November 1...Crenshaw County 9 AM - 4 PM. Wire- 
grass Region Alabama Naturalist Program at Landmark 
Park, 430 Landmark Drive, Dothan. Topic of session: 
Alabama’s Freshwater Ecosystems & Wetlands. See 
November 1, for details.

November 14...Crenshaw County 9 AM - 4 PM. Wire- 
grass Region Alabama Naturalist Program at Landmark 
Park, 430 Landmark Drive, Dothan. Topic of session: 
Alabama’s Freshwater Ecosystems & Wetlands. See 
November 1, for details.

November 14...Lee County 4 PM. Fall Landowner 
Workshop at Mary Olive Thomas Demonstration Forest 
on Moores Mill Road, Auburn. GPS Coordinates: 
32.5782, -85.4237. The workshop will feature a 
portable sawmill demonstration. Fee: $10; BBQ plate 
included. Must pre-register by November 10 for meal 
count. Call Lee County Extension at (334) 749-3353.

November 14-16...Lufkin, Texas. Longleaf Academy: 
Fire & Longleaf F201 at the Texas A&M Forest Ser- 
vice, 2127 S. 1st Street. Topics will include: fire 
ecology, fire and forest management, ignition patterns, 
fireline tools, burn plans, and more. Live fire demo 
weather permitting. Fee: $150; two lunches included. 
Contact Casey White at (334) 427-1029.

November 15...Newberry Florida 9:30 AM ET. Man-
aging Pine Forests for Multiple Goals at the Pinkoson 
Property, 5518 SW SR 45. This tour will feature 
longleaf pine forest habitat, demonstrations of man-
agement activities and discussions about wildlife 
enhancement. Wear appropriate outdoor attire and 
rain gear. Contact Dave Conser at (352) 395-4927.

November 15-19...Albuquerque, New Mexico. Society 
of American foresters (SAF) National Convention 
at the Albuquerque Convention Center. Fee: $750; $20 
discount available by November 8. Contact SAF at 1- 
866-897-8720 or membership@safnet.org.

November 16...Autauga County 8 AM - 2 PM. Fall 
Landowner Workshop at Rick Williams Property. Call 
directions or use GPS Coord: 32.478661,-86.852540 
Topics include: Raptor presentation by Southeastern 
Raptor Center in Auburn, Hardwoods on erodible 
terrain, Snakes, and Understory gone wild. Door pri-
izes include a Husqvarna chainsaw. A local Autauga 
Natural Resources Stewardship Award will be present-
ed. Nominations needed. Alternate rain date is No-
ember 17. Fee: $15; breakfast and lunch included. 
Call Autauga Forestry & Wildlife Stewardship Council 
at (334) 365-5532x2403.

November 16...Lee County 5:30 - 7:30 PM. Deer 
Management: Improving Your Property’s Whitetail 
Value at 600 S. 7th Street, Opelika. Speaker: Jordan 
Graves, Natural Resources Extension Agent. Fee: 
$10; meal provided. Must pre-register by November 
13 for meal count. Call Lee County Extension at (334) 
749-3353.

November 20-21...Tifton, Georgia. Forest Manage-
ment for Gamebirds at the University of Georgia (UGA), 
Tifton Campus. This course will focus on the 
relationship between intensive forest management, 
gamebird habitat requirements, and gamebird ecology. 
Instructor: Dr. Mark McConnell. UGA. Fee: $295. 
Contact Ingvar Elle at (706) 583-0566.

November 28-29...Athens, Georgia. Nuisance Wildlife 
at Finchum's Phoenix, Whitehall Forest, 650 Phoenix 
Road. Course content will focus on urban nuisance 
wildlife damage prevention and control. Topics in-
clude: Laws, Regulations, Traps, Handling, Repellents, 
Habitat Modification, and more. Instructor: Dr. Mi-
chael Mengak. Fee: $325; $50 discount if paid by 
November 7. Contact Ingvar Elle at (706) 583-0566.

