

State Technical Committee Minutes

Richmond, Virginia

September 25, 2012

Wade Biddix, NRCS ASTC-Programs, opened the meeting at 10:00 a.m., welcoming all and explaining that several people would be joining us via teleconference. He introduced himself and then asked attendees to do the same and sign the attendance list. It was noted that handouts were available on the table in the front of the room. A handout containing a summary of the results of the Local Work Group (LWG) meetings held for FY 2013 is included for informational purposes but will not be reviewed in the meeting (included with other handouts in web upload of minutes).

Attendance: Wade Biddix (NRCS), Jack Bricker (NRCS), Emily Horsley (FSA), Betsy Bowles (DEQ), Chad Wentz (NRCS), Ron Wood (NRCS), John H. Parker (VPIB), Jeremy Stone (NRCS), Alan Spivey (VA Forage & Grasslands/VA Cattlemen Assn.), Dan Solomon (NRCS), Blair Krusz (Virginia Agribusiness Council), Todd Groh (DOF), Jessica Rhodes (USFWS), Sue Ellen Johnson (PEC), Jon Roller (Ecosystem Services), David Kriz (NRCS), Greg Frey (VSU/VCE), Maribeth Pettigrew (NRCS Recorder).

Connected via teleconference: Karen Hudson (VIMS), Mark Dubin (UMD/MAWP/CBPO), Seth Coffman (TU).

Jack Bricker – NRCS – Opening Comments: We are coming to the end of the fiscal year. As you know, there is still no Farm Bill approved, but there is a Continuing Resolution in place so that NRCS funding will continue through March 27, 2013. It's an election year; we don't expect to see any more activity moving the Farm Bill forward until after the election in November. Overall, it's been a good year with a record number of funds obligated.

Emily Horsley– FSA – (handout) CRP/CREP – Status update per handout. Details of existing contracts include Chesapeake Bay, Southern Rivers, CP-33 *Habitat Buffer for Upland Birds*, CP-36 *Longleaf Pines* and SAFE. Any further contracts are on hold because of waiting for decisions re: Farm Bill.

Status of Program Funds:

Jeremy Stone – (NRCS) – Easements – (Handout) – Reporting for FRPP/WRP/GRP – it's been a banner year with 17 total easements closed. Details of those easements including the number of acres involved are on the attached handout. Also listed on the handouts are the details of new enrollments for FY-12, a total of 19 new enrollments.

Dan Solomon – (NRCS) EQIP/CBWI/CSP – (Handouts) – Very successful year. Details on handouts regarding funds allocated and the number of contracts as well as the amount of funds that remain unobligated.

Ron Wood – (NRCS) - Organic/ WHIP – (Handout) Review of these programs on handout includes the same information as the programs covered by Dan.

Wade noted that between the four programs, somewhere in the neighborhood of 24-25 million has been allocated during FY 2012.

Wade Biddix – (NRCS) - CIG grants – (Handout) Three CIG proposals were selected for funding in FY-12. One with Hanover-Caroline SWCD, also involving participation of several counties; another with VA Tech, and the 3rd with VA No-Till Alliance. Also, one of the CIG proposals was funded with the DCR – Division of Natural Heritage for a Virginia Wetlands Catalog was funded with EQIP funds through a Contribution Agreement.

Farm Bill Proposed Program Changes FY 2013

Wade Biddix – (NRCS) – PowerPoint presentation (Handout) and discussion of proposed FY-13 program offerings. This presentation/discussion took up a good portion of the meeting with questions and answers.

Agency Updates:

Seth Coffman – (TU) – Spent the last 2 weeks of August on a pilot stream restoration project on Smith Creek in Shenandoah County. This pilot project utilized the 580 cost share practice to repair unstable eroding stream banks at three locations on the participating farm thus dramatically reducing erosion and sedimentation to Smith Creek as well as improving the stream habitat. The conservation plan for the farm also excluded cattle from the creek and calls for a rotational grazing system that the farmer is currently working on.

TU also partnered with Chesapeake Bay Foundation on another streambank restoration project on Smith Creek in Rockingham County on Sept 17-21 to stabilize and eliminate erosion at 2 locations on the farm prior to a larger CREP planting that is scheduled to go in this winter.

TU will be working to assess and design stream restoration projects on Beaver Creek in Rockingham County, Spout Run in Clarke County, and explore additional restoration opportunities on Smith Creek adjacent to previous projects.

Karen Hudson (VIMS) – VIMS will soon be publishing oyster aquaculture crop budgets for small-scale and medium-scale farms. These enterprise budgets are aimed at helping new and expanding businesses understand their costs and for lenders to better understand the aquaculture business. Budgets along with a user's manual will be available on the VIMS Marine Advisory Program webpage in October. www.vims.edu/map under "aquaculture".

Todd Groh – (VDOT) –

- The VDOT reorganization is ongoing with the field staff still determining how to make everything work at the field level. Todd asked the committee members to provide any feedback that they hear about the availability of VDOT personnel. It is important to the VDOT that our landowner assistance services are not negatively impacted by this change.
- The VDOT is asking for help collecting hardwood seed for the Crimora Nursery in Augusta County. We are looking for all acorns and nuts; however we really want to get red oak acorns. Any and all help would be appreciated in collecting the seed. Volunteers can drop the acorns and nuts off at their local VDOT offices or contact the local VDOT staff for assistance.
- The VDOT may have a very limited supply of Virginia longleaf pine seedling available to the public in 2013. The North Carolina state nursery has been growing all of Virginia's longleaf seedlings over the past years; however, the VDOT is piloting a containerized growing stock project this year at the Garland Gray Forestry Center in Sussex County. Since there have been such a low number of longleaf pine seedlings grown in the past, all of the seedlings had been planted on public lands.
- The Emerald Ash Borer continues to be a problem throughout Virginia. It has been found in northern, southern and western counties in Virginia and there isn't much that can be done to slow the spread of the insect. Eventually most, if not all of the ash trees in Virginia's forest will succumb to the insect. There has been some limited research done on a biological control of the borer, but the research is in the early stages.

- The NRCS/DOF Liaison position is coming around to its one year anniversary, and both the DOF and NRCS have seen enough value in the position to continue it for another year. Therefore, the position will be funded through December 2013, and Todd will continue in that position.

