

TREE LINE

NEWSLETTER OF THE NORTH CAROLINA FORESTRY ASSOCIATION

TIMBER RESTORATION FUND NOW AVAILABLE FOR LANDOWNERS

Outgoing Governor Pat McCrory signed the Disaster Recovery Act of 2016 in December. The act provides for \$201 million to help citizens and communities recover from the impacts from Hurricane Matthew and wildfires in the western part of the state.



Of particular interest to forest landowners and foresters, the act designates \$25,500,000 to the North Carolina Forest Service for

“repairs and operational expenses at Claridge Nursery, wildfire and disaster response expenses, and funding for timber restoration.”

The act includes a \$1,000,000 in “time-limited” Timber Restoration Fund (TRF) to assist landowners within any counties designated in state of emergency declarations from the hurricane or forest fire impact areas.

The NCFS encourages foresters and landowners to immediately reach out to the NCFS secure available funding to help mitigate any negative forest impacts from these recent weather disasters. The Timber Restoration Fund will be administered by the NCFS using the same paperwork and process as the (continued on page 6)



(l-r) Riddick Ricks, a former North Carolina Tree Farmer of the Year, recently completed two terms on the NCFA’s Board of Directors. Frank Rackley presented Ricks with a plaque during the first board meeting of 2017.

NCFA BOARD OF DIRECTORS HOLDS FIRST MEETING OF 2017 AT NC FARM BUREAU

The NCFA’s Board of Directors met for the first time in 2017 this past Thursday at the North Carolina Farm Bureau. There were several action items on the agenda including approving a new executive board, recognizing the newly elected board members, approving new appointees to the board and approving the 2017 budgets for the NCFA and the Forest and Education Conservation Foundation (FECF).

2017 Executive Committee

Chair of the Board	Marshall Thompson	Resolute Forest Products
President	Bernard Rose	Kapstone
President-Elect/Treasurer	Boyd McLaurin	Canal Wood
First Vice President	Perry Hunt	Hunt Forest Resources
Eastern Vice President	Tommy Adkins	Edwards Wood Products
Piedmont Vice President	Doug Burleson	Canfor Southern Pine
Western Vice President	Rob Elliot	Evergreen Packaging
Forestry Mutual Chairman	Michael Walters	Claybourn Walters Logging

2017 Elected Board Members

Coastal Region

Scott Brewer	International Paper
Joe Evans	Georgia-Pacific
Jaime Teel	WestRock

Piedmont Region

Billy Barnette	Boise-Cascade
Doug Burleson	Canfor Southern Pine
Scott Smearman	Domtar

Mountain Region

Mark Church	Church & Church Lumber
John Fletcher	Pisgah Hardwood
Patrick Parton	Parton Lumber

The NCFA also recognized the efforts of outgoing board members, including Billy Cipriani, Greg Conner, Jeff Hanks, Thresa Henderson, Charles Jones, Fay Raynor and Riddick Ricks, and outgoing executive committee members, including Bruce Evans, Ron Heatherly, and Frank Rackley.

The board also approved operating budgets for the NCFA and the FECF. The combined budgets total slightly over \$1.3 million. The charge each year is to operate the NCFA and the FECF on a balanced budget. This year’s budget should result in a modest surplus for the association and the FECF.

In addition to a balanced budget, previous surplus budgets through the years have provided a healthy reserve fund and an additional rainy day fund for the association in preparation for any future economic slumps.

The NCFA’s executive committee appreciates the membership’s commitment to the association’s mission through its participation and financial support.

As North Carolina continues its transformation to a more urban-driven population, it will be even more important for the forest products industry and agricultural based industries to educate federal and state leaders and the general public on the environmental and economic benefits of forestry, the forest products industry, and agriculture in our state. ■

2017 Appointments to Board

Clay Altizer	NC SAF Chair
Bob Bardon	NC State Extension
Keith Biggs	Forestry Mutual
Scott Bissette	NC Department of Ag
Jay Boyette	NC Farm Bureau
Sam Cook	NC State University
Chuck Daniels	Domtar
John Gray	Landowner
Kent Holmes	ACF Chair
Maurice Hull	Tree Farm Chair
Tom Inman	AHMI
James Jeuck	Haywood CC
Robert Jordan	Jordan Lumber
Lauren Killian	Enviva
Kenneth Lin	International Paper
Robin Little	BB&T Insurance
Parker Lumpkin	Landowner
Wib Owen	Southern Foresters
Jim Reavis	Enviva
Russell Strong	Montgomery CC
Jack Swanner	CLA
Nancy Thompson	Weyerhaeuser
Michael Walters	Claybourn Walters
Mary Watzin	NC State University
Lori Worley	Weyerhaeuser

