

TREELINE

NEWSLETTER OF THE NORTH CAROLINA FORESTRY ASSOCIATION



It is estimated that Stewart Gregg has taught over 31,000 students and traveled over 18,000 miles while volunteering to teach at the NCFA's Forestry Camps.

GREGG HONORED AT ANNUAL MEETING

The NCFA recognized Stewart Gregg of Gregg Forestry Company with its highest award, the Distinguished Service Award, for his contributions to forestry and the NCFA at the Annual Meeting.

"Stewart Gregg has spent his career working with landowners and promoting sustainable forestry," stated NCFA President Ray Allen. "Stewart has been a constant over the years in our education program for school children and teachers. We appreciate his willingness to donate his time and talents to teach the next generation about our forests."

Born in Lenoir in 1932, Gregg started his career in the United States Air Force. Upon leaving the Air Force after a four-year service commitment, Gregg graduated from North Carolina State University with his Forest Management degree in 1959. He worked for Georgia Kraft Company and WestVaco for the next six years. In 1965, he became a wood supplier for Carolina Land & Timber. He spent 20 years in that position before starting his own distributing company from 1970-1979. In 1984, he has started his own consulting company that he continues to run today.

A member of the Society of American Forester for 50 years, Gregg is recognized as one of the NCFA's top volunteers when it comes to the Forestry & Environmental Camps. For the past 15 years, Gregg has taught at every camp the NCFA has offered across the state. From Asheville to Wilmington, Gregg has taught at them all. ■

THANKS TO SPONSORS, EXHIBITORS AND MEMBERS - 2014 ANNUAL MEETING IS SUCCESS

A total of 220 members participated in the NCFA's Annual Meeting held in Greensboro. The meeting that featured some great entertainment, including the Band of Oz and Gaming Night, informative speaker presentations and a great host hotel in the Grandover Resort.



NCFA members took to the stage during the Band of Oz show.

If you missed the meeting, (*Shame on You!*), you can still get copies of the presentations by visiting the NCFA's website and checking the Annual Meeting page or by downloading the annual meeting App which includes links to the presentations.

The morning segment focused on water quality, concluding with a water quality panel discussion.

The afternoon portion address transportation challenges as well as providing a election forecast from political expert John Davis.

During the Wednesday luncheon, the NCFA presented Friend of Forestry Awards to lawmakers Brent Jackson and Michele Presnell. Senator Jackson and Representative Presnell are strong supporters of forestry, the forest products industry and growing rural economies across our state through their legislative actions. ■



A roll of the dice! Gaming night was a hit.



(l) Charles Jones and Ray Allen (r) presented Senator Brent Jackson with the NCFA's Friend of Forestry Award.



(l) Charles Jones and Ray Allen (r) presented Representative Michele Presnell with the NCFA's Friend of Forestry Award.

NORTH CAROLINA FORESTRY ASSOCIATION

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SUBMIT NEWS TO THE NCF

TreeLine is the bi-monthly newsletter of the NCF. News items should be sent to Chris Brown at cbrown@ncforestry.org or by calling (800) 231-7723 ext. 3.

The NCF is the state's oldest forest conservation organization, consisting of 4,000 members with ties to forestry and the forest products industry. A private, non-profit organization, the NCF promotes healthy, productive forests by supporting the efforts of landowners, the forest products industry, and related groups that responsibly manage and/or use forests. ■

POLITICAL NEWS & REGULATORY ISSUES

CONCERN GROWS OVER CERVIDS RULE

The most recent legislative session raised the issue of who is best equipped to regulate wildlife as it pertains to existing captive cervids (deer, elk, etc.). There are less than 30 of cervid farm enterprises across the state where whitetail deer, elk and/or other exotic species are bred for those individuals interested in hunting on a captive farm.

In the past, the North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission (NCWRC) had full jurisdiction on both wild and captive cervids. This past session, regulation was split between the NCWRC and the North Carolina Department of Agriculture & Consumer Services (NCDA&CS). In simple terms, the NCWRC still regulates and monitors all cervids "outside the fence" across the North Carolina landscape. The NCDA&CS now regulates and monitors all "inside the fence" operations.

Recently, the NCWRC held two public hearings to accept comments about the recently passed legislation regulating the farming of captive deer in North Carolina. The new rules impact the holding of wildlife in captivity. It would allow the issuing of licenses and permits for new licensees to keep cervids such as white-tailed deer and elk in captivity as part of private enterprises. The new law also would allow owners of herds certified to be healthy to sell or transfer cervids to any licensed facility, including new ones.

