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**ALL ITINERARIES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE**



Extension is a joint program of Virginia Tech, Virginia State University, the U.S. Department of Agriculture, and state and local governments.

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Augusta cont.

planted in the past 3 years on this 300-acre Tree Farm. At this final stop, we will look at a 1, 2 & 3 year-old plantings with 5-10 foot tall trees and discuss the secrets of successful reforestation. For already established forests, we will demonstrate do-it-yourself management tools to increase growth rates & vigor in existing hardwood stands.

**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**

## Emporia

**Wednesday, October 25**

**Meet at 8:00 a.m. at: Emporia Walmart Supercenter**

**(SE corner of parking lot)**

303 Market Drive, Emporia, VA 23847, 434-336-9269

Bottomland hardwoods and associated wetlands are tremendously important when it comes to buffering storm water runoff, filtering out pollutants, providing excellent habitat for wildlife, and offering recreation. They can even generate some income for the landowner. The challenge for many of these acres though, is that they are in poor condition due to poor past management practices and limited management options.

### Stop 1: Actively Managed Bottomland Hardwoods

This privately owned forest has been actively managed for 30 years. Here we will observe sycamore, ash, oak, and baldcypress plantings. We'll learn how timber harvests and hydrology impact species composition and how we can increase regeneration of desirable species.

### Stop 2: Wildlife Management

We'll explore an ecosystem that is home to all sorts of resident and migratory waterfowl and songbirds, mussels, fish, bats, and a host of amphibians. Biologists will discuss how the structure and composition of the forest impacts the fauna adapted to this area.

**Lunch:** Catered Southern-style

### Stop 3: Invasive Species Control

If the names Chinese privet, Chinese wisteria, and Japanese stiltgrass don't send a chill down your spine, they should. These pesky invaders frequently proliferate and out-compete native species. At this stop we will cover identification, prevention, and control options.

### Stop 4: Mature Bottomland Hardwoods

Old forests are rare in general, but especially in the Eastern United States. And old age doesn't automatically equal high quality. Various dynamics must align to achieve old age and high quality. At this final stop, we'll address what it takes to attain these values.

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

**For more information contact:**

**Neil Clark, neclark@vt.edu, 757-653-2572**

**Please register by 5:00 p.m. Wednesday, October 18**

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, VFLEP Coordinator, at (540)231-6391/TDD\* during business hours of 8:00 a.m. and 5 p.m. to discuss accommodations 5 days prior to the event. \*TDD number is (800)828-1120.

# 41st Annual Fall Forestry & Wildlife Field Tours 2017 (aka the Bus Tours)



*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. All tours begin promptly at 8:30 a.m.*

These tours promote wise resource management on private forestlands.

You 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.

Each tour includes several demonstration stops on private, industry, and public lands. See inside for information on fees for individual tours, 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.).**

**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.**

## Pulaski County

Thursday October 5

Meet at 8:00 a.m. at: Pulaski County Extension Office

143 Third St. NW, Pulaski, VA 24301, 540-980-7761

The 87th county in Virginia has a rich history with 19 properties on the National Register of Historic Places. It's also home to Claytor Lake State Park, the Jefferson National Forest, and the northern end of the well-used New River Trail State Park. On this tour we'll visit properties being managed for forests and wildlife.

### Stop 1: Log A Load - for Wildlife

Our first stop of the day will showcase alternative logging practices used to create habitat for multiple wildlife species. Specifically, we'll see a timber harvest performed to create habitat for grouse and golden-winged warblers, two species that rely on young forests, a habitat not well represented across the landscape of SW Virginia.

### Stop 2: Wildflowers - for Wildlife

Native wildflowers and grasses are much better suited for native wildlife than old fields. This stop will teach you how to create habitat that provides excellent year round food and cover for many types of critters, including native pollinators.

LUNCH: Draper Mercantile - CATERED

### Stop 3: Turman Lumber Company

We will tour this family-owned sawmill that produces an average of 120,000 board feet of lumber daily from both Eastern white pine and mixed Appalachian hardwoods. We'll also see how bark from the trees becomes mulch for your yard.

