



SOIL  
AND WATER  
CONSERVATION  
SOCIETY

Healthy Land  
Clean Water  
For Life

Southern  
New England  
Chapter

## 2018 WINTER CONFERENCE

[swcssnec.org/2018winter](http://swcssnec.org/2018winter) | <https://snec2018.eventbrite.com>

# HEALTHY FORESTS HEALTHY HABITATS

**MARCH 16, 2018 | 1 DAY**

**Publick House Historic Inn  
Sturbridge, MA**

*CEU's awarded for attendance*

Guest Speakers include;

**Lois Bruinooge**, Executive Director, The Last Green Valley, & Coordinator, Southern New England Heritage Forest Project

**Michael Downey**, Service Forestry Program Director, MA DCR

**Jennifer Fish**, Service Forestry Program Director, MA DCR

**Fern Graves**, Principal Forester & Stewardship Coordinator, RI DEM

**Douglas Hutcheson**, Service Forester, MA DCR

**Dr. Steve Johnson**, Senior Ecologist, SWCA Environmental Consultants

**Christopher Martin**, Forestry Director, CT DEEP

**John Scanlon**, Habitat Program Supervisor, MA FWE

**Thomas E Worthley**, Associate Extension Professor, UConn

In keeping with the Forestry theme, we will be joined for the day by members of the **Yankee Division of the Society of American Foresters (YDSAF)**, the professional forestry organization in Southern New England, for their Annual Meeting.

**SWCS Southern New England Chapter | [info@swcssnec.org](mailto:info@swcssnec.org) | (518) 669-5902**

*Serving Connecticut, Massachusetts and Rhode Island since 1946*



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### **PRESENTATIONS**

SWCS Southern New England Chapter is pleased to offer six (6) hours of professional development content. Certificates of Attendance will include the agenda to facilitate use for maintaining professional certifications. *Note: CT DEEP has assigned 2.5 CEUs for CT Forest Practitioners. The National Society of American Foresters (SAF) and the State of Massachusetts have awarded CEU's for this program.*

**Lois Bruinooge**, Executive Director, The Last Green Valley (TLGV)  
Coordinator, Southern New England Heritage Forest Project

#### ***“Partners Bring \$6.1 Million to the Region for Forest Conservation!”***

The Southern New England Heritage Forest is a unique region encompassing 68 towns in CT, MA, and RI. They have a large project (in conjunction with NRCS) to work on forestlands – both to implement forest practices to improve habitat for birds and also to put permanent easements on forestland. TLGV has successfully partnered with 19 organizations to bring \$6.1 million in new federal dollars to the region for healthy woods and forest land conservation.

**Michael Downey**, Service Forester  
Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR)

#### ***“Introduction to Agroforestry: The Science, Practice and Possibilities for Massachusetts”***

Agroforestry (combination of traditional agriculture and conventional forestry) looks to provide landowners and farmers with additional tools to manage their forests in a sustainable manner. This presentation will provide an introduction to the five recognized agroforestry practices: Windbreaks, Alleycropping, Silvopasture, Forest Farming, and Riparian Buffers.

**Fern Graves**, Principal Forester & Stewardship Coordinator  
Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management (DEM)

#### ***“Healthy Forests”***

Healthy forests are crucial to protecting soil and water quality in a world shaped by human change. Active forest management is more critical than ever to maintain forest health and promote the ecosystem services that forests provide. This presentation will discuss how developing a Forest Management Plan is central in active management and should incorporate all aspects of forestland – including soil, water, wildlife, plants, and insects.



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**Douglas Hutcheson**, Service Forester

Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR)

#### ***“Forestry Best Management Practices”***

Doug will highlight the state's Timber Harvesting Best Management Practices (BMPs) related to soil and water conservation. Each participant will receive a MA Best Management Practices manual and we will walk through it with an emphasis on BMPs focused on soils, erosion, and water quality.

**Jennifer Fish**, Service Forestry Program Director

Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR)

#### ***“Foresters for the Birds Program”***

The Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation Foresters for the Birds program is designed to help you enhance bird habitat in your woods. This new program is a partnership between the Massachusetts Department of Conservation, the Massachusetts Audubon, and the Massachusetts Woodlands Institute. Together, these organizations will provide expertise, assistance and funding necessary for you to manage your woodlands for birds.

