



News Release

For Immediate Release
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VDOF18006

Walk in the Forest Event Is March 31

A day of family fun is planned for March 31 at the New Kent Forestry Center in Providence Forge. The “Walk in the Forest” will offer guided nature hikes, activities for children and a guided bird-watching trip. The event is free and open to the public – no registration required.

“This is a terrific opportunity for Virginians of all ages to get to know the great outdoors,” said Page Hutchinson, forest education specialist with the Virginia Department of Forestry (VDOF). “A team of experts will be on hand to lead nature walks and the bird-watching tour.”

With the help of Virginia Master Naturalists, the VDOF will give away assorted hardwood tree seedlings. Activities for children include animal track stamping; painting with pine needles; leaf stencil painting; papermaking, and wildlife identification using furs and skulls.

For early risers, the day will begin with a guided bird watching trip at 8 a.m. led by the Williamsburg Bird Club. Guided nature hikes with members of the Rappahannock Chapter of the Society of American Foresters will begin at 10 a.m. and depart every half hour through 1:30 p.m. The children’s activities and seedling give-away will also run from 10 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. The event will be held rain or shine.

People are invited to bring a picnic lunch, including drinks, and enjoy the picnic area under the loblolly pines. Food and beverages WILL NOT be available for sale on site. The New Kent Forestry Center is located at 11301 Pocahontas Trail (Route 60 East), near Providence Forge in New Kent County.

For more information, please call Page Hutchinson at 804.966.2201.

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For more than 100 years, the Virginia Department of Forestry has been protecting and developing healthy, sustainable forest resources for Virginians. Headquartered in Charlottesville, the Agency has forestry staff members assigned to every county to provide citizen service and public safety protection across the Commonwealth. VDOF is an equal opportunity provider.

With nearly 16 million acres of forestland and more than 108,000 Virginians employed in forestry, forest products and related industries, Virginia forests provide an overall economic output of more than \$21 Billion annually.

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