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VIRGINIA FOREST LANDOWNER UPDATE

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

FOREST LANDOWNER
EDUCATION PROGRAM

Shawn A. Baker, Editor

Address all correspondence to:
Virginia Forest Landowner Update
238 Cheatham Hall (0324)
Blacksburg, VA 24061
ph: 540/231-6391; fax: 540/231-3330
email: forester@vt.edu
www.cnr.vt.edu/forestupdate

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INSIDE

1

New Program Coordinator

Harvesting Demo

2

Events Calendar

3

Events Calendar

4

Virginia's 7th Forest Survey

5

Meet Bob and Darlinda Gilvary

Return of Web-Based Woodland Options

6

Top Ten Private Forestry Issues



New Landowner Education Program Coordinator

Shawn Baker, Virginia Tech Forestry Extension

Greetings! It has been over eight months since an issue of the Landowner Update has been published, and in that time there has been a lot of activity within the Virginia Forest Landowner Education Program (VFLEP). As mentioned in the last issue of the Update, Dylan Jenkins, the VFLEP's first program coordinator, has moved to a new position in Pennsylvania with the Nature Conservancy. In mid-June, I was hired to fill that position, and have been working to get the VFLEP back in full swing. A major part of that is the Landowner Update which I will continue publishing three times per year, and will try to get back to four issues per year if possible (see page 5).

the land and sustainable resource management. I invite you to participate in one or more of them.

This fall, in cooperation with a number of agencies, organizations, and companies, we are offering six Forestry and Wildlife field tours around the state. There may still be time to sign up for a tour near you so take a look at the calendar on page 2 and see if you can make it. In January, we will once again be offering the web-based Woodland Options course, specifically designed for landowners who don't have the time or opportunity to attend one of our face-to-face courses. See the article on page 5 for more information on this opportunity. Our series of face-to-face courses includes the Woodland Options, Wildlife Options, and Sustainable Timber Marketing and Harvesting courses. Thanks to the work of numerous volunteers, this series of courses has been offered to over 1600 participants around the state. We are working to offer more sessions of each of these courses, so keep an eye out for one in your area. In addition, efforts are underway to develop new courses on topics that are important and useful to Virginia's 400,000+ forest landowners.

The importance of education about natural resources is extremely evident these days, as news ranging from the President's Healthy Forests Initiative to the damage inflicted by Hurricane Isabel floats across the airwaves. Understanding the science behind the management of these resources is critical to making appropriate management decisions at the national, state, and local level. John Scrivani's article on page 4 discusses the status of Virginia's forest resources. It shows that we have an abundance of forestland, and a majority of that land is owned by private individuals. The purpose of the VFLEP is to provide the forest landowners of Virginia with the information they need to make sound decisions regarding the management of their property. The programs mentioned below attempt to provide education in sound stewardship of

Be sure to stop by our website (www.cnr.vt.edu/forestupdate) for a look at our up-to-date calendar of events from around the state, and to keep apprised of the programs we have underway. Also, feel free to get in touch with me if you have any questions about anything listed here or elsewhere in the Update. I look forward to the opportunity to work with you all. **U**

Low Impact Harvesting Demonstration on McCormick Farm

On a gorgeous late-summer day at the McCormick Farm in Raphine, VA, 90+ landowners were given the opportunity to see forest management practices being implemented on small woodlot sites. This one-day demonstration was the first in what will be a series to test and demonstrate logging systems designed for harvesting on small tracts and with low impact. Dr. Rien Visser, a forestry professor at Virginia Tech, began this research project with the intent of determining which harvesting systems are economically feasible to achieve landowner objectives.

pursue on their property. He gave examples of how to improve as reducing fire risk. Finally, before lunch, Dr. Visser discussed the various types of low-impact harvesting systems available, along with their approximate costs and productivities.

After lunch, attendees were treated to four field demonstrations on the site. Two harvest sites were visited, a thinning and a crop tree release. At each location only half the stand was actually harvested so that before and after stand conditions, as well as tree selection, could be discussed. Tal Roberts, a research assistant at Virginia Tech gave a discussion and demonstration on directional felling in a hardwood stand. Finally, Harry Groot demonstrated his logging system to show how a smaller farm tractor could be utilized to extract timber.