At the heart of this issue is the destructive Chronic Wasting Disease (CWD) that is typically associated with deer and exotic deer farm environments. In some states, deer infected with CWD have escaped captivity and spread the disease to the wild population. CWD has wiped out huge swaths of cervid populations in other states. At this point, CWD has not been a problem in North Carolina. The concern is that if the captive deer industry were to grow and more mobility was granted in terms of transporting these farmed deer/cervids, the chances for an outbreak of CWD among the wild populations increases dramatically.

North Carolina private forestland owners rely on a healthy deer population to generate extra income through leasing to hunt clubs and for their own private enjoyment. The recreational/hunting industry is a huge contributor to the state's economy, climbing into the hundreds of millions of dollars.

For those interested in submitting comments, you can submit your comments via e-mail regulations@ncwildlife.org or by mail to N.C. Wildlife Resources Commission, 1701 Mail Service Center, Raleigh, NC 27699-1701. ■

FRIENDS OF FORESTRY PAC SPONSORS

The Friends of Forestry PAC, which is chaired by forest landowner Charles Jones, was pleased with fall election results in terms of the candidates that the PAC supported.

Overall, in the House, 20 of the 24 candidates the FFPAC supported won. In the Senate, 15 of the 16 candidates the FFPAC supported won. The FFPAC also supported Justice Mark Martin in his successful re-election.

"We really appreciate and would like to thank all of the people who take the time and personal commitment to participate in our Friends of Forestry PAC," stated chair Charles Jones. "It is crucial that we stay engaged with our elected officials on a local level and explain our issues. Our state continues to grow more urban each year as most of you know. We need to tell our story. The FFPAC helps us do this. Hopefully, going forward, our FFPAC will continue to grow in terms of members and total dollars."

It is important to note that our FFPAC supports candidates that support forestry and the forest products industry. While the FFPAC's results were great this election cycle, the goal is to support friends of forestry, win or lose, not just those who will win.

The FFPAC and forestry interests in general also benefitted from several candidates that are supporters of forestry, but the FFPAC did not have adequate funds to support this election cycle with a campaign contribution. Many of these victorious candidates were supported by the FFPAC in previous elections.

As a point of interest, the NCF's two Friends of Forestry Award winners, Representative Michele Presnell and Senator Brent Jackson, both won their re-election bids.

The FFPAC will start its fundraising in earnest next January as it kicks off sales for its annual Reverse Raffle Event that typically takes place the evening of Forestry Day in the Legislature. If you would like more information on the Friends of Forestry PAC, please contact Chris Brown at (800) 231-7723 ext. 3 or cbrown@ncforestry.org. ■

THANKS TO OUR ANNUAL MEETING SPONSORS

Golf Tournament

Ezzell Trucking, Inc.	General
Hartley Brothers Sawmill, Inc.	General
International Forest Company	General
Josey Lumber Company.....	General
Timbco, LLC	General
Timber Mart-South	General
Wade S. Dunbar Insurance Agency	General

Sporting Clays

Henderson Forestry Consultants	General
International Forest Company	General
Iron Horse Auction Company.....	General
Josey Lumber Company.....	General
Timber Mart-South	General
Tri-State Land & Timber	General

Wednesday Evening Welcome Reception

Canal Wood	Diamond
Uwharrie Lumber Company	Diamond
Bill Hanks Lumber Company	Silver
Chatham Lumber Company	Silver
J.W. Jones Lumber Company	Silver
Shaver Wood Products, Inc.	Silver
RockTenn.....	General

Thursday Breakfast & Coffee Break

Domtar Paper Co. - Marlboro Mill	General
Resolute Forest Products.....	General
Turnbull Lumber.....	General

Thursday Business Lunch

Jordan Lumber & Supply Co.....	Diamond
Louisiana Pacific – Roaring River	Silver
Boise Cascade - Moncure Plywood	General
Pinnacle Trailer Sales.....	General
Tri-State Land & Timber	General

Thursday Night President's Reception

Pennsylvania & Indiana	
Lumbermens Mutual Ins. Co.....	Diamond
Edwards Wood Products.....	Gold
International Paper - Raleigh	Gold
Columbia Forest Products	Silver
Louisiana Pacific – Roxboro	Silver
Resource Management Service	Silver
Domtar Paper Co. - Plymouth.....	General

