

# Thank You Sponsors!

- Lord Fairfax Soil & Water Conservation District
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- University of Virginia, Blandy Experimental Farm - State Arboretum of Virginia
- USDA Natural Resources Conservation Services
- Virginia Department of Wildlife Resources
- Virginia Tech College of Natural Resources and Environment
- Virginia Tech Department of Forest Resources and Environmental Conservation
- Ward Burton Wildlife Foundation



## Important COVID-19 Information

Please read carefully before registering

- Registration will be limited to ensure adequate physical distancing.
- No transportation will be provided. Participants will be responsible for driving themselves, except in Halifax, where participants will travel by hay wagon.
- To simplify this process, all tours will take place at single site with multiple stations.
- Participants may be divided into 4 smaller groups who will move from station to station together (this may entail driving in your personal vehicles).
- The tours will be 100% outdoors, rain or shine.
- We will follow all current COVID-19 procedures as required. These may include wearing face masks/shields.
- Physical distancing will be required.
- Sanitizing materials will be provided.
- Boxed lunches with drinks will be provided (or you may bring your own).
- Participants should bring their own beverages and snacks for the rest of the day.
- **If you feel ill, please cancel your reservation.** Full refunds will be given to anyone who cancels prior to the day of the tour.
- If the COVID-19 situation changes, there may be additional requirements or the tours may be cancelled. Your safety and the safety of our speakers and organizers, are our primary concerns. We will communicate with all participants to keep you up to date.
- Please visit the Virginia Department of Health for more prevention tips: <https://www.vdh.virginia.gov/coronavirus/prevention-tips/>

## King William County - Friday, October 23

Meet at 8:30 a.m. at Sandy Point State Forest

Sandy Point Road, West Point VA, 23181

Tour begins promptly at 9:00 a.m.

Portable facilities will be available, but we encourage you to take care of rest room matters in West Point to avoid crowding.

*We'll have plenty of physical distancing at the 2,053-acre Sandy Point State Forest. This acreage was acquired in 2002 from The Nature Conservancy, who had previously acquired it from industrial ownership.*

**Stop A: This, That, and the Other.** Things that are done to shape the forest into something better involve harvest, crop-tree release, prescribed burning, spraying, and planting. There are dozens of approaches to performing these tasks. Get the lowdown from seasoned practitioners who have seen and done it all.

**Stop B: Why Maintain a Bridge when you can Establish a Ford?**

Fords are not extremely common water crossings in eastern Virginia, however new technologies do make them easier to install and maintain than bridges and culverts. And if you tire of battling beavers, or have experienced some of the coastal plain storm events, you know how vulnerable bridges and culverts are. Fords present a longer-term, lower-maintenance alternative.

**Lunch: Down by the River.** We picked out a spot long cherished by the locals and previous owners as a beautiful place to enjoy some individually packaged lunches of local fare.

**Stop C: All Creatures Great and Small.** Everything that we do, or don't do, has some impact on what critters may occupy an area during different seasons and for different reasons. A wildlife biologist, who has worked on this property for decades through various ownerships, will explain how different stand structures, light regimes, and water availability impact which plants and animals will thrive and how this biodiversity plays into an intricate ecosystem.

**Stop D: Why are you Pining Away?** Pine is a very significant (though not the majority) cover type in eastern Virginia. Soils and economics are significant drivers. We'll catch a little glimpse of how this came to be over the years and get an update on where this might be headed in the future. The need for packaging continues to exhibit strong demand, and packaging - believe it or not - grows on trees. Packaging needs pines. A more detailed rundown of everything from improved genetics of growing stock to site preparation and planting densities to factors influencing thinning and mid-rotation management, to when to harvest will be covered.

Return by 4:00 p.m.

For more information contact: Neil Clark

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

Please register by 4:00 p.m. Friday, October 16

# 44th Annual Fall Forestry & Wildlife Field Tours 2020



*Join other forest landowners and natural resource professionals for an educational and fun day in the woods learning about forest and wildlife management. Check individual tour descriptions for dates and times.*

**SEE BACK PAGE FOR IMPORTANT COVID-19 INFORMATION**

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 will include multiple stops on an individual property. 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.**

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

## Halifax County - Friday, October 2

Meet at 8:00 a.m. at The Cover

5059 Cove Road, Clover, VA 24534

Tour begins promptly at 9:00 a.m.

