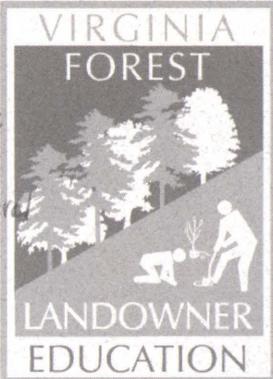


VIRGINIA FOREST LANDOWNER UPDATE

Events, news, and information promoting the stewardship of Virginia's natural resources.

TO SUBMIT EVENTS AND INFORMATION.....

If your organization is sponsoring a program or has information of benefit to landowners or natural resource professionals, please contact: *Dylan Jenkins*
 Virginia Cooperative Extension
 216B Cheatham Hall (0324)
 Blacksburg, Virginia 24061
 phone: 540/231-6391
 fax: 540/231-3330
 e-mail: dylan@vt.edu



WELCOME to the *Virginia Forest Landowner Update!* You and your family or organization are invited to learn about your role in Virginia forest stewardship by attending the events listed within these pages. These programs will provide practical information to forest landowners, natural resource professionals, youth and other interested parties on the many components of sustainable forestry.

Update sponsors include:

- Virginia Department of Forestry
- Virginia Tech College of Natural Resources
- Virginia Department of Game & Inland Fisheries
- Virginia Forestry Association

INSIDE

- 1 Benefits of Forestry Associations
- 2-3 Events Calendar
- 4 Natural Forest Regeneration
- 5 Cost-Share Update
- Understanding Green Certification
- 6 Forestry Supply Sources
- Contact Sponsoring Natural Resource Agencies

Private Forestry Associations Offer Many Benefits to Forest Landowners

One of the greatest challenges faced by new and veteran forest landowners alike is obtaining timely information on natural resource management issues. While the first place to turn for assistance is often your state government agencies, e.g., the Virginia Departments of Forestry, Game and Inland Fisheries, and Cooperative Extension, private forestry associations offer many benefits to forest landowners that state agencies do not. Most notable, all forestry associations work at the state and/or federal level to seek regulatory change for the benefit of forest landowners. Forestry associations also offer resources such as magazines and annual conferences that share up-to-date information on regulatory issues, timber and estate taxes, forest products marketing and other topics. Perhaps the most important benefit of private forestry associations is their close cooperation with state and federal natural resource agencies to provide quality education programs such as field days, bus tours, conferences, and short courses for forest landowners.

The following paragraphs are self-descriptions of three major landowner associations from which Virginia forest landowners may benefit:

Created in 1941, the *Forest Landowners Association (FLA)* is a proactive, progressive, and hard-hitting grassroots organization of timberland owners - large and small - who own and operate more than 47 million acres of timberland in 17 southern and eastern states. With active members in every timbered county in the South, it is the only organization created for the specific purpose of speaking for southern and eastern timberland owners at local, regional, and national levels. Membership benefits include: special pricing on hunt lease liability insurance, representation in Washington D.C. for regulatory change benefiting forest landowners, sponsorship of seminars, conferences, and workshops, *Forest Landowners* magazine, and awarding of scholarships to outstanding forestry students.

The *Virginia Forestry Association (VFA)* is a private, non-profit organization dedicated to sustaining, developing, protecting, and promoting the forests and related resources of Virginia. Its membership consists of individuals, forest landowners, foresters, loggers, forest product businesses, forestry

ASSOCIATIONS AT A GLANCE:

FOREST LANDOWNERS ASSOCIATION (FLA)

dues: varies, based on forest acreage; \$40 min.
 magazine: *Forest Landowner* (6 issues/year)
 address: P.O. Box 95385
 Atlanta, GA 30347-0385
 phone: 800/325-2954
 fax: 404/325-2955
 email: olinwood@aol.com

VIRGINIA FORESTRY ASSOCIATION (VFA)

dues: varies, based on forest acreage; \$40 min.
 magazine: *Virginia Forests* (4 issues/year)
 bulletin: *News & Notes* (4 issues/year)
 address: 8810-B Patterson Ave.
 Richmond, VA 23229-6322
 phone: 804/741-0836
 fax: 804/741-0838
 email: vafa@erols.com

