



CFA NEWS

Autumn 2026

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CFA NEWS

Autumn 2026



Vision Statement: To improve the overall health of the Catskill forests through the expansion of educational offerings and innovative services in forest health, wildlife, timber, arboriculture, and recreation, and by establishing the Catskill Forest Association (CFA) as the primary educational and service-based resource for private forest stewards in the Catskill Region.

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Mission Statement: To connect people to woodlands by providing conservation-based forestry education and services to privately-owned forest ecosystems.



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From the President's Desk: Autumn 2026

By: Mike Porter, *CFA Board President*

Welcome to autumn all. In this message I am going to deal with a little controversy in a different way. Recently there has been talk and some action regarding solar collection farms in our region. First and foremost, I am totally in favor of using as much green energy as we can. I am subscribed to a community solar program, Delaware River Solar, and get 100% of my electric from that service to a point. I do have to pay the delivery fee to NYSEG each month. And it turns out that the solar farm where I get my power sometimes doesn't produce enough to cover all its clients. When that occurs, I pay full NYSEG price. That happens only rarely when we are in the cloudy season of February or March. I, then do not get my 10% savings on the bill when NYSEG supplies the power.

Now that you know that my position on solar is positive, let's deal with the local controversy. If you are local or drive along route 28 between Arkville and Fleischmanns you have undoubtedly seen the massive clear-cut along the north side of Rt. 28. Backstory: About 2 years ago a local family proposed selling to a solar producer as a land deal. Assurances were made that the solar array was not going to be visible to, pretty much, anyone as it would sit behind a knoll in the woods. With the recent movement to put a moratorium on solar farms until unified regulations developed, the solar provider began work so their project would have been started before any regulations could be put in effect. The result is what you see. Acres of trees cut, willy-nilly, just waiting to be chipped up in the clearing process prior to construction of the "farm".

When locals and visitors learned what the impact would be compared to what had been proposed, the "s... began to hit the fan". Rather than being totally out of sight, the solar farm has a large access road cut right to Route 28. In the winter, with the leaves off the trees, much of the site is visible from the highway as you drive by. The moratorium has given people a chance to digest the impacts of solar farms in our region. It might have been a blessing in disguise that this company tried to "beat the system" and tipped their hand as to the amount of tree removal that could occur. Maybe their backdoor method of beating the system is giving people a truer look at potential outcomes.

Now to go back in history to a time when our forests were in desperate condition from overcutting and other exploitation, we entered a time of preservation of our forest areas. In the late 1800's New York State enacted a constitutional amendment to protect as "forever wild" many thousands of acres of once treed land so it could return to being treed. In a nutshell, the "forever wild" principle has worked, and we now have wonderfully forested hills and mountains. Add to the state-protected lands all the abandoned farms in the region, and we now have way more forested land than at any time in our European settlers' time here. People flock to the Catskills and Adirondacks for the beauty and aesthetics of the forest land here. Add to this still more. At this time, private forested lands can still be managed for timber, recreation and the like. The "forever wild" lands are still forever wild (maybe a bone of contention in its own right).

We are in the midst of a supposed "climate crisis" and there is increased scrutiny of carbon production as carbon dioxide is a major greenhouse gas that traps incoming solar radiation in the form of infrared. Infrared is heat radiated from earth that trapped near the surface of the earth will raise the temperature of the air in the life zone of the troposphere. One of the best and cleanest methods of sequestering carbon is by growing trees. A great deal of the carbon being released into the atmosphere is from burning coal that is made of plant-life trapped eons ago below ground and morphed into a burnable fuel. The rest of the fossil fuel "roster" is made up of oil and natural gas that are the end products of plant and animal remains decaying at depth and "morphing" into fuel that can be pumped from the depths of the earth. Those remains were carbon-based and preserved buried deep in the earth. In other words, coal, oil and natural gas are made of stored carbon that has not been needed for the safe and efficient function of the living earth. By burning it, we are releasing carbon that present life forms do not and cannot exist in safely.

