

TREE LINE

NEWSLETTER OF THE NORTH CAROLINA FORESTRY ASSOCIATION



NCFA ProLogger Frank Trexler and his boys were out at the last Expo held in Smithfield in 2015. Thinking the boys will have gained some height on dad when they come through the gates this year!

MID-ATLANTIC EXPO HEADS TO LAURINBURG

The 2017 Mid-Atlantic Logging & Biomass Expo will be moving to Laurinburg, North Carolina this year. The two-day live expo will take place on September 15-16, 2017 on a tremendous mature tract of timber just off of U.S. Highway 74.

The gates will open at 8:00 a.m. each day. The expo will feature five live demonstration areas and three chipper stations. In addition to the live show, there will be over 75 static displays.

Although the location has changed, this year's show should be another terrific opportunity for the logging community to see the newest equipment and supplies on the market.

If you are interested in exhibiting at this year's expo, please contact Jack Swanner at (828) 421-8444 or jswanner@ncloggers.com.

The Mid-Atlantic Logging & Biomass Expo is a joint effort of the Carolina Loggers Association, Hatton-Brown, and the North Carolina Forestry Association. ■



SFTE REACHES OVER 100 ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATORS AND TEACHERS IN 2017

The Sustainable Forestry Teachers Experience kicked off in New Bern before heading to the mountains and then the piedmont. The workshops reached over 100 educators and were under the direction of Amy Juliana, the NCFA's Education Programs Manager, and Jackson Sease, a summer intern.

"We would like to thank all of our volunteers who helped make our Teachers Experience another huge success this year," stated the NCFA's Education Program Manager, Amy Juliana.

"At first glance at the evaluations, there is no question that we enlightened all of our participants with these hands-on tours," continued Juliana. "The teachers had no idea our industry was so technical and committed to sustainability. They do now. And just as importantly, they are now equipped with teaching materials designed for forestry education! We will be checking in with them throughout the year to provide additional materials and resources. These teachers are not part of our education network, and we will continue to encourage and grow this network into the future."

The SFTE is supported by NCFA member companies and the North Carolina SFI State Implementation Committee. The goal of the program is to provide



Teachers pose in front of the Biltmore Forest School in Asheville, NC. The Biltmore Forest School was the first forestry school in the United States.

educators with a hands-on experience with the forest products industry and the resources to bring back to the classroom to share with their students.

In Asheville, 32 teachers participated in the week long education program. The Experience started at Ethan Allen on Tuesday morning with a tour of the facility led by several staff members. Thanks to Larry Papula and Bill Ross who were instrumental in accommodating our teachers.

After seeing finished products assembled into furniture, the teachers had the opportunity to see how trees are manufactured into wood products with tours of Columbia Forest Products and Parton Lumber Company.

Thanks to Greg Decker, Marvin Bagwell, Richard Taylor and Jim Sitts for their assistance with the tour of *(continued on page 5)*



Amy Juliana

IT IS HUNT LEASE LIABILITY INSURANCE RENEWAL TIME FOR NCFA POLICYHOLDERS

The NCFA's successful Hunting Lease Liability Insurance Program runs from August 1 to August 1 on an annual basis. Landowners and the participating hunt club must be a member to be eligible for this comprehensive insurance program that covers accidents that arise from the use of firearms, tree stands and ATVs. The program has a \$1,000,000 coverage for members and guests.

The NCFA staff has sent out renewal letters in advance of the August 1 renewal deadline and is currently processing renewals. Hunt club members are encouraged to submit their paperwork well before the fall hunting season to ensure they are covered before they head to the woods.

If you have any questions about the hunt club insurance program, please contact Ann Harper at (800) 231-7723 ext. 1 or at aharper@ncforestry.org. ■

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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

GENERAL ASSEMBLY UPDATE

The North Carolina General Assembly concluded its short session in July. Members will most likely return later on this summer to clean up any undone business before taking up the task of drawing up new maps for local, state and federal elections.

In what proved to be the final week of session, the NCFCA participated in the deliberations on House Bill 26 - Workers Compensation/Approval of Disputed Legal Fees. This bill seeks to provide clarity and predictability for insurance providers when dealing with workers compensation claims in light of a June 2017 court ruling by the North Carolina Supreme Court.

