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A note from the Deputy Director

February has brought unusual winter weather to much of the country. Across the landscape, Forest Stewards Guild members and partners are adapting forests to the changing climate and sharing forest wisdom to increase ecosystem resiliency. We are [supporting rural voices](#) in forest-dependent communities through the Rural Voices for Conservation Coalition.

The Guild is also investing in the next generation of forestry and fire professionals. We sponsor a forestry internship through the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. [Read our 2019 intern's story](#) and be inspired! We are also growing an "ecosystem" of [fire practitioners](#) through youth corps programs that launch future forest stewards down a fulfilling career path.

Our Membership and Policy Council's working groups are busy addressing topics ranging from student engagement to plantation forestry. None of these activities would be possible without your support. Many thanks to those who sustain your membership in the Forest Stewards Guild! You are, as [Barrie Brusila writes](#) in her 25th anniversary reflection essay, our roots.



Amanda

Remember the options to [auto-renew](#), or set up [monthly giving](#), which help the Guild plan for the future and redirect critical time and resources from administrative tasks to supporting our forests directly.

NEWS FROM THE FOREST

Interning with the Guild

Written by Casandra Downs.

I never realized how blessed I was to be born in a small valley town beneath the Rocky Mountains of Utah, until I saw how it shaped my adult life. Joining the Forest Stewards Guild's team as a forestry and wildlife intern, I was given the unique experience of working at two National Wildlife Refuges (NWR) in both Georgia and South Carolina for a total of six months. It gave me the experience of working in two different environments, I got to be introduced to two different skill sets, two different ways to run the

same organization, and two groups of amazing people.

[Read More](#)

The Guild Builds New Wildfire Career Pipeline

Written by Meg Matonis

The drip torches are lit, and the Forest Stewards Guild is blazing the path toward a more progressive fire management community. The U.S. Air Force awarded the Guild a contract with multi-year potential to place wildland fire operations technicians at three installations across the country. The Guild's partnership with AFWFB furthers our vision of an inclusive fire program that provides training and employment opportunities and boosts prescribed fire capacity. According to Jennifer Mueller, Guild Training Specialist, "We are building an ecosystem of fire practitioners. We introduce young adults to wildland fire through hands-on training and offer them gainful employment in a supportive environment."

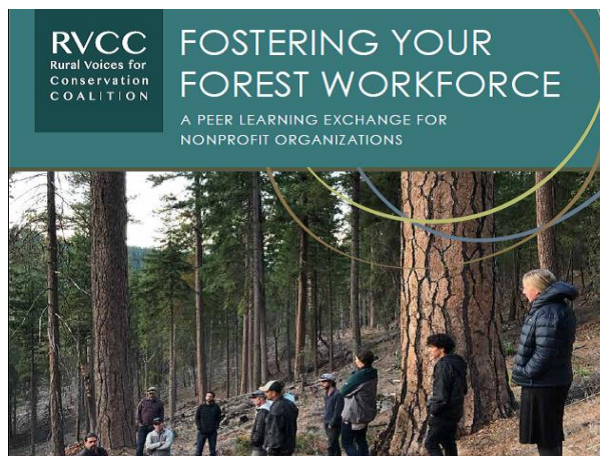


[Read More](#)

Guild's work with RVCC

Written by Zander Evans.

A central part of the Guild's mission is to promote ecologically, economically, and socially responsible land stewardship. Policy at the federal, state, or local level is often the most effective tool. In the world of policy, the Rural Voices for Conservation Coalition (RVCC) is essential for the Guild to stay on top of important issues and make our voice heard. RVCC is committed to finding and promoting solutions through collaborative, place-based work that recognizes the inextricable link between the long-term health of the land and the well-being of rural communities. Their mission is well aligned with the Guild's.



[Read More](#)

Celebrating the Guild's 25 years...

Check out [this month's 25th anniversary reflections](#) from Barrie Brusila.

Remember to offer up reflections, photos, and other celebrations you may have to share on our [anniversary webpage](#)! Email colleen@forestguild.org.

Upcoming Events

Want Forest Stewards Guild members to know about an event? Have a 2019 Guild Gathering site or project idea? Let us know! Email colleen@forestguild.org.

February 25	Webinar	Boundary-Spanning for Collective Action: Managing Wildfire Risk in the West
Feb 26 - 27	Corvallis, OR	Forest Health in Oregon: State of the State 2020 Conference
March 2 - 4	Albuquerque, NM	Collaborative Forest Landscape Restoration Workshop
March 3	Webinar (series)	Forest Adaptation Webinar Series - #3: Climate Refugia
March 10	Webinar (2-4p MT)	Incorporating bird needs into piñon-juniper woodland management
March 18	Webinar (12p MT)	Foresters for the Birds - a national view
March 21 - Apr 3	Johnstown, NV	TREX, Nevada
March 26	Webinar (11a MT)	Conversion from Forest to Non-Forest
March 28 (Apr 4)	Cedar Mtn, NC	DuPont State Recreational Forest Learn and Burn
April 3	Proposals due	National Tribal & Indigenous Climate Conference runs Aug 31 to Sept 4
April 25 - 26	Lyman, ME	Women's Chainsaw Safety Course
May 16	Centerville, PA	Loving the Land Through Working Forests Conference
May 30	Morgantown, WV	Save the date! Workshop focused on ecological management in central Appalachians hardwood coves.
Late August	Asheville, NC	25th Anniversary Guild Gathering! More soon on <i>celebrating the roots of Guild forestry</i> .
October	Corvallis, OR	25th Anniversary Guild Gathering! More details soon.

