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Fublished by the Woodlot Association of Alberta (WAA)

## September, 2014



Our Mission Statement :

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"The Woodlot Association of Alberta's purpose is to promote leadership in sustainable forest management by encouraging the development of private forest by increasing awareness of their inherent social, economic and environmental values."

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#### **Board of Directors**

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### **Up Coming Events**

Board of Directors - Teleconference - September 29, 2014 October 27, 2014 November 24, 2014

All calls are at 7pm

Annual General Meeting to be held October 18 & 19, 2014 in Whitecourt

#### **Classified** Ads



#### Hello everyone,

After a hot and dry summer, we wait in anticipation of what the fall will bring us. Extra care must be given to fire safety.

The committee has met on a regular basis every month since our last Logjam. Every meeting brings surprises and ideas.

Some of us were busy organizing tours while others took the time to participate, learn and visit with woodlot owners. Both tours were well organized and received good participation. Thank you to all the volunteers that continue to make these events a success.

The next big event of the association is the AGM coming up on the 18 & 19th of October. Speakers and exhibitors are lined up and will be very happy to see you all at the meeting in the great town of Whitecourt. I hope to meet many new people and others I haven't seen in a long time.

## Signs for Sale



#### Gate Post Sign



#### Property Sign

This past year the board ordered 100 of the "Gate Post Sign" and 200 of the "Private Property Signs." One Gate Post Sign is given to a new member when they buy a membership, if they want more than one sign they must purchase it.

Both signs are the same size and each one sells for the same price which is \$25.00 plus the cost of shipping.

There will be a supply of these signs at the AGM for those who may want to buy one or more, thus reducing the cost of shipping.

## Editorial

Mark your calendar for October 18 and 19 as that is when our Annual General Meeting will be held. This year it will again be held in Whitecourt, the members at last years meeting felt that it was a good location as it is fairly central in the province, and the accommodations are good.

The reason that we have an AGM each year is that as a non-profit organization we must hold an annual general meeting once a year.

The importance of an AGM is to :

\* Review and approve the financial statement of the past year.

\* Approve the budget for the upcoming year.

\* Elect members to the board of directors.

\* Set the general direction that the members would like the WAA to pursue in the next year.

- \* Approve the actions taken by the board of director in the past year.
- \* Discus a multitude of items that members may raise.
- \* Meet other members, and exchange ideas with them.

The Annual General Meetings are important, but also a joy to attend as one always learns something new, meets new members and comes home with a feeling that the WAA is a good organization to be a member of, primarily because of all the positive and friendly members one has met there.

Hope to see you this October 18 and 19.

## You Ask Us:

Should you have something that you are wondering or puzzled about with respect to things that affect your woodlot. Please contact any of the directors on the board and we will find the answer for you or find someone that has the answer.

## Annual General Meeting (AGM)

When : October 18 and 19, 2014

Where: Whitecourt, Alberta - In the Forest Interpretive Centre Time: Meeting will start at 10am on the 18th, end at 3pm on 19th. Cost: Is \$50.00, this includes 2 Lunches and the Banquet. Is \$25.00 for the Banquet only.

**Tentative Agenda:** 

October 18 Saturday

1000 - 1200 Registration , Coffee, and Routine WAA Business

1200 - 1300 Luncheon - Sponsored by Woodlands County

- 1300 1500 Elevated Robotic Services Presentation / demonstration
- 1500 1530 Coffee and Visiting
- 1530 1700 Financial Report and other Business

Alberta wood Waste Recycling Association (AWWRA)

1800 - 2000 Banquet at the Roadhouse (upstairs) and after dinner speaker

#### October 19, 2014

0930 - 1200 Coffee - Presentation on water purification, - Log Jam -Resolutions - Woodlot Tours 2014 and 2015

- 1200 1300 Luncheon Sponsored by Town of whitecourt
- 1300 1500 Election of members to the Board of Directors.

Open forum \_\_\_\_\_

1500 - Meeting Adjourned



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March 2014



# **Nomination Form**

# Directors of the Woodlot Association of Alberta

#### Nomination

I, \_\_\_\_\_\_being a member in good standing of the Woodlot

Association of Alberta, do hereby nominate \_\_\_\_\_\_as Director for the :2014 - 2016 term.