Awards Dinner

Davis-Garvin Insurance Agency.....	Diamond
Forestry Mutual Insurance Co.	Diamond
Hunt Forest Resources	Diamond
Weyerhaeuser Company.....	Diamond
Enviva	Gold
International Paper - Fiber Supply	Gold
Farm Credit Associations of NC.....	Silver
Georgia-Pacific.....	Silver
Kapstone Kraft Paper Corporation.....	Silver
AEGIS Administrative Services	General

NCFA MOURNS THE LOSS OF BOB COOPER

The NCFA and the North Carolina Tree Farm Program lost a great friend with the passing of Miles Robert Cooper, Dr. Bob Cooper to most of us, on Sunday, October 26, 2014.

"Dr. Cooper was an extraordinary combination of intelligence, vision, grace, and of course, intensity," stated the NCFA's Chris Brown, who worked with Cooper as the association's liaison with the Tree Farm program.

"Once Dr. Cooper charted his course, he was going to see it through to a successful conclusion, and you better jump onboard quick with your "A" game ready to go," continued Brown. "He was going to demand it of himself and everyone else around him. But what made him so special was that when you finished with whatever project it might be, he was always so appreciative and willing to sing the praises of others."

Dr. Bob Cooper was named the NCFA's Communicator of the Year in 2009. He and Jean are credited with reviving the Tree Farm Program in North Carolina back in the early 2000's. Bob served as the chair.

"We are certainly going to miss his leadership. He was a great spokesman for forestry, the forest products industry and Tree Farmers across the state," stated Brown. "Our association and the North Carolina Tree Farm program would not be where it is today without the efforts of Bob and Jean Cooper."

Miles Robert Cooper was born in Elizabeth City, NC to Miles Watson and Lucy Old Cooper. He died five days after his 81st birthday. He was a loving husband to Jean Batten Cooper for 58 years and a devoted father to Michael Robert Cooper (wife Linda Worch Cooper) and Timothy Alan Cooper (wife Kathleen Baldwin Cooper). Dr. Cooper was especially proud of his five grandsons.

Dr. Cooper received his undergraduate degree from North Carolina State University. He attended Wake Forest School of Medicine as one of the original William Neal Reynolds Scholars. He did an internship in internal medicine at the University of Virginia and completed his residency and oncology fellowship training at Wake Forest Baptist Medical Center. He devoted 32 years of service to the institution as a professor of internal medicine and deputy head of the section on hematology/oncology.

Dr. Cooper was named professor emeritus in 2002 and served as director of emeritus affairs from 2003-2014. In 2012, he was recognized with the Distinguished Achievement Award of the Medical Alumni Association of Wake Forest School of Medicine.

During his career in medicine he enjoyed teaching and research, but his first passion was taking care of patients. He also volunteered in the American Cancer Society and was given the St. George's Award, the highest volunteer award for the Society.

Having grown up on a farm in eastern North Carolina, he never lost his interest in land and agriculture. Dr. Cooper renovated a old farm house and raised cattle on Meadowbrook Farm, which is an oasis just outside the Winston-Salem city limits. Eventually, he and Jean converted the land into a certified Tree Farm, which became a Tree Farm that distinguished the Coopers as the National Tree Farmers of the Year by the American Forest Foundation in 2008.

His faith was the central motivation to all of his efforts, and he passed that faith on to his family. Throughout his life he served as a Sunday School teacher and a deacon.

Memorials may be sent to the Institutional Development Office, Wake Forest School of Medicine, attn: Cooper Family Scholarship, Medical Center Blvd., Winston-Salem, NC 27157 or Capital Campaign, Knollwood Baptist Church, 330 Knollwood Street, Winston-Salem, NC 27104. ■



Jean and Bob Cooper were the 2008 National Tree Farmers of the Year, becoming North Carolina's first National winners of this prestigious award.

PROLOGGERS

PROLOGGER GRADUATES 38 IN MARION



The NCFA's ProLogger Program graduated 38 new ProLoggers in Marion during the third base class session of 2014 that took place in October. In addition to the 38 ProLoggers, there were seven representatives from the North Carolina Department of Labor who audited the class. The NCFA would like to thank all of its partners that helped make the Marion class a success.

