

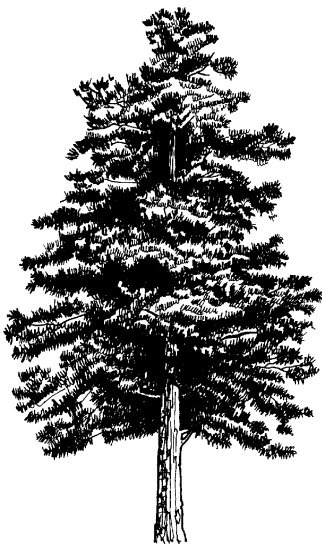


San Juan Tree Farmer



A Colorado State Forest Service—Durango District Newsletter for Forest Landowners.

June 30, 2009



Inside this issue:

<i>Thoughts from a forester & Upcoming Events.</i>	1
<i>A message from San Juan Tree Farm Chair - Ken Carpenter</i>	2
<i>Update from Colorado State Tree Farm Committee, Bud Halldorson-Chair</i>	3
<i>On-line sign ordering for Tree Farmers</i>	3
<i>Tree Farmer Recognition</i>	4
<i>2009 Colorado Forestry Legislation</i>	5
<i>Stihl Inc. video on chain-saw safety & operation.</i>	5
<i>Stihl Photo contest.</i>	5
<i>Tree Farm National Convention, Sept. 28-30th.</i>	6

Thoughts from a Forester,

It is a pure pleasure and honor to work with San Juan forest landowners who are passionate about their forests. Many property owners have a desire to learn, to network & develop relationships, to invest time and money towards forest and other resource improvements, and to serve their local community in some capacity. San Juan Tree Farmers particularly exemplify these characteristics with a positive attitude and a strong stewardship ethic. The American Tree Farm System strives to recognize such performance from private forest owners throughout the United States through their sign program. The recognition is topped off each year by the selection of a National Outstanding Tree Farmer to be named at the annual Tree Farm convention. This year, La Plata County Tree Farmers Ken & Lois Carpenter will be considered along with three other Tree Farmers from across the nation for this prestigious recognition. A couple of other San Juan forest landowners to be recognized this year includes: Florence Kroulik who has been selected by the Colorado State Tree Farm Committee as the 2009 Colorado Outstanding Tree Farmer, and Ron & Windsor Chacey who have been selected as the 2009 San Juan Outstanding Tree Farmer. Hopefully you will have a chance to meet and congratulate these forest landowners for their accomplishments. The events scheduled below will provide an opportunity, and I invite your participation in hopes that you will gain some knowledge and perspectives on managing your forests.

Dan Wand—CSFS Forester



Upcoming Events in 2009:

Saturday, July 18th: (9:30 a.m.- Noon) Forest Landowner Educational Event @ Carpenter Tree Farm, near Vallecito Reservoir in La Plata County. Guest speaker will be Larimer County Tree Farmer Wes Rutt. Participants will be provided a 3-ring notebook prepared by Wes to provide practical information on topics that Colorado forest landowners should be aware of. (See additional details on Page 2)

Friday, August 21st: (1 p.m - 4:30 p.m) Colorado State Tree Farm Committee Meeting @ CSFS District Office in Durango, Fort Lewis College Campus.

Saturday, August 22nd: (9:30 a.m.- 1 p.m.) Forest Landowner Recognition & Educational Event @ Kroulik Tree Farm, near Bakers Bridge north of Durango in La Plata County. Presentation of the 2009 Colorado Outstanding Tree Farmer of the Year Award to Kroulik Family. Presentation of the 2009 San Juan Outstanding Tree Farmer of the Year Award to Ron & Windsor Chacey. CSFS Foresters will present an educational event on the topic of "How to Inventory Your Forestland". La Plata County weed specialist Rod Cook will present on weeds. (See additional details on Page 2).



A message from Ken Carpenter: (Chair—San Juan Tree Farmers, La Plata County Tree Farmer, State Tree Farm Committee member, and 2009 Western Region Outstanding Tree Farmer)

San Juan Tree Farmers.

