

# Serby's Forestry Services



Rocky outcrop Stand 4

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DEC 07 2023

Jill Davidson  
Athens County Auditor

## Woodland Stewardship Management Plan

### Seven Generations LLC

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**Owner's Information:**

Case Number: 05- \_\_\_\_\_

Owner: Seven Generations LLC

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: 11/13/2023

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**Preparer's Information:**

Prepared by: William J. Serbonich CF

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Serby's Forestry Services  
2165 Clara Avenue  
Albany, OH 45710

Date: 11/13/23

This plan is valid for the period beginning 12/01/23 and ending 05/01/36.  
Plan Status: Renewed & updated plan.



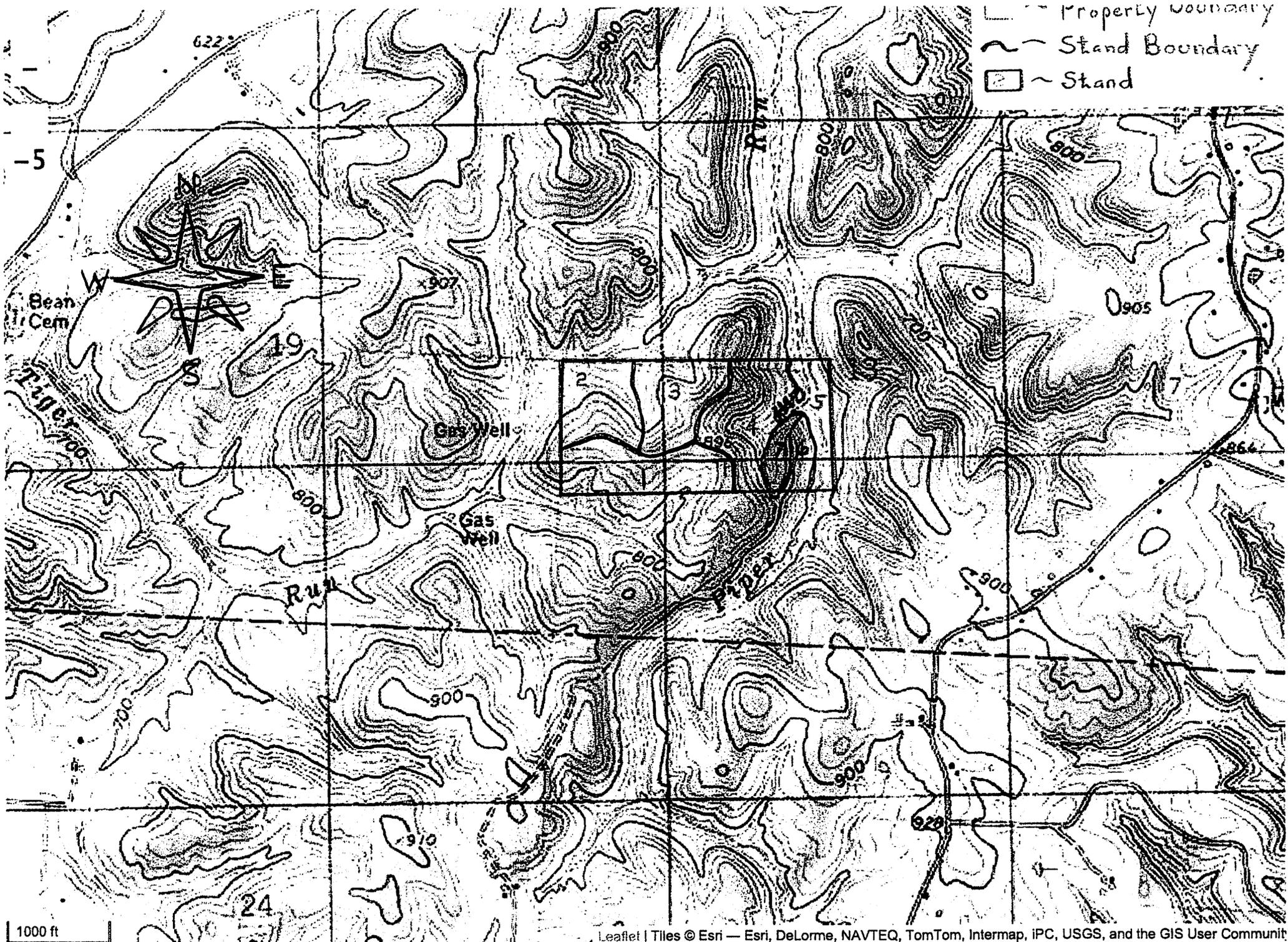
14. Identify, protect and preserve unique natural, cultural, archeological and historic features.
15. To manage for the long term health of the forest and forest attributes.
16. To conserve and enhance breeding and range habitats for birds, amphibians, reptiles, plants, and mammals including rare and endangered species.
17. Identify, discourage and control invasive species as found.
18. To develop enhance and protect water sources including vernal pools and Piper Run.
19. Identify, mitigate, enhance, restore and rehabilitate depredations upon the land from past historical exploitations including a tire dump and areas of surface litter.