"During our opening introductions, I encouraged the class to be involved and take advantage of the opportunity to ask questions of our expert speakers," stated the NCFA's Chris Brown. "They certainly took that invitation to heart! The classroom discussions were lively, and we had a great field day presentation. We really appreciate the efforts of our partners."



(l-r) Jay Burleson and Leighton Dowdle.

The NCFA would like to thank Ted Graham of Bristol Industries and Greg Decker of Columbia Forest Products for their assistance during the class, providing drinks, snacks and a logging job location. Jay Burleson was not only a ProLogger student, but he also hosted the field session with a big smile as he played along with NC Department of Labor's Leighton Dowdle's presentation.

Forestry Mutual's Greg Helton provided the felling demonstration dropping three large trees in close quarters with excellent precision. ■



Greg Helton demonstrated proper tree felling at the ProLogger base class in Marion.

SLTC WRAPS UP YEAR AT DRAKE LANDING

The NCFA's Safety, Logging and Transportation Committee met at Drake Landing earlier in November to wrap up business for the committee for 2014.

On the top of the "To Do" list was to install a new chair and nominate a chair-elect. Billy Cipriani of Claybourn Walters Logging Company stepped into the role of chair, and Chuck Daniels of Domtar accepted the chair-elect position. Thanks to both for taking these leadership positions! The NCFA would like to thank Joe Evans of Georgia-Pacific for his leadership of this committee for the past two years.

Other meeting topics included updates from partner groups such as NC Department of Labor, the Carolina Loggers Association, the Forest Operators School and the North Carolina Forest Service. The committee also reviewed an update on the collaborated effort now underway with North Carolina, South Carolina and Florida to collaborate on training materials for professional logger development. In essence, the effort will create a trade co-op where video productions can be shared among participating associations. This will help all association with costs while addressing key environmental and safety issues. ■



Billy Cipriani



TREXLER NAMED FM LOGGER OF THE YEAR

Forestry Mutual Insurance Company honored Dwight Trexler Logging as its E.K. Pitman Logger of the Year Award at the NCFA's Annual Meeting. Trexler accepted the award surrounded by his family.

The E.K. Pitman Safety Awards are named in honor of the first Chairman of the Board of Forestry Mutual. Pitman, who served on Forestry Mutual's Board of Directors from 1971-1984, was a strong proponent of safety in the workplace and in the woods. The Pitman Award is Forestry Mutual's most prestigious award. Look for a profile of Dwight in coming issues of Treeline. ■

OSHA NEW INJURY REPORTING RULE GOES INTO EFFECT ON JANUARY 1, 2015

OSHA's new rule will require employers to notify OSHA when an employee is killed on the job or suffers a work-related hospitalization, amputation or loss of an eye. The rule goes into effect on January 1, 2015 for workplaces under federal OSHA jurisdiction.

Under the revised rule, employers must notify OSHA of work-related fatalities within eight hours, and work-related in-patient hospitalizations, amputation or loss of an eye within 24 hours.

Previously, OSHA's regulations required an employer to report only work-related fatalities and in-patient hospitalizations of three or more employees. Single hospitalizations, amputations or loss or an eye was not required under the previous rule. ■

MODULE 15 SCHEDULE

The following is the current Module 15 schedule for the NCFA's ProLogger program. The schedule is also updated on the NCFA's website. If you are hosting a class, please let Chris Brown know at cbrown@ncforestry.org or (800) 231-7723 so it can be advertised.



12/16 5:30 - 8:30 p.m. Southeastern CC, Whiteville, NC

SWEET GUM AND SASSAFRAS IMPRESS AT WILIMINGTON FORESTRY CAMP



(l-r) Lauren Killian and Mary Beth Hanson teamed up to teach Dendrology during the Forestry Camp.

The NCFA's Forestry & Environmental Camp concluded in Wilmington, wrapping up a challenging and rewarding week as close to 600 students, parents and teachers from Roland Grise and Murray Middle Schools participated in the camp. The top class in the Friday competition was Sweet Gum from Roland Grise. Sassafras was the top finisher from Murray.

"After the second day of camp, a mom who was leaving in her car took the time to stop and thank us for teaching the camp," stated the NCFA's Chris Brown. "She shared that she has a few children and she has joined them on field trips before. This was without a doubt the best field trip she was ever a part of. She really liked 'the way the camp combined the instruction with the hands-on lessons was truly unique and effective'. I just wished I had turned on my cellphone video recorder to capture her testimony!"

