



Woodlot Owner Review

Summer 2009 Vol. 10 No. 1



2009 Nova Scotia Woodlot Owner of the Year Award Winner Announced

****WOYA's 20th Anniversary****

Provincial Winner

Congratulations to Rex Veinot and family, the 2009 Provincial and Western Regional Winners of the Woodlot Owner of the Year Award (WOYA).



Rex Veinot, son, Ryan, and family pooch, Lucky. (Photo by Milena McWatt)

The Veinot family's 350-acre (142-hectare) woodlot, Maplewood Maple Syrup and Christmas Tree Farm, is located at Maplewood Community, Lunenburg County. The woodlot exhibits long-term sound forestry practices, including an emphasis on mixed species and uneven-aged stands management.

It's no surprise that the Veinot family won the provincial Woodlot Owner of the Year Award 13 years ago, that Rex has served as past president of the Lunenburg County Christmas Tree Producers' Association, and that several community members have enjoyed wagon tours of his woodlot. This beautiful property includes

a large sugar bush and many varieties of Christmas trees, with interspersed apple trees for wildlife. Rex has installed several nest boxes for birds and bats around the woodlot and is hoping to work with local Boy Scouts put up even more. He has also carefully maintained streams, ponds, and riparian areas for habitat. The woodlot even boasts a pristine natural spring, which a neighbour claimed had healing properties, a hundred years ago! All the activities on this woodlot contribute not only to the local economy, but also to the export market.



Fountain of Youth... (Photo by Milena McWatt)

The Veinot family woodlot has been kept this way through thoughtful management. Rex is a big advocate of management plans, and has been updating his since 1978. His vision is to ensure the woodlot is healthy and intact in the future. Rex is the fourth generation to run the woodlot, and is hoping to pass it onto the fifth (son Ryan and daughter Venessa) and sixth generations, continuing the legacy.

Field Day: October 3, 2009 (in conjunction with the Lunenburg County Christmas Tree Producers Tour)

Topics: Christmas trees, maple production, Category 7, and much more!

Directions: TBA on our website (see pg. 4)

Eastern Winner

Congratulations are in order for Brian Archibald and family (wife Margaret, sons Donnelly and Daniel, and brother Blair), this year's Woodlot Owner of the Year winners for Eastern Nova

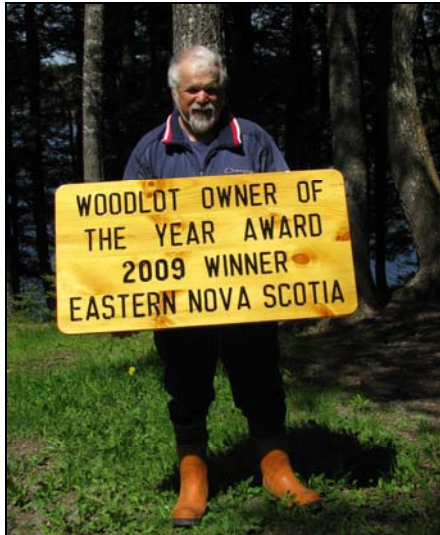


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Scotia. Brian, a retired school teacher and an avid sports enthusiast, now devotes even more than every hour of daylight after school - on non-coaching days! - and weekends to his woodlot. Such dedication and work ethic really shows, from his sheared Christmas trees to rolling fields of blueberries. This delightful property is located near Aspen, in Guysborough County.



Brian Archibald
(Photo by Milena McWatt)

Forestry has played a key role in Brian's family for many generations. He grew up near Denver/Archibalds Mill, Nova Scotia. His father and uncles operated a water-powered saw mill, and Brian got his first power saw at the tender age of 12! Brian purchased his first woodlot in 1979, and now has over 500 acres (200 ha) of woodlands. The woodlot is bounded by the Saint Mary's River's East and North Branches, and circumvented by the old Guysborough Railroad and the Maritimes Northeast Pipeline. A visit to Brian's woodlot would include sights of mixed-species and uneven-aged stands, hardwood stands, an eagle's nest, and possibly a glimpse of one of thirty wood turtle nests that were documented on an adjacent property, along the Saint Mary's River.

Brian's knowledge, passion, and achievement on his woodlot are recognized through his participation with the Northeastern Christmas Tree Association and the Wild Blueberry Producers

Association of Nova Scotia. He is also a member of the Nova Scotia Landowners and Forest Fibre Producers Association and the Nova Scotia Forest Products Association.



