

# TREE LINE

## NEWSLETTER OF THE NORTH CAROLINA FORESTRY ASSOCIATION

### NCFA ANNUAL MEETING TAKES PLACE IN NEW BERN IN OCTOBER

The NCFA's "Dynamic Markets, Sustainable Opportunities" Annual Meeting will take place on October 2-4, 2013 in New Bern. The host hotel for the meeting will be the recently renovated DoubleTree by Hilton New Bern - Riverfront and the meeting will take place at the spacious New Bern Convention Center. Registration materials were mailed in June and they are currently online at [www.ncforestry.org](http://www.ncforestry.org).

**Hotel Rooms:** You can reach the DoubleTree at (252) 638-3585. Also, there is a NCFA room block (\$99) at Hampton Inn (252) 637-2111 and at the SpringHill Suites by Marriott (252) 637-0017 if a member cannot secure a room at the DoubleTree.

**Silent Auction Requests!** The silent auction at the NCFA's Annual Meeting will support the association's Public Education Initiative (PEI) again this year. As in the past, this auction relies on the generosity and talents of the membership. If you would like to contribute to this year's auction, please contact Fay Raynor at [Fay.Raynor@domtar.com](mailto:Fay.Raynor@domtar.com).



One of the silent auction items up for bid will be a hunting lease on Weyerhaeuser land.

The speaking program lined up for the membership will detail the array of markets that are impacting the forest products industry, both emerging and traditional, and how our forest resource managers and private landowners are positioned to respond to these markets. It is worth seven CFE credits for foresters.

The meeting follows the same popular format as previous years with recreational activities on Wednesday. Thursday's speaking program will feature comprehensive presentations on forestry and forest products markets. Over the past several months, North Carolina has been a focus of national debate on how forests are utilized in terms of the energy market or the 'wood fiber to energy' business. In addition to a look at the resource and emerging markets, the membership will hear from leaders in the softwood and hardwood markets. The program wraps up with a look at some of the infrastructure issues in (continued on page 3)

There is already an impressive list of items, events and activities being assembled for this year's meeting. Fishing, hunting and golfing trips will be part of the auction.

One highlight will include a hunting lease on Weyerhaeuser Company land in Eastern North Carolina.

**WOULD YOU LIKE TO RECEIVE OUR ELECTRONIC WEEKLY UPDATE? MEMBERS CAN SIGN UP TODAY AT [WWW.NCFORESTRY.ORG](http://WWW.NCFORESTRY.ORG)**



### DON'T BE LEFT OUT! MID-ATLANTIC LOGGING & BIOMASS EXPO - SEPTEMBER 20-21, 2013

The 2013 Mid-Atlantic Logging & Biomass Expo will take place on September 20-21, 2013 in the Smithfield-Selma area. The site will be close to where it was held in 2011.

The NCFA's Safety, Logging and Transportation Committee will once again be supporting Expo partners North Carolina Association of Professional Loggers (NCAPL), Hatton-Brown Publishers and the NCFA in hosting the two-day event.

The goal is to grow the show beyond equipment dealers to include more exhibitors of outdoors equipment, both recreational and business. Over 4,000 people passed through the gates in 2011.

As a reminder, Module 14 will be debuted at the Mid-Atlantic Expo. On Friday afternoon, the module will be held at 1:00 p.m. and on Saturday at 10:00 a.m. in the training tent next to the white house by the pond. Module 14 is two hours in length and it focuses on rutting, emergency action plans, overhead hazards and technology. There will be time for questions and answers.

You can obtain tickets and learn more about the Expo at <http://midatlantic-logging-biomass-expo.com/>



**MID-ATLANTIC LOGGING & BIOMASS EXPO**



### SUSTAINABLE FORESTRY TEACHERS' ACADEMY HOSTS 72 TEACHERS IN TOTAL

By Renee Strnad, North Carolina State University

In June, 72 educators from across the state participated in the Sustainable Forestry Teachers' Academy. Participants increased their knowledge about forestry issues in North Carolina by and took home resources and materials to help include this information into their classrooms. Every grade level and a variety of subject areas were represented.

The Coastal Academy, based in New Bern, began with a focus on the unique forest history of this part of the state. Harry Warren, Director of the Museum of Forestry in Whiteville, shared information, pictures, and artifacts representing the naval stores industry with thirty-five educators.

The week continued with a focus on fire ecology, the Longleaf Pine ecosystem, and exploration in the Croatan National Forest. In promoting forestry from the seedling to the final product, participants visited the North Carolina Forest Service Claridge Nursery, James Hardison's (continued on page 5)



Teachers toured Columbia Forest Products as part of the Sustainable Forestry Teachers' Academy held in Asheville in June.

## 2013 EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

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## DO YOU HAVE A NEWS ITEM?

TreeLine is the monthly newsletter of the North Carolina Forestry Association. News items and photographs should be sent to Chris Brown at [cbrown@ncforestry.org](mailto:cbrown@ncforestry.org).