Trees and other green plants take a great deal of carbon out of the atmosphere to put on mass as they grow. Trees are long-lived enough to be the most effective of sequesterers. If there is not a true "climate crisis", why bother with any discussion at all? Let me put out a viewpoint I have been working on since reading more on the "crisis". A faction of physicists and meteorologists are bucking the "norm" on

the existence of a crisis with our climate. It is widely known and accepted that temperatures have fluctuated over the past geologic periods. Current research says that according to geological and archeological records, we are in a fairly low carbon dioxide period historically. As humans look back at their history on earth, there have been ice ages and periods of warmth that have made life somewhat difficult given the level of shelter being used. People could migrate as climate changed enough to make life unlivable. If they didn't move, they would struggle to survive in either hot or cold conditions. The nomadic lifestyle of our ancestors made dealing with climate changes simpler. Just get out and move to a more suitable location. Today's civilizations are much less nomadic and more prone to stay in one locale for most of their lives. Our population distribution is such that if it got much cooler, there would not be enough space for all to move to a more suitable climate. The same is true if the climate warms. Now to the issue at hand.

The widespread cutting of our forests can reduce our ability to slow what carbon release is occurring. Even if we are not in a climate crisis caused by carbon emissions, we are still releasing tons of carbon dioxide, which is a greenhouse gas, into an ever-warming environment. Here is where I move to the side of forest retention and maintenance. With our life choices, lack of mobility and energy consumption levels, we should be doing anything we can to slow warming within our living parameters. Our infrastructure cannot withstand too much more warmth being trapped in the troposphere. Anything we can do to reduce the ability of the lower atmosphere to trap infrared, the better it will be for our societies and slow the warming as it is occurring. Urban areas are especially subject to increased heat entrapment. Most, if not all, people cannot pick up their lives and move to a more suitable climate.

Simply stating that carbon dioxide is not the cause of our climate warming is not enough as we cannot sustain much more warming and remain healthy. Anything we do, including sequestering carbon, relying on wind or moving water or developing solar farms, will help to slow the impact of carbon increasing in the atmosphere. Fossil fuels are the major source of released carbon, so anything we can do to reduce their uses will, in the long run, benefit our society. Thus, do the wise thing and work with solar energy production in a sensible manner while still maintaining the integrity of our forests.

The controversy now becomes clearer as we see the conflict of growing trees for whatever reason, be it for timber, beauty or just to have the aesthetic of the forest or placing solar farms on lands that are timbered. The question becomes: Does the forest sequester enough carbon to make cutting them to put in a solar farm a win-win situation? Will making electric from solar farms on what was once a forest do more to alleviate our carbon problem? These questions have not been adequately answered and any action regarding solar collection would be ill-advised. I am not even getting into putting solar farms on agricultural land. That is another story completely.

What are alternatives to cutting trees for solar farms? Number one is answering these questions: Is the northeast suitable for massive solar farms, or should we be more creative in the northeast? With much of the northeast having a “cloudy” season where existing solar producers cannot meet their client’s needs, is there truly an efficient, widespread source for “northeast solar?” Should local municipalities maximize the location of solar panels on existing buildings or other manmade structures like parking lots or medians on highways. Keep in mind that any electric created from anything other than fossil fuels is a bonus for our society. Foreign countries have successfully installed solar panels along highways and medians as well as on buildings in communities. Realize that any solar captured is a victory for atmospheric carbon reduction.

I am not writing this to make a political statement or say that I know more than most people, but I am putting information and ideas out there so each of us can make or help make sensible decisions regarding our forestlands and energy future. I will go out on a limb and say outright that cutting trees to build solar collectors is almost oxymoronic, as trees are some of the best solar collectors ever evolved on the earth, and they carry out the main process of converting sunlight into usable energy ever designed by nature. Each of us has an obligation to conserve as much power as we can and do our best to support viable alternatives for power production. We should become educated on what is reasonable and proper for a region and what safe alternatives are.

My hope is that through this message, each of us thinks more completely about our energy future and takes steps that fit our decisions to conserve our resources. If you have ideas regarding the issues discussed here, use your influence and support the energy medium of your choice.

It’s all good in the woods.

