



FORESTRY ews

A Newsletter of the Virginia Department of Forestry

MISSION:

"We Protect and Develop Healthy, Sustainable Forest Resources for Virginians."

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DOF ANSWERS THE CALL FOR HELP

Written by John Campbell, director, Public Information Division

More than 100 DOF employees answered the call to aid in the Hurricane Katrina relief efforts in and around the Gulf Coast.

The first crew mobilized and left from Roanoke just two days after the massive storm ripped through Louisiana and Mississippi. Television stations from Roanoke and Lynchburg were on hand to record the event. A reporter and photographer from the Roanoke Times shadowed the crew for several days. Their stories and pictures were published each day in the newspaper as well as on the paper's Web site. The news team also published a "blog" on the Web site – this enabled DOF colleagues and family members to keep track of what the crew was doing on a daily basis.

Mike Womack, Appomattox-Buckingham State Forest, was the crew boss. He and his team operated one of the first food distribution sites in Louisiana. They provided food and water to more than 4,000 families each day.

A second crew, led by Louisa Forester Dave Stone, was dispatched to Mississippi on September 3rd. This team helped National Park Service employees and their neighbors remove tons of damaged furniture and other personal belongings from dozens of homes that were subjected to a 30-foot storm surge. They also helped residents prepare to rebuild by gutting damaged walls and floors.

Paul Stoneburner, Albemarle technician, led a group of sawyers to Laurel, Mississippi, where they were assigned to clear more than 200 miles of roadways. They met the challenge and actually completed the task ahead of schedule.

The fourth crew, led by Warren Technician Harold Fisher, returned September 29th from duty in Mississippi. They operated a food and water distribution center.

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Dave Stone's crew clears debris.



Mike Womack's crew distributes water and food.

Message

FROM THE STATE FORESTER



Well, another summer season has come and gone! We hit the 100 degree mark on a couple of occasions and had several days showing a heat index above 110. Fortunately, all of you took good care of yourselves and stayed hydrated.

The sweltering temperatures were especially taxing on those who worked many of the big festivals – such as the Ducks Unlimited Great Outdoors Festival; the Pork, Peanut and Pine Festival; the 2005 National Boy Scout Jamboree; the Virginia Highlands Festival, and so on – in which we had a major presence. To all who helped plan and/or staff one of these activities and endured the hottest summer we've had in a few years, thank you for helping deliver our messages to the citizens of the Commonwealth and for making DOF look good!

In addition to the festivals, we also conducted three legislative tours for members of the General Assembly and staffers from both the House Appropriations Committee and the Senate Finance Committee. Led by Secretary Bloxom, participants visited active logging sites, some forest research plots and toured either International Paper's Franklin mill, MeadWestvaco's Covington mill or Georgia Pacific's Emporia Plywood plant. Again, I thank all who were involved in these informative and highly successful educational tours. These events provided great opportunities for us to demonstrate good forest management practices to those in the legislative branch of our government.

The 59th annual edition of Forestry Camp was a resounding success. Dozens of high school students received one of the best educational experiences of their lives during the week-long camp. I'm very grateful to the many donors, sponsors, volunteer teachers, camp counselors and DOF staff, especially Lisa Deaton and Denny McCarthy, who made this important initiative such a worthwhile program.

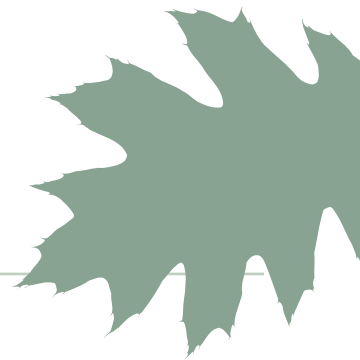
The Forest Legacy program had a celebration of sorts – the ceremonial closing of the 1,143-acre Cove project in Halifax County marked the largest Forest Legacy project in our history, which now numbers eight projects totaling 6,125 acres. We were joined by the former property owner, Peggy Hammond, and the new owner, NASCAR great Ward Burton, at a news conference to sign the deed and a conservation easement that will protect forever this important piece of forestland.

Lastly, I would like to acknowledge several of you for going above and beyond the call of duty: David Cooper who earned the U.S. Forest Service's Browning Award for his efforts in fire prevention; Billy Apperson who earned the Southern Group of State Forester's Hardtner Award for his efforts to promote sustainable forest management; Fred Turck and John Miller for the development of the two new Firewise trailers; Ed Stoots et al., with the Board of Forestry's support, for leading the effort to develop a Forest Policy; Jim Bowen, Faye DiFazio and the Fiscal Division for guiding us through another budget year; Mindia Brown and her team for their continuing work on IFRIS, and the Uniform Committee, led by Ron Jenkins. Your work and the hard work of everyone in this agency is very much appreciated!

Carl Harrison



Awards AND ACHIEVEMENTS



COOPER AND APPERSON EARN AWARDS

Written by John Campbell, director, Public Information Division

David Cooper, technician in Pulaski and Giles counties, and Billy Apperson, forester in James City County, earned significant recognition for their efforts.

