

INDIANA WALNUT COUNCIL NEWSLETTER
Spring 2021

THE WALNUT COUNCIL IS A SCIENCE-BASED ORGANIZATION THAT ENCOURAGES RESEARCH, DISCUSSION AND THE APPLICATION OF KNOWLEDGE ABOUT GROWING HARDWOOD TREES.

Indiana Chapter of Walnut Council's Spring Meeting
at the Hollowell Property

Saturday, April 24, 2021

Address: 2788 Centennial Rd, Martinsville, IN 46151 (use this address in Google Maps)

Directions: It is best to use a mapping app due to road construction on Hwy 37 south of Martinsville, IN has closed the road in some sections, detours may be required.

Registration: Contact Jim McKenna at jrmckenn@purdue.edu or 765-464-1688 to register. We need a count of the people attending the field day to order Squeakers BBQ box lunches. To pay for lunch and facilities, a donation of \$15 to the Indiana Walnut Council will be requested that you can pay with cash or a check at the meeting.

What to bring: Bring your own chair, rubber boots or waterproof boots, and rain gear. The boots are to cross a creek. There is a concrete bridge that the water flows over which is easy to walk across.

Don't expect this kind of transportation if you forget your boots.



Note: Due to ongoing COVID-19 considerations, we need to socially distance and wear masks when we are closer than 6 feet. Also, a wash station and port-a-pot will be available, and again- bring your own chair. Some transportation will be available to ride to the activities in the woods for those who cannot walk the distance.

Schedule for the Day

Time

9:00 am

9:30 am

Item

Registration (Coffee & Donuts)

Start of the Meeting

Today's plans and objective

- A history of Hollowell's property. (Julie Hollowell)
- Management over the decades (Phil Teeters, neighbor and farmer)
- Recent invasive control, TSI, and harvest (John Stambaugh)

10:00 am

Tour the walnut plantings (From 1967 to 1979)

- Soils
 - Soil Types
 - Soil Depth
 - Soil Fertility
- Planting



This native walnut (33-inch DBH) was harvested from the property and sold for \$23,000



One of black walnut planting on the property

- 11:00 am Management
- Thinning
 - Invasive Control
- 12:00 pm Lunch
- 12:40 pm Claude Diehl, President – Update of the Indiana Chapter of the Walnut Council
- 1:00 pm Tree Planting (Demonstration)
- 1:35 pm Management
- Management
 - Name that Tree
- 2:00 pm Timber Sales and Harvest Management
- 3:00 pm End of Field Day – Please fill out an evaluation sheet to help plan future field days (Lenny Farlee)
- 3:15 pm Adjourn - Thanks for visiting the Hollowell's Property and supporting your Indiana Walnut Council!



Pierson-Hollowell Tree Farm #1

By Julie Hollowell

When our father, Bob Hollowell, died in 2012, my brother, sister and I became beneficiaries of 148 acres of forestland north of Martinsville, just off Highway 37 (soon to be I-69), behind the Ozark Mountain fish hatcheries. By that time, the tree farm, as we always called it, was in a state of “benign neglect.” The forest road was all but impassable, and the 85 acres of black walnut plantations were overrun with autumn olive. A walk through the plantations meant following deer paths, often bending low to navigate the over- and under-growth. It hadn’t always been this way.

In the late 1950s, dad had succeeded his father as President of Pierson-Hollowell Lumber Company, with mills in Lawrenceburg and Greendale. During his career, he served as president of many professional forestry organizations including Indiana Hardwood Lumbermen's Association, the National Hardwood Lumber Association, the Fine Hardwoods Association, the American Walnut Manufacturers Association, and the Walnut Council. For 30 years, under the careful guidance of Bob Burke of Walnut Council fame, this farm was the base of operations for Pierson-Hollowell’s forestry program. It was the first property the Company purchased, in 1967, known as Tree Farm #1. In that first year, close to 17,000 black walnut seedlings were planted in former pastureland and 3,000 in wooded areas, with more added in subsequent years. Over the next decade Pierson-Hollowell purchased more than a dozen properties in southern Indiana for black walnut plantings. All but this one were sold in the early 90’s as the Company faced liquidation. By 1996, all operations on Tree Farm #1 had ceased except for seasonal mowing, and a small harvest of tornado damaged trees in 2003.

In 2015, somewhat guilt-ridden, I walked the property with then-Assistant District Forester Amy Spalding during our Classified Forest re-certification (the first since 2008). On that walk, Amy called the property “a jewel in the rough” and encouraged us to look into the USDA’s EQIP program. We had just enough funds to hire the neighbor, Phil Teeters, excavator extraordinaire, to reestablish the forest road. Thanks to the work of Phil and Forester John Stambaugh and his crew, we have now completed 3 years of brush management in the walnut plantations, as well as some initial TSI. In the fall of 2019, we expanded our acreage in the Classified Forest and Wildlands Program to include everything but the driveway and pole barn. Additionally, last September, Danzer Veneer harvested 135 FSC-certified trees from the 58 acres of natural forest on the property. It was an awesome experience all around (*except for the taxes*).

The plantation trees, now 40 to 50 years old, have grown VERY slowly, but in another 40 to 50 years, they will be eye-popping and ready for sustainable harvest. Reluctantly but realistically, once I-69 is finished, we will be putting the property up for sale. We will have met our goal of getting this “jewel in the rough” in shape for the next owner, whose qualifications will no doubt include “Must Love Walnut Trees!” Also, I’ve been told by some forestry researchers that trees in this forest, and others identified by Bob Burke, have yielded some of the best genetic material studied by Purdue.

