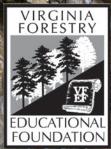
CONSERVING A VITAL RESOURCE FOR THE FUTURE



2023 REPORT

IN MEMORIAM



DR. HAROLD BURKHART

University Distinguished Professor, Virginia Tech

Harold Burkhart, University Distinguished Professor and dedicated researcher, teacher, and mentor in the College of Natural Resources and Environment, died on Oct. 20, 2022 in Blacksburg, Va. He was a longtime member of the Board of Directors of the Virginia Forestry Educational Foundation, and active in numerous other professional organizations.

"When speaking of the impactful prominence individuals have on the integrity and progress of VFEF, Dr. Harold Burkhart was a true cornerstone of importance to our foundation. His legacy will exist in perpetuity through cultivating youthful minds," said VFEF President Ken Morgan.

Burkhart was a professor in the Virginia Tech's Department of Forest Resources and Environmental Conservation since 1969 and was recognized in 2019 for 50 years of service to the university. He was honored with the preeminent rank of University Distinguished Professor in 1999 for his contributions that have shaped forest modeling from the late 20th century to the current day. 2023 REPORT

EDUCATION & LEARNING

The best time to plant a tree was 20 years ago, the second-best time is today. The more rewarding time to invest in education was in the past, but the second-best time is today. Are there any two words as significant to progress than those of energizing and stimulating young minds?

Our Board of Directors of the Virginia Forestry Educational Foundation (VFEF) believe in investing in these young minds. We are solidifying our beliefs and convictions through financial support



Ken Morgan, VFEF President

of various educational entities which are delineated in this Annual Report. For the calendar year 2023, our Board appropriated a total of \$394,910 for youth education. Our footprint of financial support continues to grow as do the number of donors to the foundation. The mission of the VFEF is stimulating.

Genetically improved pine seedlings and managed forests result in our woodlands being much more productive and having significant impacts on both our environment and economy. Engineered wood products, cross laminated timbers, and other innovations are products derived from education and research. They don't merely fall out of the sky! Much of this trail of thought process begins in youthful minds. Current day classroom students may design automobile bodies comprised of wood, a *renewable* resource. Innovations and the pace of learning are definitely increasing with each passing day.

"ALWAYS THINK HOW GRATEFUL YOU SHOULD BE." CARROLL SHELBY

I wish to extend a note of gratitude to our Board. These individuals devote their time, travel expenses, and contribute financially to the VFEF. This is the understanding and acceptance since James L. Camp, Jr. chaired the initial Board back in 1958. The current Board and officers are listed on page22 of

2023 REPORT

INVESTING IN OUR FUTURE

this report. Any of these people will be pleased to offer you a more in-depth understanding of the VFEF.

Thank each of you who express an interest in the only forestry/forest products industry youth educational foundation in Virginia. We are especially grateful to those who support our mission. Let's take advantage of what is available for our children to enrich their young minds. America is a country with a tremendous wealth of opportunities.

Sincerely,

J. Ken Morgan, Jr., President Virginia Forestry Educational Foundation



THE MISSION OF THE VIRGINIA FORESTRY EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION IS TO FINANCIALLY SUPPORT STATEWIDE YOUTH EDUCATION PROMOTING SUSTAINABLE FORESTS FOR THE ENVIRONMENTAL, SOCIAL, AND ECONOMIC BENEFIT OF ALL VIRGINIANS.

EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS SUPPORTED IN 2022

FORESTRY SCHOLARSHIPS AT VIRGINIA TECH - \$170,000

Academic scholarships are awarded annually to students in the Department of Forest Resources and Environmental Conservation and the Department of Sustainable Biomaterials in the College of Natural Resources and Environment at Virginia Tech. These scholarships are administered through the Foundation in accordance with the restrictions agreed to with the donors.

MOUNTAIN GATEWAY COMMUNITY COLLEGE - \$8,000

Mountain Gateway Community College offers Applied Science (AAS) degrees in Forest Management Technology (FMT), the only Society of American Foresters (SAF) accredited FMT AAS degree in the Commonwealth of Virginia and one of only 24 SAF-accredited AAS degree programs in the United States. MGCC also offers a second AAS degree in Arboriculture and Community Forestry in support of Virginia's urban communities..