Dr. Tom Fox of Virginia Tech discusses crop tree release with area landowners

The day started off with three presentations. Dr. Tom Fox discussed the silvicultural techniques that can be used to achieve landowner objectives on small acreages. Focus was given to partial harvesting systems. These 'timber stand improvement' (TSI) operations are utilized to improve the long-term health and value of forests. Kris Jensen, the graduate student working with Drs. Visser and Fox on this research project, then presented non-timber management objectives which landowners might wish to

The harvest sites on McCormick Farm will serve as a demonstration area in the future to show the difference between unmanaged forests and the silvicultural prescriptions implemented on the ground. The project hopes to establish similar demonstration areas around the state next summer, harvested using different machinery. Keep an eye on the Landowner Update for future demonstration locations. **U**

EVENTS CALENDAR



For the most complete listing of natural resource education events, visit the online events calendar at: www.cnr.vt.edu/foreupdate. See also: www.conted.vt.edu/forestry.

event contact	date/location	event/description (preregistration required unless noted otherwise; TBA = to be announced)	time	fee	
EB1 ML EB2 KL JB JO	Six dates and locations: October 3 October 10 October 14 October 16 October 21 October 23	27th Annual Fall Forestry and Wildlife Field Tours See land management practices on the ground as resource professionals and veteran landowners discuss techniques which landowners can use to achieve their objectives. Tours may visit private, public and industry lands. All discussions focus on sustainable and multiple use management. Be prepared for the weather and for walking in the woods. Lunch is provided.	8:30am-5pm	\$35.00	
			Prince Edward County	8:30am-5pm	\$35.00
			Nelson County	8:30am-5pm	\$35.00
			Shenandoah County	8:30am-5pm	\$35.00
			Richmond County	8:30am-5pm	\$35.00
			Accomack County	8:30am-5pm	\$35.00
Grayson County	8:30am-5pm	\$35.00			
JT	October 23 Critz, VA	Forestry and Wildlife Field Day This one-day field experience at the Reynolds Homestead Forest Resources Research Center will include a walk along one of the new Virginia Bird and Wildlife Trails, as well as a discussion of hardwood management practices. Lunch will be provided, but preregistration is preferred.	9am-4pm	no fee	
			www.vaes.vt.edu/critz		
KM	October 24-25 Ocean City, MD	Conservation Easements: Key to the Future or Lock on the Land? For anyone curious about this confusing topic, the Maryland Forests Association's 2003 Annual Meeting will include a discussion on the ethics of conservation easements, and a panel of presenters discussing the issue from five different viewpoints: the government, landowners, hunt clubs, land trusts, and industry. There will also be a wetlands ecology field trip, a silent auction and a conference banquet.	all day each day	\$295.00	
			mdforests.org/AM2003.htm		
NC	October 25 Vass, NC	2003 Carolina Log'n Demo and Forestry Show Come out and see the latest in forest harvesting equipment, trucks, trailers, safety equipment, chain saws and much more. Continuous live equipment demonstrations will be run throughout the day, in addition to forestry demonstrations and a fishing derby for the kids. A bluegrass band will be playing for entertainment as well.	7am-4pm	\$15.00	
			www.ncforestry.org		
SL	October 29- November 1 St. Helena Island, SC	Justice for All Forests and All People The annual meeting of the National Network of Forest Practitioners is a great opportunity to learn about cutting-edge developments in community forestry, share knowledge and ideas, and get skills and information to take back home. With workshops, group discussions, field trips, and other activities, the meeting will help build a deeper understanding of the immense diversity of community forestry, and help create opportunities for working together.	all day each day	\$100- members \$175-non- members	
			www.nnfp.org		
MC	October 31 Rocky Mount, VA	Management Options for Cutover Land Have you purchased clearcut or high-graded timberland and don't know what to do with it? Did you harvest timber before considering forest regeneration, and now need help with your management options? If you answered "yes" to either of these questions, and your objectives include forest and/or pasture management, then this program is for you. Topics covered include hardwood, pine, and wildlife management, converting cutover land to pasture, and tax considerations. Following a sponsored lunch, interested participants can take an informal walk in the woods to discuss erosion control, tree identification, crop-tree release, and many other topics. Please arrive 15 minutes early to check-in.	9am-3:30pm	no fee	
RT	November 4-6 Asheville, NC	14th Annual SAMAB Conference: Meeting the Challenges of a Changing Region The Southern Appalachian region faces a host of interrelated issues, from air quality to invasive species to planning for growth. This conference brings together professionals and concerned citizens from across the region in a forum that facilitates the learning, networking, and brainstorming needed to address these issues. The conference features workshops, presentations, posters, and field trips about the most pressing issues in our region, and agency and community actions that address these challenges.	all day each day	\$85.00	
			samab.org		
HH	November 5-6 Blacksburg, VA	Estate Planning for Forest Landowners This course provides you with a working knowledge of the federal estate and gift tax and an overview of state death tax considerations applicable to timberland in the estate. The implications of recent tax law changes for accumulating and protecting forestry assets are discussed. Strategies for intergenerational transfer of timberland are emphasized.	Nov. 5: 8am-5pm Nov. 6: 8am-4pm	\$295.00	
			www.conted.vt.edu/estate		