Signature of Nominator

Signature of Supporting Member

#### Acceptance

I.\_\_\_\_\_\_being a member in good standing of the Woodlot Association of Alberta, agree to let my name stand as a candidate in the upcoming election for Directors.

Signature of Nominee

**Date Signed** 

Please note: you may be required to make an election presentation if the number of candidates exceeds vacancies.

Editors Note: In the June issue the flowing article was printed so poorly that it was almost impossible to read, therefore it is being reprinted in this issue.

# West Country Woodlot Tour June 7 & 8, 2014

Larry Nofziger

A vibrant group of 25 people met at the Big Beaver in Beaverlodge. AB on Sat. at tpm. The women went for a brief shopping trip to the Beaverlodge Cultural Centre, before we all drove to the PRT nursery located on the south end of town for a guided tour of the facilities.

A pneumatic seeder was demonstrated along with explanations of seed species, plant medium, and packaging in the adjacent greenhouses, a sea of green needles displayed over 6 million while spruce and lodgepole pine that are giverrwater laden with nutrients in preparation for summer planting. PRT manager, Patrick, and his helper, answered questions from participants. Three boxes of hybrid poplars were donated by Ainsworth to any members wanting to enhance sheller belts on their own woodlots.

The nursery tour concluded with a brief downpour which had everyone hurrying to their vehicles for shelter. Participants then drove south on Hwy. 722 to Hinton Trail Hall which is surrounded by a hybrid poplar plantation owned by Garry Wilkinson and his partner. This is also the site of Woodworth Lumber. Garry is presently logging on a private cut block 12 miles west of the Woodworth Lumber and Hinton Trail Hall site. The group was invited to four this cut block and see Garry's custom-built circular sawnill in action. He is sawing poplar into pipeline skids. (4 x 6 x 4ft) and also 3 x 10 planks up to 20 ft that are used in the oilfield.

Returning to the Hinton Trail Hall we enjoyed a barbecue and listened to a presentation by forester. Vashti Dunham, on the environmental and social values of woodlots. Her informative talk was the final event of the day. Several WAA members slayed overnight at Chris and Larry Notziger's home and on Sunday spent several hours walking through the woodlot on their home 1/4 section. We saw pine and spruce that were planted in 2009 and 2010 as part of the WAA planting program. Next we drove to the west end of their 1/2 section woodlot to see the mill yard with the 48" head saw, then to the east end to see the rainbow trout in the pond.

## Invasive species can be spread by tourists, fire wood

Tourists play a large part in spreading invasive species on Manitoulin Island, according to the area's "hit squad' who are working to prevent such cases this summer.

Eric Labelle, a member of a hit squad for Ontario's Invading Species Awareness Program, is working on Manitoulin Island this summer and says that such species that threaten the area can easily spread to other parts of the northeast like Sudbury.

"It can easily be transported on the tires and under the sides of recreational vehicles, bottom sides of boots, even on pets and bicycle tires," Labelle said. "So it's important to try to clean these items before you got to the next region or you could be transporting the invasive species."

He added that species such as the emerald ash borer are killing ash trees and can spread by transporting firewood.

"That's something that's imperative to know is to buy and sell your firewood locally, not to bring your firewood over the Chi-Cheemaun or over the bridge from other areas," he said. "And subsequently not to bring firewood back from Manitoulin Island to home."

According to the program's website, invading species are one of the "greatest threats to the biodiversity of Ontario's waters and woodlands."

Species that originate from other regions of the world and "in the absence of their natural predators or controls" can have a horrible effect on native species and ecosystems.

# New genes for old forests as Canada warms

OTTAWA - Future trees will still look like today's trees as the climate warms, but they're going to need a whole new set of genes.

"In my opinion the single biggest threat to Canada's forests is climate change," says forestry professor Sally Aitken.

"And there are things that we can change ... to make that forest more resilient in the face of climate change."

She's a forest geneticist at the University of British Columbia. This week she'll tell scientists, MPs and senators in Ottawa about the unseen differences among trees of the same species.

Genetically, a pine tree in Ottawa is different from one in Toronto or one in Sudbury. Each has evolved to suit its local climate.