NAT'L WOODLAND OWNERS ASSOC. (NWOA)

dues: varies, \$25 min.
 magazine: *National Woodlands* (4 issues/year)
 bulletin: *Woodland Report* (8 issues/year)
 address: 374 Maple Ave. E., Suite 310
 Vienna, VA 22180-4751
 phone: 800/GROTREE
 fax: 703/281-9200
 email: nwoa@mindspring.com

consultants, and a variety of groups who are concerned about the future and well-being of Virginia's forest resources. Founded in 1943, VFA brings together a diverse membership that advocates both a healthy natural environment and a strong business environment for the benefit of all Virginians. Membership benefits include: representation of Virginia forestry interests before the Virginia General Assembly, U.S. Congress, and local governments, *Virginia Forests* magazine, *News & Notes* quarterly bulletin, special pricing on timberland liability insurance, sponsorship of educational activities such as Project Learning Tree and the Virginia Tree Farm Program, and provision of annual scholarships to forestry students at Virginia Tech.

BENEFITS continues on page 5

EVENTS CALENDAR

event contact	date/location	event/description <i>(preregistration requested unless noted otherwise; TBA—to be announced)</i>	time	fee
LC	July 21 <i>Skipwith Bobby Ray Dalton Farm</i>	1999 Lake Country Conservation & Water Quality Tour. Tour will showcase water quality benefits from conservation practices designed to reduce soil erosion and nutrient enrichment. Topics include conservation tillage, strip-till and no-till equipment, cost-share programs, pond management, forestry and wildlife practices, forages, wetland and tobacco issues, and generator safety. Dinner provided.	1pm-7:30pm	no fee
		Conserving Rural Land. One day intensive workshops for consulting foresters, landowners, or anyone interested in conserving forestland or reducing the impact of development and fragmentation. Learn about conservation easements, land trusts, ag and forestal districts, land use assessment, comprehensive planning, and possible changes in tax law. Co-sponsored by the VA Dept. of Forestry and Forest Landowners' association. <i>Class size limited. Visit the Virginia Department of Forestry online at: www.state.virnet.org/dof/</i>		
	<i>Three dates and locations:</i>			
BW	July 27	<i>Dory Park, Henrico County (Sandston)</i>	9:30am-3:30pm	\$10.00
BW	July 28	<i>Salem, Virginia Department of Forestry Office</i>	9:30am-3:30pm	\$10.00
BW	July 29	<i>Charlottesville, Virginia Department of Forestry Office</i>	9:30am-3:30pm	\$10.00
		Native Warm Season Grass Workshops. Forest landowners and natural resource professionals will learn how to establish and manage native warm season grasses for wildlife and livestock. Includes field trip to working livestock farms with native warm season grasses. Lunch provided; registration requested.		
	<i>Two dates and locations:</i>			
DF	August 4	<i>Quinby, Eastern Shore</i>	9am-3:30pm	no fee
DF	August 11	<i>Todd's Tavern, Spotsylvania County</i>	9am-3:30pm	no fee
KP	August 10-11 <i>Broadway</i>	1999 Shenandoah Valley Environmental Education Conference. For K-12 teachers and environmental educators. Day-one includes classroom sessions on Projects Underground, Learning Tree, and Wild-Aquatic; state and national park education opportunities, biological monitoring, mapping your watershed, locating funding for your projects, local environmental protection efforts, and streambank restoration. Day-two includes field trips to view projects in progress. Earn re-certification points, receive education resources and instruction materials, and participate in hands-on activities.	all day each day	no fee for teachers; \$15.00 al others
BF	August 12-13 <i>Wittheville Community College</i>	Growing Forest Products in Your Community. Designed to assist Virginia Communities in increasing forest products industry recruitment. Gain information on industry resources, meet key industry contacts, and learn economic development strategies for business development. Two-day program involves forest industry representative presentations, panel discussions, and resource material sharing. Tour nearby sites of both primary and secondary wood products manufacturers. <i>Course limited to 60 participants. Register online at: www.conted.vt.edu/forestry/community.htm</i>	all day each day	\$60.00
NCFA	August 13-14 <i>Wasson NC</i>	Carolina Log'n Demo. See the latest in logging equipment, trucks, trailers, safety equipment, cleaning equipment and supplies, radios, chain saws, custom hats and jackets, tires, insurance programs, and much more. Live equipment demonstrations on Saturday.	12pm-? (8/13) 8am-? (8/14)	\$20.00 \$25.00 after 8/1
LN	August 27-29 <i>From Royal NOVA Wild Center</i>	Beyond BOW Workshop. Similar to the popular Becoming an Outdoors Woman (BOW) program, this workshop is designed to explore a single outdoor activity over three days. This event will give participants an opportunity to go beyond the basics, and learn more about selected activities such as turkey hunting, deer hunting, freshwater fishing, or caving. No prior experience needed. <i>Visit the Virginia Department of Game and Inland Fisheries online at: www.dgif.state.va.us/</i>	all day each day	\$150.00
DJ	September 9 <i>Warrnesboro</i>	4th Annual Warrnesboro Urban Tree Care Workshop. Classroom lectures and outdoor demonstrations will feature practices to maintain tree root health. ISA CEU's available. All profits fund future workshops and urban forestry scholarships. <i>More information online at: www.hort.vt.edu/VUFC</i>	7:45am-4pm	TBA
RK	September 9 <i>Craig</i>	Reynolds Homestead Annual Forestry and Wildlife Field Day. Review forestry and wildlife management projects at the Reynolds Homestead Forest. View pine/hardwood stand regeneration and recently completed logging operation including forest road construction. Wildlife management issues discussed at all stops. Lunch provided.	all day	\$10.00