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), and refer to the *Event Contacts* information box (for example VT = Virginia Tech).

event contact	date/location	event/description (preregistration required unless noted otherwise; TBA = to be announced)	time	fee
DG AD SB	November 16 Halifax, VA Madison, VA Blacksburg, VA	Forestry Cooperatives: What Today's Resource Professionals Need to Know Cooperative members, consultants, service providers, and researchers will provide a framework for better understanding forestry cooperatives and their potential role in helping private forest landowners achieve their objectives. This satellite conference is intended for natural resource, extension, and cooperative development professionals. Three sites are available around the state.	2pm-5pm	no fee
AD	Two locations and dates: Manassas, VA: January 24 Charlottesville, VA: February 7	2nd Annual Woods and Wildlife Conference The conference is a one stop shop for individuals, families, managers and other interested persons to learn about their woods, wildlife and other natural resources. The day will provide participants with multiple links to information, possible sources of financial assistance and a better understanding of the natural resources within their realm of influence. Our goal is to help landowners make "best decisions" for themselves, their land and society. A variety of topics will be presented to meet this goal including: Managing wildlife on large & small acreages; Alternative Income Opportunities, Selling Timber, Forest Aesthetics, Financial tools for Land Conservation, and Forest Health.	TBA	TBA
SC	January 27-30 Raleigh, NC	Applied Silviculture for Sustainable Land Conservation and Production The Annual Conference of the Appalachian region of the Society of American Foresters will explore the roles and opportunities for forestry in the expanding arena of land trusts, conservation easements, and working farms and forests. Forest landowners – non-industrial, industrial, and non-profit — will showcase actual examples of sustainable silvicultural practices in support of working forests on conserved land.	TBA	TBA
PT	February 21 Tappahannock, VA	Sustainable Timber Marketing and Harvesting Sustainable Timber Marketing and Harvesting is a comprehensive course on selling timber. Participants will learn about site assessment, timber products and values, market factors, harvesting methods and regeneration, best management practices to protect water quality, timber sale procedures and contracts, timber taxation, estate planning and conservation easements.	8am-5pm	\$40.00
SB	Feb. 3-Apr. 15 anyplace (with internet connection)	Web-Based Woodland Options for Landowners The nation's first and only web-based course for forest landowners will be offered for the second time in February 2004. Designed for southeastern forest landowners, the course is conducted entirely online and is appropriate for new and veteran landowners alike. This six-module, 10-week course teaches landowners how to "read their land" to assess and manage their property. Topics include: family resource inventory; basic dendrology; sustainable forestry concepts; property deeds and boundary lines; maps, photos, and soil surveys; and forest ecology and management. Participants will interact online with a "mentor team" made up of a professional forester and veteran landowner from their region. Online registration begins November 2. To view the course syllabus or to register, visit www.vto.vt.edu or www.cnr.vt.edu/forestupdate (and click on "Courses").	anytime!	\$60.00

