

Forest Landowner Update Winter 2006, Volume 20, No. 1

A Word From the Virginia Tree Farm Committee

The American Tree Farm Systems mission calls for “promoting the growth of renewable forest resources on private lands while protecting environmental benefits and increasing public understanding of benefits of productive forestry”, and every State Tree Farm Committee is attempting to fulfill this mission. The Virginia Tree Farm Committee is comprised of DOF foresters, independent forestry consultants and private landowner volunteers and this group works tirelessly to educate the private forest landowners of the benefits to having a Certified Tree Farm sign placed on their land.

In this age of technological advances the Virginia Tree Farm committee can now be found “on the Web”. The Virginia Forestry Association has graciously agreed to link the Tree Farm Committee to their web address, which is www.vaforestry.org. The obvious purpose of this development is to increase the “public understanding of the benefits of productive forestry”. Our site will display the names of the Virginia Tree Farm Committee’s officers and the various region chairmen. The information will include the various ways Tree Farmers, landowners and the public can contact these individuals. Additionally it will identify the Virginia counties that comprise each of the regions. If you have not previously added the Virginia Forestry Association web address to your “favorites” web pages, please do so very soon and click on Resources/Links. Look for the Virginia Tree Farm site that will contain the information previously mentioned. Also, investigate the American Forest Foundation for additional information concerning certification of Tree Farms.

The addition of the Web site is just another effort by the Virginia Tree Farm Committee to continue the mission of education outreach, for it is the goal of the committee to have the public recognize that a Certified Tree Farm sign signifies, *a sign of good forest practices*, promoted by Foresters, Consultants and private forest landowners across the Commonwealth of Virginia.