

kentucky WOODLANDS

Reorganization of the Kentucky Division of Forestry

The Kentucky Division of Forestry (KDF) has reorganized. This reorganization, driven by budget cuts, includes the combination of nine districts into five regional offices, changes in the division include staffing in the nurseries, and a restructuring of its headquarter operations. Also, the Fire Management Section has been upgraded to a branch because of the importance of the wildfire program and KDF's designation as Fire Department No. 994. The mission of KDF remains "to protect, conserve and enhance the forest resources of the Commonwealth through a public informed of the environmental, social and economic importance of these resources."

KDF will continue to strive to provide essential forestry services to the citizens of Kentucky.



West Region

P.O. Box 465
Madisonville, KY 42431
Phone: 270.824.7527
Fax: 270.824.7593
Seedlings:
270.247.3913

North Central Region

P.O. Box 516
Frankfort, KY 40601
Phone: 502.573.1085
Fax: 502.573.1088

Northeast Region

255 Rodburn Hollow Rd.
Morehead, KY 40351
Phone: 606.783.8625
Fax: 606.783.8628



Central Region

120 Gaines Drive
Campbellsville, KY 42718
Phone: 270.465.5071
Fax: 270.465.3575

Southeast Region

P.O. Box 702
Hazard, KY 41702
Phone: 606.435.6073
Fax: 606.435.6075

Kentucky Division of Forestry Morgan County Tree Nursery to be Rebuilt



Photo courtesy: Billy Thomas

All of Kentucky received some great news recently regarding the Morgan County Tree Nursery. Gov. Steve Beshear has pledged to fully rebuild the state tree nursery that had been destroyed by a tornado. "The nursery is an important resource for our forest industry, mine and stream reclamation efforts, and land owners and it impacts the regional economy all around Morgan County," the governor said. "We are very pleased," said Leah MacSwords, the director of the Kentucky Division of Forestry. Learn more about the state tree nurseries and find species descriptions and fact sheets on available seedlings by visiting <http://forestry.ky.gov/statenurseriesandtreeseedlings>.

Rows of oak seedlings at the Kentucky Division of Forestry Morgan County Tree Nursery before the tornado last year.

Upcoming Dates To Remember:

Date:	Event:	Location:	Contact:
June 1	Woodlands and Wildlife Field Day	Hopkins County, KY	270.821.3650
June 10-14	Kentucky Forest Leadership Program	Jabez, KY	859.257.7597
September 20-21	Kentucky Wood Expo	Lexington, KY	502.695.3979
September 21	Woodland Owners Short Course	Lexington, KY	859.257.7597

NEWS TO USE

Kentucky Forestry Related Legislative Updates

There was definitely some forestry activity in the 2013 regular legislative session. There were a number of pieces of legislation regarding forestry, however several were of specific interest to forest industry and two were of direct interest to woodland owners.

House Bill 111: Property Value Assessment of Woodlands. This was by far the most interesting and impacting proposed legislation for woodland owners driven by the Kentucky Woodland Owners Association and sponsored by Representatives Nelson, Denham and



Kentucky Representative Mike Denham addressing the Kentucky Woodland Owners Association at their recent annual meeting has been a longtime supporter of forestry issues in Kentucky.

Photo courtesy: Billy Thomas

Osborne. The telling of the whole story of the establishment and legislative path of this bill is too cumbersome for this space. The bill was heard in the House Economic Development committee chaired by Representative Palumbo. Testimony was provided by Jim Corum (KWOA board member) representing woodland owners, Hagan Wonn (forester with Kentucky Hardwoods out of Somerset) representing forest industry, and Dr. Jeff Stringer from the Department of Forestry at UK. The bill emerged from committee with some substitutes in essence requiring the Department of Revenue to undertake a study of the assessment of woodland acreage (a far less robust bill compared to the initial version requiring the Department to develop new guidance for the assessment of family owned woodland acreage). The bill also passed the House but died in

the Senate's Appropriations committee (typically a place where bills are sent to unceremoniously expire). Regardless the legislation got more legs under it than many anticipated.

Senate Bill 46: Biomass Energy Bill. This bill was signed into law allowing for cost recovery for the purchase of power from biomass facilities. This means that companies wanting to establish electric generating facilities fueled by woody biomass can do so knowing that the door is open for those wanting to purchase this power to cover the initial costs associated with developing these woody biomass fueled facilities. For example this may allow companies like EcoPower outside of Hazard to continue development. The end result will mean there is a market for low quality trees that must be removed from the woodlands to provide space for highly valued trees to grow.

House Concurrent Resolution 42: Timber Theft Task Force. This legislation sponsored by Representative Combs has been introduced in multiple sessions over the last few years. It did not pass this year either. It establishes a multi-member task force to study the issue of timber theft and provide recommendations to reduce this problem. The general consensus in some legislative venues is that there is no need for one more task force in Kentucky.

Lookout for a Kentucky Woodlands Magazine Survey this Summer!!!!

Be on the lookout for a survey about Kentucky Woodlands Magazine this summer. The survey will be included in the next issue of Kentucky Woodlands Magazine, online, and by direct mail. When you receive the survey PLEASE take a few minutes to complete and return it! This short survey is important to demonstrate the usefulness of Kentucky Woodlands Magazine. The ability to demonstrate the effectiveness of Kentucky Woodlands Magazine is important as

we continue to seek funding sources to keep subscriptions free. We also want to use information collected from the survey to provide readers with the content they want and need to better care for their woodlands. When you receive the survey please let us how we are doing and what we can do better. Thanks in advance!

Answers from
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1. c) 4. b)
2. b) 5. b)
3. a)



Test Your Knowledge Review

Congratulations to M. Brite of Madisonville, KY. He was randomly chosen from the entries from the last quiz. He will receive a free copy of Identifying Kentucky's Forest Trees.