



## FOREST HISTORY ASSOCIATION of WISCONSIN

# Woodchips

[Home](#)
[About Us](#)
[Leadership](#)
[Membership](#)

### Men of the Forest

An African-American family in Georgia works to save money for a power saw. Includes depictions of timber harvest techniques and process. Film made in 1952 by the United States Information Service and intended for foreign audiences. From the US National Archives. [Watch Video](#)

### In the News

#### A Brief History of African Americans and Forests

On the Texas coast in November 1528, a violent storm washed ashore two small boats, the remnants of an ill-fated Spanish expedition. The sixteen survivors who made it ashore included Esteban, a black slave born in Morocco. Esteban was the first African to set foot in what would become Texas and the western United States. [Read More](#)

#### So, You're Non-White And You Really Want To Work For The US Forest Service?

A few summers ago, Mountain Journal published a guest essay from Melody Starya Mobley on her long career working for the US Forest Service, becoming the first African-American forester in the history of the agency and confronting challenges, including criminal behavior, that most would find unspeakable. As a result of that dramatic piece, there is now interest in turning Mobley's story into a major documentary. Below is a new essay from Mobley based on her often being asked whether she would recommend that young people of color consider pursuing careers in federal land management agencies. [Read More](#)

#### Meet the Woman Preserving the History of Oregon's Black Loggers

A chance discovery about her father's past led Gwen Trice to dig deep into the story of Maxville and the families who called it home. [Read More](#)

#### Women from History Who Speak for the Trees

Today (March 31, 2021) is the last day of Women's History Month, and as the chatter about the world's most impressive and inspiring women has started to die down, we want to highlight some badass ladies that changed the fields of forestry, arboriculture, conservation, and environmental activism as we know it. [Read More](#)

#### Reducing Wildfires through Better Utility Pole Inspections

They can pop up almost anywhere. "They" are wildfires, which can result in loss of human life and lead to billions of dollars of property damage every year in the United States. Hundreds of failures in electrical utility poles across the nation are one of the leading causes of these disasters. In Idaho alone, nearly 300 wildfires have been caused by utility pole failures in the past 15 years – an average of 20 wildfires every year. [Read More](#)

#### The Old Man and the Tree

Ecologists thought America's primeval forests were gone. Then Bob Leverett proved them wrong and discovered a powerful new tool against climate change [Read More](#)

#### Boom, Snap, Pop! Cause of 'Exploding Trees' Explained

Big swings in temperature can lead to frost cracks that can lead to "exploding trees" [Read More](#)

#### What Happens to Trees in Winter?

Happy Groundhog Day! One of the strangest American traditions took place this morning, and the ending wasn't ideal. A famous groundhog named Phil saw his shadow... What a bummer! While I'm sure you're disappointed to have to bear six more weeks of winter, have you ever wondered what cold weather means for trees? Let's dive into the amazing defenses that trees have developed to outlast the coldest months of the year. [Read More](#)



**FOREST HISTORY ASSOCIATION**  
of WISCONSIN

# Woodchips

## 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 <https://www.foresthistoryassociationwi.com/woodchips/>

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](mailto:anvils@charter.net) or the editor, Don Schnitzler, at [thefhaw@gmail.com](mailto:thefhaw@gmail.com).

## Links shared in this issue of Woodchips

### **Men of the Forest**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mUI-v86obCw>

### **A Brief History of African Americans and Forests**

[tinyurl.com/2s4bns83](https://tinyurl.com/2s4bns83)

### **So, You're Non-White And You Really Want To Work For The US Forest Service?**

<https://mountainjournal.org/first-black-woman-forester-shares-concerns-about-working-for-us-forest-service>

### **Meet the Woman Preserving the History of Oregon's Black Loggers**

<https://www.atlasobscura.com/articles/maxville-oregon>

### **Women from History Who Speak for the Trees**

<https://treescharlotte.org/tree-education/women-from-history-who-speak-for-the-trees/>

### **Reducing Wildfires through Better Utility Pole Inspections**

<https://www.fpl.fs.fed.us/labnotes/?p=28013>

### **The Old Man and the Tree**

<https://www.smithsonianmag.com/science-nature/the-old-man-and-the-tree-180979242/>

### **Boom, Snap, Pop! Cause of 'Exploding Trees' Explained**

<https://www.nbcdfw.com/weather/weather-connection/boom-snap-pop-cause-of-exploding-trees-explained/2886059/>

### **What Happens to Trees in Winter?**

<https://www.stateforesters.org/2022/02/02/what-happens-to-trees-in-winter/>