

CLASS CALENDAR – Please note that there will undoubtedly be changes in the calendar but we will make every effort to announce these well in advance.

January 14 - ‘Introductions and Course Overview’

- Welcome and introductions.
- Seminar structure: describe, interpret, and speculate.
- Attendance and participation.
- Essays on assigned readings – submit four on topics of student’s choice.
- Visioning 21st century forest conservation & mapping the route.
- Review calendar and assignments.
- Vermont Family Forests Overview.
- Read: “Forest Friend Agreement.”

January 21 – So what is a Healthy Forest Community?

Complete these assignments in preparation for this class:

- Reading: Aldo Leopold. (1949). “The Land Ethic”. In *A Sand County Almanac*. (pp 237-264). New York, NY: Ballantine Books. (27p) Retrieved January 10, 2014 from <http://www.familyforests.org/public-education/documents/LeopoldLandEthic.pdf>
- In a 1-2 page essay describe, interpret, and speculate upon “The Land Ethic” essay.
- Read: “MONTREAL PROCESS: Criteria and indicators for the conservation and sustainable management of temperate and boreal forests.” Retrieved January 10, 2014 from http://www.montrealprocess.org/documents/publications/general/2009p_4.pdf

In Class:

- Examine “The Land Ethic.”
- Examine “Montreal Process.”
- Describe the key elements of healthy forests and sustainable forestry.

Let’s Get Practical: Forest Conservation Tool of the Week

- Cruising Stick – Tree and log scaling

January 28 – Putting Healthy Forests First in Vermont

Complete these assignments in preparation for this class:

- Read: Vermont Division of Forestry (2010) *Vermont Forest Resource Plan*. (pp 19-32). Waterbury, VT. Retrieved January 10, 2014, from [“http://www.vtfpr.org/htm/documents/VT%20Forest%20Resources%20Plan.pdf](http://www.vtfpr.org/htm/documents/VT%20Forest%20Resources%20Plan.pdf) (32p)
- Read: USFS (2011) *2010 National Sustainability of Forests Report*. Preface, Executive Summary, and Chapter 1 (pp v. through I-10). Retrieved January 10, 2014 from: <http://www.fs.fed.us/research/sustain/docs/national-reports/2010/2010-sustainability-report.pdf>

In Class:

- Examine indicators of Desired Future Conditions in *Vermont Forest Resource Plan* and *2010 National Sustainability of Forests Report*.

Let’s Get Practical: Forest Conservation Tool of the Week

- To be announced

This evening’s guest: Sandy Wilmot, Forest Health Specialist and Climate Change Coordinator, Vermont Department of Forests, Parks, and Recreation.

February 4 – *What Good is a Healthy Forest?*

Complete these assignments in preparation for this class:

- Read: *Climate Change in the Champlain Valley: What natural resource managers can expect and do.* (2010) The Nature Conservancy. Retrieved January 10, 2014 at http://www.nature.org/cs/groups/webcontent/@web/@vermont/documents/document/prd_002936.pdf
- Read in *For the Health of the Land* by Aldo Leopold the essays “The Farmer as a Conservationist” (pages 161–175) and “Biotic Land Use” (pages 198-207). Retrieved January 10, 2014, from http://www.uvm.edu/rsenr/greenforestry/LIBRARYFILES/Leopold_Essays.pdf (23p)
- Essay: In a 1-2 page essay describe, interpret, and speculate upon “The Farmer as a Conservationist”, “Biotic Land Use”, or “Climate Change in the Champlain Valley”.

In Class:

- Examine “The Farmer as a Conservationist”, “Biotic Land Use”, “and Climate Change in the Champlain Valley”.

Let’s Get Practical: Forest Conservation Tool of the Week

- Cruising stick – Tree and log grading

February 11 – *Water: The Premier Forest Product*

Complete these assignments in preparation for this class:

- Read: US Department of Agriculture, Forest Service (2000). *Water and the Forest Service*. Washington, D.C. Retrieved January 10, 2014, from <http://www.fs.fed.us/publications/policy-analysis/water.pdf> (26p)
- Essay: In a 1-2 page essay, describe, interpret, and speculate upon the reading.

In Class:

- After a brief introduction to forest hydrology, we’ll discuss the impacts of Tropical Storm Irene, climate change trends, cleaning up Lake Champlain, root-wad sourcing for a New Haven River project, and what can be done to mitigate impacts in the future.

Let’s Get Practical: Forest Conservation Tool of the Week

- Hobo stream thermometers

This evening’s invited guest: Kristen Underwood, Hydro-geologist, South Mountain Research & Consulting, Bristol, VT.

February 18 – *Wildlands and Woodlands: A Vision for the New England Landscape*

Complete these assignments in preparation for this class:

- Read: Foster, D. R., and others (2010). *Wildlands and Woodlands: A Vision for the New England Landscape*. Petersham, MA: Harvard Forest, Harvard University. Retrieved January 10, 2014 from http://highsteadarboretum.org/conservation/Wildlands_and_Woodlands_New_England.pdf (36p)

In Class:

- Examine “*Wildlands and Woodlands.*”

Let’s Get Practical: Forest Conservation Tool of the Week

- A. Johnson Co. log specification and price sheet.

February 25 – *Ecological Forestry & Vermont's Current Use Program*

Complete these assignments in preparation for this class:

- Read: Franklin, J.F., Mitchell, R.J., and Palik, B.J. (2007). *Natural Disturbance and Stand Development Principles for Ecological Forestry*. General Technical Report NRS-19. Newton Square, PA: US Department of Agriculture, Forest Service, Northern Research Station. Retrieved January 14, 2013, from http://www.fs.fed.us/nrs/pubs/gtr/gtr_nrs19.pdf (44p)
- Essay: In a 1-2 page essay, describe, interpret, and speculate upon “Ecological Forestry”.