Hoarding Trees

By: Ryan Trapani, *Director of Forest Services*

Wikipedia defines hoarding disorder as a “persistent difficulty in parting with possessions and engaging in excessive acquisition of items that are not needed or for which no space is available. This results in severely cluttered living spaces, distress, and impairment in personal, family, social, educational, occupational, or other important areas of functioning.” In early July, I took my 8-year-old son deep inside the Slide Mountain Wilderness area of the Catskill Mountains for an overnight stay. This section is one of “Dad’s secret spots”, as my kids say. I’ve been going to this section since 2004 for 22 years; A good chunk of time for sure. Never did I think as a 23-year-old, that someday bushwhacking through the ferns and beech whips, and splashing in the clear cold mountain plunge-pools would be one of my kids. It seems one thing we humans and trees share is change and an urge to regenerate ourselves. This article will mainly focus on change.

Some things have changed since 2004 quite a bit, while others not so much. Rock formations, slope, and the streams themselves haven’t changed too much, although some of the vegetation surrounding them has. I’ll get to that later. Since this is the forest preserve, human influences have been next to nil. If solitude is something you’re seeking—which we were—then this is still the place. Camping pressure in this section has increased a little bit. Back in ’04, I never saw anyone back there. A couple of years ago, I saw a party of 5 or 6 Europeans camped out. They would have walked past me if I didn’t say “hello.” The advent of GPS has made accessibility to these remote areas easier; Formerly, they were restricted to those who wielded a map and compass or had years of forest familiarity. In any case, I wanted my son to experience the challenge of scaling an off-trail mountain but also enjoy the walk too. In other words, I didn’t want it so hard that he equated hiking with misery. I have to say, I had my doubts in places, watching his little head bob and weave through dense beech and birch.

Forest Drag

“It wasn’t always like this,” I told him. As soon as I said this, I

realized he must be thinking, “Well, that doesn’t matter now.” But it wasn’t. Walking was easier 22 years ago. Back then, the forest just wasn’t as thick. I mean, beech bark disease has been a royal pain in the ass for decades now. I’ve heard from older hikers how much easier bushwhacking was back in the day before this disease really got going. Beech bark disease involves both a scale insect and two fungi that slowly kill older beech trees. As they succumb to the disease, they send up root suckers that create “whips” whose sharp buds can really take your eye out or just hinder your forward progress and obstruct your view through the forest. Many of the mid-slopes contained these pesky stands of beech whips. Stands of mature oak or sugar maple were favored since both lacked mid-stories due to the lack of beech bark disease. We’ll see how the newly arriving beech leaf disease deals with the decrepit beech trees ushering through the area.

Along the streams is something we all knew would arrive at some point: The hemlock woolly adelgid. Before this guy arrived, stream-sides were—in my view—the best place to be in these mountains. One could walk easily along their dark, cool borders with little effort, since hemlocks shade out any other plant from regenerating. They also create a nice, soft forest floor of needles that is perfect for pitching a tent or laying a sleeping bag. Fishermen know how important hemlock are to keeping water cool and well-oxygenated for the New York State fish—the brook trout—which is highly sought after for its beauty and taste. It sure is a symbol of New York’s deep, dark wooded mountain streams.

Unfortunately, the hemlock woolly adelgid—a sap-sucking insect from Asia—is having its way with these hemlocks, despite their remote location. As these hemlocks die, two annoying things occur. One is that they drop a considerable amount of deadwood or twigs and branches. The other is that black birch begins to grow in. Black birch has a light seed and is wind-disseminated. Birch is shade-tolerant and deer don’t prefer to eat it, giving birch a competitive advantage over other seedlings. Walking in these declining hemlock stands is now a chore through the birch. One area was so dense that getting to a particular spot on the stream just wasn’t worth revisiting, at least for many years. Many areas

of the Slide Mountain Wilderness area are reverting to black birch. Nothing really against the tree itself, except that it doesn't offer shade to streams year-round, and has little wildlife value. Its wood isn't too bad, but that's a moot point in the forest preserve anyway.

Other changes in the forest are the oak trees, which continue to decline as well. Oak trees—being a nut tree—are medium in their shade-tolerance. Over time, they get crowded out by more shade-tolerant trees like black birch, sugar and red maple. The oak trees that exist in this old forest are a distant legacy of farm abandonment or even fires, perhaps dating back to the bark peelers or tanning industry, which left many hemlock trees on the forest floor that may have been ignited afterwards. Some could trace their beginnings to fires lit by indigenous people. Who knows? I have found charcoal on the forest floor. The other negative change has been the ash tree. All the mature ash trees have mostly succumbed to the emerald ash borer sweeping through the area since the 2010s.