USING THE CALENDAR

For more information or to register for a specific event, identify the event contact (whose initials are to the left of the event), by referring to the "Event Contacts" information box (for example DH = Doug Harris).

event contact	date/location	event/description (preregistration required unless noted otherwise; TBA = to be announced)	time	fee
EB	September 9-11 Roanoke	Eighth Biennial Linear Parks Conference. Conference brings together individuals and groups interested in greenways, riverways, trail systems, and parkways. Presentations on conservation, cultural heritage, economic development, ecotourism, land trusts, land use planning, and natural and scenic resources. Registration includes meals and entertainment. Sponsored by the Appalachian Consortium.	all day each day	185.00
AFMG	September 11 Clifton Forge D.S. Lancaster Comm. College	Appalachian Forest Expo and Farm Safety Day. Forestry exhibits and demonstrations for the entire family. Collegiate Game of Logging competition, Wood-Magic Show, logging equipment, blue grass band, log truck show, and food vendor. Demonstrations on ATV, lawn mower and tractor safety. <i>No charge for activities.</i>	9am-4pm	no fee
LS	September 17-19 Wintergreen Resort	Virginia Natural History Retreat Weekend. Join some of the state's finest field scientists for a weekend of field studies, lectures and workshops on natural history. From arachnids to zoology, the instructors will cover subjects of interest to all levels of naturalist. Sponsored by the Wintergreen Nature Foundation. <i>Visit the Foundation online at: www.wintergreenresort.com/home.htm</i>	all day each day	\$70.00 members \$85.00 others
GW	September 25 Farmville Wilke's Lake	Heartland Forest Festival. Activities for the entire family, celebrate Virginia's forestry heritage! Food, blue time woodcrafts and demonstrations, logger competitions and prizes, children's activities, local craft vendors, blue grass music, and forestry exhibits. <i>No charge for activities; no registration.</i>	10am-3pm	no fee
HH	Sep. 30 - Oct. 1 Blacksburg	Estate Planning for Forest Landowners. This course provides a working knowledge of the federal estate and gift tax and an overview of state death tax considerations applicable to timberland in your estate. The implications of recent tax law changes for accumulating and protecting forestry assets are discussed. Strategies for intergenerational transfer of timberland will be emphasized. <i>Visit the Virginia Tech Continuing Education online at: www.conted.vt.edu/forestry/index.htm</i>	8am-5pm each day	\$235.00
SH	TBA Blacksburg	Forest Certification: What You Should Know. Learn about marketing opportunities for your forest through third-party certification. Workshop will include presentations on and discussion of a variety of topics relating to voluntary, third-party forest certification through the Forest Stewardship Council.	8am-5pm	no fee
BF	TBA Blacksburg	Faster Point Sampling. Point sampling is the most cost-effective means of obtaining volume estimates for forested areas. Course provides knowledge to better design, conduct, and analyze point samples for pulpwood and sawlog volume estimates. Techniques presented will allow timber cruisers to collect samples faster with no loss of accuracy. <i>Register online at: www.conted.vt.edu/faster/point.htm</i>	8am-5pm	\$225.00

