



# Sightline *Express*

## Sightline *Express* – The Latest Tree Farm News

December 2009

### 1. **Happy Holidays from the American Forest Foundation!**

During this holiday season, we would like to thank all of our volunteer inspectors for their generosity in giving their time and energy to help families manage their forests in a more sustainable way. Tree Farm is supported and carried by its volunteers, and we want to thank you for your commitment to the program.

Greatest wishes for a happy holiday season and we look forward to working with you next year!

### 2. **The New Standards for Tree Farm are Here!**

Have you heard? Tree Farm has new Standards. The American Forest Foundation has released the 2010-2015 Standards of Sustainability for Forest Certification. The AFF Standards of Sustainability are a guide for sustainable management and set the requirements for Tree Farmer participation in the program.

2010 will be a transition year in which Tree Farmers are asked to update their practices (including management plans and the management on the ground) to the 2010-2015 Standards. Also, all Tree Farm inspectors must be trained to the new Standards by December 31, 2010.

The 2010-2015 Standards are available online on the Tree Farm website. Please visit [www.treefarmssystem.org](http://www.treefarmssystem.org) and click on "Certification" to learn more about the new Standards.

### 3. **New Training will be Available**

New inspector training courses, both online and classroom workshops, will be available in 2010. Current inspectors are welcome to take either the online course or participate in a classroom workshop, and both will be available in the first quarter of 2010. Look for more information to come from your State Tree Farm Committee!

To take the online training course in 2010, please contact your state Tree Farm administrator for an ID and login password. The contact information for your state's administrator can be found on the Tree Farm website, [www.treefarmssystem.org](http://www.treefarmssystem.org), just click on "Tree Farm in your State".

All inspectors must be retrained in 2010 to remain current with the program.

- 4. Profile: Wayne Pfluger, 2009 Southern Region Inspector of the Year**  
Wayne Pfluger, our 2009 Southern Region Inspector of the Year, hails from Conroe, Texas. Wayne recently led a large sign building project where one of the Tree Farms to receive a large 4'x4' Tree Farm sign is located directly across from a statue of Sam Houston, a major tourist attraction, giving the thousands of visitors a year to "Big Sam" a great view of the Tree Farm sign. Wayne has 18 years of experience as a Tree Farm inspector and has recently taken the post of Texas Tree Farm Committee chair.

To see the full list of our current and past Tree Farm Inspectors of the Year, please visit -  
[http://www.treefarmssystem.org/cms/pages/19\\_3.html](http://www.treefarmssystem.org/cms/pages/19_3.html)

**5. Need a 004 form?**

Electronic copies of the 004 inspector form and the auditor verification form are always available on the ATFS website. Visit [www.treefarmssystem.org](http://www.treefarmssystem.org)>Tree Farm in Your State>Inspectors Corner for this and other resources for inspectors.

Or contact your state program if you are meeting with a specific landowner and you would like to have an electronic copy to print that is pre-populated with the Tree Farm and landowner information. All state contacts are listed on the Tree Farm website.

As always, check out the latest news of what's happening at the American Forest Foundation on our website – [www.forestfoundation.org](http://www.forestfoundation.org).

Please feel free to contact us at any time with any questions or concerns. Please email your questions to [inspectors@forestfoundation.org](mailto:inspectors@forestfoundation.org).