NORTH CAROLINA FORESTRY ASSOCIATION

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Marshall Thompson <i>Chair of the Board</i>	Tommy Adkins <i>Eastern VP</i>
Bernard Rose <i>President</i>	Doug Burleson <i>Piedmont VP</i>
Boyd McLaurin <i>President Elect/ Treasurer</i>	Rob Elliot <i>Western VP</i>
Perry Hunt <i>First Vice President</i>	Michael Walters <i>Chair of the Board Forestry Mutual</i>

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Tommy Adkins	Tom Inman
Ray Allen	James Jeuck
Clay Altizer	Robert Jordan
Marvin Bagwell	Lauren Killian
Bob Bardon	Kenneth Lin
Billy Barnette	Robin Little
Keith Biggs	Chris Logan
Scott Bisette	Parker Lumpkin
Jay Boyette	Charlie Marshburn
Scott Brewer	Stephen Newcomb
Doug Burleson	Wib Owen
Kenny Cain	Patrick Parton
Mark Church	Allen Plaster
Sam Cook	Frank Rackley
Rudy Daughtry	Jim Reavis
Tony Doster	Bernard Rose
Rob Elliot	Scott Smearman
Bruce Evans	Russell Strong
Joe Evans	Jack Swanner
Ashley Faircloth	Jaime Teel
John Fletcher	Marshall Thompson
John Gray	Nancy Thompson
Dennis Hazel	Mark Vollinger
Ron Heatherly	Michael Walters
David Hendrix	Mary Watzin
Kent Holmes	Aaron Welch
Brad Howard	Allen Whitesell
Maurice Hull	Lori Worley
Perry Hunt	

SUBMIT NEWS TO THE NCFCA

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

The NCFCA is the state's oldest forest conservation organization, consisting of 4,100 members with ties to forestry and the forest products industry. A private, non-profit organization, the NCFCA 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

NEW YEAR BRINGS NEW EXECUTIVE BRANCH STAFF AND OPENING OF LONG SESSION OF GA

In the first weeks of the New Year, newly elected Governor Roy Cooper has settled into his surroundings and is assembling his staff. The North Carolina General Assembly has also returned to Raleigh to begin work in what is referred to as the long session. This session establishes the state's budget for the next two years in addition to passing legislation. NCFCA staff will be working closely with our elected officials throughout the session to provide them with information and feedback on any issues that may impact forestry, the forest products industry and private property rights.

If members have a question about a specific piece of legislation or a regulatory topic, they are encouraged to reach out to Pryor Gibson, the NCFCA's Executive Vice President at (800) 231-7723 ext. 5 or Chris Brown, the NCFCA's Senior Director of Communications at (800) 231-7723 ext. 3.

COOPER SELECTS REGAN TO LEAD DEQ

Governor Roy Cooper selected his cabinet members, which represent the respective leaders of several state agencies, early in January. Among his appointees, Cooper named Michael Regan the new Secretary for the Department of Environmental Quality.

Regan has worked for the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency as a national programs manager and the Environmental Defense Fund as the southeast regional director in his career.

Regan's appointment was praised by various environmental groups as they believe that he will take the department on a much different course than outgoing secretary Donald van der Vaart, who was former Governor Pat McCrory's choice for the Department of Environmental Quality.

Every year, NCFCA staff reaches out to new appointments and newly elected officials with information to convey the important role that the forest products industry plays in shaping North Carolina's healthy and productive forests.

With the election of a new governor and the appointment of new agency leaders, this annual outreach task will take on even more importance in the first quarter of 2017.

"We have complete confidence that we are one of the real success stories in North Carolina from both an environmental and green industry perspective," stated NCFCA Executive Vice President Pryor Gibson. "We look forward to working with all of the new members of Governor Cooper's administration as well as the new members of the North Carolina General Assembly. We are committed to keeping North Carolina green and growing."