Blair Krusz – (VAC) - We have been working with DCR/VDACS on their new Small AFO strategy that Betsy Bowles mentioned, and as always we are participating and/or monitoring other regulatory actions and studies. Now, we are trying to figure out what's going to happen without a Farm Bill and what it means for all of the programs that expire on Sept. 30.

Betsy Bowles – (DEQ) – Discussed ongoing work with AFO regulations.

Greg Frey – (VSU/VCE) –

- 2012 is the 150th anniversary of the Morrill Act (established Land Grant Universities) and the 50th of the McIntire-Stennis Act (established a fund to support forestry research). Be sure to celebrate!
- In October, the Virginia Forest Landowner Education Program (VA Coop Extension) is hosting 4 Fall Forestry and Wildlife Field Tours. See <http://web1.cnre.vt.edu/forestupdate/Pages/field%20tours.html> (brochure included with handouts)
- On October 30-31, VSU/VCE is leading the Small Farm Family Conference in Danville, VA. For information and registration, contact Mark Klingman, Program Assistant, Phone: (804) 524-5960, Fax: (804) 524-5714, Email: mklingman@vsu.edu
- Dr. Marcus Comer is working towards creating an urban indoor food production and distribution facility in an abandoned building in Petersburg. He hopes to work with NRCS on an energy audit.

Wade Biddix – (NRCS) – thanked attendees for coming and adjourned meeting at 11:24. Next meeting is scheduled for November 27, 2012, at 10 a.m.

State Technical Committee
Agenda

September 25, 2012 - 10:00 a.m.
Richmond NRCS State Office
1606 Santa Rosa Road, Ste. 209

Welcome and Opening Remarks	NRCS - Bricker
Conservation Reserve Program (CRP & CREP)	FSA - Horsley DCR - Moore
Final Report for FY-12 Program Funds GRP and WRP FRPP EQIP, CBWI, CSP Organic, High Tunnel and Energy CIG	NRCS - Dunaway NRCS - Stone NRCS - Solomon NRCS - Wood NRCS - Biddix
FY-13 Farm Bill Program Implementation Timeline Proposed Program Changes	NRCS - Biddix
Agency Updates	All



Next Meeting - November 27, 2012

Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program Sign-up Progress

As of 9/25/2012

Chesapeake Bay -

1,901 contracts approved
16,911 acres
AVAILABLE ACRES: 8,098
Current Allocation: 25,000

Southern Rivers -

2,163 contracts approved
14,255.2 acres
AVAILABLE ACRES: 744.8
Current Allocation: 15,000

CP-33 - Habitat Buffer For Upland Birds

237 contracts approved
1,695.3 acres
AVAILABLE ACRES: 1,804.7
Current Allocation: 3,500

CP-36 Longleaf Pines

19 contracts approved
384.9 acres
AVAILABLE ACRES: 3,365.1
Current Allocation: 3,750

SAFE

Culpeper Basin Bird Habitat Restoration

CP-38A – (Forested Riparian Areas)

AVAILABLE ACRES: 500

CP-38E – (Native Grass Areas)

CP-38C

*Restoration and Management of
Eastern Shore Migratory Bird
Tree/Shrub Habitat*

AVAILABLE ACRES: 300

CP-38C

Statewide Tree Planting

AVAILABLE ACRES: 500

CP-38D

Longleaf Pine

14 contracts approved
361.5 acres
AVAILABLE ACRES: 638.5
Current Allocation: 1,000

FY-12 Conservation Easements Progress Report

Closed GRP Easements

- 1) Sanderson – Cumberland County = 100.6 acres
 - 2) Crews – Halifax County = 28.4 acres
 - 3) Fox – Page County = 80 acres
 - 4) Schaffer – Spotsylvania County = 97 acres
 - 5) Emory – Spotsylvania County = 101 acres
 - 6) Pearce – Halifax County = 131.4 acres
 - 7) Drake – Southampton County = 43.4 acres
- Total = 581.8 acres

Closed WRP Easements

- 1) Davis – Madison County = 26.3 acres
 - 2) Benson – Frederick County = 2.1 acres
 - 3) Terry – Caroline County = 36.6 acres
 - 4) Breeding – Accomack County = 151.9 acres
 - 5) Chesser – Accomack County = 21.3 acres
 - 6) Epps – Halifax County = 18.6 acres
 - 7) Black Walnut – Halifax County = 80 acres
- Total = 336.8 acres

Closed FRPP Easements

- 1) Burch – Matthews County = 640 acres
 - 2) Buckley – Clarke County = 121 acres
 - 3) Craig – Spotsylvania County = 55 acres
- Total = 816 acres

Total Acres Closed in FY-12 = 1,734.6 acres
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New Easements Enrolled in FY-12

- 9 WRP for 204 acres
- 1 GRP for 71 acres
- 9 FRPP for 1,500 acres

Total Acres Enrolled in FY-12 = 1,775 acres
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Fund Code	Account Name	Allocated	Contract Approval	Obligated	Unobligated	Contracts
75F	WHIP FA					
75F 51	Virginia	\$196,371.00	\$196,147.30	\$196,147.30	\$223.70	20
	Sub Funds	\$196,149.00	\$196,147.30	\$196,147.30	\$1.70	20
75F 51 CC	CCPI - DGIF	\$91,916.00	\$91,914.30	\$91,914.30	\$1.70	9
75F 51 GW	Golden Winged-Warbler	\$42,483.00	\$42,483.00	\$42,483.00	\$0.00	9
75F 51 TU	CCPI - Trout Unlimited	\$61,750.00	\$61,750.00	\$61,750.00	\$0.00	2
75F 51 12975	FY12 WHIP Reserve	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	0
75F 51 13736	2012 75F Cost Overrun	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	0

Fund Code	Account Name	Allocated	Contract Approval	Obligated	Unobligated	Contracts
95F	CSP FA					38891
95F 51	Virginia	\$5,679,254.00	\$5,625,703.00	\$5,625,703.00	\$53,551.00	486
	Sub Funds	\$1,258,395.00	\$1,223,300.00	\$1,223,300.00	\$35,095.00	133
95F 51 13147	2012 Payments and Mods	\$4,403,196.00	\$4,402,403.00	\$4,402,403.00	\$793.00	353
95F 51 13684	2012 95F Cost Overrun	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	0

