

Sustaining a World-Class Forest Resource Through Slash Walls and Silviculture

Objectives – Provide landowners and land managers with the latest information on proven and emerging methods and technology to establish new forested areas, restore degraded woodlands, and perpetuate healthy and productive forests for the future.

Location – Cornell University’s Arnot Teaching and Research Forest, 611 County Road 13, Van Etten, NY 14889 (Schuyler County)
Google plus code locator = 797C+GJ Van Etten, New York

Date – Thursday September 25th, 2025 from 8:30 to 4:00. Rain or shine. **Please bring your own hardhat** if available as we have a very limited number for loan. **Bring your own lunch and water.**

Registration (\$25. Pre-registration required by noon on 9/22) - https://reg.cce.cornell.edu/HealthyForests2025_244

Sponsor/Organization – Dr. Peter Smallidge, NYS Extension Forester, Cornell University Cooperative Extension, 219 Fernow Hall, Cornell University, Ithaca, NY 14889. (607) 592 3640. pis23@cornell.edu

Instructors include experts and researchers from Cornell University Cooperative Extension, SUNY ESF, and forest industry. List of speakers provide after the agenda directly below.

Overview – This popular annual field day in 2025 focuses on the chronosequence of changes within slash walls from 2017 through 2025’s active harvest, with an emphasis on management practices for the control of undesired stems, desired tree species, and pests with biological, mechanical and chemical controls.

Credits – Continuing education and recertification credits have been or will be requested.

Start time/end time	Minutes (hours)	Presentation Title	Speaker	Location (travel time in minutes)	Learning objective
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0830/0900	30 (0.5)	Sign-in (coffee provided, bring your own cup).		Arnot Forest Maple Lab	Networking
0900/0915	15 (0.25)	Introductions and instructions	Smallidge	Maple Lab	
0915/0930	15 (0.25)	Carpool via north gate to Gas Line Harvest			
0930/1030	60 (1.0)	Out with the old and in with the new: completing the silvicultural cycle and getting the new stand off to a good start	Chedzoy, Smallidge,	Gas Line Slash Wall	Evaluate the results of a 2017 slash wall with recent overstory removal. Discuss chemical and mechanical tending options like “cleaning” and “crop tree thinning”
1030/1045	15 (0.25)	Travel to Stand 6-6			
1045/1145	60 (1.0)	Comparison of even-aged regeneration harvests with and without protection from deer in northern hardwoods.	Chedzoy, Smallidge	Stand 6-6 CAFRI plots	Evaluate regeneration across treatments in a northern hardwood stand after four growing seasons. Discuss patterns, differences, and contributing factors. The use of brushing to avoid herbicide treatments.
1145/1230	45 (0.75)	Travel to Station Road Harvest (< 5 minutes) for lunch & networking			Bring your own lunch and water
1230/1245	15 (0.25)	Introduction to the Station Road slash wall project (a walking tour with < 100 yards between stops. Total distance approximately 0.5 miles. Hardhats required!)	Chedzoy, Smallidge	Park at Station Road and Loop Road Intersection	Brief overview of slash wall research at the Arnot Forest and objectives for the 250-acre “Station Road slash wall”. Discuss need for herbicides given presence of beech leaf disease. (active harvest)
1245/1315	30 (0.5)	Black locust silviculture and its timber cash crop potential	Smallidge	same	Discuss chemical and mechanical treatments to regenerate and release high-quality black locust.

1315/1335	20 (0.33)	Larch silviculture and its timber cash crop potential	Chedzoy	same	Evaluate the prescription and pending harvest of a mature larch plantation, including the chemical control of interfering vegetation.
1335/1355	20 (0.33)	A historical context of the Arnot's 2 nd generation forests: the origins of a world-class hardwood resource.	Smallidge	same	An overview of the agrarian history of the area and how that influenced today's maturing 2 nd generation forests.
1355/1415	20 (0.33)	Silviculture's impacts on soil carbon and characteristics	Gross	same	An interactive discussion on how soil attributes are affected by intensive regeneration harvests.
1415/1445	20 (0.33)	Is there hope for ash, beech and hemlock?	Whitmore	same	Observe the progression of EAB, HWA, BBD and BLD and their implications for harvest outcome objectives. Discuss chemical, biological, and silvicultural strategies to mitigate the impacts of these pests on harvest outcome objectives.
1445/1500	15 (0.25)	Preperatory treatments to convert a degraded stand.	Chedzoy	same	Chemical and mechanical treatments to convert a beech-dominated stand to pest resistant species.
1500/1530	30 (0.5)	Supplementing natural regeneration through planting	Smallidge	same	Discuss experiments to evaluate the viability of integrated chemical and mechanical treatments to support enrichment plantings.
1530/1600	30 (0.5)	The basics of building slash walls	Chedzoy, with logging contractors	same	Demonstration of slash wall construction and tips for success across variable terrain and conditions.
1600	10	Conclude and depart			

List of Speakers

Name	Title	Institution
Chedzoy, Brett, J.	CCE Regional Extension Forester and Arnot Forest Mgr	Cornell Cooperative Extension of Schuyler County
Gross, Cole	Assistant Professor	SUNY College of Environmental Science and Forestry
Smallidge, Peter J.	State Extension Forester	Cornell University Cooperative Extension
Whitmore, Mark	Forest entomologist	Cornell University Cooperative Extension