EVENT CONTACTS

for more information or to register for a specific event, please contact:

event contact	name/affiliation	phone	fax	e-mail
AFMG	Appalachian Forest Management Group	540/862-7621	540/862-5375	
BF	Barbara Falls, Virginia Tech Division of Continuing Education	540/231-5182	540/231-5306	bfalls@vt.edu
BW	Becky Woodson, Virginia Department of Forestry	804/977-6555	804/296-2369	woodsonb@hq.forestry.state.va.us
DF	Debbie Flippo, Virginia Department of Game & Inland Fisheries	804/598-3706	804/598-4934	dfippo@dgif.state.va.us
DJ	Dwayne Jones, Waynesboro Department of Parks and Recreation	540/942-6735	540/942-6799	cdjones@cfw.com
EB	Emily Burleson, Appalachian Consortium	828/262-2064	828/262-6564	burlesonec@appstate.edu
GW	Greg Winston, Virginia Department of Forestry	804/392-4159	804/392-1150	winstong@r4.forestry.state.va.us
HH	Harry Hancey, Virginia Tech Department of Forestry	540/231-5212	540/231-3698	hhancey@vt.edu
KP	Kary Phillips, Shenandoah Valley Pure Water 2000 Forum	540/568-9793	540/568-2761	phillikk@jmu.edu
LC	Lake Country Soil & Water Conservation District	804/738-0150	804/738-0168	
EN	Libby Norris, Virginia Department of Game & Inland Fisheries	757/253-4180	757/253-4182	lnorris@dgif.state.va.us
LS	Liz Salas, The Wintergreen Nature Foundation	804/361-0031		wtgnf@aol.com
NCEFA	North Carolina Forestry Association	800/231-7723	919/832-6188	ncfadoug@ mindspring.com
RK	Richard Kreh, Virginia Tech Department of Forestry	540/694-4135	540/694-2971	rkreh@vt.edu
SH	Shoana Humphries, Forest Management Trust	352/331-2007	352/331-3284	sh@forestrust.org

Regenerating Your Forest - *Naturally*

by James E. Johnson, Professor of Forestry
Virginia Tech College of Natural Resources

Probably the most important time in the life of a forest is the time during which regeneration occurs. Usually this happens following some type of disturbance in a natural forest or following cutting in a managed forest. Often, foresters will regenerate a forest artificially, that is, they will plant seedlings to be sure that they get the desired numbers and species of new trees. But in areas where hardwoods are dominant, foresters will often rely on nature to provide regeneration through natural means. Hardwood forests throughout the eastern U.S. are known for regenerating quickly following disturbance. But are foresters often satisfied with the species and numbers of quality seedlings that nature provides? Maybe or maybe not. To understand more about this important question, let's look at the subject of forest regeneration in a little more detail.

Different species of hardwoods vary greatly in their strategies for regenerating. While all species produce seeds or nuts, some do so regularly, with heavy seed crops nearly every year. Red maple is a good example. Others produce heavy crops of seeds or nuts occasionally, perhaps once every five years or so. Oaks are an example. Some species, like sweetgum, black locust, and beech produce new stems directly off of existing root systems, while nearly all hardwoods produce sprouts from cut stumps.

