rawinski, Botanist, USDA Forest Service B. Climate Change: The RI Woodland Partnership and its Position Statement Christopher Riely, RI Woodland Partnership Coordinator Ken Payne, Policy Analyst C. Forest Health Issues Insects and Diseases – Paul Ricard, RIDEM, Division of Forest Environment Invasive Plants – Paul Dolan, RI RC&D Council
11:30 – 12:15 PM	CONCURRENT SESSIONS II D. Forestry for the Birds Amanda Mahaffey, Northeast Region Director, The Forest Guild Christopher Modisette, USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service, RI E. Timber Markets, Selling Timber, and Tree Farm Certification Will Walker, Service Forester, RIDEM Division of Forest Environment Chris Cassedi, Procurement Forester, Hull Forest Products F. RI Action Plans and Climate Change Impacts Forest Action Plan – Tom Abbott, RIDEM, Division of Forest Environment Wildlife Action Plan – Amanda Freitas, RIDEM, Division of Fish & Wildlife

12:30 – 1:30 PM

Lunch

Afternoon Outdoor Sessions (subject to weather)

1:30 – 4:00 PM

Focus on Wildlife Topics

- Bird Identification (good time of year as migrations are just beginning)
- How to build a brush pile for wildlife
- Trees for bats, birds, and other creatures – identification of trees preferred for habitat (shagbark hickory, black birch, etc.)

Stewardship Activities

- How to record important features on your property (special places, vernal pools, favorite trees and forest stands, historic and scenic sites, etc.)
- Best management practices for water quality protection (how to install a water bar and other useful information)
- Tree species ID and measurement
- Mapping Your Woodlot
Peter Stetson, Coventry High School and Envirothon

Woods Walk on Canonicus Property, featuring deer browse damage surveys with Tom Rawinski and other natural resource professionals

Family-Friendly Activities Area hosted by Northern RI Conservation District

- What Tree and/or Wood is That?
- Tree Obstacle Course: Species ID and measuring trees over a course
- How old is that tree? Count the rings.
- Other games and activities

Forester CEU
Credits Available

Society of American Foresters certification = 5.5
Connecticut certification = 2 ; Massachusetts license = 3.75

“Woodland Party” (separate registration)

6:00 – 9:00 PM

Celebrating the 25th Anniversary of the RI Forest Conservators Organization
Dinner and social event at the Exeter Country Club