



Sustainable Forestry

Jennifer Gagnon

Virginia Forest Landowner Education Program

jgagnon@vt.edu



Virginia Forest Landowner Education Program

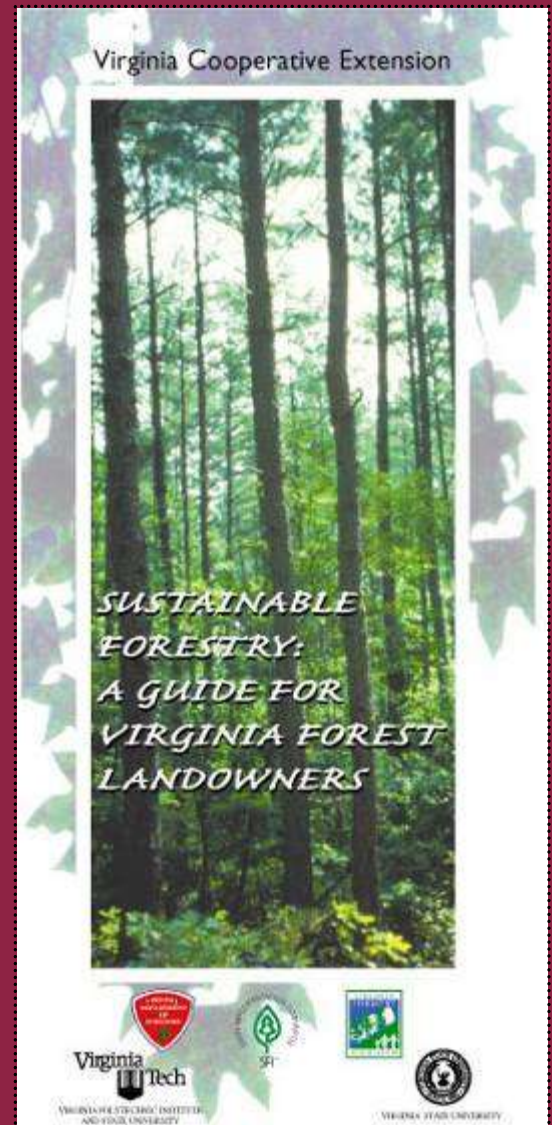
Presented to:
Sustainable Timber
Harvesting & Marketing
February 2010

Definition

- Those forestry practices that meet present needs without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs



Virginia Forest Landowner Education Program



Definition

- Specifically, integrates the regeneration, growing, nurturing, and harvesting of trees for useful products while conserving soil, air, water quality, wildlife, plants, aquatic habitat, and landscape aesthetic quality.



Certification

- 3rd party voluntary process to recognize sustainably-managed forests
- Tool to foster forest stewardship
- Forest Management Certification on Private Forestlands in the U.S. - www.pinchot.org



Certification

- Sustainable Forestry Initiative
www.sfiprogram.org
- American Tree Farm System
www.treefarmssystem.org
- Forest Stewardship Council
www.fscus.org



Virginia Forest Landowner Education Program

Practice 1

- Forest Management Planning
 - Determine what you have
 - Set long-term goals and objectives
 - Schedule activities
 - Review and revise management practices



Resources

- Forest Management Plan
 - Stewardship Plan
 - Virginia Department of Forestry
 - Consulting forester
 - Conservation Activity Plan
 - Consulting forester (cost share available)
 - Wildlife Management Plan
 - Department of Game & Inland Fisheries
 - Forest Industry Landowner Assistance Programs



Practice 2

- Forest Productivity
 - Prompt reforestation
 - Carbon storage
 - Soil protection
 - Forest protection
 - Wildfire, exotics, diseases



Resources

- Virginia Department of Forestry
 - Area foresters
 - Seedling nursery
 - www.dof.virginia.gov
- Cost share programs
 - Reforestation of
Timberlands program
- Best Management Practices