We are looking forward to seeing you on the 24th. Let’s hope for good weather for a walk in the beautiful Morgan County countryside on Earth Day weekend!

-Julie Hollowell, Laura Hollowell, and Carol Regier (for Tom Hollowell)

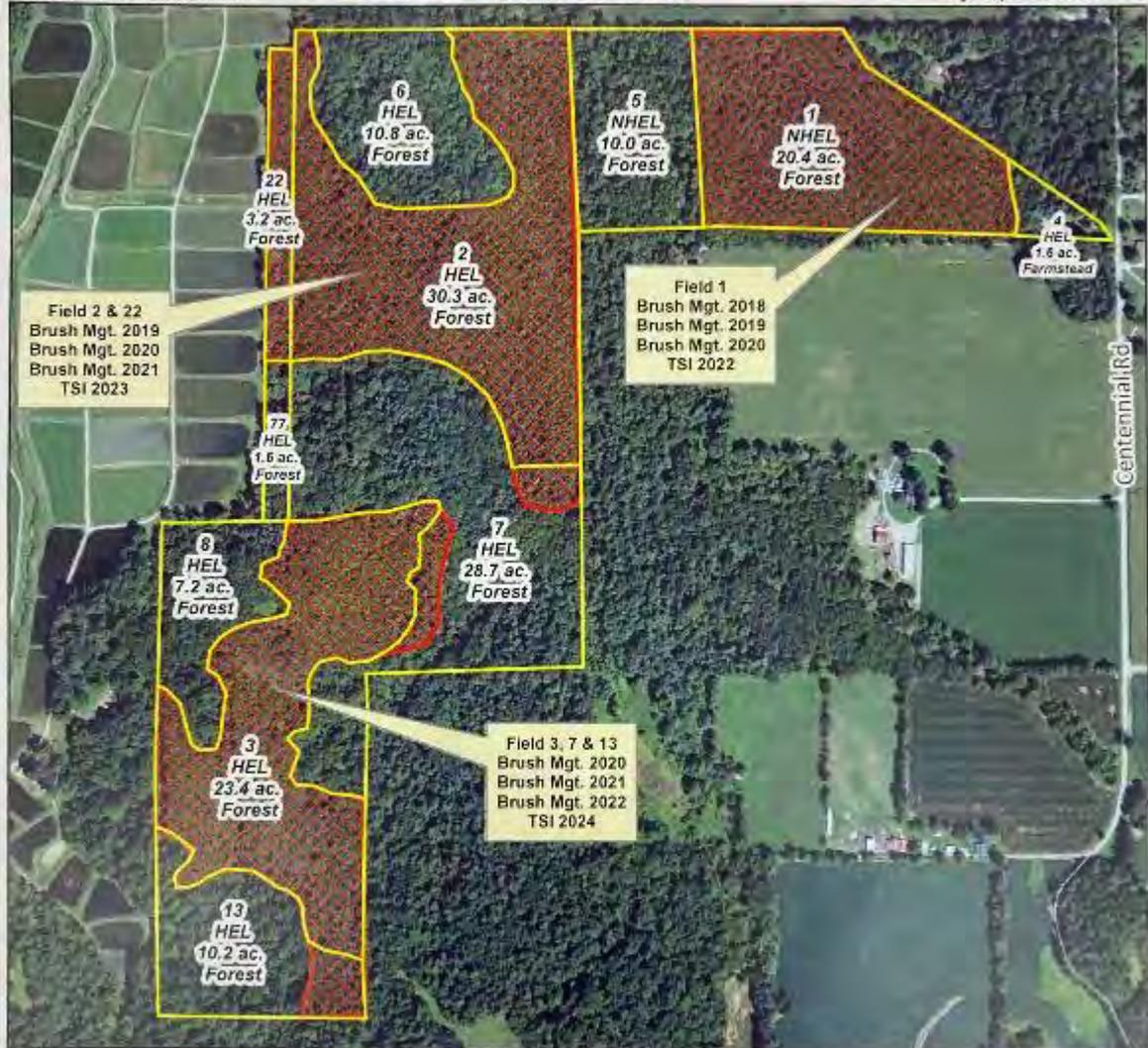
Tour Map

**Conservation Plan Map:
Environmental Quality Incentives Program - EQIP**

Customer(s): ROBERT E HOLLOWELL, JR REVOCABLE TRUST
 District: Morgan County SWCD
 Farm 4811, Tract 6235
 FSA Admin Office: Franklin

Field Office: Franklin Service Center
 Assisted By: Tony Branam
 Agency: USDA - NRCS

Date: 01/22/2018 rev 1



Prepared with assistance from USDA-Natural Resources Conservation Service



Legend

- Tract & Field Boundary
- EQIP Treatment Areas
- Morgan Roads (IDHS)



Washington Township
 Section 19/21, T12N, R2E

Directions to the property:

It is best to use mapping app due to road construction on Hwy 37 south of Martinsville, IN. Note that Hwy 37 has been closed the south of Martinsville.

Driving from the north of Martinsville, IN off of Hwy 37 turn south onto Henderson Ford Road. Drive south 1.2 miles to a tee. Turn east (left) onto Egbert Road. Drive about a quarter of a mile east to Centennial Road. Turn south (right) onto Centennial Road. Drive south 0.67 miles to the Hollowell's property.

Driving from the south Martinsville, IN off of Hwy 37 turn east onto Hwy 44 going for 2.54 miles. Turn north (left) onto Centennial Road. Drive 2.2 miles north on Centennial Road to the Hollowell's property.