Most of the bushwhacking was therefore dense, whether through beech or birch. Hay-scented fern on the forest floor also grabbed at your ankles and turned Tanner's (my son) shoes green, which he was fairly amused by. Fern is a good indicator of two significant things: over deer browse and/or "selective cutting." Since deer don't like to eat fern, they seem to do well compared to others. Also, when the forest canopy is lightly opened by "selective" cutting, it seems to really foster its abundance.

Sugar Maple—So Far So Good

The only areas that were easy to walk around were old growth sugar maple stands and abandoned pastures from the early 20th century. The latter may be a consequence of compacted soil due to grazing or plowing back in the day limiting plant growth, but it's hard to say. The former—or old growth sugar maple stands—serves to me as the healthiest aspect the forest preserve has to offer, from a forested point of view. Sugar maple stands—to date—when growing on well-drained sites, seem in great shape. Since it is a long-lived shade-tolerant tree, it is standing the test of time

with basically no human dependency. The same cannot be said for disturbance-dependent trees or plants like oak, hickory, black cherry, blueberry, etc.

Don't Sugar Coat It

I couldn't help but think just how poor condition these forests are in. Did I just not see this in my 20s? Maybe they were not as bad back then, but surely there were signs. Maybe I have changed since then, and my view was more romantic? Ignorance sure is bliss in some instances. Obviously, these forests are dealing with the consequences of an extremely globalized trading system that benefits us by bringing goods we want; Unfortunately, it also brings some devastating diseases. However, these forests are also "ripe" or primed for sickness, since they are so darn dense and starving for sunlight. My neighbor tells me how they used to drive their car up one of those mountains. It's hard to believe with all the dead trees falling apart, but the old culverts tell me it happened. Passing through the remnants of old farms that are now mature forest or passing old bark trails used by the barkpeelers from the mid-19th century, or the logging trails used by loggers as recent as the 1960s in places, or finding charcoal hidden under a duff layer and perhaps a remnant of Mountain Americans or even indigenous people, reminds me that this density is something perhaps unprecedented. This hoarding of trees—whether inside the forest preserve or in one's yard—surely makes for more quantity, but at the expense of quality. The forest preserve differs in that it is the OG of this hoarding. It's where hoarding really started, legislatively. It's 19th century hoarding that told all the other hoarders on private land and beyond, that it's okay to be a hoarder. It's not okay. It's not working. There are aspects that I still love about the forest preserve, such as the solitude it offers, the challenge in orienteering, or the beautiful views of distant valleys or brook-trout filled streams. But sugar-coating has never been my thing.

Rustling Leaves, Running Deer

By: Jen Betz, *Forest Process Efficiency Coordinator*

The smell of early fallen maple leaves is a greeting when I walk out to the barn to feed animals in the mornings here at the farm. Crisp, distinct, and a harbinger of the upcoming season. Red maples have already started to change, and they are vibrant spots in the tapestry of hillsides. By the time this is published, many more will be showcasing their colors. It's the time of year I start to spend more time in the woods, walking or riding along the log roads, observing, pre-deer hunting, more of a general check-in with the forest. We plant Legacy Trees in the fall, and it's a great time to observe the land when we are at our members' property. Trees down, new growth, water paths, cool rocks, and animal activity are all things I focus on. This year, I have been checking on how the logging on my land has progressed. Lots of new browse available from the cut tops that litter the woods, new log roads, existing log roads improved, and time spent getting used to the changes. I kick up deer occasionally and get glimpses of white tail flags running away from me. In summer, the deer tend to meander, grazing, not really a lollygag or a dilly-dally but just less intention. In the fall, I see them going back to their habits. Certain paths they travel on, where they can find water, food, and safety, already in early rut. It's like they make their rounds.