In the case *Wilkes v. City of Greenville*, the North Carolina Supreme Court affirmed a lower court's decision that a plaintiff was entitled to additional treatment for injuries not originally documented in the initial claim.

This ruling essentially expanded liability for defendants in a case to include all immediate and subsequent medical treatment for injuries once a claim is admitted as "compensable" in official paperwork - forms 60 or 63 - even if the specific medical condition is not listed on the form originally. A compromise on House Bill 26 was approved in the final week of the session.

Thanks to Stephanie Gay, who is the Vice President of Aegis Administrative Services, for her leadership on this piece of legislation. Aegis and Forestry Mutual Insurance Company played an important role in creating a solution for a complicated issue.

"Forestry Mutual and the NCFCA recognize the importance of remaining engaged in the legislative process," stated Keith Biggs, President of Forestry Mutual Insurance Company. "We have to identify and correct problems such as *Wilkes vs. City of Greenville* when they arise to protect our policyholders and clients. I would like to personally thank Pryor Gibson with NCFCA and Stephanie Gay with Aegis for their work on behalf of our organizations."

It is worth noting that legislation that once targeted the Forester Registration Board never made any progress this legislative session. The NCFCA and its partners petitioned members of the North Carolina General Assembly about keeping the board active. This request was granted and the board did make the final cut of the 33 boards. However, since the legislation failed to advance, the status quo remains and the board is still active.

In terms of budget items, the North Carolina Forest Service received funds for equipment to combat wildfires that was requested. The Mountain Island Education Center received funding of \$3.1 million. Also of note, the long-time 1% sales tax with an \$80 cap on manufacturing equipment was eliminated so there now is no sale tax on the purchase of manufacturing equipment.

If you have a particular issue or question on any legislation, please contact Pryor Gibson, the NCFCA's Executive Vice President at (800) 231-7723 or pgibson@ncforestry.org. ■



TIM KENT EARNS SLOCUM AWARD FROM AENC



The Association Executives of North Carolina (AENC) held their annual meeting in July in Winston-Salem.

The AENC added the Bob Slocum Outstanding Government Affairs and Advocacy Award last year in tribute to the NCFCA's former executive vice president.

AENC President Joe Stewart (left) presented Tim Kent of the North Carolina Beer & Wine Wholesalers Association with the Bob Slocum Award during the breakfast ceremony. ■

NCFA LOSES GREAT FRIEND WITH PASSING OF TED GRAHAM

The NCFA staff is sorry to report on the passing of Ted Graham on Wednesday, June 28, 2017. Graham was 65. Born in Rowan County on January 8, 1952, Graham graduated from North Carolina State University with degrees in Forestry and Conservation.

Always sporting a baseball cap and a great smile, Graham had recently retired from Bristol Industries after working for 43 years in the forestry products industry.

He was an active NCFA member, serving on several committees during his career in addition to his efforts with the NCFA's ProLogger program.



Ted Graham

He is survived by his wife, JoAnne Ernst Graham, a daughter, Elizabeth Graham Revis and her husband, Corwin Revis, and grandson, Jackson Alexander Revis.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Calvary Lutheran Church Endowment Fund, 119 N. King Street, Morganton, NC 28655 or to St. Jude's Children's Research Hospital, P.O. Box 1000, Dept. 142, Memphis, TN 38148-0142. ■

EPA AND U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS SIGN PROPOSED RULE TO RESCIND WOTUS

In July, the EPA and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers signed a proposed rule to rescind the 2015 regulations defining the Clean Water Act term "waters of the United States" (WOTUS) and restore the rules that were in effect prior to that time.

The criteria for WOTUS is critical to forest owners, as it determines which bodies of water are subject to federal jurisdiction under the Clean Water Act - and are thereby subject to permitting, water quality standards, and Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) requirements.

The agencies have sent the proposed rule to the Federal Register for a 30-day public comment period. They plan to complete the rescission and then propose a replacement definition that recognizes there are limits to federal authority.

The WOTUS rule would have expanded federal authority in areas that were previously not impacted by the Clean Water Act.