The number of sprouts per stump is related to the size of the stump, with most sprouts coming off stumps less than 12 inches in diameter. Some species, like yellow-poplar and black cherry, have seeds that remain viable in the forest floor for many years. These species can produce new seedlings whenever an opening is created and the light and moisture conditions are favorable for germination of the stored seeds. Seeds of some species germinate at fairly low temperatures, like sugar maple, while others, such as eastern hemlock are known to be high temperature germinators.

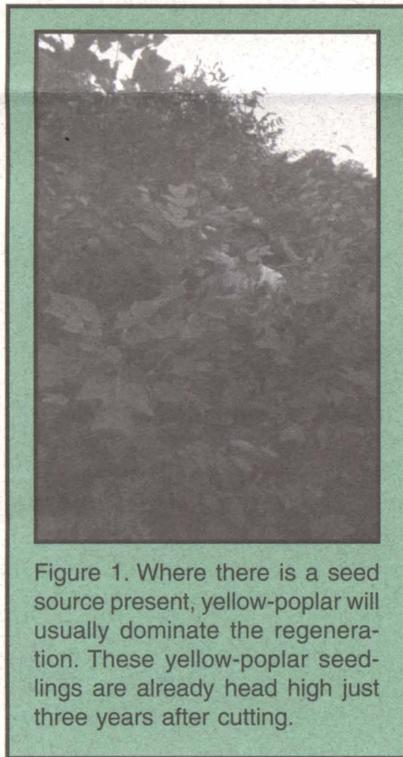


Figure 1. Where there is a seed source present, yellow-poplar will usually dominate the regeneration. These yellow-poplar seedlings are already head high just three years after cutting.

So regeneration occurs when the right combination of available seed coincides with the proper seedbed conditions, particularly light, temperature, and moisture. Here is where it gets interesting. For some species, like yellow-poplar and black cherry, regeneration is an event, that is, it occurs very rapidly following the disturbance. But for others, like the oaks, it is a process. The oaks take a long time to germinate and become established on the forest floor. Young oak seedlings grow very slowly in height. Rather, the oak seedlings

spend most of their energy producing a large and wide-spreading root system. Fast growing species like yellow-poplar quickly overtop the slower growing oaks, depriving them of the much needed sunlight necessary for vigorous growth. Foresters now know that to get adequate regeneration of desirable oaks on good quality sites, it is necessary to have many, perhaps several hundred, established oak seedlings or saplings already growing in the understory before the disturbance, or cutting, occurs. And this takes many years to occur.

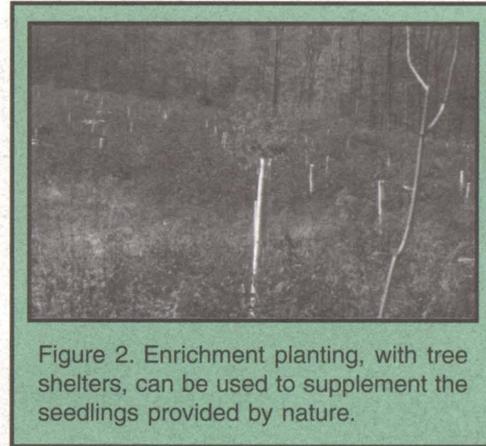


Figure 2. Enrichment planting, with tree shelters, can be used to supplement the seedlings provided by nature.

Can a forester predict with a reasonable degree of certainty what species will regenerate following a harvest in a hardwood stand? The answer is yes, most of the time. Certainly smaller hardwood trees

will produce sprouts and can be counted on to produce one to three trees eventually. For the first few years after cutting, an individual stump may have dozens of sprouts, but eventually they will die back to one to three. Yellow-poplar will regenerate anywhere there is a seed source in the original stand or nearby. On dry and infertile sites the yellow-poplar will regenerate, but will not grow well and eventually will die out. But on the moist and fertile sites the yellow-poplar will grow faster than any other trees and will dominate. Beeches will nearly always produce sprouts from the root systems if they are already present in the stand. Oak seedlings may or may not be a part of the new stand, even if the original stand had oak trees present.