♪ Blueberry fields forever... ♪
(Photo by Milena McWatt)

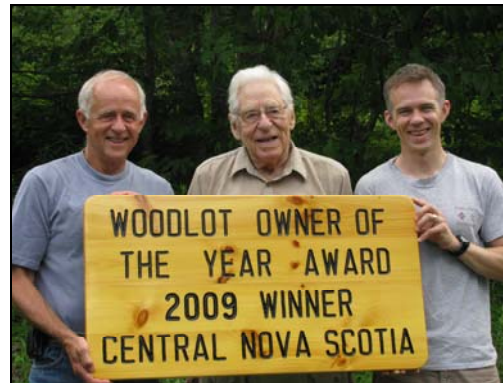
Field Day: September 12, 2009

Topics: Blueberries, hardwood stands

Directions: TBA on our website (see pg. 4)

Central Winner

Congratulations to George and Phillis Cook and family, this year's Regional Woodlot Owner of Year Award recipients for Central Nova Scotia. Since the 1980s, George has been working tirelessly on his 825-acre (334 ha) woodlot, Maple Ridge Farm, including planting 70 000 trees! George hails from Urbania, Hants County, where he grew up on a forested homestead.



Steven, George, and Chris Cook (L-R).
(Photo by Milena McWatt)



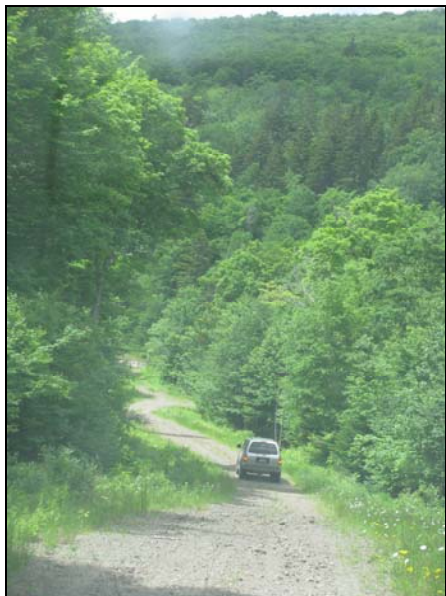
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The original 600 acres of woodlot were purchased in 1974, and added to with two smaller parcels over the years. The Cook family woodlot has a strong history of sustainable forest management practices and the results are evident. The “Drs Cook” - George, son Steven, and grandson Chris - have used forest management plans since 1979 and many sound techniques over the years.

By using treatments appropriate to the woodlot species, the Cook family woodlot has maintained uneven-aged stands. In some areas which were damaged then completely harvested, natural regeneration is resulting in a mixed-species succession. Steven has a small portable one-person mill for cutting lumber, but the family also has strong ties to non-timber forest products. There are six acres of low-bush blueberries, Steven’s hobby woodworking, and what was once the largest producer of maple sugar products in the area. The Cooks had a 25000-tap sugar bush, but the sugarhouse collapsed under the weight of a Warwick Mountain snowstorm!



Awe-inspiring view at the Cook family woodlot. (Photo by Milena McWatt)

Heavy snowfalls in winter are just the one example of Mother Nature’s presence at Maple Ridge Farm. The breathtaking woodlot also boasts an abundance of wildlife and a cold

mountain brook, rumoured to be a great fishing spot.

Field Day: September 26, 2009

Topics: NTFPs, portable mill, hurricane and insect damage

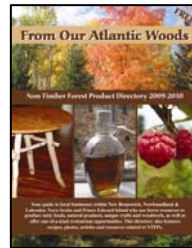
Directions: TBA on our website (see pg. 4)

Woodlot Owner of the Year Trivia!

Match the woodlot owner to little-known fact! (Answers on page 4)

1. Brian Archibald
2. Rex Veinot
3. George Cook

- A. He was once the League MVP as goalie of the last-place hockey team!
- B. He was a Royal Canadian Air Force pilot for four years in World War III!
- C. He was called a “shining star” by Physical & Health Education Canada, and named best PE teacher in Nova Scotia!



Have you got your free copy of **From Our Atlantic Woods** non-timber forest products directory? To order one for yourself, or several for distribution at your place of business, or to list your business, please contact Simon Mutabazi (contact info below).