I like to check my hunting locations, paths, and look at my "shooting lanes" - those clear views from my travel paths. I listen to the rustle of leaves, my mind quiets, and it's peaceful. I sometimes come back to the house with rocks, unique shaped pieces of wood, turkey feathers, it depends. They go in places of honor, nestled on bookshelves, where I can see them – a reminder of the forest. Mother Nature is getting ready for colder temps. The nettles no longer have flowers; they are not quite as tall. The ferns have started to crisp and are tired looking, and the deciduous trees will be dormant come winter.

Right now, it smells of in-between. That is the best way I can describe it. Summer is leaving, and fall is arriving. I can smell the moss and fungus, the wet and damp, the slight scent of the hemlocks, the leaves are starting to get less sun. As fall progresses, the air smells crisper and more distinct. The volunteer apples have ripened,

some already on the ground and hoof marks from deer are present. Chipmunks and squirrels getting ready for the winter, carrying their finds. I see glimpses of the fox that lives up behind my pond, fauns have lost their spots and are still doing zoomies in my upper field most evenings. The bears tend to move across the valley to the red oaks, and I don't see them as often. I look for signs of bucks, their antlers distinctive. Soon it will be hunting season. The forest and woods are not silent, they speak of the coming season, you just have to spend some time amongst the trees. I hope you can spend some time as I do, you will be glad you did.



One of the Author's Favorite Rocks, Otto Hill Farm, Cold Spring Hollow- Huckleberry Brook



One of the Author's Favorite Rocks, Otto Hill Farm, Cold Spring Hollow- Huckleberry Brook

American Larch: More than just a Stick in the Mud

By: Erik Heidenfelder, *Education Forester*

As the fall of 2026 approaches, I'm anticipating the arrival of the bright oranges and reds of the maples, the yellows of the birch, hickory and aspen, and the rich browns and purples of the oak. My favorite change though, comes later in the fall season. After most hardwood leaves have dulled and fallen, the tamarack turn into bright gold spires against the grays of late fall.

The American larch, or tamarack, are deciduous conifers. Their reproductive structures are cones (conifer) and they lose their foliage in the dormant season (deciduous). The American larch normally reside in boggy areas of Northern latitudes, having one of the most northerly ranges of any tree. In contrast, the larger European larch and Japanese larch grow in well-drained uplands and are common on artificially reforested government land and old quarries and railway beds. Common associates of the larch are black spruce, red maple, lowbush cranberry, and carnivorous pitcher plants.



Some have called the larch a “stick in the mud” because of the trees’ bare appearance in the winter and its typical boggy growing conditions. In fact, losing its needles for the dormant season is a “clever” adaptation; evergreen needles can be browsed or damaged due to extreme cold. The tamaracks’ ability to withstand adverse conditions inspired me to integrate them as a windbreak at my family’s land in Schoharie County, to great success.

During the early summer of 2024, I scoured bogs and peatlands in the Northern Adirondacks to collect young larch cones, harvesting seeds. I then returned to those very same bogs in early November of that same year to collect the small purple cones of the black spruce trees, growing alongside the larch on small mounds of peat moss. Trekking through a peat bog in the fall is an extremely unique visual experience; the trees are very old but stunted and only attain heights of 10-20 feet. The black water of the bog contrasts strikingly with the yellow of the larch, deep forest green of the spruce, and the bright red of the cranberry shrubs.



Black spruce/tamarack bog (Franklin County, NY) in early fall 2024

Meet *Fibroporia Albicans*, It's New Here

By: Giovanna D'Angelo, *Education Forester*

If you've never been to a fungal foray... imagine an intensive three-day structured summer camp where you eat, sleep, and breathe mushrooms. If you're at all gripped by the fascinations of fungi like me, it's the ideal environment to soak up as much as you can and completely nerd out.

And so, on a recent trip to Pennsylvania for the annual Northeast Mycological Federation Foray (NEMF), I struck my very own mushroom gold in the forest. On the hunt for specimens to take back to the identification tables for recording and DNA sampling, my foraging group pulled over to a random spot I picked from a map in Michaux State Forest. It ended up being the most fruitful spot of the whole weekend. Not only did I enter into a forest of spindly *Clavulinopsis*, but soon, I was on my hands and knees excavating a parasitized pupal corpse hosting the fruiting body of *Cordyceps militaris* (see below).