Cooper received the U.S. Forest Service's Robert E. Browning award for distinguished service in wildland fire prevention. The highly coveted award goes only to those select few who have gone above and beyond the call of duty in the 13-state Southern Region.

Director of Resource Protection John Miller said, "We have a lot of wildland firefighters who put so much into the never-ending effort to prevent wildfires, but David really gave it his all. We are fortunate to have him on our team."

Apperson took home the Hardtner Forest Resource Assistance award from the recent Southern Group of State Foresters meeting in Chattanooga, Tennessee. The award recognizes Apperson's efforts to promote sustainable forest management.

Director of Resource Information John Scrivani said, "Billy is the rare combination of a leading edge innovator and excellent landowner forest management service provider. He has taken the lead in both the development of rare species preservation and propagation and the implementation of species restoration projects."

Congratulations to David and Billy for their well-deserved recognition.



David Cooper, technician



Billy Apperson, forester

DOF EARNS SILVER AWARD IN GOVERNOR'S CHALLENGE

DOF won the Governor's silver award for participation in the Healthy Virginians initiative. Congratulations, everyone! Thank you to all who participated in our recent Walk About Challenge. Everyone did a great job! We really appreciate your enthusiasm.



Management

FOCUS

URBAN & COMMUNITY FORESTRY AWARDS GRANTS

*Written by John Campbell, director,
Public Information Division*



Nearly \$450,000 in grants were awarded by the agency's Urban and Community Forestry (U&CF) section. A total of 44 environmental project proposals were funded this year. Projects were funded in each of the six DOF regions.

The largest grant, in terms of funding, was for \$35,000 to support open-space planning by Virginia Tech's landscape architecture program in several Virginia communities.

Paul Revell, U&CF manager, said, "We had a lot of great proposals this year, and we were able to fund more than 57 percent of them. Each of the grant recipients will use the funding to improve and enhance some aspect of the state, be it The Virginia Capital Trail (between Williamsburg and Richmond) or outdoor classrooms at two high schools in Southwest Virginia."

Funding for the program comes from the USDA Forest Service.

A public gathering area along the Luray Hawksbill greenway in Luray, Virginia. An Urban and Community Forestry grant helped to fund this project.

"WATERSHED EDUCATION DAY"

*Written by Jonathan Pine, technician,
Region 3, Fairfax County*



Fairfax County fifth graders experienced learning in a whole new way on June 1, 2005. Instead of crunching math problems, reading and writing, they were shocking fish and catching macro-organisms in the Holmes Run Stream. Dr Judy Okay, forester for Fairfax County, and Jonathan Pine, technician for Northern Virginia, represented DOF at Watershed Education Day.

"It was an opportunity to work with other natural resource specialists to bring outdoor education to students who don't get a chance to investigate resources outside the classroom," said Dr. Okay, who was teaching about the role of trees along stream banks.

Pine showed the students how to measure and identify trees, as well as how someone becomes a forestry professional.

Along with DOF, the Department of Game and Inland Fisheries, Department of Transportation, Department of Environmental Quality, Northern Virginia Regional Park Authority, Northern Virginia Soil and Water Conservation District, and Virginia Tech all participated. The event was sponsored by the National Biological Information Infrastructure's (NBII) Mid-Atlantic Information Node (MAIN). Students and teachers alike left the event excited and anxious to get back outside and learn more, which is rewarding to those who spent time organizing the event.

*Jonathan Pine, technician, teaches students
about tree identification.*

Forestry Camp

A SUCCESS



More than five dozen high school and middle school students participated in the 59th annual Holiday Lake Forestry Camp. The students mixed classroom and outdoor educational experiences (such as forest fire equipment and tactics, stream quality analysis and arborist training) with activities such as skeet shooting, fire suppression and canoeing.

Held within the 20,000-acre Appomattox-Buckingham State Forest, the week-long camp is a cooperative effort designed to broaden the horizons of students interested in forestry and environmental science. Through the generosity of individual donors, as well as sponsorships from various Soil and Water Conservation Districts and companies from across the Commonwealth, all or most of the campers' tuition is provided.

Instructors and camp counselors are a mix of DOF staff and others from such organizations as the Department of Game and Inland Fisheries, Dominion Resources, and Bartlett Tree Services.



A camper begins her ascent into the canopy during the arborist demonstration.



Skeet shooting was a popular course.



Instructor watches as a camper takes a measurement.



Instructor Gale Washburn, Region 4, demonstrates proper use of a bow saw.

Fire FOCUS

THREE COMMUNITIES CERTIFIED AS FIREWISE COMMUNITIES USA

*Written by John Campbell, director,
Public Information Division*

What does a 14-home subdivision in Warren County have in common with a 360-home subdivision in James City County? Both are two of Virginia's first ever certified Firewise Communities USA.

"River Ridge on the Shenandoah" is the 14-home subdivision; "Windsor Forest" is the 360-home subdivision, and "Fort Valley" – a 500+ home subdivision in Shenandoah County – are the first three Virginia communities to earn the certification. Less than 100 areas nationwide have been certified by the U.S. Forest Service.

