

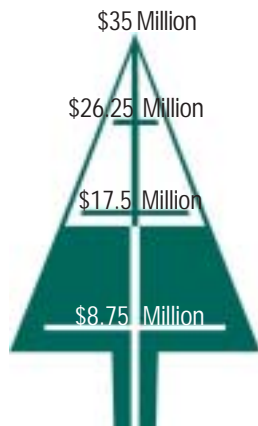


# NEW ENGLAND FORESTS

PRIVATE FORESTS FOR THE PUBLIC GOOD

NEW ENGLAND FORESTRY FOUNDATION: 32 Foster Street, PO Box 1346, Littleton, MA 01460 • 1-888-367-3780 • info@newenglandforestry.org

## Support the Downeast Lakes Forestry Partnership!



**\$39.43 per acre!**  
**A Bargain Sale!**

Purchase your conservation easement acreage and help protect 312,000 acres of Maine's forest from development...Forever.

To contribute online or download a contribution form to mail, please visit: [www.newenglandforestry.org](http://www.newenglandforestry.org)

## The Private Landowner Network Partners

The Private Landowner Network project is proud to announce that we have some new partners supporting our valuable work of helping private landowners reach their land conservation goals. The ExxonMobil Foundation has provided NEFF with an initial grant of \$50,000 and will be considering two additional years of support for a total of \$150,000. The Curtis and Edith Munson Foundation has also given a \$10,000 grant to support PLN's work in the southeastern United States. Last year PLN received grants from the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture Natural Resources Conservation Service, The National Fish and Wildlife Foundation and the ExxonMobil Foundation. Along with ExxonMobil, the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service and the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Natural Resources Conservation Service have agreed to continue their support in the coming year. We also will be working with our federal partners to assist them with the development of the landowner conservation programs sections of their websites.

**ExxonMobil**

THE CURTIS AND EDITH  
MUNSON FOUNDATION

## NORTH AMERICAN WETLANDS CONSERVATION FUND PLEDGES \$1,000,000 FOR DOWNEAST PROJECT

On September 8, 2004, the Migratory Bird Conservation Commission, as authorized under the North American Wetlands Conservation Act, approved \$1,000,000 in funding for the Downeast Lakes Forestry Partnership. The Act is nonregulatory and calls for voluntary partnerships to develop and implement wetland and associated upland projects to benefit wildlife. Projects must meet certain biological criteria to be considered for funding, and partners must be able to match the grant request 1:1 with nonfederal funds.



NEFF received a similar award for the Pingree Forest Partnership project while protecting 72,000 acres of wetland. Here, the efforts of NEFF and the Downeast Lakes Land Trust will conserve more than 54,000 acres of wetlands and more than 250,000 acres of associated uplands. Our project borders conserved land in New Brunswick and Maine, providing more than 1 million acres of contiguous wildlife habitat.

Remarkably, this habitat supports at least eight breeding bald eagle pairs; about 200 loons, which represents more than 10 percent of northern Maine's loon population; 185 bird species (more than 130 breed in the project area); and several rare and endangered plants. The easement will protect some of Maine's historically significant archeological sites along Grand Lake Stream and Little River, home to the Passamaquoddy Tribe.



## NEFF Impact Across The Country

By Amos Eno, Executive Director

Despite a 50/50 economy and an arduous philanthropic market, NEFF is having a huge impact on forest conservation across the country. In the past nine months we closed on a new headquarters site, Prouty Woods, in Littleton, MA. The town and many residents have welcomed NEFF and embraced Prouty Woods as a community project. We have held two board meetings and many events on the site, which is now the centerpiece for the development of a regional community forest program.

