

# Virginia Forest Landowner e-Update

Fall 2017

Vol. 31, No. 4

## Featured Events

### Preparing for Generation NEXT Workshops

- Chatham, Oct. 17 & 24
  - Application process is closed
- Providence Forge, Nov. 2 & 9
  - Apply on-line or by mail
- Radford, Nov. 9 & 16
  - Apply on-line or by mail

### Tree Farmer Dinners

- Goldvein, Oct. 26
- Register on-line or by mail

### Fall Forestry & Wildlife Field Tours

- Buckingham Co., October 10
- Augusta County, October 20
- Emporia, October 25
- **Pulaski County, November 2**
- Register on-line or by mail
- Tour details

Good morning Forest e-Update Subscribers,

My goodness, can you believe it? The year is almost over – already! I know it's fall for several reasons:

- The poison ivy is stunning
- I've lost my husband to his full-time fall-hobby – stinkbug hunting. Read about his quest in the [Winter 2017 edition of the newsletter](#). We are in the process of [building a trap](#) per your suggestions. I'll keep everyone updated on how effective it is once we finish the 2 liter of soda.
- My calendar is full of landowner events!
- [The Fall 2017 edition of the Virginia Forest Landowner Update](#) is here! And it's chock full of information.

In this edition:

- [Introducing Virginia Water Radio and the Virginia Water Resources Research Center](#)  
**By: Alan Raflo, Virginia Water Resources Research Center**

Here's a history question. What common everyday item owes it origin—in part at least—to the following men, all active from the mid-1800s to the early 1900s: James Maxwell, Heinrich Hertz, Nikola Tesla, Alexander Popov, and Guglielmo Marconi? All of these men, along with other scientists and engineers, contributed to the invention or development of the **radio**. From Robert Peary's 1909 message upon reaching the North Pole, to the World War II messages from Franklin Roosevelt and Winston Churchill, to the daily talk shows that enliven and influence politics and culture in 2017, radio has been an indispensable part of modern communications. [Read more...](#)

Visit the Events Calendar for details!

## VFLEP Sponsors

### Virginia Cooperative Extension

*Puts university knowledge into the hands of people.*

### 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

## Contact

**Jennifer Gagnon**

**228 Cheatham Hall  
0324**

**Blacksburg, VA 24061**

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

**[jgagnon@vt.edu](mailto:jgagnon@vt.edu)**

**540/231-6391**

- **You Ain't From Around Here! Exotic Invasive Species of the Quarter: Norway Maple**  
**By: Jennifer Gagnon, Virginia Tech**

I've decided to feature Norway maple as the exotic invasive of the quarter as an ode to the lovely, albeit invasive, individual that dominates my front yard. You can see a photo of it here: <http://bigtree.cnre.vt.edu/detail.cfm?AutofieldforPrimaryKey=1903> because it is the fourth-largest Norway maple in Virginia. Being a nerdy forester, this is something that brings me great pride. I'm not ashamed of it being an exotic invasive as I was not the one to plant it over 100 years ago. This article is a tribute to it, because it is not long for this world. In the past year, I've seen significant decline – a thinning crown, sloughing bark, fungal bodies at the base, and a large crack along one of the main stems. The wind is wicked out at my place and the tree hangs over my roof. Not a safe combination for a tree in this condition. As such, my husband and I have regretfully come to the decision to take it down this fall. This will completely change the character of the yard, reduce shading of the house, and make me very sad. On the upside, it will reduce seed production from an exotic invasive species. [Read more...](#)

- **Environmentally Friendly Homes**  
**By: Adam Downing, Virginia Cooperative Extension**

If the three little pigs were environmentally conscious and building houses today, what materials would they choose to build with? What constitutes an environmentally friendly home that will stand the test of time? Some would say it is a home designed to use natural systems such as sun in the winter and shade in the summer or perhaps even geothermal energy, to limit reliance on electricity and fossil fuels. Indeed, these and other factors such as energy-efficient appliances are part of a design that limits a home's impact on the environment. But, builders of truly environmentally friendly homes need also consider what the structure is made of. What's holding it all together?. [Read more...](#)

- **Cross Laminated Timber**  
**By John Matel, Virginia Tree Farm Foundation**

You will be hearing a lot more about cross laminated timber (CLT). CLT is a building material for the future. This material can be used instead of steel or concrete to construct medium and high-rise buildings. It is the material that will make it possible to build cheaper, faster, and better using an ecologically positive product - wood. [Read more...](#)

- [Events Calendar](#)

## Upcoming Woodland Owner Events

### Preparing for Generation NEXT

Learn how to pass your land and your woodland legacy to the next generation – while keeping it Intact, In Forest, and In Family. These workshops will give you the tools you need to discuss this difficult topic with your family, and provide you with professional advice from CPAs and estate planning attorneys. [Watch a quick video from our friends at UMass Amherst to find out why this topic is so important.](#)

- October 17 & 24, [Olde Dominion Agricultural Complex](#), Chatham – Application process is closed
- Nov. 2 & 9, [New Kent Forestry Center](#), Providence Forge – Apply [on-line](#) or [by mail](#)
- Nov. 9 & 16, [Selu Conservancy](#), Radford. Apply [on-line](#) or [by mail](#).

### 2017 Fall Forestry & Wildlife Field Tours

Join VCE and partners for a day learning about active woodlands and wildlife management from Virginia's natural resource experts.

- October 10 – Buckingham County
- October 20 - [Augusta County](#)
- October 25 – Emporia
- **November 2 – Pulaski – NOTE NEW DATE!! Rescheduled from October 5**
- [Register on-line](#) or [by-mail](#)
- [Tour details](#)

## 2017 Tree Farmer Dinners

These dinners are for current Tree Farmers and other interested landowners. Come learn what the Virginia Tree Farm Foundation is all about and tour an active Tree Farm. Dinner is \$10\* per person, which includes your meal (only \$5 for each additional family member you bring).

- Goldvein, Oct. 26
- Register [on-line](#) or [by mail](#)

\*Meal(s) are included; \*\*meal(s) and lodging are included

For a full listing of events, visit the [Virginia Forest Landowner Education Program's Events Calendar](#).

Hope to see you at an event this fall!

Jennifer

Follow the Virginia Forest Landowner Education Program on Twitter ([@VFLEP](#)) and Facebook ([www.facebook.com/VFLEP](http://www.facebook.com/VFLEP)).

This e-newsletter is posted on-line at:

<http://forestupdate.frec.vt.edu/newsletter/archives/index.html>

To unsubscribe, please send an e-mail to [jgagnon@vt.edu](mailto:jgagnon@vt.edu) "Unsubscribe" in the subject line.