The camp did have a rare rainout day on Wednesday due to severe thunderstorms. Students doubled up on Thursday for some big classes, but many of the volunteers scheduled for Wednesday came back on Thursday which helped with the larger classes.

The NCFA staff would like to thank all of its volunteers, especially Tonia Burger who is always the camp's top volunteer (five days) and top recruiter of other volunteers...**THANK YOU TONIA!** Our camp program is powered by our volunteers. Please take time to thank these folks if you come across them in your travels. ■

Bob Alderink
Scott Brewer
Tonia Burger
Ben Burger
Jesse Burger
Chuck Daniels
Rudy Daughtry
Jim Durham
Nate Farrior
Robert Freshwater
John Fulton
Chris Garrison
Brett Goulding

Gary Grubbs
Tom Haene
Mary Beth Hanson
Travis Hughes
Mark Justice
Lauren Killian
Josh Lea
Victoria Lockhart
Percy Lunsford
Larry Maloney
Milton Malpass
Lee Malpass
Tony McNeill

Chris Meggs
John Newton
Ryan Norris
Laura Prevatte
Frank Rackley
Michael Rhodes
Hans Rohr
David Stanley
Bill Walker
Victor Wassack
Phil Welch
Catherine White
Eddie Williams



Tonia Burger helps a student with reading a compass as part of the Land Measurement class.



(center) Rudy Daughtry works with students in the Land Measurement class.

WILCOHESS REWARDS PROGRAM UNDER NEW NAME

With the recent acquisition of WilcoHess by Speedway, the NCFA's ProLogger fuel-savings program will undergo a quick transition to a new card with a new price savings program.

"We've enjoyed our relationship with the NCFA over the years and hope to continue for years to come," stated Mike Gordon, the Director of Fleet Sales for WilcoHess based in Winston-Salem, NC.



All ProLoggers that have been involved in the program have already been contacted and will be mailed new cards by the end of the year. Just over 125 ProLoggers are currently taking advantage of the cost savings on fuel.

Any ProLogger who would like to join the program may do so by downloading the application and submitting the form. Details are on the NCFA's website under the cost savings program page within the ProLogger portion of the site.

Please make sure to indicate that you are a NCFA ProLogger. This will make you eligible for the special savings for ProLoggers which are retail minus 10 cents on diesel fuel and retail minus 5 cents on gasoline. These savings are better than the listing on the form.

When Speedway, which is based in Ohio, purchased WilcoHess and the Hess convenience stores, it became the largest convenience store chain in the United States with over 2,700 stores in 23 states.

We hope our ProLoggers will take advantage of this program. Several members who participate in this program have relayed how it has helped them save on fuel costs significantly. ■

NEW FIREWOOD RULES SCHEDULED FOR GREAT SMOKY MOUNTAINS

The Great Smoky Mountains National Park is proposing a new rule to only allow heat treated firewood into campgrounds to reduce the risk of introducing destructive insects and diseases into the park on or within firewood bundles. The direct threats to the park are the migration of pests such as the Emerald Ash Borer (EAB), Thousand Cankers Disease (TCD), and the Asian Longhorned Beetle (ALB). Properly heat-treated firewood must have either a federal or state certification seal to enter the park. The park will also recognize state certified heat treating facilities which have a compliance agreement with NCDA&CS-Plant Industries Division. It is also worth noting that 3 of the 10 campgrounds do currently sell approved firewood. If you have any questions, please contact Rob Trickel, Forest Health Branch Head with the NCFS at (919) 857-4858 or rob.trickel@ncagr.gov. ■



NORTH CAROLINA TREE FARM HOLDS ANNUAL MEETING IN KIPLING

The North Carolina Tree Farm Program celebrated another successful year of outreach and growth with its annual meeting on the beautiful Johnson Family Farm in Kipling, North Carolina.

The Saturday agenda started out with a quick overview of the program, and Tree Farm Chair David Henderson thanked the program's many sponsors.

A series of presentations followed the update, including the recognition of North Carolina's National Tree Farmers of the Year, Dwight and Judy Batts.

Dwight and Judy thanked all those involved in the program, especially those Tree Farmers that first welcomed them into the program. Dwight remarked that those "determined few" have created a friendly, vibrant and successful Tree Farm program that everyone enjoys today.

