

WCFA Newsletter
August 2010, Issue 10



Weberville Community Model Forest



Exciting future for the WCFA

It has been another exciting year for the Weberville Project under the management of the Weberville Community Forest Association. Since its inception in April 2008, the project has focused its efforts on developing community-based forest management on private land. This has included activities such as creating the community-run board, conducting forest inventories, tree planting opportunities and various other extension activities.

This past year was no exception as the WCFA held its AGM on May 20th and was able to reflect on its accomplishments. Some notable highlights are the more than 10 miles of cleared recreational trails, over 40,000 trees planted, 36 private land inventories, and the 14 woodlot management plans developed for private landowners.

As for Phase III of the project, which commenced on April 1st of this year, there are already a number of exciting accomplishments and a bright future is up ahead. In June, the WCFA was awarded the Grassroots Environmental Stewardship award by the Alberta Stewardship Network. In July, a number of area landowners had trees planted through an initiative of the Woodlot Association of Alberta. And in August, the WCFA was officially welcomed as the 15th member of the Canadian Model Forest Network! This prestigious membership will greatly assist the WCFA to expand and implement its vision as model for other forest-based communities.

Upcoming projects will see continued private land inventories, more tree planting opportunities, further recreational trail development, and greater educational opportunities. In addition, an application to Alberta Innovates which was initiated by FPInnovations, Daishowa-Marubeni International and the novaNAIT Boreal Research Institute, that if approved, will see the Weberville Community Model Forest play a central role. The focus of the application is to conduct feasibility studies in three potential areas of development; biomass energy, tree cropping, and pulp mill sludge applications as fertilizer. Should the application be approved the feasibility studies would start this fall.

*We're all looking forward to another exciting year for the WCFA and the new
Weberville Community Model Forest!*

Highlights from Phase II

WCFA AGM May 20th, 2010

The Annual General Meeting was held at the Bar 2A Ranch on May 20th and was attended by over 20 interested individuals from the Weberville area and beyond. The meeting provided a review of the previous year's activities and vision for the future.

Hugh Seaton, manager of the Boreal Research Institute (BRI) and Dave Blackmore, manager of the Woodland Operations Learning Foundation (WOLF), attended the meeting and presented information on how their respective organizations may be able to assist with the objectives of the Weberville Community Model Forest.



Community members enjoy a BBQ supper prior to the AGM held at the Bar 2A Ranch on May 20th.

Dave Blackmore announced that WOLF is willing to offer one or more of its courses to members of the WCFA. Examples of topics include:

- Woodland Stewardship
- Woodland Insects, Diseases and Weeds in Alberta
- Woodland Wildlife and Biodiversity
- Woodland Soils
- Woodland Water Quality, Erosion Control and Crossing Construction

If you are interested in attending one of these courses, please contact Lisa Ladd at 780-624-1987. For more information about WOLF courses, please visit their website at www.w-o-l-f.ca



Hugh Seaton (BRI) and Dave Blackmore (WOLF) were on hand to show their support for the WCFA.

Board of Directors 2010/11

Juri Agapow - President
Peter Harter - Vice President
Lisa Ladd - Secretary /Treasurer
Wendy Boggs - Director
Wayne Davie - Director
Stan Jensen - Director
Tanya Nagy - Director
Doris Harter - Director
Bonnie Hood -Director
Doug Macaulay (AB Agriculture) -Advisor
Hugh Bailey (Agriculture Canada) -Advisor
Owen Cook (Sustainable Resources)- Advisor

Welcome to the new Board of Directors 2010/11

The Weberville Community Forest Association held its elections for the Board of Directors and is very pleased to announce that all original board members will be remaining. In addition, the WCFA welcomes new member, Bonnie Hood, to the Board of Directors.

With the momentum acquired over the past year, the WCFA Board hopes to continue development of existing projects as well as expand their vision beyond the original Weberville Project boundaries on a case by case basis.

Plans for Phase III

Woodlot Tour of the Peace Country

On Saturday, August 7th, the Woodlot Association of Alberta (WAA), in partnership with the Alberta Forest Extension Network (AFEX), held a Woodlot Tour of the Peace Country. Over 30 people from throughout Alberta joined the tour and were treated to a full day of educational and interesting woodlot sites. Stops included a tour of the Rafter 86 Studio birch syrup operation, a presentation by Juri about the Weberville Project, a visit to the Murdoch Lake Agro-forestry Demonstration site, the DMI tree improvement test site, and the NPARA trials, as well as a tour of the Peppler Tree Farm and the Peace Cherry Ranch.



Woodlot Inventories

Patrick is back once again. He arrived by the end of July and is now preparing the woodlot management plans as well as the landscape level plan. Once the management plans are completed, he will be conducting inventories until he leaves the end of September. Patrick will also be joined by an assistant, also from Germany, and also coincidentally named Patrick (amicably referred to as Patrick #2) who arrives in Canada on August 25th. Patrick #2 will be assisting in conducting the woodlot inventories. Many landowners have already signed up to have the free woodlot inventory conducted. In addition, the remaining woodlot inventories from last year will be finalized. The priority is to complete all of the previous inventories and to conduct at least another six inventories this year.

Inventories which were completed last year will be distributed to those landowners shortly. Patrick will be contacting the landowners to set a meeting date to discuss the inventory and findings. He will also gather input for the management plan and collect some information from the landowners about goals and objectives. The data that has been collected so far gives a great overview over the area and helps creating the landscape level management plan. Tables and charts have been already created to explain the collected data more easily. Recommendations and an example of a community approach for a project will be included in the first volume of the landscape level plan.

Anyone interested in having a woodlot inventory conducted on their land is asked to contact Patrick at 780-624-4529

Congratulations to the WCFA for winning the Grassroots Environmental Stewardship Award!

The group was recognized through this award for their commitment and effort to enact a positive environmental change within their local community.

Juri Agapow, Doug Macaulay, Lisa Ladd and Patrick Hiesl show off the trophy and certificate.



Thanks to our supporters!



Special Thanks to:

RENTCO in Peace River for donating the 5-day use of a Bobcat for trail development.

MD #22 County of Northern Lights for donating \$10,000 in support of the project

TW Trucking for providing labour and equipment for trail development.

Alberta Forest Extension Network for providing a grant of \$10,000 to cover the costs of conducting inventories and developing a landscape-level forest management plan.

Woodland Operations Learning Foundation (WOLF) for offering environmental education courses to WCFA members

*Interested in receiving our quarterly newsletters or require more information about the Weberville Community Model Forest ?
Please direct your inquiries to:*

Lisa Ladd
Weberville Community Model Forest - General Manager
Box 5195, Peace River, AB T8S 1R8
Phone: (780) 624-1987 **Fax:** (780) 624-5125 **E-mail:** laddscape@hotmail.com

CONTACTS

Lisa Ladd
WCMF General Manager
(780) 624-1987
laddscape@hotmail.com

Juri Agapow
FPInnovations – Feric Division
(780) 624-4529
juri-a@vcr.feric.ca

Doug Macaulay
Agroforestry & Woodlot
Extension Society
(780) 980-3511
Doug.macaulay@gov.ab.ca

THANK YOU TO OUR SUPPORTERS!

PROJECT LEADERS 2009/10



SPONSORS



SUPPORTERS

