
	<h2 style="text-align: center;">Managing Your Forest for Timber and Wildlife! A Tree Farm Field Day!</h2> <p style="text-align: center;">Presented by Michigan Conservation Districts, Forestry Assistance Program, American Tree Farm System, and Lake States Forestry</p>	
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During this workshop you will learn about different factors to consider when making management decisions in your forested property. Specific topics will include defining your objectives, tree species and what they require, revenue from harvesting trees, wildlife habitat, diversity of species and structure, environmental quality, and invasive species. The field day will also introduce the American Tree Farm System (ATFS), a voluntary forest certification program for family forest owners. “Tree Farm” celebrated its 75th anniversary in 2016. The workshop will include an indoor presentation and a field tour of a property with different types of forest management and that is certified in ATFS and verified in Michigan Agriculture Environmental Assurance Program (MAEAP) Forest, Wetlands, and Habitat A*Syst (FWH*A*Syst). Continuing Education credits through the Society of American Foresters (4.5 Category 1 Credits), as well as MAEAP Phase 1 Education Credit, will be available for those who attend.

Location and Date

***Friday, June 23rd, 2017, from 10:00am to 4:00pm, at Sweetwater Township Hall and Paul Bigford’s parcel**

*At 10:00am, meet at Sweetwater Township Hall, 11265 W Stevenson Rd., Branch, MI 49402

*Lunch and the outdoor component will be at Paul Bigford’s parcel, 9991 W. Wingleton Rd., Branch, MI 49402

There is no cost to attend the workshop, and homemade PIZZA will be provided for lunch! Please register before June 19th, by contacting the Manistee Conservation District at 231-889-9666 or email Josh Shields, the Manistee and Mason-Lake Conservation District Forester, at joshua.shields@macd.org. You may also contact the Osceola-Lake Conservation District at 231-832-2950 or email Rick Lucas, the Osceola-Lake and Mecosta Conservation District Forester, at rick.lucas@mi.nacdnet.net.

Agenda:

Time	Topic	Presenter
10:00 - 11:00	INDOORS: Factors to consider when making forest management decisions on your land	<i>Josh Shields</i> , Forester at Manistee and Mason-Lake Conservation Districts; <i>Rick Lucas</i> , Forester at Osceola-Lake and Mecosta Conservation Districts; <i>Ken Ford</i> , Forester with Lake States Forestry
11:00 - 11:10	<i>Break</i>	
11:10 - 12:00	INDOORS: Tree Farm certification of family forests and a positive land ethic	<i>Josh Shields</i> , Forester at Manistee and Mason-Lake Conservation Districts; <i>Rick Lucas</i> , Forester at Osceola-Lake and Mecosta Conservation Districts; <i>Ken Ford</i> , Forester with Lake States Forestry
12:00 - 1:00	<i>PIZZA LUNCH at Paul Bigford’s Parcel! Provided by a grant from the Michigan Tree Farm Committee</i>	
1:00 - 4:00	OUTDOORS: Field tour of Paul Bigford’s parcel, a privately owned and managed forest that is certified in ATFS, verified in MAEAP FWH*A*Syst, and enrolled in the Qualified Forest Program (QFP)	<i>Josh Shields</i> , Forester at Manistee and Mason-Lake Conservation Districts; <i>Rick Lucas</i> , Forester at Osceola-Lake and Mecosta Conservation Districts; <i>Ken Ford</i> , Forester with Lake States Forestry