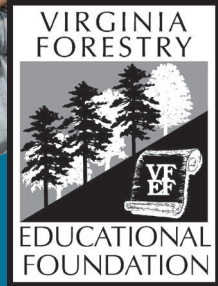
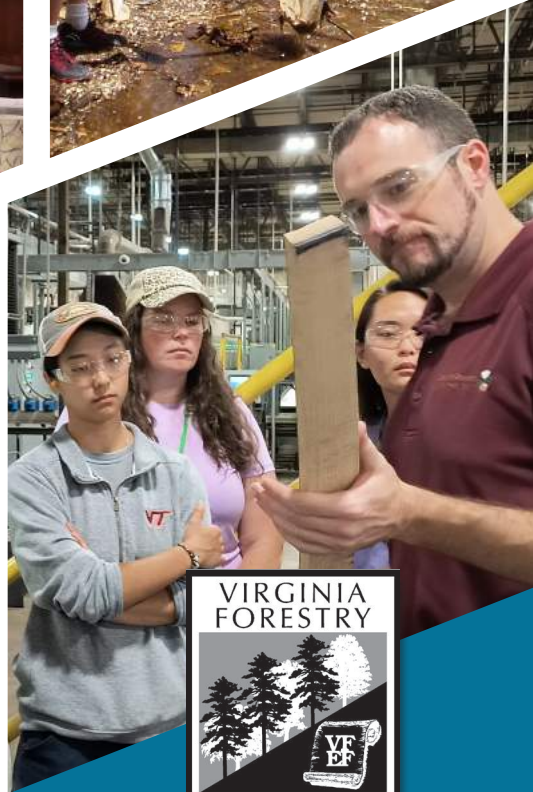


2024 REPORT

CONSERVING A VITAL RESOURCE FOR THE FUTURE





**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.**

VFEF BOARD OF DIRECTORS. Back row (l. to r.): Jim Youngblood, Jay Sullivan, Mike Hinchey, Ken Morgan, Easton Loving, Brad Fuller, Glen Worrell, and Lavan Dauberman. Front row (l. to r.): Matt Dowdy, Beth Flippo Hutchins, Shannon McCabe, and Carolyn Mulligan.

"AN INVESTMENT IN KNOWLEDGE PAYS THE BEST INTEREST."

BEN FRANKLIN

THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

INVESTMENT

A common practice among each and every one of us is that of investing. The impetus is a net gain (growth) whether for ourselves, family or friends, equities, or an entity. It is gratifying to realize success in the fruition of our investments. A good feeling usually results.



Ken Morgan, VFEF President

An investment in the Virginia Forestry Educational Foundation directly correlates to the benefits for our youth, forests, environment, and economy—to an overall extent, to their quality of life. The VFEF mission statement delineates what we are all about. A synopsis of the youth educational entities supported by the VFEF for 2024 are noted in here in our Annual Report. If any of you reading this message are aware of a forestry or forest products program that would benefit from our financial support, contact a member of our Board of Directors. We are striving to continue to expand the VFEF footprint. This emphasis is especially focused on urban communities where many children have little to no exposure to Virginia's forests, which incidentally cover 62% of the total land mass within our Commonwealth. In addition to youth educational programs, VFEF funds scholarships both at Virginia Tech and Mountain Gateway Community College. The student majors for these scholarships are, of course, in disciplines of study for forestry or wood related.

Thank you for your investment in the VFEF.

A handwritten signature in black ink, which appears to read "Ken Morgan". The signature is fluid and cursive, written in a professional style.



INVESTING IN
OUR FUTURE

EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS SUPPORTED IN 2023

FORESTRY SCHOLARSHIPS AT VIRGINIA TECH — \$179,000

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 — \$12,000

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.

VIRGINIA'S 4-H CENTERS

■ HOLIDAY LAKE 4-H EDUCATIONAL CENTER — \$53,230

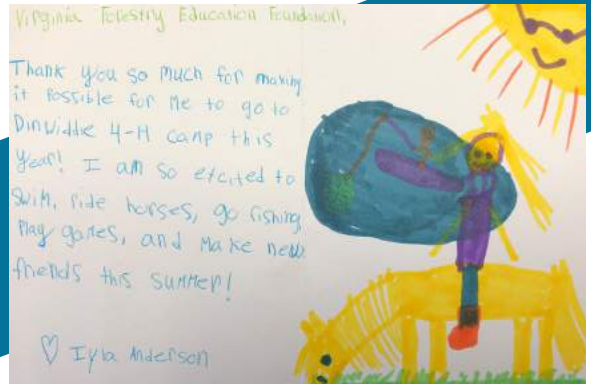
Nestled in the Appomattox/Buckingham State Forest and near the cities of Lynchburg and Farmville, Holiday Lake 4-H Educational Center offers many opportunities for students to learn about our state's abundant natural resources through hands-on programming.