The NCFA, the state's oldest forest conservation organization, is a private, nonprofit partnership of forest managers, landowners, mill operators, loggers, furniture manufacturers and others that actively promote healthy, productive forests by supporting the efforts of landowners and forestry-related businesses and organizations that responsibly manage or use forests.

NCFA, 1600 Glenwood Ave., Suite I, Raleigh, NC 27608. Telephone (919) 834-3943 or (800) 231-7723. ■



## FORESTRY MUSEUM SURVIVES FUNDING SCORE

**I**n the end, the North Carolina Forestry Museum successfully made its case to stay a vital part of the North Carolina Science Museum program. To put the budget debate in perspective, only the Senate's version of the budget had targeted the closure of the Forestry Museum. The Governor's and the House's versions made no mention of eliminating it.

"The support from the Forest Industry and the N.C. Tree Farmers played an instrumental role ensuring the Forestry Museum remains a viable part of forestry educational efforts and a place where the story of forestry can be told," stated a thankful Harry Warren, the Museum's Director. "Many thanks for every effort that was made on behalf of the museum to keep our doors open and serve the public. The future of the Forestry Museum holds much promise and I sincerely hope you will be part of the excitement."

The Forestry Museum is located in Whiteville. Warren and his staff have collected artifacts with ties to the forest products industry from across the state to tell North Carolina's rich story of forestry. Warren was named the NCFA's Communicator of the Year in 2010. ■

## KEY FORESTRY ISSUES STILL UNRESOLVED IN WASHINGTON

**T**he NCFA continues to participate in several national issues through its partnerships in Washington, D.C. and across the country, providing information and support on issues that may impact forest landowners and/or forest products companies in our state. The following is a summary of some of the key issues being debated at the congressional level.

The Forest Roads issue that wound its way up to the Supreme Court is now beginning its journey back to the 9th District where it first originated. The NEDC, which brought the original case, continues to press the courts to say that Forest Roads are point source discharges and should be required to get a permit. The forest community maintains that Forest Roads are not point sources and that the current Best Management Practices are effective in protecting soil productivity and water quality. In the Supreme Court's decision, the court ruled in favor of the forest community in that it maintained that the EPA had the authority to regulate Forest Roads and the Court should not get involved in the process. In its decision, the Court did not delve into whether Forest Roads are point or non-point discharges or some of the other particular questions raised by the 9th District's ruling.

The NEDC has asked its most recent litigation to continue to proceed in the courts and has indicated that it will be looking to expand the scope to include gravel pits and logging handling and sorting areas both in the woods and on specific sites.

While those involved with this case from the forestry community are not surprised by the NEDC's persistence or the 9th Districts willingness to keep this debate alive, they do believe the ongoing court battles on strengthening the case for addressing this issue in Congress. Several western lawmakers see this as an important issue to get resolved.

The Farm Bill continues to be discussed in Washington and at current speed it appears as if an extension of the current farm bill is eminent. The current Farm Bill runs out September 30th. A "farm only" Farm Bill, which means that it only includes provisions regarding agriculture and does not include the national food subsidy programs, has passed the House of Representatives. In terms of the language that supports Forest Roads, the language was added to the Farm Bill and approved once already. It is in the current "farm only" bill and should remain intact, but the future of a new Farm Bill is far from clear.

Committee work on tax reform continues in Washington although many question whether this Congress will have the time, desire and/or ability to come to a compromise on a comprehensive tax reform package. Here in North Carolina, we witnessed how this played out at our state level. The approach on this tax reform apparently will be a throw every tax exemption out and then see which ones seek to battle their way back into existence. There are three timber tax provisions (Deduction for timber growing costs, Timber revenue subject to capital gains, and Deduction and amortization of reforestation costs) that are crucial to forest landowners and the forestry community will be seeking to see that they survive this process. This entire process is scheduled to take place in September with a looming debt ceiling crises potentially arriving in October.

Another issue is the how carbon emissions are measured and valued in the Greenhouse Gas (GHG) Tailoring Rule. The forestry community has asked the EPA to amend the current tailoring rule to fully recognize the carbon benefits of forest bioenergy before July of 2014. The forestry community gained a delay in the current rule until July of 2014 as the EPA accepted additional comments on the topic as several court cases were initiated. The issue has the potential to be taken up by the Supreme Court. If the Supreme Court were to take one up the issue, it would further delay the implementation of the Tailoring Rule. The problem is that in its current form, if the Tailoring Rule were to go into effect, most facilities that have been recently renovated or constructed would be at risk of being out of compliance. The current situation has led many companies to delay expansion until this issue is resolved. President

(continued on page 3)

## MOREHEAD CITY HOLDS INFORMATION SESSION ON PORT PROJECT

**M**orehead City held a public information session for citizens on the proposed fumigation project that may come to the city's port as part of an expansion of operations for Cogent Fiber, which currently exports wood chips from the port. Cogent Fiber would like to ship logs to China in the coming year, but to do so, the logs would have to be treated with methyl bromide.