"Achieving Firewise Community USA certification requires a serious commitment," said Fred Turck, DOF Firewise program coordinator. "To qualify, communities must develop a wildfire protection plan; conduct a community-wide fire prevention event (such as a debris-clearing day or a fire prevention information fair), and annually invest at least \$2 per person in forest fire protection."

John Miller, director of Resource Protection, said, "The most effective way to address wildfire hazards in residential areas is to put the knowledge and power in the hands of residents and developers. With good information, they can design and implement a wide range of programs and activities that will make their communities less susceptible to the effects of wildfires."

AND THE FIRST NEW LOGO GOES TO...

FRED TURCK, RESOURCE PROTECTION DIVISION

*Submitted by John Campbell, director,
Public Information Division*



FIREFIGHTER COMRADERIE IN AUGUSTA COUNTY

*Written by Rodger Moyers, technician,
Region 3, Augusta County*

On July 9th, 2005, at Sherando Lake, we had a picnic with local part-time firefighters and families. Approximately 30 people were present to take part in eating the hot dogs and hamburgers, which were cooked by Edward Thornton and his wife, Bobbi. Everyone else provided a covered dish of their favorite recipe. We didn't know that Heather Berry and her band were going to be playing at the amphitheater, so we had music to dine by. Although we could hear the music from the picnic shelter, some of the gang went to the amphitheater to see her and the band in person. Everyone enjoyed the evening, and we hope to make this an annual event.

Smokey's Hot

IN AUGUSTA COUNTY

SMOKEY SNIFFS OUT SHERANDO LAKE

Written by Rodger Moyers, technician, Region 3, Augusta County

On July 15th, 2005 Patti Nylander and I had the privilege of doing a program at the amphitheater at Sherando Lake. Patti gave a very informative talk on forest management and different kinds of trees. Once again, Smokey came out of the woods prowlin' and a growlin' and sniffin' the air. The children enjoyed having their picture taken with their parents and Smokey Bear. We also provided Smokey "goodies" to the children and the adults as well.

SMOKEY BUSY BEING ONE OF THE 'BOYS OF SUMMER'

Written by Rodger Moyers, technician, Region 3, Augusta County, and John Campbell, director, Public Information Division

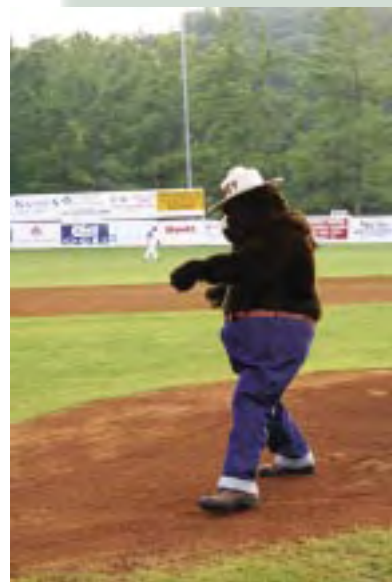
Smokey Bear hasn't had much time to rest this summer – he's been busy working the crowds and tossing out the first pitch at baseball games across the state.

More than 1,500 fans welcomed Smokey to the pitcher's mound at Gypsy Hill Park in Staunton one very warm evening in July. TV 29 in Charlottesville was on hand to record Smokey's fast ball as it crossed home plate just prior to the start of the Staunton Braves' game. Dozens of children and teenagers mobbed him as he made his way through the stands during the seventh inning stretch. In the spirit of the game, Smokey distributed his own baseballs to excited fans.

It was a very hot night and the one time Smokey forgot his cooling vest, so he was quick to shed his fur.

Forester Patti Nylander, Don Drake, part-time prevention specialist, and two U.S. Forest Service staff were there to lend a hand in passing out fire prevention information. It was a pleasure to see DOF staff from Central Office and Region 3 in attendance: Rita Moore, Becky Woodson, and Greg Meade and his family. The Staunton Braves were pleased and invited us to come again.

Smokey is becoming quite the baseball player. In August, Smokey visited the Salem Avalanche's game. This time, his pitch of choice was a curve ball. Smokey and his colleagues handed out information and "Smokey gear" to hundreds of fans. The evening was even more memorable as Alan Craft, technician in Region 5, sang the National Anthem.



Resource Pro

FIREWISE TRAILERS

Written by John Campbell, director, Public Information Division



The Resource Protection Division has set a new standard for information dissemination with the recent addition of two Firewise mobile display units. Each of the high-tech informational displays comes in a completely self-contained trailer that can be towed to a site, such as a fair or festival, and opened for viewing by all in attendance.

The trailers made their debut at the Ducks Unlimited Great Outdoors Festival (DUGOF) in June. Since then, they have also been used at the Pork, Peanut & Pine Festival; the National Boy Scout Jamboree, the Virginia Highlands Festival, and the State Fair, among others.

State Forester Carl Garrison said, "The trailers were the envy of many other state agencies and Ducks Unlimited festival vendors. Our colleagues at the Department of Game and Inland Fisheries were quick to point out that DOF had outdone itself."