That means there are already trees suited to the warmer climate Canada is likely to have in the near future, Aitken says, "but those genes are in the wrong places." They're in trees hundreds of kilometres south of us.

"So my research is focused on the best way to better match trees with new and future climates, to assist the movement of that genetic material through reforestation."

Foresters have always chosen local seeds because they survive better, she said. "Local is no longer your best bet."

The trouble is that it's unclear which tree will be best adapted to a given place. Will trees from Ohio suit a future Ottawa? Or trees from Kentucky? No one knows.

"The climate is warming but we don't know what trajectory we are on," she said.

"The other thing is, we need to figure out what specific aspects of climate the trees are adapted to."

For instance, no one knows whether the most important factor is average temperature, or summer heat waves, or extreme winter lows, or patterns of rainfall. It may be a mix.

Some species will move north, she believes.

Properly managed with new breeding stock, "the forest shouldn't look fundamentally different. Now what will look fundamentally different is forests that aren't managed, (which) are hitting tipping points.

"And so we're seeing changes in forest health around the world associated with increased temperatures, drought stress, heat stress, (and) insect outbreaks.

"We have generally reforested with seed from a single population. In managed forests we've often replanted with a single species. And we need to think about increasing diversity because of the uncertainty.

"For a given species, we may need to mix seed from different sources" to learn which works best.

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"A mind once stretched by a new idea never regains its original dimension "

Oliver Wendell Holmes

Value added is just a name that implies more value for your product by putting in extra work. Like everything, the standing timber in your woodlot has a certain value. Its value is determined by what others are willing to pay or what it's value means to you. If you choose to sell your timber you only need to put your signature on a contract and you will get a certain price for that timber and the buyer will do rest of the work. But if you are willing to put more work into the timber (harvesting, sawing, drying, etc.) yourself then the price for that timber will be significantly different than price of standing timber. In doing this you will increase the **value** of you timber.

For example, if you have sawlogs of white spruce to sell this is what you will get if you decide to do more work: When you convert timber into lumber you create various variety of products, various grades and sizes, etc.

Comparison- value added	Price \$ per thousand board feet*
Standing timber	\$ 132 per fbm
Selling at mill site	\$ 220 per fbm
Sawing and drying	from \$ 350 to \$550
Created edged-glued panels	Up to \$ 1,200

Note: you have to have machinery to do value added

\* Thousand board feet is approximately 4.4 m<sup>3</sup>

There several ways to value add your timber products and some of these are:

- 1. **Harvesting, skidding and hauling-** you have to have a certain amount of skill and training to do this operation. Harvesting and especially falling is very dangerous work and you have to have some training before you start your chainsaw. However, if you already have the skill and training and want to harvest your wood you are going to add value to your timber. Before harvesting you will sell your trees as "standing" timber while after harvesting as " at roadside" timber. The difference reflects the harvesting cost.
- 2. Sawing and selling rough, green dimension lumber from your sawlogs is another way to increase the value of your timber. There are various types of sawmills ranging from simple ones to more expensive ones with carriage, headsaw and edgers attached. Buying such a mill requires time and cost to operate, which means this option, requires a higher degree of commitment than the previous one. Having a small sawmill is probably part time work. Another possibility is to pay a small sawmill operator to do the work but you are going to sell the lumber. This solution is wide spread in Europe. When you sawing for value, you need to fully understand the needs and desires of your clients/ customers.



Picture 1. Small sawmill and timber products

3. *Drying and grading* – also increase the value of your timber. The price on kilndried lumber is very often more than green lumber prices. This requires certain skills and knowledge and leads to a full time job for a small business.



Picture 2. Birch flooring

Adding the value to your wood products is not rocket science, BUT it takes part a commitment on your part. It takes a certain skills, knowledge, time and money. Probably not every landowner in Alberta is able to add the value to their timber but large majority might have an opportunity to increase the value from timber. Before you would like to go into the value added business you need to develop plan and evaluate your own situation. Assess your situation and focus on the areas that make sense for you business. It is also very important to keep the customers in mind before you decide to go into value added business.