Marked boundary line Stand 1

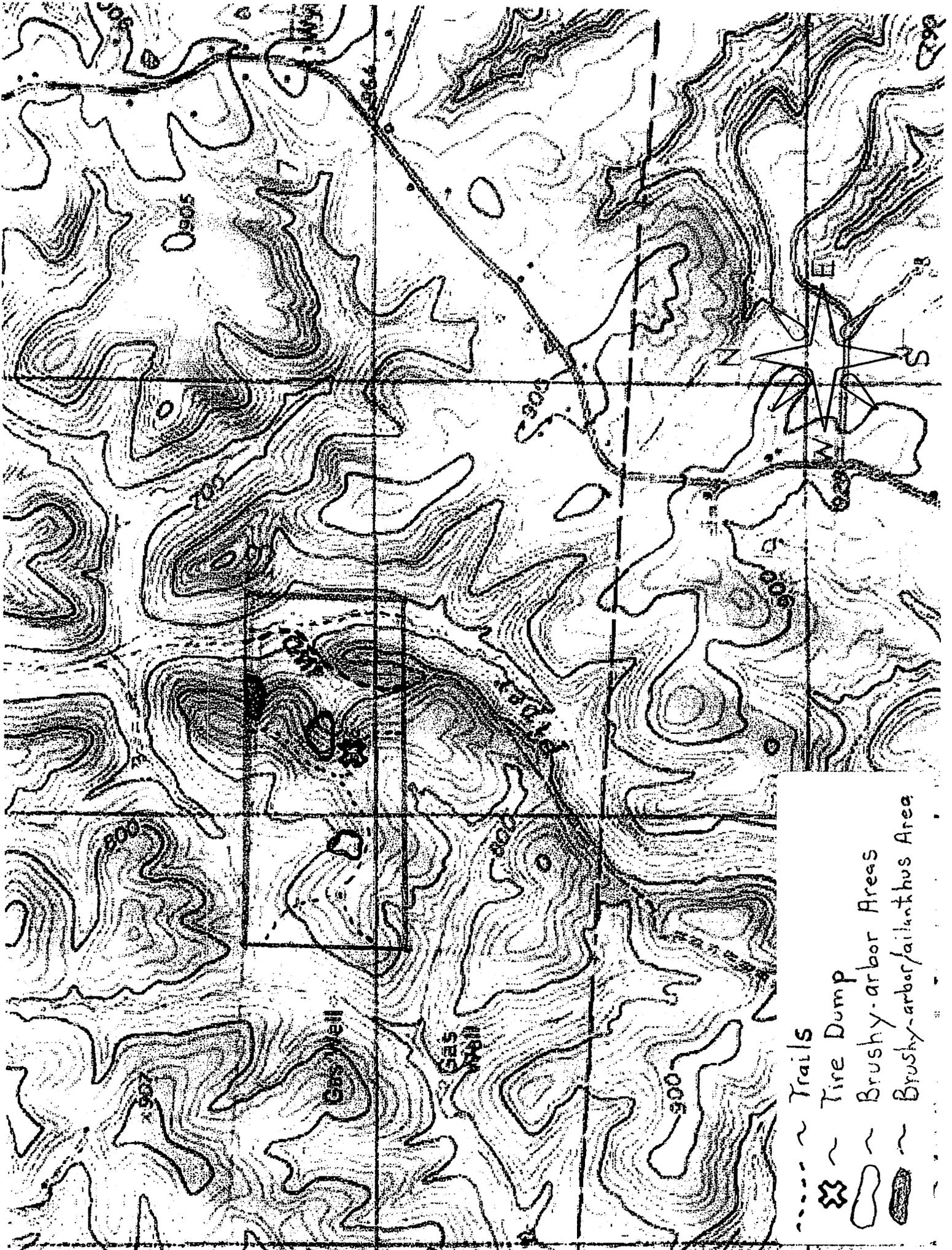
## ***General Woodland Description***

This unique property represents many attributes of rural Athens County, impressive topography, remoteness, water resources, agricultural history and generally healthy native woodland areas. The majority of woodland is medium/well stocked consisting of pole/small/medium/sawtimber with an occasional coarse dominant specimen. Access to the various stands is good to excellent for trails and ATV however Township Rd 144 becomes inaccessible to vehicles and is more of a trace at a certain point. Growing sites range from excellent to low/ medium including site indices for red oak from 81 to 62. Past agricultural use including pasture, logging and minerals is part of the property legacy. At one time the land was likely a hardscrabble hill farm typical of the region. Livestock was probably present on the farm, and some of the woodlands were, no doubt, impacted from a past history of livestock production, agricultural operations and mineral extraction. Logging occurred periodically with the most recent entry involving a heavy harvest in 1992 by Mead Paper Company. Species mix of trees is excellent and consists of native hardwoods. Deer and other wildlife abound. Past history has not been kind to this property, and it has been adversely and heavily impacted by commercial high-grade logging, agricultural activities and mineral extraction. Recovery of the woodland resources has been positive and ongoing. Woodland areas should respond well to cultural activities including grapevine control, crop tree release, and invasive species control. Forest stands are emerging with excellent potentials and starting to exhibit what the land is capable of producing under proper stewardship and management. Some enthusiastic work is occurring, and some great plans are in the works by the current owner regarding stewardship of the property. Stocking variability typical of regional forest conditions ranges from overstocked to understocked with an overall average of medium to slightly overstocked stands. The forest is recovering well from past historical impacts including the recent loss and ongoing mortality of ash species. Topography is typical of the region with all aspects represented on the property. The understory is rich with native herbs and plants; however, invasive species typical of the region are filtering into the mix with various degrees of infestation. Invasives will always be an ongoing problem. Shrubby/vine invasives including privet, autumn olive, multi flora rose, Japanese honeysuckle, oriental bittersweet and barberry are the current culprits to sound the alarm about. A worrisome invasive tree called ailanthus was also observed along the north boundary in Stand 4. Bottomland riparian areas have a huge water quality influence that can complement goals and objectives. Bottomlands prove to be quite unique, valuable and important wildlife habitat as well as productive growing sites for trees. The filter strip along Piper Run and upland drainages into Piper and Tiger Runs are important to the overall forest condition and ecology. Geological features include rock outcroppings and exposed cliff areas. Boundary lines are marked physically with paint however they should be reviewed and remarked for the good of the order when adjacent to neighboring parcels of different ownership. Woodland conditions are such that timber harvesting could occur, but there is no need for any sense of immediacy. Using and developing healthy canopy structure to assist with invasive species control and grapevine control can accomplish landowner objectives of forest health and recreation and has great merit. Ash mortality has in a sense accomplished a random thinning and reduced stocking to a more desirable level. The potentials to continue to grow quality woodland as well as to meet goals and objectives are very favorable. Evidence of past land use testifies to the rich history of European settlement that took place here. Problems include a tire dump, surface litter, heavy erosion upon Township Rd 144, trespass and user developed trails encroaching from TR 144, invasives and grapevines. This plans management cycle offers a great opportunity to not only improve the landscape and forest resource but also to practice restoration ecology by implementing suggested practices.

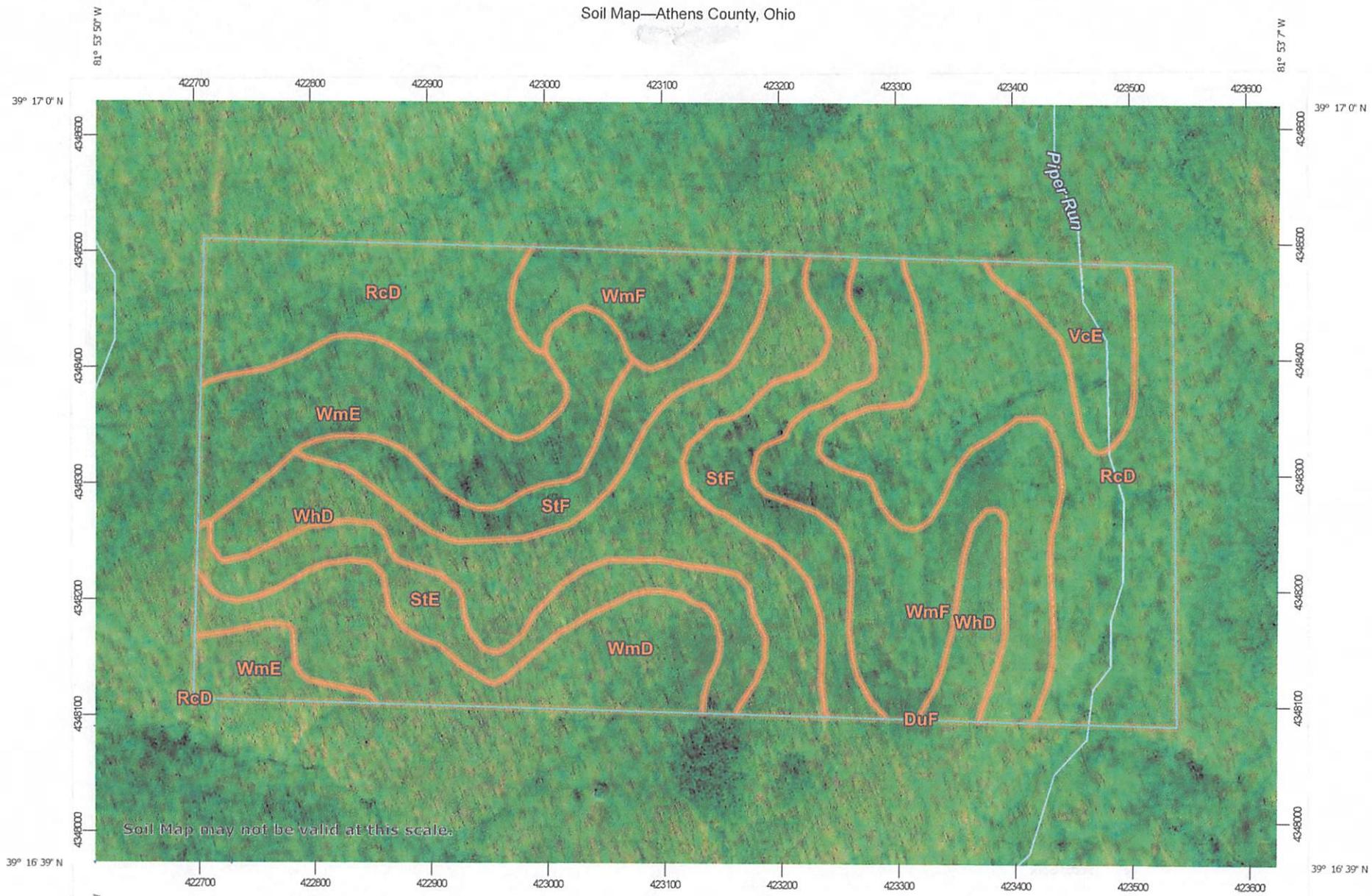


- - - Property Boundary
- ~ Stand Boundary
- Stand

1000 ft



Soil Map—Athens County, Ohio



Map Scale: 1:4,630 if printed on A landscape (11" x 8.5") sheet.

