

From: Jennifer Lawrie
Sent: Tuesday, 19 March 2024 3:59 pm
To: Emily Lutz
Cc: Jillene Bellchamber-Glazier
Subject: FW: tree by law

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From: dan bieman [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, March 19, 2024 3:35 PM
To: Jennifer Lawrie <jlawrie@kincardine.ca>
Subject: tree by law

As a land owner of wood lots in this municipality, cofounder of the Ontario Wood Lot Association, and on the board of directors for Lambton Wood Lot Owners for two decades, I have worked as a wildlife technician for the MNR. and a champion for conservation. Volunteer of the Year in 2002 of the Province of Ontario for my involvement in the Land Stewardship Comities and program, and recognized as woodlot owner of the year in Lambton County last decade. Woodlot owner associations are volunteer organizations that promote the care and health of woodlots, members are made up of woodlot owners, conservation and mills, and loggers.

I believe this draft proposal is a total mistake.

I personally take care of my woodlots and manage them under the "Better Forest Management Program". I constantly do things to better my forest, for wildlife, the health of the forest, and the diversity within it. To slap restrictions on me and my family who have been caretakers of the forest for close to 7 decades would not only be insulting to me but discriminating against land owners like myself who have looked after their forest. In the count of Lambton, similar motions were installed only to have an acceleration of deforestation happen. " It does not work." Farmers bulldozed land and paid the fine "if" they got caught.

Rather than punish landowners who cared for the land, as there are still forests on their land. reward them. Many jurisdictions have programs that compensate landowners for keeping healthy woodlots in the

way of tax incentives. Provide and inform land owners of potential incentives and help for reforestation on marginal lands and in forests that are dying or reestablishing themselves. Programs that inform landowners of services that you can offer such as "marginal land rehabilitation". Providing help in marketing their forests, and education on "invasive species" on private land. For several years I have spent hundreds of dollars and hours actively fighting, Fragmentise, Wild Parsnips, Japanese Strangling Dog Vine, Giant Hogweed, common European Burdock, and even Dandelions. Along with Norway Maple, Manitoba Maple, Buckthorn, and even Goose Berry. All were brought here for gardening, and we still sell many more potentially invasive species in our garden centers.

My experience is neighbors want restrictions on their neighbor's land use, as long as it does not affect their use of their land. Putting a new garden with foreign plants, expanding their lawn with modified seed, putting up a garden shed, cutting a tree so their lawn grows better, or because the tree may hit their house in the next two decades. It is all small-scale done a thousand times over. I dread the site of a new house being put up in a forest where an area of land is clear-cut.

The county has tree-cutting bylaws and an excellent staff that enforces them and tries to help woodlot owners with their issues. Giving them a larger budget to help them do their job and bigger teeth for the enforcement of the rules they already have would be beneficial.

Creating a new bureaucracy, with new fees and a new level of government involved is not needed. Improve what we have, if need be.

Having served on many comities and management positions in my life "A carrot goes a lot further than a stick". I know the goal is to stop deforestation. If you tell someone they cannot do something on their property they are usually not happy and fight back. When a tree is cut or dies it is not coming back especially if you put restrictions on the landowner's property that has trees and a wood lot. It is a good way to discourage reforestation. Helping landowners who want trees or have marginal land is a far easier sell, less confrontational, and will benefit the community more in the long run.

Just a thought from a taxpayer and environmentalist. Dan Bieman