

Virginia Forest Landowner Update

June 2023

Featured Events

Fifteen Minutes in the Forest

- Join us live every other Friday at 12:15 on [Facebook](#) Or [YouTube Premier](#)

Spring Venture Outdoors

- June 9
- Bedford

The Woods in Your Backyard Workshops

- Jun 24
- Raphine

Teaching Trees: Field-Based Professional Development for Middle and High School Teachers

- July 10-11
 - Louisa Co.
- July 26-27
 - Newport News

Tree to Products Program for Teachers

- July 10-13
- Wise

Advanced Landowner Retreat

- September 8-9
- Providence Forge

Generation NEXT Legacy Planning

- September 16
 - Charlottesville
- October 20-21
 - Chatham
- November 9
 - Richmond

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

Good Morning Forest Update Subscribers,

Many of you have, or will eventually, meet with a forester or other natural resource professional to get help managing your land. This could be to sell your timber, to create wildlife habitat, to plant a riparian buffer, or to start many other projects. Before you meet with a natural resource professional, it's helpful to develop a list of goals for your property.

What is a goal? It's a big picture statement of how you want your property to be at some point in the future. Goals are vague and don't have a timeline or specific steps associated with them. Examples of goals include:

1. I want to have a healthy forest
2. I want to have good wildlife habitat
3. I want a nice place to retire
4. I want to leave my land to my family

Thinking about your goals and writing them down before meeting with a natural resource professional can improve communication and provides them with a starting point for advising you. Your natural resource professional will then help you develop objectives. Objectives are specific, actionable steps with timelines that will help you reach your goals. Depending on who you are working with, your natural resource professional may use the words goals and objectives interchangeably. What's important is that you have a long-term big picture in mind, and that you develop specific management strategies to help you get there.

Here are a couple of resources for helping you with this process.

- [Welcome to the Woods!](#) (see the worksheet on the inside cover of the back page)
- [Fifteen Minutes in the Forest: Management Goals and Objectives](#)

You will probably have many goals and that's just fine! Try prioritizing them as best you can.

If one of your goals is passing your land to the next generation, one professional you will need to work with is an attorney. When the time comes to plan for the future of your land (**and that time is now**) attorneys are an essential part of your legacy planning team. Landowners have struggled to find attorneys with expertise specific to transferring land among generations. To help, the Generation NEXT Team is pleased to offer a [curated list of attorneys](#) with experience in farm and forestland legacy planning. This list will be updated on a regular basis. Contact Karen Snape, ksnape@vt.edu if you are an attorney with expertise in these areas and would like to be added. We also have a number of upcoming Generation NEXT

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Legacy Planning Workshops coming up to help you through the legacy planning process. See below for dates and locations.

And, my goodness, there are a lot of upcoming educational programs! See below for featured events and find a full listing here: [Events Calendar](#).

Featured Events

Fifteen Minutes in the Forest

- Fifteen Minutes in the Forest videos are shown every other Friday at 12:15 on [Facebook](#) or [YouTube Premier](#)
- June 2 - What is a Healthy Forest Understory?
- June 16 - Making Your Own Charcoal & Biochar
- June 30 - Vernal Pools
- [Watch archived on our YouTube Channel](#)

Spring Venture Outdoors

Are you a woodland owner interested in tree identification, invasive plant/insect management, hardwood management, and stream water quality? If so, this spring your Central District Extension Forestry Program, in cooperation with the Virginia Department of Forestry, is offering a one-day short course on management options for your timberland.

- June 9, Bedford - registration closes June 2.
- 10 - 3:00
- \$10 - includes lunch
- Register [online](#)
- Register [by mail](#)

The Woods in Your Backyard Workshops

These workshops will introduce basic vegetation, wildlife and woodland management principals relevant to small acreage owners and "DIY" landowners. Both workshops will include outdoor demonstrations while the longer workshop in June will provide a broader context and suite of practices as an indoor portion.