PROGRAMS SUPPORTED IN 2022, CONTINUED





Jack Wagstaff, Holiday Lake 4-H Educational Center's Natural Resource Education Coordinator, talks about forest ecology with campers during 4-H Summer Camp.

Campers investigate an aquatic ecosystem, collect macroinvertebrates, and determine the health of Holliday Lake and the surrounding creeks during an aquatic ecology class.

VIRGINIA'S 4-H CENTERS – \$48,600

HOLIDAY LAKE 4-H EDUCATIONAL CENTER: 2022 SUMMER CAMP

Forestry curriculum at our summer camp offered a variety of hands-on learning opportunities in natural resource education.

NORTHERN VIRGINIA 4-H EDUCATIONAL CENTER

In 2022, the Northern Virginia 4-H Educational and Conference Center provided environmentally focused summer camp classes focused on environmental education, forestry, and outdoor living skills. The campers reported some of their favorite lessons and activities revolved around leave no trace principles, the ecosystem, water ecology, tree/insect identification, and learning survival skills. We hosted 1,504 campers during the summer of 2022 and 1,236 K-12 students.



Results from our campers' surveys showed that at conclusion of the classes 91% agreed that

they appreciated nature, 89% agreed that they participated in new learning experiences and 88% agreed they were curious about new topics and subjects. Here are a few highlights of answers received when campers were asked to complete the statement, *Because of camp...* "I learned that I love being outdoors", "I learned to do a lot of things I normally wouldn't have tried", "I appreciate nature more now", and "I learned that I can live without my phone."

PROGRAMS SUPPORTED IN 2022, CONTINUED



JAMESTOWN 4-H EDUCATIONAL CENTER

This year the Jamestown 4-H Educational Center served over 1,100 youth during the summer of 2022, participating in classes related to forestry, outdoor living skills, fire-building, marine science, nature walks, and other natural resource education. We offer as many hands-on learning opportunities as possible to engage the youth we serve and inspire further interest in natural resource education.



Andrew Brown of Weyerhaeuser teaches forest ecology at Camp Woods & Wildlife.

CAMP WOODS & WILDLIFE - \$1,600

For more than 70 years, Camp Woods & Wildlife (formerly called Holiday Lake Forestry Camp) has provided field-based, experiential learning to Virginia teens. Campers take part in a fun but rigorous course of study in forestry and wildlife, led by natural resource professionals. Each camper receives financial support, making camp affordable for all. Sixty-one campers, representing 31 counties and cities, attended in 2022. Among them are surely some of Virginia's future forestry professionals. In the words of one camper, "Thank you for making education fun!"

PROGRAMS SUPPORTED IN 2022, CONTINUED

PROJECT LEARNING TREE® – \$5,720

Project Learning Tree [®] (PLT) is a time-honored, teacher-tested environmental education program that helps students learn how to think, not what to think about the natural world around them. PLT is a program of the Sustainable Forestry Initiative, collaboratively administered in our state by the Virginia Department of Forestry, Virginia Forestry Association, and Virginia Tech's College of Natural Resources and Environment. Funding support from VFEF enables Virginia PLT to conduct educator training workshops and provide program guides at very low cost. In addition, workshops are provided free to pre-service teachers at several universities, so that new teachers can enter their first classrooms prepared to support learning with PLT activities.

44TH ANNUAL YOUTH CONSERVATION CAMP - \$1,500

For 44 years, the Virginia Association of Soil and Water Conservation Districts' Educational Foundation has sponsored a week-long summer conservation camp for Virginia high school students on the campus of Virginia Tech where we were in-person for the first time since 2019.



This year, the program hosted 44 enthusiastic students from 19 Soil and Water Conservation Districts (SWCDs) for a week of learning about Virginia's natural resources from conservation professionals. Students were led by 12 volunteer counselors from various SWCDs and partner agencies. Most of the instruction was hands-on and outdoors, including activities such as shock fishing with the Department of Wildlife Resources, hiking to the Cascades waterfall, canoeing the New River, touring Virginia Tech's Forest Products Center to learn about sustainable packaging, engaging in sensory lab testing at the Food Science Center, and much more!

