



Planning for the Future of Your Woodlands

www.kwoa.net

by Henry Duncan, KWOA President

Creating sustainable woodlands is a multigenerational task. Unlike most other agriculture enterprises, the revenue we receive from our woodlands is the result of plans and efforts of someone who preceded us. Likewise, investments we make on our woodland are not only for current operations but for the benefit of those who follow us. These properties can be looked upon as much more than current financial assets. They are priceless heirlooms and we feel a deep responsibility to care for these properties and to hand them off to our successors in better shape than we found them. Estate planning must be a serious consideration for woodland owners.

Tax issues and your woodlands:

KWOA representatives testified before the Governor's Blue Ribbon Tax Reform Commission.

A recent study by the UK Department of Forestry has shown that Kentucky is one of the leading hardwood producing states in the United States and the Kentucky forest and wood industry has a direct economic impact of over \$6 billion and employs more than 25,000. The foundation of this wood industry is the timber growing on Kentucky's woodland owners properties. The UK Department of Forestry has developed a formula to correctly assess the taxes on certified managed timberland relating to income production. This new formula, if enacted, will provide economic incentives for woodland owners to pursue certification and a higher level of long term management of Kentucky's woodlands. KWOA representatives attended the Commission's meeting in Lexington urging them to see that the new formula is used and we are in contact with legislators to advance these concerns.

Income tax and woodlands. Information can be found on the U.S. Forest Service's Forest Taxation website that deals with all the forest related tax laws. "A Federal Income Tax on Timber: A Key to Your Most Frequently Asked Questions" and many other publications are available free online at www.fs.fed.us/spf/coop/programs/loa/tax.shtml

Kentucky Division of Forestry Updates:

The Kentucky Division of Forestry has been targeted to reduce their manpower by about 30 positions. KWOA board members and other woodland representatives recently met with the Secretary of the Energy and Environment Cabinet to explain the importance of the Division to Kentucky woodland owners and requesting for level funding to maintain the Division's important missions. It is emphasized that such a reduction would have a serious adverse effect on woodland owners.

Service Forester Award: Woodland owners are invited to nominate your Service Forester to be recognized at the Kentucky Woodlands annual awards meeting. You are encouraged to review the nominating guidelines by visiting the KWOA web page at www.kwoa.net

KWOA/KWOF Annual Meeting

Blue Licks State Park

April 9-10, 2013

The Kentucky Woodland Owners Association and Foundation Annual Meeting will convene April 9 - 10, 2013 at the Blue Licks State Resort Park in Robertson County. Woodland owners will interact with forestry professionals and their woodland owner peers about issues and topics regarding the management of their properties. Attendees will travel through the woodlands with Kentucky Division of Forestry Service Foresters conducting hands-on management practices. We will also recognize forestry leaders and the Service Forester of the Year.

Lodging is limited at the Blue Licks State Park. Reserve your accommodations early and plan to attend this informative and recreational event. Call 800-443-7008 / 859-289-5507 and mention KWOA for room reservations.

For more specifics on the meeting and agenda visit: www.kwoa.net

Have you visited the www.kwoa.net website lately? You will be amazed with the amount of woodland information available to us at this site...both current and archived information... along with valuable related links. Karen Marshall and Ken Cooke are to be thanked for supplying us with this wealth of information.

For more information log on to www.kwoa.net