



FOREST HISTORY ASSOCIATION of WISCONSIN

Woodchips

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The 2018 U.S. Capitol Christmas Tree Lighting Ceremony

The tradition of the Capitol Christmas Tree, or "The People's Tree," began in 1964 when Speaker of the U.S. House of Representatives John W. McCormack (D-MA) placed a live Christmas tree on the Capitol lawn. This tree lived three years before succumbing to wind and root damage. In 1970, the Capitol Architect asked the U.S. Forest Service to provide a Christmas tree. Since then, a different national forest has been chosen each year to provide "The People's Tree." This national forest also works with state forests to provide companion trees that are smaller Christmas trees for offices in Washington, D.C. [Read More](#) [Watch Video](#)

In the News

Wisconsin State Capitol Christmas Tree Arrives in Madison

MADISON – Governor Scott Walker announced today the selection and harvest of the 2018 State Capitol Christmas Tree. The balsam fir, which measures between 35 and 40 feet, was donated by Don and Mary Miller and harvested earlier this month in Plainfield. [Read More](#)

Don't Be Shy About that Christmas Tree Selfie—It's What Farms Want

To mark the sale of each Christmas tree at Trees For Less Nursery in Grafton, Lisa O'Malley pours a shot of whiskey for her customers. There's no tradition or folklore about the whiskey. But it is, no doubt, something that would happen only in Wisconsin. [Read More](#)

Experts Say Wisconsin Christmas Tree Growers Not Experiencing Shortage

It is peak season for Christmas tree farmers, as people decorate their homes for the holidays; however, reports of a nationwide Christmas tree shortage continue to circulate. According to the Wisconsin Christmas Tree Producers Association, Christmas trees grow on 23,000 acres across the state. [Read More](#)

October 15, 1934: Glued Laminated Timber Comes to America

On October 15, 1934, workers broke ground for a new school gymnasium in Peshtigo, Wisconsin. To this day, this small city in the far northeast corner of Wisconsin remains best known for being totally consumed by a massive forest fire in 1871. The groundbreaking, while seemingly an unremarkable event, is another turning point in forest history. It signaled a new age of American wood construction. The new Peshtigo school gym was the first building in the United States to use structural glued laminated timber. [Read More](#)

Wisconsin 101-Our History in Objects—Fiddle

As the lumber industry flourished in Wisconsin beginning in the 1840s, immigrants from all over Europe and Canada came to live and work in the Northwoods of Wisconsin. All winter, men called lumberjacks would cut down pine trees, preparing the timber to be used as building material, or sometimes to be turned into pulp or paper. Since this logging had to be done deep in the forest away from settlements, lumberjacks built their own camp, with buildings called bunkhouses, to stay in during the winter. In these camps, lumberjacks would come together after long, hard days of logging to eat, to sleep, and to entertain themselves as best they could. [Read More](#)

Wisconsin 101-Our History in Objects—The Wolf River

Todd Sheldon first discovered the virtues of the Mepps Aglia spinner and later realized improvements afforded by a tuft of squirrel tail while fishing at one of his favorite spots: the Wolf River. Today the Wolf continues to be a destination for sports fishermen and paddlers. [Read More](#)

History of APA, Plywood, and Engineered Wood

APA – The Engineered Wood Association is the nonprofit trade association of the U.S. and Canadian engineered wood products industry. Based in Tacoma, Washington, the Association is comprised of and represents manufacturers of structural plywood, oriented strand board (OSB), cross-laminated timber, glued laminated (glulam) timber, wood I-joists, and laminated veneer lumber (LVL) [Read More](#)



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Visiting Woodchips Embedded Links to Webpages

Hyperlinks embedded into Woodchips allow readers to enjoy featured video or audio presentations as well full news articles or papers of interest with just a simple click of their mouse. The links appear at the end of an article (a news headline with one or two introductory sentences) typically as **Watch Video**, **Read More**, or **For More Information**.

To open the link, place your cursor over **Watch Video** or **Read More** and so on, and then left click on your mouse. That should open the link in a new window providing access to the specifically linked webpage.

With this issue of Woodchips, we will start listing the full URL to each hyperlink on a second page. If needed, the URL can be copied and pasted into your web browser address bar (also known as location bar or URL bar).

Past issues of Woodchips are found on the Forest History Association of Wisconsin webpage at <http://chipsandsawdust.com/> under News and Events.

To keep issues of Woodchips arriving in your e-mail's inbox, keep your e-mail address up-to-date in FHAW membership records by contacting our membership chairman, Robert Walkner at anvils@charter.net or the editor, Don Schnitzler, at thefhaw@gmail.com.

Links shared in this issue of Woodchips

The 2018 U.S. Capitol Christmas Tree Lighting Ceremony

<https://www.capitolchristmastree.com/history.html>

<https://tinyurl.com/yau2ywks>

Wisconsin State Capitol Christmas Tree Arrives in Madison

<https://walker.wi.gov/press-releases/wisconsin-state-capitol-christmas-tree-arrives-madison>

Don't Be Shy About that Christmas Tree Selfie—It's What Farms Want

<https://www.jsonline.com/story/money/business/2018/12/06/wisconsin-christmas-tree-farms-adding-more-experiences-customers/2184099002/>

Experts Say Wisconsin Christmas Tree Growers Not Experiencing Shortage

<https://www.wbay.com/content/news/Experts-say-Wisconsin-Christmas-tree-growers-not-experiencing-shortage-501487421.html>

October 15, 1934: Glued Laminated Timber Comes to America

<https://foresthistor.org/october-15-1934-glued-laminated-timber-comes-to-america/>

Wisconsin 101-Our History in Objects—Fiddle

<https://wi101.wisc.edu/fiddle/>

Wisconsin 101-Our History in Objects—The Wolf River

<https://wi101.wisc.edu/2018/05/24/wolf-river/>

History of APA, Plywood, and Engineered Wood

<https://www.apawood.org/apas-history>