The trailers are the brainchild of Fred Turck and John Miller. Each trailer features a 42-inch plasma screen TV; two computers – one to run a mock up of the DOF Web site, the other to run a continuous loop PowerPoint presentation on weather and its effects on fire; an interactive board that helps people determine how much of a safe zone they need around their homes, and a live weather station. There are also Firewise information panels and racks to hold DOF pamphlets.

Mr. Garrison said, "John and Fred have raised the bar. The Firewise trailers represent a great idea that was well executed. My hat's off to them for a job well done."



FALL FIRE SEASON COULD

The outlook for the fall 2005 fire season is not good. Drought indices are much higher than those from the last severe fire season in 2001. The news from weather forecasters is not encouraging at all. September turned out to be the driest in recorded history. Most of the state is in a 30-day rain deficit, and a large

Protection News

NEW ENGINES

Written by John Campbell, director, Public Information Division

Two new engines have just entered service with the Virginia Department of Forestry. Based on a Ford F450 chassis, the new fire suppression equipment will be able to deliver 300 gallons of water to even the most remote areas of the Commonwealth. The trucks are assigned to Regions 3 and 6. They are replacements for two, 10-year-old Hummers.

"The new engines are a significant improvement over our workhorse Hummers," said John Miller, director of resource protection. "They offer more firefighting capabilities and a larger payload than we've ever had in an engine."

The Hummers, which DOF acquired as surplus Federal property, will eventually become state surplus. As the 10-year equipment rotation process continues, the Department's other Hummers will be replaced with the F450 engines.

Albemarle Technician Paul Stoneburner was one of the DOF staff who worked on the specifications for the engine.

Stoneburner said, "It wasn't easy to come up with a replacement for the Hummer, but these new engines really offer us some new features that simply weren't available in the Hummers. As folks get trained on the F450s, they are going to be very satisfied with them."



BE A BUSY ONE!

portions of Regions 1 and 4 are experiencing a 90-day rain deficit. No significant rainfall is predicted for the foreseeable future. Everyone in the agency will need to prepare for and deal with what could become one of the worst fire seasons ever in Virginia. Together, we'll rise to the occasion.

Resource Information

FOCUS

ATTENDING EUROPEAN TRADE SHOWS AND VISITING A COUNTRY A DAY

Written by Charlie Becker, marketing and utilization specialist, Resource Information Division



Bulk wood pellet truck used to make home deliveries



Tractor-mounted portable post-peeler and pointer

In May, I had the opportunity to attend two of the largest international forestry and forest products trade shows in Germany to help promote Virginia forest products and look at the latest products and technology from around the world. After the trade shows, I took the opportunity to drive through parts of western Europe to see how forestry and other activities compare to those in Virginia.

The first part of the journey was to promote Virginia forest products at Interzum in Cologne, Germany. Virginia had a booth within the USA Pavilion area through Virginia Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services (VDACS). Jim Green, the Forest Products International Marketing Specialist with VDACS, coordinated the Virginia exhibit. Interzum is an international show that focuses on furniture and interior materials, equipment and final products. The five-day show had approximately 1,300 exhibitors from 63 countries. More than 49,000 people from 123 countries attended the show. Several other states had exhibits to promote their forest products. Most were from the eastern hardwood region. Walking the show and meeting with people who came to our booth really drove home that we are all dealing in a global forest products market. There were a number of companies in Asia and Europe that were selling products made from North American hardwoods. We had company representatives from China, India, South America, the Middle East and Europe looking for American logs, lumber, veneer and other products. In many cases, these were to be used to make items that would be sold back to us. Luckily for me, most of the visitors spoke at least some English, and we had a few interpreters available if needed.

What I liked most about Interzum was the exposure to all the new products and research. Some of the most amazing things to me were: the veneer manufacturers that could create veneer that looked like any species, in multiple colors and designs; a technique that chrome coated wood to look like metal, and several techniques that made wood more flexible.

After Interzum, I traveled to Hannover, Germany to attend Ligna+. Ligna+ is promoted as the "World Fair for the Forestry and Wood Industries" and this year it had more than 1,800 exhibitors from 46 countries and nearly 100,000 visitors. This show covered everything from forestry to forest products manufacturing. The machinery ranged from equipment that could process whole trees and timbers to specialty tools for craftsmen.

Due to energy costs (gas was over \$6/ gallon), wood utilization and waste disposal concerns, there was a large emphasis on energy conservation and waste minimization and utilization. Besides promoting very energy efficient equipment for all types of processing, companies exhibited biomass utilization equipment that included slash bundlers for logging operations, several types of wood boilers and stoves, wood gasifiers to run engines, and wood pelleting and briquetting machinery. In some areas, large trucks are used to deliver wood pellets to a self-feeding hopper, just like fuel oil is delivered to houses here.

Some of the exhibits I was most interested in dealt with low-impact and smaller processing equipment. There was a wide range of PTO driven equipment, small sawmills and other wood processors from several countries.