Fund Code	Account Name	Allocated	Contract Approval	Obligated	Unobligated	Contracts
97F	CBWI FA					
97F 51	Virginia	\$12,505,088.00	\$12,484,305.57	\$12,484,305.57	\$20,782.43	509
	Sub Funds	\$11,924,594.48	\$11,924,594.48	\$11,924,594.48	\$0.00	441
97F 51 AB	CBWI - Animals in Confinement	\$5,248,347.59	\$5,248,347.59	\$5,248,347.59	\$0.00	94
97F 51 CB	CBWI - Cropland	\$2,581,092.50	\$2,581,092.50	\$2,581,092.50	\$0.00	140
97F 51 FC	Forestry CCPI	\$249,632.00	\$249,632.00	\$249,632.00	\$0.00	33
97F 51 FM	Forestry CCPI Forest Management Plan	\$2,925.00	\$2,925.00	\$2,925.00	\$0.00	3
97F 51 LR	CBWI - Limited Resource Farmer	\$103,949.00	\$103,949.00	\$103,949.00	\$0.00	2
97F 51 NF	CBWI - New Farmer	\$993,880.33	\$993,880.33	\$993,880.33	\$0.00	35
97F 51 PB	CBWI - Pasture	\$2,084,268.86	\$2,084,268.86	\$2,084,268.86	\$0.00	96
97F 51 SB	CBWI - Socially Disadvantaged	\$75,205.20	\$75,205.20	\$75,205.20	\$0.00	7
97F 51 SC	Smith Creek Showcase Watershed-Cropland	\$124,349.00	\$124,349.00	\$124,349.00	\$0.00	8
97F 51 SP	Smith Creek Showcase Watershed-Pasture	\$104,825.00	\$104,825.00	\$104,825.00	\$0.00	5
97F 51 SV	Shenandoah Valley RCD_CCPI	\$356,120.00	\$356,120.00	\$356,120.00	\$0.00	18
97F 51 TU	Trout Unlimited	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	0
97F 51 12928	FY12 CBWI Reserve	\$574,493.52	\$559,711.09	\$559,711.09	\$14,782.43	76
97F 51 13631	2012 97F Cost Overrun	\$6,000.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$6,000.00	0

Fund Code	Account Name	Allocated	Contract Approval	Obligated	Unobligated	Contracts
76F	EQP General FA					
76F 51	Virginia	\$10,655,068.00	\$10,480,781.91	\$10,480,781.91	\$174,286.09	440
	Sub Funds	\$10,411,233.21	\$10,409,701.41	\$10,409,701.41	\$1,531.80	439
76F 51 2	FY12 Certified Organic	\$60,983.00	\$60,693.00	\$60,693.00	\$290.00	2
76F 51 3	FY12 Organic Transition	\$216,925.00	\$216,925.00	\$216,925.00	\$0.00	11
76F 51 4	FY12 On-Farm Energy	\$151,975.00	\$151,975.00	\$151,975.00	\$0.00	5
76F 51 5	FY12 Seasonal High Tunnels	\$546,062.00	\$546,005.60	\$546,005.60	\$56.40	82
76F 51 AC	Livestock in Confinement - Christiansburg	\$2,188,101.82	\$2,188,101.82	\$2,188,101.82	\$0.00	21
76F 51 AF	Livestock in Confinement - Farmville	\$925,564.00	\$925,564.00	\$925,564.00	\$0.00	7
76F 51 AH	Livestock in Confinement - Harrisonburg	\$246,852.00	\$246,852.00	\$246,852.00	\$0.00	6
76F 51 AQ	Aquaculture	\$62,101.00	\$62,100.00	\$62,100.00	\$1.00	13
76F 51 AS	Livestock in Confinement - Smithfield	\$522,453.00	\$522,453.00	\$522,453.00	\$0.00	9
76F 51 BF	Beginning Farmer	\$285,208.00	\$285,208.00	\$285,208.00	\$0.00	2
76F 51 CB	CCPI-Ches Bay Foundation	\$152,278.60	\$152,278.60	\$152,278.60	\$0.00	7
76F 51 CC	Cropland - Christiansburg	\$145,460.00	\$145,460.00	\$145,460.00	\$0.00	7
76F 51 CF	Cropland - Farmville	\$75,728.00	\$75,728.00	\$75,728.00	\$0.00	6
76F 51 CH	Cropland - Harrisonburg	\$164,583.00	\$164,583.00	\$164,583.00	\$0.00	2
76F 51 CS	Cropland - Smithfield	\$725,667.60	\$725,293.60	\$725,293.60	\$374.00	34
76F 51 DM	CAP 130 Drainage Water Management	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	0
76F 51 FA	CCPI-Fish America	\$925,226.00	\$925,226.00	\$925,226.00	\$0.00	11
76F 51 FC	CAP 106 Forest Mgmt Plan	\$83,435.00	\$83,435.00	\$83,435.00	\$0.00	57
76F 51 FO	CAP 124 Energy Audit Field Operations	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	0
76F 51 FS	Forestry - Statewide	\$490,849.43	\$490,249.43	\$490,249.43	\$600.00	41
76F 51 HQ	CAP 122 Energy Audit Headquarters	\$31,125.00	\$31,125.00	\$31,125.00	\$0.00	16
76F 51 IP	CAP 114 Intergrated Pest Mgmt	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	0
76F 51 LP	Long Leaf Pine Initiative	\$26,163.00	\$26,163.00	\$26,163.00	\$0.00	2
76F 51 LR	Limited Resource Farmer	\$107,325.10	\$107,325.10	\$107,325.10	\$0.00	5
76F 51 MP	CAP 102 CNMP Development	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	0
76F 51 N2	NWQI - Wolf Creek	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	0
76F 51 N3	NWQI - Somerton Creek	\$26,181.00	\$26,181.00	\$26,181.00	\$0.00	1
76F 51 N4	NWQI - Mollys Creek	\$15,222.00	\$15,222.00	\$15,222.00	\$0.00	2
76F 51 NM	CAP 104 Nutrient Management Plan	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	0
76F 51 PC	Pasture - Christiansburg	\$887,462.51	\$887,456.11	\$887,456.11	\$6.40	13