#### Attitude

The longer I live, the more I realize the impact of attitude on life. Attitude to me is the more important than the past, than education, than money, than circumstances, than failures, than successes, than what other people think or say or do. It is more important than appearance, giftedness or skill. It will make or break a company....a church...a home. The remarkable thing is we have a choice every day regarding the Attitude we embrace for that day.We cannot change our past. We cannot change the inevitable. The only thing we can do is play on the one string we have, and that is our Attitude. I am convinced that life is 10% what happens to me, and 90% how I react or respond to it. And so it is with you. We are in charge of our Attitude.

Chuck Swindoll

#### CN key to success of many wood pellet plants

The staggering North American growth in wood pellet production, due to exports to Europe, has opened significant opportunities for Canadian rail companies. With 42 plants producing three million tonnes in 2012, Canadian production and export has exploded from 1.9 million tonnes in 2011. Explaining the Canadian market, Uri Szyk, CN's Market Manager for wood pellets and wood chips, says the supply chain in Western Canada is more mature than that in Eastern Canada, even while the west continues to 'develop. "We're seeing expanded export terminal capacity with Pinnacle's new Westview Terminal in Prince Rupert", he says, noting that British Columbia accounts for 65 percent of Canadian capacity and production.

"In the east we're encouraged that an export supply chain is emerging, and with Rentech's entry into the market, constructing two new mills in northern Ontario, the infrastructure economies of scale in are being built." The Atikokan and Wawa, Ontario, pellet plants will produce 440,000 tonnes with contracts to supply Ontario Power Generation and British Drax.

Uri Szyk says that Quebec Stevedoring at the Port of Quebec plans to spend \$20 million to build storage facilities and equipment designed to handle 75,000 tonnes of wood pellets for Rentech Inc. The commitment is part of a long-term contract which will see Quebec Stevedoring provide terminal, warehousing and stevedoring services. The company has also signed a deal with CN to transport the pellets to port, expecting to lease more than 200 covered hopper cars from third parties. Szyk says that as well as the terminal in Quebec City, "We're also seeing some mills being built close to the ports in New Brunswick and Nova Scotia."

Both Canadian and U.S. producers see huge volume increases

In North America, the wood pellet industry is currently developing four million tonnes of new capacity, with more than three million of that to go online this year. Mr. Szyk points out that the growth rate in the U.S. is exponentially larger than Canada, and the majority of the new U.S. development is in the American southeast and on the Gulf Coast. Canadian capacity increases include the two new Rentech mills in Ontario, scheduled to begin production this fall. Szyk notes that Rentech's operations in Ontario have proved to be a challenge to all stakeholders, given the long haul on the rail side, but he says together, CN and the producer have achieved a successful resolution.

Thierry Lysiak, CN Director of Marketing, Forest Products, says that the high level of development in the U.S. southeast is due in part to the advantage they can achieve due to lower transportation costs, including the ocean shipping portion. "We're looking at a \$25 to \$40 metric tonne advantage due to lower supply chain costs." Lysiak notes that although CN does not currently have a presence in any U.S. pellet transportation markets, it is in talks with a number of producers interested in establishing themselves on the U.S. Gulf Coast. Pellet production in the U.S. south during 2012 and 2013 has tripled, and exports to Europe have jumped from 800,000 tonnes in 2011 to 2.9 million tonnes in 2013.

#### CN offers pellet producers logistics support as well as matchmaking

Meanwhile, Canadian pellet exports were 50 percent higher in 2013 than 2011, a majority of that coming from British Columbia, where the first regular shipments of pellets to South Korea began in the second half of 2013. At the same time, eastern Canadian exports to Europe also increased. In 2013, CN moved over 16,000 carloads and expect that total will reach 18,000 in 2014. Lysiak says that with several new projects coming online over the next several years, almost another million tonnes of pellets (10,000 carloads) will be produced, while Uri Szyk explains that, typically, producers supply their own cars for shipment. "They go out and buy or lease covered hoppers, some, with a little larger capacity are called jumbo hoppers so railcar capacity ranges between 95 and 97 metric tonnes."

