



The Dogwood Times

A Publication of the Tyler County Forest Landowner Association

<http://tcforest.org/>

Tyler County Forest
Landowner
Association
(TCFLOA)

Volume 24 Issue 1
Spring 2022

Spring General Meeting rescheduled to March 12

The next general meeting of TCFLOA has been rescheduled to Saturday, March 12, at 9:30 AM until noon, in the Heritage Village Fiber Arts Building, Hwy 190 W, Woodville, TX. We have three speakers:

State Representative Trent Ashby—Keynote speaker, will talk about legislative issues relevant to forest landowners and take questions.

Tyler County Chief Appraiser David Luther—will describe the requirements for acquiring and maintaining a timber tax valuation, discuss options and issues relating to property taxes, and take questions.

Jeff Parker of Parker Forestry Consultants— will talk about carbon credit options and issues and take questions.

Lunch will be provided in the historic Pickett House with a suggestion to donate toward the cost of lunch.

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TCFLOA Offering \$1,000 academic Scholarship

TCFLOA is now accepting applications for a university/college scholarship for TCFLOA members, their children, grandchildren, and Tyler County high school graduates, who are majoring in Forestry or Forestry related curriculums.

The deadline for submitting the application is April 30, 2022. The scholarship recipient will be selected by the TCFLOA Scholarship Committee

U.S. Seasonal Drought Outlook —NOAA/NWS/ NCEP/Climate Prediction Center

Outlook for SE Texas drought development is likely through April 30, 2022.

Be prepared for Wildland Fire Season:

- Remove dead or overhanging branches. Sparks and flames can travel from tree to roofs.
- Remove leaf accumulation near and on structures.
- Remove tall, dry grasses.
- Remove “latter fuels” by trimming tree limbs to 6’-10’ from the ground.
- Maintain power equipment, fuel them carefully.
- Prune bushes and shrubs regularly.

CALENDAR

March 12, 2022, Saturday—TCFLOA Fall General Meeting, 9:30 AM, in the Heritage Village Fiber Arts Building, Hwy 190 W, Woodville, TX.

April 2, 2022, Saturday—Tyler County Dogwood Festival, 8 AM - 5 PM, Woodville, Texas. This is a great time for out-of-county landowners to check on their property, see the spring blossoms and enjoy the downtown festivities and parade. Go to tylercountydogwoodfestival.org for more information.

September 17, 2022, Saturday—TCFLOA Fall General Meeting, 9:30 AM. Date, location, and program to be announced.

Visit the Tyler County Forest Landowner Association website at tcforest.org for a summary of past presentations, interesting articles, upcoming events, contacts, and the latest news relating to effective forest and land management practices for Tyler County landowners.



Continued Impact on Trees from Winter Storm—Texas A&M Forest Service

February 2021 will be remembered by Texans and by our trees as the year of the “Deep Freeze.” Even now, more than nine months removed from Winter Storm Uri, Texans are still seeing the effects of the “Deep Freeze.”

Multiple days with below-freezing temperatures resulted in the crowns of a noticeable number of trees turning brown and appearing as if the trees had died. As the [Texas A&M Forest Service](#) reported earlier in the year, many, if not most, of those trees recovered and produced normal levels of foliage during the summer.

However, a recently observed effect is mortality in pine trees caused by *Ips* engraver beetles. These native insects, of which there are three species in East Texas, may attack healthy and stressed trees alike. Usually, they can successfully invade only severely stressed pine trees, such as those recovering from a hard freeze.

Beetle attacks

Allen Smith, Texas A&M Forest Service regional forest health coordinator, has inspected many tracts in East Texas this fall and has seen a large amount of pine tree mortality caused by *Ips* engraver beetles.

“Looking back at the past nine months, the fact that these beetles are now taking center stage in the decline and death of our pine trees is inevitable,” said Smith. “Uri was a major stressor of trees, and the following extended droughty conditions throughout the pine regions of East Texas added additional stress.”

These combined stress factors weaken trees’ natural defenses against all pests, including *Ips* beetles. As a result, even small-scale *Ips* beetle attacks successfully overwhelmed and killed individual trees.

Soon after adult beetles are attracted to and land on a stressed tree, they mate. The resulting developing larvae excavate tunnels or galleries under the bark, which, in sufficient numbers, essentially girdles the tree and disrupts the tree’s vascular system.

“Death can occur quickly and is often measured in days, not weeks,” said Smith. “Along with *Ips* beetles, inspected trees are showing evidence of ambrosia beetles and southern pine sawyer beetles. The common trait among these beetle types is that they are all attracted to stressed pines.”

Typically, *Ips* beetle attacks are characterized by the presence of pitch tubes scattered about the bark. Pitch tubes, which look like popped popcorn, are formed as the trees try to prevent entry by pushing sap into the entry hole made by the beetle.

Recently observed trees show uncharacteristically small, desiccated pitch tubes, if they are present at all, indicating the lack of sap production and moisture inside the tree. When the bark is scraped to inspect beetle galleries, the exposed phloem—the region where sap flow occurs—is noticeably dry, indicating severe stress.

Managing the damage

So, what can be done? Usually, forests are managed to prevent bark beetles, including *Ips* beetles, by using a combination of well-timed thinnings and competition control treatments to promote tree vigor and overall stand health. In extreme cases such as the “Deep Freeze,” not much more can be done except to prepare for the next emergence of beetles in the spring.

Standing beetle-killed trees should be removed and burned or otherwise disposed of to prevent the emergence of beetles from the felled trees. If the bark has not yet begun to slip on enough beetle-killed trees to attract a service provider to the site, the trees may be salvaged and taken to market, providing some recovery of financial loss for the landowner.