The information session was led by one of the lead scientist employed by Royal Pest Solutions, Inc., which is the company that would be performing the fumigation process for Cogent Fiber. The company anticipates shipping eight to ten loads annually. The process, which takes anywhere from 18-36 hours, sets logs under an airtight tarp and the methyl bromide is circulated. Upon completed treatment, the methyl bromide is released extracted and released into the air via a portable release stack. Methyl bromide is an odorless gas.

The NCFA represented the forest products industry and was on stage for the entire program, including the question and answer session. NCFA Executive Vice President Bob Schaefer discussed the economic impact the forest products industry has on the state's economy and pointed out that healthy markets not only provide jobs, but they provide incentives for landowners to keep growing trees.

Roughly 150 citizens were in attendance to learn more about the procedure. About 25 of those in attendance took advantage of the opportunity to ask a question or two and or voice their displeasure with the proposed project.

Staff members from North Carolina's Division of Air Quality were in attendance and reviewed how the state goes about approving permits. After the permit is applied for, there will be a public hearing in Morehead City in the near future. A final date has not been established. ■



*NCF Executive Vice President Bob Schaefer was one of the panelist at the information session in Morehead City.*

### NCFA Annual Meeting...(from page 1)

North Carolina such as transportation and our ports.

On Thursday evening, Forestry Mutual and the NCFA will present their annual awards during dinner. After dinner, the dance floor will be open as the Fantastic Shakers take the stage to entertain the membership. During the speaking program on Thursday and through the awards dinner, the silent auction tables will be open so members will have ample time to bid on the various hunting trips, fishing trips, professional sports tickets, homemade crafts and beach vacations up for bid. ■

## FRIENDS OF FORESTRY PAC SEEKS TO EXPAND

**T**he Friends of Forestry Political Action Committee (FFPAC) sat down this week to discuss plans for the future of the committee and how to increase the participation among NCFA members and non-members. The meeting was led by FFPAC Chair, Charles Jones, who is an NCFA member and a forest landowner.

The backbone of the FFPAC is the Committee of 100, which is a collection of individuals committed to contribute \$500 annually to the committee. Since the name was confusing to some, the FFPAC has changed this to now be the Gold Level member of the FFPAC. As a Gold Level member, an individual earns a seat on the FFPAC committee and has the opportunity to participate in committee meetings and special events. All Gold Level members will be recognized at all NCFA meetings, events and in all publications, both online and in print.

In response to feedback received by some Gold Level members, the FFPAC will establish a Silver Level member group. The Silver Level will commit to contribute \$250 annually to the FFPAC. Silver Level members are key supporters of the FFPAC and will be recognized as such at NCFA meetings, events and in all publications, both online and in print.

A third group, Bronze Level members will include all general contributions made to the FFPAC, including any donations received as part of fundraising events such as the reverse raffle event that happens typically in even years prior to Forestry Day in the Legislature and any other raffle events the FFPAC may conduct.



*NCF President Allen Plaster, Senator Harry Brown, and FFPAC Chair Charles Jones pose for a photo during Forestry Day in the Legislature*

The FFPAC also respects the privacy of its membership so if a member would like to contribute to the FFPAC without being recognized, that certainly will be arranged. Keep in mind, the FFPAC reports to the State Board of Elections on a quarterly basis all contributions over \$50 as part of its complete report.

If you are interested in learning more about the FFPAC, please contact FFPAC treasurer Chris Brown at [cbrown@ncforestry.org](mailto:cbrown@ncforestry.org) or (800) 231-7723 ext. 3

In the coming weeks, the FFPAC will be developing some new print materials and promotional items to raise the awareness and participation in the committee.

*(continued on page 4)*

## SLOCUM SCHOLARSHIP REACHES FIRST FUNDING LEVEL GOAL

**R**epresentatives from North Carolina State University are pleased to announce that the Bob Slocum Forestry Communication Scholarship is now fully funded, having eclipsed the \$25,000 plateau. The Slocum Family and N.C. State University appreciate the generosity of over 100 individuals, families and businesses across the state. It is important to note that if you would like to contribute to this scholarship fund, you can do so by mailing your contribution to: North Carolina State Natural Resources, Foundation, Inc, memo Slocum Fund, Campus Box 8010, Raleigh, NC 27695. ■



*Bob Slocum*

## NC STATE CNR DEAN TO HOST RECEPTION

**N**orth Carolina State University Dean of the College of Natural Resources, Mary Watzin, is hosting a heavy hors d'oeuvres reception on Tuesday, September 17th at the Hilton Wilmington Riverside. The dress attire is casual. Dean Watzin is eager to hear ideas about how North Carolina State University can create natural resource leaders for the future. Please RSVP to Patti Woodbury at [patti\\_woodbury@ncsu.edu](mailto:patti_woodbury@ncsu.edu) or call 919.515.5660. ■

