

Cornell Cooperative Extension Allegany County

33rd Annual Rural Landowner Workshop

Held at: Pioneer High School, County Line Rd. Yorkshire, NY



Saturday, March 7, 2026
Registration begins at 8:45 a.m.
Refreshments/Exhibits in Cafeteria

Opening Session - Academic Room: 9:15-10:15 a.m.

"Don't Get Ticked, NY". Regina Clinton, Community and Urban IPM Specialist, Cornell University, Cornell Integrated Pest Management Program. Lyme disease and several other devastating tick-borne diseases are on the rise due to an increase in the prevalence of ticks. Learn how to reduce the risk of human-tick encounters so that you can keep enjoying the outdoors!

10:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m. CONCURRENT SESSION I (PICK ONE)

Timber Management: Healthy Woods are Productive Woods - Peter Smallidge, Cornell University Cooperative Extension, Department of Natural Resources. Many woodland owners plan to or eventually decide to harvest timber. To optimize the outcome of a harvest for timber, owners should prepare in advance to ensure the forest will respond favorably and ensure the healthy forest remains and is sustainable. Managing for timber can enhance many other owner objectives such as wildlife habitat, recreational access trails, agroforestry projects, and more. This presentation will focus on improving tree growth, working with foresters, avoiding exploitative logging, and the basics of a timber sale contract.

Birds and Invasives - Andrea Locke, WNY PRISM Coordinator. Learn about the relationships between birds and invasive species from invasive birds, such as the European Starling, to the many invasive species that threaten our native birds. We'll also discuss how you can take these lessons and apply them to your property, to help create or improve habitat for our native birds, and perhaps to invite some new ones to your yard for viewing.

Maple Production for Beginner and Backyarder - Ryan Staychock, Extension Support Specialist II, Underserved Forest Owner Specialist. This session will cover why make maple syrup, what trees can be tapped, how to tap, collecting the sap with buckets or tubing, tools to make it all easier. And what to do once you've got the sap in the sugarhouse: boiling the sap, when is it syrup?, filtering and canning and the regulations you should be concerned about.

LUNCH 11:30 a.m. – 12:40 p.m.

12:45 p.m. - 1:45 p.m. CONCURRENT SESSION II (PICK ONE)

Identification and Ecology of Common Northeastern Hardwoods - Peter Smallidge, Cornell University Cooperative Extension, Department of Natural Resources. Because trees change with the seasons, learn how to identify trees using the leaves, but also by bark, fruit and twigs. Hardwood trees are a common feature of woodlots, forests and landscapes. The value and qualities of trees are determined in part by the type of tree. Knowing the principles of tree identification will help owners appreciate the value of trees and the types of benefits those trees might provide. This presentation will cover the core principles of tree identification, including how to use twigs, buds, bark, fruit, growth habit, habitat (and even leaves) for identification. Knowledge of these principles will help participants learn how to identify a wide range of trees. Several common trees will be used to illustrate the principles. Participants can bring in 16 inch long samples of twigs for identification.

Neighbors in Nature: The Essential Role of Private Landowners in Early Detection Rapid Response

Catherine Eaton, WNY PRISM Terrestrial Invasive Species Program Manager. Invasive species know no bounds. With 85% of New York's land being privately owned, a successful Early Detection Rapid Response (EDRR) program hinges on private landowner participation and collaboration. Attendees will learn about the crucial role they play in detecting emerging invasive species threats, how to identify and report priority invasive species like mile-a-minute and sticky sage, and what to expect after making a report.

Pollinators in the Wood: Understanding and Creating Forest Pollinator Habitat. Kristi Sullivan, Cornell University, Dept. of Natural Resources and the Environment, Director, NY Master Naturalist Program. Native bees, butterflies, flies, and other insects pollinate many of our forest plants and ensure that species like red maple, tulip poplar, willows, hawthorns, and many of our spring and summer wildflowers, can produce fruits and successfully reproduce. Pollinators are also an important food resource for many forest organisms, like birds, amphibians, other insects, and some mammals. Healthy populations of pollinators in our forests also benefit plants in adjacent agriculture lands and may increase crop yields. Join this session to learn what you can do to enhance forest habitat pollinator habitat in your woods.

