



Muskingum River Woodland Interest Group

www.MRWIG.org

Officers

President: Tim Mason
Vice President: Lori Totman
Treasurer: Dave Fryman
Secretary: Vacant

“Meeting the needs of woodland owners with activities and education”

November 2023

From the President – Tim Mason

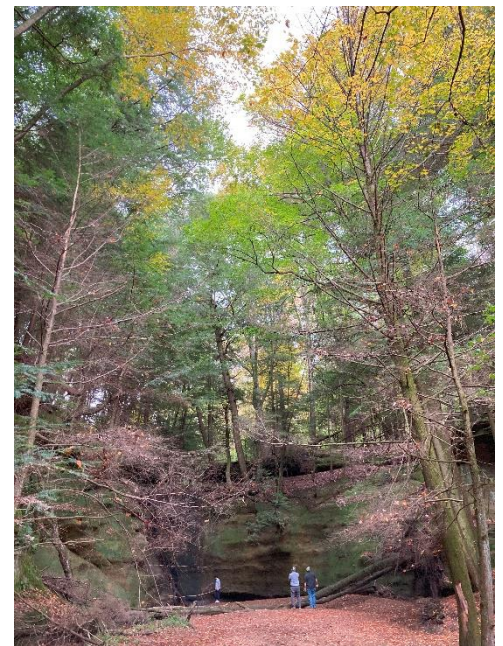
As the autumn season progresses and the wind and rain cause the woodland leaf collage to fall to the ground and the droves of vehicular “leaf peepers” are no longer found on the backroads and byways, we now turn our interests to other pursuits.

A walk in the woods following leaf drop allows the fortunate participant an up-close and personal experience of this new but short-term woodland gallery. The kaleidoscope of colors on the forest floor offers such a unique visual experience, a treat to the eyes for certain. These deep reds, golds, yellows, oranges and russets scattered with the occasional glimpse of green and white from striped wintergreen and rattlesnake plantain create a palette, that is the envy of any Monet admirer.

For those who understand the biology behind this annual phenomenon we call autumn, it serves as a reminder of the unique power of the natural world. A close inspection of a sugar maple leaf, a unique shade of yellow that serves as the background for splashes of reds and oranges, causes one to marvel when they remember that those brilliant colors were present throughout the growing season, masked only by the “veil” of chlorophyll.

As a woodland owner we realize that this changing world of color leads to a time of change in the physiology of our valuable timber resource. Experience tells us that this time of change will result with a springtime change of rebirth and renewed growth.

Change, “the act or instance of making or becoming different.” Change is inevitable, sometimes change is good, maybe it is concerning and possibly frightening. Changing jobs can lead to new responsibilities and challenges. A change in address can lead to new challenges but creates the possibility of new friends, new cultures, and traditions of your chosen community. Making the change from employed to retired offers its own set of emotions, anticipation,



challenges, and opportunities. But just as the summer oak leaves explode into shades of yellow, gold, brown and russet taking on the rich tones of well-aged leather as the fall season progresses, change is inevitable.

So it is that change happens within our personal lives, our government, communities, and organizations. Muskingum River Woodland Interest Group is not immune to the inevitable change. This is a season of change in the leadership for MRWIG. Lori Totman has made the decision to step down as MRWIG vice president to embrace the personal change, as she enters the world of retirement. Tim Mason, likewise, is stepping down as MRWIG president. Both having served MRWIG for many years, it is time for change and with that, new leadership and direction for the group.

New officers will be elected at the annual meeting on 14 November. MRWIG has a long history of educating woodland owners, keeping members current on changes in the forest landscape and sharing ideas that makes owning and managing a wooded property a little easier.

We are asking our membership that you consider stepping up and accepting the opportunity to lead this group. The role of president and vice president will require your participation in development and planning of educational meetings, keeping members current in the changes that occur conducting meetings and communicating with members through newsletter articles. We are also looking to fill the position of secretary (a recorder so to speak), a position that assists with the planning and development of educational meetings, organizing newsletter articles and recording notes from meetings.

Please consider changing your status from member to that of a member leader. Lori and Tim will be available to assist with the transition. The MRWIG has a plethora of natural resource professionals who will work with you to facilitate meetings, assist with lining up guest speakers, help plan group functions and educational opportunities.

We are looking forward to a season of new growth, continued programming and change for the future of MRWIG.



“Acts of creation are ordinarily reserved for gods and poets, but humbler folk may circumvent this restriction if they know how. To plant a pine, for example, one need neither be god or poet; one need only own a shovel. By virtue of this curious loophole in the rules, any clodhopper may say: Let there be a tree – and there will be one.”

Aldo Leopold, A Sand County Almanac and Sketches Here and There

As the season of autumn gives way to winter, a change of seasons, consider accepting the challenge of a leadership role and “planting your tree” in MRWIG.

Respectfully Submitted,

Tim Mason
MRWIG President

Muskingum Woodland Interest Group

Annual Banquet - Registration



MRWIG will hold the annual meeting **Tuesday, November 14, 2023, at 6pm**, at the Zane State College Natural Resources Center, 5185 Newark Road, Zanesville, OH 43701.

Greg Guess Assistant Chief of the ODNR Division of Forestry will be our guest speaker presenting a program on the White Oak Initiative and techniques landowners can utilize to promote and enhance oak regeneration and growth.

The MRWIG Officers will be grilling pork chops and chicken and asking members to bring their favorite side dish to share. Drinks and tableware will be provided. Weather permitting, the event will take place in the pavilion where we will be grilling and having a fire. Dress for the weather.

We will once again be holding a silent auction to raise funds to assist with Camp Canopy sponsorship. Be sure to bring items for the auction table and don't leave your bidding spirit at home.

Among the important agenda items to be addressed is the election of officers. We will be electing officers for the position of President, Vice-President, and Secretary. Please consider running for one of these positions.

Send your registration form to:

MRWIG C/O Dave Fryman – Truck One
PO Box 4070
Newark, Ohio 43058-4070
Phone: 740-403-3757

Registration deadline is November 10, 2023. RSVP required, contact Dave Fryman.

MRWIG Annual Meeting Registration:

Name: _____

Email: _____

Address: _____

I would like to run for the position of: President _____ Vice-President _____ Secretary _____

I would like to join/renew MRWIG (\$10)

I would like to register for the November 14th MRWIG annual banquet (\$5/person)

Total Included: \$ _____

If you plan to pay at the meeting, you still need to RSVP with Dave Fryman.

Cash or **Checks payable to MRWIG.**