AENC HOSTS RECEPTION AS NC GENERAL ASSEMBLY RETURNS

The AENC hosted a Legislative Reception on January 25th at the Nature Research Center at the North Carolina Museum of Natural Sciences to mark the first day of the legislative session. The NCFCA was one of the organizations to offer sponsorship of the reception and several staff members attended the event.

"We appreciate the opportunity to participate in an opening day event such as the AENC reception," stated NCFCA Executive Vice President Pryor Gibson. "It affords us the opportunity to say hello to our friends and introduce ourselves to those new members. We are looking forward to another productive legislative session for forestry interests in North Carolina."

(continued on page 3)



(l-r) Representative John Torbett, his wife, Viddia, and NCFCA Executive Vice President Pryor Gibson pose for a photograph during the AENC Reception for members of the North Carolina General Assembly.

CLA TO HOLD ANNUAL MEETING IN WILMINGTON

The Carolina Loggers Association will be conducting its Annual Meeting on February 24-25, 2017 at the Wilmington Riverside Hotel in Wilmington, North Carolina.

The two-day event will feature several speakers and include a presentation of Module 17 for those ProLoggers who may need to fulfill their education requirement for this year.

Registration costs are \$150 for an individual and an additional option of \$50 for a guest. The CLA has secured a special room rate of \$99.

Please contact Jack Swanner for more information at (828) 421-8444 or online at www.ncloggers.com. ■

New Year Brings New Executive...(from page 2)

SPECIAL ELECTION FOR 2017 PUT ON HOLD

The Supreme Court put a court-ordered 2017 special election for the North Carolina General Assembly on hold as it reviewed an appeal from Republican lawmakers. The special election was proposed a few months ago by a lower federal court after it deemed the current legislative districts were unconstitutional because they were racially gerrymandered.

If the Supreme Court decides to spend more time on hearing more arguments before it makes a final decision, the timetable for drawing new maps and holding an election in this year would be unlikely.

SETTING THE LANDSCAPE

The North Carolina General Assembly has five new Senators - all Republican - and 19 new House members, which includes seven Democrats and 12 Republicans. The Republicans hold veto-proof margins in both chambers.

In terms of leadership, Tim Moore will return for another term as House Speaker while Phil Berger will once again serve as the leader of the Senate.

THE NCFA'S LEGISLATIVE OBJECTIVES FOR 2017

Regulatory

- Support the NCFS in program support and fund request.
- Improve environmental regulation oversight by state agencies.
- Engage and educate new administration on the economic, environment, and community value of the forest products industry.
- Protect the right to practice forestry and private property rights.

Transportation

- Advance rural infrastructure, including roads, bridges, and flood control areas.
- Seek streamline permitting, reporting and appeal process for violations.
- Support investment in North Carolina ports, especially export capabilities.
- Seek continuance of North Carolina weight tolerance on existing highways and structure.

Taxation

- Strengthen and improve Present Use Tax Value Program.
 - Improve rural NC tax policy, nexus, and schedules
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FORESTRY DAY, REVERSE RAFFLE AND SECOND BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING TO TAKE PLACE IN THE FIRST WEEK OF MAY

The NCFA's Forestry Day in the Legislature will take place on Tuesday, May 2, 2017 on the Halifax Mall in Raleigh.

Forestry Day is a great opportunity for NCFA members to reach out to their elected officials about the important role forests and the



forest products industry. The day begins with a briefing at 9:30 a.m. from NCFA Executive Vice President Pryor Gibson on the important issues facing forestry during the session. Traditionally, Steve Troxler, North Carolina's Agriculture Commissioner, will provide a quick update on agriculture and forestry in the state based on his schedule. Troxler is invited to speak again this year.

Two weeks before the luncheon, NCFA staff distributes invitations to members of the General Assembly and their immediate staff.

The Friends of Forestry Political Action Committee will once again be conducting a reverse raffle this year. Tickets will be distributed to FFPAC members and NCFA Board Members at the NCFA's Board Meeting in February.

The raffle, which is the FFPAC's top fundraising event, will take place on the evening of Forestry Day at the Hilton Garden Inn Raleigh Crabtree, which is located on 3912 Arrow Drive, Raleigh, NC.

This year promises to be the best raffle night in recent years! In addition to heavy appetizers and beverages, there will be a special door prize raffle for those in attendance. You can make your reservations by calling (919) 703-2525. The NCFA has secured a limited room block for a rate of \$129. The NCFA's second Board of Directors Meeting will take place at the Hilton Garden Inn Raleigh Crabtree on May 3, 2017. ■



HUNT CLUB PROGRAM POPULAR PLEASE SHARE YOUR PHOTOS!