www.cnr.vt.edu/forestupdate
-or- www.vto.vt.edu

EVENT CONTACTS

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

event contact	name/affiliation	phone	e-mail
AD	Adam Downing, Madison County Cooperative Extension	434/542-5884	adowning@vt.edu
DG	Dan Goerlich, Halifax County Cooperative Extension	540/948-6881	dalego@vt.edu
EB1	Elsie Bryan, Prince Edward County Cooperative Extension	434/392-4246	ebryan@vt.edu
EB2	Eric Bendfeldt, Rockbridge County Cooperative Extension	540/564-3080	ebendfel@vt.edu
HH	Harry Haney, Virginia Tech Department of Forestry	434/476-2147	hhaney@vt.edu
JB	Jim Belote, Accomack County Cooperative Extension	757/787-1361	jbelote@vt.edu
JO	James Osborne, Grayson County Cooperative Extension	276/773-2491	jaosborn@vt.edu
JT	John Trobaugh, Virginia Tech Department of Forestry	276/694-4135	jtrobaugh@vt.edu
KL	Kelly Liddington, Richmond County Cooperative Extension	804/333-3420	klidding@vt.edu
KM	Karen Miller, Maryland Forests Association	817/723-0088	mdforests@hereintown.net
MC	Marilyn Clements, Franklin County Cooperative Extension	540/483-5161	macleme1@vt.edu
ML	Mike Lachance, Nelson County Cooperative Extension	434/263-4035	lachance@vt.edu
NC	North Carolina Forestry Association	800/231-7723	
PT	Pat Tyrell, Tidewater Resource Conservation and Development Council	804/443-1118	pat.tyrell@vatappahan.fsc.usda.gov
RT	Robert Turner, SAMAB	865/974-4585	rturner@utk.edu
SB	Shawn Baker, Virginia Tech Forestry Extension	540/231-6391	forester@vt.edu
SC	Susan Cohen, U.S. Forest Service	919/549-4079	scohen@fs.fed.us
SL	Susan LaPolice, National Network of Forest Practitioners	888/252-1008	

Virginia's Seventh Forest Survey Results

John Scrivani, Virginia Department of Forestry

The Virginia Department of Forestry (VDof) released the results of Virginia's Seventh Forest Survey on September 10, 2003. This survey showed a net loss of 180,000 acres of forestland in Virginia, but sustainable levels of timber growth and removals on the remaining 15.8 million acres of forest. The survey was conducted from 1997 to 2002, and covers the period since the last survey finished in 1992.



The net loss of timberland was the result of a larger land use dynamic. Conversion of forestland to urban uses and agricultural uses totaled 615,000 acres since 1992 (more than 68,000 acres annually), but this loss was partially offset by conversion of 435,000 acres of agricultural land to forests. As would be expected, the loss of forestland was concentrated around urban areas, particularly in the Northern Piedmont.

The ownership of Virginia's 15.8 million acres of forestland is now estimated at 66% private individual, 13% non-forest-industry corporate, 7% forest industry, and 14% public (Figure 1). The biggest change was a 32% decline in forest industry ownership, followed by a 27% increase in corporate ownership. Some part of this increase in corporate ownership includes an increase in ownership by timberland investment and management organizations (TIMO's) that often manage their lands in a manner similar to forest industry.

Despite the net loss of timberland, rates of growth and removals stayed sustainable and volumes generally increased. Net annual growth of hardwood timber averaged 2.8% per year, with removals averaging 1.7% per year. This resulted in a 4.7% increase in hardwood volume since 1992.

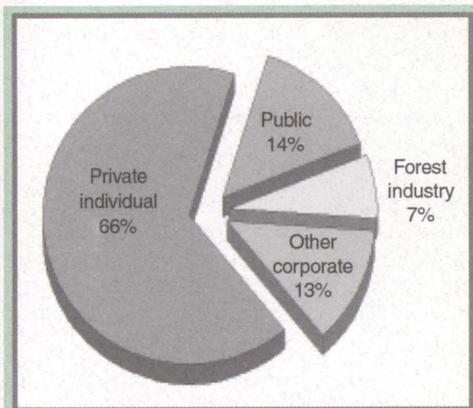


Figure 1: Forestland ownership patterns in Virginia in 2001.

The rate of hardwood increase was fairly constant across the state, with all units falling in the range of

a 0.7% to 1.6% annual increase. However, the soft hardwoods (e.g. red maple, sweetgum, and yellow-poplar) increased at a rate (1.8%) greater than the rate (0.8%) for hard hardwoods (e.g. oaks, and hickories).

