

Virginia Forest Landowner e-Update

December 2018

Featured Events

Woods & Wildlife Conferences

- Feb. 23, 2019
- [Culpeper](#) and [Roanoke](#)
- Registration opens in December

On-line Woodland Options for Landowners

- March 4 – May 24
- On-line
- Registration opens in January

Beginning Landowner Retreats

- March 14-16, Appomattox
- May 16-18, Galax
- September 19-21, Providence Forge
- Registration opens 2 months prior to programs

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

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Good morning Forest e-Update Subscribers,

Hard to believe this is the last e-newsletter of the year. In fact, it makes my head hurt a bit. Seems we were just here a second ago. There's never enough time and what time there is goes by so very quickly. Someone once told me that time seems to go by faster as you age because each subsequent year is a smaller percentage of your total life. For instance, when you are ten, a year is 1/10 of your life. At 50, a year is only 1/50 of your life. I'd add to the theory that as we get older, our interests and responsibilities increase and occupy much more of our time. It's better than being bored, but I do wish it would all slow down.

During this holiday season, when we are not traveling, I plan on tackling some farm projects, including a barn clean-out. We also purchased some trail cams so I am excited to (hopefully) see our black bear that everyone has seen except for me!

Until next year, happy holidays to everyone and thank you for your continued interest and support!

Useful Resources

- If you sold timber in 2018, please read [Tax Tips for Forest Landowners for the 2018 Tax Year](#) and be sure to share it with your tax preparer as well.
- If you lost timber in Hurricanes Florence or Michael, you may be able to deduct the losses on your 2018 taxes. Learn more from the USDA Forest Service publication: [Income Tax Deduction on Timber and Landscape Tree Loss from Casualty](#).
- [The Department of Game & Inland Fisheries](#) has a new elk cam that allows you to watch Virginia's elk herd from August – November. Although the cam will be inactive now, DGIF is actively looking

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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for public input into their elk management plan. You can find [both links here](#).

- In the spring of 2016 I wrote an article about the [spotted lanternfly](#). At the time, it wasn't in Virginia. [Now it is](#). Please be on the lookout for this destructive pest and [report any sightings](#).
- And let's end the year with something positive. Some good exotic invasive news for a change – [stink bug numbers are down!](#)

Upcoming Woodland Owner Events

Below is a sample of upcoming landowner education programs. For a complete listing visit the [Events Calendar](#).

Tree Farm Dinners

Tree Farmer dinners are for all interested landowners. You DO NOT need to be a Tree Farmer to attend. Learn what the Virginia Tree Farm Foundation is all about, tour an active Tree Farm, and learn about creating quality wildlife habitat on your land. The event is \$10 per person, which includes your meal.

- February 21
- 3:00
- Porterfield Forest LLC Tree Farm, St. Stephens Church
- Contact Dan Wilson to register – dan@trfva.com, 434-531-0456

Woods & Wildlife Conferences

These day-long conferences have something for everyone interested in natural resources. The agendas will include topics useful to owners of small and large woodlands, new and experienced owners, and those simply interested in woods and wildlife.

- Feb. 23, 2019
- [Culpeper](#) and [Roanoke](#)
- \$45/person; \$80/couple (includes breakfast and lunch)
- Agendas available in mid-December
- Registration opens in mid-December

On-line Woodland Options for Landowners

Learn about your woods and how to keep them healthy and productive - from your computer. This 12-week self-paced class covers the basics of woodland management. And for those who want more, hands-on activities are also provided. An optional hands-on, in-person field trip in central Virginia will serve as the capstone for the class.

- March 4 – May 24
- On-line
- \$45/family – includes a hands-on field trip and 3 books
- Registration opens in January

[Beginning Landowner Retreats](#)

These 1.5 day-long programs cover the basics of woodland and wildlife management – using classroom, field trip, and hands-on presentations. There will also be plenty of time to interact with natural resource professionals to get all your property-specific questions answered.

- March 14-16, [Appomattox](#)
- May 16-18, [Galax](#)
- September 19-21, [Providence Forge](#)
- Registration opens 2 months prior to programs

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

Jennifer

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