



Foresters for the Birds: Helping Conservation-Minded Landowners Manage for Birds through Silviculture

When: June 11th, 2019

Where: Yale-Myers Forest, 150 Centre Pike, Eastford, CT 06242

Qualifies for 2 Continuing Education Units (CEUs) under CT Forest Practices Act

7:30 AM **Arrival and registration;** follow signs to workshop. Coffee and donuts provided.

8:00 AM **Welcome, introductions, short overview of Foresters for the Birds**

8:30 AM **Bird walk.** We will go on a short bird walk as an informal introduction or refresher in identifying forest songbirds and their typical habitats.

10:00 AM **Foresters for the Birds: Concepts and Discussion.**

Foresters for the Birds is designed to help foresters serve clients who want their land to provide habitat for a diversity of birds, and/or birds of conservation concern. In the morning presentation and discussion, learn about the program's principles, why it resonates with landowners, and how you can incorporate it into your forest management strategies. The training links various silvicultural techniques to effects on different bird species, and shows how measures prescribed for other management purposes can benefit birds as well. Thus bird habitat can be included as an important forest management objective for landowners.

Presenters: Eric Hansen of Ferrucci & Walicki has several years of experience developing bird-friendly management plans for landowners, based on Audubon's Foresters for the Birds practices developed in Vermont which has now been provided to 80% of the private foresters in that state. Corrie Folsom-O'Keefe is the Director of Bird Conservation for Audubon Connecticut, which has participated in over 100 habitat assessment reports to date. Curtis Rand is the consulting forester for managing Sharon Audubon Center's own forested lands for bird habitat diversity.

11:30 AM **Lunch.** Provided by Audubon Connecticut.

12:30 PM **Timber management with birds in mind: "walking the talk" in the woods.**

Using the CT-specific Foresters for the Birds toolkit supplied in the workshop, we will break into smaller groups and try our skills in the woods. We will visit different timber stands to discuss appropriate silvicultural techniques to apply, if the management objective is either enhanced habitat for a particular bird species or overall bird diversity. Discussions will include ways to diversify forest structure for maximal benefit to birds.

3:00 PM **Wrap-up and farewell.** Foresters interested in partnering with Audubon on "bird-friendly" assessments for landowners are encouraged to keep in touch.

To Register: Contact Eileen Fielding, efielding@audubon.org, 860-364-0520 x120

Sponsored by **Audubon Connecticut, the U.S. Forest Service, and Yale School Forests**