Woodland VIEW

Winter 2012

MARKET UPDATE

STORING CARBON PAYS OFF FOR FOUR EAST KENTUCKY LANDOWNERS

The Appalachian Carbon Partnership (ACP) recently paid four Kentucky landowners a total of $14,600 for the carbon stored in their sustainably managed forestland. The four landowners own 2,048 acres of forestland in Madison, Fleming, Lawrence and Lewis counties. These forest acres stored 2,100 metric tons of carbon dioxide in a single year. Offset sales donations to pay for the carbon stored came from a combination of individuals, for-profit and nonprofit organizations, and a large offset retirement sale to EarthColor, our featured customer below.

Jane and Tim - enrolled landowners in Madison County receive their first check.

ACP CUSTOMER SPOTLIGHT

EARTHCOLOR MAKES AN IMPACT FOR FOREST LANDOWNERS

The ACP is proud to welcome EarthColor to the growing network of socially and environmentally responsible companies supporting sustainable forest management in Central Appalachia. EarthColor's annual offset purchases demonstrate how carbon trading can benefit Appalachian landowners and forests while mitigating the effects of climate change.

"We are committed to responsible forestry and reducing our carbon footprint. EarthColor is excited to partner with MACED and support American landowners and sustainable forest management in the Appalachian Mountains," said David Podmayersky, Director of Sustainability. "We hope this partnership demonstrates that supporting sustainable forestry through carbon trading is a sound business decision and an important choice in reducing climate risk."

"At EarthColor, we recognize our obligation to ensure the prudent and rational utilization of natural resources and to protect those entrusted to our stewardship. That is why sustainability embodies one of the core values which underpin our company," stated Robert Kashan, Chief Executive Officer.

After joining the ACP early in 2011, EarthColor's carbon offset donations made it possible for five landowners to receive payments for the carbon stored in their forests.

MACED
Mountain Association for Community Economic Development

433 Chestnut Street, Berea, KY 40403
859.986.2373 | forestry@maced.org

AppalachianCarbonPartnership.org
facebook.com/appalachiancarbonpartnership

APPALACHIAN CARBON PARTNERSHIP

A TRIBUTE TO ROBERT FIELDS, 1935-2011

On November 18, 2011, we said goodbye to one of our enrolled landowners, Robert (Bob) Fields. Bob and his wife Edwina (Eddie) have been involved in our program since 2008. Bob had a deep connection to the land and was very proud of their tree farm. He worked very hard to protect and manage it for future generations to enjoy. We would like to devote this section to Bob, who will be greatly missed by all those who were lucky enough to meet him.

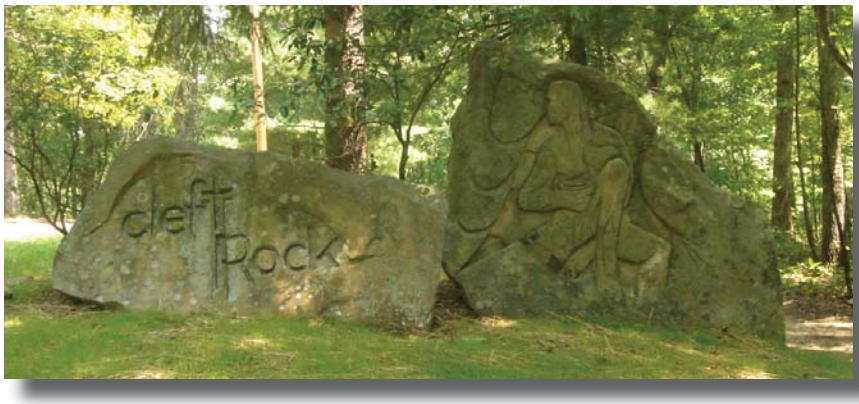
Bob was born in Kentucky on April 10, 1935, and spent most of his life helping others all around the world. Bob and his wife Eddie served for 10 years in Israel as missionaries and six years in the Middle East and North Africa with the Southern Baptist Convention.

They returned to Kentucky in 1972 and started to build a retreat center that would serve as a refuge for those needing physical rest and spiritual renewal.

In 1974, the Fields founded the Cleft Rock Retreat Center located in Mount Vernon, Kentucky. That Center has made a positive impact in many people's lives, thanks to the hard labor, dedication and time Bob and Eddie invested. Visit the Center's website to learn more: www.cleftrock.org.

From Left: Angie, Irene, Scott, Bob and Eddie

Bob and Eddie



If you would like to pay tribute to Bob Fields, the family has asked that donations be made to the Cleft Rock Retreat Center.

