



Kentucky
Woodland
Owners
Association

www.kwoa.net

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KENTUCKY WOODLANDS NEWSLETTER

2020 KWOA Annual Meeting Explores Woodland Recreation at Lake Cumberland State Resort Park



KWOA continues its focus on American Tree Farm System themes at its 2020 annual meeting. After studying the importance of the contribution of proper forest management to clean water at the 2019 meeting, KWOA will address **woodland recreation** interests March 24-25 that include sporting clays, trail construction and maintenance, wilderness safety and survival, and edible and medicinal plants. Keep up to date on the schedule and speakers at <https://kwoa.net/category/annualmeeting>. Registration and lodging information is at <https://kwoa.net/annual-meeting>. See you there!

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Nominate Your Service Forester for KWOA Recognition

Kentucky Woodland Owners Association will recognize a Kentucky Division of Forestry Service Forester at its annual meeting for his/her outstanding achievements. Nominations may be made by any KWOA member and are due no later than February 15, 2020. See format and guidelines for nominations at <https://kwoa.net/category/news/> - November 23 article.

A Message From Your President

KWOA, past and future.

A number of things that happened in the past year for KWOA have provided opportunities for its next 25 years of growth. The banner on all of KWOA's publications last year helped to highlight KWOA's presence in promoting proper woodland management sustainably for the past 25 years. Good leadership and enthusiastic members of KWOA have "come together to enhance the quality of our woodlands."

Let's reflect on 2019 and see where it might lead us in 2020. Early in 2019 our annual meeting was held at Pennyriple State Park and Forest. Steve Perry, KWOA board member, suggested that we "borrow" for four years the four words that surround the national diamond shaped green and white Tree Farm sign. The sign bears the message of management diversity that we find in our woodlands: Water, Recreation, Timber, and Wildlife. Last year we began with water as our first theme of the next four years. In March of 2020 we will be introduced to the recreational opportunities our woodlands provide.

Our May board meeting found us in the capable hands of Dr. Dan Kahl, UK, who helped KWOA board members better clarify the past, and most importantly, the future needs and concerns for KWOA. We have been very encouraged also by our partnership with KCARD (Kentucky Center for Agriculture

and Rural Development), a cooperative development center, providing education, support, and advisory services to groups such as KWOA. They have in just the few short months we have partnered with them, provided valuable insights for KWOA. Our partnership continues seeing opportunities for growth for KWOA.

As an "envisioning" outcome from our meeting with Dan Kahl, and our continued talks with KCARD, KWOA realized that we had not exhausted the list of cooperators that have similar concerns and visions for woodland management in Kentucky. Looking "outside the box" we realized that the Division of Conservation is in every county in the state and charged with "providing assistance to the conservation districts to develop, administer and implement sound conservation programs across the state." This includes woodland management.

Another cooperator that we recently partnered with is the Division of Water's Water Basin Coordinators. KWOA has recently been involved in meetings of several of the seven water basins found in Kentucky. As president of KWOA, I am going to contact every member of KWOA and encourage them to invite themselves to the meetings and become contributors of these two organizations. With this collaboration KWOA can better understand what events and opportunities exist for a better

understanding of all the aspects that are involved in woodland management in Kentucky.

As President of KWOA, I appreciate first, the board of directors who help formulate the future of KWOA, secondly the membership that supports and contributes to the organization, and finally, all the cooperators that have provided very valuable assistance over the years making KWOA a leader in woodland management in Kentucky. It has been a great 25 years in the making. Help us by continuing your support for the future.

Thanks to all,
-- Doug McLaren,
KWOA/KWOF President



KWOF Continues Sponsorship of Leopold Conservation Award

KWOA members are encouraged to submit nominations for the 2020 Aldo Leopold Conservation Award. In Kentucky, Sand County Foundation presents the award in partnership with Kentucky Agricultural Council and Kentucky Association of Conservation Districts. The recipient receives an Aldo Leopold crystal and \$10,000.