The pine resource grew faster at 4.5% per year, but was also cut heavier at 4.3% per year. Still softwood volume increased 2% over the survey period. State-wide, the acres of pine plantations increased 25% to 1.8 million acres while natural pine stands decreased 18% to 1.5 million acres. For the first time plantation acreage exceeds natural pine acreage.

These statewide averages hide some significant regional and species trends (Figure 2). Pine removals exceeded growth in the Northern Piedmont, North Mountains and Southern Mountain survey units, largely due to high rates of mortality. In the mountains, there was considerable difference between species groups, with white pine exhibiting an increase and the yellow pines showing decreases.

However, in the "Pine Belt" of Virginia (the Coastal Plain and Southern Piedmont) the net growth rate was 5.5% and the removal rate was 4.6%, with an annual net increase of 0.9%. Of course, this area is where most of the actively managed pine plantations are found.

The Survey also detected a change in harvesting patterns. Final harvests, including clearcuts, decreased from an annual rate of 186,000 acres to 156,000 acres. Partial harvests, including diameter-limit cuts, increased from a rate of 45,000 to 113,000 acres per year. Despite the increase in partial cuts, the volume in large diameter (16-inch dbh and above) hardwoods increased. However, we have yet to look at the impact of partial cuts on tree quality. The rate of thinning increased from 22,000 to 29,000 acres annually.

A change in regeneration patterns was also evident. Natural regeneration was up 6.7% to 104,000 acres annually while artificial regeneration (plantations) was down 15.3% to 65,800 acres annually.

The survey was the result of a cooperative effort between the Department and the U.S. Forest Service. VDof provided field crews and data collection while the Forest Service provided quality control and data management. Data analysis by the Forest Service with input and review provided by VDof. This survey represents a shift from the previous six periodic inventories, done on roughly ten-year cycles, to annual inventories done on a five-year rotating panel design. Crews are continuing to measure on the annual schedule. The

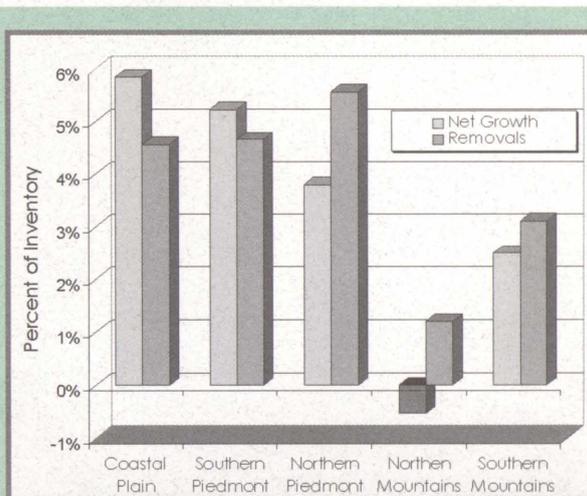


FIGURE 2: The pine growth and removal rates differ by region, but have exhibited net growth statewide over the past nine years.

first panel of the next five-year cycle is already measured and an annual update is expected in six months.

While the standard data analyses provided by the U.S. Forest Service have been completed the data can still be "mined" for more information. Over 178,000 trees were measured in great detail on nearly 4,000 forested plots. The data is

available for both interactive queries and download from the Forest Service. Links to this and other survey information can be found at the DOF web site at www.vdof.org.

If you would like more information, have a specific question about the Survey, or would like help with your own data analysis feel free to contact John Scrivani, at scrivani@vdof.org, or 434-977-6555.

John Scrivani is the Research Program Manager for the Virginia Department of Forestry.

VFA Seeks Communications Assistant

The Virginia Forestry Association is seeking a Volunteer Communications Assistant. The position will require 1 to 3 days per week for a one-year period. Job responsibilities will include researching, developing and writing news releases and newsletters. Additionally, WEB page development may be included. The start date will be shortly after the staff moves to the office at 3808 Augusta Avenue, Richmond. Work will be conducted from the office, but the potential exists to use the Internet and e-mail as a primary interface with the VFA staff. Interested individuals should contact Paul Howe, Executive Vice-President, VFA, at (804)-278-8733.



