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- Virginia Tech College of Natural Resources and Environment
- Virginia Tech Department of Forest Resources and Environmental Conservation
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**ALL ITINERARIES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE**



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If you are a person with a disability and desire any assistive devices, services or other accommodations to participate in this activity, please contact Jennifer Gagnon at 540/231-6391 during business hours of 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. to discuss accommodations 5 days prior to the event. DD number is (800) 828-1120.

Prince William continued.

**Stop 3: Development and Land Use** – While most woodland owners want to keep their land in woods, many have also faced pressure to sell the property for significant financial gain. Development, while often scorned, is a fact of humanity. The Villages of Piedmont is a case study of conserving forests and habitat and history while providing livable space and community. Sometimes there are more options than we realize, come see this one for yourself at Leopold's Preserve.

**Stop 4: School of Hardwoods and hard-knocks** – The 444 acre Conway Robinson State Forest is real-life example of making a forest work for multiple goals. Much like landowners, it has to sustain itself while meeting wildlife, recreation and environmental demands. While the casual observer would say this has always been a beautiful forest, it wasn't until more active forest management of the past several years that it became beautiful in the eyes of resource managers. Challenge your perspective of what a beautiful hardwood forest looks like viewing this historic property through the eyes of biologists and foresters.

**Return by 5:00 p.m.**

**For more information contact:**

**Adam Downing, adowning@vt.edu, 540/948-6881**

**Please register by 5:00 p.m. Friday, October 7**

## Dinwiddie/Nottoway Counties

**Thursday, October 20th**

**Meet at 8:00 a.m. at Food Lion of Blackstone**

1533 S. Main St.

Blackstone, VA 23824

**Tour begins promptly at 8:30 a.m.**

Together, Dinwiddie and Nottoway Counties have almost 400,000 wooded acres. This makes for very active forest industry. Learn how sustainable management is practiced in these heavily forested counties.

**Stop 1: Ward Burton and the Army Compatible Use Buffer Program**

- See successful land conservation including reforestation options and management of endangered species.

**Stop 2: Prescribed fire** - Find out how this powerful tool can be used on your property to control fuel loads and meet timber and wildlife management objectives.

**Stop 3: Pollinators** - Abandoned land can be turned in to valuable pollinator habitat. Find out how.

**Lunch: Virginia Tech Southern Piedmont Research Station** - Catered southern-style lunch with all the fixins.

**Stop 4: Livestock...in the Woods?** This stop will provide information on managing for livestock, trees, and wildlife on the same site - using silvopasture.

**Stop 5: Invasive species!** Find out what your options, as a private woodland owner, are for combating these unwanted invaders.

**Stop 6: Site Preparation** - See how to properly prepare a site for planting pines to maximize profit, while incorporating wildlife and recreation opportunities.

**Return by 5:00 p.m.**

**For more information contact:**

**Jason Fisher, jasonf@vt.edu, 434/476-2147**

**Please register by 5:00 p.m. Thursday, October 13**

*The VFLEP & VCE present:*



*Join fellow forest landowners and a host of natural resource professionals for a fun and exciting day in the woods learning about forest and wildlife management.*

These tours promote wise resource management on private woodlands.

Participants will:

- (1) observe science-based management practices;
- (2) become acquainted with public and private sources of technical and financial management assistance; and
- (3) network with fellow landowners, natural resource professionals, and others that share your interest in Virginia's natural resources.

See inside for information on individual tours, including departure points and itineraries.

**All tours are outdoors and held rain or shine. Please dress appropriately (sturdy shoes, hats, rain gear, insect repellent, sunscreen, etc.).**



## Essex County

Friday October 7th

Meet at 8:00 a.m. at the Tappahannock-Essex Volunteer Fire Dept.

620 Airport Road  
Tappahannock, VA 22560

Tour begins promptly at 8:30 a.m.

Essex County, in Virginia's Middle Peninsula, is bordered by the Rappahannock River to the north and the York River to the south. With almost 88,000 wooded acres, most of which is privately owned, and 50,000 acres of which is pine, sustainable forestry is alive and well in this county.

**Stop 1: Trees and tornadoes don't mix** - We'll examine how natural disasters impact our forests and financial risks as well as management strategies to reduce this risk.

**Stop 2: Manufacturing wood products at Tidewater Lumber**

**Corporation** - During the tour of the historic mill, which has been at this location since the 1940's, we will see sawmilling and planing operations that make a wide array of both pine and hardwood products. Products are shipped down the east coast of the U.S. as well as overseas.

**Lunch: Exploring history at Blanfield Plantation** - The history continues at this at this plantation on the Rappahannock River. Acquired in 1683, the plantation originally had over 100,000 acres. Today, there are about 3,000 acres, over 2,500 of which are in managed forests. After lunch in the plantation's hunting pavilion, we will spend the afternoon learning about the management of these forests.