Lysiak says that CN continues to work with pellet producers in both eastern and western Canada, offering advice on

site selection, best rail connection for producers who are not rail-served, help customers on railcar selection and provide contacts with leasing suppliers. "We're able to counsel producers on customs and logistics problems, and provide transportation management services that include tracking carloads to ensure they are on-schedule, or we can manage their fleet pipeline."

Further, CN can match-make for a pellet producer looking to build a new facility, but needs contacts for product sales or may require further financial investment. "We can help customers find customers, or other resources they may need," he says. "We have relationships with all the large Canadian forest product companies and we can connect pellet producers with those companies in terms of fiber, wood chips or logs. If they don't have connections with an export terminal we can connect them." He concludes by saying that the CN advantage is clearly the service to all major Canadian ports, along with established expertise in logistics and shipping wood pellets.

## First non-liquid insecticide for harvested timber



BASF has received registration for first wood protection nets. The novel, patented net technology Storanet will be available in Germany during this year; registrations in other countries are expected in upcoming months.

Storanet is the first non-liquid technology to prevent pest problems in harvested timber. Since it does not need to be applied with conventional spraying systems, it can significantly reduce the risk of exposure for operators, as well as the environment, making the net a significant improvement towards more sustainable forest protection.

Storanet is a net coated with an insecticide, specifically designed for covering or wrapping timber piles. The fibers in the net are treated with an exclusive coating technology developed by BASF that controls the amount of insecticide available on the surface of the net. Due to this process, Storanet uses eight times less active ingredient than conventional treatments. Furthermore, BASF's solution can be used in some conservation areas, where spraying is highly restricted.

The technology also offers economic benefits. It is quicker to apply and when reused as recommended, can reduce treatment costs by up to 70% compared to liquid insecticides.

"With this pioneering approach, we are certainly changing the face of wood protection. The only products on the market to combat bark beetles are liquids and have to be sprayed. With Storanet®, we will help our customers save precious application time and achieve consistent, quality performance," said Thomas Zühlke, Forestry Manager Europe BASF

Crop Protection. The nets can be used at any level of pest pressure, weather conditions and type of forest situation all season long. Furthermore, safe and easy handling allows application without special training. "The nets retain their efficacy for six months, can be reused up to five times and can be disposed of in an environmentally compatible way," explained Zühlke.

## **APPLICATION** for LIFE TIME MEMBERSHIP

At the 2012 AGM a resolution was passed to institute a Life Time Membership (LTM) for those who have:

a) Been a member in good standing of the WAA for 10 years.

b) Are 75 years old.

c) If disabled or ill and unable to work the age restriction would not be used and the LTM could be given at any age, as long as the length of member is met.

In order to issue these LTM in an orderly manner the board has set the following system for those who meet the criteria to make application for the LTM.

1) Members who meet the criteria and wish to become a LTM should write a letter or e-mail to our office stating a) their date of birth b) the date they became a member of the WAA.

2) These applications will be reviewed by the board prior to the upcoming AGM and will invite the applicants to attend the AGM where the LTM will be presented. For those who are unable to attend their certificate will be mailed to them.

We would like to get a picture of the member and his/her spouse along with a bio to print in the Log Jam

Just a reminder that the WAA administration will not initiate applications for members who meet the criteria. It will be up to members to make their own application for LTM.

Most people hold onto the past, look forward to the future, and do not embrace the present. Only those who can appreciate what they have now live fully.



# Smell of forest pine can limit climate change - researchers

New research suggests a strong link between the powerful smell of pine trees and climate change.

Scientists say they've found a mechanism by which these scented vapours turn into aerosols above boreal forests.

These particles promote cooling by reflecting sunlight back into space and helping clouds to form.

The <u>research</u>, <u>published in the Journal Nature</u>, fills in a major gap in our understanding, researchers say.

One of the biggest holes in scientific knowledge about climate change relates to the scale of the impact of atmospheric aerosols on temperatures.

#### Perfumed air

These particles form clouds that block sunlight as well as reflecting rays back into space.

They <u>can be formed in a number of ways</u>, including volcanic activity and by humans, through the burning of coal and oil.

According to the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), they "continue to contribute the largest uncertainty to estimates and interpretations of the Earth's changing energy budget."