76F 51 PF	Pasture - Farmville	\$503,044.05	\$503,044.05	\$503,044.05	\$0.00	25
76F 51 PH	Pasture - Harrisonburg	\$298,179.50	\$297,975.50	\$297,975.50	\$204.00	11
76F 51 PS	Pasture - Smithfield	\$7,299.00	\$7,299.00	\$7,299.00	\$0.00	1
76F 51 SD	Socially Disadvantaged	\$377,643.00	\$377,643.00	\$377,643.00	\$0.00	7
76F 51 WL	Upland Wildlife Habitat Creation	\$162,136.60	\$162,136.60	\$162,136.60	\$0.00	33
76F 51 WM	CAP 118 Irrigation Water Management Plan	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	0
76F 51 12849	FY12 EQIP Reserve	\$76,987.00	\$71,080.50	\$71,080.50	\$5,906.50	24
76F 51 13199	FY12 CIG State Component	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	0
76F 51 13476	2012 76F Cost Overrun	(\$290.00)	\$0.00	\$0.00	(\$290.00)	0

FY 2012 CIG APPLICATIONS - Funded Proposals

Applicant Name	Project Name	Project Purpose/Overview	Area(s) Affected	Total Project Funding	Federal Share	Years
Virginia No-Till Alliance	Innovative Cropping Systems using Diverse Cover Crops and Manure Injection	This project will demonstrate innovative approaches to building soil health through high diversity cover crop mixtures coupled with the added benefits of injected versus broadcast manure.	Augusta County, Shenandoah Valley Region	81,365	39,515	3
Hanover-Caroline Soil & Water Conservation District	Feasibility of Multispecies Cover Crops in Central Virginia Cropping Systems to Affect Water Quality	To improve the soil quality and reduce dependence on chemical methods of fertility and weed control. Documentation of changes in soil quality shall be utilized to demonstrate how the methods of tillage, planting, grazing, and residues affect the improvement in soil quality. Producers will be the decision makers for planting and cover crop termination methods, through conventional means or rolling cover crop, promoting innovation.	Carolina, Hanover, Lancaster, King George, Northumberland, Richmond, Spotsylvania, Stafford, Westmoreland Counties	99,800	49,900	3
Virginia Tech	Managed Grazing for Improved Soil Health and Environmental Protection	To demonstrate how alternative types of grazing management affect soil health and nutrient loss in pastures.	Steeles Tavern, Va Blacksburg, VA	150,000	75,000	3
			Total	331,165	164,415	

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76F 51	Virginia	\$10,655,068.00	\$10,480,781.91	\$10,480,781.91	\$174,286.09	440
	Sub Funds	\$10,411,233.21	\$10,409,701.41	\$10,409,701.41	\$1,531.80	439
76F 51	FY12 Certified Organic	\$60,983.00	\$60,693.00	\$60,693.00	\$290.00	2
76F 51	FY12 Organic Transition	\$216,925.00	\$216,925.00	\$216,925.00	\$0.00	11
76F 51	FY12 On-Farm Energy	\$151,975.00	\$151,975.00	\$151,975.00	\$0.00	5
76F 51	FY12 Seasonal High Turn	\$546,062.00	\$546,005.60	\$546,005.60	\$56.40	82
Fund Code	Account Name	Allocated	Contract Approval	Obligated	Unobligated	Contracts
75F	WHIP FA					
75F 51	Virginia	\$196,371.00	\$196,147.30	\$196,147.30	\$223.70	20
	Sub Funds	\$196,149.00	\$196,147.30	\$196,147.30	\$1.70	20
75F 51	CCPI - DGIF	\$91,916.00	\$91,914.30	\$91,914.30	\$1.70	9
75F 51	Golden Winged-Warbler	\$42,483.00	\$42,483.00	\$42,483.00	\$0.00	9
75F 51	CCPI - Trout Unlimited	\$61,750.00	\$61,750.00	\$61,750.00	\$0.00	2
75F 51 129	FY12 WHIP Reserve	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	0
75F 51 137	2012 75F Cost Overrun	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	0



FARM BILL
PROPOSED PROGRAM CHANGES
Virginia
FY 2013

Input For Proposed Program Changes

- Local Working Groups
- State Technical Committee Members
- Interagency Subcommittees
- NRCS Committee at State, Area and Field Level
- Program and Technical Staff

GENERAL ISSUES

- **Probably Not Have CBWI in FY-13**
 - Was not extended with Continuing Resolution
- **Proposed Implementation Timeline**
 - Program training to Field & Area Staff – October JEDs
 - EQIP, WHIP, CBWI and Easement Program Deadlines
 - First Period – November 16 with ranking by November 30, 2012
(This could go to January 18 due to lack of Farm Bill or Program guidance)
 - Second Period – January 18 with ranking by February 1, 2013
(This could go to February 15 or March 15)

- The Water Quality Vulnerability Data will not be used since it is inconsistent from county to county. Eliminate ranking question on this.
- Utilize GIS layer to determine linear distances to water features – “Worm map” is not needed.

- Screening Worksheets for EQIP and CBWI
 - Producers with terminated contracts within the last 2 years cannot be “High Priority”

- Add ranking question for -50 points for participants who have had a cancelled contract in the past 3 years.
 - FY-12 = -100 points for terminated contract in past 3 years

- Include *595 – Pest Management Practice*
 - *CAP 114 – IPM Plan* must be done by TSP
 - Implementation of pest management practice available if plan is done

- Add 25 points to all ranking tools for land that is converted from more intensive agricultural use to less intensive use, ex.: cropland to grass or trees, pasture to trees.

- Add *CAP 110 – Grazing Management Plan* to our payment schedule

- Establish a fund pool for “Irrigation Water Conservation”
 - Fund for 2 years at \$150,000 - \$200,000 per year.
 - Set cap of \$10,00 per practice.
 - Add the following practices to our payment schedule:
 - *441 – Irrigation System, Micro Irrigation*
 - *449 – Irrigation Water Management*
 - *CAP 118 – Irrigation Water Management Plan* must be done by TSP

WILDLIFE ISSUES

- Allocate 5% of EQIP funding to wildlife habitat
- Split into three fund pools:
 - Upland Wildlife Habitat Creation
 - Aquatic Wildlife Habitat Creation
 - Habitat Maintenance

FORESTRY ISSUES

- Allocate a minimum of 5% of EQIP allocation to forestry.
- Use one forestry fund pool
 - not one for implementation practices and one for management practices
- Allow replanting of hardwood cutover sites with hardwood trees and tubes if the DOF forester approves the practice for the particular site.

