Good morning e-Update Subscribers,

Happy June everyone!

It’s summer time. In a college town, like Blacksburg, these three words are very meaningful. Campus is quiet, dozens of ducklings are swimming in the Duck Pond, good parking spaces abound, the wait to be seated at the Mellow Mushroom is under an hour…. By August, we’ll all be ready for the students to return, but for now, we’ll all enjoy this respite and use the time for catching up and planning.

We are busy planning all our summer/fall events, including three Landowner Weekend Retreats, three Fall Forestry & Wildlife Field Tours, and a whole bunch of Real Forestry for Real estate classes. See the sidebar and the Events Calendar for details.

Some forestry related news for you:

- We, the VCE Forestry & Natural Resources Extension Agents, Greg Frey, USDA Forest Service, and myself, are very proud to announce that our new publication, Welcome to the Woods! A Guide for New Virginia Woodland Owners, is now available on-line and in print. Based on the Forests for the Bay program’s Welcome to Your Woods – Maryland publication, the guide was developed as a resource for Realtors to pass on to new woodland buyers. 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.

If you live in one of Virginia’s neighboring states, the Forests for the Bay program has these comparable publications available:

- Welcome to Your Woods – Maryland
- Welcome to Your Woods – Pennsylvania
- Welcome to Your Woods – West Virginia
Virginia Tech’s **Center for Natural Resources Assessment and Decision Support** has just released the publication: **Baseline Analysis of Virginia’s Commercial Wood Supply.** According to Steve Prisley, the Center’s Director, “This analysis, focused on an economically important sector of Virginia’s forest resources, indicates a positive overall balance between forest growth and harvests. However, harvests of pulpwood-sized trees exceeds growth, indicating a constrained supply for specific product classes. While recent data show that there are reasons for concern about the near-term supply dynamics for these forest products, additional research is needed to determine the extent and what steps would be most effective to address these concerns. The point-in-time assessment reported here has limitations, due to the dynamic nature of forest growth and forest products markets, the interchangeable nature of some forest products (pulpwood and small sawtimber), and the spatial and temporal variability in forest inventory and demand.”

Finally, there may be some good news for bats. As you may recall, **White-nose Syndrome** has killed nearly 6 million bats since 2006. This may result in the northern bat being listed as an endangered species, which will impact forest management activities. Researchers with the USDA Forest Service and Georgia State University have identified a new treatment which may help bats survive the disease. Learn more about **White-nose Syndrome** and its potential treatment.

**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). 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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