**Steve Johnson, Ph.D.**, Environmental Specialist, Senior Ecologist

SWCA Environmental Consultants, Amherst MA

#### ***“Rare and Endangered Species and Forest Cutting”***

Touching on the differences between federally and state listed species and discuss how the presence of rare species could affect a project. Using Massachusetts as an example of a typical New England state, I'll describe a few rare species that occur in New England forests, and how a forester can determine if a project may impact rare species, and what those species may be. We will also discuss specific issues regarding rare bats within forests.



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**Christopher Martin**, State Forester, Forestry Director  
CT Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (DEEP)

#### ***“Forestry and Water Quality”***

Protecting water quality while harvesting forest products is essential to a successful forest management operation. No change to the biological, chemical, and physical characteristics of water bodies and watercourses within the harvest area is the desired outcome. This presentation will review fundamental principles of an outcome-based approach to Forestry BMP implementation designed to protect water quality while harvesting forest products.

**John Scanlon**, Habitat Program Supervisor  
Massachusetts Division of Fisheries & Wildlife (FWE)

#### ***“MassWildlife Landscape Goals for Wildlife Habitats”***

This presentation traces the development and adoption of landscape goals by MassWildlife for grassland, shrubland, and forest habitats, including both young (early-successional) forest and forest reserves. The presentation describes how rare and declining species benefit from active habitat management, how soil characteristics influence management planning, and reviews specific management practices used to achieve desired habitat conditions, such as tree clearing, mowing/mulching, invasive plant control, and prescribed burning. Opportunities for conducting and funding similar work on private forestlands, land trust properties, and town forest lands are summarized.

**Thomas E. Worthley**, Associate Extension Professor  
University of Connecticut

#### ***“Perspectives on woodland management in a parcelizing world”***

The presentation will discuss patterns of land ownership and the trend of shrinking average parcel size in Southern New England. Woodland owner priorities will also be discussed, based on recent survey data. How do these socio-economic factors affect the ways forestry is practiced? Will forestry as a profession become increasingly irrelevant on half the private forest acreage in Southern New England? Perhaps not, with a bit of creative thinking. What logistical models for forest management and management practice implementation might we experiment with, try and apply on small-acreage parcels? What economic factors must be taken into consideration?





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Friday MARCH 16 | STURBRIDGE, MA

## AGENDA

8:00 a.m.	<b>Registration   Exhibits &amp; Networking   Continental Healthy Breakfast</b>
9:00 a.m.	<i>"Welcome and Opening Remarks"</i> <b>Thomas Akin</b> , SWCS SNEC President
9:15a.m.	<i>"Healthy Forests"</i> <b>Fern Graves</b> , Principal Forester & Stewardship Coordinator, RI DEM
10.00 a.m.	<i>"Forestry Best Management Practices"</i> <b>Douglas Hutcheson</b> , Service Forester, MA DCR
10:20 a.m.	<b>Break</b> — Refreshments
10:35 a.m.	<i>"Forestry and Water Quality"</i> <b>Christopher Martin</b> , Forestry Director, CT DEEP
11:15 a.m.	<i>"Rare and Endangered Species and Forest Cutting"</i> <b>Steve Johnson</b> , Ph.D., Senior Ecologist, SWCA Environmental Consultants
	<b>Lunch   Exhibits   Networking</b>
12:00 p.m.	12:30 —1:00 p.m. Yankee Division of the Society of American Foresters (YDSAF) Annual Meeting Located in Pineapple Room
1:00 p.m.	<i>"Perspectives on Woodland Management in a Parcelizing World"</i> <b>Thomas E. Worthley</b> , Associate Extension Professor, University of Connecticut
1:40p.m.	<i>"Introduction to Agroforestry: The Science, Practice and Possibilities for Massachusetts"</i> <b>Michael Downey</b> , Service Forester, MA DCR
2:20p.m.	<i>"Partners Bring \$6.1 Million to the Region for Forest Conservation!"</i> <b>Lois Bruinooge</b> , Executive Director, The Last Green Valley (TLGV), & Coordinator, Southern New England Heritage Forest Project
2:50 p.m.	<b>Break</b>
3:05 p.m.	<i>"Foresters for the Birds Program"</i> <b>Jennifer Fish</b> , Service Forestry Program Director, MA DCR
3:35 p.m.	<i>"MassWildlife Landscape Goals for Wildlife Habitats"</i> <b>John Scanlon</b> , Habitat Program Supervisor, Massachusetts FWE
4:15 p.m.	<i>Closing Remarks &amp; Issue Certificates of Attendance</i>
4:30 p.m.	<b>SWCS Southern New England Chapter Meeting - Open to All in Pineapple Room</b>