



# Washington Tree Farmer

## August 2009

*A newsletter for certified Tree Farmers in Washington*

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### Convention Silent Auction

You can support ATFS even if you don't attend the 2009 National Tree Farmer Convention by donating an item for the Silent Auction. The donation form can be found under the Convention section of [www.treefarmssystem.org](http://www.treefarmssystem.org) or by calling Amy Yambor, 202-463-5172. Fill out the form to ship with your item ahead of time, or bring the item with you when you arrive in Washington, D.C.

### 2009 Regional Outstanding Tree Farmers

### Measuring Western Forests for Carbon Credits - Workshop, Sept. 26, Chehalis

If you are at all interested in potentially earning income from the carbon that your trees store, you won't want to miss this workshop presented by Woodlands Carbon, the Oregon company that has been formed to aggregate small forest land owners into a group large enough to sell carbon on the Chicago Climate Exchange. You will learn: the differences between various voluntary markets available to forest owners; the new standards of carbon inventory needed to sell on the Chicago Climate Exchange via Woodlands Carbon; about assistance funds for use in completing carbon inventories; and get hands on practice at doing carbon inventories in the field.

The workshop will be held in the Veterans Memorial Museum in Chehalis in the morning and in the field in the afternoon. A [registration form](#) is available online or e-mail [woodlandscarbonco@gmail.com](mailto:woodlandscarbonco@gmail.com) or phone 503-588-8356.

### Understanding and Managing Tree Growth: Fall Forestry Seminar, Saturday, October 31, Chehalis

Presentations by world-renowned scientists will cover: Tree Physiology & the Annual Growth Cycle; How Trees Grow at Different Spacing Levels; Wood Qualities of a 40+ year old stand; Management Effects on Productivity and Sustainability. A special presentation during lunch titled "Global Warming - Another Unfulfilled Government Promise" will give attendees a new perspective on an issue that is constantly in the news.

The registration fee will be discounted for Certified Tree Farmers and Inspectors. The presentations will be appropriate both for professional foresters, loggers and family forest owners who want to understand tree growing a little bit better. More information and a [registration](#)

## of the Year

ATFS recently named four 2009 ROTFOY

North Central - Robert Woodling, IN

Western - Ken & Lois Carpenter, CO

Southern - Earl & Wanda Barrs, GA

Northeast - Frank Burns, NJ

One of these will be named the National Outstanding Tree Farmer of the Year at the National Tree Farmer Convention, September 28-30, in Washington, DC. Be a part of "Growing Policy for Your Woodlands." This year, Inspectors, Foresters and Tree Farmers will join on Capitol Hill in an effort to give a voice to responsible forest policy. It is not too late to [register](#) for the convention!

**Tree Farmer and Rolling Stones Keyboardist Chuck Leavell** asks Congress to ensure family forest owners have access to carbon and renewable energy market opportunities and incentives in the climate bill.

[Read more...](#)

### Quick Links

[Washington Tree Farm Program](#)

[Washington Farm Forestry Association](#)

[American Tree Farm System](#)

[Sustainable Forestry Initiative](#)

[Washington Forest Protection Association](#)

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[form](#) is available online or e-mail or call the WTFP office.

## American Carbon Incentives Program Act of 2009

Call to Action: Ask your Representatives to Support the Buy American Carbon Incentives bill (HR 2880) --Reps Pingree (D-ME), Shuler (D-NC), and Schrader (D-OR), Michaud (D-ME), and Hodes (D-NH), introduced the "Buy American Carbon Incentives Program Act of 2009" on June 15th. The legislation creates a forest and agriculture carbon incentives program to help family forest owners, especially those that will have a hard time participating in offset markets, undertake management activities that sequester and store carbon and mitigate climate change. Currently, the climate legislation moving through Congress, HR 2454, does not contain incentives for U.S. forest owners to undertake these activities, but the bill does provide roughly \$5 billion annually for international forestry activities. By introducing this legislation, the Congressional sponsors hope to demonstrate support for including this idea in the larger climate bill. Please contact your Representatives and ask that they co-sponsor this important legislation. We need to get as many cosponsors on the bill as possible, to show strong support for including this legislation in the larger climate bill! Please take 5 minutes to send a letter or place a call. Visit the [American Forest Foundation](#) website for further details. If you'd like additional information on the bill, contact Rita Neznok at [rneznek@forestfoundation.org](mailto:rneznek@forestfoundation.org)

## PEFC Audits

Because the American Tree Farm System is now PEFC accredited, annual audits of a percentage of the tree farms in the system nationwide are required. Washington will be among the Western Region states that will have random tree farms selected for audit by a third party auditor in 2010. The auditors will be looking for conformance to standards required by PEFC.

In a large percentage of audits taking place nationwide this year, an area of non-conformance concern is Management Plans. As you know, a Management Plan is one of the basic requirements for membership in the ATFS. When you are inspected by a Certified Inspector you must have a complete forest management plan before you can go any further with the inspection. If you don't have a Management Plan there is a [simple template](#) that you can work from that the WTFP can email or send you in the mail or you can contact a DNR stewardship forester or professional forester to write a plan. The Inspector can help you with your plan and make suggestions but cannot write it for

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you and then do the inspection. This has been determined to be a conflict of interest with PEFC Standards.

Re-inspections of tree farms require that the Management Plan is current. A plan from 5 years ago with no updates or additional entries does not show active management. Even if no practices took place, you should still update your plan to reflect that information and adjust any management timelines if necessary. As a reminder, Stewardship Plans that are current are accepted by ATFS as a valid management plan.

## 2010 Tree Farmer Magazine

Tree Farmer Magazine's Editorial Board is seeking content for the 2010 calendar year. Articles can address: how-to, forest management issues, tax issue, tools and techniques, family forestry, sharing your experience, new technology, policy issues, generational or financial topics. All topics will be given consideration by the editorial board which also takes into consideration previous editorial calendars to ensure the same information is not repeated. Stories are balanced from across the country so that every region is included. There's a wealth of experience out there that can be shared with our readers. Please send with your suggested topics in an email to Brigitte Johnson, Tree Farmer Magazine's executive editor at [bjohnson@forestfoundation.org](mailto:bjohnson@forestfoundation.org). If you don't subscribe to the Tree Farmer Magazine, you should consider doing so. For only \$18 per year, you receive 6 issues with articles about and for tree farmers just like yourself.

If you have a question or comments, please contact:

Sherry Fox, Washington Tree Farm Committee Chair

Phone (360) 736-5750 E-Mail: [chair@watreefarm.org](mailto:chair@watreefarm.org)

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