KWOA benefits
Kentucky Woodland Owners

www.kwoa.net

The Kentucky Woodland Owners Association and Foundation Annual Meeting provides a resource-packed and enjoyable setting for woodland owners to interact with forestry professionals and peers about issues of concern and topics of interest regarding the management of their properties. Members get an overview of the association's priorities and its activities in the state legislature as well as communities across the state. University and agency forestry experts are available for questions, discussion, and consultation.

The annual meeting convenes at a different state park each year so members can spend a little time looking at forest management practices in and around the park guided by field professionals. A guest speaker brings their view to the podium regarding the present and future state of private woodlands. This year several forestry students from UK will be attending and available for comments on their vision of what Kentucky's woodlands mean to the next generation. We will also present the Service Forester of the Year Award and elect officers and board members for 2012. A banquet and a competitive round of Forest Trivia round out the meeting.

The 2012 annual meeting will be held at the Pennyrile State Park, in Hopkins County. Lodging is limited at the state park, so reserve your accommodations early and plan to attend this informative and recreational event. Ask for the KWOA rates. For more specifics on the meeting and agenda, visit www.kwoa.net

KWOA Happenings
The Kentucky Woodland Owners Association is continually working on behalf of Kentucky's woodland owners. Below is a sample of recent efforts:

Timber market information is a concern for woodland owners. Tim Friebert's committee is seeking access to additional market information. Efforts are under way with the state market offices and the Kentucky Department of Agriculture to improve the flow of this important information.

A variety of woodland related educational and entertaining events are scheduled for the 2012 KWOA Annual Meeting.

Photo courtesy: Doug McLaren

The forestland assessment and equitable timber tax committee is spearheaded by Jim Corum and has conducted numerous meetings and conference calls with the Kentucky Revenue Cabinet in Frankfort seeking a fair tax assessment of Kentucky's woodlands.

The Kentucky Agricultural Council is convening a strategic planning committee to develop a five-year Strategic Plan of Action for Kentucky Agriculture. Charlie Williams, Hart County Tree Farmer and Don Girton, Campbell County Tree Farmer, are representing KWOA.

Greg Kuhns, KWOA past vice-president, and Art Williams, the executive director of the Kentucky Conservation Committee, along with representatives from seven other organizations met recently with Cabinet Secretary Dr. Len Peters of the Energy and Environment Cabinet concerning requirements of the new Commissioner of Natural Resources. Dr. Kuhns pleaded the case for more funding for the Kentucky Division of Forestry and how its service foresters are key to getting forest management plans, obtaining woodland certification, and meeting qualifications for receiving USDA/NRCS funds.

Timber theft is an increasing problem, especially for absentee owners. Nina Cornett is meeting with legislative committees and also preparing a series of educational video programs that feature interviews with Kentucky woodland owners and others emphasizing the breadth and depth of timber theft. The information can be accessed on the web: http://ecooutpost.org.

The Kentucky Woodland Owners Foundation (KWOF), a 501(c) (3) tax-exempt organization affiliated with the Kentucky Woodland Owners Association (KWOA), is offering a forestry scholarship to a deserving forestry student and is currently accepting donations and contributions toward our educational endeavors. Contact Doug McLaren at 859.257.2703 for details.

Please consider joining and supporting the Kentucky Woodland Owners Association.

For more information log on to www.kwoa.net