- Allocate \$150,000 from forestry allocation to Longleaf Pine Initiative.
- Increase ranking points for Longleaf Pine contracts that are willing to use prescribed burning for management. (currently 200 pts. out of 450)
- Set cap of \$7,500 per participant for Loblolly Pine Plantings under 612 – *Tree and Shrub Establishment.*
- Set cap of \$15,000 per participant for hardwood plantings under 612 – *Tree and Shrub Establishment.*

- Create a new Loblolly Pine planting scenario for planting at >363 trees per acre, but not to exceed 484 trees per acre. Payment schedule reduced for this scenario.
- Increase ranking point question to 50 pts. for planting Loblolly Pines at 363 trees per acre. (currently 20 pts.)
- Increase ranking point question to 80 pts. for completing practice 490 – *Site Prep* (currently 40 pts.) prior to planting instead of scheduling 666-*Tree Release* in year 3 of the contract.

- Add 50 point question on ranking sheet for planting trees on marginal land (Class 4, 6 or higher).
- Include fence to protect new tree plantings under forestry concern. Other fences will usually go under the grazing concern.

HEAVY USE AREA/LIVESTOCK IN CONFINEMENT

- Leave risk assessment unchanged
 - Document waiver option for justifiable/unusual situations
- Do not offer bed pack as a separate payment schedule scenario
 - Use least cost calculations and apply to bed pack, as needed
- Address water quality & erosion resource concerns in production areas (required by CNMP)
 - This includes loafing areas

GRAZING

- *528 – Prescribed Grazing Practice* – new payment caps set at \$10,000/year and \$30,000/contract. (currently at \$30,000 and \$90,000 per year)
- Add 25 point question for installing all “structural” practices such as water system and fencing in <3 years

- Establish program policy as follows: Payment may be made for *Prescribed Grazing* when all planned practices and components of the grazing plan are in place and records indicate that livestock are being managed according to the written grazing plan and the pasture condition score is 35 or above (with the exception of the sacrifice area).

- Add the following practices to the Grazing Practices:
 - Priority Practice
 - 381 – *Silvopasture Establishment*
 - Companion Practices
 - 338 – *Prescribed Burning*
 - 394 – *Fire Break*
 - 490 – *Tree and Shrub Site Preparation*
 - 645 – *Upland Wildlife Habitat Management*

SPECIALTY CROPS/INITIATIVES

- Do not set up a specialty crop fund pool.
- Include all organic initiative practices in regular EQIP payment schedule and ranking tools.
 - 484 – *Mulch (straw)*
 - 330 – *Contour Farming*
- Evaluate priority practices vs. companion practices for screening worksheet to include more cropland practices that benefit specialty crop producers.

- Use “focus group” for specialty crop producers to identify TA needs/issues
- Offer high tunnels only if included as a National program
- Aquaculture – no change from FY-12
- Pest Management on Fruit Trees – Do Not offer in FY-13 as per Virginia Tech recommendations

EASEMENTS

- Grassland Reserve Program (GRP)
- Wetland Reserve Program (WRP)
- Farm and Ranchlands Protection (FRPP)

- Notes:
 - All 3 easement programs are slated to be combined in next Farm Bill.
 - GRP and WRP may not have new enrollments in FY-13.

- GRP
 - No changes to the GRP ranking worksheets
 - Phase 1 applications package will be reduced to consist of the following 3 documents:
 1. CPA – 1200, Application
 2. GRP Ranking Worksheet
 3. Copy of Producer Subsidiary Print showing eligibility issues are okay

- WRP
 - Minor changes possible for WRP ranking worksheets

EASEMENTS

- FRPP
 - No changes for FY-13
 - About \$150M carryover funds nationwide

VIRGINIA JOINT PARTNERSHIP COST-SHARE INITIATIVE

DCR, NRCS, and FSA

Applicable For Grazing Concern

Practices

- | | |
|-----------------------|-------------------------------|
| • Fence | • Stream Crossing |
| • Watering Facilities | • Animal Trails and Walkways |
| • Well | • Riparian Forest Buffer |
| • Pumping Plant | • Riparian Herbaceous Buffer |
| • Pipeline | • Forage and Biomass Planting |

General Requirements:

- Be willing to address all grazing resource concerns on the entire tract
- Exclude all livestock with a 35-foot buffer from all water (including open sinkholes)
- Implement a Prescribed Grazing Plan
- Implement Nutrient Management on the pastureland acres
- Reduce soil loss to sustainable levels on the pastureland acres
- No active gullies on the pastureland acres

Future Schedule & Activities:

- Finalizing details soon
- Training
- Outreach and Marketing
- Sign-up in FY-13

Nondiscrimination Statement

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) prohibits discrimination against its customers. If you believe you experienced discrimination when obtaining services from USDA, participating in a USDA program, or participating in a program that receives financial assistance from USDA, you may file a complaint with USDA. Information about how to file a discrimination complaint is available from the Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights. USDA prohibits discrimination in all its programs and activities on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, disability, and where applicable, sex (including gender identity and expression), marital status, familial status, parental status, religion, sexual orientation, political beliefs, genetic information, reprisal, or because all or part of an individual's income is derived from any public assistance program. (Not all prohibited bases apply to all programs.)

Questions??

Fiscal Year 2013
Local Working Group Meeting Questionnaire Summary Report

Resource Concerns:

In 2012, we identified the following resource concerns or key land use issues for directing conservation treatment in Virginia:

- Animal Waste Management on Livestock Confinement Operations (EQIP and CBWI)
- Erosion and Related NPS Pollution from Grazing/Pasture Operations (EQIP and CBWI)
- Erosion and Related NPS Pollution from Cropland Operations (EQIP and CBWI)
- Restoration of Declining Habitat for Shellfish Aquaculture (EQIP)
- Creation of Upland Wildlife Habitat (EQIP)
- Erosion and Related NPS Pollution from Forestry Operations (EQIP)
- Soil Quality on Organic Farms – Certified and Transitioning (EQIP)
- Plant Health/Vigor and Season Extension for High Tunnel Hoop House (EQIP)
- Accelerated Development of Conservation Activity Plans (EQIP)
 - CNMP Development
 - Nutrient Management Plans
 - Energy Audit Headquarters
 - Energy Audit Field Operations
 - Forest Management Plans
 - Irrigation Water Management Plans
 - Drainage Water Management
 - Transition to Organic Conservation Plans

Note: All programs have special funding pools for, Limited Resource Farmers, New and Beginning Farmers and Socially Disadvantaged Farmers with 10% of funding going to these categories.