In Class:

- Examine *Natural Disturbance and Stand Development Principles for Ecological Forestry*.

Let's Get Practical: Forest Conservation Tool of the Week

- To be announced

This evening's invited guest: Caitlin Cusack, UVM & VFF Conservation Forester, Bristol, VT.

March 4 – *Spring Recess*

March 11 – *Forest Conservation and Culture*

Complete these assignments in preparation for this class:

- Read in “Seeing the Forest Among the Trees: A Case for Wholistic Forest Use” by Herb Hammond, Chapter V. entitled “The Solution: Wholistic Forest Use” (Pages 195-254). Retrieved January 10, 2014, from http://www.uvm.edu/rsenr/greenforestry/LIBRARYFILES/Wholistic_Use.pdf (59p)
- Essay: In a 1-2 page essay, describe, interpret, and speculate upon “Wholistic Forest Use”.

In Class:

- Discuss implications of wholistic forest use.
- Greening of Aiken

Let's Get Practical: Forest Conservation Tool of the Week

- To be announced

March 15 – *A Field Trip to the Jericho Research Forest, Jericho*

Complete these assignments in preparation for this class:

- Reading: “Low-Impact Forestry: Forestry as if the Future Mattered” (Pages 22-37). Retrieved January 10, 2014, from http://www.uvm.edu/rsenr/greenforestry/LIBRARYFILES/Lansky_LowImpact.pdf (15p)
- Read: Sloane, Eric. (1965) *A Reverence for Wood*. New York, NY. Ballantine Books (pages 71-86).
- **Saturday's invited guest is Ralph Tursini, Director of UVM's Green Forestry Education Initiative and Woodturning Artisan.**

March 18 – *Substituting Forest Fuels for Fossil Fuels*

Complete these assignments in preparation for this class:

- Read: Vanderberg, Michael R.; Adams, Mary Beth; Wiseman, Mark S. 2012. “Evaluating Forest Biomass Utilization in the Appalachians: A Review of Potential Impacts and Guidelines for Management.” Gen. Tech. Rep. NRS-106. Newtown Square, PA: U.S. Department of Agriculture, Forest Service, Northern Research Station. 39 p. Retrieved January 10, 2014 from http://www.nrs.fs.fed.us/pubs/gtr/gtr_nrs106.pdf
- Read: Forest Biomass Working Group. (2010). *Forest biomass retention and harvesting guidelines for the Northeast*. Santa Fe, NM: Forest Guild. Retrieved January 10, 2014, from http://www.forestguild.org/publications/research/2010/FG_Biomass_Guidelines_NE.pdf (17p)
- Essay: In a 1-2 page essay, describe, interpret, and speculate upon “Forest Biomass Utilization Review” or “Forest Biomass Retention.”

In Class:

- Discuss: “Evaluating Forest Biomass Utilization in the Appalachians” and “Forest Biomass Retention and Harvesting Guidelines”.

This evening’s invited guest will be Bill Kropelin, Chief Forester, Burlington Electric Department.

March 22 – *A Field Trip to the Waterworks Forest, Bristol*

Complete these assignments in preparation for this field trip:

- Read: In *Another Turn of the Crank* by Wendell Berry the chapter “Conserving Communities” (pages 8-24). Retrieved on January 10, 2014, from http://www.uvm.edu/rsenr/greenforestry/LIBRARYFILES/GFEL_Community.pdf (16p)
- Read: “Acceptable Management Practices for Maintaining Water Quality on Logging Jobs in Vermont” (1987) (www.vtfpr.org Forestry Division Publications).
- Read: “Forest Conservation Plan for the Waterworks Property.”

In the Forest:

- Examine 30 years of forest conservation including natural areas, crop tree release, trails, conservation easements, community celebrations, and more.

March 25– *Envisioning the Transition & Mapping the Route*

Complete these assignments in preparation for this class:

- Read: In *Holistic Management: A New Framework for Decision Making*” by Allan Savory with Jody Butterfield PART III: “The Power Lies in the Holistic Goal” (pages 57-98).
- Write down three – five key elements that should be part of the practice of forest conservation in the 21st Century. These can be ecological, ethical, economic, spiritual, and aesthetic in nature.

In Class

- Using the nominal group technique, identify ten key elements for forest conservation in the 21st Century and map the route to get there.

April 1 – Ecoforestry and Landscape Design Complete these assignments in preparation for this class:

- Read: Natural Resource, Agriculture, and Engineering Service (1993) *A Guide to Logging Aesthetics: Practical Tips for Loggers, Foresters, and Landowners*. (Pages 1-22). Retrieved January 10, 2014 from:
<http://www2.dnr.cornell.edu/ext/info/pubs/Harvesting/A%20Guide%20to%20Logging%20Aesthetics.pdf>
- Spend time in an appealing, natural place and carefully observe the qualities of that space. Be as fully present as you can possibly be and look very closely at all of the elements. Thoroughly capture your observations.
- In words, phrases, an essay, poetry, etc. describe what it is about this particular place that captures your attention.

In Class

- Be prepared to share your observations with the class.
- Discuss landscape design as it relates to addressing potential impacts from forest uses such as installation of wind turbines and intensive harvesting of biomass.

This evening's guest: James Palmer.