Participants will travel to stops on hay wagons.

**Stop 1: Welcome to the Cove Property.** Ward Burton will share his vision and conservation philosophy.

**Stop 2: The Importance of Protecting Wetlands.** Learn about wetland restoration and creating habitat for flora and fauna that thrive in these areas.

**Stop 3: Shortleaf Who?** Shortleaf pine was once a much more common species in Virginia. Hear about efforts to restore this diminished species to the landscape. You will also learn how to identify both shortleaf and loblolly pines.

**Lunch:** Local (boxed) fare provided by the Burton Family.

**Stop 4: Reaching the NEXT Generation.** Members of the Ward Burton Foundation will share their efforts to promote a conservation ethic among younger generations.

**Stop 5: Tools to Create and Manage Wildlife Habitat.** Discing, burning, and planting are all ways to create and maintain high-quality habitat for many different species of wildlife. See how the Burton family uses these tools on their land.

**Stop 6: Hardwoods are Important Too!** Virginia has a new initiative to help woodland owners improve the health and productivity of their hardwood forests. Learn how this initiative can help you.

**Return by 4:30 p.m.**

**For more information contact:**

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

Please register by 4:00 p.m., Friday, September 25th

## Grayson/Carroll Counties - Friday, October 9

Meet at 8:30 a.m. at the Matthews State Forest

106 Forestry Lane, Galax, VA 24333; 276-236-2322

Tour begins promptly at 9:00 a.m.

**Stop 1: Managing your Trees.** Learn about management options for growing productive and high-quality white pine and mixed hardwoods.

**Stop 2: Managing your Wildlife.** Many woodland owners choose to manage for both game and non-game species of wildlife on their land. Find out how food plots and warm season grasses can help you achieve your goals.

**Lunch:** Boxed lunch from local restaurant

**Stop 3: Managing your Unwanted Invasives.** You probably have them,

whether you know it or not. Learn how to identify common invasives in SW Virginia and what you can do about them.

**Stop 4: Managing for the Holidays.** Christmas trees and the greenery industry have large consumer markets. Can your land be used to grow these products?

**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 4:00 p.m., Friday, October 2

## Clarke County - Friday, October 16

Meet at 8:30 a.m. at Bland Experimental Farm

400 Bland Farm Lane, Boyce, VA 22620; 540-837-1758

Tour begins promptly at 9:00 a.m.

*Virginia's official State Arboretum, also known as Bland Experimental Farm, is much more than a collection of trees. This 172-acre property, owned and managed by the University of Virginia, "sprouted" in the 1930 and contains trees and shrubs from around the world, over 670 different species!*

From the famous Ginko Grove to the hopeful American Chestnut orchard this property boasts more than trees. Numerous ponds and Warm Season Grass fields managed with fire provide treasured habitat for Quail and other early succession using wildlife. Mature Hardwood forests facing pressure from invasive species are a real-world scenario providing applied research opportunities. We'll also reach high and wide to officially measure tree size, dig deep to explore soil and roots and maybe watch a log get transformed into lumber. Join us for this a behind the scenes tour of this living museum and outdoor laboratory.

**Return by 4:00 p.m.**

**For more information contact:**

Adam Downing, [adowning@vt.edu](mailto:adowning@vt.edu), 540-948-6881

Please register by 4:00 p.m., Friday, October 11

### See back page for King William County tour details

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 540-315-0615/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.

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Petersburg.



**Register and pay on-line!**

Visit <https://forestupdate.frec.vt.edu>

Or send this form and check made payable to

**Virginia Tech Treasurer to:**

Kathie Hollandsworth

228 Cheatham Hall (0324)

Blacksburg, VA 24061

Registration fees include boxed lunch with beverage (if you prefer to bring your own lunch, please check the appropriate box below).

All tours are \$25/person, \$40/couple.

- Halifax County  
 Grayson/Carroll Counties  
 Clarke County  
 King William County  
 I will bring my own lunch  
 I am a K-12 teacher\*\*

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

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

City \_\_\_\_\_

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

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

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

Dietary needs: \_\_\_\_\_

Land County \_\_\_\_\_

Total Acres \_\_\_\_\_ Wooded Acres \_\_\_\_\_