Coming Soon: Revised Module 10B! Keep your eyes peeled to our website for this updated (and free!) opportunity to learn more about “**Managing Woodlot Finances: Income Tax and Estate Planning Guide,**” including **NEW** information on the forestry sector and **succession planning.**

Crop Tree Pruning Brochures now available from the Association for Sustainable Forestry www.asforestry.com.



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Natural Resources Strategy

In keeping with the targets identified in Nova Scotia's *Environmental Goals and Sustainable Prosperity Act* (2007), DNR is in the process of creating a revised Strategy. Thus far, citizen engagement has resulted in a final report entitled *Our Common Ground: The Future of Nova Scotia's Natural Resources*, wherein the public identified five core values: **sustainability**, **diversity**, **collaboration**, **transparency**, and **informed decision-making**. The Strategy is currently in Phase 2.

✓Phase 1 - Citizen engagement & Public consultation (Jan. - Dec. 2008)

Phase 2 - **Technical expertise/Stakeholder engagement** (Jan. - Sept. 2009)

Phase 3 - Strategy Development - October 2009 to March 2010

Category 7 Quality Improvement Funding

- Available through the Association for Sustainable Forestry (ASF) for:
 - Crop Tree Release
 - Crop Tree Pruning
 - Selection Management

Technical Criteria, information on funding and uneven-aged management can be found on the ASF website: <http://www.asforestry.com/Category7program.htm>

Contact: Rebecca Aggas
902-895-1179 / rjaggas@asforestry.com

Event Listings

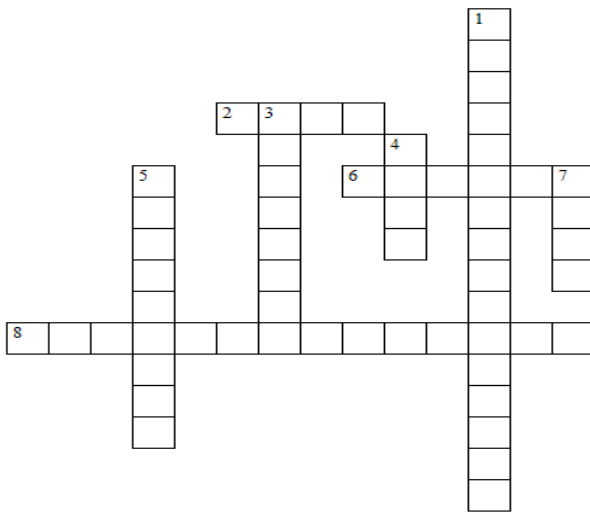
2009 Atlantic BIOEnergy Conference

September 21 – 23, Moncton, NB

- Forestry, Agriculture & Waste industries
- Renewable energy opportunities in Atlantic Canada
- Growth & Sustainability of bioenergy

(Answers to Woodlot Owner Trivia: 1C, 2A, 3B)

Did you know?



ACROSS

- Cost of home study and library loans through DNR
- The city NS donates a giant Christmas tree to each year as a thank-you for assistance after the 1917 Halifax Explosion
- Type of tree named "oldest in Nova Scotia" at 420 years

DOWN

- How to learn more about managing your woodlot
- A type of zone important for wildlife, as well as preventing erosion, fire, and water pollution
- Honours outstanding stewardship on private woodlots
- The most common kind of tree plantation in Nova Scotia
- Abbreviation for things like mushrooms, maple syrup, blueberries

How to reach us:

Stewardship & Outreach Section
 Department of Natural Resources
 P.O. Box 698
 Halifax, NS B3J 2T9
 Phone: 902.424.5444
 Toll-Free: 1.866.226.7577
 Fax: 902.424.7735
 E-mail: woodlot@gov.ns.ca
 Web: www.gov.ns.ca/natr/extension/



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Woodlot Owner of the Year Award - 2010 Nomination Form

(Please note, deadline for nominations is March 31, 2010)

Owner's Name: _____

Phone: _____

Address: _____

Postal Code: _____

Woodlot Location(s): _____ Size (ha or acres): _____

Nominator's Name: _____ Phone: _____

Nominator's e-mail address: _____

Why is this owner a good candidate for the Woodlot Owner of the Year Award?

Please return form to:

Stewardship & Outreach Section
 Department of Natural Resources
 P.O. Box 698
 Halifax, NS B3J 2T9
 Phone: 902.424.5444
 Toll-Free: 1.866.226.7577
 Fax: 902.424.7735
 E-mail: woodlot@gov.ns.ca
 Web: www.gov.ns.ca/natr/extension/