Our programs include both day and overnight trips for schools and groups who are interested in experiential education in the outdoors. Our Natural Resource Education (NRE) programs engage students with concepts and ideas that can be taught in the classroom and allow them to integrate those same concepts into real-world applications. We provide students with the tools and encourage them to apply classroom knowledge and critical thinking to novel and relevant situations.

Forestry is one of our 4-H Center's most popular NRE curriculum classes. Trees play a crucial role in our everyday lives. From their structure to their role in the ecosystem, learn how the forest impacts us. Forestry program objectives include: learning the life cycle of a tree; understanding the life processes and anatomy of a tree; learning how to identify trees; investigating the importance of trees for other forest plants and animals; learn basic forest management techniques; and learning about the many ways humans use trees.

All of our NRE curricula are correlated with the Virginia Standards of Learning on natural sciences, life sciences, life-skill development, and leadership development. The NRE program places emphasis on developing awareness and appreciation of the natural environment by providing opportunities to develop basic scientific analysis methods and observational skills in each subject area. We teach stewardship, increase awareness of current environmental issues, and assist teachers and other educators in conducting NRE-based programs.





PROGRAMS SUPPORTED IN 2023, CONTINUED

Upon arrival, students are issued a brief pre-test to assess their background knowledge on some topics that will be addressed during their visit to the 4-H Center. The students are told just to answer to the best of their ability, and they do not have to put their name on the test before turning it in. After having a chance to learn about each topic, the students are given the same questions before departing the center. In 2023 the overall average pre-test score was 64% and the average post-test score was 81%.

■ W.E. SKELTON 4-H CENTER: 2023 SUMMER CAMP — \$4,000

In 2023 the W.E. Skelton 4-H Educational Conference Center at Smith Mountain Lake served 2,183 campers during summer 4-H camp and over 600 students from public/private schools in our nature education programs. Our Programs department leads environmentally centered classes that provide hands-on learning opportunities for our youth participants. We strive to educate our youth about the outdoors, the benefit of forestry to our economy and well-being, sustainable practices that keep our environment healthy for the future, and to inspire community involvement.

■ NORTHERN VIRGINIA 4-H EDUCATIONAL CENTER — \$7,200

■ JAMESTOWN 4-H EDUCATIONAL CENTER — \$8.500

PROGRAMS SUPPORTED IN 2023, CONTINUED

CAMP WOODS & WILDLIFE — \$2,000

PROJECT LEARNING TREE® — \$16,780

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. 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 train facilitators to conduct educator training workshops and to provide program guides at very low cost to participants. In August 2023, PLT added 29 new facilitators to the network.

In addition, workshops are provided free to pre-service teachers and nonformal educators, so that new educators can enter the field prepared to support learning with PLT activities. This year, PLT also trained SFI State Implementation Committee members and Department of Forestry field staff in education and outreach activities.





PROGRAMS SUPPORTED IN 2023, CONTINUED

SOCIETY OF AMERICAN FORESTERS, VIRGINIA CHAPTERS

■ RAPPAHANNOCK CHAPTER — \$1,310

■ SKYLINE CHAPTER — \$3,400

The 7th annual “Teaching Trees” program based in Louisa County was again a field-based, two-day event. The 13 participants came from as far away as Loudoun County and Botetourt County and as close as Charlottesville. As evidenced by observations during the event and follow-up evaluation, they left inspired and equipped to better engage their students. One teacher wrote, “This was some of the best PD all around that I’ve had.” Another said, “I am strongly considering creating a forestry unit in my enviro science class.” This year’s workshop also spawned a copy-cat to be delivered in Augusta/Rockingham area this coming summer in partnership with the Headwaters Soil and Water Conservation District and local foresters. In seven years of offering “Teaching Trees” in Central Virginia, assuming each teacher connects with 20 students/year, we’ve reached over 5,500 students.



PROGRAMS SUPPORTED IN 2023, CONTINUED

■ SOUTHWEST CHAPTER — \$6,000

The 16th Trees to Products program was held in July in southwest Virginia. The 2023 Trees to Products program reached seven educators and two Virginia Tech college students that annually instruct approximately 460 students. Educators attending this year's program were from the following localities: Floyd County (2), Scott County (4), and Washington County (1). This program has been conducted sixteen times since 2006 and has reached 166 educators that annually instruct approximately 17,100 students.