Leopold Conservation Awards recognize extraordinary achievement in voluntary conservation, inspire other landowners through their example, and help the general public understand the vital role private landowners can and do play in conservation success.

The 2020 application will be available in late December – early January. To see the 2019 application go to: <https://sandcountyfoundation.org/uploads/Kentucky-CFN-2019WEB.pdf>. **Deadline for 2020 applications is April 1.**

Past Kentucky recipients are: Dr. James Middleton – Munfordville (2019), Trunnell Family Farm – Utica (2018), Tallow Creek Farm – Bradfordsville (2017), Turner Family Farms – Livermore (2016), West Wind Farm – Munfordville (2015), Springhill Farms – Clinton (2014) and Sherwood Acres – LaGrange (2013).

Donate Items for 2020 Annual Meeting Silent Auction

KWOA's popular silent auction will again set up during the annual meeting. Start your spring cleaning early and plan to bring an item for the auction. Donations can be anything with monetary value such as event tickets, gift baskets, gift cards, and handmade crafts. Email a description of your item and a suggested minimum bid to info@kwoa.net. Please put Silent Auction in the subject line of your email.

November KWOA/F Quarterly Board Meeting Highlights

The Kentucky Division of Water Nonpoint Source and Basin Team Section is establishing new watershed planning areas through 319(h) grants of the Clean Water Act. It needs concerned, knowledgeable groups on the ground for partners in future projects.

The UK Forestry Extension's 2019 Forest Leadership program was attended by 27 high school students. KWOA sponsored scholarships for two students who may attend the KWOA annual meeting.

The application deadline for the annual Kentucky Aldo Leopold award is April 1st.

The Kentucky Conservation Committee and the Natural Lands Trust are in ongoing dialogue regarding opportunities for wildlife corridor legislation corresponding with a federal bill, the Wildlife Corridors Conservation Act, which has been receiving bipartisan interest.

The Kentucky Conservation Committee was one of four organizations hosting a conference last month on Biodiversity and Climate Change in the Upper

Cumberland Watershed region. It hosted about a dozen presenters with backgrounds in land conservation, biology, soil and water specialists. Presentations for the public are on the KCC website at: <http://kyconservation.org/upper-cumberland-watershed-climate-conference/>

The Kentucky Department for Natural Resources Division of Conservation provides technical assistance to 121 local conservation districts to develop, administer and implement sound conservation programs.

The Kentucky Division of Forestry has new staff in charge of timber harvest inspections because every logger should have the same expectations and results. Two million tree seedlings are available at the state's nurseries.

The Kentucky Farm Bureau's December 5th Forestry Commodity Meeting in Louisville will present the topic of timber marketing and wildlife.

Some UK Forestry Extension county offices will be hosting webinars on Thursday evenings in February with the theme of economics of forestry.

The UK Forestry 400 Human Dimension of Forestry and Natural Resources class will present the results of its project to assist KWOA in promoting sustainable forest management on December 4.

U. S. Department of Interior Surface Mining Reclamation took a group of Society of American Foresters on a tour of the forest at Berea College where they viewed horse logging and a small saw mill.

The Natural Resources Conservation Service will publish details from the new farm bill that should include EQIP programs for habitat and water quality.

KWOA approved sponsorship contributions for 2020:

- Aldo Leopold Foundation: \$500
- University of Kentucky Woodland Owners Short Course: \$1000
- University of Kentucky Forestry Leadership Program Scholarship: \$400
- Kentucky Agricultural Council: \$200

Future board meetings will be held 2/13/20, 3/25/20, 5/14/20, 8/13/20, and 11/12/20.

Cooperator Profile: Kentucky Division of Conservation

The Division of Conservation, in the Kentucky Department of Natural Resources, is charged with providing assistance to Kentucky's 121 conservation districts to develop, administer and implement sound conservation programs across the state. Kentucky's conservation districts are subdivisions of state government, and districts are organized with their boundaries coinciding with county lines. Each local district is governed by a seven-member board of supervisors elected by the registered voters within that district.

