



Virginia Forest Landowner e-Update

May 2015

Upcoming Events

- **Spring Venture Outdoors!**
 - **May 8, Lynchburg**
 - **May 15, Halifax**
- **May 13**
6th Annual CPS Vegetation Management Day, Wakefield
- **Real Forestry for Real Estate**
 - **May 18, Ashburn**
 - **May 19, Harrisonburg**
- **May 30, Bedford**
On-line Woodland Options for Landowners Hands-on Field Trip
- **June 23-25, Asheville, NC**
Upland Hardwood Silviculture & Habitat Workshop
- **July 11-12, Abingdon**
SW Forest Landowner Weekend Retreat
- **August 28-30, Wakefield**
SE Forest Landowner Weekend Retreat

Good morning e-Update Subscribers,

Wow, this year is flying by! Last week was the Virginia Tech Horticulture Club's annual plant sale – the best day of the year as far as I'm concerned. Purchased some heirloom tomatoes to supplement my hybrids (which, let's face it, are the real producers; but heirlooms taste the best), a couple of (hopefully) cold-hardy figs, and a few carnivores so I can restart my pitcher-plant bog. Now if it would only dry out enough to till the garden.

We'll also be planting some chestnut oaks we grew from acorns we collected. Surprisingly, germination was over 50%. These will be planted on our farm, which doesn't have a lot of oaks. Realistically, the deer will probably eat most of the seedlings, but maybe a few will survive.

In the world of forestry this month:

- This spring, the **USDA Forest Service will use prescribed fire to restore 200-300 acres of National Forestland in Vermont**. The goals are to create wildlife habitat, reduce fuel loads, reduce wildfire risk, and regenerate early successional growth. In Virginia, we are working with landowners to help them use prescribed fire for similar purposes. We offered a prescribed fire class in Wakefield in early April; we're in the planning stages for classes in northern Virginia and Charlottesville later this year. Details coming soon! In the meantime, **you can watch a time-lapse video** made by our partners at NCSU.
- The Family Forest Research Center has completed a report called "**Vanishing Pieces of the Puzzle**" which quantifies the benefits of and threats to family forests in the United States. This is a fascinating report which will help you how your woodlands fit in to the larger picture.
- Now that the weather is better, many of us are out in the woods. Something that is good for us. But we



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- **October 3-4, Cumberland**
Central Forest Landowner Weekend Retreat
- **Stay tuned for our Fall Forestry & Wildlife Field Tour schedule – coming soon!**

Visit the Events Calendar for details.

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Virginia Sustainable Forestry Initiative State Implementation Committee

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Virginia Forestry Association

Forest Stewardship Program

USDA Forest Service

Contact

<http://forestupdate.frec.vt.edu>

also need to stay safe. This makes me unbearably sad to share, but there have been a number of cases where individuals have stumbled upon the by-products of illegal meth labs. These can be extremely hazardous. **Know what to look for** and if you find a suspected dump site, leave the area immediately and call the local Sheriff's office.

- **Featured Programs**
 - **Spring Venture Outdoors!** Learn about forestry issues that pertain to the health and management of your woodlands. Registration is free, but pre-registration is required. Lunch is included. May 8, Bedford or May 15, Halifax.
 - **Real Forestry for Real Estate.** If you are a Realtor or Appraiser who works with rural land, this 8-hour class can help you become more knowledgeable about your product. Learn the basics of forestry while earning 8 VDPOR CE credits. Copies of our new publication, Welcome to the Woods! A Guide for New Virginia Woodland Owners, will be available for participants to take to their land-buying clients.
May 18, Ashburn (\$75 – includes lunch, refreshments, materials and CE credits)
 - **May 19, Harrisonburg** (\$50 includes lunch, refreshments, materials and CE credits)
 - **Landowner Weekend Retreat.** If you are new to woodland ownership or management, this weekend program may be for you. A variety of classroom talks, hands-on activities and a field trip will help you learn the basics of woodland management in a fun atmosphere.

Abingdon, July 11-12



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228 Cheatham Hall 0324

Blacksburg, VA 24061

Wakefield, August 28-30

Cumberland, October 3-4

- Upcoming webinars:
 - **International Migratory Bird Day:
Celebrating Birds in Your Habitat**
May 7, 1-2 p.m.
 - **Assessing Your Forest**
June 9, 12-1 p.m. or 7-8 p.m.

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 May will be posted on the Facebook page at 9 am today, May 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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