**Stop 3: Preparing forest sites for planting** - Learn how mechanical and chemical treatments can be used to ensure successful reforestation.

**Stop 4: Longleaf pine** - Find out about this diminished species and current restoration efforts. Assess the success of a 15 year old longleaf pine plantation.

**Stop 5: Improving your hardwood forests** - Here we will discuss the "art" portion of the art and science of forest management. Cultural practices applied to get what you want from your hardwoods.

Return by 5:00 p.m.

For more information contact:

Neil Clark, [neclark@vt.edu](mailto:neclark@vt.edu), 757/653-2572.

Please register by 5:00 p.m. Friday, September 30

## Lee County

Tuesday October 11th

Meet at 8:30 a.m. at Wilderness Road State Park Visitors' Center

8051 Wilderness Road  
Ewing, VA 24248

Tour begins promptly at 9:00 a.m.

Rural Lee County, located in the far SW corner of Virginia, is over 65% wooded, with mostly oak-hickory forests. Join us for the first ever Tour in this county and learn how these forests are managed and used.

**Stop 1: B.J. Fortner Hardwoods Inc.** - This family-owned business demonstrates a strong commitment to practicing sustainable forestry. Watch as hardwood logs are cut into lumber in the sawmill and learn how high-quality logs are graded for the veneer export market.

**Stop 2: Active logging demonstration** - Observe how the trees used to make lumber, paper, and other wood products are harvested. A discussion of Best Management Practices and regeneration methods will also take place.

**Lunch: Wilderness Road State Park Visitors' Center**

**Stop 3: Public Land Management** - Although the majority of forestland in Virginia is privately owned (62%), there are also over 3 million publicly owned acres. These are managed by state and federal agencies. Lee County boasts both State and National Parks and a National Forest. Learn about the challenges of managing these lands for multiple uses, including history and recreation.

**Stop 4: Managing forests for wildlife** - Every forest management practice affects wildlife that lives in the woods. Learn how to choose forest management practices that favor the wildlife species you desire.

Return by 5:00 p.m.

For more information contact:

Bill Worrell, [bworrell@vt.edu](mailto:bworrell@vt.edu), 276/889-8056.

Please register by 5:00 p.m. Tuesday, October 4th

## Prince William County

Friday, October 14th

Meet at 8:00 a.m. at Manassas National Battlefield Park, Brownsville picnic area located at William Centre Blvd, Manassas, VA 20109—between Rt. 29 and Interstate 66, east northeast of Gainesville. (Coordinates: 38°48'12.84"N, 77°33'7.65"W).

Tour begins promptly at 8:30 a.m.

Join us for a full day in the fields and forests of Prince William County where the pressure is on and the natural resources are rich. We will explore a variety of management tools for landowners and consider long and short-term land-use decision making options.

The tour will showcase a suite of practices meeting numerous goals from income production to attracting and controlling wildlife as we weave in and out of the hustle and bustle of development into hidden gems of this historic county.

**Stop 1: Wildlife and Water** - Manassas National Battlefield Park, NPS is world renown for the place in history as the start of the Civil War. The natural resource history and current management is another story told by the landscape and with lessons for landowners today. We'll sample a stream, wade through native grasses and slog alongside small wetlands.

**Stop 2: The Family Tree Farm** - The Lerch family has a story to tell of land acquisition, management and ownership. While growing pine timber and hunting are self-evident, they host 4-H youth for shooting sports and other outdoor activities and in so doing cultivate a land ethic otherwise at risk in heavily developed areas. Here we will get into the weeds on pine management for profit & for wildlife and consider unique and common challenges to growing ping on private land.

**Lunch: Merrimac Farm**, a VDGIF Wildlife Management Area and site of the best known Bluebell festival in Virginia. Roam the backyard habitat & native plant exhibit during the lunch hour.

Prince William continued on back.



Register and pay on-line!  
Visit <http://forestupdate.frec.vt.edu>  
and look for On-line Registration

Or send this form and payment of \$35/person to:

Jennifer Gagnon  
228 Cheatham Hall (0324)  
310 West Campus Drive  
Blacksburg, VA 24061

(make checks payable to: **Virginia Tech Treasurer\***). Registration fees include transportation, refreshments and lunch.

#\_\_\_\_\_ will attend (check all that apply):

- Essex  
 Lee  
 Prince William  
 Nottoway/Dinwiddie  
 I am a K-12 teacher\*\*

Please print or type.

Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Street/P.O. \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_

State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Please let us know if you have any special dietary needs \_\_\_\_\_

\*There will be a \$25 service charge for returned checks.

\*\*A limited number of scholarships are available for K-12 teachers. Please call Jennifer Gagnon 540/231-6391 for details. Awarded first-come, first-served.