0 50 100 200 300 Meters

0 200 400 800 1200 Feet

Map projection: Web Mercator Corner coordinates: WGS84 Edge ticks: UTM Zone 17N WGS84

### MAP LEGEND

- |  |   |
|--|---|
|  Area of Interest (AOI) |  Spoil Area            |
| <b>Soils</b>   |  Stony Spot            |
|  Soil Map Unit Polygons |  Very Stony Spot       |
|  Soil Map Unit Lines    |  Wet Spot              |
|  Soil Map Unit Points   |  Other                 |
| <b>Special Point Features</b>  |  Special Line Features |
|  Blowout                | <b>Water Features</b>   |
|  Borrow Pit             |  Streams and Canals    |
|  Clay Spot              | <b>Transportation</b>   |
|  Closed Depression      |  Rails                 |
|  Gravel Pit             |  Interstate Highways   |
|  Gravelly Spot          |  US Routes             |
|  Landfill               |  Major Roads           |
|  Lava Flow              |  Local Roads           |
|  Marsh or swamp         | <b>Background</b>   |
|  Mine or Quarry         |  Aerial Photography    |
|  Miscellaneous Water   |   |
|  Perennial Water      |   |
|  Rock Outcrop         |   |
|  Saline Spot          |   |
|  Sandy Spot           |   |
|  Severely Eroded Spot |   |
|  Sinkhole             |   |
|  Slide or Slip        |   |
|  Sodic Spot           |   |

### MAP INFORMATION

The soil surveys that comprise your AOI were mapped at 1:15,800.

Warning: Soil Map may not be valid at this scale.

Enlargement of maps beyond the scale of mapping can cause misunderstanding of the detail of mapping and accuracy of soil line placement. The maps do not show the small areas of contrasting soils that could have been shown at a more detailed scale.

Please rely on the bar scale on each map sheet for map measurements.

Source of Map: Natural Resources Conservation Service  
 Web Soil Survey URL:  
 Coordinate System: Web Mercator (EPSG:3857)

Maps from the Web Soil Survey are based on the Web Mercator projection, which preserves direction and shape but distorts distance and area. A projection that preserves area, such as the Albers equal-area conic projection, should be used if more accurate calculations of distance or area are required.

This product is generated from the USDA-NRCS certified data as of the version date(s) listed below.

Soil Survey Area: Athens County, Ohio  
 Survey Area Data: Version 22, Jun 10, 2020

Soil map units are labeled (as space allows) for map scales 1:50,000 or larger.

Date(s) aerial images were photographed: Sep 17, 2015—Mar 26, 2017

The orthophoto or other base map on which the soil lines were compiled and digitized probably differs from the background imagery displayed on these maps. As a result, some minor shifting of map unit boundaries may be evident.

## Map Unit Legend

Map Unit Symbol	Map Unit Name	Acres in AOI	Percent of AOI
DuF	Dekalb-Westmoreland complex, benched, 40 to 70 percent slopes	0.0	0.0%
RcD	Richland loam, 15 to 25 percent slopes	21.9	26.6%
StE	Steinsburg sandy loam, 25 to 40 percent slopes	5.3	6.4%
SIF	Steinsburg sandy loam, 40 to 70 percent slopes	9.1	11.1%
VcE	Vandalia-Richland complex, 25 to 40 percent slopes	2.7	3.2%
WhD	Westmoreland-Guernsey silt loams, 15 to 25 percent slopes	13.0	15.7%
WmD	Westmoreland-Upshur complex, 15 to 25 percent slopes	7.4	9.0%
WmE	Westmoreland-Upshur complex, 25 to 40 percent slopes	9.5	11.6%
WmF	Westmoreland-Upshur complex, 40 to 70 percent slopes	13.5	16.4%
<b>Totals for Area of Interest</b>		<b>82.4</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

## Forest Productivity (Tree Site Index): northern red oak (Schnur 1937 (820))

Map unit symbol	Map unit name	Rating (feet)	Acres in AOI	Percent of AOI
DuF	Dekalb-Westmoreland complex, benched, 40 to 70 percent slopes	62	0.0	0.0%
RcD	Richland loam, 15 to 25 percent slopes	80	21.9	26.6%
SIE	Steinsburg sandy loam, 25 to 40 percent slopes		5.3	6.4%
StF	Steinsburg sandy loam, 40 to 70 percent slopes		9.1	11.1%
VcE	Vandalia-Richland complex, 25 to 40 percent slopes	77	2.7	3.2%
WhD	Westmoreland-Guernsey silt loams, 15 to 25 percent slopes	81	13.0	15.7%
WmD	Westmoreland-Upshur complex, 15 to 25 percent slopes	81	7.4	9.0%
WmE	Westmoreland-Upshur complex, 25 to 40 percent slopes	81	9.5	11.6%
WmF	Westmoreland-Upshur complex, 40 to 70 percent slopes	81	13.5	16.4%
<b>Totals for Area of Interest</b>			<b>82.4</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

### Description

The "site index" is the average height, in feet, that dominant and codominant trees of a given species attain in a specified number of years. The site index applies to fully stocked, even-aged, unmanaged stands.

This attribute is actually recorded as three separate values in the database. A low value and a high value indicate the range of this attribute for the soil component. A "representative" value indicates the expected value of this attribute for the component. For this attribute, only the representative value is used.

### Rating Options

*Units of Measure: feet*

## ***Woodland Stand Description and Management Recommendations***

**Stand # 1 - 17.5 Acres**

**Dominant Species:** TP, HM, HI, BC, SASS, BE, SYC, WO, BO, BG, SO, HOP, DOG, ASP, CO, SOUR, SM, SPICE, PAW

**Forest Type or Dominant Vegetation:** Upland Central Hardwoods

**Stand Diameter or Size Class:** Pole/Large Pole/Small/Medium/Sawtimber with a few large Coarse Dominants

**Stocking Level:** Slightly overstocked

**Basal Area:** 90 ft<sup>2</sup>/acre

**Stand History:** Access corridor, boundary line marking, agricultural has impacted the stand with logging, livestock and access corridors over the years, hunting, hiking, logged in 1992

**Topography:** Predominately S- SW aspect with coves moderate/steep slopes to ridgetop. Upland drainages to Tiger Run

**Present conditions for you to consider:** Grapevines and shrubby invasives, boundary line checking, marking and maintenance, some downfall and ash mortality, favor oak species, access corridors

<b>Management Recommendations:</b>	<b>Management Tasks/Year</b>	
	<b>Required</b>	<b>Year</b>
Grapevine control (light/moderate)	Yes	2024-2025
Improve and maintain access corridors	No	Ongoing
Invasive shrub control	Yes	2024-2025
Mark boundary lines with paint	Yes	2025
Mark boundary lines with paint	Yes	2032
Monitor forest health and improvements	Yes	Ongoing

**If a timber harvest is recommended, silvicultural method to be used:** light intermediate harvest/salvage/hazard tree removal (see comments).