For the past couple of years we have been discussing the merits of a local San Juan Tree Farm committee to meet, plan meetings and disseminate information to Tree Farmers and forest landowners regarding field tours, meetings, award ceremonies in our area. We found that getting a committee together was difficult because of the distance of travel for some and seasonal residence of others, was not effective. In a discussion between Bud Halldorson, Dan Wand and myself we felt the Larimer County approach to communicate, plan meetings and disseminate information was more effective than a committee. Their system is to designate one person as point person or chair of the county or area to collect information, facilitate, and arrange meetings in cooperation with the Colorado State Forest Service. I offered to serve in that capacity for a period of two years. Therefore, I am happy to tell you of upcoming events.

Saturday, July 18, we will sponsor a meeting of our San Juan Tree Farm members and other property owners who might be interested in attending. The program will be presented by Wes Rutt, author of "Saving Your Forest", a work book for Colorado Tree Farmers. Wes will present copies of this work book and walk us through the various sections of the work book dealing with "Maintaining a Healthy Forest", "Mitigating the Danger of Wildfire", "What About the Beetles?", "Finding Help" and "Future Opportunities." We will also view and discuss a video recently produced by CSFS. The 15 minute video "Forestry in Action" is designed to encourage on-the-ground work by showing real-life examples of forest management activities that may otherwise be difficult for landowners to visualize. The DVD is organized in chapters that address thinning, defensible space, fuelbreaks, and firebreaks, patchcuts & clearcuts, slash treatments, common forestry equipment, working with contractors, & landowner feedback. Lois and I will host the meeting at Pine Song, our Tree Farm, located just north of Bayfield below Vallecito Lake Dam at 12758 County Road 501, Bayfield, CO 81122. Look for the Tree Farm sign on the east side of County Road 501. We will conclude the meeting with a short tour of the Tree Farm for those who wish to stay a bit longer. The meeting will begin @ 9:30 a.m. and is expected to last until Noon. Lunch will be on your own, but we do ask that if you plan to attend **please RSVP by contacting CSFS @ 247-5250 by July 15th** to arrange for enough notebooks to be available.



Our second meeting will be August 22, 2009. The meeting will be to recognize Florence Kroulik as the 2009 Colorado State Tree Farmer of the Year. We will also recognize Ron & Windsor Chacey as the 2009 San Juan Tree Farmer of the Year. The event will be held at the Kroulik Tree Farm north of Durango. Florence will provide a tour and discussion of their forest management activities, and CSFS foresters will present a program about how to inventory your forestland and how the information can be used to help make informed decisions. La Plata County weed specialist Rod Cook will be available to discuss problematic weeds and their management. The meeting will begin at 9:30 a.m. and will conclude with a luncheon and award presentations. Donations will be accepted to defray expenses associated with the lunch. **Please RSVP by contacting CSFS @ 247-5250 with the number attending by August 15th to arrange for lunch.** Kroulik Tree Farm is located at 11551 County Road 250. From Durango take Hwy 550 North approximately 6 miles and turn right (East) on to County Road 252 (Trimble Lane), Cross bridge at Animas River and continue to intersection of County Road 250 (East Animas Rd) turn left (North) and go approximately 4.5 miles to Kroulik Tree Farm (at sharp 90 degree turn to the right).

The Colorado State Tree Farm Committee will be meeting at the CSFS office in Durango on August 21st and will be in attendance at the Kroulik Tree Farm on the 22nd.. This is an excellent opportunity to meet committee members and learn more about forestry issues and opportunities in Colorado.

Please consider joining in the above events and bring friends and neighboring land owners with you. I promise it will be a great opportunity to learn more about saving our forests and honoring our fellow Tree Farmers.

Ken Carpenter, chair of our local San Juan Tree Farmer chapter.