The NCFA's Hunting Lease Liability Insurance program continues to be popular with landowners and hunt clubs.

Currently, the program has a total of 593 hunt clubs and 605 landowners enrolled in the program. This covers over 343,211 acres.

The policy runs from August 1 to August 1 and hunt clubs sign up continuously throughout the year. The policy only runs for the calendar year. You can find an application online at www.ncforestry.org or by calling the NCFA office.

We want to showcase our hunt clubs each month in our newsletter with a photo. Please submit your favorite photo to Chris Brown at cbrown@ncforestry.org for a chance to be featured in our Hunt Club Corner! ■





PROLOGGER MODULE 17 CLASSES

The module class for this year is Module 17. Please check the schedule in your area for the next offering of the course. We will continue to update this newsletter and our website with class offerings. If you are going to hold a class, please send Chris Brown an e-mail at cbrown@ncforestry.org so it can be added to the list.



Date	Time	Location
2/9/17	5:30 p.m.	Southeastern CC, Whiteville, NC
2/17/17	9:00 a.m.	Gilkey Lumber Company, Rutherfordton, NC
2/21/17	6:00 p.m.	Domtar, Plymouth, NC
2/23/17	5:30 p.m.	IP New Bern Mill, Ed Center #6, New Bern, NC
2/23/17	6:00 p.m.	James Sprunt CC, Kenansville, NC
2/25/17	6:30 a.m.	GP Dudley CNS training room, Dudley, NC
2/28/17	5:30 p.m.	Roaring River VFD, Roaring River, NC
3/23/17	5:00 p.m.	Lucky Clay Farms, Norwood, NC
3/31/17	8:30 a.m.	McDowell Tech, Marion, NC
3/31/17	1:00 p.m.	Halifax CC, Room 401, Weldon, NC
4/11/17	6:00 p.m.	Domtar, Plymouth, NC
5/4/17	5:30 p.m.	Weyerhaeuser Timberlands Bld, New Bern, NC
5/17/17	6:00 p.m.	College of the Albemarle, Elizabeth City, NC
<i>Please call Renee' Winslow (252) 771-2497 before 5/11 to attend class.</i>		
6/28/17	6:00 p.m.	Roaring River VFD, Roaring River, NC

PROLOGGER BASE CLASS SCHEDULE

The NCFA will be hosting three offerings of the ProLogger Base Course in 2017. The base course is a two-day program that is mandatory for all professional loggers who would like to earn ProLogger status.

If you are interested in becoming a ProLogger, you must complete this course and then maintain in good standing by taking a continuing education component, namely training modules. Please send Chris Brown an e-mail at cbrown@ncforestry.org if you would like to register for the next class.

Date	Location	City
March 15-16, 2017	Martin CC	Williamston, NC
May 24-25, 2017	Montgomery CC	Troy, NC
October 11-12, 2017	McDowell Tech CC	Marion, NC

NCFS REQUESTS HELP WITH BMP MANUAL SURVEY

The North Carolina Forest Service (NCFS) is interested to know your opinion and usage of its 2006 Forestry BMP Manual (aka - the big green book). This feedback is critical for the NCFS as they begin planning for the next update of the Forestry BMP Manual. The survey is just 26 multiple choice questions with options to comment. You can find the survey online at <https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSf7fZ3xwNSQqC4A1tILE2Xca7nSX3gWDqWBEOhFnMd6aN74ow/viewform>.

All surveys must be completed by Friday March 31, 2017. If you have questions regarding the survey, please contact AJ Lang with the North Carolina Forest Service at (919) 857-4857 or aj.lang@ncagr.gov. ■

LOG A LOAD EVENTS IN 2017



Sporting Clays Miracle Shoot -
August 4-5, 2017 at Rose Hill Farm in Nashville, NC

Golf Tournament at River Landing -
October 19, 2017 at River Landing in Wallace, NC

JOB OPPORTUNITIES

The North Carolina Forestry Association is seeking a team-oriented Programs Manager to lead our technical and outreach programming. Salary is commensurate to experience and qualifications, competitive benefits, some in-state travel with summertime programming. Preferred candidates will have a forestry degree with respected working relations and knowledge of the field and industry. Please reply with resume in confidence to pgibson@ncforestry.org.