A list of Tree Farm anniversaries was read, celebrating the history of the program in the state.

The oldest anniversary farm was 70 years - Gilliam Kittrell of Franklin County. Bob Vickory's family Tree Farm celebrated 60 years as a Tree Farm. Vickory is a former North Carolina Tree Farmer of the Year.

Mary Frances Alsop was in attendance to celebrate her farm's 55 year anniversary, but that is not a real surprise



Dwight and Judy Batts were honored for being named National Tree Farmers of the Year in 2014.

since Mary Frances and her late husband, John, were two of the "determined few" Dwight referred to earlier in the program.

Individual volunteer efforts were acknowledged through the presentation of the top Tree Farm Inspector Award, Distinguished Service Award and the 2014 Tree Farmers of the Year Award.

Steve Cox was recognized as the program's Tree Farm Inspector of the Year.

Dave Woodmansee earned the Distinguished Service Award. Woodmansee and Al Weller are two of the individuals who helped revive the Tree Farm program in North Carolina back in 2000.

Cathy and Jim Long were presented the 2014 North Carolina Tree Farmers of the Year by Dave Halley.

The Tree Farm program also thanked the day's host, Sam and Tim Johnson, for their hospitality with several gifts.

The field portion consisted of four stations spread out on the farm and concluded with a luncheon. ■



(l-r) Mary Frances Alsop receives a new sign for her Tree Farm from Leslie McCormick.



Jim and Cathy Long were named the 2014 North Carolina Tree Farmers of the Year.



(l-r) Dave Woodmansee and Al Weller - Two Champions of the North Carolina Tree Farm Program.

FARMLAND PRESERVATION GRANTS DEADLINE - DECEMBER 19TH

Those interested in pursuing farmland preservation projects have until December 19, 2014 to apply for funding assistance from the N.C. Agricultural Development and Farmland Preservation Trust Fund.

The fund's purpose is to support projects that encourage the preservation of qualifying agricultural, horticultural and forest lands to foster the growth, development and sustainability of family farms. Grants can be awarded to secure agricultural conservation easements on lands used for agricultural production; to support public and private enterprise programs that promote profitable and sustainable agricultural, horticultural and forestland activities; and for the development of agricultural plans. The grant application and guidelines for the current funding cycle are available online at www.ncadfp.org or by calling (919) 707-3071. ■

NCFA DISPLAYS AT SCIENCE TEACHERS WORKSHOP

In November, the NCFA participated in the North Carolina Science Teachers Professional Development Institute held in Winston-Salem. The NCFA had a "Super Booth" with N.C. State Forestry Extension and the North Carolina Forest Service.

"This is a great event to reach out to teachers with education materials and information about our different programs," stated Renee Strnad with N.C. State Forestry Extension. "It's always fun talking with teachers and hearing how they use the different materials in their classrooms."



(l-r) Renee Strnad with N.C. State University Forestry Extension and Hannah Thompson-Welch with the North Carolina Forest Service pose for a photo during the North Carolina's Science Teachers Professional

Thanks to the grant dollars provided by the North Carolina SFI State Implementation Committee, the NCFA

distributed Goods from the Woods Boxes and posters to the close to 1,000 science educators in attendance.

In addition, the NCFA provided valuable education materials - Goods Boxes and posters - to some key state groups such as North Carolina's Environthon program and N.C. State University's - The Science House at the Center for Marine Sciences and Technology. ■

THREE FORESTRY TEACHERS' ACADEMIES IN 2015

Registration is now open for all THREE Sustainable Forestry Teachers' Academies being held this year. The newest Academy will be based in Asheboro and joins the tradition of the mountain and coastal academies.

Coastal Academy: June 15-18, 2015 (New Bern)
Mountain Academy: June 22-26, 2015 (Asheville)
Piedmont Academy: July 7-10, 2015 (Asheboro)

The Academies are generously supported by the North Carolina SFI State Implementation Committee, North Carolina State University's Forestry & Environmental Outreach Program, North Carolina State Extension Forestry, the North Carolina Forest Service, the NCFA and numerous NCFA member companies that host tours of their facilities.

The Academy is a multi-day residential program for teachers that focuses on the social, economic, and environmental aspects of sustainable forestry. In addition, teachers visit a variety of forests and mills to learn about forest management and the manufacturing of various wood products such as paper, furniture, plywood and lumber. The last day of the of the Academy is spent in round table discussions reviewing what was learned and how the information and resources can be used in the classroom.

