

## **Biography for Tony Eallonardo**

As a life-long resident of Central New York, I have had the great opportunity to attain both Bachelor's and Master's degrees from SUNY ESF. Throughout my time as a student, I have focused upon environmental issues of local importance. As an undergraduate I worked on designating Critical Environmental Area status to the Nine Mile Creek corridor in the Town of Marcellus, NY and I completed a thesis contemplating contemporary relationships with nature.



As a master's student I spent two years studying the ecology and management of Catskill Mountain forests under the pressures of acid deposition, white-tailed deer herbivory, and commercial forest harvest. The overall goal of this research was to provide information to best manage these forests for long term productivity and water quality given the above pressures.

Currently, I have completed one year of research on the restoration of a 1600 acre post-industrial landscape, the Solvay Waste Beds, and am utilizing this and upcoming research on the Waste Beds to attain my Doctor of Philosophy in Ecology at SUNY ESF. The initial work on this site has included planting 7000 trees and herbs with an additional 4500 planned for this year. I have utilized results from these planting trials along with soil and vegetation data to understand the main factors limiting vegetation survivorship and growth on the Waste Beds. Upcoming research will test certain plant combinations in increasing overall survivorship and growth. In the long term, I hope to use these data to restore the site and to provide opportunities for public education, rare species conservation, and scientific research.