

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Issued a Special Rule to Focus Protections for Northern Long-Eared Bat



The northern long-eared bat is native to much of eastern North America and is very vulnerable to the white-nose syndrome which has been found at numerous locations across Kentucky.

In response to the severe decline of the northern long-eared bat that is common to Kentucky, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service ruled to list the species as Threatened under the Endangered Species Act (ESA). However, the ruling provides provisions for forest management including timber harvesting to occur as long as buffers are maintained around known caves where they hibernate. The rule also restricts clearcutting and other similar harvests from areas around trees that are known roost trees (where mother bats congregate to rear their pups) during early summer. Unlike caves, roost trees are not mapped or “known” and private landowners will not have to survey for them.

Emerald Ash Borer Found on White Fringetree

The Emerald Ash Borer (EAB) was discovered attacking a white fringetree in Dayton, OH this past fall. The discovery has many people concerned that other trees might be at potential risk as ash trees are killed off and populations are reduced. While many have worried that this may happen this was the first documented instance. It should be noted that the white fringetree and ash trees are in the same family (Oleaceae). Other members of this family include olives, forsythia, and privet—which is an exotic invasive shrub that is already causing problems in Kentucky.



White fringetree

Photo courtesy: John Ruter, University of Georgia, Bugwood.org

Act Relating to Timber Harvesting in Kentucky

Kentucky State Senator Joe Bowen of Owensboro introduced Kentucky Senate Bill 92 which has been signed by the Governor. This bill is commonly called the Bad Actor Bill because it requires Specifics loggers or operators who have received bad actor designations and have not paid fines and repaired sites to provide prior notice to the Kentucky Division of Forestry before engaging in any timber harvesting operations until they have paid all civil penalties and performed all required site remediation. Beginning on January 1, 2016 the Division will have the authority to issue an emergency order requiring any three time or more repeat bad actor to cease all timber harvesting operations until all required site remediation has been performed and all civil penalties have been paid or a repayment plan has been established and maintained.

Upcoming Dates To Remember:

2015 Dates:	Event:	Location:	Contact:
May - Dec.	Kentucky Master Logger 3-Day Program Offerings	Across the state through Dec.	www.masterlogger.org
June 12-14	Ky Master Woodland Stewards Program	Robinson Forest	www.ukforestry.org
August 15	Central Woodland Owners Short Course	Franklin/Woodford counties	www.ukforestry.org
August 29	West Woodland Owners Short Course	Christian County	www.ukforestry.org
Sept. 9 - 10	KY Wood Expo	Lexington, KY	www.kfia.org
September 26	East Woodland Owners Short Course	Carter/Rowan counties	www.ukforestry.org

NEWS TO USE

KY Master Woodland Stewards Program Accepting Applications

Applications are currently being accepted for the Kentucky Master Woodland Stewards Program. The idea behind the program is to provide interested woodland owners with advanced woodland management skills and to create forestry ambassadors across the commonwealth. The field portion of the program will take place at UK's historic Robinson Forest and will also include a number of webinars before and after the field portion. Applications must be received by May 15. You can apply online at www.ukforestry.org.

Space is limited so if this is an opportunity you are interested in please submit your application as soon as possible. For more information about this unique opportunity, please contact Billy Thomas at 859.257.9153 or billy.thomas@uky.edu.



The camp at UK's Robinson Forest.

Photo courtesy: Chris Osborne



Forestry Fall Webinar Recordings ONLINE

The 2014 Forestry Fall Webinar Series wrapped up in November but you can check out the recordings anytime by visiting www2.ca.uky.edu/forestryextension/webinars.php. We have a total of 10 webinars available on a variety of topics—there should be something of interest to everyone. All the webinars last approximately one hour and are FREE to view.

Service Forester's Handbook Available

The Service Forester's Handbook is a highly sought after tool used by foresters and natural resource professionals working in the field. This convenient pocket guide is now available as an app and interactive website. The Service Forester's Handbook provides a quick-reference for basic forest and land measurements, volume tables, silvicultural recommendations, site index curves, forest measurement formulas and more.

The Southern Region Extension Forestry (SREF) staff, working with experts in the field, have updated and organized all existing information, including modern, state of the art approaches to forest management, to redesign the overall look and feel of the book. The online version can be found at <http://handbook.sref.info/>. To download the mobile app version search for "Service Forester's Toolkit".



Tax Tips for Woodland Owners

U.S. Forest Service specialist Linda Wang recently released the Tax Tips for Forest Landowners for the 2014 Tax Year annual bulletin. You can get your copy by visiting <http://www2.ca.uky.edu/forestryextension/PDF/Tax-Tips2014.pdf>. Make sure to check out this valuable resource and feel free to pass it along to your tax preparer as well.

Test Your Knowledge Review

Answers from KWM Vol. 9 Issue 1

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