

## Upcoming Events

- **July 11-12, Abingdon**  
SW Forest Landowner Weekend Retreat
- **July 19 – Montpelier Station**  
Working Woods Walk
- **July 22-23, Charlottesville**  
Pines to Products for TEACHERS
- **August 28-30, Wakefield**  
SE Forest Landowner Weekend Retreat
- **September 14 & 21, Natural Bridge**  
Family Forestland Short-Course: Focusing on Land Transfer to Generation NEXT
- **October 3-4, Cumberland**  
Central Forest Landowner Weekend Retreat
- **October 15, Roanoke**  
Real Forestry for Real Estate
- **October, Fall Forestry & Wildlife Field Tours**
  - **Nelson County**
  - **Southampton County**
  - **Northern Virginia**
  - **SW Virginia**

Visit the [Events Calendar](#) for details.

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## Good morning e-Update Subscribers,

This summer is really trying my lack of patience for heat and humidity. Is it wrong for me to just want my tomatoes to ripen and then for it to be winter? How I long for the howling winds that define winter in Blacksburg. You may think I'm kidding, but I am not. This former Florida girl wouldn't be opposed to a move to Greenland at this point.

Ok, enough griping. Here's some good news:

### **The Summer 2015 Edition of the Virginia Forest Landowner Update is in the mail. In this edition:**

- **Do You Have a Fire Safety Plan for Your Woodlands?**

**By George Hurd, Penn State**

One of a forest landowner's greatest dangers is a wildfire. Is your forested property in a condition that could survive a wildfire? Could firefighters easily get to a wildfire on your property? Do you have a plan that includes maps and details of exact locations for access and water supplies? Regardless of the season, conditions often prevail that allow wildfires to start. Wildfires can occur in any month, at any time of the day, destroying valuable woodlands and wildlife habitat. Droughts and dry conditions at various times of the year increase the risk for wildfires. Careless use of fire in wooded areas can also increase the chance of a wildfire, which can then quickly spread and threaten homes and human lives. [Read more...](#)

- **Funding Available for Conservation Practices on Privately Owned Forestland**

Well-managed, productive forests offer numerous conservation benefits, but the long growth cycle of trees can present a financial challenge for landowners seeking to retain working forestlands. USDA's Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) is now making \$470,000 available to help increase adoption of forestry practices statewide through a new Regional Conservation Partnership Program (RCPP) project. [Read more...](#)

- **You Ain't From Around Here! Exotic Invasive of the Quarter: Giant Salvinia (*Salvinia molesta*)**

**By: Jennifer Gagnon, Virginia Tech**

This quarter I will return to writing about what I promised to write about in the Winter edition of the VFLU – invasive species that aren't established in Virginia....but are lurking outside our borders. (Last quarter I strayed because someone offered to write an article for me about mile a minute vine and I am not one to turn down a free, well-written article.)

## Virginia Department of Forestry

*Learn about cost-share programs, forest management options, buy seedlings, and find your local forester.*

Virginia Sustainable Forestry Initiative State Implementation Committee

The American Tree Farm System

Virginia Forestry Association

Forest Stewardship Program

USDA Forest Service

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Let's take a look at a plant called giant salvinia. Pseudonyms include kariba weed, salvinia, water fern, and aquarium watermoss. The scientific name, *molesta*, comes from the Latin, *molestus*, meaning troublesome, irksome, grievous, annoying or tiresome. Seems appropriate based on what I've learned about this species. [Read more...](#)

- **Don't Pine Away Your Independence**  
By: Adam Downing, Virginia Cooperative Extension

In anticipation of our nation's celebration of independence and out of respect for those who have given so much for this unique gift of freedom, I would like to pose the following question: What do the flags of Maine and Vermont have in common with the Royal Navy and the American Revolution? (Hints: The answer is a species of tree that was fought over; the ensuing rebellion paved the way for the better-known Boston Tea Party; and it has been called the sequoia of the East). [Read more...](#)

- **Events Calendar**

**And, in other forestry news...**

- If you haven't already, check out our new publication, **Welcome to the Woods! A Guide for New Virginia Woodland Owners**, is now available on-line and in print. This full-color guide covers the top ten things new Virginia woodland owners should know. Complete with resources, agency contacts, and a glossary, this guide can help those new to woodland ownership (or management) get started. Download it [here](#) for free.
- We are still in the planning stage for our **Fall Forestry & Wildlife Field Tours**, but details will be out very soon! We're also working on scheduling Real Forestry for Real estate classes. See the sidebar and the **Events Calendar** for details.

### Read this e-newsletter on-line.

Don't forget, follow the Virginia Forest Landowner Education Program on Twitter ([@VFLEP](#)) and Facebook ([www.facebook.com/VFLEP](http://www.facebook.com/VFLEP)). Our trivia question for June will be posted on the Facebook page at 9 am today, June 1st. Be with first newsletter reader with a correct answer, and win a VFLEP ball cap!

All the best!

Jennifer

This e-newsletter has been posted on-line. It can be viewed at: <http://forestupdate.frec.vt.edu/newsletter/archives/index.html>

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