November 29...Pike County 9 AM - 4 PM. Chainsaw 
Safety Workshop at Troy Parks and Recreation, 601
Dow-Jones Industrial Average: 23329.46
- 10-year Treasury yield: 2.444%
- Dollar: 113.74 Yen; Euro: $1.1813
- Oil: $52.18/barrel
- Gold: $1,275.40/troy ounce

Source: The Wall Street Journal, 10/26/17

THE HARDWOOD PULPWOOD PRICE was highest in Alabama in the 3rd quarter at $11.19 per ton. It was lowest in North Carolina at $3.98. Source: Timber Mart-South — Market News Quarterly, 3Q17.

STANDING TIMBER VALUES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>PINE</th>
<th>Pulpwod $ per ton</th>
<th>Chip-N-Saw $ per ton</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Alabama</td>
<td>3Q16</td>
<td>3Q17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>North</td>
<td>8.15</td>
<td>7.81</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>South</td>
<td>10.54</td>
<td>9.80</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Average</td>
<td>9.35</td>
<td>8.36</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Pine Pulpwod — 5,530 lbs/1000 board feet (Scribner)
Pine Sawtimber — 15,000 lbs/1000 board feet (Scribner)

STOCK MARKET REPORT

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Company or Fund Name</th>
<th>Price Per Share</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Potlatch (PCH)</td>
<td>REIT</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rayonier (RYN)</td>
<td>REIT</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Weyerhaeuser Co. (WY)</td>
<td>REIT</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Louisiana Pacific (LPX)</td>
<td>REIT</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WestRock (WRK)</td>
<td>(CUT)*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(WOOD)**</td>
<td>ETF</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>


INFORMATION YOU CAN TAKE TO THE BANK: Timber Mart-South — Market News Quarterly, 3Q17, reported that “hardwood prices typically increase in the 3rd Quarter, and that trend remained this year. Hardwood sawtimber at $30.38 per ton [southwide average] was up Q/Q for the 20th time in the last 22 years.”

THE GEORGIA-PACIFIC SAWMILL that will open in Talladega next year will consume 150 truckloads of logs daily. The mill is the “first of several we have in our current plan. The demand for lumber continues to improve as the housing market recovers, so we are evaluating similar investments in Georgia, Texas and Mississippi.” Source: Southern Loggin’ Times, 10/17.

CLASSIFIED SECTION

CONSULTING FORESTER - continued

Richard Crenshaw, RF, Greenville, AL (334)382-3826

EQUIPMENT FOR SALE

Tree Trans-planter 4” diameter tree, 6 spade (901)481-7184

INSURANCE

Hunting Lease & Timberland Liability Group Policies Alabama Forest Owners’ Association (205)624-2225

LAND FOR SALE

Tutt Land Company www.tuttland.com (334)534-1315
Carlson Land Services Montgomery (334)270-1291
Hudson Hines Real Estate www.hudsonhinesrealestate.com American Forest Mgmt. Prattville, AL (334)358-2345
Southeastern Land Group, Inc. 1-866-751-5263 Farm & Timber Land AT, GA, FL www.selandgroup.com
John Hall & Co. www.johnhalco.com (334)270-8400
National Land Realty NationalLand.com (855)NLAND Larsson & McGowin, Inc. Mobile, AL (251)438-4581
Southeastern Realty & Auction Co John Hall (334)534-0255
Longleaf Land Co. LLC longleafland.com (334)493-0123
Mossy Oak Properties - Logan Land Co. 1-877-377-5263
Target Auction Company All 1-800-476-3939 Real Estate Auctions SE www.targetauction.com
McKeithen Land & Realty, LLC (251)974-5566
Whitetail Properties Chris McCune (205)331-8516

LAND MANAGEMENT SERVICES

Scotch Land Management, LLC Fulton, AL (334)637-2128

POND MANAGEMENT

Honey Hole Fisheries Ralph, AL (205)333-3665

POSTED SIGNS

Alabama Forest Owners’ Association (205)624-2225

PROFESSIONAL LANDMEN / GEOLOGISTS

Joseph L. Stephenson, Professional Landman, Birmingham jstephenson2177@charter.net (205)790-0452
Royalty audits, leasing mineral rights, etc.

