

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:
Marc Tremblay, 401.568-3410

RIFCO'S WOODLAND OWNER'S WORKSHOP SERIES

2022 SERIES INCLUDES OUTDOOR SESSIONS AT TWO LOCATIONS

Scituate, RI – The RI Forest Conservator's Organization (RIFCO) continues its popular Saturday-morning series of workshops on woodland management topics this winter on Saturdays, March 5th to March 19th, 2022. The sessions include information on various land management topics, including outdoor sessions on biochar production, wildlife habitat, and a Log and Lumber Field Day.

The first two sessions are being held at the West Greenwich Community Center, located behind the Louttit Library at 274 Victory Highway (Route 102), from 9 am until noon on March 5th and the 12th. The production of Biochar as a potential small business for woodlot owners and arborists will feature nationally-known biochar expert Bob Wells of New England Biochar. According to RIFCO President Bill Fortune of Foster, "Converting waste wood into granular biochar for soil amendments is a time-tested but little used way of locking up carbon from wood by adding it to the soil for improved water and nutrient retention, and is a great tool that we have available to lock up carbon that might otherwise gas off as CO₂".

RIFCO recently launched its RI Biochar Initiative with a new website resource, www.biochar-ri.org.

-M O R E-

A second workshop at the West Greenwich Community Center will focus on forestry activities that are available to enhance the diversity of wildlife habitat in your woodlands.

On March 19th we will be having a Log and Lumber Field Day at the RIFCO Demonstration Woodlot in Foster, RI, co-sponsored by the RI Tree Farm Program. We'll have repeating demonstrations available during the day on chain saw safety, felling techniques, sawmilling, and lumber drying. Wind-toppled Red oaks and White ash trees will be the targets of our efforts, converting them into lumber that will be available for sale during the day.

According to Bill Fortune, the president of RIFCO and a Foster woodlot owner, "the workshops will help you realize more profit and enjoyment from your woodlands. We hope this learning experience will encourage future conservation of Rhode Island's forest resource."

Pre-registration for the workshops is required, along with a fee of \$15 each, or \$40 for all 3 workshops. RIFCO members get a \$5.00 per session discount. For more information and a registration form, please visit the RIFCO website at www.rifco.org, or call RIFCO at (401) 568-3410.

RIFCO is a non-profit organization dedicated to the conservation of Rhode Island's woodlands. RIFCO offers education on forestry topics, along with advocacy on forestry and land-ownership issues. RIFCO is a co-sponsor of the RI Tree Farm Program. You can visit RIFCO's website (www.rifco.org) for more information on the organization.

-- END --