2022 CONTRIBUTIONS

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Other Contributors

Amazon Smile Donation Duck Brigade, LLC 2023 REPORT

HISTORICAL RECORD OF CONTRIBUTIONS

(SINCE 1958)

Over \$1 million Mable B. Stuermann

Centurions

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2023 REPORT

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PICHE

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FOUNDATION INVESTMENTS

The Investment policy directs the Board of Directors to use no-load equity mutual funds as the primary investment vehicle. These funds have the advantage of very low administrative costs and provide excellent diversification. The funds can be liquidated or moved to other investments very efficiently. Dividends are reinvested and are used to support approved programs and projects.

The Investment Policy requires that a qualified financial advisor conduct an annual review. The Board's Investment Committee meets periodically to review the allocation of assets and to invest new monies.

Allocation of Virginia Forestry Educational Foundation investments as of December 31, 2022:

Checking

	GRAND TOTAL	\$ 7,925,357
Davenport Fun	ıd	4,033,869
Stuermann Scho	•	
Davenport Fur	nd	1,016,007
Scholarships		
Davenport Fun	5	2,784,317
Educational Pro	grams	
Administration	1	7,694
Programs and	Scholarships	\$ \$82,470

FORESTRY LEGACY SOCIETY & FORESTRY LEGACY SOCIETY PLUS

Individuals who are interested in maintaining, expanding and promoting the forests and forest products of Virginia need only to indicate by will or by codicil to your will, that you are making a bequest to the Virginia Forestry Educational Foundation. These are legal documents; therefore an attorney should be consulted for their preparation.

MEMBERS OF THE FORESTRY LEGACY SOCIETY

The "Legacy Society Plus" program provides an opportunity for those who wish to make a more substantial contribution to an educational program that perpetuates the conservation of our forest heritage. A donation of \$10,000 by cash, will or codicil gualifies for admission to the "Forestry Legacy Society Plus." Cash donation may be made over a period of five years.

Ben and Chris Angle	John O. Harrison		
Aubrey L. Clary, Inc.	Bonnie Hoover		
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VFEF PURPOSE

The Virginia Forestry Educational Foundation was formed more than 60 years ago to be operated exclusively for charitable and educational purposes. No part of its earnings can go to the benefit of an individual or director; it cannot engage in carrying on propaganda or attempt to influence legislation or participate in any political campaign.

The principal activities of the Foundation, when formed, were to:

- A. Encourage the reforestation of idle and abandoned agricultural and cutover woodlands.
- Provide prizes for the annual "Keep Virginia Green" poster contest. Β.
- C. Create more interest in forestry among students by contributing prizes to forestry judging contests and tuition for attendance at one-week forestry camps.
- Assist vocational agriculture teachers to arouse more interest in the D. study of forestry.
- E. Provide scholarships to worthy high school graduates as a means of encouraging and aiding them in obtaining a college education in forestry.

These activities of the Foundation have been adjusted and modified over time to meet the current environment but are still consistent with principles established by the founders.

The Foundation seeks to support programs that demonstrate how sustainable forestry can protect watersheds and wildlife while preserving aesthetic and recreational values of the community. Sustainable forestry supports jobs for local loggers, sawmills and other segments of the local communities. Good forest practices assure a steady flow of over 5,000 wood-related items generated by the forest products industry that are so essential to our everyday lives.

HOW CAN YOU PARTICIPATE?

The Virginia Forestry Educational Foundation seeks contributions from friends, landowners and anyone interested in educational projects and programs concerning conservation and forest resource management with emphasis on youth educational programs. Online donations are welcomed and appreciated at www.vfef.net

Gifts

You can participate through gifts of cash, stocks, bonds, land or timber. As a 501(c)(3) organization, VFEF can receive your contributions as fully tax deductible. Contributions are invested in the consolidated endowment unless requested for a specific purpose. Your tax advisor or attorney should be consulted for major gifts to ensure compliance with governing laws and regulations.

