



Kentucky Tree Farm Committee Newsletter

New Standards of Sustainability

Hopefully, everyone now realizes that the American Tree Farm System (ATFS) is internationally recognized as an accredited forest certification system. The American Forest Foundation (ATFS' sponsoring organization) developed the new "Standards of Sustainability for Forest Certification" to promote the vitality of renewable forest resources while protecting environmental, economic and social benefits.

The Kentucky Tree Farm Committee wants to ensure current and future Tree Farmers know what the new standards mean. The new Standards were officially released January 1, 2010, and Tree Farmers will have one year to ensure their management plans and management activities meet the Standards. To read the complete Standards and download a management plan addendum, visit www.treefarmssystem.org/cms/pages/26_130.html

Top five things to know about the new Standards:

- 1) The Standards were developed specifically for small woodland owners to ensure the requirements were appropriate for the scale of management practiced on family woodlands across the U.S.
- 2) The management plan requirements under the new Standards correlate with the Forest Stewardship program streamlining the process for Tree Farm owners to participate in USDA conservation incentive programs. Tree Farm management plans will address the following elements as appropriate: landowner objectives, forest condition/health, management activities/prescriptions, tract map, soils/water resources, wood/fiber production, threatened/endangered species, high conservation value forests/other special sites, and invasive species/integrated pest management.
- 3) The Standards require maintenance of special cultural and environmental sites.
- 4) Periodic monitoring has been added to encourage landowners to monitor their woodlands for changes that could interfere with their management objectives.
- 5) Tree Farmers are encouraged to make practical efforts to prevent, eradicate or otherwise control invasive species using a range of integrated pest management methods.

Contact Information

You can learn more about the Tree Farm program in Kentucky by visiting www.kytreefarm.org or calling 502.695.3979.

Webinars on New Standards

ATFS is offering webinars that feature additional information for landowners, volunteers, and forestry consultants. The one-hour webinars will cover how the new Standards will impact current forest management practices.

- Tuesday, September 14, from 1 - 2 p.m.
- Tuesday, October 12, from 1 - 2 p.m.
- Tuesday, November 9, from 1 - 2 p.m.

Visit www.treefarmssystem.org/cms/pages/26_130.html to register.

Kentucky Tree Farm Committee Announces 2009 Award Winners

One of the most enjoyable but challenging jobs the Kentucky Tree Farm Committee (KTFC) undertakes each year is the selection of Kentucky Tree Farmer of the Year, Kentucky Logger of the Year, and Kentucky Tree Farm Inspector of the Year. We congratulate all the nominees, finalists, and winners.

And the winners are...

Felix Taylor from Annville, Kentucky was recently honored as the **2009 Kentucky Tree Farmer of the Year**.

Standing with the Taylors is Michael Froelich, forester with the Kentucky Division of Forestry Southeastern District, who nominated Mr. Taylor and Robert Volk (left), outgoing chair of the KTFC.



KTFC outgoing chair Robert Volk presented **Michael Froelich**, Kentucky Division of Forestry, with the **2009 Kentucky Tree Farm Inspector of the Year** award.

Jim Spangler (left), Bryan Equipment Company and Cary Perkins (right), KTFC incoming chair, presented a Still 044 chainsaw and plaque to **Ohio River Veneer, LLC** of Carrollton, KY. The firm was honored as the **2009 Kentucky Logger of the Year**.