Do you agree with the 2012 resource concerns/land use/funding categories? What additional resource concerns would you recommend for statewide implementation?

LWG Comments: The majority of the LWG's supported the current list of resource concern categories. Some of the recommended resource concerns mentioned by the LWG's were invasive species, specialty crop, irrigation and wildlife management.

NRCS Response: The invasive species issues are included with each landuse and can be addressed through the cropland or organic fund pools. We will develop a new fund pool for irrigation water management in FY-13 and continue the fund pool for upland and aquatic wildlife habitat management.

We are going to a Regional Payment Schedule in 2013. What changes or additional practices to our 2012 payment schedule should we consider? What practices should be deleted? Are there payment scenarios that need to be added or deleted?

LWG Comments: Most of the LWG's disagreed with moving to the regional payment schedule and would like the payment schedule to be more localized. Other responses indicated that they would like to see payment schedules that reflect actual installation costs. There were also some practices scenarios suggested for the 590 standard.

NRCS Response: NHQ has made the decision to go to a regional payment schedule. We cannot change that decision at the state level and must comply.

The Farm Bill includes the opportunity for Cooperative Conservation Partnership Initiatives (CCPI) and Conservation Innovation Grants (CIG) with partnering agencies and organizations. In the 2012 EQIP Program, we did not offer new CCPI projects but only funded existing projects. Do you think this should be continued, expanded, or discontinued in 2013? What specific items do you see as a priority or need in your area that could be evaluated and considered for CIG or special funding?

LWG Comments: The majority of the responses stated to continue or expand the CCPI projects. Suggestions to be considered for CIG and/or special funding were dairy manure injection, organic farming, grazing, animal waste, nutrient management, and wildlife.

NRCS Response: We will consider these for priorities with the State CIG funding. The decision to continue or expand CCPI projects is made at National Headquarters.

The DC has access to the ranking worksheets for the various funding pools and can provide copies to the Local Work Group. Do you have any suggestions for improvement to the ranking worksheets? Should the assigned point values for any of the ranking questions be changed? What are the priority practices in your area that should receive additional points on the "Local Issues" section of the worksheet?

LWG Comments: Some responses from the LWG's indicated that additional points should be given to various practices associated with animals in confinement resource concerns. There were also suggestions made to allocate more funding for forestry practices and provide additional ranking points.

NRCS Response: These issues were considered and addressed by the specific program subcommittees.

Wildlife Habitat Incentive Program (WHIP):

In 2012, we did not offer statewide WHIP. We offered the following three resource concerns and funding pools:

- Cooperative Conservation Partnership Initiative with The Department of Game and Inland Fisheries;
- Cooperative Conservation Partnership Initiative with Trout Unlimited;
- Working Lands for Wildlife – new partnership between NRCS and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) to use agency technical expertise combined with \$33 million in financial assistance from the Wildlife Habitat Incentive Program to combat the decline of seven specific wildlife species whose decline can be reversed and will benefit other species with similar habitat needs.

Do you agree with these? Are there other changes that are needed?

LWG Comments: Many responses agreed with the three resource concerns offered. Some responses indicated concerns about these initiatives because of the limitations to certain geographical areas rather than being offered statewide.

NRCS Response: We will allocate about 5% of our EQIP funding to wildlife issues in FY-13.

Environmental Quality Incentive Program (EQIP):

We developed a priority screening worksheet in 2010 to rank applications into High, Medium or Low categories. This was based on the intent of the applicant to install priority practices on their property? Applications were then ranked based on the responses to National priorities, State questions, or Local questions. Funding was then allocated to the highest ranked applications within each priority category. Do you agree with this methodology? Do you have any suggestions for changes to this approach? If so, please be specific.

LWG Comments: Most responses agreed with the current methodology and have no changes or suggestions. There were some concerns about high ranking applications that go unfunded. There were also suggestions made that application ranking should be based on environmental benefits rather than the number of practices.

NRCS Response: We will continue with our existing screening and ranking processes. Some specific issues may be tweaked slightly, depending on subcommittee recommendations.

In 2012 we included an Upland Wildlife Habitat Creation resource concern. Do you agree with or support these changes? What other similar changes are needed?

LWG Comments: The responses indicated support for this resource concern; however there were concerns that habitat maintenance offerings were limited.

NRCS Response: We will probably divide the wildlife funds into three fund pools: upland wildlife habitat creation, aquatic wildlife habitat management, and wildlife habitat management.

The Farm Bill placed greater emphasis on organic agriculture. We offered several additional practices in 2012 but still did not fully utilize the funding that was available. What cropland or grazing land practices do you feel are needed or would be utilized in your District for organic producers?

LWG Comments: The majority of responses did not support a separate fund pool for organic. The LWG's that did support organic agriculture thought the caps were too low and needed to be raised to a higher amount.

NRCS Response: In recent years, NHQ has supported a separate organic fund pool. We expect to continue it in the future.

Much of our historical cropland efforts have been directed to grain production systems. We have expanded our emphasis to address the conservation needs of specialty crops such as tobacco, cotton, vegetables, nursery crops, etc. What additional practices do you feel need to be emphasized that would benefit your area? Do you support adding a fund pool for Specialty Crops?

LWG Comments: The majority of the LWG's supported funding a pool for various specialty crops. Some thought that integrated pest management should be offered as well.

NRCS Response: After much discussion by the EQIP subcommittee it was decided not to set up a separate fund pool for specialty crops. Integrated pest management will be offered in FY-13 if a producer has an IPM plan developed by a Technical Service Provider.

Farm Bill rules require that 60% of total EQIP funding be used on livestock agriculture. What additional needs of livestock in your area are not being addressed by the EQIP Program? What additional practices or changes to practices are needed?

LWG Comments: Several LWG's stated that existing practices are working well. However, most mentioned a wide array of changes and practices that should be included that pertain to livestock.

NRCS Response: We used approximately 78% of our EQIP and CBWI funds for animal agriculture projects.

The Farm Bill allows producers to receive financial assistance to develop a conservation activity plan (CAP) with a private Technical Service Provider (TSP). Specific plans include the following:

- Forest Management Plans (Available in 2012)
- Energy Audits for Headquarters (Available in 2012)
- Energy Audits for Field Operations (Available in 2012)
- Comprehensive Nutrient Management Plans (Available in 2012)
- Nutrient Management Plans (Available in 2012)
- Integrated Pest Management
- Irrigation Water Management Plans (Available in 2012)
- Comprehensive Air Quality
- Drainage Water Management (Available in 2012)
- Transition to Organic Plans (Available in 2012)
- Fish and Wildlife Management
- Grazing Management

Which of these plans would be high priorities for your area? What priority should be given in terms of funding plans instead of funding practice installation?

