

RGS SKYLANDS CHAPTER NEWSLETTER

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Hope You Had a Great Summer!!!

Time marches on a little quicker every year, and so now another summer is beginning to wind down. With the return of crisp nights come the thoughts most people put on hold a few months ago. Hunting season will be here before you know it and so will our time of year. Projects, dinner meetings and the banquet will be upon us in a blink of an eye, so now it's time to get ready. And what better way is there than a **tune up trap shoot on Sunday, September 25?** John Crowley is interested in hosting this event, which I also expect to attend at the trap range at Flatbrook WMA. We have always had a great time at these events in the past. They are very casual and our chapter bird thrower is very forgiving to those of us who are a little off in our aim. Anyone can attend. You can contact John or myself and let us know you are coming. Kids of shooting age are encouraged to come as well (of course).

Currently the State is in the process of undertaking forest management plans and surveys in areas which desperately need them. This can only help our cause, and one of the areas scheduled to be surveyed is Hainesville WMA, where we have been doing considerable work including planting of numerous apple trees last spring. A recent walk of the area revealed aspen regeneration around the edges of where we cut, with the highest concentration in areas we cut first as you would expect.

I have been seeing many woodcock as of late flying around my property in the evening but I expect these are "native" birds that stayed in the area after nesting. I have seen a few grouse but really haven't been out looking for them since the spring survey.

Our next meeting is scheduled for Thursday September 8th at 7:00 PM at the Lafayette House in Lafayette. There is much to discuss; hope you can make it.

Jim DeSaye