

northwoods news

Informing the North East's forestry and woodland businesses



November 2003

Issue 4

Warmth and Wealth from Wood

24 November 2003—Lee Moor Farm, Rennington

As part of North East Business and the Environment month, Northwoods are hosting *Warmth and Wealth from Wood*. The event brings experts from throughout the wood supply chain to support and inform anyone who is thinking of setting up a wood fuel business, heating their business with wood, or growing wood as a commercial fuel crop. Why not call in to find out how you can make or save money with wood fuel?

For details see : www.eif.org.uk or call 0191 229 1824

News In Brief

- The North East Community Forests have started a new tree nursery and are searching for seed sources so they can select the best local provenances. They therefore need as many plentiful sources as possible. To help or get involved with this work, please contact Peter Facey on 07952 693991 or e-mail: petefacey@aol.com
- Those that took advantage of the Employment Issues seminar held at Linden Hall found the day to be extremely worthwhile and felt that the information provided was invaluable for the future development of their businesses.
- Renewable energy was given a boost last month with the launch of the Renewable Energy Strategy for the North East. The strategy underlines the important role of forestry in meeting the electricity and heating needs of the future, alongside other green energy technologies.

arb:north:2003



Calling all Arboriculture and Small Scale Forestry businesses - a one-day event has been organised bringing together the latest information on Health and Safety legislation, equipment, vehicle legislation, insurance and training to the North East.

Speakers from Lantra and the Health and Safety Executive will be present to talk about the training and certification they expect all contactors to hold, and their current research and priorities. Algarve Insurance will be there to discuss the insurance crisis hitting all Forestry and Arb businesses. This is an excellent opportunity for you to air your concerns and speak directly to those who are setting the legislation and deciding the future of your industry. Other speakers are detailed in the event flier.

Events such as **arb:north:2003** are seldom, if ever, held in the North of England - so this is an excellent opportunity for you to find out more about the legislation and training that affects your industry. The aim of the day is to continue to raise the standards and professionalism of the industry. Some trade stands will also be present on the day showing the latest safety equipment available, MEWPS and specialist kit.

Kirkley Hall: Northumberland: 10 December 2003. To book phone the Northwoods office.



01670 789701



Sponsors of arb:north:2003

URGENT - Forestry Forward Northumberland Training Grants!

Individuals who have applied for training grants through the FCA training project *Forestry Forward Northumberland* - please make the most of the money allocated to you and apply for the funding available now!

This project has just 2 months left to run, so if you have already signed up for training grants but not yet taken the training pr applied for your grant please do now! To assist in accessing and arranging the training courses, here are the details of the main forestry training providers who are holding courses over the next few months:

Parks and Countryside Training - 0191 264 6958
Highgain at Kirkley Hall - 01670 841 278
Landbased Training - 0191 523 7985
Dave Hornby - 01434 344 366

These trainers can accommodate most training requirements - for more specialist courses, please give Ben a ring at the Northwoods Office.

North East Charcoal Development Initiative

With imported charcoal currently accounting for 90% of the UK's charcoal sales, the first North East Charcoal Development Initiative meeting was held on Monday 27 October. The aim of the meeting was to bring together a collection of individuals to discuss the development of the industry in the Region and hopefully reverse the import trend. The Region's three main charcoal burners were present, along with representatives from the Great North Forest and Newcastle University. The initiative is looking to expand the market for locally produced charcoal and increase the efficiency of charcoal production. If you would like to know more, or would like to get involved, then please contact Northwoods.



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The Northumbria Woodland Initiative

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Training & Events in Brief

arb:north:2003 Providing arb and small-scale forestry businesses with the latest information in Health and Safety, training and equipment available.	December 10th 2003 Kirkley Hall
Warmth & Wealth from Wood Find out more about how to profit from the Region's drive towards renewable energy at this drop-in advice seminar.	24 November 2003 Lee Moor Farm, Nr. Alnwick
Achieving Success - how to make a success of your business through marketing. This hands-on workshop will be of particular interest to businesses with products or services to sell to the public.	Friday 23 January Hexham area
Forestry First Aid - first aid courses set in a forestry context. The ever popular course continues.	Winter 2003

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Northwoods and the Forestry Contracting Association have secured funding for a new wood fuel project in Northumberland during 2004. The ignite programme, which is funded by the Learning and Skills Council for Northumberland and the European Social Fund, will offer up to 20 individuals the chance to receive specialist training and support to develop as a wood fuel business. The programme will help businesses to create and expand markets for wood fuel, forge links with other businesses and gain the technical and practical skills needed to operate as a wood fuel business. We hope to make ignite available across Teeside and Co. Durham later in 2004. To register your interest in enrolling on the ignite programme, please contact the Northwoods office.



www.northwoods.org.uk

Achieving Success Workshop

How to transform your business through simple and effective marketing

Are you happy with your current level of business? Making enough money? Got enough customers? Generating plenty of new opportunities? If you've answered 'yes' to any of these questions then stop reading now, pick up the phone and please tell us your secrets!

On the other hand, if you'd like to get to grips with the fundamentals of marketing and make your business more successful - however you define success - then this hands-on workshop is for you. Written specifically for woodland and arboriculture businesses working in the North East, this workshop provides a practical introduction to the basics of marketing, and how these tried and tested ideas can help you deliver good value to the customer and a good profit for yourself!

The workshop is running on Friday 23 January in the Hexham area (exact venue to be confirmed). Contact Northwoods now to book your place on what promises to be a very popular event. The day costs £20 per person, including lunch.

Northwoods - here to support your business

Northwoods is the North East's Woodland Initiative - supporting businesses all along the wood supply chain.

Northwoods is funded by :



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