(continued on page 3)



(Continued impact on trees—continued from page 2)

With winter approaching, the Ips beetles will overwinter in trees, meaning they will emerge in 2022 with the start of spring. The best-case scenario for pine trees is to have wet weather this winter so that trees have good soil moisture when they start growing again.

For more information on pine trees in your area, contact your local forester at <https://tfsweb.tamu.edu/ContactUs/>.

Sawmill Expansion in the U.S. South—Amanda Lang, Forisk Blog

Softwood lumber mill capacity in North America is roughly 74 billion board feet (BBFT) per year – the same level in aggregate as twelve years ago in 2008. One key difference in softwood lumber capacity today versus twelve years ago is location: mills moved from the west to the south. Now, the U.S. South is the largest softwood lumber-producing region on the continent, with one-third of the sawmill production capacity. Mills have closed in Western Canada, and the region lost over 2 billion board feet of softwood lumber capacity in the last two years.

Growth continues for Southern U.S. sawmills with expansions, reopenings, and greenfield projects (no pre-existing constraints). Based on announced sawmill builds and expansions, the U.S. South could add an additional four billion board feet of softwood sawmill capacity by 2022. Announced new investments since 2020 includes 47 mill capacity increases, which includes 12 new mills and four reopenings. Of note, Roseburg Forest Products is building a 400 million board feet (MMBF) sawmill in Weldon, NC. Recently, there have been several new announcements in Louisiana. These include the Canfor 250 MMBF greenfield sawmill in DeRidder, Interfor's planned reopening of the former GP Dequincy 200 MMBF sawmill, and the partnership with Hunt and Tolko to build a 320 MMBF sawmill in Taylor, Louisiana.

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President's Corner "Leadership"—TCFLOA President Col. Eddie Boxx, USAF (ret)

We look forward to our Spring 2022 General Meeting on Saturday, 12 March, but I want to say a few words about our Saturday Fall 2022 General Meeting slated for 17 September. In the fall, we elect officers and board members for our Tyler County-based forest landowners association every two years. After 35 years in the military, a truism of any successful unit or organization is "leaders create more leaders." So if you are interested in serving, please let one of us know at the Spring Meeting. After four years as your vice-president and later president, I can honestly tell you this has been one of the most rewarding opportunities I have had since military retirement. First, while every member has a voice on the program and speakers, serving on the board gives you unparalleled insight and opportunity to craft the meeting agendas and collaborate with excellent forestry professionals. Second, as my family maintains and promotes a "sustainable forest," serving has allowed me to learn more about forestry best practices, the macroeconomics of the industry and becoming a better steward of what God has temporarily given me. Finally, as many of you know, being a timber owner or tree farmer doesn't generate a steady annual income, something the IRS struggles to understand at times. But one way to show you are actively involved in your timber business is to serve on a forestry-focused organization. A local CPA shared a story about an absentee landowner (who lived in Houston but had timber in the Piney Woods) getting audited. There were no red flags or indicators on what triggered the IRS review, but the tree farmer had to prove he was "actively managing" his timber business. In conclusion, thank you for the support and attendance over the last few years. Our treasurer Charles Zimmerman recently noted we have the most members in good standing we have ever had. Our board and officers are collaborative and fun to work with; we can teach you what you need to know, so please consider joining the TCFLOA leadership team.



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Rainfall Totals (inches)—Tyler Co. Emergency Management Weather Division

	December	2021	January
Chester	2.75	52.81	2.78
Colmesneil	2.64	50.50	5.75
Fred	2.10	55.71	4.42
Spurger	1.74	64.74	2.59
Warren	1.95	52.59	3.50
Woodville	2.06	43.41	2.75

**OFFICERS & DIRECTORS
2021-2022**

- Pres: Col. Eddie Boxx
- VP: Steve Lauff
- Sect: Oliver Hensarling
- Treas: Charles Zimmerman
- Dir: Andy Niemann
- Dir: Elizabeth Parker
- Dir: Dr. Jay Fish
- Dir: Josh Lempert (past President)

Tyler County Forest Landowner Association (TCFLOA)

The Tyler County Forest Landowner Association is a non profit organization whose objectives include educating landowners about good forest management and harvesting practices, and keeping landowners up to date on matters affecting timberland operations, taxes and legislative actions.

Membership 2022

Check your memberships status for 2022. Look at the address label on the envelope for your status—if the **year number** after your name is not **22** (for 2022) or greater, then consider renewing your membership. You may also send in your 2023 dues at this time.

Note that we are asking for your e-mail address. This will allow us to communicate time sensitive information on programs, workshops, late cancellations or fire situations. We will **NOT** give your address to any other group, people, advertisers, etc. Membership information is for your board members and newsletter editor **only**.

MEMBERSHIP FORM

Tyler County Forest Landowner Association (TCFLOA)

Regular Membership: Private non-industrial owners of five (5) or more acres of land in Tyler Co.

Dues: \$15 per calendar year per couple. One (1) vote per membership.

Associate Membership: Any individual not qualifying as a Regular Member who supports the objectives of TCFLOA. **Dues:** \$15 per calendar year per individual or organization. Associate Members are non-voting.

USE THIS FORM TO JOIN TCFLOA OR TO MAKE CORRECTIONS

NAME

ADDRESS

CITY / STATE / ZIP

PHONE

APPROX # TIMBER ACRES IN TYLER CO.

E-Mail

Please make checks payable to TCFLOA, and mail to:

Charles Zimmerman, Treasurer, 298 County Road 2152, Woodville, TX 75979