

N.C. Tree Farm Program Annual Meeting

Laura and Maurice Hull, 2011 N.C. Tree Farmers of the Year, will host the N.C. Tree Farm Program's 2018 Annual Meeting at their Caswell County Tree Farm, Waukegan Farms. Named for the Algonquin Indian word for "sheltering place," Waukegan Farms is a peaceful wooded retreat near the community of Semora.

Since 2002, when they purchased the first piece of their Tree Farm, the Hulls have transformed an abandoned tobacco farm from a diamond in the rough to the healthy and productive Tree Farm it is today. Their management efforts focus primarily on wildlife habitat restoration and sustainability. To that end, they maintain several waterfowl impoundments, fly-fishing platforms, deer stands and 22 miles of trails and road. They conduct controlled burns on a three-year rotation, plant crops for wildlife and operate entirely on solar energy. With a lot of hard work, their vision of rehabilitating wildlife habitat has been successful. Today they have wild quail, bear, turkey, deer, ducks, geese, rabbits and other wildlife on a property that previously was neglected and overgrown.

Join us on October 27 as we tour Waukegan Farms and learn management practices that landowners can implement to transform a diamond in the rough to a Tree Farm that meets their objectives.

We'll see live demonstrations of a prescribed burn and portable sawmill, and the stocking of a new pond with bluegill and sunfish. We'll also celebrate the accomplishments of our Tree Farmers and volunteers as we recognize Tree Farm anniversaries, the Inspector of the Year and the Tree Farmer of the Year.

Diamonds From the Rough:

Shaping Your Tree Farm to
Meet Your Objectives



October 27 Itinerary | Register by October 15

2:15 p.m. Registration Opens

3:00 Welcome

Awards Presentation

- 25-, 50-Year Tree Farm Anniversaries
- Hardhat Awards
- Inspector of the Year
- 2018 Outstanding Tree Farmer of the Year

3:35 Overview of Waukegan Farms

4:00 Tour Begins | Stops Include:

Prescribed Fire Demonstration

- The N.C. Forest Service will conduct a prescribed fire (weather permitting) and discuss how landowners can use fire to restore diversity and maintain the health of existing native plants for wildlife habitat while managing weeds and unwanted growth for improved timber production.

Portable Sawmill Demonstration

- A local sawyer will demonstrate the use of a portable sawmill and talk about how Tree Farmers can use timber from their own land to construct buildings like the Waukegan Farms barn.

Pond Management and Pond Stocking Demonstration

- The N.C. Fisheries Division will give a presentation on aquatic weed control, water samples and fish health followed by stocking Waukegan Farms' new pond with bluegill and sunfish.

Wildlife Habitat Enhancement

- N.C. Wildlife Resources Commission staff will look at how forest management practices impact wildlife habitat and discuss ways landowners can incorporate habitat management practices into their forest management plans.

6:00 Dinner and Music

N.C. Tree Farm Program Supporters (as of September 5, 2018)

Sustainers: Lifetime Annual Commitment

Batts Tree Farm
Bill and Sandy Berry
Henderson Forestry Consultants, P.A.
Maurice and Laura Hull, Waukegan Farms
Edwin and Bobbie Listerman
Leslie and Rob McCormick
Richard W. Shaver
Albert and Wynette Shaw
True North Forest Management Services
Al and Patti Weller
Dave and Mary Jo Woodmansee

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