REAL ESTATE APPRAISALS

Larsson & McGowin, Inc. Mobile, AL (251)438-4581
Graham Forestry & Appraisal Butler, AL (205)459-2547

TIMBER BUYER

Blue Ox Forestry, Inc. (334)875-5100
IndusTREE Timber, Inc. (334)567-5436
Ronny Wilbermier Land & Timber Division 1-877-292-0056
Ideal Timber Company, Inc. 1-888-220-5591

TIMBER SALE ASSISTANCE

TIMBER BUYER LIST for your county. Printed on gummed labels ready for mailing prospectus. Just tell us the county in which your timber is located. $15 per county. MEMBERS ONLY: AFOA, Box 316144, Birmingham, AL 35236

TREE PLANTING EQUIPMENT & SERVICES

Site Preparation & Tree Planting Services. For a list in your county, call AFOA at 205-624-2225.

TREE SEED FOR SALE

LOUISIANA FOREST SEED CO. (318)443-5026

TREE SEEDINGS FOR SALE

INTERNATIONAL FOREST COMPANY TECHNOLOGY THAT GROWS CONTAINER SEEDLINGS

ArborGen, LLC Selma: 1-800-222-1280 or (334)872-5452
SUGAR TREES, INC. Lee, FL (850)971-5159
WHITE CITY NURSERY Autauga Co. (334)365-2488
Pines & Hardwoods for Forestry, Wildlife, Landscapes

Weyerhaeuser Company Premium Pine and Hardwood Seedlings 1-800-635-0162

Whitfield Farms & Nursery - Containerized Longleaf Pine Twin City, GA ph: (912) 515-4103 WhitfieldPineSeedlings.com / whitfieldfarms@live.com

WOODLAND MULCHING

Sand MT Land & Timber North Alabama (256)504-6320

CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING RATES: First line $85.00/year.
PURPLE PAINT MEANS KEEP OUT!
Vertical lines of purple paint on trees or posts facing out from the property must be at least eight inches in length and at least 1 inch in width. The paint must be at least 3 feet from the ground and not over 5 feet above the ground. We checked with Forest Suppliers (1-800-543-4203) and Nelson Paint Company (1-334-834-6393) and both said they had purple boundary paint in stock. The purple paint law was passed by the Alabama state legislature and signed into law earlier this year.

POSTED! NO TRESPASSING! AFOA provides signs to our members for two different purposes:

- **Yellow signs (on the left):** This land is leased to hunters. We’re not opposed to hunting, but we are opposed to trespassing!
- **Orange signs (on the right):** No trespassing. This means you!

For information on how to order the signs, call AFOA at (205) 624-2225 or go to www.afoa.org/posted.htm. We sell them for 45 cents each plus $4.50 per order, so if you order 100 signs, the total cost would be $49.50. They are good looking, tough 8” x 10” plastic signs. These signs are available only to AFOA members and the hunters who lease land from them. We’ve sold more than two hundred thousand of them over the past 20 years!

WHEN CANADIAN GOVERNMENTS sell stumpage below market price in order to provide jobs for Canadian mill workers, the resulting low-cost lumber competes directly with the production of U.S. sawmills. About 30% of the softwood lumber used in the U.S. is imported from Canada. While we usually read press accounts prompted by complaints of U.S. sawmills, we seldom think about the huge effect the sale of low-cost stumpage has on all stumpage growers in the U.S. Imagine that you owned about half the timber in Alabama and you sold it for much less than what it would bring on an open bid sale. The rest of us, owners of 100 and 200 acres, would have a hard time competing against you. So, it has been suggested that low-cost Canadian stumpage harms Alabama sawmills and Alabama stumpage growers — and indirectly depresses the value of our forestland.

HURRICANE EFFECTS ON STUMP-AGE PRICES: An AFOA member reported that he recently sold mature pine stumpage for $35 per ton, about $11 above current normal prices. The buyer needed the wood in a hurry to supply a plywood mill. If you are faced with a similar situation, we strongly urge you to seek the counsel of a consulting forester before signing a contract. AFOA can provide you with names of consultants who seek work in your county.