Left: Giovanna holding *Cordyceps militaris* Right: A close up of the parasitized pupa and fungi

As beautiful basidio- treasures kept being discovered, my group hit a flow state of finding one wildly interesting mushroom after the next, many of which I'd never personally seen before. The more fungi we found, the more drawn in I was. This particular tract of forest was nothing short of breathtaking. I mean that as someone who is lucky enough to be in countless different forests every week. Our foraging spot ran parallel with an off-flow creek from Long Pine Run Reservoir, a man-made 70-acre mountain reservoir of some of the coldest water I've ever swam in. The creek had "steam fog" continuously rolling off

of it that gave the whole scene a dream-like quality. The allure of the fungi was so great to me that on more than one occasion, I left a pile of my things in a heap as I kept walking to the next organism that caught my eye. Then the next, and the next until I was deeper into the forest and rid of most of the possessions I had come with.

It was at one of those points that I was pulled in by the sight of a larger bolete mushroom on a well decayed stump next to the stream. It was a distance away underneath a tangle of rhododendron bushes. So, I got on my stomach and crawled my way in, positioning myself right on the crest of the embankment between the stump and the flow. It was there I first noticed the flat, white, sheet of a fungal body peeking out of the stump. I shouted out to my friend, Emma Richter, a Maine-based amateur mycologist and president of the Maine Mycological Association. She serves as an officer of NEMF and has spent the past four years studying and collecting crust fungi, which she documents through field photography and writing. I pulled on one edge of the fungus like a tab, intending to collect some of the tissue to bring back to the ID tables for DNA sequencing and vouchering. Like dried Elmer's glue on a messy child's hand, the whole fungus peeled up in one unbroken piece from every rounded crevice it had grown into. Pretty soon I was holding this alien blob, looking to Emma for her to throw some kind of name out as to what it might be. No one I was with had any clue. Neither did anyone later on once back at the ID tables. I got the specimen set up with a label, field notes, and an iNaturalist observation. As a part of the vouchering team for this year's foray, I made sure to photograph my specimen with its slip and move it down the line to have a sample taken for DNA sequencing. The whole drive back from PA, curiosity stirred in me as to what I had found.

Fast-forward a few weeks as DNA sequencing takes some time to be processed through Steve Russell's lab. I'm alerted by a text from Emma, "Did you see?" I knew immediately what it had to be that she was referring to so I opened up where the observation lived and breathed in my phone. A name and DNA sequence stared back at me where there had been a broad "*Basidiomycota*" before. *Fibroporia albicans*. I looked for other observations of this species so I could compare, but there were none. Next stop was iNaturalist to see if there were any observations. Nothing there too. I looked it up and saw that the type specimen was

listed as being from China. The type specimen, in short, is the first observed and documented specimen of the species, i.e. golden standard. My mind started swimming. What could this mean? Is it possible that I made the first documented observation from the Americas? Is that even a big deal or am I just having a fangirl moment as a mushroom amateur?



Above: *Fibroporia albicans* photographed by Emma Richter



Above: Close up shot of the fertile, poroid surface shot by Emma Richter

Without further hesitation, here is everything I know so far about my mystery fungus, *Fibroporia albicans*. It's a relatively new described fungus from 2015 in China by B.K. Cui & Yuan Y. Chen. It's a brown rot poroid fungus, poroid referring to the fertile surface of the specimen being a pore layer, that has been found on rotted stumps belonging to the *Pinus* genus or pine trees. Based on its molecular phylogeny, its closest species relation is *Fibroporia citrina*, which is a European species that is also seemingly under documented. The genus *Fibroporia* has eight known species, only one of which is well documented in the United States, *Fibroporia radiculosa*.

All that being said (and all that not being very much), there's still plenty to be discovered about this species and its whole genus. While my find isn't a new species to science, it is one that is range-expanding with a barcode novel to the Americas. I feel lucky to have found something unique to bring back to the foray tables that no one had seen before, and I'm excited to contribute to the ever-changing, elusive pursuit of unveiling more and more about the fungal kingdom. Cheers to a rainy summer, keeping your eyes wide, and not being afraid to commando crawl for your prize.