Thanks to Dave Tenny, the President and CEO of the National Alliance of Forest Owners (NAFO) for sharing this information. NAFO has been an active participant in the litigation that has so far kept the 2015 rule from taking effect. ■

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POINT OF VIEW

WOOD - THE ULTIMATE GREEN BUILDING MATERIAL

By Pryor Gibson, NCFA Executive Vice President

In recent editorials in area newspapers, the concrete industry has attacked building codes and those who enforce them while telling half-truths about wood construction for its own gain.

This is more than just a scare tactic to intimidate builders and the public - it is a symptom of assigning blame to others to cover up its own short-comings. In truth, concrete cannot measure up to wood.

Wood is the only building material that is 100 percent natural, renewable, recyclable and biodegradable. The only energy required to produce wood is the sun.

Unlike concrete, trees provide countless environmental benefits over their decades long life-cycle before becoming part of a structure. In addition, the manufacturing of wood products uses far less energy and produces fewer pollutants than any other building material.

Blaming the recent fire in downtown Raleigh on building code mistakes or wood as a construction material is simply untrue. Wood is a user-friendly material that is stronger than all others pound for pound.

Wood chars at a slow and predictable rate when exposed to intense flames. This charring actually protects the interior wood from further degradation, helping to maintain the building's structural integrity in the early stages of a fire. In strength tests involving intense fire, cross laminated timber beams outperform steel beams.

If a tragedy of combustion excluded a building material from future use, then certainly the recent disaster of concrete freeway bridge in Atlanta that fell after less than 30 minutes would ban concrete from being used in future transportation projects. Obviously, this is not practical.

Another misguided concrete fable from the concrete folks has been saluting some towns that have banned wood construction in low rise residential building as proof of concrete superiority.

In reality, those restrictions were put in place to halt over-development because those town leaders understood that using concrete would make additional building too costly. Claiming advantage because your product is too expensive to use is not an attribute.

Just as an urban forestry initiative improves any city landscape, wood construction provides a better environment for our citizens both young and old to live and learn. School construction projects now focus on increasing the amount of wood to improve the learning atmosphere for their students - the Duke School in Durham is an example of this forward thinking.

Wood has an unsurpassed history of being a safe, affordable, aesthetically pleasing, and the most environmental friendly building solution for construction projects of all shapes and sizes. Wood is the ultimate green building material. ■





NCFA'S PROLOGGER TRAINING YEAR ENDS ON A SUCCESSFUL NOTE

The NCFA's ProLogger continuing education program ended this past June 30th with its annual deadline in which ProLoggers must complete the required module, which was Module 17 this year, and pay membership dues.

This year was another strong year for the program as of today, less than 90 ProLoggers failed to take Module 17. There are roughly an additional 100 ProLoggers who failed to pay their dues on time.

These ProLoggers will move to the inactive status by the end of the month if they have not met the requirements and will have to follow the re-entry process.

New ProLogger cards have been mailed out. If you are a ProLogger and unsure about your status, need to make a dues payment, or learn more about being re-instated in the program, please contact Chris Brown ASAP at (919) 834-3943 ext. 3 or cell (919) 337-6094.

The NCFA staff would like to thank all of its members and partners who assisted with this year's training - both the base classes and the modules. Training 1,600 individuals across an expansive state such as North Carolina is no easy feat. Thanks for your dedication to the ProLogger program!

"We are grateful to everyone who helps out with the instruction part of our program," stated Chris Brown, the NCFA's Senior Director of Communications. "Training the numbers we do on an annual basis is a huge challenge. We have several members who hold multiple classes throughout the year - and in addition - some of these same folks end up holding special sessions for individuals who may have missed a scheduled class due to a personal emergency. That's impressive and appreciated."

"The goal of the ProLogger program is to provide our logging professionals with the best information available on safety, business and the environment, but I think we all agree at the heart of this program is the desire to see everyone return home to their family the same way they left their house that morning," stated Brown.

"Lastly, but most importantly, we would like to thank our ProLoggers for their commitment to their profession and the ProLogger program," stated Brown. "It's not easy to finish a workday with a module course, but they have been putting in the time to keep this program healthy and viable."

Despite some weather setbacks, production work is underway on Module 18 and should be available by the Mid-Atlantic Expo on September 15-16, 2017. ■



Filming for Module 18 in Progress! (l-r) JP Dame captures Jadie Andrews and Don Suddarth discussing the prevention of oil spills on the logging deck.