2009 Update from the Colorado State Tree Farm Committee Bud Halldorson, Chair

This year has seen the Colorado State Tree Farm Committee engaged in more special activities than it has been involved with since the state hosted the national convention of the American Tree Farm System in Fort Collins in 2004. The first major undertaking was overseeing the preparation of a compact, 10-page nomination package for Ken and Lois Carpenter for recognition as the 2009 Western Regional Outstanding Tree Farmers of the Year. In early June, we learned that they had been selected for this distinction, apparently only the second time in Colorado's history that this has occurred. Ken and Lois are the first recipients from the San Juan Basin. As the regional tree farmers of the year, they become significant spokespersons and advocates for all of us across all of Colorado and nine other states. Dan Wand initiated the nomination of the Carpenters, who have now been recognized by the San Juan Basin tree farmers, the Colorado state tree farmers, and now the western regional tree farmers. The Carpenters' selection as one of the four regional OTFYs automatically makes them eligible for consideration for the 2009 National Outstanding Tree Farmers of the Year. This requires an expanded, 35-page nomination package that is currently being prepared by the Carpenters. Congratulatory and support documentation is being gathered from a variety of sources.

A significant element of the recent acceptance of the ATFS sustainable-forest certification process by the international Program for the Endorsement of Forest Certification schemes (PEFC) is third-party verification. In 2009, Colorado was one of three states in the western region to be selected for on-site assessments. Just recently, 15 ATFS-certified properties in Colorado were visited and their landowners were interviewed by PricewaterhouseCoopers during what can only be described as a whirlwind tour. Dan Wand, Ken Carpenter and I accompanied the PwC auditor to five properties in the San Juan Basin and one in northwest New Mexico. Mike Hughes, of the Fort Collins District Office of the Colorado State Forest Service and the State Administrator of the ATFS program, oversaw the remainder of the state visits, which were primarily along the northern Front Range. A preliminary, discussion report of the findings for the western-region sample has been issued, but since it is not final, no public information is currently available. When it is, it will be shared. As always, check www.treefarmer.com for the latest. If you haven't signed up for the Tree-Farmer Alerts, you should do so. Wes Rutt, our website chair, really does an outstanding job in ensuring that all interested persons have the best, most current information available.

The last special activity to share with you all is that the committee met in late April for the better part of a day at the Golden District Office of the CSFS to complete the Best Management Practices Self Assessment that each state committee was asked by the ATFS to conduct sometime during this year. It required a determination of where our Colorado State Tree Farm Committee was achieving certain core and higher-performance functions. We were able to identify a number of strengths, and, of course, some areas where we need to improve.

The members of this committee really put forth a lot of effort to ensure that the ATFS program is properly conducted in Colorado, and we should all be proud of their efforts. We now have three members from the San Juan Basin, Dan Wand, the CSTFC treasurer; Ken Carpenter; and me. New members are always encouraged—and everyone is welcome to attend our meetings. We will be meeting at the Durango CSFS District Office on the afternoon of Friday, August 21.

Online Sign Ordering Now Available for Tree Farmers

The diamond-shaped, green and white signs bearing the message of wood, water, wildlife, and recreation are recognized across the country. Now, for the very first time, certified Tree Farmer's can order their Certified Family Forest sign and Certified Tree Farm sign directly from the website. Certified Tree Farmers can click on the 'Order your ATFS sign online' link in the Highlights box of the homepage (<http://www.treefarmssystem.org>). The ATFS signs are available online with both the Tree Farmer and Family Forest logos and in both aluminum and plastic. Up to three signs can be purchased online at a time and each order is verified upon ordering to ensure that it is purchased by a certified Tree Farmer. This new process is meant to get more signs out on certified properties and reduce the burden on State Committees to distribute the sign.

