

Missouri Chapter News

Walnut Council: Growing Walnut and Other Fine Hardwoods



Missouri Chapter, Walnut Council

Website: <http://www.walnutcouncil.org/state-chapters/missouri.html>

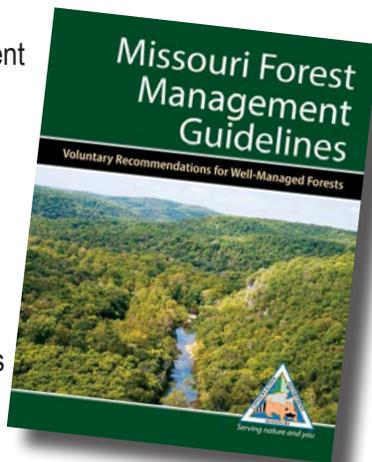
Dennis Evans, President (471) 451-7862

Welcome!

Welcome to the first edition of the “Missouri Chapter News” distributed to members of the Missouri Chapter, Walnut Council. The officers will use this newsletter to keep you informed about timely events while also distributing general information about the management of fine hardwoods. Members are encouraged to provide feedback about this outreach approach and to suggest topics for future issues. Comments and suggestions can be emailed to [Dennis Evans](mailto:Dennis.Evans@walnutcouncil.org), Chapter President.

Missouri Forest Management Guidelines

“Missouri Forest Management Guidelines” is the title of the newest publication released by the Missouri Department of Conservation, Division of Forestry. This 230 page spiral-bound technical resource must be added to your reading list. It provides voluntary recommendations for well-managed forests.



Published in 2014, this reference provides science-based guidance to help professional foresters, private land managers, and forest landowners improve and sustain Missouri’s forests. Numerous illustrated examples show how forest-best management practices work. These guidelines were developed with input from five technical teams comprised of scientists as well as people working in the forestry profession. While voluntary, these guidelines also make readers aware of laws that can influence forest management in Missouri.

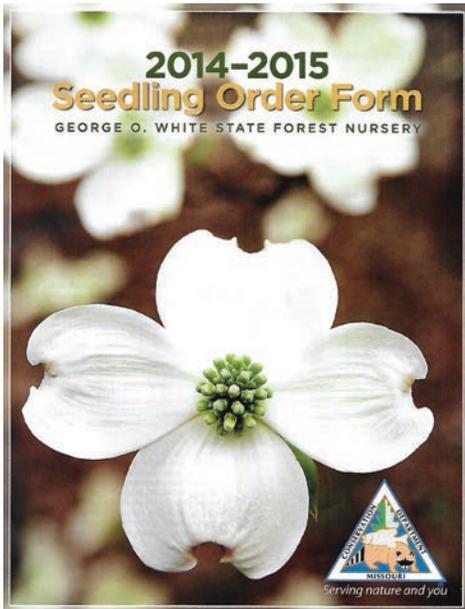
“We hope you will use these voluntary management guidelines to sustain Missouri’s forests for wildlife, people, and profit for generations to come,” Lisa Allen, State Forester, said” [Missouri Forest Management](#) is available here in PDF format and is broken into units so it will download faster. CDs are available from MDC on request.

Thousand Cankers Disease (TCD)

While we have not found TCD in our Missouri black walnut, it may just be a matter of “when.” Humans will eventually bring it to Missouri via diseased walnut firewood or wood with fresh bark attached. In several ways the forest resource partners in Missouri are educating the public, but realistically we will never reach everyone. Economically, walnut in Missouri is estimated to be worth \$850 million over a 20-year period while the native range value is \$539 billion.

Monitoring for TCD

Monitoring for TCD is essential in order to find it while the new diseased area is relatively small. Once it has been found, the extent of the diseased area will have to be determined. If the diseased area appears to be localized to a couple square miles or less, we may need to implement a defense strategy to contain, suppress, and slow down the spread. The Chapter leadership will keep you informed about TCD through this newsletter.



2014-15 Seedling Order Form Available

Plan now to place seedling tree orders for spring planting. The order form for the “George O. White State Forest Nursery” is available from MDC by calling (573) 674-3229. Orders can be submitted by Internet, mail, or fax. Click to order [online](#). No phone orders are accepted. The nursery is having an Open House on Saturday, April 4, 2015, 9 a.m. – 2 p.m. Call for reservations.

Tax Tips for Forest Landowners for the 2014 Tax Year

The Autumn 2014 issue of “National Woodlands” magazine, published by the National Woodland Owners Association includes a two-page article by Dr. Linda Wang, U.S. Forest Service national timber tax specialist and author and coauthor of numerous forest tax articles.

Timber transactions occupy a very specialized area of tax law important to timber owners in terms of the ongoing cost of owning and managing timber, forest stewardship and compliance to the tax law. This article reviews the major federal income tax law to help forest owners in filing their 2014 income tax return. The information presented in this article is current as of September 30, 2014.

This article looks at: Timber Property, Timber Basis and Depletion, Timber Sales, Timber Management Expenses, Reforestation Costs, Cost-Share Payments on Form 1099-G, Timber Casualty and Theft Losses, and Filing Form T (Timber).

For example did you know there are three basic types of timber ownerships: investment, business or personal-use property? The tax rules vary considerably with each classification.

For more information on this topic or to view the complete article, visit the [National Timber Tax website](#).

Plan Your Land

We are fast approaching 2015 and time to review your Tree Farm’s management plan.

Your woods are constantly changing. Seasons come and go, trees grow and die, weather and timber markets vary, and natural disasters or invasive species can take their toll. And just as your Tree Farm changes, you and your family do too: a major life event, such as a birth, death or illness, can alter your relationship with your woods.

A new year means taking the time to reflect on what happened last year, how your woods were affected, and what you may choose to do differently in the future. This review of your management plan and goals does not have to be daunting or difficult. It can mean adding just a few handwritten notes to your plan, and it can start with a simple walk in your woods.