We have received a succession of major, million dollar plus grants for our Downeast Lakes Forestry Partnership, beginning with a \$1.25 million Land For Maine's Future Award, a \$1.15 million loon restoration award from US Fish and Wildlife Service and the Trustees of North Cape Oil Spill. In May we were informed of a \$1 million grant from the Maine Chapter of the Nature Conservancy by acting President Tom Rumpf who announced the award at NEFF's annual meeting in Littleton on the 10<sup>th</sup> of June. We also received an unbelievably generous \$2 million grant from Elmina B. Sewall. And in July, on our

third try we were finally awarded a \$1 million grant from USFWS North American Wetlands Conservation Act (NAWCA for Washington insiders) program. In the past 18 months we have raised over \$16 million for the community-based, landscape scale project, which is 2/3 the size of Rhode Island.

In the past week NEFF was awarded its second grant from the ExxonMobil Foundation for our Private Landowner Network. This is a critical endorsement as ExxonMobil made the grant as part of its commitment to U.S. domestic biodiversity conservation. In the past month both the USFWS, Department of Interior, Natural Resources Conservation Service, and Department of Agriculture committed to second-year funding of the PLN ([www.privatelandownernetwork.org](http://www.privatelandownernetwork.org)). Check out the site, which is being added to on a daily basis, continues to grow and add information resources.

NEFF has also inaugurated new board leadership and members. At the annual meeting Tim Ingraham officially took the helm as President, with Philip

DeNormandie as Vice-President, Richard Perkins as Treasurer, and Merloyd Ludington as Clerk. Additionally, two new board members took seats: Caroline Norden of Yarmouth, Maine and Kris Mahabir of Falmouth, Massachusetts.

**For a Full List of  
UPCOMING EVENTS, visit  
[www.newenglandforestry.org](http://www.newenglandforestry.org)**

### **Aquatic Insect Exploration!**

Sunday, September 19<sup>th</sup>, 2-4 pm  
Rocky Pond Community Forest  
Boylston, Massachusetts

### **Prouty Woods Benefit Concert**

The Firehouse Band will fill the Prouty Woods headquarters-folk and rock music and tremendous sense of humor.

Saturday, October 16<sup>th</sup>, 8pm  
Prouty Woods Community Forest  
Littleton, Massachusetts

For More Information on either event please contact Cynthia Henshaw at [chenshaw@newenglandforestry.org](mailto:chenshaw@newenglandforestry.org) or 978-952-6856 ext. 110.

## An Interview With Cathy M. Weiss, Executive Director ~ Claneil Foundation

Six months ago, when I first heard about the Downeast Lakes Forestry Partnership, I could picture the dense forestland and clear lakes, smell the pine and cedar trees, feel the cool dry air that permeates the area, and taste the sweet bass that are at the heart of this unique conservation effort. I had come to love Maine's wilderness during summers spent there in my youth, but I had never been to the Downeast Lakes region, and jumped at the opportunity to take my son on a visit this summer.

**Come to Grand Lake Stream,  
Maine this fall and have the  
experience of a lifetime!**

**Come meet the folks in the  
community and hear about  
this project!**

**\$300** ~ includes lodging for two nights, all meals, and a Maine Guide outing of your choice.

**\$450** ~ includes all of the above, plus a float-plane arrival and departure.

For more information and to make arrangements, please call Roxie at (207) 847-9313.

Flying in from Bangor by sea plane provided both of us with an exceptional overview of the hundreds of thousands of acres of forestland that are threatened by sale, parceling, and development. And though I was exhilarated by the sight and sounds of loon, eagle, and moose, I was most impressed with the people I met. I have been involved with a variety of land conservation efforts, but never one that grew out of a community's value, commitment and respect for the interdependence of the economic and environmental well-being of the area. After just one day, I became convinced of its profound sense of place and knew that the people possessed the vision, passion and gumption to carry out this effort.

I don't know yet whether the Claneil Foundation will be able to fund the request currently before us for this campaign, but as an individual I have walked away from my visit with a belief that this is one of those remarkable opportunities to contribute to something very important. I hope that in 40 years, my son can take his son to Grand Lake, as his father's father took him 40 years ago, and that he can describe to me a place that is largely unchanged by the passage of time and people who valued a way of life.