One of the most significant but least understood sources of aerosols are the sweet-smelling vapours found in pine forests in North America, northern Europe and Russia.

These aerosols have confounded climate models as scientists haven't been able to accurately predict how many of the particles form.

Now an international team of researchers say they have solved the chemical mystery by which the rich odours become reflective, cooling particles.

They've long understood that the smell of pine, made up of volatile organic compounds, reacts with oxygen in the forest canopy to form these aerosols.

The scientists now found that, in fact, there is an extra step in the process, what they term a "missing link".

They've discovered ultra-low volatility organic vapours in the air that irreversibly condense onto any surface or particle that they meet. "These vapours are so crazy in structure from what we had known before," said one of the authors, Dr Joel Thornton, from the University of Washington

"It turns out that this level of craziness is what gives them the special properties to stick to those smallest particles and help grow them up in size to become aerosols."

The scientists say that having a clear understanding of the way in which forest smells become aerosols will improve the accuracy with which they can predict the ability of these particles to limit rising temperatures.

"It's certainly crucial for explaining the response of the boreal forest to a changing climate," said Dr Thornton.

"It's thought that the vapours being emitted from the vegetation in the pine forests are contributing roughly half of the aerosols over the forest," he said.

"We've found the reasons how the vapours get converted into particles, so we are basically explaining around 50% of the aerosol particles."

#### **Cooling effect**

The authors believe that this is playing a significant role in reducing the impact of rising temperatures. They argue that this effect is likely to strengthen in the future.

"In a warmer world, photosynthesis will become faster with rising CO2, which will lead to more vegetation and more emissions of these vapours," said lead author, Dr Mikael Ehn, now based at the University of Helsinki.

"This should produce more cloud droplets and this should then have a cooling impact, it should be a damping effect."

The researchers sampled the air in the forests of Finland and carried out experiments at an air chamber at the Julich Research Centre in Germany.

They believe that the discovery was down to a combination of technique and technology.

"One very important thing is that before now, people haven't had the instrumentation to detect these ultra-low volatile compounds," said Dr Ehn.

"When you pull them through a metal tube into your instrument they come into contact with the tube walls and they are lost, you won't detect them."

"We have an instrument that is as wall-less as can be, we have a very high flow of air and a very short inlet line so that it is almost sampled right from atmosphere."

The scientists stress that the new understanding is not a panacea for climate change as forests will stop emitting vapours if they become too stressed from heat or lack of water.

However, Dr Ehn believes the vapours could have a significant impact in the medium term.

"If you go into a pine forest and notice that pine forest smell, that could be the smell that actually limits climate change from reaching such levels that it could become really a problem



#### CALL FOR RESOLUTIONS

Resolution 14-

Where As, (Describe the issue, basis, or background to the Resolution)

We hold our Annual General Meeting (AGM) each year in the month of October, the reason being that our financial year end is August 31. Therefore in October we can approve the year end financial statement.

**BE IT RESOLVED** that the Board of Directors give consideration to: (Describe what it is you wish in terms of addressing your issue or the background)

That we change our financial year end to April 30, there-by our AGM could be held in mid June. The reason for the change is that many of our members are seniors and they may not feel upto driving in adverse weather. This was the case in 2012 when the AGM happened to co-enside with a major rain / snow storm, thus a number of members did not attend due to the road conditions.

Should we have the AGM in June we could tie it in with a tour of a members woodlot, or other points of interest, that October weather may not be conducive to.

Also it would enable some members to bring an RV rather than use a hotel room.

Moved by Dorgen Mall (please print)	Seconded by(please print)
signature <u>f.a.C.a.C</u>	Signature

Note: Only Woodlot Association members in good standing are permitted to Move and Second Resolutions to be tabled at the Annual General Meeting. During the introduction of the Resolution at the Annual General Meeting the proponent may be required to speak to the Resolution for clarification and respond to questions. All Resolutions are provided to the Board of Directors for consideration

# Scientist believes trees can save the world

## Diana Beresford-Kroeger speaks at McNally Robinson Feb. 24

You could call Diana Beresford-Kroeger a scientific tree-hugger. She's one of the most forward-thinking people in the world on the vital role trees play in the planet's life.