**The Wildlife Group**
2858 County Road 53
Tuskegee, Alabama 36083
1-800-221-9703

- Sawtooth Oak
- Japanese Persimmon
- Gobbler Sawtooth
- Thornless Blackberries
- Burr Oak
- Methley Plum
- Chinese Chestnut
- Chickasaw Plum
- Dwarf Chinquapin Oak
- Black Berries
- Callaway Crab Apple
- Tree Protectors
- Yates Apple
- And More!!
- Persimmon

**Creating a wildlife habitat is our business.**

**CHAD M. ELLIS,** a former volunteer firefighter in Elmore County, will spend time on probation and pay fines after pleading guilty to setting fires in two vacant houses and setting one woodland fire. Ellis is a former assistant chief of the Deatsville Volunteer Fire Department. He will have to attend counseling and is barred from service with any fire department for life. Source: www.usnews.com, 10/13/17.

**Meeks’ Farms & Nursery, Inc.**
Growers of Deep Plug Pine Seedlings
Improved Longleaf & Advanced Generation Slash & Loblolly Container Pine Seedlings
Steve Meeks 877-809-1737  Linc: 18*14655
www.meeksfarms-nurseries.com

**Baldwin County Voters** will again go to the polls to decide on a property tax on December 12. This “new” tax can be approved by 50 per cent of the voters plus one. December 12 is also the date voters will pick a new U.S. Senator in Alabama.
Income Tax Deduction on Timber Loss from Casualty

Dr. Linda Wang

National Timber Taxation Specialist, USDA Forest Service  October 2, 2017

Timber destroyed by the hurricane, fire, earthquake, ice, hail, tornado, and other storms are “casualty losses” that may allow the property owners to take deductions on their federal income tax returns. The key for most cases is to figure out the “adjusted basis” of the timber.

The “Adjusted Basis” of Timber

Generally, the cost or the measure of your investment in the property you own is the property’s basis. The original basis is defined as follows: 1) for purchased timber property, it is the purchase price and related costs (such as legal fee and timber cruises); 2) for gifted timber property, it is the donor’s adjusted basis in most instances; 3) for inherited timber property, it is the fair market value (or alternative value if so elected) on the date of death (or alternative valuation date). The “adjusted basis” of a property is the original basis reduced or added by adjustments over the term of ownership (e.g., new purchase increases your timber basis while timber sale decreases your timber basis).

If you have not determined your timber basis at the time of acquisition, you may use the current timber volume, timber growth over the years, and the timber value at the time of acquisition to retroactively establish it. Establishing timber basis often takes time and forestry expertise plus the tax knowledge. The benefit of setting up your timber basis is that it allows a deduction from timber sale and casualty loss.

Tax Deduction Rules for Casualty Loss

For Timber Held for Personal Use. A personal-use timber property is defined as one that is held primarily for personal enjoyment (vs. income production from the timber). The amount of personal casualty loss is subject to these deduction limits: first, the deductible casualty loss is the lesser of the fair market value loss or the property’s adjusted basis.

Insurance or other reimbursement you received reduce the casualty loss. Second, an individual can take casualty loss when the amount of loss exceeds $100 per casualty. Next, the deductible amount of loss is limited to the sum of the amount of personal casualty gains plus the amount of personal casualty losses for the tax year that exceeds 10 percent of adjusted gross income (AGI). Finally, casualty loss deduction is claimed under “itemized deductions” on Schedule A.

Example 1: Mr. Thompson owned timber primarily for personal use, not for profit. In 2017, his timber was completely destroyed by the hurricane. The adjusted basis of his timber is $10,000. The fair market value of the timber immediately before the loss is $9,100. The taxpayer’s adjusted gross income for the year is $40,000. His casualty loss deduction is $5,000 ($9,100 - $100 - 10% x $40,000). He claims the deduction as an “itemized deduction.”

Note for taxpayers impacted by Hurricane Harvey, Irma and Maria, Congress passed special tax law on September 29, 2017 to provide tax relief. The 10 percent AGI reduction and the “itemized deduction” requirements for personal casualty loss are eliminated.