Congratulations to the following San Juan Tree Farmers

Ken & Lois Carpenter—2009 Western Region Outstanding Tree Farmer

Florence Kroulik Family—2009 Colorado Outstanding Tree Farmer

Ron & Windsor Chacey—2009 San Juan Outstanding Tree Farmer

Ken and Lois Carpenter of Vallecito were recognized as San Juan Outstanding Tree Farmers in 2005, Colorado Outstanding Tree Farmers in 2007, and just recently were selected as **Western Region Outstanding Tree Farmers in 2009**. Ken & Lois acquired their property in 1976 and became full time residents in 2000. A forest management plan was developed for the property in 1995 and the Carpenter's became certified members of the American Tree Farm System in 1997. Ken & Lois were well on their way towards implementing their forest management plan when the Missionary Ridge Fire occurred during 2002. The wildfire burned 70,000 + acres of La Plata County real estate including a portion of their Tree Farm. A portion of the property received beneficial effects associated with a low intensity surface fire while some portions of the property were subject to high intensity crown fire. The nearby community of Vallecito and the surrounding National Forest was severely impacted by the fire. Following the fire came massive soil erosion, sediment and debris flows into the Pine River that flows through the property, and a depressed economy that relied on tourism. Ken & Lois responded with increased forest management efforts on their property while also playing a key role in helping their community bounce back. The Carpenters will represent the western region of the United States and will attend the national Tree Farm convention in Washington D.C. September 28-30th at which time the National Outstanding Tree Farmer will be announced. Tree Farmers in contention for this top honor include:

North Central ROTFY - Robert Woodling, IN

Southern ROTFY - Earl & Wanda Barrs, GA

Northeast ROTFY - Frank Burns, NJ

Western ROTFY - Ken & Lois Carpenter, CO

Congratulations Ken & Lois, and we will be pulling for you as you represent the western states in Washington D.C. in September.

Florence Kroulik and family of Durango have been selected as the **2009 Colorado Outstanding Tree Farmer**. The Kroulik property has been a certified Tree Farm for 27 years and consists of 170 acres in the Animas Valley north of Durango. The property contains 100 acres of ponderosa pine forestland that has seen both non-commercial and commercial thinning entries during the past 30 years. The property contains over a half mile of Animas river frontage and provides important wildlife habitat in an area increasingly encroached upon by housing development. The Kroulik's were recognized as San Juan Outstanding Tree Farmers in 2007 and hosted an educational session for forest landowners on chainsaw use & safety, proper tree falling, and marketing of forest products. Since initiating their forestry program, the Kroulik's have updated and revised their forest management plan a couple of times to keep current with conditions. Currently they are seeking an opportunity to commercially market small sawlogs, poles, and other forest products as they pursue their next entry which will involve a regeneration harvest to begin regeneration over a portion of the forest while conducting another improvement thinning over the remainder of the property. Congratulations Florence!

Ron & Windsor Chacey of Pagosa Springs are the **San Juan Outstanding Tree Farmers for 2009**. Both Ron & Windsor are active in their community, and have served on numerous boards, committees, and commissions for various organizations and local government. They developed a forest management plan, and initiated forest management on their 40 acres of ponderosa pine in 1996. The property was certified in the American Tree Farm System in 1997. Addressing the hazardous fuels situation and reducing the potential risk of wildfire has been a priority since acquiring the property. They are also concerned about wildlife habitat and the improvement and protection of the watershed. Common forest management activities that have been performed include improvement thinning of the ponderosa pine overstory and Gambel oak understory, slash and brush mastication w/mechanical equipment, direct control of beetle infested trees, and pruning branches. Currently Ron is working on revising their forest management plan and developing a data base to inventory trees on the property with potential value as a raw material for novelty products. Ron envisions a data base complete with GPS point locations, digital photos, and other descriptive data. Ron & Windsor have been strong advocates for sustainable forestry and regularly attend Tree Farm and other meetings on natural resource management. Congratulations Ron & Windsor!