Teachers can learn more via the link on the NCFA's website, www.ncforestry.org, under the education tab. ■



DEAD WOOD AND SNAGS - LOOK UP!

By Bryan Wagner, Forestry Mutual Chainsaw Trainer

Overhead hazards in the logging woods have wreaked havoc to our industry for years. An overhead hazard incident or being struck from above can prove to be catastrophic. Recently, we have witnessed a rise in incidents involving dead trees and snags, including several involving logging crews with mechanized felling equipment.

We need to focus on this problem! Loggers and foresters need to keep fellow employees aware of the dangers and consequences of the overhead hazards that lurk in their work place. Please take the time to have a safety briefing with your crew on **OVERHEAD HAZARDS. LOOK UP!**

- Use approved and well maintained personal protective equipment (PPE) for head protection.
- Look and scan at least 50 yards ahead on your ground path. Look for vines that could affect standing timber.
- Look and scan for at least 100 feet ahead for all overhead hazards, especially dead trees and snags.
- Do not place your body under anything that can fall due to gravity or the loss of hydraulic pressure.
- Maintain at least two tree lengths (300 feet or 100 yards) from all felling areas.
- Be visible, wear high visibility clothing.
- Maintain communication with everyone in the work area.
- Never walk into a work area with running or moving equipment until the equipment is stopped, engine cut-off and the hydraulic attachments grounded.

The **Heads Up for Hazards** program is a great way to start and maintain your crew's awareness to overhead hazards and possibly death from above.

- Dead trees and snags shall be removed when at all possible.
- If the situation is too dangerous, isolate and flag the affected area. Do not anyone near the hazard.
- **Use mechanical means to remove dead trees and snags. Never attempt to manually remove such hazards when the mechanical option is available!**
- If mechanical help can't access the area of the deadwood, assess the situation. Is the tree stable enough to put on the ground manually? Your 5-part felling plan will help you make a good decision!!
- If the tree can be safely cut, I recommend you make your face-notch "belt-high". Using a higher than normal face-notch lets the timber-cutter stand erect while making his back-cut. The simple fact of this technique is less spinal column exposure. Being "bent-over" in a standard felling position exposes the spinal column from your head to your tail bone, if you stand up, that exposed area is reduced by half. Looking up is also easier if you are standing.
- Generally speaking, don't force a dead tree. Hitting a wedge in a dead tree may cause debris to fall from its top. I usually cut the tree with its front lean, this will give you the option to make an accurate path of fall, one side or the other. It is very important that you avoid hitting adjacent timber in fear of thrown or flying objects from above.
- What type of a back-cut are you going to use? I usually will recommend using a conventional back-cut on dead trees. Dead trees are dead FIBER! The controlled-release back-cut will not work effectively if the decayed hinge breaks, again use your felling plan.
- **ESCAPE** from the falling snag! Eyes to the sky!!

Good decisions lead to reduced risk. Lessened risk prevents or lessens the chance of an injury. Until next time **LOOK UP AGAIN!** ■

TREE LINE

NOVEMBER / DECEMBER 2014



(l-r) Stewart Gregg received the NCFA's Distinguished Service Award from NCFA President Ray Allen at the NCFA's Annual Meeting.

Enviva recently released a new video production detailing its fiber resources and supply chain procedures. You can watch the video online at <http://www.envivabiomas.com/featured/watch-envivas-fiber-resources-video/>. The video was produced by Jean Paul Dame of Fire Horse Films, the same company that produces the NCFA's ProLogger continuing education modules. Fire Horse has also produced special productions for the NCFA including its "What is a Working Forest Conservation Easement" and "An Overview of the Forest Products Industry in North Carolina."

ENVIVA RELEASES EXCELLENT VIDEO PRODUCTION

Sign up for the NCFA's weekly e-mail newsletter by typing in your e-mail on the home page of www.ncforestry.org!

MEETINGS

Board of Directors
January 22, 2015 North Carolina Rural Center, Raleigh, NC.

Safety, Logging and Transportation Committee
January 21, 2015 North Carolina Rural Center, Raleigh, NC.

NC SFI State Implementation Committee
January 21, 2015 North Carolina Rural Center, Raleigh, NC.



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