### Stop 4: Draper Mountain Estates

Our tour will conclude with a visit to this Virginia Firewise award winning development. Learn what actions you and your neighbors can take to protect your properties from wildfire.

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. Wednesday, September 27

## Buckingham County

Tuesday October 10th

Meet at 8:00 a.m. at: First Baptist Church of Dillwyn

16980 Oak St., Dillwyn, VA 23936

Here in the geographical center of Virginia forestry is alive and well. Bound on the north and south by the James and Appomattox Rivers, good forest management practices are essential for protecting water quality.

### Stop 1: Kennedy Tree Farm

Visit the 2016 Virginia Tree Farm of the Year. In 1955 it began with 400 acres; currently it is now up to almost 1,500 acres. Here we'll see site preparation for loblolly pine management and the family farm work retreat site.

### Stop 2: Fulghum Fibres Gold Hill Mill

Learn about making wood chips that are shipped to WestRock in Covington for the production of paperboard and corrugated containers.

Stop 3: Lunch - CATERED southern-style lunch

### Stop 4: Appomattox-Buckingham State Forest

The first stop, in Virginia's largest State Forest, will showcase a loblolly pine seed orchard, where the best pollen meets the cone! This orchard provides seed for Virginia's improved loblolly pine seedlings. The second stop will showcase a variety of hardwood management techniques.

Return by 5:00 p.m.

For more information contact:

Jason Fisher, [jasonf@vt.edu](mailto:jasonf@vt.edu), 434-476-2147

Please register by 5:00 p.m. Tuesday, October 3

## Augusta County

Friday, October 20th

Meet at 8:00 a.m. at: Augusta County Extension Office

13 Government Center Lane, Verona, VA 24482, 540-245-5750

Join us for a varied day in the fields and forests of beautiful Augusta County. From the mountains in the George Washington National Forest to the South River, we will explore a variety of management tools for landowners to improve forest productivity, diversity and habitat value. The excursion will visit Federal, State and private lands and offer fantastic scenery, food, and fellowship along the way.

### Stop 1: National Forests & Fire

The George Washington National Forest is in both the East and West sides of Augusta County. At this stop we will visit with land managers to gain insights into how large public forests are managed with a backdrop of a year-old prescribed burn in the woods. We will turn on the heat as we observe the use of fire to restore native systems and benefit wildlife.

### Stop 2. A Farm for Wildlife

The Quillen family has always grown trees on their farm for the Waynesboro Tree nursery, but today they also grow rare salamanders and toads, more than perhaps anywhere around. It is all about the habitat. This 1000-acre farm is just down the ridge from the National Forests and has the same geology that consists of sinkholes and vernal pools. On our way to the vernal pool, we will wade through warm-season grasslands and perhaps see the rare sneeze weed. Weather permitting, we will turn up the heat with a small grassland burn demonstration.

Lunch beside the South River in Waynesboro. Hear about forestry in the City of Waynesboro... a managed urban forest and a Tree City USA.

### Stop 3. Virginia's Tree Nursery

A visit to the VDOP's hardwood tree nursery will reveal a behind-the-scenes look at the germination, planting, and lifting of hardwood seedlings used to reforest thousands of acres of the commonwealth each year. Over the past 100 years, over 2 billion baby trees have been grown in the state's tree nursery program. Bring a bag of acorns and for every pound of clean, single species acorns, receive a dollar refund to your registration (contact 540-948-6881, [kjenk@vt.edu](mailto:kjenk@vt.edu) for details).

### Stop 4. A Tree Farm

Where do all the baby trees go? While some travel to the far reaches of the state, others stay right in Augusta County on Tree Farms like the Lightsey Certified Stewardship Forest. Over 4,200 trees have been  
**Augusta cont. 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 to:

Kathie Hollandsworth  
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):

- Pulaski - \$35/person; \$60/couple  
 Buckingham - \$35/person; \$60/couple  
 Augusta - \$45/person; \$80/couple  
 Emporia - \$45/person; \$80/couple  
 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.