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.



NCFA SUPPORTS FOREST INTERESTS IN FARM BILL

The NCFA joined numerous other forestry related entities across the country by signing on to a platform letter from the Forests in the Farm Bill Coalition, which is comprised of the American Forest Foundation (AFF), the National Association of State Foresters, the National Wild Turkey Federation, and The Nature Conservancy.

This Coalition, which was formed during the development of the 2002 Farm Bill, has successfully developed a set of forest-related recommendations for every Farm Bill since.

The latest version of the Farm Bill is expected to be approved in 2018. The coalition focused on private forest issues in this Farm Bill but does include a number of public lands recommendations that complement the private forest recommendations.

Past successes include opening up the Farm Bill's conservation programs to forest owner participation, fixes to various USFS State and Private Forestry programs, and policy changes that open markets for forest owners.

The recommendations in the platform were developed with input from many organizations throughout the nation. ■

SOUTHERN PINE BEETLE UPDATE

This year's trapping data predicts a static/low year for Southern Pine Beetle (SPB) populations in most of North Carolina.

There are three exceptions, where increasing SPB populations are expected.

- * Croatan National Forest: Increasing/high SPB predicted
- * Macon County: Increasing/moderate SPB predicted
- * Appalachian Ranger District, Pisgah NF: Increasing/low SPB predicted

Given the predictions for increased SPB populations at three different sites in the state, it is increasingly imperative forestry professionals remain vigilant for SPB spots statewide.

To speak to the power of these predictions, last year, increasing SPB populations were predicted for Graham County and subsequent observations confirmed those predictions, as the majority of SPB activity last year was recorded in Graham County.

SPB activity is most likely to occur in pine stands that are overstocked, over-mature or stagnant, or have poor soil drainage. Forests affected by littleleaf disease, annosus root rot, and other causes of tree stress may also be susceptible to SPB infestation.

The NCFS continues to provide Southern Pine Beetle Prevention Program (SPBPP) cost-share funds (funded through a grant from the USDA Forest Service) for pre-commercial thinning of pine stands.

Please check out the North Carolina Forest Service's website for more information on the SPB cost-share program. ■

SFTE Reaches Over 100...(from page 1)



Russell Strong (right) led a discussion on BMPs and tree measurement with teachers.

Columbia. Thanks Carl and Patrick Parton, Jimmy Clay and Eric Boyd for hosting the teachers at Parton.

The Experience visited Evergreen Packaging on Wednesday morning. Rob Elliot started the program with a overview of the facility. In the afternoon, the program took on a historical perspective as the

teachers explored the Cradle of Forestry and then the Biltmore Estate.

On Thursday, Amy Phillips with Weyerhaeuser led a presentation on certification and the Sustainable Forestry Initiative.

"The teachers were really impressed by the passion our members have for the forest products industry and sustainable forestry," stated Juliana. "They thought they knew about the forest products industry, but after they had the opportunity to speak with our members and see the investment in technology in place at each mill, they were really blown away about how technical and dedicate our industry is being efficient."

The final installment of the SFTE took place in Southern Pines. The Piedmont opened up with a Project Learning Tree (PLT) session and was followed by a presentation of the America's First Forest, the excellent production by the Forest History Society.



(l-r) Eddie Swan, Adrian Blue and Ray Allen participated in a panel discussion about forest products and Uwharrie Lumber Company.



Teachers toured Jordan Lumber & Supply Company's timberlands.

The following day, NCFA Board Member Russell Strong hosted the teachers at Montgomery Community College for a series of information sessions with forestry professionals, including Ray Allen with Uwharrie Lumber Company and Alan Whitesell with Troy Lumber Company.

In the afternoon, the group moved onto Jordan Lumber Company with a tour of the facility and the adjacent timberlands. Jordan's Chip Miller and his crew were terrific hosts, as always, for the SFTE. The field day ended with a stop at Unilin.

On Thursday, teachers visited Domtar Paper Company, Lancer Furniture and completed the day at Weymouth Woods. Thanks to Domtar's Scott Smearman and Lancer's Robert Deese for their efforts with this year's experience.

The SFTE finished up on Friday with another PLT session and an overview of the Sustainable Forestry Initiative (SFI) by Scott Smearman. ■



Scott Smearman led a certification segment with the teachers.