Above: *Fibroporia albicans* photographed by Emma Richter



Above: *Fibroporia albicans* in the decayed stump before being removed for collection, shot with flash by Giovanna D'Angelo

2025-2026 CFA Scholarship Recipients ESF College Foundation

*Nichole Connal
Ferndale, NY
Sustainable Resources Management
Natural Resources Management, 2027*

*Marshall LaPierre
Delhi, NY
Sustainable Resources Management
Forest Resources Management, 2029*

*Jon Child
Morris, NY
Sustainable Resources Management
Forest Ecosystem Science, 2027*

*Faith Wheeler
Sidney, NY
Sustainable Resources Management
Forest Resources Management, 2026*



A Find For the Books!



This incredible giant puffball, *Calvatia gigantea*, was found by Kris McShane in New Paltz, New York in Ulster County. This beast is the largest any of us at the office have ever laid eyes on but it's nowhere near the record size which clocks in from Canada at 8ft 8in and over 48lbs! Still, it's quite the show-stopper and we're glad to have seen it. Thanks Kris!

2026 Events

Sep 19 ***Fruit Tree Planting Demo + Plant Sale
w/ Barkaboom Native + The Forest Exchange***

Oct 3 ***CFA Annual Membership Meeting***

Oct 10 ***Mushroom Log Inoculation Workshop***

Oct 25 ***Morning Wild Mushroom Woods Walk with
John Michelotti***

Oct 25 ***Afternoon Wild Mushroom Woods Walk
with John Michelotti***

Nov 13 ***CFA Speaker Series: Brown to White -
Identifying Bald Eagles as they Mature***

Dec 5 ***CFA Wreath-Making Workshop***

Visit catskillforest.org/events for more information.

Programs & Services

Learn more at catskillforest.org/programs

<u>Program</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Time</u>
Consultations	One-hour property visits by field staff to help you learn about what your property holds	All Year
Apple Tree Pruning	Pruning helps keep apple trees healthy and improves quality and quantity of yields	Jan - April
Apple Tree Grafting	A horticultural technique to help bring old, neglected trees back to fruition	April - May
Forest Bird Program	High-Nesting Bird Boxes for ducks, owls, etc. and/or Canopy Bird Feeders that protect against squirrels & bears	All Year
Forest Farming Program	Use agroforestry to manage your property affordably & sustainably by learning to cultivate non-timber forest products	Spring + Fall
Invasive Species Management	Care for trees against invasive insects, and care for forests against invasive plants	May - Sept.
Portable Sawmill Program	A state-of-the-art portable sawmill brought directly to your property to mill your logs to lumber, on the spot	Spring - Fall
Tree Care: Cabling	Preserving large-sized individual trees with structural defects	Spring - Fall
Tree Care: Structural Pruning	Improve tree structure by establishing a dominant leader	Spring - Fall
Legacy Tree Program	Prime placement for up to 2 trees on your property and education about proper planting and installation	Spring - Fall
Wildlife Habitat Management	Forestry practices to help improve your woodlot for wildlife	All Year

CFA Business



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Member Spotlight

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THE UPLANDS

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MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Become a member at www.catskillforest.org/membership or send a check/cash with this application to:
Catskill Forest Association, Inc. PO Box 336, Arkville, NY 12406.

NAME: _____

MAILING ADDRESS: _____

PROPERTY ADDRESS: _____

PHONE: _____ EMAIL: _____

TOTAL ACRES: _____ FORESTED ACRES: _____ POND ☐ STREAM ☐ RIVER ☐

CATEGORIES (PLEASE CIRCLE)

BASIC (\$75)	CONTRIBUTING (\$175)
Events free or discounted; CFA News Subscription; CFA Member Property Sign; Access to CFA Programs	SAME AS BASIC + 10% Discount on Services;
BUSINESS (\$200)	SUSTAINING (\$500)
SAME AS BASIC + 5% Discount on Services; CFA Website Listing; Email Referral Advertisements; Free Booth at Forest Festival	SAME AS BASIC + 15% Discount on Services;

ADDITIONAL DONATIONS

GENERAL OPERATING FUND	\$
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Total Amount: \$ _____