

“Representing Private Landowners in Arkansas and Beyond”

May-June 2012

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Prescribed Burning Season 2012—The prescribed burn season was one of the oddest I have experienced yet. Anything from April winds in March to a very early green-up. However, you just have to deal with what mother nature throws at you and adjust accordingly and always have safety on your mind no matter what the conditions are.

In regards to safety, one of my top priorities was to not have any “snag’s or hollow trees catch fire. These dead trees are extremely dangerous due to the possibility of falling limbs, severe burns and even damaging equipment. I experienced first hand the dangers of cutting one of these down during a burn last year where I also lost a chainsaw in the process. On the flip side, saws can be replaced but a life can not be replaced. Therefore that was my motto for this season.

To avoid these types of situations, I would inspect the firebreaks first hand, and while checking the firebreaks, I was also looking for hazards such as “snags.” Once I identified a problem tree, I would rake around the base of the tree clearing all the leaves and debris. However, there are sometimes cases where it was a lot safer to go ahead and cut the tree before the fire which works out really well opposed to a tree that is on fire.

All in all, everyone made it through the season with no injuries and all equipment made it back safely too. Now that prescribed burn season is over for the time being, I am currently working on prescribed burn plans for the next go around. If you are interested in me conducting a burn for you, please give me a call as early as possible. The sooner the better!

Turkey Season is here!!! Many of my clients that I have spoken with are hearing more gobbling this year than in years past. Definitely a good sign and looks like the 2011 hatch was good too. Hopefully, this trend will continue for years to come.

Also, there is some very good data on harvest, peak gobbling, and hatch statistics on the Arkansas Game and Fish Commission web site that will show you some interesting findings.

Also, ticks are extremely bad already this year! Make sure that you use repellent to keep the pesky critters away. Snake sightings are very common right now too!!



Email me your turkey pictures and I will post them on my website!

Scientific Names—Tree Species

Bald Cypress: [Taxodium distichum](#)
Shortleaf Pine: [Pinus echinata](#)

American Tree Farm System—Get your tract signed up with the American Tree Farm System (ATFS). The ATFS recognizes managers of Recreation-Wood-Water and Wildlife. There is no cost to join and I will gladly sign you up. Having a certified forest is definitely the new wave of the future and plus you have the opportunity of becoming Tree Farmer of the Year!

facebook We are on Facebook and you can keep track of us at: [Hargrave Forestry Management Service](#). Come and join us—we will keep you updated on forestry events in the surrounding area.

Planning ahead for Prescribed Burning Season 2013. Yes, it is time to start planning for a prescribed burn, even though we are months away from the initial prescribed burn. Good planning results in a very good burn with very little problems during and after the burn. Currently, I am working on prescribed burn plans for early fall 2012 through spring green-up in 2013. Please give me a call if you are interested in having a prescribed burn conducted on your place—the earlier the better.

Web Site: Check out www.hargraveforestry.com for forestry updates and news.

Facts on Trees: “Sugarberry” (Celtis laevigata)

Depending on what state you are from, the “Sugarberry” is also referred to as “Hackberry.” Yes, just like a Cow Oak is the same as a Swamp Chestnut Oak. The Sugarberry is commonly found throughout Arkansas, Louisiana, Mississippi, Texas, and Missouri. Therefore, more than likely you have encountered this tree at one time or another while hunting or taking a stroll in the city park. Some may have one or more in the yard just like I have one that is about 36-plus inches in diameter at DBH.

The tree’s bark is very easy to identify, as there are quarter-sized warts protruding from the bark. Take a closer look at these warts, and you will also see small rings too. At one time before plastic fishing bobbers were made, the warts were used instead.

This tree also produces small berries that are about 1/3 in diameter and is a food source for many game birds such as quail and turkey. The Sugarberry also has some lumber qualities and is mostly used for palates and in the manufacturing of furniture.

What are Foresters Planning Now?

Foresters are always planning months and even years ahead, but sometime plans change due to weather events, markets, and many other variables. This is why good a good consultant can be well worth the money towards your forestry goals.

As of late, I have been working on prescribed burning plans for the start of Fall 2012 through April 2013 for tracts throughout Missouri and Arkansas. Also, during this time, reforestation projects are going on too. There is a lot of planning that must go towards the projects in order for them to be successful and that is why I am planning months in advance. Here are some dates to for you to keep in mind:

Reforestation: Site Preparation: July 2012 through October 2012. Order seedlings September-October 2012. Planting dates are December 2012-March 2013.

Prescribed Burning: October 2012 through April 10, 2013.

Forest Stand Improvement: September 2012 through March 2013

Boundary Line Marking: October 2012 through March 2013.

Home Front News... It is that time of the year, where our boys, Hayden and Holden, are actively playing baseball in Batesville and doing some extra traveling to some baseball tournaments in the general area. This keeps my wife and I very busy in regards to shuffling them to practice and to games. Never ending it seems like, but we are enjoying every minute of it.

Arkansas fans will appreciate this! My youngest son, Holden who is 8, was very reluctant with his baseball team this year and I could not figure out what the problem was. He did not want to go to practice—just didn’t want to participate which was very odd nor did he tell me what the problem was. Well come to find out, last Saturday he received his game jersey, and then he tells me this is the problem. The team’s name is the “Razorbacks” which is also on the jersey too. I think he has some of that tiger blood in him from his dad! But he has come around and has a great season so far. He loves his teammates and always tries his hardest.

Speaking of my wife, she is now working at White River Medical Center in Batesville as a full-time Registered Nurse. She really likes the work and is learning all kinds of stuff. That is really going good and I am thankful I am not the guinea pig anymore as she has real patients to take care of.

Other than baseball, and working, there has not been a whole lot going on as of late. Baseball definitely consumes a lot of time and this will be the norm until July.

Summer Pie

Ingredients:

8-oz. softened cream cheese

8-oz. whipped cream

1-small can crushed pineapple, drained

1-deep graham cracker pie shell

Beat the cream cheese in a mixer for approximately 1-minute. Add whipped cream and drained pineapple. Mix well, but be sure not to overmix. Put in the pie shell and top with graham cracker crumbs. Chill for one hour. Enjoy!