NCFS NURSERY PROGRAM NOW ACCEPTING SEEDLING ORDERS

The North Carolina Forest Service (NCFS) Nursery Program is now accepting orders for seedlings.

The NCFS produces about 16 million quality seedlings for 47 species of both conifer and hardwoods annually, including an expanded selection of control mass pollinated Loblolly Pine seedlings. These seedlings offer superior growth, form and disease resistance.

"Trees are one of North Carolina's greatest renewable resources and an important economic driver in North Carolina, contributing around \$24 billion annually to the state's economy and providing more than 180,000 jobs for North Carolinians through the forest products industry," said Agriculture Commissioner Steve Troxler.

The NCFS nursery program offers a large, reader-friendly catalog for ordering tree seedlings. Landowners can find information about the types of tree species, quantities and costs on the inside pages of the catalog.

Each tree description includes information about ideal planting locations and whether a species is typically used for the benefit of wildlife, to restore habitats or as marketable timber. ■

FULL SPEED AHEAD!

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

SFI IS NEW HOME FOR PLT

The Sustainable Forestry Initiative Inc. (SFI) and the American Forest Foundation (AFF) announced that SFI has become the new home of Project Learning Tree (PLT). PLT is an award-winning environmental education program that uses trees and forests as windows on the world to increase youth understanding of the environment and actions they can take to conserve it.

PLT's integration into SFI provides an opportunity for the program to expand its reach and impact. SFI's role as a sustainability leader will be bolstered by PLT's expertise in education, an increasing focus in SFI's community engagement work. PLT was previously housed at the American Forest Foundation.

PLT has consistently received prestigious awards and recognition from leading educational and community organizations. PLT state coordinators, workshop facilitators, and educators have won the Presidential Award for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching and the Presidential Innovation Award for Environmental Educators.

"SFI has enthusiastically supported Project Learning Tree for years. Formally making PLT part of the SFI Program offers an exciting opportunity to strengthen SFI's growing youth education efforts and to build on PLT's enormous success. We begin this relationship from a position of strength given SFI's role as a leading sustainability organization focused on responsible forestry, conservation and community engagement" said Kathy Abusow, President and CEO of SFI Inc. "We have big plans for the future and are committed to continuing PLT's work as a high-quality education program. Ultimately, we would like to be able to say that every teacher across North America and beyond recognizes Project Learning Tree as an invaluable resource for professional development, environmental education curriculum, and taking children outdoors to learn."

The benefits of educating youth about responsibly managed forests are not just environmental. Experiencing nature through forests and other means at an early age are important components of a healthy lifestyle.

"For more than four decades, Project Learning Tree has taught countless students how to think, without telling them what to think. It is the unbiased education that educators demand," said Tom Martin, President and CEO of the American Forest Foundation. "The AFF Board approved the transfer of PLT as well as funding to help ensure the program is maintained for the next five years. We believe this will enable SFI to focus its energy on mechanisms to strengthen and expand the reach of PLT." ■

THE NCF A REMEMBERS CAMP VOLUNTEER RODGER DURHAM



Rodger Durham teaching Land Measurement at the Raleigh Camp.

NCF A staff was saddened to learn that Rodger Durham, a frequent volunteer for the Forestry & Environmental Camps, passed away in April of 2017. Durham was born in Greensboro, NC, in 1941.

Durham, who graduated from Davidson College and Purdue University, was a land surveyor, teacher and program manager for North Carolina's Floodplain Mapping Program in his professional career.

He also served his country as a First Lieutenant in the U.S. Army during the Vietnam War.

Rodger is survived by his wife of 35 years, LuAnn Boyd Durham and two children, daughter Emily Durham Diy and her husband Carlo, and son Nathan Durham and his wife, Lisa.

Memorial contributions may be made to Hospice and Palliative Care of Greensboro, 2500 Summit Avenue, Greensboro, NC 27450. ■



SMALL WOODLOT WORKSHOP FOCUS ON WOOD UTILIZATION

In July, workshop focusing on wood utilization from the urban and suburban areas took place at the Research Triangle Park in Durham, NC.

N.C. State University's Harry Watt opened up the workshop with looking at the challenges and opportunities before the group in this unique marketplace. Watt noted that are some really nice, and unique trees in the urban setting that are harvested for one reason or another.