### Key Forestry Issues...(from page 2)

Obama recently revealed his "Climate Action Plan" and the focus of this rule is the regulation of coal so the Tailoring Rule is just a small part of an overall package. Forestry interests are trying to get the EPA to first start with a study of the carbon stock in existence before introducing any regulations that would seek to impact the stock levels. There is also a collaborative effort underway with several diverse groups to produce a generic paper with a few general points that all groups can agree on such as how biomass can have a positive benefit on the environment and climate and that there is a real need to examine what are the carbon stocks in existence today

A final national issue is the ongoing struggle on the H2B Visa rules. The H2B Visa rule impacts forestry professionals in the reforestation field. The new rules, which have been challenged in courts in two different states, seek make the H2B visa similar to the row crop farm visa. There are many logistical challenges with this approach. Unfortunately, those involved with this issue, especially the Forest Resources Association, do not see a clear resolution to the issue prior to the next planting season which certainly will place a burden on all forest landowners, including federal, state and private. The rules as they are written now make it close to impossible for a reforestation company to continue to operate from a logistical and economic standpoint. ■



## SPORTING CLAYS EVENT RAISES FUNDS FOR LOG A LOAD FOR KIDS

The 18<sup>th</sup> Annual Colony Tire Sporting Clays Miracle Shoot was held Friday August 23<sup>rd</sup> and Saturday August 24<sup>th</sup> at Rose Hill Sporting Clays in Nashville, NC. Thanks to the overwhelming and continued support of companies and businesses from all over the state, this year's event, organized by Log A Load for Kids, raised a record \$102,000 for sick and injured children in eastern North Carolina.

Over 600 shooters participated in the 50-round fun shoot for men, women and youth in competitions held Friday and Saturday. Twenty-seven guns were awarded as prizes in nine Lewis Class Divisions of shooters along with trophies and other prizes. Other contests included the Five Stand which requires shooters to aim from five different locations, the Wobble Stand requiring three stands at different levels and a team contest. There was fun for all ages with games and drawings as well.



Colony Tire Sales and Service was the title sponsor for the shooting clays event.

"We would like to express our sincere thanks and gratitude to the many companies and businesses that were willing to support our event in such difficult economic times," said Earl Dail, the event's coordinator. "This year's sponsorships topped all previous years of the clay shoot. Their support has immeasurable power in making a difference in the lives of sick and injured children."

Log A Load for Kids is a national organization supported by the logging and timber industries to raise funds for the Children's Miracle Network Hospitals. One hundred percent of the funds raised in Nashville will benefit The James and Connie Maynard Children's Hospital at Vidant Medical Center in Greenville, NC. Since 1992, North Carolina's Log A Load for Kids program has raised almost \$2 million for the Children's Miracle Network.

A special thanks goes out to Colony Tire Sales and Service for their many years of commitment and willingness to be the event's title sponsor. A complete list of the sponsors is included on this page. ■



The NCFAs Jack Swanner takes aim during the shooting clays.

### Friends of Forestry PAC...(from page 3)

The FFPAC was extremely active last election cycle, supporting over 50 candidates in the primary and general elections. As a reminder, the Friends of Forestry PAC is not party specific and it only supports candidates for state office. The FFPAC meets prior to primary and general elections to discuss which candidates they would like to support.

To successfully participate in our political system, our members must be engaged on the issues, registered to vote, and ready to support those candidates that are willing to support healthy forests, the production of forest products, and private property rights. All donations to the FFPAC must be personal funds. The FFPAC hopes that all NCFAs members will consider contributing at some level. ■

## SPONSORS OF SPORTING CLAYS EVENT

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## MODULE 14 IS COMPLETE - TRAINING KICKS OFF AT MID-ATLANTIC LOGGING EXPO

The NCFAs ProLogger continuing education element training kick off on September 20-21 as part of the Mid-Atlantic Logging and Biomass Expo. As an added bonus to the Expo, there will be a training tent set up for ProLoggers to view and earn credit for taking the Module 14 course.

Once again produced by Fire Horse Films and under the guidance of the NCFAs Jack Swanner, Module 14 takes on four topics in the two hour program. Rutting, Emergency Plans, Overhead Hazards and Technology are the four major topics covered in the latest module. The NCFAs would like to thank all the ProLoggers and training partners who participating in the making of this module. The NCFAs would also like to thank the North Carolina SFI State Implementation Committee and Lampe for its support of the video.

As a reminder, PROLOGGERS must take Module 14 by JUNE 30, 2014 to remain in the program. Any ProLogger who fails to take Module 14 by this deadline will be REMOVED from the program and will have to take the base course over again to re-enter the program. ProLogger dues must be paid to the NCFAs by July 31, 2014. Failure to pay dues will also disqualify a ProLogger from the program.