Broadleaf Forestry, a subsidiary of Commonwealth Commercial Partners, LLC is seeking qualified applicants for a full-time position as a field forester/technician. We are seeking a highly motivated, self-disciplined individual with strong work and business ethics. The successful applicant must have the ability to work independently and as a team member. In addition, the ideal applicant will possess the following skills, education, and experience: two-year or four-year degree in forestry, or equivalent work experience; two-plus years experience in timber cruising; strong verbal communication and writing skills, and experience with MS word/excel, cruise software, GPS, and GIS a plus. Salary commensurate with education and work experience. Please submit all inquiries to breinhart@broadleafforestry.com or (757) 784-2720.

Bristol Industries, Inc. is seeking an experienced North Carolina Registered Forester, or one who is working to become registered, to fill the position of Procurement Forester at our Bridgewater Chip Mill in Morganton, NC. Main responsibilities will be sourcing gatewood pulpwood, negotiating with independent loggers and dealers, and managing the roundwood inventory at the mill. The forester will also be expected to cruise timber, negotiate with landowners to purchase standing tracts and oversee harvesting of purchased tracts by contract loggers. Interested foresters should send resumes to Attn: Ricky Bristol, Bristol Industries, Inc. at 3991 Bridgewater Rd., Morganton, NC 28655

Canal Wood, LLC is seeking an experienced, self-motivated, hardworking individual to join our procurement team as a full-time Timber Buyer in the Northeastern Virginia area. This position is based out of Canal Wood's field office location in Shackelfords, Virginia, and its territory will cover the Northeastern Virginia, Northern Neck Area reaching from James River to Williamsburg, VA. We are looking for someone with at least three years of forestry experience preferably related to the direct interaction and successful purchasing negotiations with private landowners, timber cruising experience, and experience in procuring and managing contract logging operations to maintain targeted delivery goals. To view job qualifications and apply to this position, click on our Career tab at: www.canalwood.com.

If you would like to share a job opportunity, please contact Chris Brown at (800) 231-7723 ext. 3 or cbrown@ncforestry.org.

IFCO ACQUIRES GHW WEYERHAEUSER NURSERY IN WASHINGTON, NC

IFCO Bareroot, LLC, a sister company to International Forest Company (IFCO), is pleased to announce that it has reached an agreement with Weyerhaeuser Company to purchase four seedling nurseries, as well as, the Flint River Seed Orchard.

"We are excited to welcome the Weyerhaeuser nursery customers and employees to IFCO's network of nurseries in the southern United States," stated Wayne Bell, COO of IFCO. "This will allow our genetics company, International Forest Genetics and Seed Company, to further leverage delivery of high value genetics to the forestry market."

The GHW nursery is led by a team of highly experienced professionals, several of whom have more than 25 years of service at this nursery. Their leadership and insight will be critical to making sure we not only deliver a superior product but also a level of service unparalleled in the industry. The GHW nursery will continue to offer high quality bareroot and container seedlings to its customers. In addition to the GHW nursery IFCO also acquired nurseries in the following locations; Jesup, GA, Pine Hill, AL, and Shubuta, MS.

"These Weyerhaeuser nurseries have a proven track record of producing high quality bareroot and container forest seedlings," stated Doug Sharp, IFCO Business Development Manager. "The combination of this production with IFCO's existing containerized seedling production, high value genetic resource, and sales expertise will help us bring the best products and service to forest landowners of all sizes in the South."

"It is with great excitement and pride that we make this announcement. The acquisition of these facilities, accompanied by the talented staff at each location will help bring us closer to fulfilling our overall mission."

"IFCO is committed to serving forest landowners by being the premier producer of superior quality forestry seedling that maximize the landowner's financial returns and meet their forest establishment objectives. IFCO's products are produced and supported by professional staff that are eager to assist, educate, and problem solve to insure their customers' success."

Questions for the International Forest Company can be asked by calling (800) 633-4506 or going online at www.internationalforest.com. ■



MID-ATLANTIC LOGGING AND BIOMASS EXPO - SEPTEMBER 15-16, 2017



Frank Trexler and his boys enjoyed themselves in 2015 at the Mid-Atlantic Logging and Biomass Expo. The Expo will once again take place in the same general area of Smithfield/Selma. This year's Expo promises to be even bigger and better than 2015 so mark your calendar and be on the lookout for more information!