**Comments:** Classic area to manage for oak with a generally high red oak site index indicating great potential for growing quality trees. Access is good for ATV and hiking, difficult for logging due to haul road access. Boundary maintenance is recommended. Timber is mostly pole/small sawlog/sawlog size with a few large coarse dominants. Volume and quality factors combined with the difficult township road access make a commercial timber harvest unlikely at this time. A nice closed canopy stand is developing here. Basal areas range from a low of 60 sq. ft. per acre to a high of 130 sq. ft. per acre. The stand is trending towards being slightly overstocked. Some nice pole/sawtimber growing stock can be found within the entire stand. The most immediate need would be grapevine control scattered throughout the stand and shrubby invasive control particularly multiflora rose along the ridgetop. A good opportunity for USDA-NRCS cost sharing exists here. There is no need to harvest in the short term. Overall Stand 1 is a great area to manage for oak adding tremendous wildlife habitat attributes. This management cycle controlling grapevines, maintaining access, marking the boundary and controlling shrubby invasive species would be a great accomplishment. Double check the West boundary line.

## ***Woodland Stand Description and Management Recommendations***

**Stand # 2 - 13.7 Acres**

**Dominant Species:** HI, ELM, HM, SPICE, TP, BC, BE, PAW, BO, SASS, DOG, ASP, WO, SM, BG, REDB

**Forest Type or Dominant Vegetation:** Transition/Allegheny Hardwoods

**Stand Diameter or Size Class:** Pole/Small/Medium/Sawtimber/scattered Coarse Dominants

**Stocking Level:** Slightly overstocked **Basal Area:** 90ft<sup>2</sup>/acre

**Stand History:** Boundary line, access corridors/trails, agriculture/pasture/logging, hunting, hiking, last logged in 1992, some light grapevine cutting and cultural work

**Topography:** Rich soils, moderate/steep northerly facing slopes, tributary riparian drainage to Piper Run.

**Present conditions for you to consider:** Access, boundary line, shrubby and vine invasive species, grapevine, drainage crossings, riparian habitat, water quality, high site index.

<b>Management Recommendations:</b>	<b>Management Tasks/Year</b>	
	<b>Required</b>	<b>Year</b>
Grapevine control (light/moderate)	Yes	2024-2025
Maintain and improve access	No	Ongoing
Shrubby/vine invasive species control	Yes	2024-2025
Monitor for forest health overall	Yes	Ongoing
Marked boundary lines not needed	No	NA
Marked boundary lines not needed	No	NA

**If a timber harvest is recommended, silvicultural method to be used:** NA

**Comments:** Stand 2 is a rich upland north aspect condition. Soils are represented by a high red oak site index indicating good potentials for quality trees. Past history indicates impacts from logging, farming and livestock operations. Site indices while good, are probably slightly depleted from this past history. Active current management can produce excellent stewardship especially if water quality, forest improvement and your goals are a consideration. Maintaining and improving access would be important. Some downfall and mortality of trees is found; however, access for salvage is probably not worth the collateral damages that would occur. Overall, stocking levels of the healthy forest condition found do not warrant a harvest at this time. The best forest activity this management cycle would be grapevine and invasive species control. USDA-NRCS cost share opportunity is possible in Stand 2 for forest improvement work. Invasives noted are multi-flora rose, barberry and oriental bittersweet vine. Wildlife abounds in this stand. Eventually trees in Stand 2 will become crowded and could at that future time yield a need for a thinning or harvest operation to maintain a healthy forest. Favor any oak when encountered as well as healthy well formed mixed species. Overall the stand is in decent condition with good developing growing stock. A nice cove can be found shared with adjacent Stand 3. Some grapevine arbor management strategies might be considered here.

## *Woodland Stand Description and Management Recommendations*

**Stand # 3 - 12.4 Acres**

**Dominant Species:** BC, BE, SPICE, WO, HI, BO, HM, PAW, SM, SASS, BW, SO, RO, CO, BG, TP, ASP, REDB

**Forest Type or Dominant Vegetation:** Transitional Hardwoods

**Stand Diameter or Size Class:** Pole/Small/Medium/Sawtimber/scattered Coarse Dominants

**Stocking Level:** Fully stocked      **Basal Area:** 80 ft<sup>2</sup>/acre

**Stand History:** Old field/pasture reverted abandoned farmland, trails, hunting, timber harvesting, access corridors, light grapevine cutting, marked boundary line

**Topography:** Moderate/steep slopes and ridgetop northwesterly aspect blending into drainages.

**Present conditions for you to consider:** Access, low- medium/high site, shrubby invasives and grapevine, maintain/mark boundary, trails, favor oak, good species mix, grapevine arbor, coves.

<b>Management Recommendations:</b>	<b>Management Tasks/Year</b>	
	Required	Year
Grapevine control	Yes	2025-2026
Maintain and improve access/trails	No	Ongoing
Shrubby invasive control	Yes	2025-2026
Marked boundary line not needed	No	NA
Marked boundary line not needed	No	NA
Monitor for forest health and conditions	Yes	Ongoing

**If a timber harvest is recommended, silvicultural method to be used:** NA (light thinning, salvage and coarse dominant harvest is possible but highly unlikely this management cycle).

**Comments:** Beech and maple is occurring in the understory and overtime can take over the stand from the current species mix unless management strategy is to favor oak. EQIP cost share opportunities can be found to control shrubby invasives and grapevines. Access is fair for hiking and APV and should be maintained and improved. Greatest immediate concern is light/medium scattered shrubby invasives and grapevine. This is an improving area that has been depleted from agricultural/impacts and high grade logging. Stand 3 should not be underestimated in its ability to be highly productive and meet management goals. Time invested improving Stand 3 will be time well spent. Commercial timber harvesting can wait until a re-evaluation occurs next management cycle. This cycle controlling the shrubby invasives/grapevines, improving the access corridors and monitoring the stand would be plenty. Shrubby invasives include barberry and multiflora rose. In Stands 1, 2, and 3 there is very little red oak and black walnut. Any red oak and walnut found should be retained in the mix. A commercial timber harvest this cycle is highly unlikely due to minimal commercial values and difficult access on Township Road 144. The property needs more time for the timber resource to develop however some great opportunities exist to improve the overall forest condition this management cycle.

## ***Woodland Stand Description and Management Recommendations***

**Stand # 4 - 16.4 Acres**

**Dominant Species:** ASP, BO, WO, BC, HI, HM, SPICE, ELM, RO, BG, BY, BE, WA, SM, TP, SASS, BW, CO, REDB, HAW, SYC, PAW, AIL

**Forest Type or Dominant Vegetation:** Transitional Hardwoods

**Stand Diameter or Size Class:** Pole/Small/Medium/Sawtimber/scattered Coarse Dominants

**Stocking Level:** slightly understocked      **Basal Area:** 60 ft<sup>2</sup>/acre

**Stand History:** Pasture/reverted forest, boundary lines marked, access corridors, logging, trails, hunting, hiking, Township Road 144.

**Topography:** Ridgetop/easterly aspect, moderate/steep slopes to drainages, rich cove site.

**Present conditions for you to consider:** Shrubby invasives/grapevines/ailanthus, access, good species mix/growing site, boundary line, trails, grapevine arbor, steep slopes, tire dump.

<b>Management Recommendations:</b>	<b>Management Tasks/Year</b>	
	Required	Year
Maintain and improve access corridors/trails	No	Ongoing
Invasive species control (shrubs)	Yes	2026-2027
Mark and maintain boundary line	Yes	2025 (where applicable)
Remark and maintain boundary line	Yes	2032 (where applicable)
Grapevine control retain arbor for wildlife	Yes	2026-2027
Monitor for forest health and conditions	Yes	Ongoing
Continue work on tire dump cleanup	No	Ongoing

**If a timber harvest is recommended, silvicultural method to be used:** NA

**Comments:** A nice stand with a high site index. Shrubby invasives/grapevines/ailanthus can be found and should be controlled. There is no sense of immediacy for a thinning/harvest due to ash mortality/stocking levels and allowing canopy density to aid with invasive species control. Marketability of the timber resource this management cycle is poor. Remark boundary lines where applicable. Stocking levels are good with a few large coarse dominants scattered about. Let the stand continue to develop with the idea that great improvement can be made for property goals by following this plan. A timber harvest decision could be postponed until another forest evaluation next management plan cycle. Commendable work has been accomplished by the previous owner removing dumped tires, no small task when considering restricted access, disposal and physically removing the tires. The tire dump could have upwards of 100 tires some of which have cascaded over the hill into Stand 4 interior areas. The species mix is excellent and important for both wildlife and water quality issues. Soils indicate good opportunity to manage the forest so that it can reach its full potential for the growing site. Basal areas range from 30 to 90 square feet per acre. A managed grapevine arbor for wildlife can occur here. Invasive species include multiflora rose, privet, barberry and ailanthus. In addition to some tire dump cleanup, some light grapevine work has been accomplished and the boundary is currently marked.

