

# Active Management for Healthy Forests

May 19, 2024

9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

Clover Hill Tree Farm

Sponsored by the **Vermont Woodlands Association, Vermont Coverts, and the  
Vermont Center for Ecostudies**

in cooperation with the **West Fairlee Conservation Commission**



The program will take place rain-or-shine, and will require some walking on moderately sloping terrain. All are welcome. Please bring your curiosity and questions.

Orange County Forester, David Paganelli and Vermont Coverts cooperater Judith Falk invite you to their Clover Hill Tree Farm in South Strafford, Vermont on Sunday morning May 19, 2024 from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon. Steve Faccio, Conservation Biologist with the Vermont Center for Ecostudies will lead a discussion of wetland and riparian habitats, including a rich fen. David will talk about access improvements, invasive plant treatment and recent pre-commercial forestry work. Judith will talk about creation and maintenance of early successional habitats for various mammals, songbirds and pollinators with special attention to Monarch butterflies.

Our principal management objective is to **maintain a healthy forest**. To that end, we work to protect ecological function, increase carbon storage, promote a diversity of wildlife habitat, maintain water quality, improve timber quality and provide opportunities for community recreation. We strive to balance all these objectives for the betterment of our forest and our community.

8:30-9:00      **Arrive:** park, refreshments, get acquainted

9:00-9:15      **Welcome and Introductions**

9:15-10:15     **Walking tour with Steve Faccio**

- Calcareous seep,
- Horsetail and Turtleheads,
- Legacy black cherry,
- Rich fen with invasive plant treatment,
- Adjacent wetland with no invasive plant treatment.
- Alders, native buckthorn and stream corridor.

10:15-11:15    **Walking tour with David Paganelli**

- Access improvements: road, trails, landing,
- Invasive plant treatment,
- Girdling of “wolf trees” while maintaining “legacy” trees,
- Early thinnings,
- Pruning in hardwoods and pine,
- Species selection,
- Why species and quality matter.

11:15-12:00    **Walking tour with Judith Falk**

- Open land with apple trees: mowed, unmowed, pastured,
- Irregular mowing pattern,
- Mast tree release,
- Apple tree pruning,
- Early successional habitat with apple, oaks and High-bush cranberry,
- Pollinator plantings and Monarch butterflies,

Directions:

**From I-89, Exit 2 in Sharon**

- North on Route 132 toward South Strafford for 4.7 miles to Blanchard Road on the left. Then, a quarter mile to the Tree Farm sign and gate. Follow signs to the top of the hill.

**From South Strafford village**

- South at Barrett Memorial Hall toward Sharon on Route 132 for 1.5 miles to Blanchard Road on the right. Then, a quarter mile to the Tree Farm sign. Follow signs to the top of the hill.