

NEWSLETTER

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That Good Old Summertime

What a season it has been, and we're not done yet! The weather "rains" supreme when it comes to the quality of a growing season. The story of this season's weather, in the northeast part of the state, is pretty good actually, adequate rainfall, temperature ups and downs.... But this is a state with several stories to tell across the landscape. Though the northeast has had a good growing season there has been scorching heat and drought in other parts. The southeast corner is still feeling the effects of last season's severe drought, almost on par with that of 2012. While we can't control the weather, it IS in our power to mitigate its effects. Whether you are growing trees, grass, wildflowers, apples, or all of the above, it's important to have a strategy in place to give your "plant babies" the best chance to survive and thrive.

The biggest needs are 1) Water, and 2) Competition control for young seedlings.

Happy Growing.

2023 KFS "SEED TO SAW" OPEN HOUSE

The Kansas Forest Service is changing it up this fall and hosting an open house in place of the usual Fall Forestry Field Day. The open house will be held from 9am to noon on Saturday, September 30th, at the state office in Manhattan, KS.

The topics will include tree identification and selection, tree maintenance, historic state office tours, hazard tree removal, and a crowd favorite, a sawmill demonstration.

There will be talks, demonstrations, booths, and plenty of good discussions among forestry lovers.

The afternoon will feature a three-part field tour. Participants will visit Ft. Riley Veterans Cemetery, Anneburg Park, and tour a private property. The locations highlight an invasives treatment, a recent growing season burn, and a containerized rootstock trial.

The field tours are often the favorite part of the day for our members. It really provides an opportunity to see the effects of different treatments and also hear first hand from the folks who implemented them. There's nothing quite like learning by doing, and hearing about all the hows and whys of what worked and what didn't is always a great inspiration for how to implement projects back on the farm.

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2023 Annual Walnut Council Meeting

By Carolyn Turney and Floyd Schmidt

Founded in 1970, the Walnut Council is an international association representing nearly 800 woodland owners, foresters, forest scientists, and wood-producing industry representatives in 45 states and three foreign countries. The purpose is to assist in the technical transfer of forest research to field applications, help build and maintain better markets for wood products and nut crops, and to promote sustainable forest management, conservation, reforestation, and utilization of American black walnut and other high quality fine hardwoods. Walnut Council has 12 state chapters and publishes quarterly bulletins.

The 2023 National Walnut Council Conference was combined with the Northern Nut Growers Association and Chestnut Growers of America in late July in Columbia, Missouri. This venue was an initial endeavor for all three groups coming together at the University of Missouri's Center for Agroforestry.

Kansas has approximately 70 members in our chapter of the National Walnut Council, of which the majority are KFA members. Approximately 12 individuals attended representing the Kansas Walnut Council. The KFA board was represented by Floyd and Sue Schmidt and Roy and Carolyn Turney. Some 320+ participants registered.



Some walnut sessions were held in the field at the MU Horticulture and Agroforestry Research Farm. Concurrent sessions were held at the Anheuser-Busch Natural Resources Building on the campus. Sessions provided opportunities to hear the latest tree and nut research, learn about nut production technology, hazards of invasive plants and insects and their control, walnut and oak for lumber and the latest information on pecans and chestnuts. Demonstrations and discussions addressed the possibility of hazelnut production in the Midwest.

Approximately 50 people attended the Walnut Council business meeting on Tuesday of the conference. The annual meeting concluded with Steve Felt of Indiana receiving the President's gavel. Claude Diehl of Indiana will serve as Vice-President.

Plans are currently underway for the 2024 Walnut Council National Conference to be held in Ohio. More information will be coming. walnutcouncil.org





The best way to advance the ideal that our forests are vital systems that sustain life on earth, is to involve young people and students. A good way to accomplish that is through our valued educators.

Do you have a special teacher in your area that is enthusiastic about the environment and forestry? Someone who might benefit from KFA participation?

KFA is offering a limited number of scholarships specifically for educators. This would include the KFA Newsletter and the KFS Canopy, e-mailed quarterly and monthly respectively. This would give your teachers access to all our events, news, podcasts, videos and articles. A great resource for teachers to help their students expand their experience in forestry related opportunities.

Laura Downey at KACEE will be nominating participants of her "Project Learning Tree" Program as well. But remember that we are only offering 10 scholarships over the next 12 months, so please forward your nominees soon to: Tim Lyons, KFA, at lyonstygers@yahoo.com.

Have you worked with students or educators locally on your own? Have you ever done school tours or had university students conduct research or other projects on your land? Please share with us! We would love to share these valuable experiences with other KFA members. Please get in touch with me and let us know!

Thanks, Tim



In The Woods



Upcoming Events

August 30 - Tree Trek at the KU field station | University of Kansas

Learn about tree identification at the Fitch Natural History Reservation in Lawrence, KS. Go to biosurvey.ku.edu for more details.

September 9 - Music, Film and Conservation Festival | Flint Hills Counterpoint

Enjoy a day full of music, art installations, and land stewardship ecology at the Flint Hills Counterpoint Home Base, finishing with a film premiere.
1pm - 8pm | Peabody, KS. www.flinthillscounterpoint.org

September 9 - Miami County Conservation District Native Plant Sale

10am to 2pm at the Paola USDA building



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**Newsletter is a partnership between Kansas Forestry Association
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The KFA would love to hear from you!

What have you been doing with your land?

What would you like to see KFA doing for you?

Help KFA to save money and trees, go paperless!

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