Teachers visited the High Knob area to see the natural hardwood regeneration following a series of clear-cut harvests over the past six years and learn about the abundant wildlife habitat the early successional young forest provides. At Flag Rock Recreation Area, teachers viewed the topography of the region, talked about the forest vegetation across the landscape in the coalfield region. They were introduced to Project Learning Tree activities and learned to use Biltmore sticks to measure tree diameter and height to determine volume board feet. The educators searched for green salamanders in the rock outcrops near Flag Rock recreation area. Dr. Urs Buehlmann presented the evening program on Wood Products where he discussed historical uses of wood, modern day products, and the efforts of recovering wood products and reuse and recycling of wood products.

On the second day of the program, the teachers went to the Clinch District of the Jefferson National Forest where they toured several forested stands of various age classes to learn about forest ecology, silvicultural management practices, and wildlife habitat and ecology. Here, the teachers saw forest stands that regenerated naturally after a clear-cut harvest and a forest stand regenerated from a shelterwood harvest. The afternoon included a tour of a logging operation where Timberline Logging Inc, owned by John Wade, was harvesting a tract of timber for Southern Forest Products. The mechanized operation used a tracked



PROGRAMS SUPPORTED IN 2023, CONTINUED



cutting machine, grapple skidders, knuckle boom loader, and a chipper. The operation sorted grade hardwood logs, poplar plywood logs, and pulpwood. The rest of the material was chipped for biomass for Dominion Energy's Virginia City Hybrid Energy Center power plant. Charlie Mize provided a presentation about the habitat requirements for American Woodcock and Ruffed Grouse to end the day.

A tour of Mullican Flooring began the third day. Teachers learned about secondary manufacturing with a tour of the lumber handling facility, pre-driers, dry kilns, and manufacturing lines of hardwood flooring production. The next visit was to Southern Forest Products in Appalachia where the teachers learned to scale and grade logs, the primary manufacturing of hardwood logs into lumber, and the basic concepts of lumber grading. The afternoon included a tour of Domtar Packaging in Kingsport, TN, where teachers learned about kraft paper production from 100% recycled fiber.

The final day of the program was a tour of Speyside Cooperage in Adkins where they got to see the making of a white oak bourbon barrel.

PROGRAMS SUPPORTED IN 2023, CONTINUED



VIRGINIA ASSOCIATION OF SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICTS — \$1,500

For 45 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. In 2023, the program brought together 54 enthusiastic students from 27 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!

Forestry Foundation support really provided students a more immersive, in-depth experience.



PROGRAMS SUPPORTED IN 2023, CONTINUED

VIRGINIA FFA FOUNDATION — \$14,000

This brand new relationship has tremendously impacted our members involved in all of our forestry, wildlife, and outdoor-related events.

The 2023 State Forestry contests were held on April 19. There were 9 junior forestry teams consisting of 36 individuals. Brandon Flick of Chatham Middle was the high individual and the state-winning team was from Buckingham FFA. The senior contest saw 6 teams consisting of 24 individuals with Steven Ramsey of Stuarts Draft as high individual with the Stuarts Draft Team taking home top honors. The runner up was the team from Carroll County, who went on to compete at The Big E in Massachusetts in September. Stuarts Draft FFA Competed at National FFA Convention in November and received 1 of 12 gold ratings out of hundreds of teams. Two team members received individual gold ratings and two team members received silver. All state-winning teams received Plaques and medallions, along with travel stipends for their travel to regional and national competitions.

Proficiency Award winners:

- Forestry Management & Products: Courtney Begoon (Fort Defiance)
- Nursery & Landscape Management: Logan Bond (Carroll County)
- Wildlife Management: Jeremy Fisher (Rappahannock)
- Outdoor Recreation had no applicants in 2023 (Funds were held over to fund in 2024)

Thanks to the support of the VFEF, Virginia FFA was able to purchase much needed, updated safety equipment and materials for setting up Forestry Field Day at the State Fair of Virginia. And for the first time, we were able to free up precious general funds that were having to be used for staff and state officer travel to provide these opportunities. We hosted over 500 students for this event just last week. In addition, another 300 participated in the Junior Foresters contest that same day

2023 CONTRIBUTIONS

Patrons

(\$5,000-\$10,000)

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Ken Morgan
Universal Leaf Foundation

Captains

(\$2,000-\$4,999)

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Elis Olsson Memorial Foundation
Georgia-Pacific LLC
Morgan Lumber Co
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Virginia Forest Products Association

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Colonial Farm Credit
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F&W Forestry
Maynard & Lois Gregory
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Segar White Guy Family Trust
Bradley J. Sullivan
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Timber Marketing & Management
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(\$500-\$999)