ProLoggers are encouraged to check with their suppliers in the coming weeks to find out when a Module 14 class will be held in their area. A complete list of classes will be highlighted in this newsletter, on our website, and as part of our weekly e-mail newsletter. If you would like to sign up for this weekly update, go to our home page, [www.ncforestry.org](http://www.ncforestry.org) and enter your e-mail in the appropriate box. You will automatically be signed up. ■



## NATIONAL SAF CONVENTION HEADS TO CHARLESTON IN LATE OCTOBER

The National SAF Convention will take place on October 23-27, 2013 in North Charleston, South Carolina, with the program theme of Silviculture Matters. ■

## SFI LEADS PROGRAM TO PROTECT WATERSHEDS ACROSS THE US

**A** new project managed by the U.S. Endowment for Forestry and Communities and supported by a grant from the Sustainable Forestry Initiative® (SFI®), will engage forest landowners and water utilities to support innovative ways to promote watershed protection and maintenance on privately owned forest lands.

“The most cost-effective way for a community to ensure clean water is to maintain their watershed in a healthy, forested area,” said Kathy Abusow, President and CEO of SFI. “We’re excited to support new tools that encourage forest owners and water utilities to work together to conserve watersheds. This project will provide us with a greater understanding of what is needed to advance watershed protection and management.”

Experts acknowledge the important role of forestlands in protecting our nation’s water quality. The U.S. Forest Service estimates that about two-thirds of our nation’s freshwater resources originate in forests. Water utilities are increasingly taking responsibility for the health of local watersheds as the best way to ensure a long-term supply of clean water for the community.

“Developing collaboration between water utilities and forest landowners is a unique approach to protecting our nation’s water quality,” said Carlton Owen, President and CEO of the Endowment. “We welcome SFI’s leadership and support helping us to link stakeholders and communities to promote innovative new clean water programs.”

The SFI Conservation Grant will help the Endowment educate community stakeholders, water utilities and landowners and ultimately develop a financial instrument that will compensate forest landowners for protecting and maintaining the health of the watershed they manage. One example of this approach has been implemented in Raleigh, North Carolina.

In 2011, Raleigh established a “watershed protection fee” of 1 cent/100 gallons, included in customers’ monthly water bills. The fee costs homeowners an average of 40 cents/month and generates about \$1.8 million annually for land protection and management to protect drinking water quality. This project was supported by a grant from the Endowment and the Natural Resources Conservation Service.

This grant builds on SFI’s commitment to water resources through conservation grants awarded in 2012 to the World Resources Institute to examine how SFI requirements related to best management practices result in improvements in water quality, and to the National Association of State Foresters to assess development and implementation of best management practices in all U.S. states and territories.

In 2010, SFI Inc. first invested \$400,000 to create the SFI Conservation and Community Partnerships Grant Program to foster partnerships and conservation research that improve forest management in the United States and Canada, and responsible procurement globally. In a few short years, by leveraging partner contributions, SFI has achieved a total investment of \$4.8 million in conservation partnerships and research, supporting more than 40 grants with 150 partners across North America.

The SFI program is the only forest certification standard in North America that requires participants to support and engage in research activities to improve forest health, productivity and sustainable management of forest resources.

**About the U.S Endowment for Forestry and Communities:** The U.S. Endowment for Forestry & Communities, Inc. is a not-for-profit corporation established September 21, 2006, at the request of the governments of the United States and Canada in accordance with the terms of the Softwood Lumber Agreement (SLA) between the two countries. The Endowment is one of three entities designated to share in a one-time infusion of funds to support “meritorious initiatives” in the U.S. It has been endowed with \$200 million under the terms of the SLA.

**About Sustainable Forestry Initiative:** SFI Inc. is an independent, nonprofit 501(c)3 organization that is solely responsible for maintaining, overseeing and improving the internationally recognized Sustainable Forestry Initiative® (SFI®) program. Across the United States and Canada, 240 million acres (nearly 100 million hectares) are certified to the SFI forest management standard. In addition, the SFI program’s unique fiber sourcing requirements promote responsible forest management on all suppliers’ lands. SFI chain-of-custody (COC) certification tracks the percentage of fiber from certified forests, certified sourcing and post-consumer recycled content. SFI on-product labels identify both certified sourcing and COC claims to help consumers make responsible purchasing decisions. SFI Inc. is governed by a three-chamber board of directors representing environmental, social and economic sectors equally. Learn more at <http://www.sfi-program.org/> and <http://sfi-program.org/BuySFI>. ■

## Sustainable Teachers’ Academy...(from page 1)

Tree Farm, Georgia-Pacific’s plywood mill in Dudley, Weyerhaeuser’s Lumber facility in Ayden, Atlantic Veneers, and Veneer Tech. Educators were also acquainted with issues facing North Carolina’s forests, including a presentation about woody biomass from North Carolina State University’s Dennis Hazel followed by a tour of Craven County Wood Energy.

Rebecca, a K-5 school administrator and participant, commented that she would recommend the academy to others.

“This week provided the kind of professional development that is most beneficial to teachers: hands on, fun, engaging, relevant, stimulating, and rejuvenating,” stated Rebecca.