It was fascinating to see the various forestry and timber processing techniques from different countries. One example is firewood. Not only is it usually split in about 3-foot lengths, in many cases it is bundled and stacked on end. It was great to see and collect information on all of this wonderful equipment from around world.

For more information about the shows and exhibitors, take a look at their Web sites:

<http://www.ligna.de> <http://www.interzum.com/>

The final part of my trip was a whirlwind trip through five countries in five days. My main problem was dealing with a new language each day. Luckily, I was always able to find someone who knew some English to help this American. What amazed me was how many people apologized to me for their poor English.

My first country was the Netherlands. Much of the area was full of dikes, canals, windmills and tulips. The old type windmills were mainly used for pumping water. It was a spectacular sight to see acres of tulips that were being grown for the bulbs. From the Netherlands, I traveled through parts of Belgium, Luxembourg, France and the German Alps.

In most of the countries I visited, the high cost of energy has led to conservation and a great push for alternative energy use. Windmills are fairly commonplace with the large ones having blades that are about 100 hundred feet long each. Crops of rape (a type of mustard) are grown for the oil and converted into fuel, and wood is a major heat source in many areas.

I saw several timber harvests throughout my trip. Most were spruce and pine with some beech and other hardwoods. Many of the stands looked like they had been thinned and pruned to improve the stands. Most final harvests appeared to be clear-cuts. What was very interesting was the amount of wood stacked along the roads. Apparently, loggers harvest the stands and stack the timber by the road and it is picked up by the buyer at a later date. The piles have markings on them that identify the owner of the timber. The few sawmills that I saw tended to fairly small and blended in with the rest of the community.

Of course you cannot go to Europe with out seeing a few castles and they were present in every country. Several were in ruins and many of the castles had been rebuilt on the site of older buildings. It was quite interesting to see very old buildings next to new ones.

The most surprising thing on my trip was to see a scale model of the Statue of Liberty in the middle of the road in France. I have no idea why it was there; it may have been where the original was made.

My trip happened to coincide with the 60th anniversary celebrations of the liberation of Europe from the Nazis. I happened to see a couple of celebrations and memorials. It was quite inspiring to see the American flag at each one of the ceremonies and the recognition we were given.

I highly recommend to anyone who gets the chance to travel to Europe to go. It has many fascinating places and many of the countries are no larger than one of our states. I believe other countries may have answers for some of the issues, such as higher energy costs, transportation concerns and land use and management, we are beginning to deal with.



Slash (wood residue) baling machine for biomass energy



Stack of logs from harvest ready for roadside pickup



Industrial lathe that can turn full-size columns



Tulip fields in Holland

Employee

SPOTLIGHT



TODD
EDGERTON,
RESOURCE
INFORMATION

*Submitted by Janet Muncy, Public
Information Division*

Todd Edgerton, formerly a DOF part-timer in GIS, joined the Resource Information Division full-time this spring.

Todd attended school in Burlington, Vermont, where he received a B.S. in Forest Management with a minor in Entomology in 1999. Following graduation, he volunteered for a research project related to the Brazil Nut Tree and spent four months in Peru climbing to the canopy of the rainforests in very rugged terrain. His desire for the comforts of life proved too strong and he returned state-side.

Todd worked for a start-up dot.com business for four years, running the CD replication department, which is a locally run business (Musictoday.com). And then it happened... 2003... "I had an epiphany and realized that I needed to be working within the field that I studied, instead of a business career." After he departed Musictoday, he began working with John Scrivani on a photo interpretation project, comparing 1994 imagery to 2002 imagery. He also helped John Pemberton and Tracy McDonald with some FIA field work.

This brings us to today... as of this spring, he joined Chris Asaro as a Forest Health Forester. They've been conducting the Sudden Oak Death survey across the state. Todd has also been compiling all of the historical data, which documents Virginia's Forest Pests, specifically frequencies of occurrence and acreage affected.

On a personal note... Todd recently married. He and his wonderful wife, Tracy, are living in downtown Charlottesville. In his personal time, it's music, music, music. Todd really enjoys recording concerts and has taped nearly every act in the area at one point in time. He will surely continue to go and see new music anytime the opportunity presents itself. He also enjoys water-skiing, snow-skiing, fly fishing and cooking.



ELLEN POWELL,
PUBLIC
INFORMATION

Ellen Powell begins work October 10 as DOF's conservation education coordinator. Ellen holds a bachelor's degree in Fisheries and Wildlife Sciences from North Carolina State University and a master's degree in Forest Resources from University of Georgia.

Ellen brings to her new role 13 years of experience in volunteer management and educational design. She has worked as an Extension agent in both 4-H and horticulture program areas, in three Virginia counties. For the past five years, she has been the 4-H Extension agent in James City County. There she managed a 4-H program of 950 youth and more than 120 adult and teen volunteers. A key feature of her 4-H program was partnership with other agencies and organizations. For example, she partnered with her local school system to offer in-school 4-H clubs, providing hands-on activities in support of the science Standards of Learning. Ellen's favorite curriculum area in 4-H was Natural Resources and Environmental Education. She is excited to be able to devote herself full time to natural resource education with DOF.

