

Beyond the Basics Woodland Owner Retreat: Managing Your Forest for Wildlife

Sept. 5-6, 2025, New Kent Forestry Center, Providence Forge, VA

Thursday September 4			
6:30 – 7:30	Check in for lodging Note – Dinner on your own	New Kent Forestry Center Classroom	
Friday September 5			
7:15 – 8:15	Breakfast/Check in		
8:15 – 8:45	Welcome and Introductions/ Dynamic Systems Exercise	Ellen Powell	Virginia Department of Forestry
8:45 – 9:00	Goals & Objectives: Where Does Wildlife Management Fit in?	Jennifer Gagnon	Virginia Tech
9:00 – 9:45	Young Forest Habitat	Mike Dye	Virginia Department of Wildlife Resources
9:45 – 10:00	Break		
10:00 – 10:45	Mature Forest Habitat	Steve Living	Virginia Department of Wildlife Resources
10:45 – 11:30	Using Trail Cameras to Learn About the Wildlife Living in your Woods/Gray Fox Project	Leah Card	Virginia Department of Wildlife Resources
11:45 – 12:30	Lunch		
12:30 – 4:30	Management Tour Ware Creek Wildlife Management Area	Steve Living/ Ashlei Selden	Virginia Department of Wildlife Resources
4:30 – 5:15	Wildlife at Home/Watchable Wildlife	Steve Living	Virginia Department of Wildlife Resources
5:15	Dinner		
6:00	Optional Wildlife-themed movie – To be determined		
Saturday September 6			
7:15 – 8:30	Breakfast		
8:30 – 8:45	Debrief from Tour, Door prizes	Ellen Powell	Virginia Department of Forestry
8:45 – 10:15	Field Tour: Prescribed fire, wetlands, signs of wildlife	Ellen Powell	Virginia Department of Forestry
10:00 – 10:15	Break		
10:15 – 11:45	Work Session: Building Brush Piles, Creating Hinge Cuts	Steve Living/ David Garst	Virginia Department of Wildlife Resources
11:45 – 12:00	Wrap up and evaluations	Jennifer Gagnon	Virginia Tech
Lunch on your own - have a safe trip home!			

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