Foresters can conduct a regeneration survey prior to cutting, to check for the presence of oaks, or other desirable species, in the stand. Likewise, this procedure can be repeated several years following a cut, although it is often a difficult task. But the regeneration survey is the only real way to determine the species and numbers of seedlings and sprouts that are coming back. If desired species are not present, the forester may recommend an enrichment planting. This practice involves planting a small number of the desired tree seedlings to enrich the seedling pool provided by nature. This is expensive, so small numbers of seedlings are usually planted. It is often desirable to use tree shelters with these planted seedlings, to give them the very best opportunity to compete with the natural vegetation surrounding them.

Understanding how nature regenerates a forest naturally is an important first step to managing a new hardwood forest. Many other factors, like insect and disease problems, floods and drought, browsing by deer and farm animals, and fire all play a role in forest regeneration. Knowledgeable foresters and forest landowners can work with nature to get the most desirable species in the new forest.



COST SHARE UPDATE

REFORESTATION OF TIMBERLANDS (RT)

Primary Goal: To provide financial assistance to landowners for pine reforestation and management practices.

Contact Agency: Virginia Department of Forestry (VDof)

Where Applicable: Statewide

Program Description & Requirements:

Provides 40% cost-share for reforestation and management of pine forests, not to exceed \$75 per acre. Signup is continuous. Cost-shared practices must be maintained for 10 years. This program is funded by the forest industry in Virginia with matching funds from the Virginia general fund.

Cost-shares all types of site preparation, planting of pine species, installation of best management practices within the boundary of the project, fencing to restrict grazing on the project, herbicide release of pine plantations, and pre-commercial thinning of 4-6 year old over stocked pine stands.

FORESTRY INCENTIVE PROGRAM (FIP)

Primary Goal: To increase the nation's supply of timber products.

Contact Agencies: Natural Resources Cons. Service (NRCS) Virginia Department of Forestry (VDof)

Where Applicable: Statewide

Program Description & Requirements:

A voluntary cooperative program with landowners to encourage the development, management, and protection of non-industrial private forest lands. Practices are directed toward the production of soft and hardwood timber.

The program provides cost-share assistance to landowners for site preparation and tree planting and improving existing stands of trees through thinning or competition control (release). *Current cost-share rates are shown below.* These rates are reviewed annually and adjusted if necessary. Cost-shared practices must be maintained for 10 years. VDof is responsible for ensuring that the technical specifications of each project are met. Landowners must sign through their local NRCS office. Projects may be as small as one acre.

	rate	max/acre
PINE		
tree planting	40%	\$22
light site prep. (prescribed burning)	40%	\$20
medium site prep. (herbicide only)	40%	\$45
heavy site prep. (dozing, chop or herbicide/burn)	40%	\$60
precommercial thinning	40%	\$50
release	40%	\$30

HARDWOOD		
tree planting	65%	\$200
light site preparation	65%	\$30
medium site preparation	65%	\$70
heavy site preparation	65%	\$100
stand improvement	65%	\$100

BENEFITS from page 1

The *National Woodland Owners Association* (NWOA) is a nationwide organization of non-industrial private woodland owners with offices in the Washington D.C. area. Membership includes landowners in all 50 states. NWOA is affiliated with state and county owner associations throughout the United States. Founded by non-industrial private woodland owners in 1983, NWOA is independent of the forest products industry and forestry agencies. NWOA works with all organizations to promote non-industrial forestry and the best interests of woodland owners. In addition to representing forest landowner interests at the federal level, Membership benefits include: *National Woodlands* magazine, the *Woodland Report* with late-breaking news from Washington D.C. and state capitals, and a free introductory visit from a certified professional forester (available in most states).

Make your voice heard, consider membership in a forestry association!