## ***Woodland Stand Description and Management Recommendations***

**Stand # 5 - 12.0 Acres**

**Dominant Species:** TP, HI, RO, BE, SYC, SPICE, HM, BY, ELM, BW, WA, PAW, HL, BOX, BB

**Forest Type or Dominant Vegetation:** Transitional/Riparian Bottomland Hardwoods

**Stand Diameter or Size Class:** Pole/Small/Medium/Sawlog/scattered Coarse Dominants

**Stocking Level:** slightly understocked **Basal Area:** 60 ft<sup>2</sup>/acre

**Stand History:** Agricultural, timber harvesting, trails and access, pasture, recreational pursuits, logging, Township Road 144, Piper Run, heavy APV use.

**Topography:** Riparian corridor along Piper Run. Moderate slopes transitioning to uplands.

**Present conditions for you to consider:** access trails and corridors, shrubby invasive species, grapevines, high site index, riparian, water quality, surface litter, Township Rd 144, user developed trails off Township Rd, erosion, boundary lines, trespass, aesthetic values, hunting

<b>Management Recommendations:</b>	<b>Management Tasks/Year</b>	
	<b>Required</b>	<b>Year</b>
Monitor for forest health and conditions	No	Ongoing
Maintain and improve access/trails	No	Ongoing
Invasive species/grapevine control	Yes	2027-2028
Mark boundary lines	Yes	2025
Remark boundary lines	Yes	2032

**If a timber harvest is recommended, silvicultural method to be used:** NA

**Comments:** Stand 5 contains the riparian corridor along Piper Run and the east boundary line. Particular attention should be paid to shrubby invasive plants and grapevine control. Other matters worth consideration are erosion caused by heavy APV use on the Township Road 144 trace that is located here. This gets worrisome as the Township Road is severely eroded and users are beginning to develop user developed routes that open up APV use (trespass) upon the property and not the Township Road. Surface litter is common along the road corridor. There is no sense of immediacy regarding a need for a harvest. White ash mortality has accomplished a thinning, and current canopy stocking will help lock down work with invasive shrubs. Overall, Stand 5 is in fair condition and improving with time. Management interventions will accelerate this improvement process. Typical of the stands upon the property, the greatest priority would be controlling the invasive shrub incursion and grapevine control. Accomplishing that work this management cycle would be a very worthy improvement. USDA-NRCS cost sharing might be available to assist this effort. Stocking ranges from a basal area of 40 to 90 square feet per acre. Shrubby invasives noted include autumn olive and multi-flora rose. Some excellent growing stock and tree species can be found here. The boundary lines are currently marked. This is a very aesthetic part of the property and the Piper Run corridor is attractive for outdoor appreciation and recreational pursuits. Water quality and healthy forest are important attributes to keep in mind for Stand 5 overall.

## ***Woodland Stand Description and Management Recommendations***

### **Stand # 6 - 4.3 Acres**

**Dominant Species:** WO, BC, TP, BE, BY, SASS, ELM, WA, HM, CHINK, SYC, HI, CO, SPICE, BW

**Forest Type or Dominant Vegetation:** Transition Hardwoods

**Stand Diameter or Size Class:** Poles/Small/Sawtimber/scattered Coarse Dominants

**Stocking Level:** slightly understocked **Basal Area:** 60 ft<sup>2</sup>/acre

**Stand History:** Agricultural/pasture/logging, trails/access, hunting, recreation Piper Run.

**Topography:** Ridgetop, steep east slopes, shallow rocky soils.

**Present conditions for you to consider:** high site index, shrubby invasives, access and trails, good species mix, grapevines, lower priority for management, Piper Run, water quality.

<b>Management Recommendations:</b>	<b>Management Tasks/Year</b>	
	<b>Required</b>	<b>Year</b>
Shrubby invasives control	Yes	2029-2030
Maintain and improve access/trail corridors	No	Ongoing
Grapevine control	Yes	2029-2030
Mark boundary line	Yes	2025
Remark boundary line	Yes	2032
Monitor for forest health and conditions	No	Ongoing

**If a timber harvest is recommended, silvicultural method to be used:** NA

**Comments:** Good hardwood trees can be found as growing stock here. Worrisome is the presence of autumn olive, privet and multi-flora rose in the mix. Stocking ranges from 50 to 70 square feet of basal area indicating a low degree of variability. Dead snags from ash mortality are scattered about. The site index is high and can be developed to produce trees meeting many of the management goals for the property. During this management plan cycle control grapevines, and shrubby invasives, maintain trails and access, mark boundary line and monitor forest health. Trail access is good upon the narrow hog back ridgetop but very steep slopes limit access overall. Commercial volumes of timber would be low making any tree cutting non-commercial and not very attractive at this time. Stand 6 can play a role in implementing overall property plans and should be a consideration for creating safe and healthy forest conditions. Other stands should be considered higher priority when time and expenses are factored into the management cycle. Some interesting rock exposures and very steep slopes are encountered here. The greatest attribute of Stand 6 is its remoteness and its buffering water quality contribution to Piper Run. The steep slopes make access difficult and treacherous.

## ***Woodland Stand Description and Management Recommendations***

### **Stand # 7 - 3.6 Acres**

**Dominant Species:** HM, BO, HI, BC, BY, RO, BE, ASP, SO, BG, SYC, TP, SPICE, HAW, CO, SM, DOG

**Forest Type or Dominant Vegetation:** Upland Central Hardwoods

**Stand Diameter or Size Class:** Pole/Small/Sawtimber/scattered Coarse Dominants

**Stocking Level:** Fully stocked **Basal Area:** 70 ft<sup>2</sup>/acre

**Stand History:** Agricultural, timber harvesting/pasture, access/trails, boundary line, hunting, recreation, Township Road 144.

**Topography:** Northwest/west facing aspect, steep slopes from ridgetop to drainage

**Present conditions for you to consider:** Boundary line marking/maintenance, shrubby invasives, good oak site, trails and access, good species mix, grapevines, Township Road 144, user developed trails creating trespass, litter, erosion from Township Road, water quality

<b>Management Recommendations:</b>	<b>Management Tasks/Year</b>	
	<b>Required</b>	<b>Year</b>
Mark boundary line with paint	Yes	2025
Remark boundary line with paint	Yes	2032
Monitor for forest health and invasives	Yes	Ongoing
Control shrubby invasives and grapevine	Yes	2027-2028
Maintain access/trail corridors	No	Ongoing

**If a timber harvest is recommended, silvicultural method to be used:** NA

**Comments:** Stand 7 represents good developing oak potential. A nice species mix can be found here. Stocking levels do not indicate a strong harvest recommendation. Keeping the forest in its present condition and moving forward is a good option. Stand 7 is relatively healthy and could use shrubby invasive species control and grapevine control to develop to its best potential for the site. This cycle accomplishing grapevine control, invasive species control and marking the boundaries as well as maintaining and improving access would be plenty. If that could be accomplished upon all the stands the forest would be much more healthy and enjoyable to visit. Stocking levels ranged from a basal area of 30 to 110 square feet per acre. Invasive shrubby plants include multi-flora rose, autumn olive and Japanese honeysuckle. Stand 7 presents a great opportunity to favor some of the region's most valuable trees especially the oaks however it is going to take time as the steep slopes and west aspect create some very hard scrabble growing conditions. The Township Road 144 corridor is heavily eroded here and user developed trails from the Township Road could create a problem with trespass upon the property. Surface litter is strewn along the Township Road. Erosion and water quality are issues with the APV use of the Township Road. The stand is depleted from past uses and trees here will likely be slow growing and respond slowly to improvements but eventually can be improved.