Cleft Rock Retreat Center
2917 Cleft Rock Road
Mount Vernon, KY 40456

Our death is not an end if we can live on in our children and the younger generation.
For they are us, our bodies are only wilted leaves on the tree of life.
~Albert Einstein

ENROLL YOUR LAND

Enrollment Requirements for the Managed Forest Carbon Offset Program

All landowners interested in program enrollment must meet the requirements listed below and turn in all documentation by October 31st of the year enrollment is sought. Please note: all eligible forestland you own must be certified and enrolled in the program with a commitment to maintain certification for 15 years. The four main requirements are:

1. **Proof of ownership** such as deeds and tax maps with the deed book and page numbers provided.
2. **Forest certification** of all forested properties owned by the landowner through the American Tree Farm system, Sustainable Forestry Initiative or Forest Stewardship Council with the corresponding Management or Stewardship Plan.
3. **Forest inventory** completed by a consulting forester, who must contact MACED to review the protocols before beginning the work. Another inventory is required in the 10th year of the program.
4. **Signed final contract** for a 15-year period with a signed Memorandum of Contract which the landowner must file at the county clerk's office where the property is located.

RESOURCES

STATE & FEDERAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS

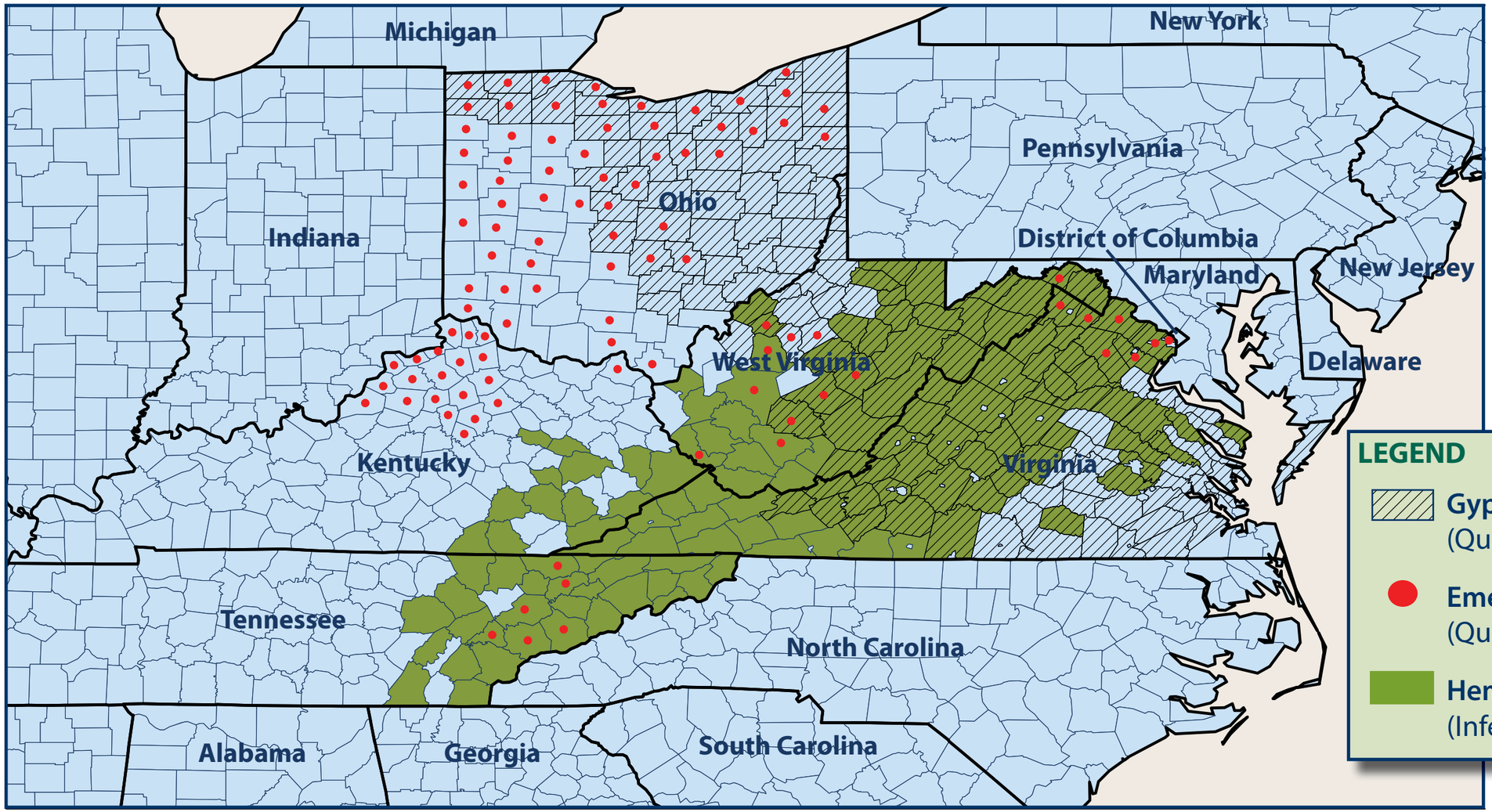
MACED's Appalachian Carbon Partnership offers a distinct opportunity for forest landowners to be compensated for the invaluable ecosystem services provided by their forests. However, given the high level of difficulty and uncertainty in the carbon market, it may take some time for your initial investment to reap a return. Therefore, it is important to find alternative opportunities for income, so you can keep your forest alive and well. Here are available resources:

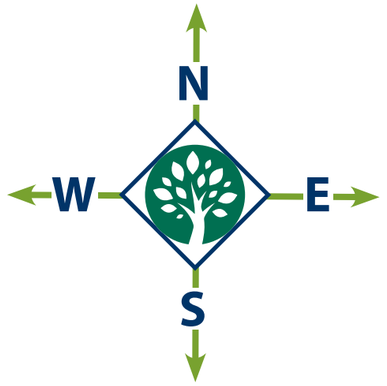
1 ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY INCENTIVES PROGRAM provides financial and technical assistance to agricultural producers through contracts up to a maximum term of 10 years in length. The financial assistance offered by this program is meant to help plan and implement conservation practices that address natural resource concerns and the improvement of soil, water, plant, animal, air and related resources on agricultural land or non-industrial private forestland. For more information visit: www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/main/national/programs/financial/eqip.

2 WILDLIFE HABITAT INCENTIVE PROGRAM is a voluntary program administered by The Natural Resources Conservation Service. It provides technical and financial assistance to landowners who want to establish and improve fish and wildlife habitat. For more information go to: www.fs.fed.us/spf/coop/programs/loa/whip.shtml.

3 WETLANDS RESERVE PROGRAM is a voluntary program which gives landowners the opportunity to protect, restore, and enhance wetlands on their property. The Department of Agriculture's Natural Resources Conservation Service provides technical and financial support to help landowners complete the project. Participating in this program will give you the opportunity to establish long-term conservation practices, wildlife protection, and enrich your forestland. For more information visit: www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/main/national/programs/easements/wetlands.

Invasive Insect Threats to Central Appalachia (2010-2011 data)





LEGEND

- **Gypsy Moth** (Quarantine Area)
- **Emerald Ash Borer** (Quarantine Area)
- **Hemlock Wooly Adelgid** (Infested Area)

This map shows the location and/or quarantine area put in place to help prevent the spread of three common invasive insects having an impact in our forests in Central Appalachia: Gypsy Moth, Emerald Ash Borer and Hemlock Wooly Adelgid. Yet, many more invasive insects affect the region. If you see your county highlighted on this map and want to learn more about these insects and others affecting your area, please visit one of the links below.

Emerald Ash Borer: www.emeraldashborer.info
Hemlock Wooly Adelgid: www.saveourhemlocks.org
Gypsy Moth: www.gypsy-moth.com

Virginia: www.dof.virginia.gov
West Virginia: www.wvforestry.com
Kentucky: www.forestry.ky.gov
Ohio: www.ohiodnr.com
Tennessee: www.tn.gov/agriculture/forestry

Data Sources: www.aphis.usda.gov
www.na.fs.fed.us
www.emeraldashborer.info

Map produced by MACED, January 2012

FOREST FARMING A PUNGENT DELICACY

By Emily Lachniet

Ramps, our beloved, smelly wild leeks, have been collected from Appalachian forests in early spring for generations. Historically, they've been an important part of the diets of many as one of the first fresh vegetables of spring. Ramp festivals are dedicated to digging and eating this delicacy. Popular at farmers markets, ramps are also in demand at high-end restaurants, as interest in local and unique ingredients grows. Because of their popularity, native populations are being stressed by overharvesting. By cultivating ramps in your forestland, you can help take the strain off of wild populations and take advantage of this emerging market.