LWG Comments: LWG's selected grazing management and nutrient management as their highest area priorities. Forest management, comprehensive nutrient management plan, and integrated pest management were also often mentioned as area priorities.

NRCS Response: We will add CAP 110 – Grazing Management Plan to our payment schedule in FY-13. The others are already available.

Chesapeake Bay Watershed Initiative (CBWI):

The Farm Bill authorized NRCS a new initiative called the Chesapeake Bay Watershed Initiative to support clean-up efforts in the Bay. Many of the stakeholders on this effort stressed the need to fund practices in high priority watersheds only. Targeting of funds to high priority watersheds is incorporated into the Virginia CBWI program. Funding has gone from \$23 million in 2009 to \$43 million in 2010 to \$72 million in 2011, to \$50 million in 2012. The expected funding for 2013 is \$50 million. Please provide any suggestions on priority watersheds that should be considered for this initiative.

LWG Comments: LWG's were concerned with funds not being targeted to the watersheds in their respective area such as Southern Rivers and the Ohio/Mississippi River Basin. There were also concerns that as funding is decreased, applications in non-priority watersheds that address several resource concerns will not be funded.

NRCS Response: Having the CBWI funding for the Chesapeake Bay watershed area has allowed more EQIP dollars to be available in other parts of Virginia.

We have heard stakeholders ask for accelerated efforts on key practices and not "more of the same" with our traditional offerings. We have tried specific practices such as aerial seeding of cover crops, using a 10-foot stream exclusion option for fencing, and funding nutrient management practices to try to encourage adoption of new techniques. What additional efforts or approaches would you recommend for an accelerated approach with the Bay Watershed?

LWG Comments: Accelerated efforts recommended were bringing back livestock shade structures, aerial seeding, reducing required buffer widths, removing different levels of nutrient management, offering adaptive nitrogen management throughout the entire state.

NRCS Response: The livestock shade structure practice is no longer available in Virginia. It is an expired interim practice. Aerial seeding (broadcast) of cover crops is an available practice. The 35ft buffer width will not be reduced but a 10ft setback is now available.

Easements:

NRCS has two Easement/Realty Specialists to assist with acquisition of conservation easements under the Wetlands Reserve Program. They help to speed the closing of easements in Virginia. What else can NRCS and the conservation partnership do at both the state and local levels to increase interest and participation in the easement programs?

LWG Comments: LWG's groups felt that program participation would increase if more funding was available and payment rates were raised. It was also noted that we needed to align our partnership efforts with those that offer easements and continue to seek new partners. Other responses mentioned to offer more training, conduct outreach, and reduce paperwork.

NRCS Response: The new Farm Bill may combine the three easement programs. We will continue to support and fund the easement programs based on our available budget.

In the past, NRCS in Virginia has not fully utilized all of the funds available to us to restore wetlands and protect farmland under the Wetlands Reserve Program and the Farm and Ranchland Protection Programs. What practices, information material, or outreach efforts would be needed or useful in your District to restore more wetlands or protect more farmland?

LWG Comments: Outreach efforts suggested by LWG's included: inform more local governments, developing a DVD similar to the Gaining Ground DVD, developing handouts, holding local meetings in high opportunity areas, develop partnerships with non-profit organizations, and preparing a powerpoint presentation that field staff can use.

NRCS Response: All these are great opportunities for outreach. In addition, NRCS just signed a contribution agreement with DCR, Division of Natural Heritage to develop a Virginia Wetlands Catalog. This will assist with the identification, protection, and enhancement of wetlands in the Commonwealth.

Coordination Issues:

Our traditional financial assistance program efforts have been very closely aligned with the Virginia Agricultural Cost Share Program so that state and federal offerings were not in competition or in conflict. What practices, cooperative efforts, or suggestions can you offer to make both programs work more efficiently together or separately? Do you have any specific suggestions for cooperative efforts on cover crops, conservation tillage and nutrient management?

LWG Comments: Suggestions from the LWG's included to form a joint cost share program, put more emphasis on the plan and not the application, sign up periods and program deadlines that coincide together, and simplify the paperwork.

NRCS Response: A joint partnership initiative between NRCS, FSA and DCR will be launched in FY-13. This will provide additional funding for fencing out livestock from water features and for the development of the infrastructure to better manage our pasture acres.

Thank You Sponsors!

- Black Diamond RC&D Council
- Mountain Soil & Water Conservation District
- MWV (Mead Westvaco)
- Natural Resources Conservation Service
- Ontario Hardwoods
- Penn Virginia Resources
- Prince Edward County Chamber of Tourism and Commerce
- Powell River Project
- Red River Coal Company
- The Growers Exchange
- Quail Forever
- USDA Forest Service Southern Research Station
- Virginia Department of Game & Inland Fisheries
- Virginia State University Small Farmer Outreach Program

ALL ITINERARIES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE



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If you are a person with a disability and desire any assistive devices, services or other accommodations to participate in this activity, please contact Jennifer Gagnon at 540/231-6391/TTDD* during business hours of 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m.

To discuss accommodations 5 days prior to the event. *TDD number is (800) 828-1120.

Stop 4. Wood processing facility - The day will conclude with a tour of a facility which creates products out of wood. Exact location to be determined.

Return by 5:00 p.m.

For more information contact:

Jason Fisher 434/476-2147 jasonf@vt.edu

Please register by October 11

Charles City County

Wednesday, October 24th

Meet at 8:00 a.m. at Charles City County High School
10000 Courthouse Road, Charles City

Tour begins promptly at 8:30 a.m.

Clean water, and diverse flora and fauna, income and products, and an enriched spirit are some of the benefits brought about by good forest management. A jaunt down one of America's Most Historic Highways, The John Tyler Memorial Highway in Charles City County, showcases a jewel of Virginia history, scenic beauty, and land stewardship.