## Management Activity Schedule

Year(s) Suggested	Mgmt. Units	Required Task	EQIP Practice	Acres	Recommendations
2025	All	Yes	No	80.0	Mark boundary lines with paint*
2024-2025	1	Yes	Yes	17.5	Control invasive shrubs and vines
2024-2025	2	Yes	Yes	13.7	Invasive shrub/vine and grapevine control (refine w/field scoping for any EQIP funding project consider grape arbor in Stands 2 and 3)
2025-2026	3	Yes	Yes	12.4	Grapevine and shrubby invasive plant control (refine w/field scoping grape arbor management)
2026-2027	4	Yes	Yes	16.4	Grapevine/shrubby invasive plant control (refine w/field scoping for EQIP funding) Retain grape arbor
Ongoing	4	No	No	2.0	Tire dump cleanup (contact County Health Dept. for tech advice as well as possible assistance)
Ongoing	All	Yes	No	80.0	Maintain and improve access corridors and trails especially drainage crossings and steep pitches
Ongoing	All	Yes	No	All	Monitor all areas for forest health concerns and conditions
2027-2028	5	Yes	Yes	12.0	Control invasive plants and vines
2027-2028	7	Yes	Yes	3.7	Control invasive plants and vines
2029-2030	6	Yes	Yes	4.3	Control invasive plants and vines
2032	All	Yes	No	80.0	Remark boundary with paint*
Ongoing	All	Yes	No	All	Make sure to appreciate the property and have fun (it's not all work). Be safe and enjoy the land
2036	All	Yes	Yes	All	Renew Forest Management Plan to keep tax abatements and update management planning
Ongoing	Whole Property	Yes	No		Next Site Visit – Woodland reviews are recommended at least once every five years, and no more than ten years, based upon the date of the last actual woodland evaluation conducted by your forester

Before entering a timber sale agreement, or conducting other forestry work that is not listed in your activity schedule, contact your forester first to ensure compliance with your approved woodland stewardship management plan.

\* There is no need to mark boundary lines that adjoin Seven Generations LLC ownership only mark boundary lines that adjoin unaffiliated neighboring properties.

## Addendums



Stand 4 – Tire Dump (some cleanup by previous landowner Warren Mattox)

		KEY TO SPECIES LIST		
AIL	AILANTHUS		APP	APPLE
ASP	ASPEN		BASS	BASSWOOD
BE	BEECH		BC	BLACK CHERRY
BG	BLACK GUM		BH	BLACK HAW
BO	BLACK OAK		BW	BLACK WALNUT
BB	BLUE BEECH		BOX	BOXELDER
BL	BLACK LOCUST		BY	BUCKEYE
BN	BUTTERNUT			
CW	COTTONWOOD		CO	CHESTNUT OAK
CHINK	CHINKAPIN OAK		CUC	CUCUMBER TREE
DOG	DOGWOOD		DSC	DOMESTIC SWEET CHERRY
ELM	ELM		HACK	HACKBERRY
HM	HARD MAPLE		HAW	HAWTHORN
HI	HICKORY		HL	HONEY LOCUST
HOP	HOPHORNBEAM		IW	IRONWOOD
NP	NATIVE PINE		NS	NORWAY SPRUCE
PAU	PAULOWNIA		PAW	PAW PAW
PERS	PERSIMMON		PO	PIN OAK
REDB	REDBUD		RO	RED OAK
RP	RED PINE		PP	PITCH PINE
SASS	SASSAFRAS		SO	SCARLET OAK
SHO	SHINGLE OAK		SIL	SILVER MAPLE
SM	SOFT MAPLE		SPICE	SPICEBUSH
SOUR	SOURWOOD		SWO	SWAMP WHITE OAK
SYC	SYCAMORE		SER	SERVICE BERRY
TP	TULIP POPLAR		VP	VIRGINIA PINE
WA	WHITE ASH		WIL	WILLOW
WO	WHITE OAK		WP	WHITE PINE

Invasive species observed: Japanese honeysuckle, privet, autumn olive, barberry, multi-flora rose, ailanthus, oriental bittersweet

## ***Woodland Resource Descriptions***

### **General Soils Information:**

Dekalb-Westmoreland, Richland, Westmoreland-Guernsey, Westmoreland-Upshur, Vandalia-Richland, and Steinsburg series soils can be found upon the property. This rich variety of soils imparts a condition that favors ecological communities in one place and a different niche in another. The variety and diversity of soils is a healthy overall condition for the property. Note soils maps in the forest management plan.

**Soil Type(s): DuF, RcD, StE, VcE, WhD, WmD, WmE, WmF**

**Soil Drainage Class:** Good/moderate to poor with some pooling in lowlands.

**General Description:** Soils are low/medium to very productive and are typical woodland and hayfield/ pasture soils common to the region. The variety of soils adds ecological attributes that are significant. BMP'S and careful management will enhance and preserve soil productivity. Soils present no limitations to any of your goals overall; however, some are better suited for impacts than others in terms of equipment and access. Bottomland soils especially those that are frequently flooded may have limitations upon management options and even wetland attributes and inclusions. The Steinsburg series soils represent steep rock exposure areas and were not rated for site index as they are not conducive to quality tree growth. For red oak Steinsburg series soils would have a low site index.

**Site Class: (using Woodland Productivity):** Low/medium and high (about 0% low/medium, 83% high, 17% unrated for site class). The Dekalb series is the poorest site index, and the Westmoreland series yields the best site index.



Drainage crossing Stand 5 (heavy erosion on TR 144)

### **Timber Information:**

Productivity and potentials are good, and a mostly fully stocked, slightly understocked, slightly overstocked situation gives one many options for management in all stands. Good growing stock and developing quality timber is found everywhere. Species mix is excellent. White ash has been decimated (EAB mortality) and can no longer be considered a viable forest component. Markets and access for harvest operations in all stands are currently limited because of quality, volume and access issues. Practices that control grapevine and shrubby invasives will allow the best options for improvement this management cycle. Utilizing firewood on site and locally has merit and would accomplish some improvements. In the native hardwood forest stands there is no sense of immediacy for harvesting. Timber overall has been subjected to high-grade logging in past years and essentially ignored regarding management improvements. Many of the larger trees have quality problems as they were the ones left behind from high-grade harvesting. Some of these coarse dominants might be candidates for future harvest, but there is no sense of urgency this management cycle. Coarse dominants should be evaluated on a case-by-case basis as to suitability for your management goals. Improving and maintaining access corridors are essential to being able to manage and enjoy the forest. Cost sharing with the USDA- NRCS through the EQIP forestry program could be checked to see if this can be helpful. Restoration ecology, water quality and forest health should be a guiding philosophy this cycle especially in the cove, drainage and bottomland areas.

### **Wildlife:**

Exceptional habitat conditions exist on the property. Everything from mature trees to healthy growing stock and arbors can be found. Drainages, riparian corridors, and den trees are scattered about the land. Coarse woody debris, diverse soils and exposed rocky ledges lend even more habitats to the landscape. Deer can be observed everywhere and are quite numerous. Also observed were turkey sign, numerous songbirds, and raptors. Small mammals like rabbits, possum, ground hog and raccoon would be common. The property is very rich in wildlife resources. Deer could be a problem as reproduction of seedling trees may be impacted by heavy deer browsing. Piper Run frontage is particularly valuable wildlife habitat. There appears to be plenty of nesting, feeding, loafing, escape cover and habitat for many species of wildlife. Specific wildlife practices can especially enhance habitat with food plots; managed grape arbors, snag recruitment and specific areas valuable to wildlife especially bat habitat, vernal pools, wetlands and riparian corridors. Further guidance and assistance might be obtained through the ODNR private lands biologist in Athens, 740-589-9957 or with some of the programs offered with the USDA-NRCS.



