

What's on your mind?



Woods Forum

DISCUSSION

- Landowners were interested in:
 - “Local Wood”
 - Timber Harvesting Regulations
 - Ch. 61 enrollment
 - Land conservation

Attendee Comments:

- **“Did you learn something new at this program?”**
 - “Lack of a resource inventory for local forest producers and size of world market and its effect on local markets.”
 - “That a CR doesn’t require public access and Ch. 61 isn't permanent.”
 - “There is much I don’t know and it is time to become more knowledgeable.”
- **“What was the most valuable part of this program?”**
 - “Timber harvest info”
 - “ Role of land protection specialist”
 - “The meal (just kidding but it helped). Keeping it simple having lots of info available. The format of community meetings talking about their reality”
 - “Having state foresters and other professional in audience”
 - “Resources, ideas, inspirations- info from local land owners about their experiences.”
 - “Contact info for professionals”

Forest Stewardship Club... “STEW CLUB”



Event

- Targeting “woodland retreat” landowners with Forest Stewardship Plans. Only those with FSP received invitation
- Providing landowners support to implement FSP
- Landowner (attendee) led
- DCR Service Forester inspired
- 3 events hosted by FSP landowner (2 with CRs), 1 cordwood cutting training at Northfield Town Forest

Desired Outcomes

- 15 Landowners attend a total of 4 STEW CLUB events
- 7 take next steps to implement FSP
- 3 take next steps to place CR on land

Stew Club

Actual Outcomes

- 47 total landowner attendees
 - 42 Unique landowners, 6 attended more than 1 event
- # advancing a CR = 5 (3 already started process)
- # advancing FSP implementation = 13 (of 13 that have responded)
- Average acreage = 121
- overall Rank for events = 4.7/5



Stew Club

Actual Outcomes

- Landowner Ranking (1 to 10 scale, 10 “most describes” me)
 - Generate income = 4, but many 1s and 10s
 - Scenery = 8.6
 - Privacy = 8.6
 - Recreation = 7.7
 - Not involved with my land = 1.7
- “loved opportunity to speak with landowners and professionals out in the field”

Stew Club

Next steps...

- Planning Committee of 5-6 landowners
- Plan out events for the year
- 4+ landowners already interested in hosting next events: Copeland, Richard, Szyndlar, Rubin



Estate Planning Events

Event

- Targeting “woodland retreat” landowners
- Work with landowners, municipal board members, and KEYSTONE trainees to recruit landowners per event
- Outreach via postcards, and personal invitations - phone, emails from locals
- Landowners, Estate planning attorney, land conservation specialist present, foresters & service foresters attending

Desired Outcomes

- 2 events
- 60 landowners attend total (30 at each event)
- 7 landowners take concrete steps towards estate planning including contacting a forester or land trust or estate planning attorney, enrolling in chapter 61, etc.
- 12 Follow up one-on-one meetings with estate planning attorney

Estate Planning Events

Actual Outcomes - Partner with MA DCR Grant

- 5 events
 - Series One (2 events 2 weeks apart)
 - 1- family communication + land trust + landowner;
 - 2- estate planning attorney + landowner
 - Series Two (2 intro events, 1 “advanced” event, 3 weeks apart)
 - 1- landowner + land trust + estate planning attorney;
 - 1- landowner + land trust + estate planning attorney;
 - 2- land trust conservation assessment + appraiser
- 245 total landowner attendees (not including 1 on 1 estate planning attorney meetings)
 - 176 Unique landowners, 61 attended more than 1 event
- # advancing a CR = 43 (7 with Mount Grace)
- # advancing 61 implementation = 32
- # speak with a forester = 32
- # advancing estate planning attorney
 - 19 one on one meetings (13 completed, 6-9 May 15th)
 - 33 total pursuing estate planning attorney

Estate Planning Events

Actual Outcomes

- overall Rank for events = 4.6/5
- Average acreage = 74

Actual Outcomes

- Landowner Ranking (1 to 10 scale, 10 “most describes” me)
 - Generate income = 4.3 (many 1s and 10s)
 - Scenery = 8.3
 - Privacy = 8.2
 - Recreation = 7.2
 - Not involved with my land = 2.3
 - “Quick and Easy Format, very informative”
 - “ I have a lot of thinking to do”
 - “I just became a landowner and this pointed me in the right direction to pursue my goals”



Estate Planning Events

Lessons

- Template for attorneys (Ferris & Catanzaro)
- Property maps (Ferris)
- A chain of events for a landowner over 1 month
- One-on-one sessions with professionals
- Event advertised as 2 hours, ended after 1.5 for coffee/dessert and people stayed around to talk with peers/experts 1 on 1



Benefits/ Lessons/ Recommendations



- BENEFITS/LESSONS:
- Closer relationship with NQRLP and DCR Service Forester (Johnson & Marquis) & Consulting Foresters
- Key funding for Q2C/NQRLP outreach activities & experimentation
- Dozens of conservation projects moving forward
- Messaging + Messengers
- Postcard + active recruitment
- Organizing teams
- Learning across RCPs
- Outreach Ladder + days with experts
- Database
- Moving ahead...
- Continue Highstead/State Agency support for RCPs
- Annual Open space committee conference
- Keep raising the bar for incentives (Tax credits) and programs (acquisition \$) for landowners.



MA DCR

Forest Conservation

Due Diligence Grant Program



- Donation or a minimum a 50% Bargain Sale of CR or Land.
- Must contain at least 10 acres of woodland.
- Must attend an eligible workshop.
- Specific focus areas in Massachusetts are eligible.
- Reimbursement grant for up to \$8,700
for conservation project transaction costs: appraisals,
title exam, recording fees, legal fees, and environmental
assessments.