

# Virginia Forest Landowner e-Update

## November 2021 Featured Events

### Fifteen Minutes in the Forest

- Join us live every other Friday at 12:15 on [Facebook](#) or on [ZOOM](#)
- [Save the Dates Flier](#)
- November 12 – Canada Geese
- December 3 – Wood Ducks in the Woods
- December 17 - Mistletoe
- January 7 – How Trees Prepare for Winter
- January 21 – Eastern Hellbenders
- [Watch archived on our YouTube Channel](#)

### **Field Trip for Online Woodland Options Participants**

- Nov. 13 [James Madison's Montpelier](#)
- e-mail [jgagnon@vt.edu](mailto:jgagnon@vt.edu) to register

Good morning Forest Update Subscribers,

I have been on the road almost continuously for the past 10 weeks - 18 months' worth of in-person programs conducted in 2.5 months. It's been hectic – and it's been wonderful. Truly the best part of my job is YOU! I love learning about your land. I love your stories. I missed it all so much last year! One story I shared with a few of you was how I came to be a forester. I thought I'd share that story with everyone here:

To start, I consider it extremely unfair that we ask 18-year-olds to decide what job they want to do for the next 40 years of their lives. I have always been empathetic when it comes to students changing majors. That is because I was one of those students. I started college as a journalism major, minoring in French and political science. My goals were to: become editor of the Boston Globe, or continue on to law school to become a public defender. In high school I never considered becoming a forester (I didn't even know it was a profession). But a couple of events occurred during my junior year at the University of Florida which changed my career path entirely.

First, I was taking my first official journalism class and was not enjoying it. I loved to (still love to) write, but we were also asked to complete public relations and marketing campaigns – neither of which I enjoyed at the time.

That same semester, I enrolled in a class called Forest Conservation and People. I enrolled to earn easy biology credits; I stayed for the content. This was in the early 1990's, just a few years after the great Yellowstone Fires. The media portrayed these wildfires as the end of the forest. But, I learned in that forestry class that they were not forest-ending at all. Instead, they were stand-replacing fires occurring in a fire-dependent ecosystem (lodgepole pine). The mature forest was gone, indeed, but in its place was a densely growing young forest. The forest was simply changed.

**In the December edition we'll have dates and locations for:**

- Woods & Wildlife Conferences
- Generation NEXT Legacy Planning Workshops
- Learn and Burns
- Beginning Woodland Owner Retreats

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

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**Contact**

Jennifer Gagnon

I felt misled by the media and at the same time I was thoroughly fascinated with the forest. You know that feeling when you are just so interested in something you completely lose yourself? I wanted to know everything I could about forestry. It seemed like a fine career for an introvert like me (and someone terrified to speak in public) – I could just retreat to the woods and be alone. The inaccurate dream of so many of us who have gone into a career in forestry.

If you had told me back then that I'd be an Extension forester and interacting with people would be the best part of my job, well I would probably have chosen a different career. I'm so immensely glad I didn't! That's a very long way of saying THANK YOU to all of you for your interest in sustainable woodland and wildlife management and for your love of your land.

Here are some useful resources for managing your woods:

- [Maintaining Forest Property Lines](#)
- [2021-2022 Hunting and Trapping Regulations](#)
- [Spotted Lanternfly found in Albemarle County](#)

We are wrapping up our in-person programming for this year, but we are already working on our 2022 program schedule which will be available in the December 2022 e-Update. Here is our current in-person and virtual schedule for the remainder of 2021:

**[Events Calendar](#)**

**[Fifteen Minutes in the Forest](#)**

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**Online Woodland Options Field Trip**

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We are happy to finally be able to offer a hands-on, in-person capstone field trip for participants in the Online Woodland Options for Landowners classes. Registration is free. Topics will include tree identification, measuring and valuing trees, and a tour of active woodland management practices. **While typically reserved for participants in the Online class, this fall we have a few spaces available for other landowners on a first-come, first-served basis.**

- November 13 - [James Madison's Montpelier](#) (Saturday date!)
- 9-3 – lunch provided
- Free
- Draft agenda
- e-mail [jgagnon@vt.edu](mailto:jgagnon@vt.edu) to register

### **[Mapping with Small Unmanned Aircraft Systems \(Drones\)](#)**

This is an introductory 3-day workshop for Extension agents, private industry folks, natural resource professionals, government employees, educators, Realtors, landowners, etc. No previous experience or knowledge is necessary.

- December 14-16 (registration closes Nov. 14)
- January 11-13, 2022 (registration closes Dec. 11)
- \$200
- [Learn more](#)
- [Register online](#)


### **2022 Woodland Stewards Webinar Series – Timber Taxes**

- January 18, 1:00 - Overview of Timber Taxation
- January 25, 1:00 – Timber Basis
- February 1, 1:00 – Dealing with Income from Timber
- February 15, 1:00 – Coping with Losses
- Free
- Registration opens in December
- [Broadcast live on the Forestry Webinar Portal](#)

**[Upcoming Webinars](#)** from our colleagues:

- November 10, 1:00 - [Fall Cankerworm in the Southeastern US](#)
- Many other topics on demand at the [Forestry Webinar Portal](#)

Enjoy the fall!



Jennifer

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