- June 24
 - 9 - 2
 - [Shenandoah Valley AREC, McCormick Farm, Raphine](#)
- \$25
- [Register online](#)

Online Woodland Options for Landowners Field Trip

This hands-on field trip is the capstone activity for the Online Woodland Options for Landowners Class. We will hone our skill set by practicing tree identification, taking forest measurements, and touring active forest management practices on the largest State Forest in Virginia, the Appomattox-Buckingham State Forest. Landowners not enrolled in the online class are welcome to attend for a fee.

- August 5
- 9 - 3:30
- [Holiday Lake 4 H Educational Center, Appomattox](#)

- \$25 for those not enrolled in Online Woodland Options for Landowners (includes lunch)

Advanced Woodland Owner Retreat

Developed for those with experience actively managing their woods, the Retreat combines classroom, field trip, and hands-on activities to teach advanced concepts of sustainable woodland management. Past participation in landowner education programs is required.

- September 8-9
- Providence Forge
- Agenda available 8 weeks prior to Retreat
- Registration available 8 weeks prior to Retreat

Generation NEXT Legacy Planning Workshops

Learn how to pass your land and your legacy on to the next generation while keeping it intact, in forest, and in family ownership.

- Charlottesville
 - September 16
 - All-day
- Chatham
 - October 20-21
 - Friday evening and all-day Saturday
- Richmond
 - November 9
 - 6 – 9:00 PM
- Registration and detailed agendas available 8 weeks prior to programs

From the Blue Ridge PRISM

These are Not Your Grandpa's Quail: Blue Ridge PRISM Summer Quarterly Meeting

Marc Puckett (Small Game Projects Leader and Private Lands Biologist Manager for the Virginia Department of Wildlife Resources) will talk about a bird whose call is a beloved sound for many of us. The northern bobwhite aka bobwhite quail (*Colinus virginianus*) is the only quail native to eastern North America. We hear its call much less often now because of a steep decline in the bobwhite quail population, mostly due to habitat loss.

- July 19
- 11:30 – 1:00
- ZOOM
- Free
- [Register online](#)

For Teachers

Teaching Trees: Field-Based Professional Development for Middle and High School Teachers

Participants receive 14 hours of instruction covering sustainable local forest management, forest ecology, and forest products; two SOL-correlated *Project Learning Tree*® modules and related teaching supplies; ideas for

incorporating forestry field study into classes. Two sessions are available:

- Louisa County
 - July 10-11
- Newport News
 - July 26-27
- 9 - 4:00
- \$50
- [Register online](#)

Trees to Products Teacher Program

Teachers will tour key forest-industry sites to learn about sustainable forest management. They will also learn how forests provide wildlife habitat and recreational opportunities, and the importance of forests in view-shed and water-quality efforts. Participants will see how trees are converted into a variety of everyday products. Teachers will receive Project Learning Tree® certification at the completion of the course. In addition, the Trees to Products program is designed to correlate with the Virginia Standards of Learning for grades K - 12. It awards 30 hours of professional development credits for participants. Registration fee includes transportation, lodging, and meals.

- July 10-13
- Wise
- \$25
- Register [online](#)

For Tax Professionals

Timber Income and Expenses: Business or Investor

Income Tax Reporting? What a Tax Professional Needs to Know

Combining lecture, example problems, discussion and questions, this half-day workshop is appropriate for all levels of experience. Discussion will address timber tax issues, including What is timber for income tax purposes; Basis; Reporting of income: business versus investor; Expense deduction: business versus investor; Form T; Like-kind exchange; Conservation easements; Carbon credits; Property tax considerations. No advanced preparation is required and there are no prerequisites for this course.

- June 21
- 8:30 - 12:00
- [North Carolina Cooperative Extension Wake County Center](#), Raleigh, NC
- \$150
- [Register online](#)

*All the best,
Jennifer*

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