



## **News Release: OWA Hosts Annual Meeting and Conference in Niagara-on-the-Lake**

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**Kemptville, Ontario** – The Ontario Woodlot Association (OWA) is hosting its 30<sup>th</sup> annual meeting and conference this week, based at Niagara College in Niagara-on-the-Lake. The plenary session will take place on Wednesday, April 26<sup>th</sup> starting at 8 a.m. Close to 200 delegates will attend this two-day event that focuses on the Power of Active Management of woodlots and privately owned forests in Ontario.

The conference features knowledgeable and experienced speakers covering several topics relating to active management including the operation of woodlot businesses, succession planning, managing for the invasive species Hemlock Woolly Adelgid, a case-study of long-term personal woodlot management, and research relating to agroforestry best environmental practices.

Rick Bresee, Parliamentary Assistant to the Minister of Natural Resources and Forestry and MPP for Hastings and Lennox & Addington will welcome the group, many of whom have traveled from across the OWA's 22 chapters, to attend.

Conference participants also enjoyed a number of field tours and site visits on the Tuesday of the conference, experiencing some of the unique trees and forests of the Niagara area, including many interesting and unique Carolinian species and related ecosystems.

### **About the OWA:**

**Vision:** Ensuring the sustainability of Ontario's privately owned forests now and in the future.

**Mission:** Helping each other to become the best possible stewards of our woodlands!

**Our Values:** As an organization built by enthusiastic and engaged people, committed to using best management practices, we want our woodlots to be: sustainable and productive, ecologically healthy and diverse, and spiritually and physically renewing.

### **Quotes:**

*"Our members are always ready and willing to learn how to be the best possible stewards of their woodlots. The opportunity to come to the Niagara region this week, to see, hear about, and experience the quality management that is being undertaken on privately owned forests in this part of Ontario, is something that many of our members really appreciate!"* – John Pineau, OWA Executive Director.

### **Related links:**

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### **Contact:**

John Pineau  
Executive Director  
Email: [John.pineau@ontariowoodlot.com](mailto:John.pineau@ontariowoodlot.com)

Phone: 705-358-4261