

REGISTRATION

The Woods in Your Backyard

Name(s): _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

E-mail: _____

Special Dietary Needs: _____

Please check one (1):

I am attending the March 15 Halifax session (USDA Service Center, Halifax County Extension Auditorium, 171 South Main Street, Halifax, VA 24558).

I am attending the March 29 Powhatan session (Powhatan Public Library, 2270 Mann Road Powhatan, VA 23139)

Both sessions from 6:00pm – 8:30pm

Details on your event will be sent once registration is received.

Deadline postmarked by March 2, 1012

Make check or money order payable to “VA Cooperative Extension-Central District”

Jason Fisher
P.O. Box 757
Halifax, VA 24558

Cost the workshops will be \$25 per person or \$40 per household for either workshop. Cost includes work manual, and refreshments.* A \$50 return check fee will be assessed*

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FOR MORE INFORMATION

If you would like to talk with a *Woods in Your Backyard* trainer in your area, or find out more about the manual and training, contact:

K. Jason Fisher
Extension Agent/Forestry and Natural Resources
Virginia Cooperative Extension
Central District
P.O. Box 757
Halifax, VA 24558
434/476-2147
jasonf@vt.edu

Online information about the Woods in Your Backyard can be found at:

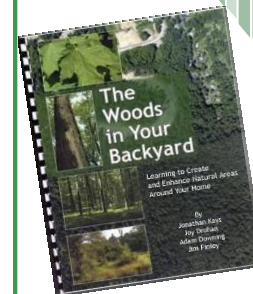
<http://www.naturalresources.umd.edu/EducationalWBY.html>



The Woods in Your Backyard was created through the cooperation of the University of Maryland Cooperative Extension, Virginia Cooperative Extension, Penn State Cooperative Extension, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, the Virginia Department of Forestry, and the Potomac Watershed Partnership.

The Woods in Your Backyard

Learning to Create and Enhance Natural Areas Around Your Home



Maryland Cooperative Extension
Penn State Cooperative Extension
Virginia Cooperative Extension

WHAT'S IN "YOUR WOODS?"

If you have been putting off the opportunity to learn more about your woods, then here is an opportunity you will want to consider. *The Woods in Your Backyard* workshop will show you how to manage your woodlot or landscape as both a sustainable and healthy ecosystem.

The Woods in Your Backyard is a manual and workbook written for owners of 1-10 acres of land, although in Southside Virginia this can apply to larger parcels. The purpose is to help landowners make informed decisions that impact water, wildlife populations, recreational opportunities, and forest health.

IMPORTANCE OF SMALL FORESTS

Did you know that in the US, 42% forestland is owned by private families? In Virginia, 64% of our forestlands are privately owned. In the mid-Atlantic region, at least two-thirds of forest landowners own 10 acres or less. As land is divided into smaller parcels, forests become fragmented and corridors providing safe travel for wildlife are eliminated. Therefore, it is increasingly important that small forestland owners create and follow a land management plan that provides for sustainable forestry and wildlife management without restricting other forms of land use.



Photo courtesy of Mike Jones

The Woods in Your Backyard is a four-part manual and workbook that walks readers through the steps necessary to create a personalized management plan suited to the landowner's goals and resources in a way that protects and improves forest integrity.

PART 1: INTRODUCTION

Have you outlined your goals for your property? Are you familiar with your property's boundaries and possible legal constraints? Part 1 of the manual guides you through the process of exploring the possibilities of what you may do with your land, mapping the property, and identifying legal and physical restrictions that may exist.



Photo by Jason Fisher

PART 2: GET TO KNOW YOUR PROPERTY

Natural areas can look very different. Part 2 helps you to divide your land into management units. You will also learn about obtaining aerial photos of your property and how to identify common tree species of the mid-Atlantic region.

PART 3: ECOLOGICAL PRINCIPLES

Are you familiar with forest succession, carrying capacity, and the value of dead trees? Part 3 of the manual describes the fundamental principles of forestry and ecology that you'll need to understand when creating and altering a natural area.



Photo by Jason Fisher

PART 4: PUT YOUR KNOWLEDGE INTO PRACTICE

Whether your goals are recreation, aesthetics, environmental, or economic, Part 4 will help you meet your goals and instruct you in techniques for land management, tree planting, and trail design and maintenance.

APPENDICES

Don't know which trees to plant or how to attract certain wildlife species? Tables in the appendices describe the characteristics of mid-Atlantic tree species and their benefit to wildlife. You can also read about the specific needs of common wildlife species and how to provide them on your property.