The conservation districts have been organized for the special purpose of assisting landowners and land users in solving soil and water resource problems, setting priorities for conservation work to be

accomplished and coordinating the federal, state and local resources to carry out these programs.

The Kentucky Soil Erosion and Water Quality Cost Share Program helps landowners address existing soil erosion, water quality and other environmental problems associated with their farming or woodland operation. Practices of interest to woodland owners that are eligible for cost share include forestland best management practices, streambank stabilization, forest land erosion control systems and riparian area protection. Cost share rates are a maximum of 60 to 75 percent of the actual installation cost of the practice not to exceed \$7,500 per year for agronomic practices or \$20,000 per year for animal waste practices.

Kentucky Woodlands is published quarterly. We welcome submission of articles and information for inclusion in the newsletter subject to review and approval by the executive committee. Please submit copy to the address below. Editor reserves the right to edit all material for content and length.

Karen Marshall, editor@kwoa.net
Kentucky Woodland Newsletter
P.O. Box 1201
Frankfort, KY 40602

In Their Own Woods – Sketches of Kentucky Woodland Owners

The second installment in KWOA's new In Their Own Woods series presents a sketch of Henry Duncan's family forest in Logan County, Kentucky. Henry is a retired UK extension agent and a past KWOA president. We would like to hear about your experience as a woodland owner. Contact us at info@kwoa.net and you could be the subject of the next sketch in the series.



Henry Duncan is a proud American Tree farm certified tree farmer.

Nancy and Henry Duncan own and manage a 450 acre diversified timber, grain crop and livestock farm in Logan County, South Central Kentucky. These 450 acres were acquired in four separate farm tracts over several years. The farm is a part of farm acreage initially owned by Duncan's great, great grandfather, William T. Duncan, who accumulated several thousand acres of

predominately hardwood timberland to support his pre-civil war leather tanning operation. The state highway 79 hill adjacent to the farm is named Duncan's Hill.

In earlier years, a farm neighbor, Mr. Williams, became young Duncan's mentor concerning forestry and conservation interests. Williams was dedicated to the value of timber and conservation practices. Duncan was given free access to walk and hunt with Mr. Williams on the farm where he would discuss timber and his plans to plant pine trees along eroded areas. Several years later, Mr. Williams and his wife proposed to sell that 204 acre farm to the Duncans stating it was their desire for them to own it. They even suggested financial arrangements to accommodate Duncan's limited resources.

A second farm tract was purchased at public auction; then a third tract was purchased by private treaty sale and finally, Duncan inherited part of the home farm and purchased the remainder from family members.

The farm consists of 200 acres of hardwood timber, 100 acres of rotated corn, soybean, wheat and 150 acres of pasture land with beef cattle. The long range plan is to install best management practices as needed throughout the farm to prevent soil erosion and maintain clean water in adjacent streams. A profitable farming operation is sought to help encourage and maintain dependable farm operators.

This absentee owner family farm necessitates dependence on qualified, on-site operators. Long distance phone calls from watchful neighbors reporting potential timber thefts, equipment thefts or livestock broken out of fields onto public highways and private properties present stressful issues. Immediate communication is required with the onsite farm operator who must be available to deal with such issues.



Henry and guest riding horses in woodlands.

In land management planning and practices, support from the Ky Division of Forestry Service Foresters in developing and updating five-year sustainable forestry plans have been invaluable! The University of Kentucky Forestry Department provides needed research and educational information. NRCS Soil Conservationists, Ky Division of Conservation and USDA Farm Service Agencies are valuable team members in providing technical assistance and financial cost share support in establishing best management practices.