Understanding Forest Certification: Handbook and Workshop Offered to Landowners and Resource Managers

In recent years, "green certification" has gained attention as a means of promoting sustainable forestry practices and marketing wood products produced from sustainably managed forests. Certification is a non-regulatory means of ensuring that the methods and materials used to make a product meet predetermined social, economic, and environmental standards.

In the case of forest products, green certification seeks to ensure consumers that the wood used to make a forest product, e.g., lumber and paper, was grown, managed, and harvested using sustainable practices. At a minimum, these practices include adhering to state and federal environmental regulations and employing forestry best management practices. Certifying agencies may also require the use of management practices that enhance biodiversity, preserve sites of significant cultural value, and promote the ecologic and economic stability of local communities.

Numerous independent non-government organizations are creating, or have completed, forest certification standards. To help sort through the issues surrounding forest certification, the Forest Management Trust has developed a regional handbook on forest certification for landowners and resource managers. The Trust is a non-profit, non-government organization based in Gainesville, Florida that promotes forest management for financial returns while maintaining forest ecosystem functions. The Trust promotes voluntary, third-party forest certification as a way to encourage and reward good forest management. *The Southeastern US Forest Certification Handbook* contains information on: the certification process; the market for certified products; the costs and benefits of certification; minimizing the costs of certification; case studies on certification operations; descriptions of national, state, and regional certification and stewardship programs; and contact lists for regional and state sources of information on forest management. In addition, a free one-day workshop entitled *Forest Certification: What You Should Know About this New Marketing Opportunity* will be conducted at Virginia Tech later this fall (see Events Calendar for course details).

For a free copy of the handbook or for more information on upcoming certification workshops, contact Shoana Humphries, The Forest Management Trust, 6124 SW 30th Ave., Gainesville, FL 32608; phone: 352/331-2007; fax: 352/331-3284; email: sh@foresttrust.org.



For the most complete information on cost-share programs, visit the Virginia Department of Forestry Cost-Share web page at:

www.dof.state.va.us/matrix1.htm

Looking for forest management supplies? Try these sources:

Bailey's (SE Division)

www.baileys-online.com
 P.O. Box 9088
 Jackson, TN 38314
 phone: 800/322-4539
 fax: 901/422-6118
 email: baileys@baileys-online.com

Construction Safety Products

www.cspforestry.com
 359 Mt. Zion Rd.
 Shreveport, LA 71106
 phone: 800/592-6940
 fax: 318/688-6487

General Supply Corporation

P.O. Box 9347
 Jackson, MS 39286
 phone: 800/647-6450
 fax: 800-553-2457

Treessentials Company

www.treessentials.com
 2371 Waters Dr.
 Mendota Heights, MN 55120
 phone: 800/248-8239
 fax: 651/681-1951

Ben Meadows Company

www.benmeadows.com
 3589 Broad St.
 Atlanta, GA 30341
 phone: 800/241-6401
 fax: 800/628-2068
 email: quote@benmeadows.com

Forestry Suppliers, Inc.

www.forestry-suppliers.com
 P.O. Box 8397
 Jackson, MS 39284
 phone: 800/647-5368
 fax: 800/543-4203
 email: fsi@forestry-suppliers.com

TerraTech, Inc.

www.terratech.net
 P.O. Box 5547
 Eugene, OR 97405
 phone: 800/321-1037
 fax: 800/933-4569
 email: dbaterrat@aol.com

SPONSOR CONTACT INFORMATION



Virginia Department of Forestry

P.O. Box 3758
 Charlottesville, VA 22903-0758
 804/977-6555
 www.dof.state.va.us



Virginia Tech College of Natural Resources & Virginia Cooperative Extension

324 Cheatham Hall (0324)
 Blacksburg, VA 24061
 540/231-5481
 www.fw.vt.edu (or) www.ext.vt.edu



Virginia Department of Game & Inland Fisheries

P.O. Box 11104
 Richmond, VA 23230-1104
 804/367-1000
 www.dgif.state.va.us



Virginia Forestry Association

8810-B Patterson Ave.
 Richmond, VA 23229-6322
 804/741-0836



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