She's also a renegade scientist because she tries to bring together Aboriginal healing, Western medicine and botany to advocate an unusual role for trees.

She knows the science and the magic of what the trees hold within. She will tell you that trees have a larger genome than humans; that they talk to each other and they emit subsonic sound to attract migrating animals, birds and insects, and that they contain medicines that heal what we suffer from.

Winnipeg's Merit Motion Pictures is preparing a documentary based on Beresford-Kroeger's thinking for The Nature of Things they call Ten Trees That Can Save The World.

"The idea is that you pick iconic trees from each continent, and I picked trees that actually will reduce climate change significantly," she said.

In North America she points to the burr oak as being one of our most important trees. "The burr oak was a form of vegetable and food for the Aboriginal people for a very long time," she explained. "It is a very, very important tree."

Beresford-Kroeger says it is not at all an overstatement to say that trees can save the world.

"No, it isn't an overstatement, it's actually a true statement. The atmosphere, once upon a time, had so much carbon dioxide in it that we would not have lived. What is happening now is the forests all over the world have come down, are coming down and are planned to be taken down.

"The trees have the ability to trap carbon dioxide out of the air and evolve oxygen. That is why we have a green planet. That is why we have light on this planet, that is why we have this extraordinary creative life and tapestry of world around us."

Diana Beresford-Kroeger is the author of *The Global Forest* and her newest book *The Sweetness of a Simple Life: Tips for Healthier, Happier and Kinder Living Gleaned from the Wisdom and Science of Nature* 

An indiscreet man is more hurtful than an ill-natured one; for as the latter will only attack his enemies, and those he wishes ill to, the other injures indifferently both friends and foes.

Addison

## Give the Gift that Lasts

(Reminder Christmas is not that far away)

This an opportunity for you to give a friend, neighbor, or relative, whom you think would like to develop a patch of brush that is on their land into a Woodlot. A one year membership to the Woodlot Association of Alberta, for a reduced rate of \$20.00.

How can you do this, Clip out the gift certificate application (*below*) fill it out and mail it to Herb Cerezke, 5916 - 87 ave. Edmonton, AB. T6B - 0K9 along with your cheque of \$20.00 (*make cheque out to the Woodlot Association of Alberta*)

We will then send your candidate a certificate that he/she is now a member of the WAA for one year. Gifted to them by your self, along with a copy of the Log Jam.

(Regular one year membership fees are \$ 30.00)

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E -mail Address		
Enclosed is a cheque for \$20.00	0 made out to the WAA	
Signature		

## **My Woodlot**

Our story of our woodlot starts in 2005 when we moved from eastern Alberta and relocated to rural Rocky Mountain House along the North Saskatchewan River Valley. The quarter we purchased had no buildings and few mature trees in several of the drainages. This quarter had been grazed heavily by cattle to keep the trees from encroaching. This had been very effective keeping the trees from growing but caused many of the drainage slopes to erode as well. Our decision to plant trees ensued with vigor and we wondered if we would ever see our dream of a forest.

Each year we've applied for trees through the Shelterbelt program and purchased online as well. We can't wait for the time to see them mature. While we are waiting, the land is allowed to rest and rejuvenate itself. First to sprout through the tall grass were poplar, natural willow and rose brushes. In year 3, much to our delight, we began to see a few tiny little spruce beginning to adorn our drainages into the valley. The seeds were likely placed by their ancestors when the hillsides were wooded. By year 5, the spruce seedlings were seen growing farther and farther out from these drainages. This has become our own nursery stock and in many areas these spruce seedlings are thick enough to allow us to transplant them throughout the rest of our quarter.

As each spring approaches, we find we are becoming more and more driven to planting trees of all varieties. We now have poplar that are 15ft high and some spruce that are 5ft with many in the 3 to 4 foot range. Birds are beginning to return, deer however are more of a nuisance as they forage on our shrubs. Our dream of being able to walk in our woodlot with our future grandchildren to something we can look forward too!

## Pictures of Ben and Michelle Swanson's Woodlot



Natural spruce under - story



Water course that was eroding, now has willow, and spruce to support the banks. ( Small spruce are at the top, the willows are visible thru out)



Forested Land Within The Green Area

