Next Meeting: September 9
September 9 Meeting
Owls of SW PA
Rodney Burns, PA Wildlife Conservation Officer will speak to us about owls 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

Field Trip: Saturday evening
September 12, 2009
Owl Spotting Tour
Meet at 6:00 PM at Building #10, Greene Country Fairgrounds, Waynesburg, PA
Note unusual time so that we might see or hear owls, which are nocturnal animals.

Mixing Herbicide Solutions
Using a Concentrate
By Arlyn Perkey Tree Farm

It is usually much cheaper to purchase herbicide in a concentrated form and mix the solution that is needed for specific applications.

For example, my last herbicide purchase was for 2.5 gallons of glyphosate that has the brand name Ranger Pro. It has a concentration of 41%. I can use this one product to accomplish the 2 applications I most commonly use on my tree farms. I apply herbicide to the cambium of cut stumps to prevent re-sprouting. I also do foliar application of this same herbicide. The cut stump treatment to the cambium requires a much higher concentration than a foliar application to the leaves. Since I mix my own solutions, I have the flexibility of using 1 product to do 2 tasks.

To mix any herbicide solution, it is important to read and follow the directions printed on the LABEL. This label is attached to the container of herbicide, or is available on the internet.

CUT STUMP TREATMENT SOLUTION

The label for Ranger Pro recommends using a 50 to 100%
solution of the 41% Concentrate. For years, I mixed a solution that was 50% concentrate and 50% water. With most targeted species, I have achieved satisfactory results. However, recently I have encountered some species (sycamore) where I have not achieved the desired level of control with this mixture. I may need to move closer to using 100% concentrate on plants that are less susceptible to glyphosate applied to the cambium.

FOLIAR APPLICATION SOLUTION

The label for Ranger Pro recommends solutions for several species commonly targeted in forest management treatments. For example, multiflora-rose can be treated with a 1% solution. Most species I need to treat have a recommended solution of 1 to 2% for foliar application. The label has a table that shows that a 1% solution can be obtained by mixing 1 1/3 ounces of concentrate with 1 gallon (128 ounces) of water. Since a 1-2% solution will be effective with most of the species I want to treat, I usually mix 1.5 ounces of concentrate with each gallon of water. I generally mix 2 gallons of solution at a time in a 2.5 gallon container. This gives me room to add 3 ounces of concentrate to 2 gallons of water in the container and then swish it around to obtain good mixing. Then I pour the solution into my back pack sprayer to apply it to vegetation. If I am going to be treating a less susceptible species, I increase the concentration of the solution. Proportions are as follows; 1 % solution = 1 1/3 oz./gallon 1.5 % solution = 2 oz./gallon 2 % solution = 2 2/3 oz./gallon

With any herbicide you want to use, it is important to find the label, read the instructions, and heed all precautions. You can only kill the target species once. There is no need to apply more herbicide than needed to accomplish that goal. You don’t get extra credit for overkill.

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
SWPWO Business

Another year of SWPWO events is coming to an end after our November meeting. At the November meeting we will be holding elections for two position- Treasurer and one Board of Director position. Please thank Joe McNaney and Earl Novendstern for their productive years of service to this organization. The Executive Committee is preparing a list for nominations. More information in regards to elections will be in the November newsletter.

Education Outreach Committee Forming

The Executive Committee has decided to form a SWPWO Educational Outreach committee. The purpose of this group would be to reach out to youth organizations that may want SWPWO to “teach” or demonstrate the benefits and beauties of our woodlands. If you are interested in serving on this committee, please call Gay Thistle at 724-499-5190.

2009 SWPWO Schedule of Events

NEW DATE!!
November 4 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

NEW DATE!!
November 7 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.
Travel Idea: Grey Towers National Historic Site

Tucked in the far northeast corner of Pennsylvania is Grey Towers National Historic site. Grey Towers was the home of Gifford Pinchot, the nation’s first forester and founder of the conservation movement in the United States. Pinchot served as the very first Chief of the U.S. Forest Service and also served as the governor of PA for two terms. His accomplishments were remarkable and his ideas are still being practiced today. His estate is open for tours from May to October. Many events occur during the season. In early August (this year it was Aug 8 and 9) the “Goods from the Woods” festival which celebrates the use of wood in our everyday lives. Craftspeople and artist from the region exhibit, sell, and demonstrate their crafts from wood. There is live music played from wooden instruments and there are many children’s events. A lecture series is also offered on both days of the festival on the year’s topic. This year’s topics included alternative forest products, forest land conservation, and foods from the woods. More information and a schedule of events can be found at www.greytowers.org or call 570-296-9630. Written by Gay Thistle

Our SWPWO Website www.cs.pitt.edu/~daley/swpwo for the most up to date information about our organization and connections to other resources to help you manage your woodlot

“Trees do generate oxygen; men just breathe it up, stink it up, and generally misuse it. Trees hold the soil in place, men are constantly displacing it. Trees provide shelter and protection to countless species, men threaten the existence of those species. When in sufficient number, trees regulate atmospheric temperature, men endanger the planet by knocking those regulations askew. You can’t rest in the shade of a human, even a roly-poly one; and isn’t it refreshing that trees can undergo periodic change without having a nervous breakdown about it? Best of all, perhaps, what maple or cypress ever tried to sell you something you did not want?” excerpt from Tom Robbins book “Villa Incognito” pp15-16.
The Cuts Used to Create Veneer

The size of the log, the species of wood, the grain pattern desired and other factors determine which type of cut will be made to create veneer. Below are some of the most common methods of cutting logs.

**Rotary Cut**

The log is centered on a lathe and turned against a broad cutting knife set into the log at a slight angle.

**Quarter Slicing**

The slicing is made perpendicular to the annual growth rings of the tree. This creates a straight grain appearance.

**Lengthwise Slicing**

This is done from a board of flat sawn lumber rather than from a log. A variegated figure is created with this slice.

**Plain Slicing**

By slicing parallel to the center of the log, a raised "cathedral effect" is formed by the innermost growth rings.

The saw blade (left) used in these illustrations is not what is actually used to cut veneer. It is only a simple representation to show where the cut is made. The type of blades used for cutting varies from mill to mill and cut to cut.
Half-Round Slicing

Sliced on an arc parallel to the center of the log, this cut achieves a flat-cut veneer appearance.

Rift Cut

This straight grain cut is derived by slicing red and white oak at a slight angle to minimize the irregularities in the wood.

More information can be found about veneer production in the publication Woodsmith, Vol. 30/No. 180 p 9. The above information was printed from the website: http://www.oakwoodveneer.com/tips/cuts.html

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.

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.

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 thistle@windstream.net. Next newsletter~ October 29, 2009