Thirty-seven educators arrived in Asheville the last week of June for the Mountain Academy. As with the Coastal Academy, the Mountain Academy also began with a history presentation from Bill Alexander, Landscape and Forest Historian with the Biltmore Estate. His presentation focused on the forest legacy of George W. Vanderbilt, Frederick Law Olmsted, Gifford Pinchot, and Carl A. Schenck. The Mountain Academy included a visit to Biltmore Estate forests to demonstrate how the Tree Farm is managed for wood, wildlife, recreation and water.

The group also traveled to The Cradle of Forestry to learn more about the role of North Carolina in the nation’s forest history and explored the use of GIS/GPS technology. The Mountain Academy also included a focus on urban forestry with assistance from the North Carolina Forest Service’s Eric Mueke and Asheville’s City Arborist, Mark Foster.

Industry visits included tips to Columbia Forest Products, Parton Lumber, and Jackson Paper.

One survey participant stated “This workshop was extremely well organized. Time was used very well, and time was not wasted. Every activity was useful on some level, either for personal understanding on use in a classroom setting. Great use of a precious summer week!”

In addition, both academies featured a full Project Learning Tree workshop, a presentation about forest certification programs from members of the state Sustainable Forestry Initiative committee, and working with fellow teachers to determine ways to insert the information they have learned throughout their curriculum.

The Sustainable Forestry Teachers’ Academy is led and facilitated by Extension Forestry and the Forestry and Environmental Outreach Program, both within the North Carolina State University’s College of Natural Resources’ Department of Forestry and Environmental Resources. The academies are supported financially by the North Carolina SFI State Implementation Committee, North Carolina Forestry Association, Firewise and Urban Grant Interface Program, Georgia-Pacific Corporation, North Carolina State University Department of Forestry and Environmental Resources, North Carolina State University College of Natural Resources, Society of American Foresters – North Carolina Division, Piedmont Chapter of Society of American Foresters, and Lampe & Malphrus Lumber Company.

Thanks to Renee Strnad with North Carolina State University’s College of Natural Resources’s Forestry & Environmental Education for providing a review and photos of this year’s Sustainable Teachers’ Academies. ■



*Teachers explored the Croatan National Forest as part of the Sustainable Teachers’ Academy held in New Bern.*



*The Teachers’ Academies provide educators with a hands-on experience.*

# LANDOWNERS' CORNER

## NORTH CAROLINA FOREST SERVICE PROVIDES UPDATE ON FDP FUND

The North Carolina Forest Service (NCFS) regularly provides an update on the Forest Development Program (FDP) in terms of services and funding. Typically, this plan has more of a demand so it is important for forest landowners to contact their county ranger and/or forester well in advance of any planned forestry activity.

In early September, this was where the funding stood. This is a funding update on where we stand on FDP as of today:

The Base Fund - Applications funded since July: .....	\$1,222,323
(no Base Funds currently available)	
"Mountain Fund" applications funded since July: .....	\$249,598
(Mountain Funds are depleted)	
"Plant Only" applications funded since July: .....	\$180,934
(\$569,000 remaining in Plant Only)	

Currently, the FDP waiting list has 129 applications starting with a date stamp of July 10, 2013, totaling \$440,420. This includes 25 Mountain Fund applications. These applications will begin to be funded in the order they were received as release money is made available. "Plant Only" applications will continue to be funded on a daily basis until funds are depleted. ■

## USDA INVESTS IN RURAL ECONOMIES WITH NC FOCUS

Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack announced this week funding for 631 projects across the nation - including 45 in North Carolina - that will help agricultural producers and rural small businesses reduce their energy consumption and costs, use renewable energy technologies in their operations and/or conduct feasibility studies for renewable energy projects.

Grant and loan funding is made available through the U.S. Department of Agriculture's (USDA) Rural Energy for America Program (REAP), which is authorized by the 2008 Farm Bill. With this announcement, USDA is making investments of more than \$21 million in energy projects nationwide. Despite budget uncertainties, USDA remains focused on strengthening the rural economy.

REAP helps producers reduce energy costs and increase production efficiency. For example:

- ✓ The Tate Family Farm in Climax, NC, will use a \$7,403 grant to install an energy efficient geothermal system.
- ✓ Yarbro Farms in Lawndale, NC, was awarded a \$15,624 grant to make lighting, heating and insulation improvements to four poultry houses.
- ✓ Butler Farms in Lillington, NC, was selected to receive a \$16,250 grant to upgrade an anaerobic digester system to produce electricity from the farm's waste stream.