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Carolina Commonwealth
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Sunrise Shavings LLC
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WestRock
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2023 CONTRIBUTIONS, CONTINUED

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(\$250-\$499)

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Mason, Bruce & Girard
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Other Contributors

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Charlie Finley
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Tammy Hamilton
Lesley Newton
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SWLC, Inc.
John K. Taylor
Becky Thorton
Bill Trowler

HISTORICAL RECORD OF CONTRIBUTIONS

(SINCE 1958)

Over \$1 million

Mable B. Stuermann

Centurions

\$50,000 to \$1 million

Acorn Alcinda Foundation

Dominion

John D. Farmer, Jr.

The Jane and Arthur Flippo Foundation

Jack T. Ferguson

John and Susan Mullin Fund of the
Community Foundation

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MWV (Covington)

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Gray Lumber Co.

Dr. John F. Hosner

Huber Engineered Woods LLC

International Paper Co.

MeadWestvaco Foundation (WestRock)

J. Ken Morgan, Jr.

Ben and Mickey Moser

Old Dominion Foundation (Paul Mellon)

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Universal Leaf Foundation

Benefactors

\$10,000 to \$24,999

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Bickford Timber and Land Management

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Colonial Farm Credit ACA

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Dowdy's Forest & Land
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Maynard & Lois Gregory -
Gregory Pallet Co.

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Mecklenburg Electric Cooperative

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Three Rivers Forestry LLC

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HISTORICAL RECORD OF CONTRIBUTIONS, CONTINUED

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Colonial Agricultural Educational
Foundation
Colonial Forest Products
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Lavan & Barbara Dauberman
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Michael A. Hinchey
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Meherrin River Forest Products
Nettleton Foundation
Ontario Hardwood Co. Inc.
Harold Purcell
Rock Springs Forestry, Inc.
George Ragsdale
Smurfit-Stone Container Corp. Inc.
Bradley Jay Sullivan
Sunrise Shavings LLC
Dale Turner, Turner Forestry
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Virginia Forest Products Association
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WestRock
Dr. Paul Winistorfer and family

Captains

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HISTORICAL RECORD OF CONTRIBUTIONS, CONTINUED

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Timber Marketing & Management

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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, 2023:

Checking

Programs and Scholarships	\$	\$71,980
Administration		9,106

Educational Programs

Davenport Fund		2,962,523
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Scholarships

Davenport Fund		1,163,921
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Stuermann Scholarships

Davenport Fund		4,799,017
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GRAND TOTAL	\$	9,006,546
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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 qualifies for admission to the "Forestry Legacy Society Plus." Cash donation may be made over a period of five years.

MEMBERS OF THE FORESTRY LEGACY SOCIETY PLUS

Ben and Chris Angle	John O. Harrison	Crockett Morris
Aubrey L. Clary, Inc.	Bonnie Hoover	Ben & Mickey Moser
Charles Baney	Dr. John F. Hosner	Sture G. Olsson
James Burruss	Katharine Jensen	William Rilee
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Charles Finley	Garry Marcum	Robert & Jane Wait
Segar White Guy	David Medley	Randy Welch
Dr. Harry & Jackie Haney	Larry Moore	Colonel William W. Wright
Thomas G. Harris	Ken Morgan	James N. Youngblood

Acorn Alcinda Foundation
Dominion Foundation
John D. Farmer, Jr.
Jack T. Ferguson
The Jane and Arthur Flippo Foundation
Georgia-Pacific Corp.
Segar White Guy
Dr. John F. Hosner

Huber Engineered Woods LLC
Morgan Lumber Co. Inc.
John and Susan Mullin
Stephen P. Prisley
Dr. David Wm. Smith
Universal Leaf Foundation
WestRock Foundation

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.
- B. Provide prizes for the annual “Keep Virginia Green” poster contest.
- C. Create more interest in forestry among students by contributing prizes to forestry judging contests and tuition for attendance at one-week forestry camps.
- D. Assist vocational agriculture teachers to arouse more interest in the 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 575 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:

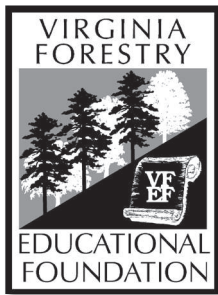
1958	James L. Camp, Jr.
1959-1965	Victor W. Stewart
1966-1977	William H. King
1978-1988	Carter Flippo, Sr.
1989-2017	John D. Farmer, Jr.
2018-Present	J. Ken Morgan, Jr.

VIRGINIA FORESTRY EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION

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(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.



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