

# Online Resources for Woodland Owners

by Billy Thomas

It is easier than ever to learn about the care and management of your woodlands from the comfort of your own home or wherever your laptop, tablet, or smart phone takes you. The Internet and the promise of all the information it can make available can be an important woodland management tool. However, separating the good information from the bad or even finding the information in the first place can take some time, so using informational resources from universities or government agencies is a good place to start.

Over the last few years, webinars (seminars on the Web) from forestry, wildlife, and other natural resource professionals have become a valuable source of information that can help you to better care for your woodlands. UK Forestry Extension started offering webinars in 2009 but other

universities and organizations were doing them before and many more are offering them now. Most webinars are recorded for viewing at your convenience but you also have the opportunity to participate in live webinars, which will offer you a greater deal of interaction and the opportunity to ask questions during the webinar. Many of the webinars are free but some require a free registration or have a small registration fee. Reliable information and advice can help you achieve your woodland management goals quicker and with less expense.

The forestry webinar sites listed below provide a great starting point and while not every forestry webinar site is included in the list below many of them do include links to other forestry and natural resources related webinars.



<http://forestrywebinar.net>

The Forestry Webinar Portal is supported by many universities and government organizations and serves as a launching point for numerous current and archived forestry, conservation and natural resource webinars.



[www2.dnr.cornell.edu/ext/forestconnect/web.htm](http://www2.dnr.cornell.edu/ext/forestconnect/web.htm)

The ForestConnect Forestry Internet Seminar Series out of Cornell University provides research-based and unbiased information to forest owners and others interested in private woodland management.



<http://extension.psu.edu/private-forests/tools-resources/webinars>

The Pennsylvania Forests Web Seminar Center provides web-based educational programs and materials for forest owners, extension educators, and natural resource professionals.



[www.ca.uky.edu/forestryextension/audio\\_video.php](http://www.ca.uky.edu/forestryextension/audio_video.php)

The UK Forestry Extension group has some archived forestry webinars and a series is planned for the fall of 2013 which will be announced in the next issue of this magazine.

## Additional Online Resources:

Besides forestry webinars there are other online educational resources available to woodland owners, including the National Learning Center for Private Forest and Range Landowners ([www.forestandrange.org](http://www.forestandrange.org)) as well as the Forest Encyclopedia ([www.forestencyclopedia.net](http://www.forestencyclopedia.net)). Also visit the Woodland Owners Guide to Internet Resources (<http://na.fs.fed.us/pubs/misc/flgl/>), which contains a wide variety of information of interest to woodland owners.

More and more online resources are becoming available to assist woodland owners in the care and management

of their woodlands. Frequently visit the Web sites of UK Forestry Extension ([www.ukforestry.org](http://www.ukforestry.org)) and the Kentucky Division of Forestry (<http://forestry.ky.gov>) to learn about the latest programs and available resources.

## About the Author:

**Billy Thomas** is an Extension Associate with the University of Kentucky Department of Forestry. He works primarily on non-industrial private forest issues and is the associate editor for the Kentucky Woodlands Magazine.

Cooperative Extension Service, Department of Forestry, University of Kentucky, 213 Thomas Poe Cooper Building, Lexington, KY 40526, E-mail: [billy.thomas@uky.edu](mailto:billy.thomas@uky.edu), Phone: 859.257.9153, Fax: 859.323.1031