1:50 p.m. - 2:50 p.m. CONCURRENT SESSION III (PICK ONE)

Intro to NYS Forestry Best Management Practices for Water Quality – Emily Johnston, Allegany County SWCD. This session will give a background of what Best Management Practices are and why they are important to protect soil and water resources from erosion or pollution before, during, and after a timber harvest. Plus, discussion on how BMPs should be implemented on forest roads and trails.

New York State Forest Tax Programs – Scott Moxham, Forester, Lands & Forest, Private Lands, Utilization, and Climate section. This session will cover details of the NY Forest Tax Law Program, commonly called “480-a”, and the recent regulation changes which go into effect on March 1, 2026. In addition, they will provide a brief overview of the Regenerate NY program.

See What Shares Your Land: How Wildlife Monitoring Benefits Rural Landowners. Joelee Tooley Cornell University, Dept. of Natural Resources, Snapshot NY Coordinator. Snapshot NY is a community-powered project that uses trail cameras to monitor wildlife on private lands. By participating, rural landowners can see what species use their property, when they are active, and how they move across the landscape - information that can help with decisions about habitat management, recreation, and coexistence with wildlife. These observations also contribute to a larger statewide effort to better understand and conserve New York's wildlife.

2:50 PM - NYFOA Membership Drawing – Cafeteria

Rural Landowner Workshop -- Saturday, March 7, 2026

Registration Form - Please mail back the **full-page form** with payment - thank you! To help us estimate class interest, please choose one topic (per person) in each concurrent session by placing a **check for each person next** to the number of the class in each of the three sessions.

9:15 a.m. - "Don't Get Ticked, NY"

10:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m. CONCURRENT SESSION I (*PICK ONE*)

- 1. Timber Management: Healthy Woods are Productive Woods
- 2. Birds and Invasives
- 3. Maple Production for Beginner and Backyarder

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- 2. Neighbors in Nature
- 3. Pollinators in the Wood: Understanding and Creating Forest Pollinator Habitat

1:50 p.m. - 2:50 p.m. CONCURRENT SESSION III (*PICK ONE*)

- 1. Intro to NYS Forestry Best Management Practices for Water Quality
- 2. New York State Forest Tax Programs
- 3. See What Shares Your Land: How Wildlife Monitoring Benefits Rural Landowners

Early Bird Registration deadline: Friday, February 20, 2026. Cost: \$35.00 per person; this includes lunch, a copy of the seminar proceedings, and all handout materials. **No Refunds. No Walk-Ins Please.**

Fill in registration information below:

Name(s): _____

Additional Names: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Telephone number: _____ Email: _____

Number Attending: _____ X \$35.00 = \$ _____

Late fee (if received after February 20th): _____ X \$10.00 = \$ _____

Total Enclosed: _____ \$ _____

Lunch Choice: _____ Meat _____ Vegetarian _____ Gluten Free

PLEASE MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO: CCE – Allegany County.

Return this page with your payment to:

Cornell Cooperative Extension, 5435 County Rd 48, Belmont, NY 14813, Attn: RLOW
Thank You!



**Cornell Cooperative Extension
Allegany County
5435 County Road 48
Belmont, NY 14813**

No Refunds No Walk-Ins Please.

PLEASE NOTE: All Pioneer District Buildings and Grounds are drug and tobacco free areas; including facilities, fields, parking lots, etc. No Smoking is allowed in the facilities or on the grounds.

SEE DIRECTIONS BELOW:

From the North: Take the 400 Expressway to Rte. 16 South to Yorkshire. Turn left onto Rte. 39 then right onto County Line Road. Pioneer Central High School is 1/4 mile on the right.

From the South: Take the Southern Tier Expressway 86 (formerly 17) to Rte. 16, travel north to Yorkshire. Turn right onto Rte. 39 then right onto County Line Road. Pioneer Central High School is 1/4 mile on the right.

From the East: Take Exit 8 on Interstate 390 to Rte. 20A. Travel West to Rte. 39 and turn left to Yorkshire. Turn left onto County Line Road. Pioneer Central High School is 1/4 mile on the right.