Establishing BMPs throughout the farm has resulted in much needed soil erosion control and clean waters. In 1985 this farm was designated the Kentucky Tree farm of the year which involved the hosting of a statewide woodland field day. In 1990 it was designated the Logan County Conservation farm of the year. The farm hosted a UK Woodland Owners Short course in 2019. Numerous local farm field tours have also been conducted on the farm.

This diversified farming operation is challenged to show a continuing net profit. But the combination of adjoining woodlands with grain crops and pasture grassland provide good wildlife habitat where trophy deer, ample turkey and small game are harvested. The grain crop enterprise requires less labor and more expensive equipment, but proves to be the most profitable enterprise. The cattle operation requires more labor and capital outlay and is less profitable. But it does provide the opportunity for maintaining a more attractive farmstead. The timber enterprise is less labor intensive but does require some specialized management. Timber income is realized over a much more extended time.

As I pause to reflect on our farming operation, I realize that we have a lot to be thankful for. Some of the things I am most thankful for are my faith, family, freedom and the opportunity to be a woodland farmer. These are the things we often take for granted and don't always acknowledge the impacts that they make on our lives. As we thrive in our pursuits, may we pause to count the blessings in our lives and reflect on the best things this life offers us.



Harvesting hay in foreground and cattle grazing near woodlands on hill.



Yes, I want to join KWOA!
KENTUCKY WOODLAND OWNERS ASSOCIATION
 P.O. Box 1201, Frankfort, KY 40602
info@kwoa.net www.kwoa.net

Date Paid: _____ **Membership:** ____New ____Renewal

Check one: ____Forest/Woodland Owner ____Non-owner Supporter ____Business or Organization

Woodland Acreage by County: ____acres _____county, ____acres _____county

Name(s) Primary: _____

Spouse/ co-owner, contact person: _____

Mailing Address: _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Primary - E-mail Address: _____ **Phone:** _____

Second - E-Mail Address: _____ **Phone:** _____

You can join in person at an event, pay online at www.kwoa.net, or you may mail this form with your check.

Annual Membership and Donation Options	Dues	Amount Enclosed
KWOA Basic Membership: Woodland owner household, business, organization, or supporter \$35 includes full color email delivery Newsletter PDF and \$5.00 charitable contribution to KWOA	\$35.00	\$ _____
KWOA & NWOA: (National Woodland Owners Association) Membership (optional add on). You will receive the National Woodland quarterly newsletter & woodland report.	\$65.00	\$ _____
KWOA Basic Three year \$100.00: Includes a \$15.00 charitable contribution to KWOA and Full color PDF Newsletter (email delivery)	\$100.00	\$ _____
KWOA & NWOA Basic Three year \$190.00: Includes NWOA membership, a \$15.00 charitable contribution to KWOA, and Full color PDF Newsletter (email delivery)	\$190.00	\$ _____
KWOA Contribution: Voluntary (much appreciated) contribution to the Kentucky Woodland Owners Foundation (KWOA) deductible as a charitable donation. KWOA provides scholarships, service forestry awards, and contributes to other related charitable / educational work.	Any Amount	\$ _____
KWOA Contribution: to help with operating expenses, such as bookkeeping, communication, programming, advocacy, and educational expenses.	Any Amount	\$ _____
Black & White Hard-copy Newsletter: Upcharge per year to cover expenses. \$5.00 for one year or \$15.00 for 3 years.	\$5.00 or \$15.00	\$ _____
TOTAL		\$ _____

GENERAL INFO

- Dues Run Jan 1 - Dec 31 and apply to the entire household or business entity.
- KWOA: Kentucky Woodland Owners Association (KWOA) dues are not a charitable contribution; however, dues might be considered a business expense in some circumstances (ask your accountant). Part of your dues supports KWOA as indicated.
- KWOA: Kentucky Woodland Owners Association (KWOA) is a 501 (c) (3) charitable organization. Support of KWOA is fully deductible as a charitable contribution. As indicated, part of your dues support KWOA
- NWOA: National Woodland Owners Association (NWOA), a 501 (c) (3) charitable organization <http://woodlandowners.org/>
- KWOA needs you and your family to be actively involved in the organization | Please consider volunteering to serve on a committee or letting us know how you can help us realize our mission. Email us at info@kwoa.net to get involved.