## NEFF Promoting Sustainable Forestry and Conservation Education at Amherst, MA Sawmill Observation Deck

On Arbor Day 2004, Cowls Lumber rose up from the ashes of its 2002 fire and began inviting the public to "come see what they saw" at their rebuilt specialty sawmill. NEFF's conservation education messages are an integral part of the interpretive panels along side the observation deck.

"This directly ties in to our project efforts," explained Scott Maslansky, NEFF's North Quabbin Woods Program Director. "Cowls manages timberland in the North Quabbin region and brings the resulting logs to this mill. The sawmill produces lumber which is then used in the region. It's a great cycle that is important to the local economy and to solidify our

connection with our local resources. In addition, Cowls "Wood Shed" gift shop sells North Quabbin Woods products.

NEFF Forest Stewards and other volunteers will be visiting Cowls in September to get first hand experience in the workings of an active sawmill. NEFF encourages visitors to the Pioneer Valley of Massachusetts to tour the Cowls Sawmill. The observation deck is opened to the public during mill manufacturing hours: weekdays from 7:00am to 3:00pm. Guided group tours are available by reservation. Please call Cinda Jones at (413) 549-1403.



**Introducing NEFF's Youngest Forest Steward**

At our first meeting, he stepped out of his jeep with a commitment to volunteering and enthusiasm to learn more about forestry, stewardship and the impact that he can have on his community. That is James Campbell, the Forest Steward for the Sortwell Memorial Forest in Wiscasset, Maine.

"This is a great opportunity. It's increasingly hard to find such large tracts of land in this area. I'm looking forward to helping you look after this land," said James.

James was first introduced to NEFF last year when he called to request permission to hunt at Sortwell. When the notice about the Forest Steward Program arrived, he didn't hesitate to volunteer. As a recent graduate of Wiscasset High School, James ponders which path he might follow...to continue painting, playing guitar, or some other pursuit. Who knows, maybe he will hang out his shingle as a Maine Licensed Forester in the years to come.

NEFF welcomes James to the growing ranks of Forest Stewards and hopes that this experience enriches his life no matter what profession he chooses.

## Pre-timber Harvest Tours and Demonstration Harvest Signs

*By Si Balch, Director of Community Forest Stewardship*

We conduct approximately 30 harvest operations yearly on NEFF forests. They are scattered across New England from the middle of suburbia to remote woodlots. Before the start of each harvest we invite the abutting landowners, town officials and the general public to join us for a field trip to view the site and learn about our forest management. This simple program allows them to know what will happen before the machinery arrives. In addition we are placing "Demonstration Harvest" signs at each harvest job site and giving our web address to folks who have questions.

The tour is lead for an hour and a half by a NEFF forester and the consulting forester who will supervise the harvest

operation. The turn out has been great . We've had a group of Cub Scouts and people interested in hiking trails. Some already understand forest harvesting and others have a lot of questions and concerns. Many of the people knew the lots well and already spend time visiting them for recreation.

As a result of these tours local people have a better understanding of forestry and NEFF, we have better knowledge of our neighbors and we have had several new people volunteer for our Forest Stewards Program.

Check your local NEFF forest and the web at [www.newenglandforestry.org](http://www.newenglandforestry.org) for a Show-Me tour near you. Demonstration dates are posted as jobs arise.

**The following is an excerpt from Thomas C. Doak's talk at NEFF's 60<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting.**

Mr. Doak is Executive Director of the Small Woodland Owner's Association of Maine. SWOAM promotes sound forestry management and strengthens long-term woodland stewardship.

*"Acceptance of change comes hard on forest issues. But change is upon us. We either engage and learn to connect the dots or others will do it for us. We either find new ways to address the issues or we are left out. The strategies of the past may no longer be valid today and we must recognize this.*

*We need to start being a society that understands the value of private forestland ownership. We need to be a society that recognizes that forestland owners are knowingly and unknowingly providing benefits to society by their ownership."*

See the full text at [www.newenglandforestry.org](http://www.newenglandforestry.org).

The generous support of these donors and organizations is greatly appreciated.

Although space limitations do not permit us to thank everyone,  
please know every donation is vital to our work.

May 1, 2004 - July 31, 2004

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