

What Previous Year's Participants are Saying

"[Private landowner] gave a human real life aspect to this whole matter. Excellent choice of presenter."

"All speakers were excellent and well informed. Those who received 5's [on the evaluation] from me spoke to my beginner level and I could quickly understand and keep up with the topic. Food was excellent too."

"The sheer knowledge and professionalism displayed by each representative present at this event has been phenomenal. Never before have I experienced such persons with a passion for their careers as I have this weekend. It is with this that I send my sincere appreciation."



Virginia Tech • Virginia State University

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

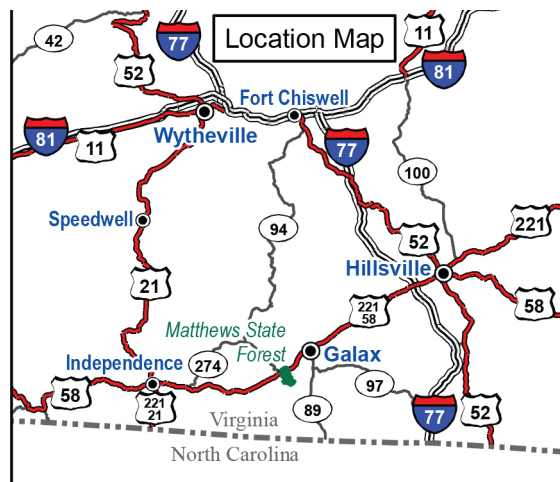
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Department of Agriculture cooperating. Edwin J. Jones, Director, Virginia Cooperative Extension, Virginia Tech, Blacksburg; M. Ray McKinnie, Administrator, 1890 Extension Program, Virginia State University, Petersburg.

About Matthews State Forest
106 Matthews Lane
Galax, VA 24333

Phone: 276-236-2322
http://www.dof.virginia.gov/infopubs/_state-forests/MSF-2009-06_pub.pdf

The 566 acres that now comprise the Matthews State Forest were originally settled by the Nuckolls family in the late 1700s. The Nuckolls family cemetery sits on a ridge overlooking the homestead. Judge Jack Matthews purchased the property from a Nuckolls heir in 1946. The Judge enjoyed all types of wildlife, gardening, what he called "old-time apples" and planting trees of any kind. One of his passions was for the American chestnut, and he had a strong desire to see its return. He could remember the chestnut before it was devastated by the blight and how important it had been ecologically, economically and socially to the region. When Judge Matthews conveyed his land to the VDOF, he also conveyed his vision to create a state forest "to provide for the scientific, educational and research needs for Southwest Virginia's children and the public, and to continue the work to bring back indigenous species, such as the American chestnut."



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.

Southwest Virginia Beginning Woodland Owners' Retreat



Join fellow woodland owners, the Virginia Department of Forestry, and Virginia Cooperative Extension for an interactive retreat to learn about actively managing your woods.

May 16-18
Matthews State Forest
Galax



Important Dates & Times

- **Early check-in (optional):** Thursday, May 16, 6:30-8 p.m. **Dinner on your own.**
- **Check-in:** Friday, May 17, 7:15 a.m. Breakfast provided.
- **Program ends:** Saturday, May 18, following lunch.

A variety of topics for those new to woodland management will be covered by natural resource professionals.

Topics include*

- Working with a natural resource professional
- Management planning
- Timber sales
- Wildlife management
- Hardwood management
- Invasive plant ID
- Tree ID
- Determining the value of trees



***A detailed agenda will be available closer to the program date. Specific topics may change.**

Sessions will be both indoors and outdoors. On Friday evening, we will be viewing the documentary *Green Fire: Aldo Leopold and a Land Ethic for our Time*.

Questions? Contact Jennifer Gagnon
jgagnon@vt.edu 540/231-6391

Lodging

On-site lodging Thursday and Friday is available (limited to 10 people, first-come, first-served). All rooms have a private bathroom. Couples will be housed together; individuals will be housed with another participant. Alternatively, you may commute from home or stay at a hotel in Galax (please make reservations on your own).

Some local hotels include:

Hampton Inn Galax: 276-238-4605

Knights Inn Galax: 276-236-5117

Important Information

- This program is designed for new or inexperienced landowners; repeat attendees are welcome, but please note that the program will be similar to previous years';
- Transportation to the field trip sites will be provided;
- Breakfast, lunch, dinner and snacks will be provided Friday; breakfast, lunch and snacks will be provided Saturday;
- Some walking will be required. Please contact us as soon as possible if you require special accommodations;
- Parts of this program will be held outdoors so please dress appropriately for conditions: closed toed sturdy shoes, long pants, hats, jackets, rain gear are suggested;
- Don't forget your sunblock and bug spray!

Please register no later than May 2
Register and pay on-line!
<https://forestupdate.frec.vt.edu>

Or send this form and payment to:

Kathie Hollandsworth

228 Cheatham Hall (0324) Blacksburg, VA 24061

(make checks payable to: Virginia Tech Treasurer)

Circle your choice below:

- Individual, No Lodging - \$55
- Individual, Lodging Thurs. & Fri. - \$95
- Couple, No Lodging - \$90
- Couple, Lodging Thurs. & Fri. - \$170

Name(s): _____

Address: _____

City: _____

State: _____ **Zip:** _____

E-Mail: _____

Phone: _____

Are you a woodland owner?

Yes ____ **No** ____ **If yes:**

Land County _____

Total Acres _____ **Wooded Acres** _____

Special Dietary Needs:

SW Virginia Beginning Forest
Landowners' Retreat - Galax