Kentucky Woodland Owners Association

Recreation is the theme for KWOA/KWOF 2020 Annual Meeting

Lake Cumberland State Resort Park

March 24 - 25, 2020

Registration – PLEASE PRINT

Name: _____

Spouse/Guest Name(s): _____

Tree Farm Business Name: _____

Mailing Address: _____

City, State & Zip: _____

Phone number(s): _____

E-mail: _____

Woodland acres owned/managed: _____

REGISTRATION INCLUDES ALL PROGRAMS, LUNCH and DINNER on March 24

MEMBERSHIPS CAN BE PAID or RENEWED AT THE TIME OF REGISTRATION

	FEE	x	# of People	Total Amount
Registration	\$70	x	_____	\$ _____

Registration and payment can be made by:

Credit Card or PayPal on KWOA website: WWW.KWOA.NET

Mail registration and payment to: KWOA - PO BOX 1201 – Frankfort, KY 40602

Please make your room reservations at Lake Cumberland State Resort Park separately by calling the park at 270-343-3111. A block of rooms have been reserved for KWOA. Please remember to mention that you are attending the KWOA Woodlands Owners Conference.

Get Involved in Your Watershed's Health

By Dale Booth
Kentucky Division of Water

Everyone lives in a watershed, which is defined as an area of land where runoff flows to a common body of water (a river or stream). Wherever you live, when it rains, that rainwater is naturally going to want to flow downhill to the lowest point, and that is where your stream forms. Water running across the land picks up pollution like bacteria, chemicals and trash left on the ground and creates one of the biggest challenges to preserving clean water: non-point source pollution, also known as runoff pollution.

To keep these pollutants out of the stream and protect water health, we have to address the issue at a "watershed level", which means looking at how we use the land, identifying specific problems within each watershed area and solving them as a community.

What is a Watershed Plan?

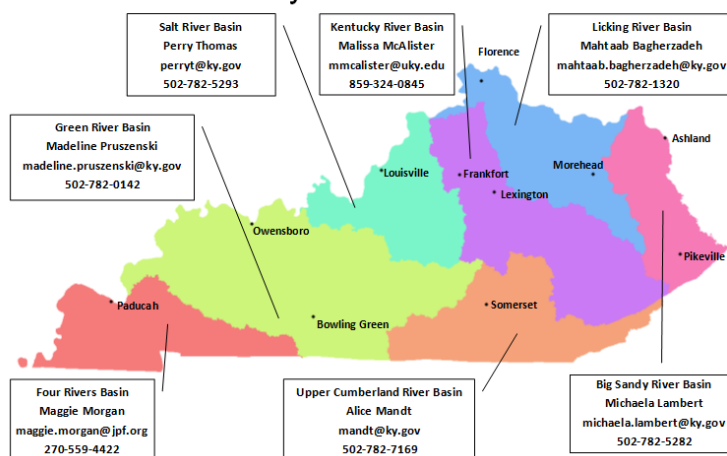
To fully address the problem that everyone in the watershed contributes to, everyone must play a role. Watershed planning seeks to involve all such stakeholders: Citizens, industry, city governments, water conservation groups, etc. using education and Best Management Practices (BMPs). A BMP is a practice, or combination of practices, that act to reduce or prevent non-point source pollution. BMPs are designed to allow for everyday activities while reducing or preventing runoff pollution in cost effective and practical ways. These can be structural or engineered control devices, like fencing

to keep livestock out of streams or rain gardens to nonstructural, like minimizing use of fertilizers or picking up pet waste.