"If you want good forestry, you have to make money," remarked Harry Watt "and that's what we are trying to do here. We have lots of opportunities, but can we really tap into it."

Watt stressed that networking within the area could provide the essential contacts that could make the difference in the bottom line for everyone involved in urban and/or suburban forestry activities.

Several NCF A members participated in this workshop that brought foresters, arborists, woodyard owners and local governments together to tackle the challenge of maximizing wood products off of residential or small acreage properties.

With the evolution of the forest products industry - namely in the logging workforce becoming more mechanized with larger crews - it is harder and harder to complete harvests on the smaller acreages that dot the urban and suburban landscapes. The economics of small harvests and/or single tree harvests are tough, even though the tree(s) may be unique or have high value.

Harry Scott with Triangle Forest Products has witness this change as the Raleigh-Durham-Cary area continues to grow.

"Somewhere along the way, I became the king of the small logger, I guess," stated Harry Scott with a chuckle. "It wasn't by choice, the area, the changes, it just seemed to work out that way. We just try to get things done."

The tasks Scott and his crews face regularly are working in an ever-urbanizing environment in a surging population that has little or no understanding of forestry. Many of these newcomers see logging as cutting trees in order to plant houses.

"We are kind of an unwanted business," stated Scott. "The trees are coming down. Like it or not. We are just trying to provide a service."

In addition to the public perception problems, there are basic economies of scale that must be addressed

(continued on page 7)



(l-r) Harry Scott, Brandon Price, and Perry Hunt were the featured panelists during the workshop.

Small Woodlot...(from page 6)

to bring what in some cases can be high-value timber to the marketplace.

Much of the afternoon session was spent on looking at ways on how a local network could be developed within an urban setting to facilitate the merchandising and delivery of wood to the appropriate marketplace, including getting trees suited for firewood to firewood facilities and trees for special projects facilities to those niche facilities.

"You have to be convenient," stated Perry Hunt, who operates several woodyards as part of Hunt Forest Resources. "We try to buy as much wood as we can from local areas when it is brought in. We just don't have the resources to go out and pick it up. But, sure, we try to be a market for that under utilized wood."

There also was a discussion on niche markets and how urban trees could be the starting point for special projects such as tables, special buildings, etc. These projects can provide added value to a single or few tree harvest.

One of the reoccurring topics was the unrealistic expectations from the small acreage or single tree owner. Just everyone has that one tree that is worth a lot of money! Several panelists and members of the workshop shared an experience where the landowner did not understand the costs of planning, executing, and delivering a single tree and/or trees from a small acreage area or urban setting to the appropriate market destination. Consequently, the landowner was expecting to receive a high reward for the tree(s).

"The small acreage harvests are going to cost the logger more in setup costs than a larger tract," stated Perry Hunt. "There needs to be plenty of discussions up front to explain this to the smaller landowners."

The group believed that municipalities could be a contributor to the solution by providing more information to the general public on what other markets may be available to them for their downed trees than the county landfill.

While no firm date was set, there was discussion on holding additional workshops on this issue in the near future.

The Urban & Community Forestry Program at the N.C. Forest Service collaborated with Dovetail Partners and N.C. State University to sponsor this workshop. For more information on this topic, please check out the www.urbanwoodexchange.org.

Congrats to Kelly McCarter with N.C. State, Nancy Stairs with NCFCS, and Sarah Stai of Dovetail Partners for an interactive and informative workshop! ■

BOTTOMLAND FORESTS SYMPOSIUM SCHEDULED FOR WILMINGTON

On October 31- November 2, 2017, the North Carolina Forest Service will be hosting a symposium on the results of three years of research by key members of the N.C. Forest Service, NCSU Department of Forestry and Environmental Resources, and the USDA Forest Service in Wilmington at the Hilton Riverfront Hotel.

The research considerations included overall assessment of the existing forest types in the region, best management practices for harvesting and water quality, and the potential for restoration efforts for natural and human influenced sites.

A comprehensive field tour is planned for November 2nd which will cover major types of bottomland forest systems.

Special discounted guest rooms are available in limited quantities. The bottomland group rate is \$139. This 1.5-day conference and extensive field tour are sponsored by the North Carolina Forest Service.