For Timber Held as Investment or Business. Deductible casualty loss for timber held mainly for business or investment purposes is the smaller of the adjusted basis of timber and the difference of the fair market value immediately before and after the casualty. Salvage sale is reported separately.

Example 2: A fire damaged Mrs. Smith’s woodland tract. Before the fire, the fair market value of the timber was $10,000. But after the fire, the timber is worth only $1,000. So the fair market value loss of her timber is $9,000 ($10,000 - $1,000). Assuming your timber basis is 5,000, the amount of casualty loss deduction is only $5,000, not $9,000.

Casualty losses are reported first on Form 4684. For timber investment property, the loss is then entered into Schedule A of Form 1040. For timber business property, the loss is entered on Form 4797.

In general, you can deduct a casualty loss only in the tax year in which the casualty occurred. However, for federally declared disaster area, you may elect to apply the casualty loss in your prior year’s tax return. Compare your current year and last year’s tax bracket and any expenses for amending the prior year’s tax return.

“Single Identified Property”. Treasury regulations require that casualty loss is determined with respect to the “single identifiable property”. This can be the “timber block” (even if only a portion of it is actually damaged) if you keep the timber tax records (account) together for the block.

Example 3: Mrs. Smith owns a timber property that contains 1000 MBF of pine sawtimber ($9,000 basis) on it. She kept the property in one account. A tornado destroyed 300 MBF. The adjusted basis for the casualty loss purpose is $9,000, not just $2,700 ($9,000 / 1000 MBF x 300 MBF). But the loss valuation must also be appraised for the entire tract or block, which may cost more.

Gain from Salvage Sale. A taxable gain may result if the salvage sale exceeds the adjusted basis of the timber and related selling expenses. But you may elect to postpone paying taxes on the gain if the proceeds are re-invested in timber such as planting trees, purchase of timberland and stock (at least 80%) of timber corporations.

Consult Your Forester. To establish the timber basis and appraise the fair market value loss of the timber immediately before and after the casualty, you may need to consult a professional forester to determine the relevant timber volume in thousand board feet, cords or tons and the value of timber.

Proof of Loss and Tax Records. It is important that you have records to support your casualty loss deduction, but do not attach them to your return. Document information about the casualty (time, nature of the event and the area affected). Carefully prepare the appraisals from the hired services by professional foresters and/or appraisers.

Overall, the tax laws provide a deduction for the loss of timber caused by casualty. Because of the complicated restrictions on the casualty loss calculation, if the timber basis is low or zero, there may be little or no deductions in the end. So it makes sense to weigh the cost of appraisal against the potential tax savings.

Disclaimer: This material has been prepared for informational purposes only, and is not intended to provide tax, legal or accounting advice. Please consult your own tax, legal and accounting advisors before engaging in any transaction.

Adapted for space and content from Income Tax Deduction on Timber and Landscape Trees Loss from Casualty by Dr. Linda Wang. www.fs.fed.us/spf/coop/library/tax_deduction_loss_casualty.pdf
MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

MEMBER SERVICE REQUESTS

[ ] I own 40 or more acres of forestland in Alabama and would like, at no cost to me, an Initial Consultation with a member of the Association of Consulting Foresters.*

[ ] I am enclosing $15 for a Timber Buyer List for County.

[ ] Guidelines for Hunting Lease Agreement

[ ] Model for a Timber Sale Contract

[ ] Application for Hunting Lease Liability Insurance Coverage

[ ] Application for Timberland Liability Insurance Coverage

[ ] __8" x 10"__ Posted Signs. Enclosed is 45¢ per sign plus $4.50 S & H

("No Trespassing Hunt Club" - yellow) ("No Trespassing—Period" - orange) circle one

[ ] AFOA T-Shirt — Short Sleeve, $11 (call for colors and sizes)

[ ] AFOA Ball Cap: Send me AFOA Ball Cap: Black, Camo with dark or light logo, Hunter Orange, Neon Yellow, and Royal Blue. Circle one. $13 each.

* This service is for landowners only. Hunters may only use the hunting lease liability agreements.

