Summer Tour: Sat. July 18, 2009 from 1:00-4:00
THE CHANGING LAND
From Civil War-era Farm to 21st Century Tree “Plantation”

Enjoy a walk in the woods of the scenic South West corner of Greene County. Located near Nettle Hill and the crown of higher ground dividing the Monongahela and Ohio River watersheds, David & Bobbi Cressey’s adopted acreage encompasses hilltop and hollow, field and stream, and over 20 varieties of hardwoods repopulating former pasture.

Retired forester Arlyn Perkey will help us examine in detail four distinct patches of woods, ranging in age from 15 to 65 years. We will see first hand why certain species of trees thrive in certain locations, how to identify and release valuable crop trees, and how a woods—managed and unmanaged—looks and feels at different points as it matures.

A demonstration of the backpack spraying method of controlling invasives—honeysuckle, multiflora rose, olive et. al.—will be conducted, as well as a discussion of the pros and cons of herbicides.

This will be a good review of reforestation, microclimate, drainage, road and trail maintenance, wildlife habitat, and other assorted notions of place, time and change. And, of course, the SWPWO irregulars—wags with a proven ability to saunter through the woods and crack wise at the same time—will be performing.

Kosher wiener roast to follow.

Meet at 12:30 PM at the Greene County Fairgrounds, Building #10 to carpool or follow or meet at 1:00 at the Cressey’s. Directions follow.

From WAYNESBURG, head west on Route 18/21 through Rogersville (7 miles). At blinking light just west of ROGERSVILLE, where #18 and #21 diverge, turn left (right, if you’re coming from Graysville and points North) onto #18 South (Golden Oaks Rd) and proceed 10 miles through Holbrook and over Grimes Hill/Nettle Hill. Turn right onto Johnson Rd, the first signed road after descending the Hill. Cressey homestead is third house on the left, about ¼ of a mile in, and gray in color. Total distance from Courthouse in Waynesburg to Johnson Rd. is 17 miles.

Written by Dave Cressey
Reminder of Service
Available: Tree Tubes
At a great price

Our President, Bob Daley has arranged a great deal on products from a company called Plantra. Plantra carries a variety of items used on tree farms, including vented tubes, “C” style tubes, and “O” style tubes. It is recommended to install tree tubes of 4’ or taller on most hardwood seedlings. Plantra has bamboo stakes and mulch mats available also. The discount is as follows:

*SWPWO members 10% direct discount at time of order and an additional 25% rebate (about six weeks after)

*Nonmembers will receive a 10% immediate discount

To get the discount use the code “SWPENN29” when you checkout online. Information about the products from Plantra can be found at [http://plantra.com](http://plantra.com).

Joe McNaney has a local resource for oak stakes at a good price -4’ stakes at .65 cents and 5’ stakes at .85 cents. Contact Bob Daley (daley@cs.pitt.edu) if you are interested in purchasing these stakes or have questions. By Gay Thistle

Our Purpose
Southwestern Pennsylvania Woodland Owners (SWPWO), a not for profit association, is an organization of individuals interested in sound woodland management practices which encourage the diverse use of forests for timber production, wildlife habitat, watershed protection and recreation and to promote this multiple-use philosophy through education and technical assistance for the benefit of the membership and general public.

2009 SWPWO Schedule of Events
August 14 Field Trip
Visit to a Sawmill
Note Unusual Day Friday
Time: 1:00 PM Place: Summit Forest Resources, Inc., Markleysburg, PA
Meet at 11:30 PM at Building #10, Greene Country Fairgrounds, Waynesburg, PA

September 9 Meeting
Owls of SW PA
Rodney Burns, PA Wildlife Conservation Officer will speak to us about owls that are commonly found in our area. We will learn about their habits and habitats. Time: 7:00 PM Place: Building #10, Greene Country Fairgrounds, Waynesburg, PA

September 12 Field Trip
Owl Spotting Tour
Note Unusual Time
Time: 6:30 PM. Place to be determined.

October 17 Picnic with Plant Identification Competition and Potato Gun Competition
(Members, Friends and Family)
Time: To be determined
Place: To be determined

November 18 Meeting
Managing Your Forests: Where to Begin
Arlyn Perkey, US Forest Service (Ret.), and John Burnham, Past President SWPWO. Do you have a Stewardship Plan, but still find yourself struggling with the questions of what should I do, where should I do it, and how should I do it? Maybe starting to manage a few acres with good access will help you build your confidence. Time: 7:00 PM. Place: First Floor Meeting Room, Courthouse Square Building, 100 W. Beau Street, Washington, PA. Free Parking: enter through the Beau
Street B-Level entrance at the base of the Courthouse Square Building

November 21 Field Trip
Visit to a Recently Treated and Untreated Portion of John Burnham's Forest Land
This field trip will visit the woods discussed at the previous meeting. We will look at a similar untreated portion of the woods. We will discuss observations about the site and alternatives for landowners to consider. We will look at what John decided to do and talk about how he did it. You can decide how it looks to you. We will discuss how it is likely to change in the next 20 years. Time: 1:00 PM. Place: John Burnham's Woodlot in SW Washington County
Meet at 12:30 PM at Building #10, Greene Country Fairgrounds, Waynesburg, PA.

Membership Information
For 2009
Membership dues for 2009 will be collected at the meetings or can be sent to:

SWPWO
2506 Hollywood Dr
Pittsburgh, PA 15235

If sending in dues, please include name, address, phone number and an e-mail address. Membership to the Southwestern Pennsylvania Woodland Owners Association is $10 per year for an individual and $15 per year for a household.

Our SWPWO Website
www.cs.pitt.edu/~daley/swpwo for the most up to date information about

Executive Committee for the year 2009
Officers
Bob Daley- President
Maria Piantanida-Vice Pres.
Gay Thistle- Secretary
Earl Novendstern- Treasurer
Board of Directors
Joe McNaney
Dave Cressey
C. Michael Irvin
Advisors
Bill Wentzel
Arlyn Perkey
Ralph Campbell
Past Presidents
John Burnham
Harold Thistle

Newsletter Info.
This newsletter is published about eight times each year. The editors are Gay Thistle and John Burnham. Articles written by our members are welcome. Please submit them to Gay at thistle@windstream.net. Next newsletter- around Aug. 8,2009