Den tree- Stand 1

**Water:**

The property is rich in water resources. Bottomland, streams and drainage corridors all contribute to water resources. The property currently is facilitating enhanced water quality and has some excellent woodland filter strips and buffers however some erosion issues are occurring from Township Road 144 APV use. This APV impact is beyond the control of the current landowner but watch for user developed trails that go from the Township Road onto the property.

Practicing good sustainable management with regard to BMP'S and proper management around water areas will pay great dividends for the objectives and goals outlined for the property.

**Best Management Practices** – maintaining the integrity and productivity of woodland sites:

Basic protection measures used to guard forest soils against problems related to soil/site limitations and equipment usage -- rutting, excessive disturbance and compaction, erosion, and sedimentation -- are commonly referred to as Best Management Practices (BMP'S). One very easy BMP is simply to limit heavy equipment activity to dry weather periods.

Hilly to steeply sloped terrain is more subject to site disturbance and subsequent soil erosion and sedimentation. Forest management can still be accomplished on these steep areas with the use of BMP'S. Even when the forest terrain is nearly level to gently rolling, and where slope does not present a hindrance to access for management activities, it is important to keep trails up away from drainages where possible. This helps protect water quality by providing a buffer or filter strip of undisturbed soil and leaf litter where any sediment can be trapped before reaching the drainage.

During timber harvest activities follow the Best Management Practices outlined in the Ohio State University Bulletin #916-BMP's for Erosion control for Logging Practices in Ohio. This booklet is available online at [www.ohiodnr.gov/forestry/](http://www.ohiodnr.gov/forestry/).

Practically speaking, the use of BMP'S to prevent soil loss is a sound agricultural practice that helps maintain site and timber productivity. Implementing BMP'S helps comply with Ohio's Agricultural Pollution Abatement Law (HB 88) Standards for Silvicultural Operations.



Stand 7 – Township Road APV erosion

### **Forest Health:**

This woodland shows good overall health and vigor; a few problems were noted however. White oak needs to be closely monitored for a regional die back problem that occasionally manifests. The white oak should be okay if they do not have additional stress like drought compounding the problem. In some cases the native woodlands are slightly crowded. This is a normal process that happens as forests mature. Overstocked stands indicate that the woodland may at some point sustain a harvest. Sometimes mortality from competition occurs in overstocked stands. Following the management schedule in this plan should guide the forest into a more healthy condition going forward and create more resilient stands if calamities should occur. Deer browsing can be worrisome for future forest growth and species diversity. Shrubby invasive plants and grapevines are a major forest problem. As always invasive non-native plants present ongoing concerns, and if initially aggressively addressed, can then become a more manageable situation. Privet, barberry, autumn olive and ailanthus can get a real foothold on the landscape if allowed. The guidelines in your management schedule take into account these conditions, and perhaps some USDA- NRCS cost share opportunity could assist with recommended invasive projects.

The emerald ash borer (EAB) is an invasive insect from Asia that only attacks ash trees. The larvae eat the living tissue of ash trees just underneath the bark. With a large infestation, this process essentially chokes off the flow of water and nutrients within the tree which leads to the tree's death. This insect can spread naturally from tree to tree as well as artificially through the movement of ash material such as firewood. EAB has devastated the ash component of this forest leaving dead snags and rendering the ash as a non-entity as a part of the forest.

High-grade logging and livestock pasturing likely occurred over the years upon the property. A component of poorer quality coarse dominant trees remains from this all too common practice so some quality factors exist with some larger trees. With any harvesting the coarse dominants should be evaluated on a case-by-case basis to see if removal is desirable.

Information about some of the common threats to our forests can be found in this forest plan.



Stand 1 -- Nice upland native hardwoods

**Wetlands:**

Wetlands are extremely important for water quality; they provide unique habitats for fish and wildlife. These are an important forest resource component for overall health of the forest system. Ephemeral or seasonal wetlands, also called vernal pools, are typically small in size and tucked within the forest cover. Vernal pools periodically dry up and do not contain fish. This drying may occur annually or just during drought years. These pools provide unique habitat for amphibians, like salamanders and frogs, as well as many other species of wildlife. Many folks find these important components of the landscape improve the aesthetics and overall enjoyment of the property. Vernal pools are scarce on the property. These areas are worth taking note of and managing in order to keep them viable and functioning as important habitat. Vernal pools can sometimes be constructed on a property.

Soils can sometimes indicate wetlands and wetland potentials. Wetland soils are scarce in much of Southeast Ohio. Sometimes a more formal wetland condition can be found as an inclusion in some soils. This is special and creates a noteworthy habitat with unique plants and wildlife. Sometimes indications of wetland development are noted in the bottomland areas of a property. Having wetland conditions would be a wonderful feature and greatly enhance the ecological objectives for the property although none were readily observed during plan development.

**Threatened and Endangered Species** – considerations for threatened and endangered species, including the direct relationship with biological diversity:

No specific threatened or endangered species were noted within your forestland, but a complete biological survey was not conducted. Some threatened and endangered species found in Ohio include the Timber Rattlesnake, the Northern Harrier, Eastern Spadefoot Toad, the Indiana Bat, and the American Burying Beetle. Habitat requirements for threatened and endangered species may or may not be found on the property; such species have certain habitat requirements. Specific information on threatened or endangered species may be obtained by contacting the Ohio Department of Natural Resources Division of Natural Resources and Preserves directly to access the National Heritage Database.

ODNR-Natural Areas and Preserves  
2045 Morse Road, Bldg. F-1  
Columbus, OH 43229-6693  
Phone: (614) 265-6453

**Archeological/Historical Resources:**

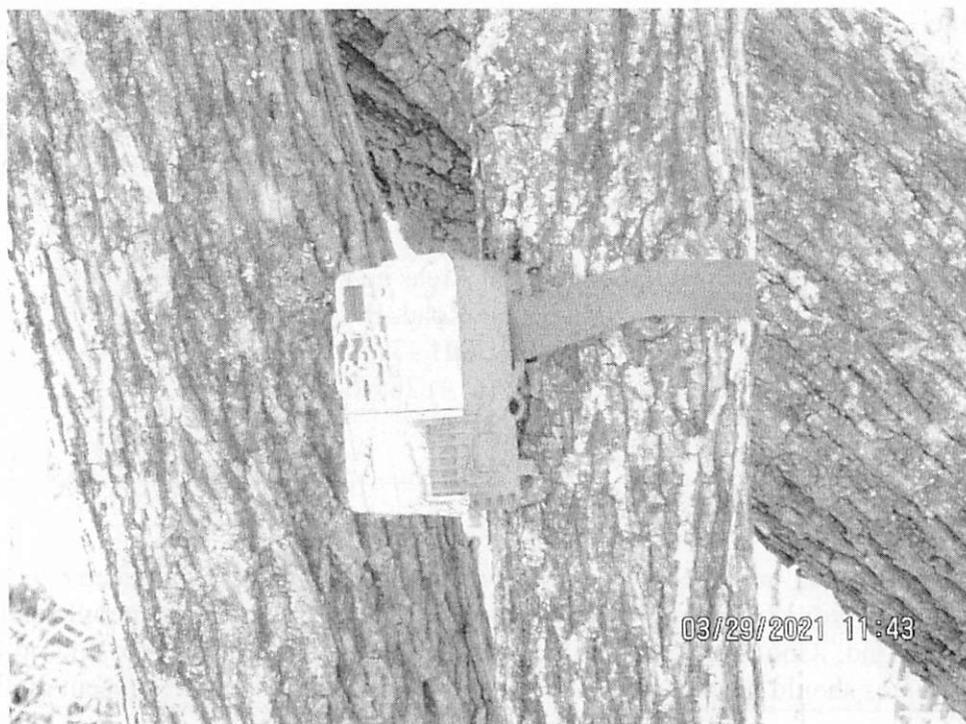
Historical and cultural resources are nonrenewable and can never be replaced once destroyed. These resources provide a unique glimpse into the past and a look at the people and how they cared for the land. Good stewardship involves recognizing these resources and protecting them. These resources should be conserved whenever possible when they are present on the property.