(Mr.)(Mrs.)(Ms.) Name of Landowner (person, family, partnership, corporation, LLC, etc.)*

(Mr.)(Mrs.)(Ms.) Name of Person Representing Landowner (optional)*

Mailing Address

City

State

Zip Code

Telephone: home

Telephone: work

Telephone: fax

E-Mail Address (we do not share)

State(s) and County(ies) Where Forestland Is Located — Please List.

MEMBERSHIP FEES

(1st class postage will cause your newsletter to arrive several days earlier than bulk rate)

1 YEAR

[ ] Regular Member - Bulk Rate Postage $16

[ ] Regular Member - 1st Class Postage $28

[ ] Sustaining Member - 1st Class Postage $160

2 YEARS

[ ] Regular Member - Bulk Rate Postage $31

[ ] Regular Member - 1st Class Postage $55

[ ] Sustaining Member - 1st Class Postage $320

3 YEARS

[ ] Regular Member - Bulk Rate Postage $46

[ ] Regular Member - 1st Class Postage $82

[ ] Sustaining Member - 1st Class Postage $480

SEND APPLICATION & PAYMENT TO:

AFOA, Inc.
P. O. Box 361434
Birmingham, AL 35236

(CALENDAR OF EVENTS CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1)

Enzor Road, Troy, According to the Center for Disease Control and Prevention, there are over 36,000 chain-saw related injuries each year. This frequently used lawn and farm tool can be seriously dangerous if the proper precautions and procedures are not used. This workshop is targeted at general public and municipality use of chainsaws and will include topics like Safety Practices & Equipment, Chainsaw Design, Ergonomics, Starting, Limbing & Bucking and Basic Felling. There will be an in-classroom session and outside demonstrations. Lunch provided. To register, call Pike Extension at (334) 566-0985.

DECEMBER 2017

December 1-3...Franklin County. Alabama Youth Trappers Education Workshop. See November 4-5 for details. Contact Mike Sievering at (205) 339-5716.

December 5...Crenshaw County 9 AM - 4 PM. Wiregrass Region Alabama Naturalist Program at Landmark Park, 430 Landmark Drive, Dothan. Topic of session: Alabama’s Forest Lands. See November 1, for details.

December 7...Atlanta, Georgia 8:30 AM - 4:30 PM ET. Wood Flows and Cash Flows: Investment Research & Strategic Analysis for the Forest Industry at the Georgia Tech Global Learning Center, 84 5th Street NW. Fee: $180. Contact: Heather Clark at (770) 725-8447.

December 7...Tallapoosa County 9 AM - 4 PM. East Central Region Alabama Naturalist Program at Wind Creek State Park. Topic of session: Alabama’s Birds and Mammals. See November 1, for details.

December 9...Marshall County 9 AM – 5 PM. Traditional Hunter Education Course at Guntersville State Park Lodge, Dogwood Room, - No fee. Call Matthew Moran at (251) 826-5474. Successfully completing an approved hunter education course is mandatory for all non-supervised Alabama hunting license buyers born on or after August 1, 1977. There are some exceptions. There are other courses being taught at various locations in December as well as online only courses. Contact Marisa Futral at 1-800-245-2740.

December 9-10...Mobile County. Alabama Youth Trappers Education Workshop. See November 4-5 for details. Contact Mike Sievering at (205) 339-5716.

December 11-12...Athens, Georgia. Southern Forestry and Natural Resource Management GIS Conference at The Georgia Center for Continuing Education, 1197 South Lumpkin Street. This conference encompasses topics related to the use of Geographic Information Systems (GIS) in forestry and natural resource management. Some specific topics include: Creating inventory data from LiDAR data, Evaluating erosion repair techniques with low cost UAVs, Approaches to Unmanned Aerial Systems (UAS)-based seedling survival counts, Satellite imagery in Forestry, Comparison of new technologies to accurately measure tree size and location, and more. Fee: $275; $25 discount if paid by November 10. Contact Ingvar Elle at (706) 593-0666.

December 12...Statewide. Republican Roy Moore and Democrat Doug Jones face off in race for U.S. Senate.