NCFS ISSUES NEW WATER QUALITY REPORT OF 2016 IN REVIEW

In 2016, the North Carolina Forest Service (NCFS) developed and published a detailed summary report and leaflet on a paired watershed timber harvesting research study in the upper Neuse River basin. There is a continued interest in how timber harvesting affects stream flow, nutrient and sediment levels, and residual streamside vegetation.

The detailed summary report and leaflet illustrates data from technical peer-review journal articles in an easier to read fashion with "big-picture" forest management take-home points. You can find it online at http://www.ncforestservice.gov/water_quality/pdf/4pagePairedWatershedSummary.pdf.

So What Did We Find? Timber harvesting did increase streamflow. In addition, streamflow remained greater than pre-harvest levels three years following timber harvest.

However, nutrients and sediment levels never exceeded the state's water quality standards. Biodiversity of the streamside vegetation increased following timber harvests due to increase light reaching the ground. This study demonstrated that silviculture and forest management can be compatible with water quality standards when BMPs (Best Management Practices) are implemented. ■

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

FORESTRY LICENSE PLATE
"First in Forestry" license plates are available for purchase from the NC Division of Motor Vehicles online and at offices throughout the state. \$20 goes toward forestry education programs in the state on each purchase.



NOMINATE A TEACHER FOR THE SUSTAINABLE FORESTRY TEACHERS EXPERIENCE TODAY

Registrations for the Sustainable Forestry Teachers Experience (SFTE) are already rolling into the NCFA's office, but it is not too late to nominate a teacher from your area.

If you know a teacher who may be interested in participating in the best hands-on experience with the forest products industry, please contact the NCFA office for a registration form or download one from the website. The SFTE includes continuing education credits and Project Learning Training. There will once again be three tours: Mountains (June 26-29), Piedmont (July 18-21) and Coast (June 19-22). This program is generously supported by NCFA member companies and the North Carolina SFI State Implementation Committee. ■



LANDOWNERS

NC TREE FARM HEADS INTO 2017 WITH OVER 1,000 TREE FARMS

The North Carolina Tree Farm Program starts off 2017 with with 1,021 certified Tree Farms, totaling 257,879 acres. The program continues to grow across the state, adding 85 new certified Tree Farms in last year.

One of the checks and balances of the American Tree Farm System's certification standard is the random sampling of certified Tree Farms across each of the states that participate in the program. Last year, North Carolina has 37 different Tree Farms selected for review by a third party auditor. A total of 32 of these Tree Farms were recertified while five were dropped from the program.

As part of an ambitious plan to update and verify its database, the North Carolina Tree Farm Program set out to inspect 311 Tree Farms in the program not visited in the past 10 years last year.

The effort enrolled over 70 North Carolina Certified Tree Farm Inspectors who volunteered to complete the task. Out of the 311, a total of 152 Tree Farms were recertified into the program. A total of 159 Tree Farms were decertified and dropped from the database. The top reason for decertification was the landowner could not be reached. While the self-study results in the loss of Tree Farms, it lowers the chance that a Tree Farm within the database would be selected in the national audit and fail to meet the program's certification criteria.



In 2017, the North Carolina Tree Farm Program will be hosting several outreach activities for landowners, foresters and partner organizations.

The first meeting will be a Forest Landowner Outreach Summit that seeks to bring over 28 organizations together to discuss the top forestry issues facing North Carolina. After identifying the challenges, the group



hopes to organize a plan that can leverage time, resources and staff of all of the organizations at the meeting to provide a streamlined and coordinated effort to reach out to North Carolina landowners.

The Tree Farm Program will also host three Breakfast/Field Tours with landowners and three Transition Planning Workshops for landowners.

The Western Timber Conference that typically takes place in the Asheville area in the fall is once again on the calendar.

If you have any questions about the North Carolina Tree Farm Program, please contact Leslie McCormick, the Executive Director of the North Carolina Tree Farm Program at (919) 917-8646 or nctreefarm@gmail.com. ■

Timber Restoration Funds...(from page 1)

popular Forest Development Program (FDP).

Applications to the TRF fund should be focused on projects and practices that are shovel ready and can be completed by the end of the 2017-2018 tree planting season. The cut-off date is April 30, 2018.

The timely use of these funds is a top priority among the leadership of North Carolina Department of Agriculture and the Forest Service.

