

SAVE THE DATES!

CFRU FALL EVENTS

ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING, FIELD TOUR, & WORKSHOP



EVENTS

- **Oct. 23rd** – AC meeting
- **Oct. 24th** – field tour
- **Oct. 30th** – [FVS Acadian Model workshop. Final deliverable for this project!](#)

FALL FIELD TOUR

October 24th, 10:00AM - 2:00PM
St. John Valley field stops

Join the Cooperative Forestry Research Unit for a day in the field to visit areas recently affected by two forest defoliators, spruce budworm (SBW) and forest tent caterpillar (FTC). Heightened activity from these insects in the spring and summer of 2024 has resulted in defoliated areas in Aroostook County and beyond. We'll hear from the Maine Forest Service to discuss potential impacts on forest health, get input from CFRU members on how they are monitoring damage with remote sensing and UAS, discuss options and strategies to curb these forest pests populations and hear from CFRU scientists on related research. More details on the current statuses of SBW and FTC can be found [on the next page](#).

ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING

October 23rd, 8:30AM - 2:00PM
Buchanan Alumni House, UMaine

This meeting will focus on business items including drafting and approving new material for our 2025 - 2030 Program Prospectus, reviewing bylaws, dues discussion, etc. Agenda and pre-meeting materials will be provided 2 weeks ahead of the meeting. We'll provide important forest health updates on spruce budworm for those unable to join us for the Fall Field Tour the following day.

SCAN TO SIGN
UP FOR EVENTS



FIELD TOUR DETAILS & LOGISTICS:

* CFRU will have 2 vans leaving from UMaine for Madawaska after the Advisory Committee Mtg. on Oct. 23rd. Save your seat and RSVP using the QR code above.

* Need a room in the area on the night of the 23rd? [Check out Inn of Acadia in Madawaska](#). CFRU has blocked rooms **until October 11th for \$139**. Call (207) 728-3402 and tell them you're with the UMaine for the group rate.

SPRUCE BUDWORM DEFOLIATION MAINE, 2024



Photo left, N. Thompson UMFK. Photo right, M. Parisio, MFS.

Feeding from SBW larvae in the spring of 2024 caused defoliation and is now observable from the air in areas of the St. John Valley and on the northwest border of Maine/Quebec. Defoliation at this scale can occur when the overwintering SBW larvae, better known as L2s, exceed 7 per site. L2s emerge from dormancy, continue their larval development, and feed on fir and spruce in May and June. Branch samples are collected, submitted to the Spruce Budworm Lab in the fall, processed by the lab to separate the overwintering L2s from the foliage, and counted. These estimates are critical for monitoring and responding to rising SBW populations. [Click here](#) to learn more about Early Intervention Strategy and why L2s are a key factor in understanding SBW population dynamics.

FOREST TENT CATERPILLAR DEFOLIATION MAINE, 2024

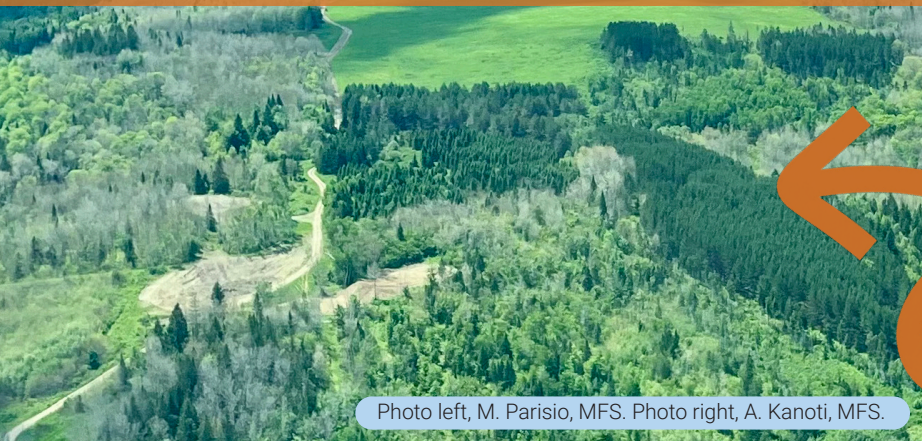


Photo left, M. Parisio, MFS. Photo right, A. Kanoti, MFS.



The Forest Tent Caterpillar is a native insect that periodically causes widespread defoliation to hardwoods. The Maine Forest Service mapped over 60,000 acres of defoliation, mostly in Aroostook County but also along the Maine/Quebec border. Sugarbushes in T7 R19 saw up to 50% of the sugar maple overstory defoliated by midsummer. Healthy hardwood stands can survive several years of defoliation but may affect the trees ability to store produce and store carbohydrates. Recommendations from Vermont Dept. of Forests, Parks, and Rec. for stands defoliated by forest tent caterpillars include “tapping conservatively”, delaying understory thinnings, and avoiding smaller diameter trees when tapping¹.

1. Vermont Dept. of Forests, Parks and Recreation. 2018. Forest Tent Caterpillar Update. Vermont Forest Health leaflet 2018-13.