

AGENDA

8:30-9:00	Registration	11:50-12:00	Incorporation of Drones into the Forest Management Toolbox for Private Woodlot Owners Jamie Ring, Forest Modelling Specialist NS Dept. of Natural Resources
9:00-9:05	Opening Remarks Stephen Freeman, Regional Forester NS Dept. of Natural Resources		
9:05-9:10	Moment of Silence- Harold Alexander Patricia Amero, General Manager Western Woodlot Services Co-op	12:00-1:00	Lunch Break
9:10-9:30	Welcoming Remarks and Department Update Suzanne Ley, Associate Deputy Minister NS Dept. of Natural Resources	1:00-1:05	Afternoon Welcome Municipality of Clare
9:30-9:50	2025 Western Woodland Owner of the Year Glen Rosse Woodland Owner	1:05-1:25	Turbulence in Nova Scotia Forestry - Fixing the Things We Can Control Todd Burgess, Executive Director Forest Nova Scotia
9:50-10:10	Mi'kmaw Forestry Initiative Sherilyn Young, Consultation Project Support Officer Coordinator, Kwilmu'kw Maw-klusuaqn	1:25-1:45	What's Under Your Feet: Resources, Regulations and Rights Fred Bonner, P. Geo., FGC Professional Geoscientist
10:10-10:30	Wildlife Impact Associated with Larger Wildfire Events Sarah Vascotto, Provincial Regulatory Affairs Biologist NS Dept. of Natural Resources	1:45-2:05	The Evolution of a Forestry Contractor Working on Small Private Woodlots Brian Thomas, Owner-Operator North Range Forest Products
10:30-10:50	Nutritional & Stretch Break	2:05-2:25	Stretch & Networking Break
10:50-11:10	ASF Programs and Biodiversity Scott Maston, RPF Association for Sustainable Forestry	2:25-2:45	Ticks and Tick Borne Diseases Dr. Rim Zayed, Regional Medical Officer of Health, Western Zone, NS Public Health
11:10-11:30	Forest Soil Health Assessment & Extension Program (ForestSHARE) for Private Woodland Owners in NS Caitlin McCavour, PhD student, Dalhousie Faculty of Agriculture	2:45-3:05	Nova Scotia Working Woodlands Trust Mary Jane Rodger, MFC, RPF, Executive Director Nova Scotia Working Woodlands Trust
11:30-11:50	FireSmart Programs Ken Cox, Wildfire Prevention Officer NS Department of Natural Resources	3:05	Wrap up & Prize Draws



SPONSORS



The Woodland Conferences 2026



Western Woodland Conference
Saturday, April 11, 2026
Weymouth, Nova Scotia



Organized by:



Private Woodland Owners



Are you a forestry professional? Continuing Forestry Education (CFE) credit hours assigned to this conference are: Morning Session= 2.5 hrs x 3 = 7.5 Cat 1 Credits; Afternoon Session = 1.66 hrs x 3 = 5 Cat 1 Credits; Total Cat 1 CFE for conference = 12.5 Cat 1 Credits

Note: The Woodland Conferences are public events during which photos and video will be taken to document the events and for promotional purposes. If you do not wish your photo/video taken, you must **opt-out** before the morning break at the registration desk.