Farmers, ranchers, business owners and agriculture producers in 41 other states will also receive funding. Under the terms of REAP, up to 25 percent of an eligible energy production or conservation project can be funded through a grant, and additional support can be provided in the form of a loan. REAP offers financial assistance to farmers, ranchers and rural small businesses to purchase and install renewable energy systems and make energy efficiency improvements. These federal funds leverage other private funding sources for businesses. REAP also helps the conservation of natural resources and the development of new forms of energy that reduces America's dependence on fossil fuels and creates a stronger rural economy. ■

## USFS FOREST PLANNING WORKSHOP MOVES TO OCTOBER 5

The next workshop conducted as part of the Nantahala and Pisgah National Forests Management Plan revision will be held Saturday, October 5, 2013 at the N.C. Arboretum, 100 Frederick Law Olmsted Way, Asheville, NC 28806. The session will take place from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. This is a new date to replace the workshop that was scheduled to take place on August 3, 2013. ■

## NC TREE FARM PROGRAM TO HOST ANNUAL MEETING AT BATTS TREE FARM

The North Carolina Tree Farm Program is reaching out those who might be interested in being a sponsor at some level for its 2013 Tree Farm Annual Meeting to be held on the Tree Farm of Dwight and Judy Batts, Wilson County, NC, 2012 NC Tree Farmers of the Year, on Saturday, November 2, 2013.

The effort is being led by NCFA member Dave Woodmansee. There are suggested sponsorship levels outlined below, but any commitment will be appreciated. All sponsorship funds will be utilized to reduce the registration fees for attendees to encourage more family participation in this year's meeting.

While two sponsor levels are indicated, the program understands the present economic conditions may dictate a smaller amount and any level will be greatly appreciated. All questions can be forwarded to Dave Woodmansee, RF at (252) 947-2345 / DWWForester@aol.com or Leslie McCormick at (919) 917-8646 / nctreefarm@gmail.com.

**\$250 sponsors receive:** company name and logo on the registration materials which will be mailed to 850+ Tree Farmers, 200 Tree Farm Certifier/Inspectors and our partner organizations; company name on place cards at the awards breakfast; company name on a sponsor board in the meeting room.

**\$500 sponsors receive:** all of the above plus space for a display at the Wilson County Ag Center where the awards breakfast will be held plus a complimentary meeting registration.

The one-day meeting will be extremely informative for all forest landowners, regardless of whether they are currently enrolled in the Tree Farm program or not. Registration materials are available online at <http://www.ncforestry.org/wp-content/uploads/2013/09/Tree-Farm-Annual-Meeting-Registration-2013.pdf>

### Tree Farm Annual Meeting

Wilson County Ag Center

7:45	Registration opens	competitive species, wildlife benefits, cost-share programs.
8:30	Breakfast served	
9:00	Business Meeting & Awards Presentations:	<b>Pond and Wetland Management:</b> pond development, water quality, invasive species, retention and drainage methods, dams, wetlands
	25 and 50 Year Tree Farm, Hardhat, Inspector of the Year, Outstanding Tree Farmer, Overview of Batts Tree Farm	<b>Timber Management:</b> management plans, site prep, planting density, seedling selection, pre-commercial and commercial thinning, final harvest, logging contracts
10:30	Load vans to travel to Tree Tree Farm	<b>Youth Activities (Kindergarten-6th grade):</b> Offered during adult field tour. Tree measurement, soil and water conservation demonstration, geocaching and build your own bluebird box
11:00	Tour of Tree Farm	
	<b>Preserving the Past:</b> special sites, easements, artifacts, preserving old buildings, protecting animal and plant species.	
	<b>Understory Management:</b> mowing, thinning, herbicides, prescribed fire, invasive and	1:15 Lunch (barbecue)
		3:00 Vans depart for Agricultural Center ■

## PEFC POSTS INFO ON NEW CHAIN OF CUSTODY STANDARD

PEFC International recently posted additional information on the 2013 PEFC Chain of Custody Standard that had been previously released in May of 2013. A question and answer document as well as other background information on this issues is posted on the PEFC website at <http://www.pefc.org>.

Two additional documents to assist with the transition from the 2010 to 2013 PEFC COC standard are also available for download on the PEFC International site for companies that use the physical separation method and another for the percentage based method.

It is important to note that the guidance document for the 2013 PEFC COC Standard is still under development and is planned for release this November 2013. ■



# NEW MEMBERS

MEMBER	City
Chris Batten.....	Whiteville
Boone's Sawmill Inc.....	Rutherfordton
Cedar Creek Hunt Club.....	Maxton
Cross Way Hunt Club.....	Taylorsville
Henry W. Culp, III.....	New London
Johnny Daniel Logging.....	Denton
Deep Gap Sportsmans Club.....	Hudson
William Foy.....	Windsor
Chad Russell Fuller.....	Greensboro
Good ole Boyz.....	Lenoir
H. Ronnie Hester & H. Alexander Hester.....	Bladenboro
J & D Big Racks.....	Mars Hill
David Earl McKoy.....	Fayetteville
Michael McKoy.....	Fayetteville
Robert McKoy.....	Fayetteville
Missouri Walnut LLC.....	Neosha, MO
Old Mill Hunt Club.....	Lumberton
Jake C & Jame W Prevatte.....	West End
Ruth Rowland.....	Greensboro
Sandhills Rod & Gun.....	Rockingham
James Thomas.....	Semora
Tony Cunningham Hunt Club.....	Candler
Byron & Thomas Trauger.....	Washington
Michael Windhorn.....	Washington

## USFS APPOINTS GUMM AS DISTRICT RANGER OF CROATAN

**K**ristin Bail, Forest Supervisor of the U.S. Forest Service National Forests in North Carolina, announced the appointment of Jim Gumm as the new District Ranger of the Croatan National Forest.

