



AFA NEWSROOM

NEWS FOR ALABAMA'S FORESTRY COMMUNITY



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AFA Newsroom V9 No. 13, July 1, 2014

AFA Announces ForestPAC Endorsements for July 15 Runoff

The Alabama Forestry Association's political action committee, ForestPAC, has issued its list of endorsees for the July 15, 2014 runoff elections. The candidates and the offices they are seeking includes:



- >> **Chip Beeker**, Public Service Commission Place-2.
- >> **Tim Melson**, State Senate District 1.
- >> **Shay Shelnett**, State Senate District 17.
- >> **Clyde Chambliss**, State Senate District



- 30.
- >> **Mac Buttram** (previously endorsed), House of Representatives District 12.
- >> **Arnold Mooney**, House of Representatives District 43.

We will be forwarding information about our endorsed candidates as the election date approaches. Stay informed and get involved!

Hancock NRG CEO Will be Panelist at AFA Annual Meeting in September

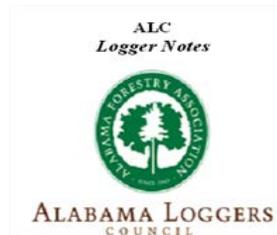


We are excited to confirm that Daniel P. "Dan" Christensen, CEO of Hancock Natural Resources Group, has committed to participate in the AFA Annual Meeting to be held September 7-9th at the Perdido Beach Resort in Orange Beach, Alabama.

Mr. Christensen will be participating in the "State of the Union" panel scheduled for Monday morning, September 8th. Joining Dan on the panel is John Luke, Chairman of MeadWestVaco. Other panelists will be announced soon.

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Calendar of Events

Loading Events...



Bentley Provides Help for People Who Lost Jobs when Courtland Mill Closed

MONTGOMERY— Gov. Robert Bentley has awarded \$823,755 to assist up to 1,100 former employees of International Paper Co.'s Courtland mill in north Alabama to obtain new jobs.

Alabama applied for a special National Emergency Grant from the U.S. Department of Labor to enable the state to boost assistance at Alabama Career Center offices in Sheffield and Decatur to help the former mill employees secure new jobs.



[Read more...](#)

Alabama Forest Resources Report for 2013 Released by AFC

The Alabama Forestry Commission has released the Alabama Forest Resources Report for 2013, which provides the most up-to-date information on the condition of the standing timber inventory for the state and the general health and condition of forestry in Alabama.



[Read more...](#)

Supreme Court Rules Obama Exceeded Authority with Recess Appointments



The Supreme Court delivered a blow Thursday to President Obama, ruling that he went too far in making recess appointments to the National Labor Relations Board.

In a unanimous decision, the high court sided with Senate Republicans and limited the president's power to fill high-level vacancies with temporary appointments. It was the first-ever Supreme Court test involving the long-standing practice of presidents naming appointees when the Senate is on break.

[Read more...](#)

Supreme Court Rules Against EPA on Global Warming Rules

The Supreme Court delivered a setback to the Environmental Protection Agency on Monday (June 23rd), placing limits on the sole Obama administration program already in place to deal with power plant and factory emissions of gases blamed for global warming.



The decision does not affect recent and highly controversial EPA proposals to set the first-ever national standards for new and existing power plants. One recent proposal would aim for a 30 percent emissions reduction by 2030. [Read more...](#)

NAFO Weighs in on Supreme Court Ruling on EPA Warming Rules

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The following statement was issued by Dave Tenny, NAFO President & CEO, in response to today's 5-4 ruling by the U.S. Supreme Court in Utility Air Regulatory Group v. EPA:



"Today's decision by the Supreme Court partially fixes the problem in the Tailoring Rule by concluding that GHG emissions—including biomass carbon emissions—don't trigger onerous Clean Air Act PSD permits. However, because facilities must consider GHG emissions when emissions of other pollutants trigger permits, we need now more than ever to adopt a carbon accounting framework that clarifies once and for all carbon emissions are de minimis and should not be subject to PSD permitting requirements under any circumstances. [Read more...](#)

U.S. House Speaker to Sue President Obama for Constitutional Overreach



The following was sent by House Speaker John Boehner to rank-and-file Republicans about the lawsuit he intends to bring against the administration over abuse of executive authority:

"For years Americans have watched with concern as President Barack Obama has declined to faithfully execute the laws of our country - ignoring some statutes completely, selectively enforcing others, and at times, creating laws of his own..." [Read more...](#)

Weyerhaeuser Receives Jefferson Award for Outstanding Service



Weyerhaeuser

FEDERAL WAY, Wash., June 19, 2014 /PRNewswire/ -- Founded in 1972 by Jacqueline Kennedy Onassis, Senator Robert Taft Jr., and Sam Beard, the Jefferson Awards are considered a "Nobel Prize" for public service in the United States.

The organization annually recognizes outstanding individual contributors to society and has also launched a number of programs that promote youth and workplace engagement in public service. [Read more...](#)

TCW Workshop In Auburn Still looking for a Few More Teachers



Last Call! A few slots remain for formal and non-formal educators in the upcoming Alabama Teachers Conservation Workshop. Please tell your favorite teachers about the summer's best environmental workshop! The workshop will be July 14-17, 2014, in Auburn.

For more information or to register, contact Ashley Smith, 334-614-5048 or asmith@alaforestry.org.

Thanks for Your Help in Finding Candidates for 2014 Logger of the Year

We want to thank those of you who submitted recommendations for our 2014 Logger of the Year program. Through your input, we now have several highly qualified Logger of the Year nominees to consider.

Over the next few weeks we will go through the vetting process and pick our nominee. So really, the hardest part starts now! To those of you who responded, thanks again for taking the time to submit nominations for this prestigious award.

