

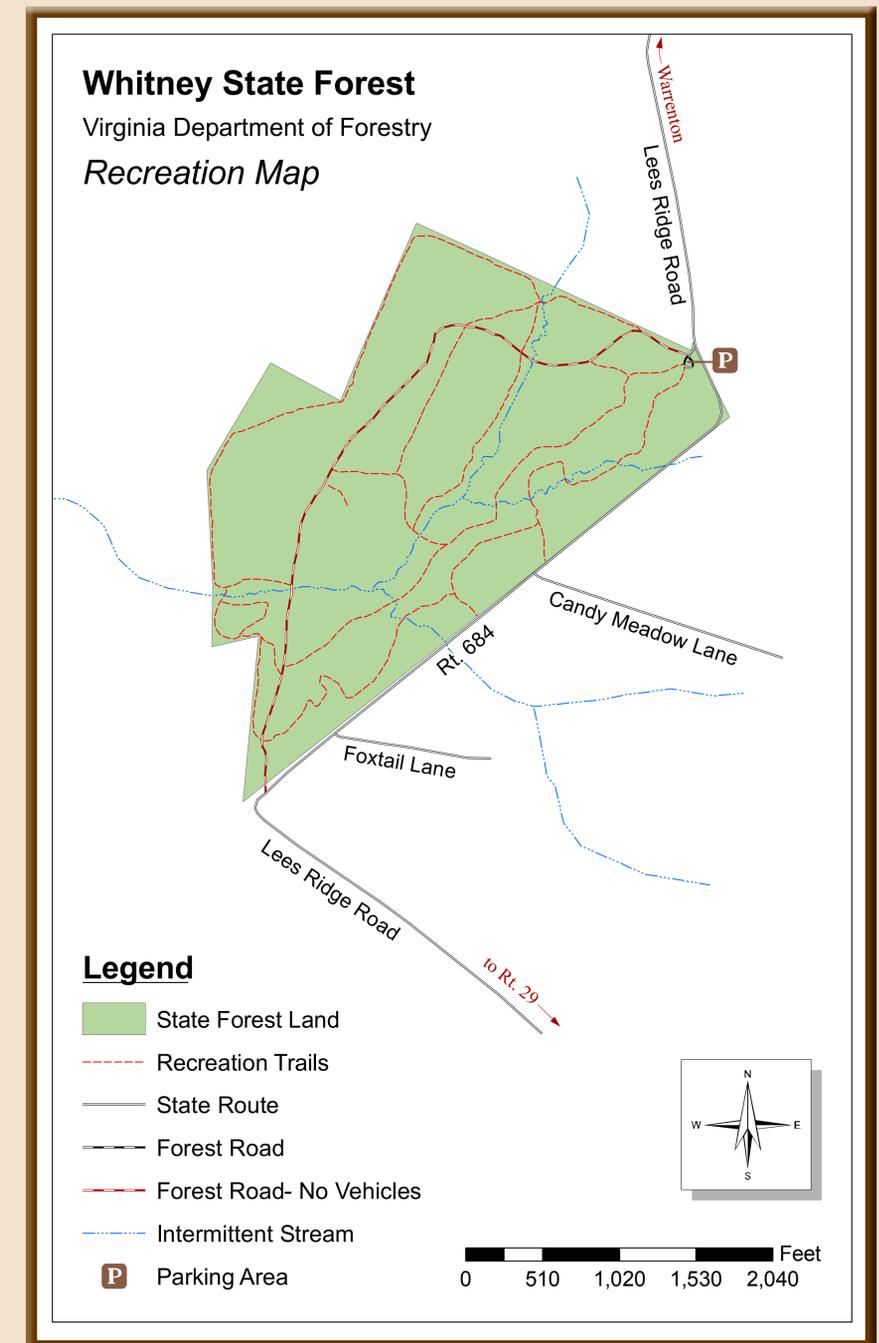


WHITNEY STATE FOREST

Welcome to Whitney State Forest

Mrs. Helen Whitney Gibson gave this property to the State in 1972 to be used as a public demonstration forest. The Virginia Department of Forestry manages this 148-acre forest for timber production, horseback riding, hiking, research and demonstration, and as a wildlife sanctuary. The Whitney State Forest is primarily a natural hardwood forest with yellow poplar, northern red oak, white oak, pignut hickory, red maple and Virginia pine. There are also two pine plantations on the site.

The State Forests of Virginia are self-supporting and receive no taxpayer funds for operations. Operating funds are generated from the sale of forest products, demonstrating the value of good forestry practices. Twenty-five percent of the revenue from the sale of forest products on this State Forest is returned to Fauquier County. Virginia taxpayers may support State Forest educational projects by donating all or part of their state tax refund to Virginia's State Forests Fund.



For more information about Virginia's State Forests, visit www.dof.virginia.gov.



WHITNEY STATE FOREST

What's Going On Here?