More details on the workshop can be found at go.ncsu.edu/bottomland-symposium. Please contact Kelley D. McCarter at (919) 515-9563 or at kelley_mccarter@ncsu.edu for more information. ■

NC FARM BUREAU HOSTS ITS POLICY DAY IN RALEIGH

The North Carolina Farm Bureau hosted its annual Policy Day at its offices in Raleigh earlier this week. The event attracted over 400 members and guests and included representation from 86 of North Carolina's 100 counties.

Steve Troxler addressed over 400 members and guests at the North Carolina Farm Bureau's annual Policy Day. Troxler announced ongoing activities to improve parking and public transportation for this year's State Fair, explaining the only way to grow the Fair is to make it easier for people to attend.



Steve Troxler, NC Agriculture Commissioner, was one of featured speakers at the NC Farm Bureau's Policy Day.

Guest speakers included North Carolina Agriculture Commissioner Steve Troxler and American Farm Bureau President Zippy Duvall.

Duvall, a dairy farmer from Georgia, expressed his optimism for the farming community with the election of a new administration and the majorities in both the House and Senate. In Duvall's mind, the time for real progress as it relates to farm policy can happen with this new farm bill and other policy initiatives.

Duvall reported that the current effort to repeal the Waters of the U.S. now underway. He also detailed how several key administrators - the new Secretary of Agriculture - Sonny Perdue and the new EPA director - Scott Perdue and other key positions are being filled by individuals with a real farming background.

In his call to action, Duvall reminded everyone in attendance on the importance of being engaged in the political process. He reminded the crowd of David and Goliath, likening Goliath to Washington with all its political expertise and might.

"I know this organization is full of Davids, full of them," stated Duvall as he spread his arms out to the crowd. "We just got to get them to put down the bucket, or get off the tractor, like David did, and leave his sheep herd, or his cattle herd, or his chickens, or crop, just for a minute or two, to respond and engage."

The most pressing issue currently is the repeal of the Waters of the U.S.. The American Farm Bureau has a direct link to comment on this rule: fb.org/wotus-comments.



After the morning speaking program, the meeting was broken down into individual policy committees. NCFCA member Charles Jones chairs the Forestry Committee and the NCFCA participated on this committee as part of the North Carolina Farm Bureau's policy development program.