Stop 1. Sandy Fields - This James River estate holds a rich combination of unique habitats hosting a smorgasbord of plants and animals alike. See a prescribed burning demonstration in recently planted longleaf pine, and learn why fire is essential to the ecology of many at-risk species. Also, explore the countless variety that exists in the world of wildflowers. And we couldn't talk about fire and longleaf pine without a nod toward the prominent spokesperson of this ecosystem -- the quail. "B, Bob white!"

Lunch catered locally.

Stop 2. Mapsico Tree Farm - Property of the 1997 National Outstanding Tree Farmers of the Year. This multi-generational treasure is the pride of the Howard family. The Howard's were commended by the Virginia General Assembly in 2008 for their model multiple-use management system and example of conservation.

Stop 3. The Inger and Walter Rice Center for Environmental Life Sciences - is Virginia Commonwealth University's field station devoted to a broad array of environmental research, teaching and public service. Hear about research on wetland restoration, nutrient dynamics, vernal pools, and restoration of Atlantic sturgeon being conducted on this 494 acre property; which includes tidal and non-tidal wetlands, vernal pools, the James River, upland and bottomland hardwood forest, pine forest and an open meadow.

Return by 4:30 p.m.

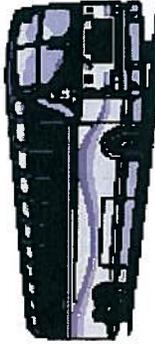
For more information contact:

Neil Clark 757/653-2572 southeast@vt.edu

Please register by Oct. 17

The Virginia Forest Landowner Education Program & Virginia Cooperative Extension present:

The 36th Annual Fall Forestry & Wildlife Field Tours 2012 (aka "the Bus Tours")



Join fellow forest landowners and a host of Natural Resource Professionals for a fun and exciting day in the woods learning about forest and wildlife management.

These tours promote wise resource management on private forestlands. You will (1) observe science-based management practices (2) become acquainted with public and private sources of technical and financial management assistance, and (3) network with fellow landowners, natural resource professionals, and others that share your interest in Virginia's natural resources.

Each tour includes several demonstration stops on private, industry, and public lands. See inside for information on fees for individual tours, departure points and itineraries.

All tours are outdoors and held rain or shine. Please dress appropriately (sturdy shoes, rain gear, insect repellent, sunscreen, etc.).

A limited number of scholarships are available for K-12 teachers. Please call Jennifer Gagnon 540/231-6391 for details.

Awarded first-come, first-served.

Highland County Monday, October 8th

Meet at 8:00 a.m. at the Stonewall Ruritan Club. Located at the intersection of Route 678 and U.S. 250 in McDowell (Coordinates: 38.331511,-79.489603).

Tour begins promptly at 8:30 a.m.

Join us in scenic Highland County for a day in the field exploring a variety of management tools for woodland landowners. The day will showcase a suite of practices meeting numerous goals from income production to attracting wildlife as we traverse beautiful mountain tops and river gorges.

Stop 1. Whitetails & Golden Wings - The Himot Farm takes deer management seriously. Witness the impact of deer on the ecosystem and discuss options to manage for or against deer. Explore habitat developed for the golden winged warbler and consider fire as a purposeful management tool.

Stop 2. Your Woods & the Economy - Selling timber is more than economics, it can be a detriment or benefit to your woods and for your goals. In the log-yard, we'll discuss current and emerging markets and how they provide Virginia landowners with options.

Lunch catered by Puffenbarger's Sugar Orchard at the Allegheny Highlands Ag Center.

Stop 3. Timber & Wildlife go Together - Discover how the Virginia Department of Game and Inland Fisheries manages the 14,283 acre Highland Wildlife Management Area and how the same silvicultural tools can work for you.

Stop 4. Raising Trout - Trout populations need responsible landowners to provide suitable water from healthy watersheds; get the picture on a behind the scenes tour of the Coursey Springs Fish rearing station. Recently renovated, the state-of-the-art trout rearing station features new technologies to rear and release trout throughout the northern Shenandoah Valley.

Return by 4:45 p.m.

For more information contact:

Highland County Ext. Office 540/468-2225

mtngirl@vt.edu

Please register by Oct. 1st

Wise County

Friday, October 12th

Meet at 8:30 a.m. at The University of Virginia's College at Wise in the overflow lot at the end of Stadium Drive. One College Ave, Wise VA 24293

Tour begins promptly at 9:00 a.m.

Join us in beautiful southwest Virginia to learn about a variety of practices used to remediate former coal mining areas. We will also learn about using fire for management.

Stop 1. UVA's College at Wise - See abandoned mine land that was restored to a productive forest of native hardwoods and American chestnut. Learn about American chestnut restoration research efforts.

Stop 2. Powell River Project - View years of mine land reforestation and research projects.

Lunch at the Powell River Project.

Stop 3. Powell River Project Cont. - Examine a FireWise project and discuss the merits of prescribed burning in hardwood forests. Learn about the potential of growing hybrid poplar for biomass production and see recent plantings of these fast-growing trees.

Return by 4:30 p.m.

For more information contact:

Bill Worrell 276/889-8056 bworrell@vt.edu

Please register by Oct. 5th

Prince Edward County

Friday, October 19th

Meet at 8:00 a.m. in the Lowes' parking lot

2644 Farmville Rd., Farmville, VA

Tour begins promptly at 8:30 a.m.

Prince Edward County has a rich history, from the Civil War (3 of the last battles of the war were fought here), to the Civil Rights movement. Join us as we explore the history and natural resources of this central Virginia county.

Stop 1. Management options on private land - We will visit an actively managed 1,000 farm. We will discuss hunting leases, conservation easements, hardwood thinning, and forest certification.

Lunch. Sailors Creek State Park.

Stop 3. High Bridge State Park - At this historic stop we will learn about management options on publicly owned lands, including invasive species management.

NEW

Register and pay on-line!

Visit www.cnre.vt.edu/forestupdate and click on Fall Field Tours for details!

Or complete and return this form with payment to:

Jennifer Gagnon

228 Cheatham Hall (0324)

Blacksburg, VA 24061

(make checks payable to: **Virginia Tech Treasurer***). Registration fees include transportation, refreshments and lunch. # _____ will attend (check all that apply)

Highland County \$45/person

Wise County \$25/person

Prince Edward County \$30/person

Charles City County \$45/person

I am a teacher

Please print or type.

Name(s) _____

Street/P.O. _____

City _____

State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____

E-mail _____

Please let us know if you have any special dietary needs _____

There will be a \$25 service charge for returned checks.