SOUTH RIVER ELEMENTARY CAMP

Submitted by Bruce Harmon, forester, Region 3, Rockingham County

Region 3 formally welcomed David Powell, new assistant regional forester, by having him participate in the Forestry Camp offered by the Boys and Girls Clubs of Rockingham County, supported by the Virginia Department of Forestry, Headwaters Soil and Water Conservation District and the City of Harrisonburg. David was a last minute fill-in as a facilitator in riparian wildlife. His protests were short lived.

The camp provided two, 3-hour sessions using 14 Project Learning Tree information segments. The focus was on riparian buffers and associated plant and animal communities. We performed some simple stream monitoring techniques and had the students identify the macros found in the south fork of the Shenandoah River. Some of the other activities offered were the Wetlands Café, Every Tree for Itself, Enviroscope Tree Umbrellas and Cooking up Trouble.

The Boys and Girls Club of Rockingham County is a unique organization that offers programs to kids from disadvantaged circumstances. Its aim is to help inspire young people to realize their own potential through participation in activities in five areas: Character and Leadership Development; Education and Career Development; Health and Life Skills; The Arts, and Sports, Fitness and Recreation.

I extend my personal thanks to all my "instructors," and especially Sandy Greene from Headwaters, who supplied the PLT kits. I had no idea that 12 kids were that much of a handful and, in the end, that much of a delight. Doffed hats to Patti Nylander, Chad Stover, Dia Russell and David Powell for helping me pull this off.



DOF PARTNERS WITH WARD BURTON TO CONSERVE HISTORIC FORESTLAND

The DOF found itself in a "victory lane" of sorts. The agency partnered with the Ward Burton Wildlife Foundation (WBWF) to conserve more than 1,100 acres of forestland and 5.5 miles of Staunton Riverfront in Halifax County. This milestone was celebrated July 15th at a ceremonial deed signing and news conference.

State Forester Carl Garrison was joined by Mr. Burton and Peggy Hammond (the now-former landowner) at the property for the event. All three addressed the crowd and the news media in attendance. Once they signed the deed and the conservation easement, Ms. Hammond gave the "keys to the forest" to Mr. Garrison and Mr. Burton. The WBWF is now the owner of the property, and the DOF holds the conservation easement that will protect the area from development.

The WBWF will use the forest as an outdoor classroom to teach children and adults about good forest stewardship and wildlife conservation.

Funding for this partnership came from the Forest Legacy program. It is the eighth Forest Legacy project funded in Virginia.



Ward Burton addresses the crowd and the news media during the news conference to mark the "closing" on the 1,143-acre Cove in Halifax County.



Human Resources

NEWS

WELCOME!!!

Cindy Bronner is returning to DOF as an administrative program specialist in Region 2. Cindy served in this position for 6 years prior to leaving to care for her children. We are very happy to have her return. Welcome back!

Tammy Butler is our new administrative program specialist in Region 3. Tammy had been serving as the temporary in the position since Roberta Duncan's departure. Congratulations, Tammy, on your regular appointment!

Dirk Hillegass is our new Pittsylvania County forester in Region 5. He just completed his Bachelor's in Forest Resource Management from West Virginia University. In addition, he is a trained wildland firefighter.

Scott Ward is our new Tazewell County technician in Region 6. Welcome, Scott!

Jim Fulcher is our new Chesapeake Bay coordinator in the Resource Management Division. Jim transferred from VDOT where he was an Environmental Engineer. He holds a B.S. in Environmental Science and a M.S. in Soil Science.

Chris Owens is our new Dickenson County technician in Region 6. Chris comes to us from the USDA Forest Service. He holds a B.S. in Environmental Science.

RETIREMENTS

Janet Barr, administrative program specialist in Region 6, retired effective October 1. We wish Janet all the best in her retirement. Janet, you will be missed!

Larry Dunn, Prince William County forester, Region 3, retired September 1 after 30 years of service. We hope he has a happy retirement.

Calvin Ricks, Southampton County technician, Region 1, will retire on November 1 after 35 years of service. We wish him all the best in his retirement.

FAREWELL & BEST WISHES

Justin Barnes, FIA forester in Region 2, resigned his position effective July 22. He

has accepted a position with Blue Ridge Building Supply. We wish him the best in his new endeavor.

Carol Evans, Loudoun County forester in Region 3, left DOF on July 5 and moved to Montana. We wish her well in her new endeavors.

Scott Siebert, forester in Cumberland County, Region 4, resigned his position in August. Scott and his family now reside in Sunset, Texas.

Bill Jordan, mechanic in Region 1, transferred to Department of Transportation in August.

MOVERS & SHAKERS

Hylton Haynes, former Nottoway County forester in Region 4, was promoted to the water quality engineer position for Region 1 effective June 25. Congratulations, Hylton!

David Powell, former water quality engineer in Region 2, moved into the assistant regional forester position in Region 3 effective July 10. Congratulations, David!

Will Shoup, former technician for Lancaster County in Region 2, was promoted to the position of forester in New Kent County. He took over his new assignment on August 10. Congratulations, Will!