Welcome New Members

Professional members

John Gifford, FORECON, Inc.	Falconer, NY
John Irwin	Lyndonville, VT
Andrew Morrison, Forest*Care	Dummerston, VT
Samantha Schinnell, Ecological Fire Solutions, LLC	Ridgefield, WA

Affiliate members

Jon Leibowitz	Montpelier, VT
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Benjamin Rifkin

Charlottesville, VA

Student members

Jeremy Cruz, University of Alabama	Temple, TX
Joseph House, Hocking College	Nelsonville, OH
Molly Jennings, Central Washington University	Ellensburg, WA
Kenna Jordan, University of Alabama	Winthrop Harbor, IL
Bridget Levy, Oregon State University	Seal Rock, OR
Jillian Martel, University of Connecticut	Bristol, CT
Henry Pitts, University of Alabama	Tuscaloosa, AL
Megan Rondinelli, University of Alabama	Frisco, TX
Hannah Stumpfl, University of Alabama	Springboro, OH

Stewards Circle Donors

Thank you to all of our [Stewards Circle donors](#) for supporting the Guild's work!

Ross Morgan

Craftsbury Common, VT

Organizational Sponsors

Thank you to our [organizational sponsors](#)! Your support is essential to fulfilling our mission of putting the forest first.





How to help

Please help us reach our 25th Anniversary Challenges! Set up [auto-renew](#) when you renew your membership (goal: 25% of memberships on auto-renew), or set up [monthly giving](#) when you donate (\$25 monthly recurring donations put you in the Stewards Circle level, but no amount is too small). These tools help the Guild redirect time and resources from administrative tasks to work we all want to see done on the ground. As always, you can also help in these ways: become an [organizational sponsor](#) or join our [Stewards Circle](#) today! In fact, a [donation](#) at any level directly supports our forests. We also welcome professional and affiliate [members](#) who advance the stewardship of forests across the landscape.

You can also support the Forest Stewards Guild by shopping on [Amazon Smile](#) for any holiday gifts you cannot buy locally. And, share our [GuideStar Profile](#) with anyone looking for an upstanding charity.

Notes

Congratulations to Guild member Kathryn Fernholz, just named the first woman to serve in the Chair position on AFF's Board! Also, Fred Clark is the new vice chair of AFF's Woodland Operating Committee and Jamey French is vice-chair! All Guild members and this is all great news!

Amy Grotta, Guild member and overall advocate for the Earth, has died. [Read her husband's letter to the Guild](#), and her [obituary](#), which offers ways to share your memories and condolences.

Guild member Bob Williams shares Maya Lin's Ghost Forest Opening June 2020. For Madison Square Park Conservancy's 40th public art commission, Maya Lin will realize a new, site-responsive installation that brings into focus the ravages of climate change on woodlands around the world.

Have notes you'd like to share with fellow Guild members? Contact Colleen Robinson, membership@forestguild.org.

Publications and Research

Reducing Fire, and Cutting Carbon Emissions, the Aboriginal Way. This interesting article in The New York Times describes preventative burning practices of aboriginal people in Australia. This message about fire will reach a lot of people and creates a more nuanced discussion about how the timing and severity of fire influences its effect on humans and ecosystems.

The Guild's own Matt Piccarello attended and presented on FSYC at this Peer Learning Exchange last fall hosted by the Rural Voices for Conservation Coalition. *Fostering Your Forest Workforce* is a summary of the learning exchange.

Check out this [case study: Working Together to Increase the Pace and Scale of Prescribed Fire](#). The Guild's Zander Evans and Matt Piccarello are two of the authors.

The Intersection between Climate Adaptation, Mitigation, and Natural Resources: An Empirical Analysis of Forest Management. Climate relationships with increasing wildfire in the southwestern US from 1984 to 2015. Increasingly warm and dry climate has a strong relationship to increasing wildfires, particularly high severity fires.

The Effects of Previous Wildfires on Subsequent Wildfire Behavior and Post-Wildfire Recovery. Northern Rockies Fire Science Network Science Review No. 1, September 2014. Updated 2019 (update linked above).

Jobs

Be sure to check out the [job opportunities](#) in forest stewardship on the Forest Stewards Guild webpage! These include a [summer internship with the Guild](#) in SC, [two prescribed fire jobs with the Guild](#) in CO, a [graduate research assistantship](#) at Mississippi State University, an [Assistant Professor of Practice - Extension Forester](#) at Oregon State University, [three forest research science jobs](#) at Wisconsin DNR, a [Forest Management Specialist](#) with TNC in VA, a [Fire Communications Specialist](#) with NAFSE, a [seasonal Prescribed Burn Crew Member](#) in WI, and many more!

Forest Stewards Guild - <http://foreststewardsguild.org> - 505-983-8992 - membership@forestguild.org

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