Tree Farm Inspector Training Workshop Set for July 2, 2012 in Huntsville

A Tree Farm Inspector Training Workshop will be held on July 2, 2014 at the Alabama Cooperative Extension Service, office in Huntsville, Alabama. The training is for forest resource professionals interested in becoming a certified Tree Farm Inspector or for former Inspectors who need to update their credentials to the 2010 Tree Farm Standards of Sustainability. It will be held from 9 AM until 1 PM. Three CFE credit hours will be awarded to attendees completing the workshop.



The ACES office is called the Charles Stone Agricultural Center and is located at 819 Cook Ave, Huntsville, AL 35801. [Click here for map](#). To register, complete the online registration form at alaforestry.org or contact Karen Boyd at 256-810-6807 or kboyd@alaforestry.org

Calling for Tree Farmer of the Year Nominations for 2014

Each year, the Alabama Tree Farm Committee recognizes superior stewardship of its Tree Farm members through the Alabama State Tree Farmer of the Year Award. These landowners are chosen for their remarkable efforts to demonstrate, communicate and spread sustainable practices. The winner will be recognized at the annual Alabama Natural Resources Council Awards Banquet scheduled for February 6, 2015.

To nominate a Tree Farmer for their outstanding efforts, please visit www.alaforestry.org/treefarm and download the State Tree Farmer of the Year Nomination Form. Nomination deadline is September 1, 2014.

The Tree Farm Auction for 2014 Annual Meeting Needs Your Help!

The Tree Farm Auction for the 2014 Annual Meeting in September needs your help in finding items to auction off for the annual fund-raising event. The proceeds of the auction go to enhance Alabama's Tree Farm program. [Click here for details about the auction](#). To download a [Tree Farm Donation Form](#), [click here](#).

State Agriculture Department Reports Reason for North Alabama Deer Die-off

The Alabama Department of Agriculture and Industries (ADAI) cooperating with the USDA Reference Lab in Iowa has confirmed that Malignant Catarrhal Fever (MCF) also known as ovine herpesvirus-2 (OvHv-2) caused a recent die-off at a licensed deer-breeding facility in North Alabama. MCF is a potentially fatal viral disease of cloven-hoofed (even-hoofed) animals such as cattle, deer, and pigs.



[Read more...](#)

API Reports on Hidden Costs of Alabama State, Local Worker Pensions



The Alabama Policy Institute, a conservative think tank located in Birmingham, continues to sound the alarm of a pending economic disaster if state and local governments don't address the "hidden costs" of [public employee pension systems](#).

[View Video...](#)

BREAKING NEWS! Supreme Court Rules for Hobby Lobby; Against Unions

In two highly anticipated rulings, the U.S. Supreme Court ruled on Monday that [Hobby Lobby can opt out of the Obamacare requirement](#) that they provide certain contraception for their employees in violation of their religious beliefs and, in a separate case, also ruled that [unions cannot force non-union workers to pay union dues](#).

Columnist Dr. Thomas Sowell says Obama Creating Lame Duck Country



Pundits are pointing to President Barack Obama's recent decline in public opinion polls and saying he may become another "lame-duck" president, unable to accomplish much during his final term in office.

That has happened to other presidents, but it's unlikely to happen to this one.

[Read more...](#)

2014 National Tree Farmer Convention in Pittsburgh July 17-19



You're invited! Join Tree Farmers, woodland owners, and forest enthusiasts at the 2014 National Tree Farmer Convention featuring: a line-up of educational sessions on topics ranging from forest and wildlife management to the generational transfer of your land; a field day at Burnham Woodlot - Pennsylvania's 2010 Outstanding Tree Farm of the Year; optional tours for you to discover some unique Pittsburgh experiences; and of course the chance to meet up with old friends and make new ones. [Read more...](#)

Piedmont Golf Event Turned them Out on June 11 at Greystone

The Piedmont District held its annual golf tournament on June 11 and, by all accounts, had a great turnout on a day that threatened rain but turned



out beautiful at the Greystone course in Birmingham. (We will give a full report on this event in later editions).

Remaining events for 2014 include:



- **Sept. 19.** Annual Kronospan Event at Silver Lakes, Robert Trent Jones Golf Trail. Contact: Jeremy Oliver at (256) 282-2559.
- **Sept. 20.** The Annual Archery Shoot sponsored by the Auburn University Forestry Club will be held at the Sportsman's Outpost in Waverly, Ala. Contact: Tom Gallagher, tgallagher@auburn.edu.
- **Nov. 7.** Westervelt Sporting Clays & Skeet Shoot, at Westervelt Lodge near Aliceville. Contact: George Franklin at, (205) 562-5699 or Lydia Fields at (205) 562-5482.

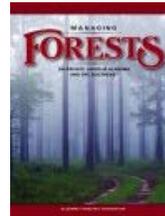
Photos: In above left, Deb Schneider, director of the CHIPS Center, presents awards to winners at the Piedmont Golf Event at Greystone in Birmingham. In photo at right, Children's Hospital workerbees hand out goody bags to Piedmont event participants.

Don't Forget About Our Great New Books on Forestry

We now have two books that you can use to learn more about forestland



management and the history of the forest products industry in Alabama. These books make outstanding gifts for birthdays, Christmas and any other gift-giving purpose. The book on the left, *Green Gold: Alabama's Forests and Forest Industries*, provides the first comprehensive history of forestry in



Alabama, from when the Indians cleared forests for agriculture to the modern era.

The book on the right, *Managing Forests on Private Lands in Alabama and the Southeast*, is probably the best book every produced on managing forests for timber production and for preserving water and wildlife resources.

If you are interested in owning either or both of these books, contact Liz Chambers at (334) 481-2135 or lchambers@alaforestry.org.