Pam Logan, former receptionist at Central Office, has accepted the position of administrative program specialist for General Services. She moved into her new position on July 25. Best wishes, Pam!

Larry Cochran, resource protection training coordinator, is transferring his work location to the Department of Emergency Management's (DEM) new Emergency Operations Center (EOC) in Richmond. Larry has been working out of the Region 4 office in Farmville. In addition to his current duties, he will serve as the liaison between DOF and DEM. The EOC is scheduled for completion in November. Beginning September 6, Larry will be working out of the Sandston office until he is able to move into the EOC.

CONGRATULATIONS!

Jack Kauffman, Chesapeake City forester, Region 1, married Jennifer on June 11.

Anna Kroyer, Prince George County forester, married Chris Cahoon on May

14. Anna is now known as Anna Kroyer Cahoon.

Cody Daniels, Chesapeake City technician, Region 1, married Candice on August 20.

Joe Rossetti, FIA forester in Region 1, married Gina on June 18.

Sandra Booth's son, Warren R. Stump, was promoted to the position of Major in February 2005. He is serving in Washington, D.C. He is married to Mitzi Fisher and they have a three-year-old son by the name of Brady.

NEW ARRIVALS

Trent Badgley, FIA forester, Resource Information, and wife, Robin, welcomed their son, Nathan, on August 5.

Kevin Keith, forester, Henry County, Region 5, and his wife have a daughter. Madelyn Paige arrived at May 28, weighing 6 pounds, 2 ounces.

Clay Sawyers, technician, Patrick County, Region 5, and his wife had a baby boy on June 17. Martin Thurston weighed 8 pounds, 10 ounces.

Terry Brennen, technician, Appomattox Buckingham State Forest, now has eight grandchildren. His granddaughter, Jordan, was born May 8, Mother's Day.

Carolyn Haggerty, administrative program specialist, Augusta Forestry Center, is so excited! She became a grandmother for the first time on Mother's Day. Addison Elizabeth Haggerty was born May 8 to Ian and Amanda. She weighed 6 pounds, 10 ounces.

Jim Clark, forester, Montgomery County, Region 5, became a Grandpa for the first time on June 30. Terri gave birth to a baby boy, Nathan Carter Bennett. He was only 5 pounds, 1 ounce, then, but that was pretty good for being seven weeks early. After 10 days in NICU, Nathan came home and both mother and "Nubbin" are doing great.

Tom Pleasants, retired warehouse foreman, Central Office, is enjoying his retirement very much. He spends most of his time with his 2½-year-old granddaughter Hollyn Grace Pleasants. Hollyn and Pop Pop just greeted a new addition to their lives... a new brother and grandson. William Alexander Pleasants was born on July 20 weighing 6 pounds, 4

ounces. Hollyn and Pop Pop are very happy with the addition... so is Tom Jr. and his wife, Hillary. Tom does a lot of fishing and sitting on the porch just enjoying life...

Ricky Gravley, technician, Amelia County, Region 4, and his wife, Manda are grandparents for the first time. Their daughter, Joann, and husband, Brian Mix, had a baby girl on June 18 in Biloxi, Mississippi. Meghan Elizabeth weighed in at 6 pounds, 14 ounces.

CONDOLENCES

Willie Shumaker, technician, Cumberland State Forest, lost his twin brother in an auto accident on August 6. Wallace Layne Shumaker, 43, of Buckingham County, was a volunteer fireman and worked with the rescue squad. He spent much of his time serving others. Our condolences to the Shumaker family.

Ricky Gravley, technician, Amelia County, Region 4, lost his mother in June.



HURRICANE KATRINA RESPONSE,

continued from page 1



Paul Stoneburner's crew clears downed trees and debris from roads with a dozer and good, old-fashioned hard work.

Crew five left Virginia on September 26th bound for Baton Rouge, Louisiana. They will be inspecting and overseeing the distribution of thousands of temporary living facilities for those left homeless by the hurricane.



Several other DOF employees were called to action as individual resources. They performed tasks ranging from equipment management and logistics to public information and fire prevention.

A complete listing of all who aided in Katrina relief efforts will be published in the next edition of Forestry News. Thanks to all who served and to all those who helped at home. You did a phenomenal job, and you brought great credit upon yourself and the DOF!

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

Jeffrey W. Stout (NK) ~ Oct. 2
 Gerald P. Judge (R1) ~ Oct. 4
 David W. Tolliver (R6) ~ Oct. 4
 Karen E. Snape (R2) ~ Oct. 5
 Richard T. Thomas (CO) ~ Oct. 6
 Erik P. Filep (R3) ~ Oct. 6
 William L. Apperson (R2) ~ Oct. 8
 C. Brian Ledford (R6) ~ Oct. 8
 William J. Shoup (R2) ~ Oct. 11
 Nelson J. Shaw (R3) ~ Oct. 12
 R. Randy Fleming (R6) ~ Oct. 12
 Scott C. Siebert (R4) ~ Oct. 13
 Lewis E. Rhodes (CO) ~ Oct. 15
 Timothy C. Tigner (Ret) ~ Oct. 16
 Christopher Owens (R6) ~ Oct. 16
 Chad D. Stover (R3) ~ Oct. 16
 William L. Shockley (Ret) ~ Oct. 17
 J. Bruce Edwards (R1) ~ Oct. 18
 Lawrence Mikkelsen (CO) ~ Oct. 19
 Randall L. Clawson (R6) ~ Oct. 19
 Robert K. Lewis (R1) ~ Oct. 19

