



Mountain Cove Forest Management and Conservation in the Central Appalachians Fall 2021 Learning Exchange

Date: Friday September 10

Location: Morgantown, West Virginia

Register Here:

<https://foreststewardsguild.org/event/mesophytic-cove-forest-management-and-conservation-in-the-central-appalachians-learning-exchange/>

Pre-approved for 5 SAF CFEs

“Indoor” Session Location: WVU Natural Resource Center Open Air Pavilion	
9:00-9:10am	Registration Doors open, registration, coffee
9:10-9:25am	Welcome Presentation An overview of the Forest Stewards Guild’s Southeast Program and the Central Appalachian Critical Biodiversity Area (<i>Dakota Wagner, Southeast Region Coordinator</i>) Dakota Wagner is passionate about bringing the concepts of ecological forestry to all types of communities, particularly those not traditionally involved in natural resource management. She lives in Asheville, North Carolina and is currently the Southeast Region Coordinator with the Forest Stewards Guild, involved in coordinating the Women Owning Woodlands Network, and on the Executive Board of ForestHer NC. She holds a B.S. in Environmental Sciences with a concentration in ecological forestry from Warren Wilson College.
9:25-9:55am	Presentation: Exploring Cove Forests (<i>Jamie Schuler, Associate Professor of Silviculture Program Coordinator for WVU Forests</i>) Topics to be covered Mesophytic cove ecology and silviculture <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identification and conservation values of cove sites • Threats to coves due to incompatible management Dr. Schuler received B.S. and M.S. degrees from SUNY-ESF in forestry and forest management, and a Ph.D. in forestry from North Carolina State University. He teaches courses in Silviculture, Forest Management and Planning, and Sugarbush Management & Maple Syrup Production, as well as coordinates the Forest Resources Management Summer Camp Program. He is responsible for coordinating the management, research, and teaching

	<p>activities on WVU's 8,000+ ac of forests. Dr. Schuler's research interests include intensive management of forests, regeneration practices, plantation establishment strategies, bio-feedstock production, and mine reclamation.</p> <p>https://www.davis.wvu.edu/faculty-staff/directory/jamie-schuler</p>
9:55-10:25	<p>Presentation: Opportunities for Enhancement Through Responsible Forest Management (<i>Melissa Thomas-Van Gundy, Research Forester US Forest Service</i>)</p> <p>Before coming to the Timber and Watershed Lab in 2006, Melissa worked for 16 years on the Monongahela National Forest as forester, fire planner, and forest ecologist. Her research includes stand- and landscape-level projects focused on the restoration and sustainable management of forested ecosystems in the eastern United States. These projects include investigating the role of fire in mesic and sub-mesic oak forests, using witness trees to understand historical forest conditions, restoration of red spruce forests, and restoration of American chestnut. Melissa lives in Elkins WV with her husband Doug and one very spoiled dog. She has a bad habit of making origami while in meetings.</p> <p>https://www.nrs.fs.fed.us/people/mthomasvangundy</p>
10:25-10:55am	<p>Presentation: Managing Cove Forests with Water Quality and Watershed Health Considerations (<i>Chad Landress, Fisheries Biologist US Forest Service</i>)</p> <p>As Fisheries Biologist for the Monongahela National Forest, Chad is involved in multiple resource focused management to assure protection of watershed processes and aquatic species. His work includes maintaining and restoring hillslope hydrology, aquatic organism passage, stream and riparian habitat and floodplain functions. Given the steep topography of the Monongahela N.F., forest management in cove forests is a challenging component of maintaining healthy watersheds. He holds a B.S. in Aquatic Ecology from Kennesaw State University and a M.S. in Natural Resource Management and Fisheries Management from Utah State University.</p>
10:55-11:35am	<p>Presentation: Managing Invasive Plants Pre- and Post-Harvest (<i>Russ Richardson, Appalachian Investments, WV Registered Forester #263</i>)</p> <p>Technical training and discussion about the importance of managing non-native invasive plant species before and after harvest operations.</p>
11:35-12:15pm	<p>Discussion Over Lunch Lunch will be provided</p>
<p>Outdoor Session</p> <p>Location(s): West Virginia Land Trust Preserve Land and Lake of the Woods Hunting Club</p>	
12:15-12:35pm	Travel to Field Site 1
12:35-3:00pm	West Virginia Land Trust Preserve: Tom's Run

	<p>Hosted by West Virginia Land Trust (<i>Rick Landenberger, and Amy if available</i>)</p> <p>“The stands at Tom's Run vary from early successional 'old-fields' of red maple, black cherry, poplar, and locust to 'almost old-growth' oak-hickory and mixed-mesophytic stands of between 100 and 140 years old. Of particular interest is a large stand of recently (2014) high-graded mixed-mesophytic forest, previously quite similar to the older mixed-mesophytic forest but now radically different in species composition and structure.”</p> <p>Topics that will be addressed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Combatting invasive species • Regenerating oak species • Hydrologic impacts of management <p>Dr. Rick Landenberger is the Science and Land Management Specialist for West Virginia Land Trust. Rick oversees all management plans for our nature preserves and natural areas – from writing the plans to executing and managing the development. Rick’s education includes: a BA in Environmental Science-Ecology from State University of New York at Plattsburgh, a MS in Forest Resource Management from State University of New York – College of Environmental Science and Forestry at Syracuse, and a Ph.D. in Forest Resource Science from West Virginia University (1999). He is a Certified Ecologist and PSIA Level II Telemark Instructor. With a background in forest ecology, remote sensing, and wildlands recreation, Rick enjoys every opportunity to be outdoors. https://www.wvlandtrust.org/staff-web/dr-rick-landenberger/</p> <p>A registered forester with over 27 years of professional experience, Land Protection Specialist Amy Cimarolli’s work for the West Virginia Land Trust encompasses on-the-ground stewardship of forests and rare wildlife habitats and connection-creating conversations for conservation of private and public lands in Central Appalachia. Her appreciation for that state’s beauty and natural diversity has made Amy a West Virginian by choice. Her passion and love for forests — first recognized as a career path at Virginia Tech, where she earned her B.S. in Forestry & Wildlife and M.S. in Forest Management — has led her to experiences at Foresters Incorporated, The Nature Conservancy in West Virginia, Canaan Valley Wildlife Refuge, and her own forestry consulting business and energizes her work to protect land for private landowners and steward land for public users with the land trust. https://www.wvlandtrust.org/staff-web/amy-cimarolli/</p>
3:00-3:10	<p>Wrap Up Final remarks, questions, and Exit Survey.</p>

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