"Jim brings a wide range of work experience, ranging from fire to communications to operations, to the Croatan National Forest" said Bail. "He is a proven leader who builds coalitions and partnerships. These skills will serve him well as he cares for the land and serves our visitors and partners of this coastal plain forest."

As the district ranger, he will oversee management of the 160,000-acre Croatan National Forest and the operations of the district office, located in New Bern, N.C. Jim will assume his duties on Oct. 21, 2013. ■

## USFS OFFERS SAFETY TIPS FOR HUNTERS AND NON-HUNTERS IN NATIONAL FORESTS

**W**ith archery season for deer hunting rapidly approaching, the U.S. Forest Service National Forests in North Carolina reminds hunters and non-hunters to practice safety when visiting the Croatan, Uwharrie, Pisgah and Nantahala National Forests.

The deer season for archery starts September 9th in parts of western North Carolina and September 7th in most other parts of the state. Hunters and non-hunters should follow simple steps to ensure they return home safely during hunting season. The Forest Service's safety tips are available online at: <http://www.fs.usda.gov/detail/nfsnc/home/?cid=STELPRDB5416422>

Hunters must have the proper licenses and know the regulations when recreating in the national forests. The North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission website, <http://www.ncwildlife.org/Hunting/LawsSafety.aspx>, gives hunters the information they need to hunt legally. ■



## TRAINING YOUR NEW EMPLOYEES IS CRITICAL TO SAFETY PROGRAMS

**R**ecent articles have highlighted that one in eight employees are involved in some type of accident the first year on the job and national statistics show most occur within the first month of employment.

The confusion and stress that accompany an employee during the first days of any job are the main reasons that they are twice as likely to have an accident as experienced workers.

Lack of experience, a strong desire to please and hesitation to ask for help, lead to the statistics that they are most likely to be injured in some type of accident the first year on the job and why the first month is the most critical.

Every employer must realize that the first few days on the job are an excellent opportunity to provide your employees with the information that will ensure their safety and shape their behavior and performance. Training that stresses safety has been determined to eliminate accidents and contribute to an accident free environment.



The following are areas that should be covered:

- The most important and most overlooked information is the company safety policy. Ensure your employees are aware of the policy and consequences for non-compliance.
- All employees' training should include an introduction to their new job site.
- Make sure your employees understand the hazards associated with the job (job safety analysis) they will be assigned.
- Demonstrate how attention to safety in their job relates to the overall function of the department and the company. Include the relevant safety precautions in employee's job descriptions and give each new employee a copy as well as a copy of the company safety policy.
- For employees operating machinery and equipment, Lockout training that includes all energy hazards, must be the top priority.
- Explain safety rules and emergency procedures. Point out the location of first-aid facilities.
- Explain how and when to use personal protective equipment and how to care for it.
- Inform new employees to report unsafe conditions to you, as well as any accidents, even if there are no injuries or property damage.
- Stress the importance of good housekeeping to eliminate potential hazards.
- No safety-training program is complete without follow-up. Monitor employee's progress often during the first months. Keep them involved in your safety program and as a new set of eyes, they may possibly point out additional hazards that might have been overlooked.

Research now shows that when you include safety training in new employee training programs, morale improves and the accident rate decreases. First impressions that stress employee safety set the stage for new employees and can last throughout their career. Training is an ideal opportunity to make those impressions positive and to teach safe and productive work habits to all employees.

If you have questions about this article or have any safety training questions and/or needs, please contact Forestry Mutual at (800) 849-7788. ■

# CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- September 2013**  
 20-21 Mid-Atlantic Logging & Biomass Expo, Smithfield-Selma Area, NC
- October 2013**  
 2-4 NCEA Annual Meeting, New Bern, NC  
 4 NCEA Board of Directors, New Bern, NC
- November 2013**  
 2 NC Tree Farm Annual Meeting, Batts Tree Farm, Macesfield, NC  
 6 SLTC Meeting, Drake Landing, Enguay-Varina, NC  
 13 NC SEI SIC Meeting, TBD  
 13-15 NC Wood Exports Conference, New Bern, NC
- December 2013**  
 25-26 Christmas Holiday

North Carolina Forestry Association  
 1600 Glenwood Ave., Suite 1  
 Raleigh, NC 27608  
 919-834-3943 / 800-231-7723

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# TREE LINE

SEPTEMBER 2013



The Mid-Atlantic Logging & Biomass Expo heads to the Selma-Smithfield area on September 20-21, 2013