**Recreation:**

Each forest has a unique history and character... and this continues to build under stewardship. This forest is used for hunting, primitive camping, hiking, light ATV recreation and access, production of wood products, aesthetics, nature study and appreciation of the history, cultural resources and wildlife that can be found. Many landowners find great enjoyment and satisfaction doing improvement work in the woods. Others find pleasure in watching the birds, photography, nature study and appreciation or gathering gourmet foods like fruits, nuts and mushrooms. Flowering trees and plants add beauty to the forest. Maintaining trails and access will improve opportunities to enjoy the woods. The forest can be a place of solitude after a busy day at work or it can be a place of great satisfaction from knowing that with good and proper management one can get sustainable income and benefits for hearth and home.

**Aesthetics** – current or future aesthetic considerations for the woodland:

Forest aesthetics is often associated with older, more mature forests, and it also has been said that beauty is in the eye of the beholder. Many folks enjoy mature forests with big trees....yet other folks find beauty in a young forest vibrant with the songs of early successional songbirds, or where they can take their favorite bird dog for an autumn hunt for ruffed grouse. Forest stewardship management addresses these and other various aesthetic tastes, and may weigh in visual goals of the neighbors. When you are weighing aesthetic goals consider as a group: visual aesthetics, the aesthetics of a functioning ecosystem and the wildlife species found on the property.



Stand 1& 2 – Trail camera monitoring ridgetop trails

**Other Resources:**

Associated forest resources vary somewhat from forest to forest but often include a variety of herbaceous plants present within the fields and forest on the property. Spring, summer and fall wild flowers can be really fascinating and enjoyable to those who might take an interest. Medicinal herbs and plants like ramps, ginseng and yellow root can be fun to find and even generate some income. There is always a thrill in finding the shed antlers of deer and observing the habits and patterns of the local wildlife.

One can always find a vast array of insects in woodland. Some can be destructive, some really interesting, most are beneficial and remain in the background and of course there are those that one would just as soon not encounter. Insects are essential to the proper functioning of a healthy ecosystem and many bees, wasps, flies and butterflies are performing important ecological roles like pollinating plants or destroying harmful pests as they go about their routines.

Sometimes folks take an interest in other related opportunities and build into business with the forest resources. Leasing hunting rights or even mineral rights are sometimes viable options. Building rental cabins and hosting tours or recreational events can also be possible opportunities. Using the land for educational seminars or youth activities like camping can be an option as well.

Maple syrup production can be an interesting hobby for some while others may decide to manage for the best possible timber and greatest quality trees they can grow. Others might try their hand with Christmas tree production or landscape nursery-related activities.

Geologic features including caves, overhangs, rock falls, cliffs and exposed rock strata all contribute to a fascinating story of the geological history of the region and make the woods all the more interesting. It seems a great photo op was around every nook and cranny in the woods.

It is this mosaic of uses and opportunities scattered across the landscape that creates a forest based economy and healthy ecosystem. By practicing good stewardship the forests can return economic and intangible rewards many times over.

**Fire – identify hazards, fire breaks, safety zones, note dead trees from insects or disease, etc.:**

Properties and homes in Ohio are not immune to the risks of fire and fire-related damage. Spring and fall are Ohio's main "fire seasons". A step one may take to protect one's forest is to have a system of paths that may double as fire breaks. For the home site, maintain good access for fire vehicles, create a defensible space around your home and outbuildings by removing flammable materials such as brush, leaves, sticks, and twigs; remove these from roofs and gutters too. Landscape around buildings with less flammable plants and materials, avoid evergreens by or near the home, keep an outdoor water source, and avoid outdoor burning. For more information on outdoor fire safety and fire safety around your home, Firewise brochures are available from the Ohio Division of Forestry (toll-free 877-247-8733). You may also contact your local fire department with questions about Firewise and home safety regarding wildfire.

Ohio Fire Laws: ORC 1503.18 regarding kindled fires prohibits outdoor open burning statewide in unincorporated areas during the months of March, April, May, October, and November between the hours of 6:00 am and 6:00 pm. ORC 1503.18 is administered by the Ohio Division of Forestry; call toll-free 877-247-8733 with questions. OAC 3745.19 regarding outdoor burning is administered by the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency (EPA); EPA notification is required for many types of open burns in Ohio. Call 614-644-2270 with questions, or visit [www.epa.ohio.gov/dapc/general/openburning.aspx](http://www.epa.ohio.gov/dapc/general/openburning.aspx).

**Carbon Cycle – Healthy, sustainably managed forests can help to reduce atmospheric carbon:**

When you as a forest landowner choose to maintain your forest land rather than convert it to a non-forest use, you are making a significant contribution to the carbon sequestration equation; a healthy forest sequesters carbon. Forest landowners that hold an interest or focus upon the carbon cycle have opportunities to enhance carbon sequestration on the property by conducting various silvicultural practices that enhance the forest's ability to sequester carbon, and by re-establishing woodlands on non-forested land.

Active forest managers may find opportunities for carbon trading and participation in ecosystem service markets. For further information about carbon sequestration, forestry, and carbon markets, you may visit the Chicago Climate Exchange (CCX) link <http://www.chicagoclimatex.com/content.jsf?id=242>. Also, there are many organizations (both for- and non-profit, mostly online) that offer carbon credits to individual consumers, families, companies, etc. A few examples of "over-the-counter" market organizations are Native Energy ([www.nativeenergy.com](http://www.nativeenergy.com)) and Terrapass ([www.terrapass.com](http://www.terrapass.com)). Reference to these listed sites does not include an endorsement.

**Forestry Terms** – Forestry terminology for landowners, professional foresters, and others:

Consistent forestry terminology is essential to anyone interested and involved in the science, management, and conservation of forests. The Society of American Foresters (SAF) offers a great resource for such forestry terminology: “The Dictionary of Forestry”. This dictionary is an excellent tool available for anyone to learn more about the language used in forestry. The dictionary provides precision, clarity, and consistency in communication of forestry terms. You may access “The Dictionary of Forestry” for free at SAF at [www.dictionaryofforestry.org](http://www.dictionaryofforestry.org). If internet access is not available, one may purchase a printed version from SAF (toll free 866-897-8760).



# PUBLICATIONS LIST

*Seven Generations LLC*

## WOODLAND STEWARDSHIP MANAGEMENT PLAN

- Ohio Woodlands Steward Newsletters: Winter 12, Spring/Summer 14, Summer 17, Winter 17/18, Summer 18, Winter 18, Fall 19, Winter 20, Winter 22, Fall 23
- The Audubon Society, Field Guide to North American Trees *Eastern Region*, Little Elbert L., New York, New York, Alfred A. Knopf, Inc., 1980.
- Factsheets & Information: Emerald Ash Borer, Asian Longhorned Beetle, Hemlock Woolly Adelgid, Thousand Cankers Disease, Gypsy Moth, Agricultural Easements
- Contact a Forester First, Managing Black Vulture Damage in Ohio, Caring for Your White Oak Woods, Brochures
- Misc. maps: USGS Topo, Athens County Auditor Plats/Survey, Athens County Soil Survey, NRCS Web Soil Survey
- Firewise Brochures
- Factsheets: Multiflora rose, Barberry, Japanese honeysuckle, Privet, Autumn olive, Oriental bittersweet, Tree of heaven (ailanthus)
- Tree Pruning Brochure
- BMPs for Erosion Control on Logging Jobs in Ohio, ODNR Division of Forestry, 1992
- Hunting & Fishing Ohio Rules & Regulations 2023/24
- Appendix