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Goochland/Fluvanna continued

Stop 1: Good Hardwoods Deserve Good Silviculture

Visit with a private landowner who is working with a professional not only to harvest value from the forest, but also to ensure the future hardwood stand has value as well. When it comes to hardwoods, forward thinking management is rarely practiced. See how both the art and science of silviculture are applied to ensure quality trees for the next 100 years.

Stop 2: Elgin Park & Lickinghole Farm Tracts

This expansive family land holding grows lots of timber and lots of wildlife. Part of more than 2,000-plus contiguous acres owned by the Gottwald family, these properties have been under intensive multi-purpose management for up to 40 years. We'll see side-by-side comparisons of burned, unburned, and over-burned areas. Tools such as prescribed fire, best management practices, easements, tax credits, & timber harvesting help keep this property productive in every sense of the word. Weather permitting, we may get to observe an active logging operation.

Stop 3: Rassawek Vineyard (home of the Rassawek Spring Jubilee) Lunch

We will see an operational steam powered sawmill. Sawmills used to dot the landscape of the eastern U.S. Small by today's standards, these sawmills were the foundation of our nation's early infrastructure. We'll learn about this history and discuss the importance of today's timber industry to Virginia's economic and ecologic health.

Stop 4. Two in the Hand: Rasawek Hunting Preserve

Quail is today's poster child for a habitat type supporting many wildlife species. This stop will explore the unique benefits of pine savannahs and how hunting and timber go together. Weather permitting, we'll see dogs and hunter work together in the favored pastime of quail hunting; a pastime that is enjoying a resurgence due to VDGIF and others working to restore this habitat type.

Return by 5:00 p.m. Come early or stay late to see more of Pleasant Grove Park, with 20 miles of trails and historical interpretation of farming in the area.

For more information contact:

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

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

Please register by 5:00 p.m., Friday, October 12

ALL ITINERARIES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE

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.

42nd Annual Fall Forestry & Wildlife Field Tours 2018 (aka the Bus Tours)



Join fellow forest landowners and natural resource professionals for a fun and exciting day in the woods learning about forest and wildlife management. Check individual tour descriptions for dates and times.

These tours promote wise resource management on private woodlands.

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 who share your interest in Virginia's natural resources.

Each tour includes several demonstration stops on private, industry, and public lands. See inside for times, 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.

Buchanan County Friday, October 5

Meet at 1:00 p.m. at Noah Horn Well Drilling
1070 Sandy Valley Lane, Oakwood, VA 24631
Tour begins promptly at 1:30 p.m.

Named for former president James Buchanan, Buchanan County is the only Virginia County to border both Kentucky and West Virginia.

Stop 1: D and F Logging

At this stop we will discuss the importance of small local markets for low-quality hardwoods and pulpwood in rural areas of Virginia and how they impact hardwood management.

Stop 2: Creating Wildlife Habitat on Reclaimed Mine Lands

Hear, from a wildlife biologist, about the steps needed to convert old coal mining sites to suitable habitat for elk, turkey, and other wildlife species.

Stop 3: Elk! In Virginia! Again!

At this stop we'll learn why elk are being reintroduced to Virginia, what they need to thrive, and how they are being managed sustainably. More than likely, we'll be able to see some elk and hear them bugling. We'll also discuss the opportunities and challenges associated with managing the Coal Canyon Trail System (a 112-mile ATV trail) within the context of wildlife and hardwood management.

Stop 4: More Elk - For Your Viewing and Listening Pleasure

The tour will end at the beginning of the Virginia elk restoration project. This stop is the original elk release site. Sit back and enjoy watching and listening to the elk become more active towards evening and catch a lovely sunset. Dinner will be provided. Please note, this stop is outdoors and can be windy - it very well may get quite chilly - please bring appropriate attire. Also you may want to bring a real camera for the unique photo opportunities this site offers.

Return by 7:30 p.m.

For more information contact:

Bill Worrell, bworrell@vt.edu, 276-889-8056

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

Sussex County Friday, October 12

Meet at 8:00 a.m. at Garland Gray Forestry Center
19127 Sandy Hill Road, Courtland, VA 23837

Eighty percent of the land in Sussex County is in commercial forestry. The main planted species in these forests is loblolly pine. Join us on this tour to learn how this important natural resource is managed in southeast Virginia.

Stop 1: Garland Gray Forestry Center

The Virginia Department of Forestry has grown and sold over 2 billion tree seedlings to Virginia woodland owners over the past 100 years. At Garland Gray, we'll learn about their loblolly pine production program

that produces over 30 million bare-root seedlings every year. We'll also tour their brand-new facilities for growing up to 500,000 containerized longleaf pine seedlings annually. Eventually this operation will be expanded to grow containerized loblolly pine and grasses (for ecosystem restoration).

Stop 2: Chub Sandhill Natural Area Preserve

This preserve, managed by the Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation, features a series of low sandhills, sandy upland flats and adjacent riparian wetlands along the Nottoway River. While most, perhaps all, of the upland vegetation at the preserve has been altered from its pre-settlement condition, the site still supports rare sandhill plant species. Frequent fires historically occurred here, maintaining the upland communities at the northern range extent of the Longleaf Pine Ecosystem. At this stop, participants will learn what DCR has been doing to manage and enhance these unique plant communities, including the reintroduction of longleaf pine in 2007.

Stop 3: BBQ Lunch

Stop 4: Big Woods State Forest/Piney Grove Preserve/Big Woods Wildlife Management Area

These three adjacent properties, managed by the Virginia Department of Forestry, The Nature Conservancy, and the Department of Game and Inland Fisheries, total 7,574 acres of conserved land in southeast Virginia. Management activities frequently take place across ownerships, allowing for multiple objectives to be achieved. Management objectives include timber production, red-cockaded woodpecker restoration, and wildlife habitat maintenance and improvement. We'll discuss what management tools are used to achieve these objectives.

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., Friday, October 5

Fluvanna/Goochland Counties Friday, October 19

Meet at 8:00 a.m. at Pleasant Grove Park
271 Pleasant Grove Drive, Palmyra, VA 22963

Join us in the heart of Virginia's Piedmont to explore the scenic and productive forests of these historic lands. From the preserved Haden Family farmhouse at Fluvanna County's premier public park (Pleasant Grove) to lands near the former town of Columbia along the James River, we will explore a variety of management tools for landowners to improve forest productivity, diversity, and habitat value. The excursion will visit two properties named after Rassawek, the former main village of the Monocan Indian tribe, and will offer fantastic scenery, food, and fellowship along the way.

Goochland/Fluvanna cont. on back



Register and pay on-line!
Visit <https://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.

All tours are \$45/person, \$80/couple.

- Buchanan Co.
- Sussex Co.
- Fluvanna/Goochland Cos.
- I am a K-12 teacher**

Please print or type

Name(s) _____

Street/P.O. _____

City _____

State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____

E-mail _____

Dietary needs: _____

Land County _____

Total Acres _____ Wooded Acres _____

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

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