Meet Bob and Darlinda Gilvary

Jim Willis

Virginia Cooperative Extension - Southwest District

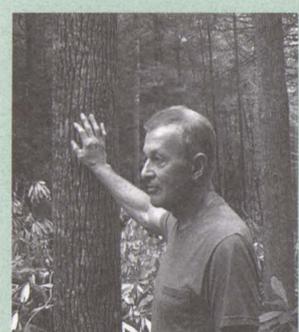
One of the reasons people often give for not taking better care of their timber is that it "ain't worth nuthin". However, a professional engineer with international experience begs to differ with that idea. He has found that he is making more money from his timberland in Bland County than he ever made as a civil engineer. Besides that, the land and timber are improving in health, and the landowner is having fun on his Gilginea Tree Farm. Meet Bob Gilvary of Bluefield, West Virginia.

Bob and his wife Darlinda have owned the timberland near Rocky Gap for over 11 years. When they bought the land in 1992, it was mostly

covered with 40 year-old hardwood trees that had naturally seeded themselves after the last harvest in the 1950s. Nothing had been done in that period of about 40 years. Scattered trees were ready to cut, but the forest wasn't in particularly good shape.

Bob and Darlinda immediately set out to build roads and begin to put the land under management. Bob intended to do his own timber harvesting, so he attended The Game of Logging chain saw training class. This program features the safe use of chain saws and teaches directional felling (how to put a tree where it won't damage timber that you wish to leave). Darlinda, who knows that real women run woods equipment, learned how to operate a dozer and build roads. She also helps some with logging, measuring, and loading, although her main interest in the property is along the lines of wildlife and wildflowers.

A special need was to market the timber in a way that would obtain the most money possible from harvested trees. Bob cleared some land and built his own log sorting area. At this log yard, he



"Learn all you can about the resource, study how to take care of it, and do the work yourself" - Bob Gilvary

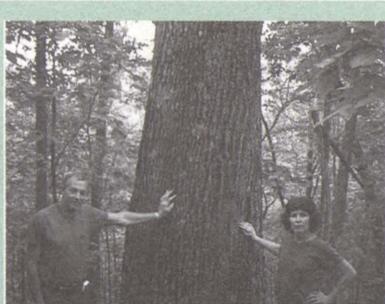


Figure 1: Bob and Darlinda with one of many large oaks on their property.

separates high-value veneer logs from ordinary sawlogs. Initially, the veneer logs were loaded into containers and shipped to Indonesia. Other sawlogs were sold to local sawmills. However, the Indonesian market has since collapsed,

so veneer logs are now sold on site to a buyer who periodically visits the yard.

After cutting the harvestable trees from a section of land, Bob begins timber stand improvement.

Most cull and low value stems, as well as grape vines, are cut to provide free growing space for remaining trees and sprouting seedlings. Bob is careful to leave sufficient hickory and beech, as well as a few vines, for production of wildlife food. He has also planted some wildlife food plots. It's a rare trip to the woods when you don't see plenty of birds, deer, or turkeys.

A particular vexation on the Gilvary property is rhododendron. Rhododendron thickets abound in southwestern Virginia, but have become a real impediment to forest regeneration on this tree farm. Because of the soils and past non-management of the property, the species is aggressively trying to take control of the land. Over much of the property, young tree seedlings are not able to reproduce themselves. Bob has cut down many acres of plants and is now trying herbicide application with recommendations provided by Dr. Shep Zedaker of Virginia Tech.

Over the years, the Gilvarys have taken advantage of several outside assistance programs. USDA conservation cost sharing programs have helped to pay a portion of the timber improvement work. Jim Clarke of the Virginia Department of Forestry has guided that work and provided other suggestions. All of the land is enrolled in the American Tree Farm Program, sponsored by the American Forest and Paper Association. The tree farm is also enrolled in Land Use Taxation, which helps to keep property taxes at manageable levels.

Even though timber has been cut from the land every year since it was purchased, the forest remains healthy and attractive. The Gilvarys are still optimistic about the future of forestry. They continue to look for additional timberland to buy. It is more expensive than it was in 1992, however, Bob feels that plenty of opportunities are still out there for people who use their noggin's a bit. Bob's philosophy would be good for all of us to imitate. "Learn all you can about the resource, study how to take care of it, and do the work yourself".