Securities

Gifts of stocks, bonds, or mutual funds can provide tax advantages. These include a charitable deduction for the full market value of the gift and the avoidance of any capital gains tax. The simplest and most efficient way to make a gift of any security is to instruct your broker or banker to transfer the stock to the Virginia Forestry Educational Foundation. You or your broker may call our office at 804-278-8733 for transfer instructions.

You may send the stock certificates, unsigned, by registered mail, and under separate cover a signed stock power form which is available at your brokerage or local bank to: Virginia Forestry Educational Foundation, 3808 Augusta Avenue, Richmond, VA 23230.

Please do not sell the stock in your name and have the proceeds sent to us, because this will constitute a cash contribution and you will be liable for capital gains tax.

Gifts by Bequest

When you consult with your attorney about the preparation or amendment of a will, you might wish to have on hand these recommended forms for a bequest to the Virginia Forestry Educational Foundation: "I bequeath to the Virginia Forestry Educational Foundation, incorporated under the laws of the Commonwealth of Virginia, the entire residue of my estate for its general corporate purposes."

or

"I bequeath to the Virginia Forestry Educational Foundation, incorporated under the laws of the Commonwealth of Virginia, ______ percent (_____%) of my entire estate, for its general corporate purposes."

or

"I bequeath to the Virginia Forestry Educational Foundation, incorporated under the laws of the Commonwealth of Virginia, the sum of ______ dollars (\$ ______) for its general purposes."

Gift by Property Possible Donation Document

(To be revised with assistance of an attorney for individual situations)

"I hereby give to the Virginia Forestry Educational Foundation, located in Richmond, Virginia the undivided interest in my property located in _____ County, Virginia and recorded in the Clerk's office in Deed Book _____, page ____. This gift is free of encumbrance. The tract has been recently appraised for \$_____. Copy of appraisal is attached."

The Virginia Forestry Educational Foundation shall use this gift for its general corporate purposes. There are many ways we can work together in addition to the options listed here. For example, there are tax advantages for you when considering a charitable remainder trust or a deferred gift annuity; both provide you with an income for life with the remainder of your gift eventually passing to the Virginia Forestry Educational Foundation. Upon hearing from you, we would be happy to set up a meeting with you and our financial advisor to work out what is best for your needs.

Neither the author, the publisher, nor this organization is engaged in rendering legal or tax advisory service. For advice and assistance in specific cases, the services of an attorney or other professional advisor should be obtained. The purpose of this publication is to provide general information. Watch for tax revisions.

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VFEF HISTORY & LEADERSHIP

In 1958, leaders in the Virginia forestry and forest products community created the Virginia Forests Educational Fund, now the Virginia Forestry Educational Foundation (VFEF). This was made possible by a \$25,000 grant from the Paul Mellon's Old Dominion Foundation, and VFEF has made significant progress since that inaugural contribution.

Numerous youth education programs in Virginia have benefited from VFEF support over the years, including Project Learning Tree, Trees to Products, Teaching Teachers Teaching Trees, 4-H programs and forestry camps. In this way, VFEF has helped teach generations about forestry and how the environment impacts our world, our economy, and our lives on a daily basis. Scholarships have been a long-time focus of the Foundation, providing more than \$1 million in support to approximately 560 students at Virginia Tech and in other programs.

We are thankful for contributors who generously support the mission of the Virginia Forestry Educational Foundation. Please enjoy this year's annual report detailing over 60 years of our success.

VFEF PRESIDENTS:

1958	James L. Camp, Jr.
1959-1965	Victor W. Stewart
1966-1977	William H. King
1978-1988	Carter Flippo, Sr.
1989-2017	John D. Farmer, Jr.
2018-Present	J. Ken Morgan, Jr.

VIRGINIA FORESTRY EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION 3808 Augusta Avenue • Richmond, VA 23230-3910 (804) 278-8733 • Fax (804) 278-8774 • vfef@vaforestry.org • www.vfef.net

The Virginia Forestry Educational Foundation, a 501(c)(3) organization, files a tax return annually with the Internal Revenue Service, registers each year with the Virginia State Corporation Commission, and has its records audited annually by a Certified Public Accountant. All contributions to the Virginia Forestry Educational Foundation are 100% tax deductible. A financial statement is available upon written request from the Office of Charitable and Regulatory Programs. We invite your inquiries.