December 12...Montgomery County. Special Primary Election for Senate District 26 seat formerly held by Dr. Quentin Ross. If needed, a runoff will be held February 27, and the general election will be May 15, 2018. If no primary or run-off is necessary, the general election will be February 27.

December 12...Baldwin County, Property Tax Vote for Baldwin County. “The current 1 mill tax requiring 60 percent approval was first passed in March 1988 and expired at the end of fiscal year 2016-17. By allowing it to expire, the county can ask voters to replace it with a 1 mill tax under a different amendment to the Alabama Constitution, which requires only a simple majority (50% plus 1).”

December 12-13...Athens, Georgia. Deer Ecology & Management at Finchum’s Phoenix, Whitehall Forest, 650 Phoenix Drive. This course will benefit those interested in wildlife management on their land, especially deer enthusiasts. Fee: $325; $75 discount if paid by November 21. Lunch provided on day 1. Contact Ingvar Elle at (706) 593-0566.

December 15-17...Geneva County. Alabama Youth Trappers Education Workshop. See November 4-5 for details. Contact Mike Sievering at (205) 339-5716.

December 29-31...Hale County. Alabama Youth Trappers Education Workshop. See November 4-5 for details. Contact Mike Sievering at (205) 339-5716.

JANUARY 2018

January 11...Tallapoosa County 9 AM - 4 PM. East Central Region Alabama Naturalist Program at Wood Creek State Park. Topic of session: Alabama’s Amphibians & Reptiles. See November 1, for details.

January 16...Crenshaw County 9 AM - 4 PM. Wiregrass Region Alabama Naturalist Program at Landmark Park, 430 Landmark Drive, Dothan. Topic of session: Alabama’s Birds and Mammals. See November 1, for details.

January 19-21...Jackson County. Alabama Youth Trappers Education Workshop. See November 4-5 for details. Contact Mike Sievering at (205) 339-5716.

January 28-30...Pine Mountain, Georgia. Southeastern Society of American Foresters (SAF) Annual Meeting at the Lodge and Spa at Callaway Gardens. Theme: “Trees: Growing...Selling...Using”. Landowners are welcome to attend this meeting of professional foresters. Fee: $280. Contact Sharon Dolliver at (478) 628-1196.

Always Call Ahead to Confirm Program Details
Rollovers kill: 46% of farm deaths in Indiana (229 deaths) were related to tractors. A University of Iowa study found that one in ten operators will overturn a tractor in his or her lifetime. “Eighty percent of deaths caused by tractor overturns involve experienced operators. One in seven farmers involved in tractor overturns is permanently disabled.” Source: The Progressive Farmer, Oct. 2017.

“Abby was inspired to get involved in forest management due to her love of the land. ‘We love Delhi, the Catskills and our little piece of heaven, and we want to be good stewards and keep it in the family for another five generations,’ she said. She most enjoys the permanence of the land. ‘I have been coming to Platner Brook since I was born, 62 years ago, and remember being here with my great-grandmother Rose and now with my daughter Jane — so five generations, the same hill, the same brook, seeing tiny cedars grow to towering cedars in the course of my lifetime. I like seeing changes.’ When asked about advice she would give to other forest owners, she laughed, ‘I’m not in a position to give advice yet, except to say, get out and enjoy your land!’” Source: Member Profile: Abigail (Abby) Addington-May by Briana Binkerd-Dale, New York Forest Owner, Sept-Oct 2017.

Impressive numbers: 45 percent of family forest acres have received management advice and 32 percent of family forest acres have a written management plan, according to an article in Alabama’s Treasured Forests, Summer 2017, by Adam Maggard and Rebecca Barlow. Reasons & Objectives for Owning Timberland. The authors seemed concerned that the numbers were so low, but we were surprised and heartened that they were so high.

Suggestions for a first-time woodland buyer:
- Buy land within an hour of your home, unless it happens to have a cabin or a place to park a camper.
- Look for a parcel that has direct access to a public road rather than an easement.
- Consider finding a lender that offers long-term, fixed rate financing for rural land.

Source: Wisconsin Woodlands, Fall 2017