Consequently, funding requests should be made as soon as possible by submitting the FDP Project Record Application Forms 4910-1 (9/2012) with the full fund name Timber Restoration Fund (TRF) clearly marked on top of all applications.

The Forest Service requests that all applicants for TRF funds mark through the Forest Development Program titles on the paperwork to clearly identify TRF projects.

Approved practices include site preparation and tree planting. Funds are not available for Forest Stand Improvement (FSI) practices and/or release treatments.

The TRF enrollment period started on January 23, 2017 and will remain open until all funds have been encumbered. All applications that are received after the funding limit has been reached will not be funded and will be returned to the NCFs District office for documentation and follow-up with the applicant.

Plant Only projects and projects with site preparation/tree planting will be accepted. Emphasis should be placed on signing-up projects that have a high probability of being completed in a timely manner (one year).

This funding source is not for landowners that are uncertain about implementing practices recommended in their plans. No extensions will be granted for projects that are not started within one year from the funding date.

Funding is available for projects five acres or greater up to a maximum acreage cap of 100 acres per landowner per state fiscal year. Projects must be started within one year and completed by the 2017-2018 tree planting season (April 30, 2018 cut-off date). Plant-Only projects must be started and completed within the same year they are funded.

Alamance, Durham, Granville, Orange, Person, Vance, and Warren counties are not eligible for Timber Restoration Fund. ■

AG AWARENESS DAY - MARCH 15, 2017

The North Carolina Department of Agriculture will be hosting its Ag Awareness Day at the Legislature on March 15th at the Legislative Building at 16 West Jones Street. Commissioner Troxler has reserved three of the four large quad areas within the building and will be inviting commodities and agribusiness to participate in this important educational event. ■



THE ARBOR DAY FESTIVAL IS MARCH 18, 2016

The North Carolina Arbor Day Celebration will take place on Saturday, March 18, 2017 at the Farmers Market in Raleigh. This annual event features a seedling giveaway in addition to many activities for children such as coloring and paper making stations. The NCFa will participate with a booth. ■



GYPSY MOTH PROGRAM SEEKS TO SLOW THE SPREAD

The Gypsy Moth Program in North Carolina is under the jurisdiction of the NCDA&CS - Plant Industry Division. North Carolina is on the leading edge of the expanding gypsy moth front along the Virginia border.

To prevent further establishment of gypsy moth in our state, traps are set annually for male gypsy moths using pheromonebaited traps (the bait mimics the pheromone produced by female gypsy moths).

Through the Slow the Spread (STS) program, contractors trap the northern portion of North Carolina, while numerous cooperators trap the remainder of the state, including some overlap with STS counties. The trapping efforts provide information about gypsy moth populations and allows managers to determine and utilize the most efficient treatment methods available.

The current quarantined areas include all of Currituck County and parts of Dare County (this area was quarantined in 1988). Regulated articles (e.g., logs, nursery plants, outdoor household articles) can only leave the quarantined area if they are inspected or treated. A company must also have a compliance agreement with NCDA&CS - Plant Industry Division.

In addition to this year's trap counts, trap counts over the past several years and results from winter egg and pupal case surveys help to determine what treatment is most appropriate for a suspected infestation. Combined, these data can reveal with more confidence whether a location is infested with a reproducing gypsy moth population or if the moths caught were likely blown in during a weather event, usually denoted by a few moths found in scattered traps.

Based on the 2016 trap captures and winter surveys, six areas were selected to receive treatments in 2017, including Brunswick, Dare, Gates, Camden, Warren, and Vance counties.

For updates on gypsy moth treatments, visit the Gypsy Moth Program website at <http://www.ncagr.gov/plantindustry/Plant/entomology/GM.htm>. If you have questions about the program, please contact Chris Elder, Gypsy Moth Program Manager at Chris.Elder@ncagr.gov or (919) 707-3743. ■



LOOK UP! HEADS UP FOR HAZARDS!

By Bryan Wagner, Forestry Mutual Insurance Company

Overhead hazards are a clear and present danger in our industry. We deal with height, weight and gravity issues on a daily basis and when something goes wrong, these properties are proven killers.