Janie E. Harris (Ret) ~ Oct. 22
 Michael Stoneburner (CO) ~ Oct. 24
 R. Dean Lowdermilk (GG) ~ Oct. 25
 G. Thomas Nunnally (R1) ~ Oct. 25
 Paul D. Stoneburner (R3) ~ Oct. 25
 Marcellus E. Rose (AG) ~ Oct. 28
 Frederick X. Turck (CO) ~ Oct. 30
 Vance L. Coffey (SF) ~ Nov. 1
 James D. Starr (CO) ~ Nov. 4
 Michael C. Eckley (R3) ~ Nov. 6
 Tracy D. McDonald (CO) ~ Nov. 7
 J. Stephen Pence (R3) ~ Nov. 8
 Onesphore Bitoki (NK) ~ Nov. 10
 Gregory A. Farrish (CO) ~ Nov. 10
 Daniel C. Roberts (R2) ~ Nov. 10
 T. Nelson Hillyer (R2) ~ Nov. 12
 Jeffrey J. Darr (R2) ~ Nov. 12
 James W. Garner (Ret) ~ Nov. 13
 Dean P. Smith (R3) ~ Nov. 15
 L. Gerald Shifflett (CO) ~ Nov. 18
 Matthew M. Poirot (CO) ~ Nov. 19

Faye E. Difazio (CO) ~ Nov. 23
 Stuart L. Sours (R5) ~ Nov. 23
 M. Ann Irving (Ret) ~ Nov. 25
 Thomas W. Mallory (CO) ~ Nov. 25
 Bonnie Q. Ragland (CO) ~ Nov. 29
 James E. Cook (Ret) ~ Nov. 30
 Edward H. Zimmer (R1) ~ Nov. 30
 Thomas M. Pleasants (Ret) ~ Dec. 1
 Joyce M. Landram (AG) ~ Dec. 3
 Leslie C. Mace (R5) ~ Dec. 5
 Lawrence Tankersley (R6) ~ Dec. 5
 Philip D. Crigger (CO) ~ Dec. 5
 William B. Carlton (R2) ~ Dec. 6
 Lewis F. Southard (Ret) ~ Dec. 7
 Patricia F. Nylander (R3) ~ Dec. 7
 Robert W. Stempel (R1) ~ Dec. 9
 Jason T. Upton (R1) ~ Dec. 9
 John C. Hisghman (R3) ~ Dec. 11
 Wayne F. Bowman (CO) ~ Dec. 12
 Orville L. Long (Ret) ~ Dec. 12
 William E. Perry (R3) ~ Dec. 12

Donald L. Foster (R3) ~ Dec. 14
 James F. Wagner (Ret) ~ Dec. 14
 Jeffrey L. Hensley (CO) ~ Dec. 14
 James H. Blackwell (R1) ~ Dec. 17
 Ronald S. Jenkins (CO) ~ Dec. 18
 Jonathan R. Pine (R3) ~ Dec. 18
 Henry E. Womack (R4) ~ Dec. 21
 Carl E. Garrison (CO) ~ Dec. 22
 Stephen F. Grayson (CO) ~ Dec. 22
 Everette "Buck" Kline (R3) ~ Dec. 22
 R. Brad Whittington (R4) ~ Dec. 23
 James W. Bright (Ret) ~ Dec. 24
 Terry H. Brennen (SF) ~ Dec. 25
 W. Chad Austin (R6) ~ Dec. 26
 Thomas A. Callahan (CO) ~ Dec. 28
 Walter Washington (Ret) ~ Dec. 30
 John M. Carroll (CO) ~ Dec. 30
 Thomas W. Reeves (R4) ~ Dec. 30
 Charles L. Hutsell (R5) ~ Dec. 30
 Patrick M. Murphy (R4) ~ Dec. 31
 J. Riley Bruce (R6) ~ Dec. 31

RESOURCE MANAGEMENT ACADEMY A SUCCESS!



Students learn activities for kids in the Project Learning Tree course taught by Lisa Deaton.



Students gained hands-on experience in the Species Selection for Riparian Forest Buffers course taught by Judy Okay.

Contacts AND INFORMATION

Submit articles by email. Simple text is best. Color photos, slides, negatives, or high-quality digital photos are all acceptable. Clearly label photos including to whom they should be returned.

**Submit articles to:
Janet Muncy, editor
janet.muncy@dof.virginia.gov**

The deadlines are as follows:


Winter Issue -- November 1, 2005

Spring Issue -- February 1, 2006

Summer Issue -- May 1, 2006

Fall Issue -- August 1, 2006

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