2009 Colorado Forestry Legislation

The recent Colorado legislative session produced several forestry related bills. Each of the House and Senate Bills are indicated below. Additional information for each of the bills can be found on the CSFS Durango District website @ <http://csfs.colostate.edu/pages/durangodist.html>

HB09-1162—Concerning Intergovernmental Cooperation for the Purpose of Mitigating Wildfires

HB09-1199—Colorado Healthy Forests and Vibrant Communities Act of 2009

SB09-001—Community Wildfire Protection Plans

SB09-013—Civil Immunity to Persons Engaged in Emergency Response Activities

SB09-020—Responsibility for Responding to Wildland Fires

SB09-021—Incentives for Volunteer Firefighters

SB09-105—Removal of the Statutory Limit to Raise Taxes for Fighting Fires

Chainsaw Safety, Operation, & Maintenance Video

Chain Saw Safety, Operation & Maintenance

[Chain Saw Safety & Operation DVD Trailer](#)
[Chapter 1: Chain Saw Features](#)
[Chapter 2: Chain Saw Maintenance](#)
[Chapter 3: Sharpening Your Saw Chain](#)
[Chapter 4: Importance of Protective Apparel](#)
[Chapter 5: Operating Your Chain Saw](#)
[View Full Video](#)

The chainsaw may perhaps be the most important tool used by a forest manager. Using a chainsaw safely and effectively should be a priority for any operator. Stihl Inc. has an excellent video available that was reviewed by and recommended by a San Juan Tree Farmer. The video appears on the Stihl website at <http://stihldealer.net/videolibrary/> or order a DVD as indicated.

Chain Saw Safety, Operation & Maintenance

Order a copy as a DVD

Call to Order: 1-800-732-0054
 (Mon-Fri 8:00AM-5:00PM CMT)

All billing and payments are handled directly between the customer and Red Letter Communications.

- Available in English or Spanish
- Over an hour of information on how to properly use and care for your chain saw
- Multiple chapters include chain saw features, maintenance, saw chain sharpening, protective apparel and proper operation
- **\$4.99**

2009 STIHL Photo Contest!

Do you love taking pictures? Are you looking for fame and fortune? If you answered yes to either of these questions then you should submit your photos of a Tree Farm to the 2009 STIHL photo contest. The deadline for all photo submissions is August 7, 2009 and we need your pictures to make this contest a success! The winning photo will receive a \$500 STIHL gift certificate! Remember STIHL is looking for scenic photographs of Tree Farms taken in all seasons, preferably without people. Check the Tree Farm homepage at <http://www.treefarmssystem.org> for the photo contest rules and release form.

**COLORADO STATE
FOREST SERVICE
FLC 7233
DURANGO, CO 81301**

Phone: 970-247-5250
Fax: 970-247-5252
Email: csfsdugo@lamar.colostate.edu



Knowledge To Go Places

Websites:

CSFS = www.csfs@colostate.edu
National Tree Farm = www.treefarmssystem.org
State Tree Farm = www.treefarmer.com
Colorado Wood Utilization & Marketing =
www.colostate.edu/programs/cowood/

Register now for the 2009 National Tree Farmer Convention in Washington, D.C., Monday, September 28 - Wednesday, September 30, 2009. ***Growing Policy for Your Woodlands.*** It's time to let your legislators know what you and your forestland mean to America's green future. Join us for the most influential Tree Farmer Convention ever! Early bird registration saves you money! Register before August 3 for the rate of \$265. **For more information and to register online, visit www.treefarmssystem.org, and click on the Convention logo.** Convention Highlights:

- Meet with your members of Congress!
- Learn how you can influence policy affecting forest owners by joining with other Tree Farmers on Capitol Hill
- Meet **Tom Martin**, fellow Tree Farmer and the **American Forest Foundation's** new president and CEO
- Be the first to hear the announcement of this year's National Outstanding Tree Farmers of the Year, sponsored by STIHL, Inc.
- Experience a variety of optional tours including Virginia's rich history, Baltimore's historic ships and B&O Railroad Museum, George Washington's Mt. Vernon, D.C. Monuments at night, the U.S. National Arboretum, the Ladew Topiary Gardens, and the National Aquarium in Baltimore

Make plans today to join us in Washington, D.C. in September



The American Tree Farm System is a program of the American Forest Foundation