

This program is presented by the Bennington County Sustainable Forest Consortium (BCSFC).

The Consortium is a collaboration between landowners, foresters, loggers and other natural resource professionals. The Consortium facilitates the exchange of ideas and experiences to encourage people to care about our forests.

The mission of the BCSFC is to promote responsible use and exemplary stewardship of the woodlands of Bennington County, and in so doing, to sustain the healthy ecosystems and rural livelihoods those forests support.

Contact Shelly Stiles at 802 442-2275 or [bccd@sover.net](mailto:bccd@sover.net) for more information on the Bennington County Sustainable Forest Consortium or on how to get involved.



Bennington County Sustainable Forest Consortium  
C/o Bennington County Conservation District  
PO Box 505  
Bennington, VT 05201

## MANAGING YOUR FOREST FOR WILDLIFE

An interactive on-site workshop on creating a diversity of bird, mammal, and amphibian habitat.

RHODE'S END, SHAFTBURY, VT  
SATURDAY OCTOBER 15, 2011  
9 A.M. TO NOON

**\$10 PER PERSON**  
**Pre-registration requested**



Rhode's End, the Rhode family farm and forest.

## PRESENTERS

Landowner **Solon Rhode** is a retired professor of microbiology, with an MD and a PhD in Experimental Pathology. He is interested in nature, especially wildlife. Solon is one of the more than 100 landowners with whom Audubon Vermont biologists have conducted Forest Bird Habitat Assessments over the past five years. His hobby is bird dogs, field trialing, and bird hunting. His actively managed land provides examples of wild life plantings, mast tree management (both oak and soft mast), patch cuts to create early successional forest, and vernal pools for amphibians.

**Katie Manaras** is a Conservation Biologist at Audubon Vermont. She and her colleagues work with forestland owners and managers to understand, protect and enhance breeding habitat for forest birds, and to integrate bird habitat and timber management on our landscape. Ultimately, they aim to stabilize or reverse the dramatic declines that many of our birds' populations have experienced in recent decades.

**Carla Fenner** is the USDA-Natural Resources Conservation Service's Soil Conservationist for Bennington County. NRCS offers a number of programs to help landowners enhance wildlife habitat on their farms and forests.

## ODDS AND ENDS

In addition to examples of various forest management techniques, the Rhode property offers a variety of excellent autumnal vistas. (For those who might be uncomfortable ascending two 200-foot hills, a utility vehicle will get you upslope.)

Parts of the walk could be wet, so WEAR SUITABLE BOOTS.

DRESS FOR THE WEATHER.

HEAVY RAIN WILL CANCEL THE WORKSHOP. Please call the Bennington County Conservation District at 802 442-2275 before leaving home that morning if the forecast is problematic. We will leave a message on our answering machine by 7 a.m. if the workshop is cancelled.

### DIRECTIONS TO RHODE'S END:

From West Mt. Rd and 7A (8.1 miles north of the intersection of Rts. 9 and 7 in Bennington; 5.9 miles south of the intersection of Rts. 313 and 7A in Arlington):

Go west on West Mt Rd as it winds along with the mountain to your right. The road will change names to La Clair Rd. and then change again to Murphy Hill Rd. At 4.6 miles from 7A, you will come down a hill to a 4 way stop sign (Bouplon Corner). Turn right on Bouplon Hollow Rd. A red barn, cedar-sided house with a green roof, an unpainted barn and the number 522 on the mail box, ½ mile up the dead end road, is your destination.

## MANAGING YOUR FOREST FOR WILDLIFE

See how one family has worked since 1994 to improve habitat on their 421-acre Taconics property by clearing fields, building vernal pools, enhancing soft and hard mast production, planting hardwoods and softwoods, and conducting patch cuts.

Learn about the Vermont Audubon Forest Bird Habitat Assessment, and how an assessment can help forest landowners protect and enhance breeding bird habitat.

Join us to explore the property of Solon and Hira Rhode in Shaftsbury, Vermont, where we will discuss:

- Which forest and other birds are declining in Vermont and why
- How habitat assessments can guide forest plan-making and which animal species benefit
- What makes a site suitable for management activities
- How to coordinate habitat enhancement with timber sales and other management activities
- How to get 'er done – what kind of equipment to hire, where to go for advice, which species to plant, how to schedule for best results.

To register for the workshop, contact Shelly Stiles at the Bennington County Conservation District, 802 442-2275 or [bccd@sover.net](mailto:bccd@sover.net).