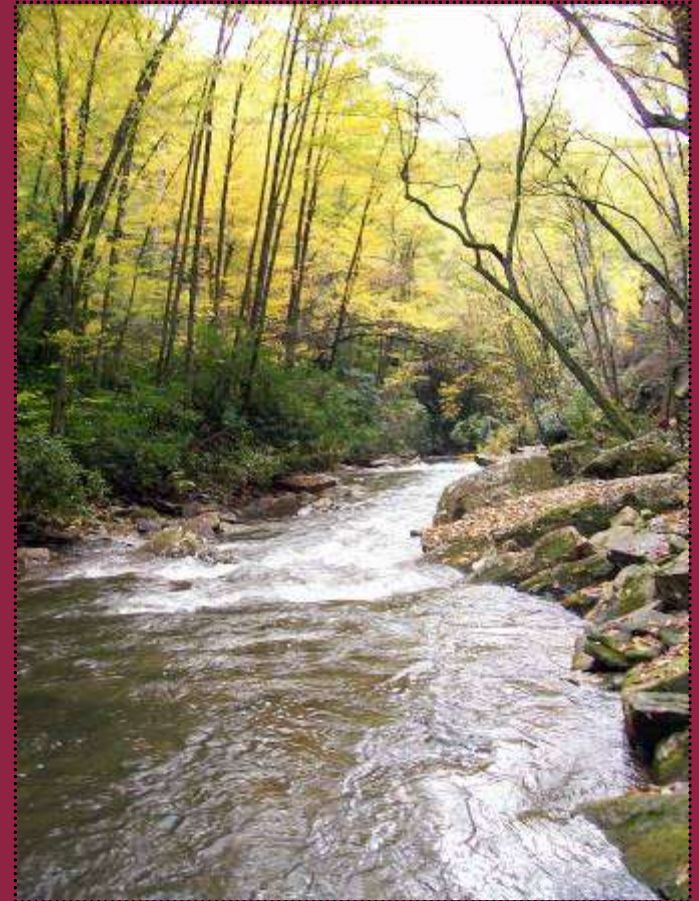
Resources

- Nonnative Invasive Plants of Southern Forests
- Virginia Forest Landowner Update
- Virginia Natural Heritage Program
www.dcr.virginia.gov/natural_heritage
- Virginia Native Plant Society
www.vnps.org
- USDA Forest Service
<http://www.fs.fed.us/invasivespecies>

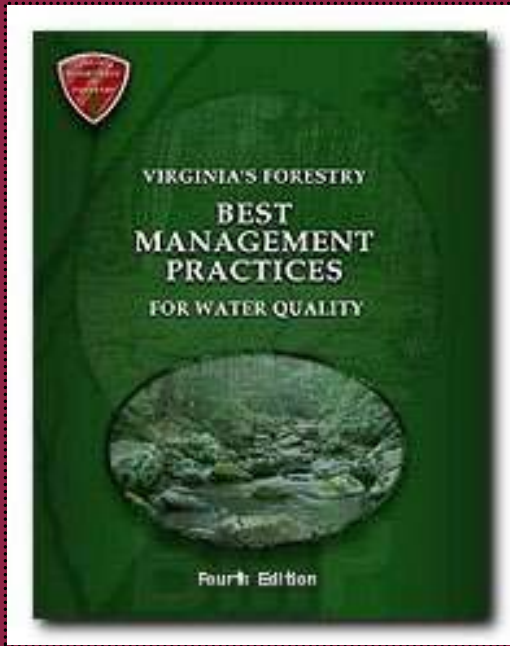


Practice 3

- Protect and maintain water resources
 - Best Management Practices
 - Riparian buffer zones



Resources



- Riparian Buffer Tax Credit
- Landowner Incentive Program
- Best Management Practices
- On-line Learning
 - Laws Affecting Water Quality and Forestry Operations in Virginia
 - Protecting Water Quality with Best Management Practices in Virginia
 - Free and available at:

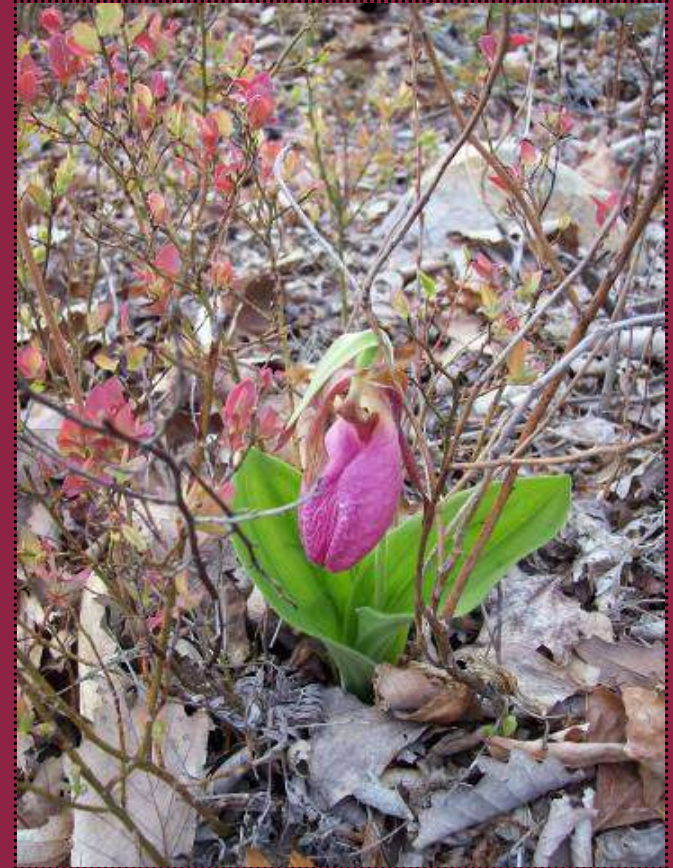
www.cnr.vt.edu/forestupdate



Virginia Forest Landowner Education Program

Practice 4

- Conserve Biological Diversity
 - Promote native diversity
 - Sound wildlife habitat management
 - Protect T & E species
 - Conserve old-growth



Resources

- Guide to threatened and endangered species on private lands in Virginia
- Natural Heritage Program
 - www.dcr.virginia.gov/natural_heritage
- Virginia Department of Game & Inland Fisheries
 - www.dgif.virginia.gov
 - Regional biologist



Practice 5

- Manage visual quality
 - Manage impact of harvesting on visual quality
 - Manage shape, size and placement of clearcuts
 - Green-up requirement



Practice 6

- Protect special sites
 - Identify and manage unique habitats



Resources

- Natural Heritage Program
 - www.dcr.virginia.gov/natural_heritage
- Environmental Protection Agency
 - www.epa.gov/owow/wetlands/types
- The Nature Conservancy
 - www.nature.org



Virginia Forest Landowner Education Program

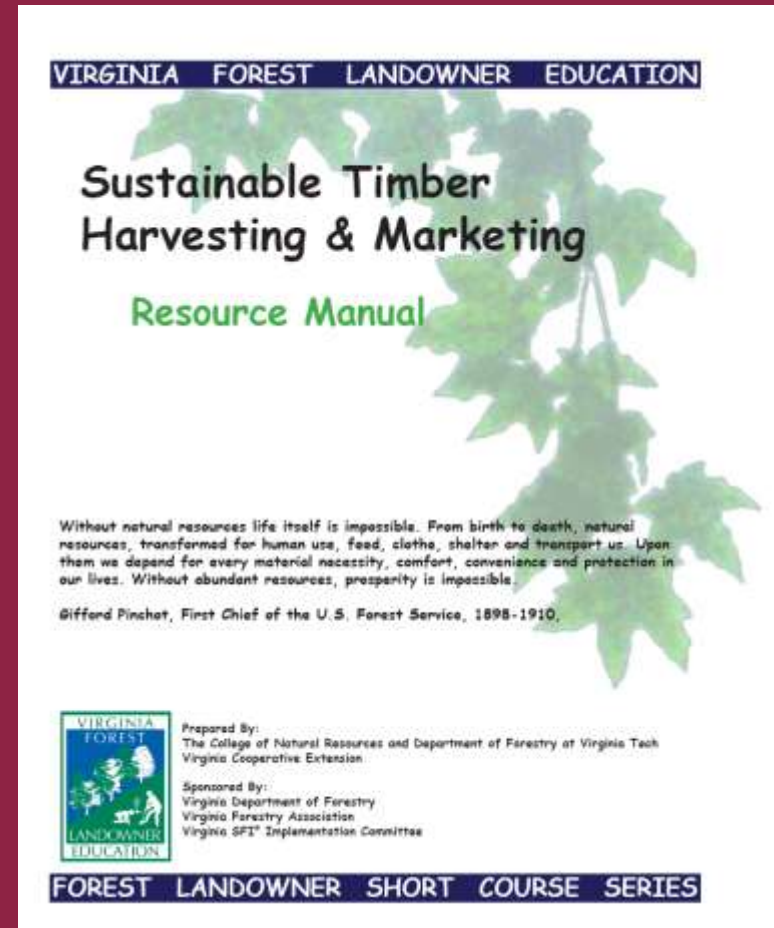
Practice 7

- Efficient use of forest resources
 - Minimize waste
 - Efficient utilization of harvested materials



Resources

- Consulting forester
 - www.dof.virginia.gov
 - www.acf-foresters.org
- Timber sale contract
- Reputable logger



Virginia Forest Landowner Education Program



Jennifer Gagnon
VFLEP Coordinator
228 Cheatham Hall
Blacksburg, VA 24061

jgagnon@vt.edu

www.cnr.vt.edu/forestupdate



Virginia Forest Landowner Education Program