

Virginia Forest Landowner e-Update

August 2022

Featured Events

Fifteen Minutes in the Forest

- Aug. 26 – Home Improvement Store Tour
- Sept. 9 – Healthy Hunting
- Sept. 23 – Digital Mapping & GPS
- Join us live every other Friday at 12:15 on [Facebook](#), [ZOOM](#), or [YouTube Premier](#)

2022 Legacy

Planning

Register by mail for all programs

Online registration opens 8 weeks prior to program

- Central Virginia
 - August 26 & 27
 - South Boston
 - Register [online](#)
- Southwest
 - Oct. 27
 - All day
 - Galax
- Southeast

Good morning Forest Update Subscribers,

We just returned from 3 weeks in South American (Brazil & Paraguay). The people, the food, and the scenery were amazing. We swam in the South Atlantic, visited one of the 7 natural wonders of the world (the Harbor of Rio de Janeiro), saw fields of giant termite mounds, eucalyptus plantations, and so many fruit trees, including mango, cacao, coconut palm, and banana. We even watched several different bat species pollinating an open banana flower one evening.

And did you know our very own loblolly pine (*Pinus taeda*) is grown in Brazil? In fact, there are almost 2.5 million acres of loblolly pine planted in the southern part of the country. Loblolly pine grows very fast in Brazil due to a combination of improved genetics, intensive management practices, high rainfall, good soils, and an extended growing season. I didn't see these plantations on this trip, but hopefully will in the future.

I highly recommend South America as a vacation destination!

On another note, a graduate student researcher needs your help:

Arun Regmi, a Ph.D. student at Penn State University is conducting research on private forest landowners' attitudes and demands for prescribed burning in Virginia, Maryland, Pennsylvania, and New York. If you are a landowner, with 10+ acres of forested, [please sign up to participate in the research survey](#). Once you receive the code to enter the survey it should only take about 20 minutes to complete. There is also an option to have a survey mailed to you. We encourage you to pass on this survey to any other Virginia landowners you know or work with. Should you have any questions, reach out to Arun at abr5708@psu.edu.

Upcoming Landowner Education Programs

- November 2
- 6-9:00 p.m.
- Providence Forge
- Virtual
 - Sept. 8, 9, 14, & 15
 - 3 – 5:00
 - Register [online](#)

Fall Forestry & Wildlife Field Tours

- Oct. 7 - Powhatan
- Oct. TBA – Smyth & Washington
- Oct. 28 - Louisa
- Registration opens in late August

Tree Farm Foundation Tours

- Oct. 6 – Franklin
- Oct. 21 – Mecklenburg
- Register [online](#)
- Register [by mail](#)

Registration opens 6 weeks prior to event.

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

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We have a cornucopia of landowner education programs coming up this fall. Check out the [Events Calendar](#) for a complete listing.

Fifteen Minutes in the Forest

- Fifteen Minutes in the Forest videos are shown every other Friday. Join us live at 12:15 on [Facebook](#), [ZOOM](#), [YouTube Premier](#)
- Aug. 26 – A Tour of a Home Improvement Store’s Building Materials Aisle
- Sept. 9 – Healthy Hunting
- Sept. 23 – Digital Mapping
- Oct. 7 – Silvo-poultry Update
- Oct. 21 – Golden-winged Warbler
- Nov. 4 – Autumn Leaf Color
- [Watch archived on our YouTube Channel](#)

2022 Legacy Planning

Join the Generation NEXT Team and experienced conservation, legal, and financial advisors to learn how to pass your land on to the next generation while keeping it intact, in forest, and in family. Online registration opens 8 weeks prior to each event.

Register by mail for all programs

- Central Virginia
 - August 26 & 27
 - [Factory Street Brewing](#), South Boston
 - Register [online](#)
 - [Agenda](#)
- Southwest
 - Oct. 27
 - All day
 - [Matthews State Forest](#), Galax
 - Registration opens in late August
- Southeast
 - November 2
 - 6-9:00 p.m.
 - [New Kent Forestry Center](#), Providence Forge
 - Registration opens in late August
- Virtual
 - Sept. 8, 9, 14, & 15
 - Register [online](#)
 - Agenda coming soon

VFLEP Partners & Sponsors

- [Virginia Cooperative Extension](#)
- [Virginia Department of Forestry](#)
- [Virginia Sustainable Forestry Initiative State Implementation Committee](#)
- [Virginia Tree Farm Foundation](#)
- [Virginia Forestry Association](#)
- [Forest Stewardship Program](#)
- [USDA Forest Service](#)

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[New Christmas Tree Growers Workshop](#)

Kyle Peer, Superintendent - Reynolds Homestead Forest Resources Research Center, and Tim Williams, owner of Spruce Rock Farm, will discuss getting started with Christmas tree production, including seedling selection, planting techniques, farm layout, and shearing. We will also discuss applying pesticides and herbicides safely.

- Sept. 10
- Spruce Rock Farm, Brightwood
- \$15/person; \$20/couple
- [Register by mail](#)

[Fall Forestry & Wildlife Field Tours](#)

Join landowners, natural resource professionals, and other outdoor lovers for day-long tours that explore a variety of sustainable forestry and wildlife management practices.

Tours visit private, public, and industry-owned lands.

- October 7 – Powhatan County
- October 28 – Louisa County
- October TBA – Smyth & Washington Counties
- Registration opens August 15th

[Virginia Tree Farm Tours](#)

First, VFLEP is excited to announce that the Tree Farm Tour series will be resumed this fall. Two tours (that include lunch) are scheduled. The first will provide a rare opportunity for a behind-the-scenes tour of an operating sawmill. Most people do not get the opportunity to see first-hand how their trees are made into solid wood products. The second tour will be of a privately-owned Tree Farm in Mecklenburg County.

- Thursday October 6 – Franklin Lumber
- Friday October 21 – Wright Forestry LLC, Mecklenburg County
- \$10/person includes lunch
- Register [online](#)
- Register [by mail](#)

Programs being offered by partner organizations:

[The Woods in Your Backyard Online Course](#)

This self-directed, non-credit course from our friends at University of Maryland Extension runs 10 weeks from September 6th to November 15th, 2022 and is applicable for woodland owners in Virginia.

The course will help landowners convert lawn to natural areas and enhance stewardship of existing natural areas. Based on the guide of the same name, the course provides strategies to landowners and managers of small parcels of land that improve the stewardship of their property for personal enjoyment and environmental quality. It uses a hands-on learning approach to help participants develop and implement a plan for their property.

- Sept. 6 – Nov. 15
- Online
- \$95
- [Register online](#)

Blue Ridge PRISM

Blue Ridge PRISM's 2022 Workshops are a blend of two virtual sessions and an optional in-person field session. Register for the virtual sessions or a field session or both!

- **Introduction to Invasive Plants and Identification**
 - October 12
 - Virtual
 - \$10
 - Registration coming soon
- **Control of Invasive Plants**
 - October 13
 - Virtual
 - \$10
 - Registration coming soon
- **In-Person Field Session**
 - October 15
 - 12:30 – 3:30
 - Pen Park, Charlottesville
 - \$25
 - [Register online](#)

Hope to see you this fall!

Jennifer


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