Catastrophic injuries and/or death are the common results from someone being struck by an overhead hazard. We must be aware of the risk from above by being alert and aware. Conducting safety briefings is a terrific way of keeping employees focused on the threats of overhead hazards. The starting point for any safety meeting is identifying the risk, and overhead hazards are no different. So, first, we must take the time each day to identify hazards based on the current conditions of the woods and the weather pattern for that particular day. When a hazard is found, proper decisions and actions can defuse the risk.

The process starts by LOOKING UP!

- **Proper, well maintained head protection (hard hats) are required and mandatory on a logging job.** This includes anyone on the ground, outside the protection of equipment that is equipped with ROPS and FOPS. Equipment operators are encouraged to wear head protection even while in the safety of an enclosed cab. Hard hats can prevent injury in the case of machine roll over, or from sudden, unplanned stops.
- **Look Up and Out!** Scan your ground travel path at least 50 feet ahead of you. Scan at least 100 feet ahead for overhead hazards.
- **Don't place yourself under anything that can move due to gravity or the loss of hydraulic pressure.**
- **Maintain at least two tree lengths from any felling area.** The industry standard for the two-tree length rule is 300 feet, or 100 yards. This distance can be highlighted in safety meetings, one hundred yards is a common rifle sight-in range. One hundred yards is the length of a football field.
- **Be Visible! Be Seen!** Make yourself visible by wearing high contrast clothing and high visibility safety colors.
- **Never walk into a work area with running and moving equipment.** Equipment must be stopped, engine cut-off, and all hydraulic implements grounded.
- **Use proper felling techniques.** Directional felling techniques reduce the risk of "struck-by" accidents. Proper notching and adequate hinge wood insures a timber cutter's safety.

Take the time to review the risk of overhead hazards with your employees, or team. Heightened awareness reduces the risk of injury or death to our woods workers and loved ones. Remember, Look Up and Live! ■

FULL SPEED AHEAD!



NCFA ANNUAL MEETING
HILTON RIVERSIDE
WILMINGTON
OCTOBER 4-6, 2017

TREE LINE

JANUARY / FEBRUARY 2017



(left) Fay Raynor received a plaque of recognition for her service on the NCFCA's Board of Directors from outgoing Chair Frank Rackley. Raynor is one of the real class acts in the forest products industry. The NCFCA staff truly appreciates Raynor's insight and enthusiasm for the NCFCA and the forest products industry.

MEETINGS & WORKSHOPS

- 3/1 Landowner Workshop - Jackson, NC
- 3/8 Tree Farm Forest Summit Meeting - Rural Center, Raleigh, NC
- 3/15-16 ProLogger Base Course - Martin, CC - Williamston, NC
- 3/18 NCSU Arbor Day Celebration, Farmers Market, Raleigh, NC
- 3/29-31 American Logger Council Fly In - Washington, DC
- 27 SAF - National Firewood Workshop In Statesville, NC
- Tbd NCFCA Forestry & Environmental Camp, Greensboro, NC
- 5/2-4 FRA Meeting - Charleston, SC
- 5/2 NCFCA Forestry Day - Raleigh, NC
- 5/2 FFPAC Reverse Raffle - Raleigh, NC
- 5/3 NCFCA Board Meeting - Raleigh, NC
- 5/6 NC Tree Farm Breakfast Tour - Trenton, NC
- 5/9-10 FMIC Board Meeting - Myrtle Beach, SC
- 5/10 Tree Farm Forest Summit Meeting - Rural Center, Raleigh, NC
- 5/17 NC SFI Sic Meeting - Raleigh, NC
- 5/18 SLTC Meeting - Cabelas, Garner, NC
- 5/24-25 ProLogger Base Course - Montgomery, CC - Troy, NC
- 6/5-9 FMIC Loss Control Meeting - Lake Gaston, NC
- 6/7-9 NC SAF Annual Meeting - Dunn, NC
- 6/19-22 Sustainable Forestry Teachers Experience, New Bern, NC
- 6/26-29 Sustainable Forestry Teachers Experience, Asheville, NC
- 6/30 **ProLogger Module 17 Class And Dues Deadline**
- 7/18 Sustainable Forestry Teachers Experience, Southern Pines
- 7/19 NC SFI SIC Grant Committee Meeting - Raleigh, NC
- 7/31-4 OSH Training With FMIC And NCFCA, Howell Woods
- 8/1-4 OSH Training With FMIC And NCFCA, Howell Woods, Smithfield, NC



North Carolina Forestry Association
1600 Glenwood Avenue
Raleigh, NC 27609

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