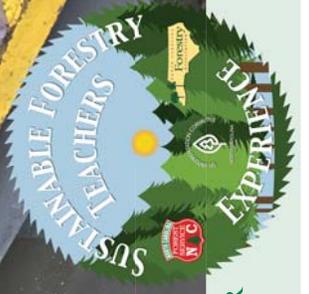
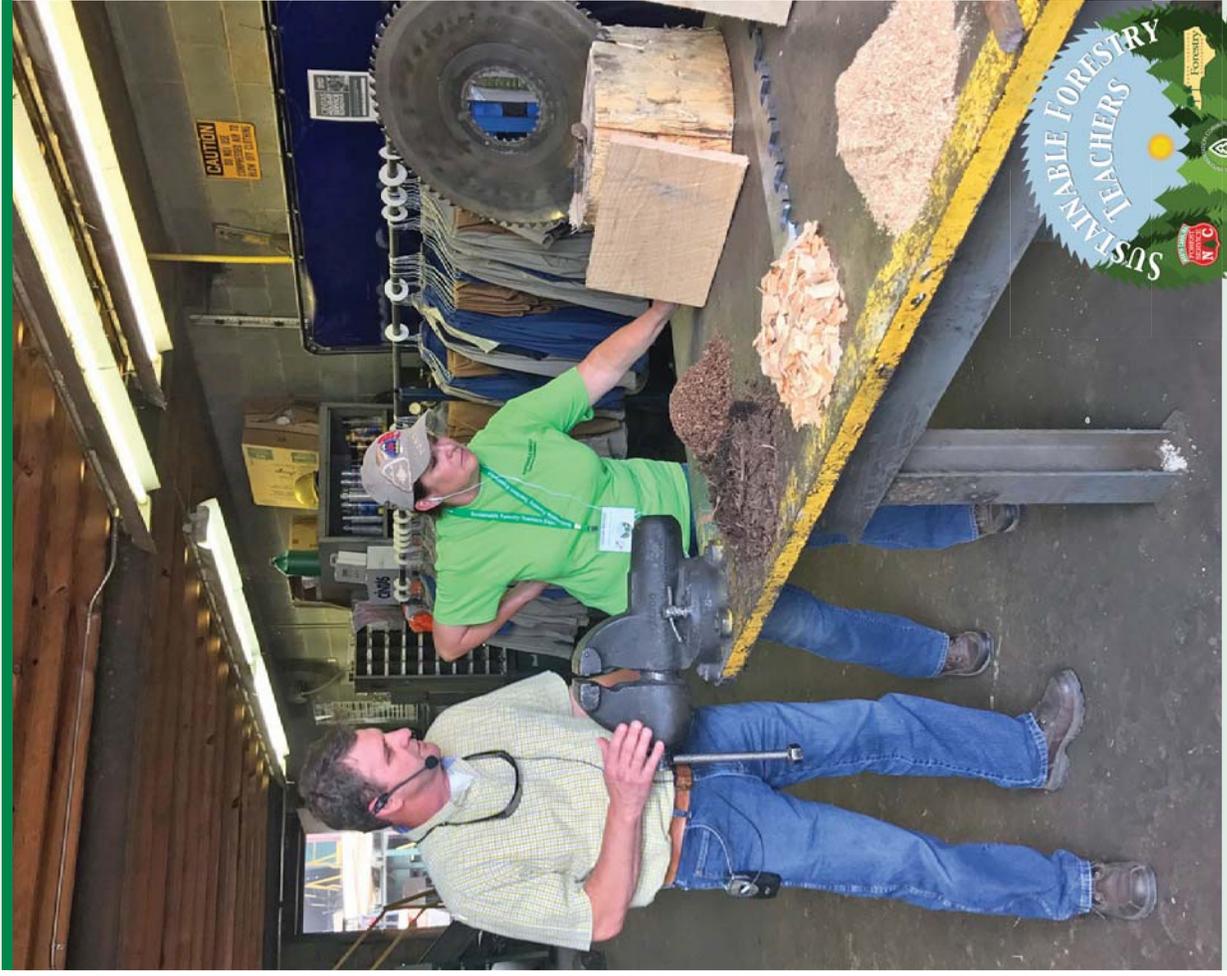
One of the key review points during the morning session was the development of the new Farm Bill - Farm Bill 2018. The American Forest Foundation has developed specific policies and programs for forest landowners within the Farm Bill which the NCFCA supports. ■

NC Agriculture Magazine - Advertising Opportunity

The North Carolina Department of Agriculture produces an annual publication, *North Carolina Agriculture*, that promotes agriculture across the state. If you would like to advertise in this magazine or have any questions, please contact Herb Harper at hharper@farmflavormedia.com or 615-947-6733 (cell phone). ■

TREE LINE

AUGUST 2017



THANKS TO THE NC SFI SIC AND OUR MEMBER COMPANIES FOR THEIR SFTE SUPPORT!

MEETINGS & WORKSHOPS

8/1-4 OSH Training With FMIC And NCFCA, Howell Woods, Smithfield, NC
 8/4-5 Sporting Clays Miracle Shoot, Rose Hill Farm in Nashville, NC

August

9/15-16 Mid-Atlantic Logging and Biomass Expo, Smithfield/Selma, NC
 9/28-30 American Loggers Council Meeting - TBD

October

10/4-6 NCFCA Annual Meeting, Wilmington, NC
 10/6 NCFCA Board of Directors Meeting, 8:30 a.m., Wilmington, NC
 10/11-12 ProLogger Base Class, Marion, NC
 10/18 SLTC Meeting, TBA, 9:30 a.m.
 10/19 Log A Load Golf Tournament, Wilmington, NC
 10/30-11/3 NCFCA Forestry & Environmental Camp, Wilmington, NC
 10/31-11/1 Bottomland Forest Symposium, Wilmington, NC

November

11/8 NC SFI SIC Meeting, NCFCA Office, Raleigh, NC - 9:30 a.m.
 11/13-19 SAF National Convention - Albuquerque, NM
 11/14-16 FMIC Board Meeting - Raleigh, NC

North Carolina Forestry Association
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 Raleigh, NC 27609



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