Jim Willis is the Southwest District Extension Forester with Virginia Cooperative Extension. Jim may be contacted at (276) 889-8056 or jwillis@vt.edu. U

Return of the Web-Based Woodland Options Course

In the winter of 2002, the Virginia Forest Landowner Education Program, in conjunction with the Virginia Department of Forestry, implemented the nation's first online course for forest landowners. The second offering of the course was slated to begin in January of 2003, but had to be canceled. This January, though, the *Web-Based Woodland Options for Landowners* course will be resumed.

Based on feedback from the 2002 course, some additions have been made to the curriculum. More attention will be given to tree identification, utilizing the Virginia Tech Dendrology website. Additionally, the Virginia Department of Forestry's Virtual Forest Tour CD will be integrated into the course materials. This innovative virtual reality tour of different forest types offers course participants the opportunity to see forest management activities even if they don't live near their forest property.

In addition, natural resource professionals in North Carolina and Maryland have volunteered to assist landowners in those states who wish to participate in the course. This multiple state participation makes it easier for absentee landowners in these states to participate with professionals local to their area.

Registration for the course will be available in early November. For more information on the course, or to register, visit the Forest Landowner Update webpage, www.cnr.vt.edu/forestupdate, or the Virginia Tech Online webpage, www.vto.vt.edu. If you have any problems or questions, contact Shawn Baker at (540) 231-6391 or forester@vt.edu.

We Need Your Help!!!

In the past two years, costs have prevented the Virginia Forest Landowner Update from publishing four issues per year. At present, 19,000 copies of each issue are sent out to forest landowners and resource professionals around the state. While this is a large readership, we wish to continue increasing our circulation, as well as resume publishing four issues per year. To help us achieve this goal, we will be offering the Update in an electronic format on the Update website. Individuals interested in this form of delivery will receive an email every time a new issue is available, containing a link to that issue. If you are willing to receive the Update in this format, please send Shawn Baker an email at forester@vt.edu, and he will place you on the electronic distribution list. Thank you for your help in this effort.

Top Ten Private Forestry Issues

Every year, the National Woodland Owners Association (NWOA) develops a list of the top ten private forestry issues. The list is determined by an alliance of 32 state forestry associations. The perennial topics of highest importance continued to dominate the top three spots this year, as taxes, the right to practice forestry, and private property rights continue to be of concern. Tax issues have been the top issue 16 of the last 18 years, and are number one this year despite improvements in death taxes and capital gains treatment for lump sum timber sales.

Extension education and service forestry jumped from number six to number four, possibly indicating the impact of the budgetary limitations placed on state and federal natural resource agencies and their ability to continue these programs. Concerns over the duties imposed on Canadian lumber are reflected in Markets, Mills and Fair Trade (#5). Last fall's devastating wildfires in the west boosted this issue as debate continues on the President's Healthy Forests Initiative. Landowner liability dropped from number four to number eight as other concerns took more prominence. The issue of certification also dropped considerably (from number six to number nine) as more states adopt logger training programs such as Virginia's SHARP Logger Program.

For more information, contact Shawn Baker at 540/231-6391 or forester@vt.edu. 

Top Ten Private Forestry Issues

1. Fair Income, Inheritance, and Property Taxes
2. Right-to-Practice Forestry
3. Private Property Rights
4. Extension Education and Service Forestry
5. Markets, Mills, and Fair Trade
6. Wildfire and Forest Health
7. Cost Sharing and Incentives
8. Landowner Liability
9. Certification of Loggers, Foresters, and Practices
10. Forestry on Wetlands - Best Management Practices

*Source: NWOA Woodland Report, August 2003

CONTACT OUR SPONSORS AND STATE NATURAL RESOURCE MANAGEMENT AGENCIES:



Virginia
Tech
Department of Forestry



Virginia Department of Forestry

900 Natural Resources Dr., Suite 800
Charlottesville, VA 22903
434/977-6555
www.vdof.org

Virginia Tech Department of Forestry & Virginia Cooperative Extension

238 Cheatham Hall (0324)
Blacksburg, VA 24061
540/231-6391
www.cnr.vt.edu/forestupdate

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

3808 Augusta Ave.
Richmond, VA 23230-3910
804/278-8733
www.vaforestry.org

For a complete listing of the natural resource management agencies in your county, visit the *Assistance Finder* at: www.cnr.vt.edu/forestupdate and click on "Assistance."

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