



LEWIS COUNTY FARM FORESTRY ASSOCIATION

Affiliated Chapter of Washington Farm Forestry Association

What: Annual LCFFA Picnic and Twilight Tour of the Madsen Tree Farm

Who: Sam & Sharon Madsen

Where: Across the road from 486 Coal Creek Road, Chehalis

When: Tuesday, July 18, 2017

NOTE TIMES: Tour starts at 4:00 pm; Potluck starts at 6:30 pm

The Coal Creek Tree Farm is a 468 acre property owned by Sam, Sharon, and daughter, Emily Madsen. They acquired the property in 2010, but are probably better known to local tree farmers as the supplier of STHIL chain saws and other power tools through their store, Madsen's Shop and Supply, Inc.

The Coal Creek Tree Farm is comprised of a 400-acre forest of 25 to 30 year old Douglas Fir reprod and a 40-acre natural forest with mixed species that is 70 plus years old.

Since acquiring the property, The Madsen's have remediated two old coal mines, built and improved over four miles of road, installed two fish-friendly creek crossings, developed an extensive trail system, and thinned hundreds of acres of their plantation. They are currently in the process in rehabbing several areas of the tree farm where stocking levels were low and adding to the road system.

Details on the Tour: The Madsen's tree farm is large, the tour will be by vehicle rather than walking. Because of the steepness of the roads, 4WD vehicles are needed, so we'll be riding in the back of pickups or a trailer. Please arrive promptly as it will be difficult to follow the route once the parade of trucks has departed. If you can't make it to the tour because of the early starting time, come by 6:15 for a brief summary of the tree farm before the picnic.

Details on the Potluck: LCFFA will provide fried chicken, beverages, and tableware.

Please bring a vegetable, salad, or dessert to share. We have seating for 60 people, but if it is convenient to bring a lawn chair for yourself, please do so.

Driving Directions: In Chehalis, from National Avenue, just south of where it splits into the one-way by Sunbirds, turn on to Coal Creek Road. Go 1.4 miles and turn left into the tree farm entrance where you will see various signs confirming that you are at a tree farm. A short distance up the road there is an intersection where you will take the middle road of 3 and continue to the picnic site. It is a good gravel road, but using 4WD will help prevent washboards. Please use 4x4 if your vehicle is equipped.

In Memoriam

We have lost a great friend and strong advocate for forestry with the passing of Steve Webster on June 18. For 30 years, ever since he began as a Forestry Extension Agent in 1987, Steve shared his knowledge with hundreds of people who, like him, were trying to manage their forests well. In his job, he interacted with people in Lewis County, Southwest Washington, and the entire state. Locally, he was a pillar of the Lewis County Farm Forestry Association, serving as secretary for the 16 years while he was an Extension Agent, as President, and as an honorary Board Member to the present day. As well as helping people individually, he shared his expertise on many LCFFA Twilight Tours, regularly offered ideas for programs for LCFFA, visited and photographed many award winner's tree farms, organized seminars, and helped with school tours on tree farms. He will be greatly missed!



A graveside service for Steve will be held at 11AM, Saturday July 8th at Claquato Cemetery, 142 Stearns Rd., Chehalis, under the arrangements of Newell-Hoerling Mortuary, Centralia. Following the service, a lunch will be held at the Lincoln Creek Grange Hall, 1500 Lincoln Creek Road. In lieu of flowers the family requests that any memorial donations be made to the Centralia College Foundation Distinguished Alumnus Scholarship Fund - Centralia College Foundation, 600 Centralia College Blvd., Centralia, WA 98531-4099, 360-623-8942.

Upcoming Meetings

Tuesday August 15: LCFFA Tour of Chuck Higgins' Salzer Valley Tree Farm

Saturday August 19: Forest Owners Field Day, near Oakville. Details will follow.

Tuesday September 19: Chain saw safety & maintenance by Stihl Northwest