Ramps grow thoughout the eastern United States in bottomlands and moist northern-facing slopes. They're found in a variety of forest types, including sugar maple, beech and poplar, as well as under oak, hickory and basswood trees. Ramps require a rich, moist site, and their plant companions include ginseng, black cohosh, mayapple, nettle, trout lily, and bloodroot. A slow-growing plant, they can take 5-7 years to grow to a harvestable size from the time seeds are sown. Depending on location, they emerge sometime in March.

By May, they have reached maturity with leaves that resemble lily-of-the-valley. The leaves will begin to die back, leaving only a flowering seed stalk.

Site selection is the important first step in establishing a ramp patch. The ideal site will be moist, yet well-drained, and high in organic matter. The presence of several of the above-listed companion plants are a good indication that the conditions are adequate for a successful planting. Ramp seeds that have been stratified can be planted in late summer. Transplanting larger bulbs, while more expensive if purchased, will result in a harvest within two to three years. Hardwood leaf mulch will help retain moisture and reduce competition from weeds.

For more information on ramp cultivation and for seed and bulb sources, North Carolina State University Extension is a great resource: www.ces.ncsu.edu/fletcher/programs/herbs/crops/ramps/index.html.

Do you know your trees?

Sassafras albidum – Lauraceae (Laurel Family)

By Angie Allman

PHOTO BY SCOTT SHOUSE

Did you know that the home of the largest Sassafras tree is found in Owensboro, Kentucky? It is approximately 300 years old, more than 100 feet tall and 21 feet in circumference. According to local legend, that tree was threatened by the widening of a highway in 1957. But when the bulldozers came, owner Grace Rash was waiting with her shotgun. She held them off at gunpoint until a call to the governor resulted in the building of a retaining wall to protect the tree.

There are many distinguishing factors that will help you identify the sassafras tree. It usually measures around 30-50 feet tall. The leaf is alternate, simple, and four to six inches long. It often has three distinct leaf patterns on the same plant: ovate, one-lobed, and three-lobed. In rare occasions, there have been records of a five lobed leaf. Another characteristic that helps set it apart from other trees is its smell. The whole tree is very fragrant, and the leaf will release a spicy odor when crushed between your fingers.

The fruit has shiny, bluish berries on red stems. They are eaten by many bird species such as bobwhite quail, wild turkeys, pileated woodpeckers and northern mockingbirds. The sassafras tree depends on these birds to eat its fruit to help disperse its seeds and grow a new tree. The leaves and twigs of the sassafras are also important to the wildlife that use them as a food source. These animals include white-tailed deer, groundhogs, rabbits and black bears.

The sassafras tree has provided many commercial and domestic uses over the years. Early pioneers dried the root bark to produce an essential oil which was used in perfumes, soaps and foods. The dried leaves of the sassafras were used to make filé powder, which is a Creole spice used in gumbo. The most famous use was as an ingredient in the production of root beer. However, it was later proven that the oil contained safrole, which was carcinogenic and believed to cause liver damage and cancer. In 1960, the FDA banned the use of sassafras oil in mass produced foods. In spite of this, the root extracts, which do not contain safrole, or in which the safrole has been removed, are still permitted and are commonly used in teas, edible spices and root beers.

WORKS CITED:

- www.roadsideamerica.com/tip/7879
- en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sassafras
- www.uky.edu/Ag/Horticulture/kytreewebsite/commonnamefiles/text/sassafrasinfo.htm
- Donald J. Leopold, William C. McComb, and Robert N. Muller. Trees of the Central Hardwood Forests of North America: An identification and cultivation guide. Timber Press, Inc. 1998.

MACED
Mountain Association for Community Economic Development

MACED
433 Chestnut Street
Berea, KY 40403

PRSRT STD
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
MAIL SOLUTIONS

CHECK OUT OUR NEW WEBSITE!

www.AppalachianCarbonPartnership.org

NEW FEATURES INCLUDE:

- Quick Carbon Calculator
- Tips for reducing your footprint
- Testimonials from landowners and supporters
- Featured stories and news
- Landowner resouces
- Online newsletter
- Meet the staff
- FAQs

We want to hear from *you!*
Submit your news and opinions for our next newsletter!

MACED invites you to share your experience as a forest landowner by submitting editorials or articles on forest issues, stories about your farm, or news about your forest products business for publication in our newsletter.

Send your articles to forestry@maced.org or mail to:

MACED Forestry
433 Chestnut Street
Berea, KY 40403

printed on 100% postconsumer waste fiber, process chlorine free, FSC certified paper