

WILDLIFE RESOURCES

APPALACHIAN MOUNTAINS JOINT VENTURE (AMJV)

The AMJV is comprised of state and federal government agencies, non-governmental organizations, and industries who work together to ensure the long-term sustainability of native bird populations that breed in the Appalachians.
<http://www.amjv.org/>

CERULEAN WARBLER TECHNICAL GROUP (CWTG)

The CWTG was formed in 2001 to develop a broad-based, scientific and technically sound approach to Cerulean Warbler conservation. Composed of private, state, and federal natural resource managers and species experts, the CWTG is developing strategies to meet monitoring, research, and conservation needs.
http://www.fws.gov/midwest/eco_serv/soc/birds/cerw/index.html

GOLDEN-WINGED WARBLER WORKING GROUP

Ensuring the conservation of Golden-winged Warbler populations through sound science, education, and management.
<http://www.gwwa.org/>

UNITED STATES FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE (FWS)

The FWS is the unit of the U.S. Department of the Interior dedicated to the management and protection of wildlife.
<http://www.fws.gov/>

STATE WILDLIFE CONSERVATION AGENCIES

Kentucky - Department of Fish & Wildlife Resources
<http://fw.ky.gov/>

Maryland - Department of Natural Resources
<http://www.dnr.state.md.us>

Ohio - Department of Natural Resources
<http://www.dnr.state.oh.us/>

Pennsylvania - Game Commission
<http://www.pgc.state.pa.us/>

Tennessee - Wildlife Resources Agency
<http://www.state.tn.us/twra/>

Virginia - Department of Game & Inland Fisheries
<http://www.dgif.virginia.gov/>

West Virginia - Department of Natural Resources
<http://www.wvdnr.gov/>

LANDOWNER RESOURCES

NATURAL RESOURCES CONSERVATION SERVICE (NRCS)

The NRCS is the Federal agency that works in partnership with the American people to conserve and sustain natural resources on private lands.
<http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/>

USFWS - PARTNERS FOR FISH AND WILDLIFE

Program that provides financial and technical assistance to private landowners interested in restoring degraded wildlife habitat on their property.
<http://www.fws.gov/partners/>

USFS - STATE AND PRIVATE FORESTRY PROGRAM

State and Private Forestry programs bring forest management assistance and expertise to a diversity of landowners through cost-effective, non-regulatory partnerships.
<http://www.fs.fed.us/spf/>

APPALACHIAN REGIONAL REFORESTATION INITIATIVE

ARRI is a coalition of citizens, coal industry, and government, dedicated to restoring forests on coal mined lands in the Eastern United States.
<http://arri.osmre.gov/>

For information on trees and planting services, contact your local ARRI core team member:
<http://www.arri.osmre.gov/COREteam.shtm>

OFFICE OF SURFACE MINING RECLAMATION AND ENFORCEMENT

The OSM reclaims abandoned mine lands, partners with states and Indian tribes to regulate mining on Federal lands, and supports states' regulatory programs with grants and technical assistance.
<http://www.osmre.gov/>

FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT:

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mine reclamation

REFORESTATION FOR APPALACHIA'S WILDLIFE

resources for landowners



A COOPERATIVE INITIATIVE

MINELAND REFORESTATION

WHY REFOREST?

Diverse forests are a renewable investment for the people of Appalachia.

High quality timber:

- Landowner revenue
- Job opportunities

Trees for recreation:

- Hunting
- Camping
- Hiking & biking
- Wildlife watching

Trees for the environment:

- Conserve water
- Reduce soil loss
- Improve forest habitat
- Remove CO₂ from atmosphere
- Increase plant diversity

HOW TO REFOREST?

The Appalachian Regional Reforestation Initiative (ARRI) has developed a 5-step Forest Reclamation Approach (FRA) that creates a diverse and valuable forest of native trees and speeds up forest establishment.

For information on the FRA approach and how to reforest on new mine sites or on previously reclaimed sites, visit the ARRI website to view the Forest Reclamation Advisories.

<http://arri.osmre.gov/FRA.shtm>

The Forest Reclamation Advisories are informational documents that address the following topics:

1. What is ARRI
2. What is FRA
3. Low compaction grading
4. Loosening compacted soils
5. Practices to enhance forest development
6. Tree compatible groundcovers

REFORESTATION BENEFITS MANY WILDLIFE SPECIES

Burrowing species

- E.g., salamanders, small mammals, earthworms (earthworms provide food for woodcock, and other wildlife).
- All benefit from the loose soil and additional organic material.

Shrubland dependent species

- Game species (e.g., grouse, turkey, woodcock, cottontails).
- Many shrubland bird species are in decline (e.g., golden-winged warbler, woodcock, migratory songbirds).
- Reforestation provides habitat more quickly for these species because trees are planted in loose soil which promotes tree and shrub growth.

Mature forest dependent species

- Many are declining due in part to habitat loss & fragmentation.
- The Cerulean Warbler is a species of conservation concern that relies on large blocks of mature forest.
- Reforested mine sites result in larger areas of forest that benefit mature forest species.
- In the long-term, mature forest habitat is created more quickly.
- In the short-term, shrubland habitat is used by these species before and during migration.

Targeting reclamation efforts along the mine/forest boundary increases forest patch size and reduces edge.



Images, left to right: (1) 10-year old FRA site, (2) American Woodcock, (3) Reclaimed contour mine, (4) Cerulean Warbler, (5) Red Eft. Cover image: FRA site Image copyrights: [cover] Andy Newman, Kilarin, David Baron, audreyjm529, Tim Probert, (1) Jeremy Mizel, (2) Andy Newman, (3) Ron Canterbury, (4 & 5) Matthew Shumar