

Virginia Forest Landowner e-Update

September 2025

Good morning, Forest Update Subscribers,

Fall, the best season by far, is in the air! In addition to the cooler temperatures, the [eastern screech owls](#) are [whinnying](#), the number of spiders weaving webs across my woods roads is increasing, fall colors are flashing on the hickories, the [mature fruits of the cucumber tree](#) are falling, and the low humidity lets the stars sparkle brightly.

But the absolute best part of fall in Virginia is field tour season! This fall we have 8 field tours (plus several other educational programs for landowners) scheduled! I'll be out on the road and I hope to see all of you at one (or more) of them.

Jennifer

Full Events Calendar

Featured Events:

[Fifteen Minutes in the Forest](#)

The award-winning Fifteen Minutes in the Forest video series features a wide array of topics and are shown the 4th Friday of each month at 12:15 PM on [Facebook](#) and [YouTube Premier](#).

- September 26: Creating Vernal Pools
- October 24: Tree Growth
- November 28: After the Storm: Disaster Response
- December 26-January 6: The Twelve Shorts of Christmas

Watch 150+ Fifteen Minutes in the Forest videos on our [YouTube Channel](#).

[New Christmas Tree Growers Meeting](#)

Learn how to get started with Christmas tree production. Topics include seedling selection, planting techniques, farm layout, and shearing. We will also discuss applying pesticides and herbicides safely. This is a hands-on workshop with indoor and outdoor sessions, wear appropriate footwear and bring work gloves.

- September 13
- 8:45 AM – 12:30 PM
- \$15/person; \$25/couple
- Register [by mail](#) (please register by September 9)

Generation NEXT Legacy Planning

Discussions about what happens to family forestland when mom and dad die are difficult. A well thought out plan can help things go smoothly. Our experts provide proven techniques to help you plan for the future of your land.

- Legacy Planning Workshop
 - October 4
 - Farmville
 - 9:00 AM – 3:00 PM
 - \$80 for 2 family members; \$20 each additional family member
 - [Agenda](#) and register [by mail](#)
 - Register [online](#)
- Legacy Planning Workshop
 - November 8
 - Norfolk or Hampton Roads
 - Agenda and registration available in mid-September

Virginia Tree Farm Foundation Lunch Tours

The Virginia Forest Landowner Education Program partners with the Virginia Tree Farm Foundation to offer an annual series of Tree Farm Tours. These tours bring woodland owners together to visit an active Tree Farm, learn about the Virginia Tree Farm Foundation, and provide fellowship among those who care about healthy woods and active woodland management. You do not need to be a Tree Farmer to attend. Registration deadlines are 2 weeks prior to the tour date.

- September 4: Sussex County – Registration is closed
- September 15: Bland County – 2 spots available!
- September 19: Shenandoah County
- September 26: Montgomery County
 - \$15/person includes lunch
 - [Agendas and register by mail](#)
 - Register [online](#)

The Woods in Your Backyard Online Course

Based on the guide of the same name, this course from University of Maryland Extension provides strategies to landowners of small parcels of land (1-10 acres) that improve the stewardship of their property for personal enjoyment and environmental quality.

- September 8 – November 17
- Online
- \$125/person

- Register [online](#)

Woods & Wildlife Conferences

Join the first-ever Virginia-North Carolina Woods & Wildlife Conference. Modeled after the ever-popular Woods & Wildlife Conferences in Culpeper and southwest Virginia, this one-day event will consist of classroom sessions and a tour of the Roseburg Forest Products mill. The long-standing Blacksburg and Culpeper Conferences will be held in February.

- September 20 (please register by September 10)
 - [Northampton County Cultural Center](#), Jackson, NC
 - \$30/person includes refreshments, lunch, and transportation to the mill tour
 - [Agenda and register by mail](#)
 - Register [online](#)
- February 21
 - [Squires Student Center](#), Blacksburg
 - Agenda and registration in December
- February 28
 - [Daniel Technology Center](#), Germanna Community College, Culpeper
 - Agenda and registration in December

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.

Past tours have visited seedling nurseries, timber harvesting operations, sawmills, pine plantations, cooperages, hardwood forests, arboretums, Christmas tree farms, elk habitat, fisheries, hunting plantations, and more.

- October 2, Henry County
- October 9, Wise County
- October 16, Virginia Beach
- October 17, Frederick County
- [Agenda and register by mail](#)
- Register [online](#)

Timber Cruising for Woodland Owners

Hiring a professional forester is the best way to ensure an accurate accounting of your timber volume and value. And it's important for you to understand where these numbers come from. This hands-on class will teach you how a timber cruise is conducted.

- November 7
- 10:30 – 4:00
- [Reynolds Homestead](#), Critz
- Agenda coming soon
- Register [by mail](#)
- Register [online](#)

Visit the [Blue Ridge PRISM](#) website for programs on nonnative invasives

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