Good morning Forest Landowner e-Update Subscribers,

Looking back at my July e-newsletter, I see I had concerns about summer never arriving. Seems there was no need to worry. It’s here. It’s hot. I have no air conditioning in my home...but fall will soon be here! Ok, well, perhaps I’m getting ahead of myself. My tomatoes haven't even started ripening yet. One benefit of working from home is that my "get up and walk around" breaks are 100% more productive. Instead of walking down the hall to check my mail, I can walk down to the garden and pick some vegetables; walk to the greenhouse to water; give the dogs some well-deserved hugs; feed the chickens some fresh-picked blackberries. Maybe productive is the wrong word. But they are enjoyable.

What are you working on this summer? Perhaps it's a good time for an air-conditioned activity such as planning for your legacy. While most people have heard of estate planning – making plans for what happens to your stuff after you pass away - fewer have heard of legacy planning. Legacy planning includes estate planning, but it is much more. You can pass your land on to your heirs with estate planning, but that doesn’t ensure they will manage it according to your wishes and your land ethic. Legacy planning is the on-going process of sharing with your heirs your desire for how your land is managed in the future, your desire to see it stay intact, in forest, and in family. It’s the process of passing on your values along with your stuff.

Join the Generation NEXT Team in September to learn the 9 steps to successful legacy planning. They will be covered in a 4-part webinar series Sept. 16, 17, 23 & 24. Registration is only $40 for your entire family (even if they are scattered far and wide) and includes a copy of our brand new 56-page full-color book Legacy Planning: A Guide for Virginia landowners.
August 12
11:30 - 1:00
Participation is free for all VFA, SAF, and ACF members
On-line registration is required

Legacy Planning Webinar Series
- Sept. 16, 17, 23, & 24
- Register on-line
- Register by mail

We also have numerous other educational opportunities coming up!

Upcoming landowner education events
For a full schedule of events, visit the VFLEP Event Calendar.

Join Virginia Cooperative Extension on Fridays for Fifteen Minutes in the Forest - video presentations on woodland/outdoor topics.

Fifteen Minutes in the Forest
12 – 12:15 p.m. on Zoom
- Aug. 7 - Piedmont Tree ID - the Sequel
- Aug. 14 - What Killed my Tree?
- Aug. 21 - More Nonnative Invasive Plants
- Aug. 28 - American Chestnut
- Sept. 11 - Timber Harvesting & Water Quality
- Sept. 18 - The Life of a Clearcut
- Sept. 25 - Aging Deer Jawbones
- Join us live here

Or watch archived videos at your leisure on the Virginia Forest Landowner Update Facebook Channel (and please subscribe!)

Virginia Forestry Summit - Seeing the Forest Through the Trees
Join landowners and natural resource professionals for this annual educational meeting hosted by the Virginia Forestry Association, the Virginia Division of the Society of American Foresters, and the Virginia Chapter of the Association of Consulting Foresters. A forest health question and answer session will be held on Wednesday, August 12 from 11:30 - 1. Submit your questions when you register or reply to this
Blue Ridge PRISM Invasive Plant Workshops

Nonnative invasive plants are quickly overwhelming many properties by tearing down the forest canopy and overtaking native plants at the tree, shrub, and/or understory levels. Understanding what invasive plants exist on the landscape and what it takes to control them can often feel overwhelming. Blue Ridge PRISM’s workshops will enable you to confidently identify and manage invasive plants.

- 1-4:00
- $10
- Zoom
- September 29 - Register
- October 7 - Register
- October 22 - Register

The Forestry Webinar Portal – free webinars

- August 12, 1:00 - Asian Longhorned Beetle: A New Invasive Tree Pest in South Carolina
- September 16, 12:00 - Woodland Owner Lunch and Learn: Seedling Genetics and Soil Fertility - Know What you are Planting and How to Care for it.

The Woods in Your Backyard On-line Course

From our friends at University of Maryland Extension, this course promotes the stewardship of small parcels of land for the personal enjoyment of the owners, and improved environmental quality for society. If you own 1 to 10 acres in the Eastern United States that is forested or has unmowed natural areas, this course is for you. It is for you
In person events - later this year:

Regretfully, we've decided to cancel our SE Beginning Woodland Owner Retreat. Make plans to join us in 2021 in New Kent on Sept. 23-24.

Fall Forestry & Wildlife Field Tours*

These day-long tours will show you active woodland and wildlife management practices on public, private, and industry-owned lands. The tours will be 100% outdoors. Registration will be limited to ensure adequate physical distancing. All attendees will drive their personal vehicles - no transportation will be offered. Hand washing and/or sanitizing supplies will be made available. Boxed lunches will be provided.

- Registration opens late August
- Save the date flier
- October 2, Halifax County
- October 9, Carroll and Grayson Counties
- October 16, Clarke and Warren Counties
- October 23, King William County

*Additional conditions may apply depending on current Virginia COVID-19 developments.

Hope I'm able to see everyone soon!

Jennifer

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