A watershed plan itemizes the problems, priorities and activities that the citizens in the watershed need to address, providing a guide for improving and protecting the watershed using BMPs. The process allows watershed residents an opportunity to work cooperatively, and foster an understanding of how we all impact the greater community.

To find out more about the quality of water in your area contact your local basin coordinator at the Division of Water at 502-564-3410.

Kentucky Basin Coordinators



The Acorn

By Laurie Thomas, UK Extension

"From a tiny acorn a mighty oak will grow" – unknown.

The acorn is the fruit of the oak tree. It is actually a nut that contains a single (rarely two) seeds that are enclosed in a tough, leathery shell with a woody, cup-shaped cupule or cap. Acorns vary in size and shape depending on the species of oak, they can be as small as ½" on a willow oak to as large 1 ½" on a bur oak. An acorn along with other nuts are termed mast which is simply the fruit of a tree or shrub. Mast can be divided into two types, hard mast (acorns, hickory nuts, beech nuts) which has a hard exterior and soft mast such as apples and raspberries which have a fleshy exterior.

Acorns take about 6 to 24 months (depending on the species) to mature. Acorns from the white oak group of trees mature in a single growing season, but acorns from the red oak group require two growing seasons to mature and drop. White oak acorns germinate once they drop in the fall whereas red oak acorns do not

germinate until the next spring. Trees will have large seed crops (most years) irregularly or every couple of years.

Acorns are an important wildlife food in areas where oaks occur because they are nutrient rich. Acorns contain large amounts of protein, carbohydrates and fats as well as numerous important minerals. Creatures that make acorns an important part of their diet include birds such as blue jay, turkey, quail, crow, ducks such as the mallard and the wood duck and several species of woodpecker. There are also many mammals that rely on acorns for food including squirrel, fox, raccoon, rabbits, mice, deer and bear. Acorns from the white oak group of trees tend to be preferred due to fewer tannins than the acorns from the red oak group of trees. The more tannins the more bitter the nut will taste.

If you are looking for a family project that will help benefit our oak trees check-out the White Oak Acorn Collection Project that Dr. Laura DeWald a Tree Improvement Specialist with the U.K. Department of Forestry and Natural Resources is conducting

over the next couple of years. The goals of the project are: to conserve genetic material of white oak from within their natural range; and monitor how different sources of acorns develop and grow in locations different from where they were collected as a way to understand how white oak may deal with a changing climate. The project sends out collection kits in early autumn, so your goal is to find a couple of white oak trees on your property to collect acorns from in the fall of 2020.

To find out more about the project and how to get involved for 2020 contact Dr. Laura DeWald (Laura.DeWald@uky.edu) and check out the website <http://white-oak-genetics.ca.uky.edu/>. Happy acorn hunting!



KENTUCKY WOODLAND OWNERS ASSOCIATION
P.O. Box 1201
Frankfort, KY 40602

2020 Calendar of Events



January 11
**Kentucky Conservation
Committee Legislative
Summit**

University of Louisville
kyconservation.org

February 13
**KWOA/F Quarterly Board
Meeting**

KFIA Office, Frankfort
kwoa.net

February 20
**Salt River Watershed Watch
Annual Conference**

US Geological Survey Office –
Jeffersontown
To register contact [joann.
palmer@ky.gov](mailto:joann.palmer@ky.gov) or call
502.782.7032

Early March
**Ohio Woodland Water and
Wildlife Conference**
Mid-Ohio Conference Center –
Mansfield, Ohio

March 23
**KY Woodland Stewards
Annual Reunion**
Lake Cumberland State Report

Park
Contact billy.thomas@uky.edu

March 24-25
KWOA/F Annual Meeting
Lake Cumberland State Report
Park
kwoa.net

March 28
**Ohio River Valley Woodlands
and Wildlife Workshop**
Boone County Enrichment
Center – Burlington, KY
[https://tristatewoods.ca.uky.
edu/](https://tristatewoods.ca.uky.edu/)