This area has been harvested in an effort to control invasive species. Tree-of-Heaven (*Ailanthus altissima*) and Oriental bittersweet (*Celastrus orbiculatus*) had inundated this area and inhibited the growth of native, productive plants and trees. Controlling the invasive species will help us develop a native forest with multiple uses, such as wildlife habitat, recreation, aesthetics, research and forest products.

Forestry activities taking place on this parcel include:

- Pre-harvest control of invasive species through the use of selective herbicides
- Harvest cut removing all stems to aid in the control of invasive species
- Reforestation of the area by planting shortleaf pine, which is a native species
- Periodic control of invasive species using backpack application of herbicide



Oriental bittersweet
(*Celastrus orbiculatus*)



Tree-of-Heaven
(*Ailanthus altissima*)

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WHITNEY STATE FOREST

An Invasive Problem

An invasive plant is one that is not native to an area and causes economic, health-related or environmental harm.

Introducing a new species can upset the natural balance of interactions among plants, animals and non-living parts of the environment. Examples of problems caused by invasive plants include:

- Decline in wildlife species that depend on native plants
- Loss of economically important species, such as native oaks
- Introduction of diseases that attack native plants
- Reduction in biodiversity of plants and the animals that depend on them
- Alteration of hydrology or soil chemistry, in extreme cases



Japanese stiltgrass (*Microstegium vimineum*)

YOU can help stop the spread of invasive species!

- Learn to identify invasives, and don't plant them on your property.
- Remove invasive plants from your property, and ask your neighbors to do the same.
- Be careful not to move pieces of plants or seeds into new areas – either purposely by picking them, or accidentally on shoes or clothing.

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WHITNEY STATE FOREST

Stopping an Alien Invasion!

Invasive plants are being controlled here prior to timber harvesting. Wineberry (*Rubus phoenicolasius*), Oriental bittersweet (*Celastrus orbiculatus*), and multiflora rose (*Rosa multiflora*) were inhibiting the growth of native yellow-poplar (*Liriodendron tulipifera*). Controlling the invasive species will restore a native forest that provides wildlife habitat, recreation, aesthetics, research and forest products.

Forestry activities taking place on this parcel include:

- Pre-harvest control of invasive species through the use of selective herbicides
- Periodic control of invasive species using backpack application of herbicides and hand pulling
- Regeneration of yellow-poplar



Oriental bittersweet
(*Celastrus orbiculatus*)



Wineberry (*Rubus phoenicolasius*)



Multiflora rose (*Rosa multiflora*)

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WHITNEY STATE FOREST

Alien Invaders

An alien plant is one that is not native to an area. Some of these plants cause no harm, but others become invasive. Invasive species can upset the natural interactions among the forest's plants, animals and physical environment.

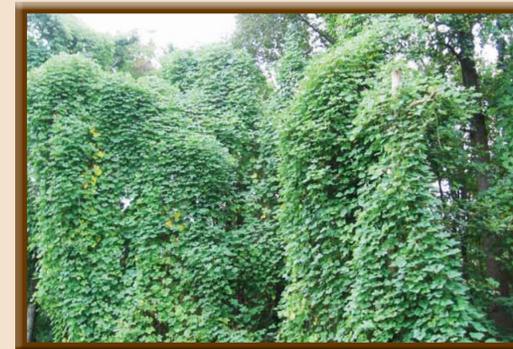
Invasive species present on this parcel include:

- Oriental bittersweet (*Celastrus orbiculatus*)
- Kudzu (*Pueraria lobata*)
- Multiflora rose (*Rosa multiflora*)
- Wineberry (*Rubus phoenicolasius*)

Forestry activities taking place on this parcel include:

- Pre-harvest control of invasive species through the use of selective herbicides
- Periodic control of invasive species using backpack application of herbicides and hand pulling
- Regeneration of yellow-poplar

Oriental bittersweet
(*Celastrus orbiculatus*)



Kudzu (*Pueraria lobata*)



Wineberry (*Rubus phoenicolasius*)



Multiflora rose (*Rosa multiflora*)

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WHITNEY STATE FOREST

Return of a Native

Not long ago, this was a stand of white pine (*Pinus strobus*) that was in decline. The site was harvested and replanted with shortleaf pine (*Pinus echinata*). Shortleaf pine has a tight grain and straight trunk, making it valuable for softwood lumber. Although native to this area, it has often been replaced with faster-growing species. One State Forest management objective is to maintain diversity of native species by reproducing areas of shortleaf pine in Piedmont forests.



Shortleaf pine (*Pinus echinata*)

Why Did We Clearcut?

Clearcutting is a term that many people misunderstand. In forestry, it is used as a tool for even-aged management. That means it creates a stand of trees that are all the same age. A clearcut is a good way to regenerate trees, such as pines, which do not tolerate shade. It also pushes forest succession back to an early stage, benefitting certain types of wildlife. In good forestry practice, you might simply think of a new clearcut as a very young forest!

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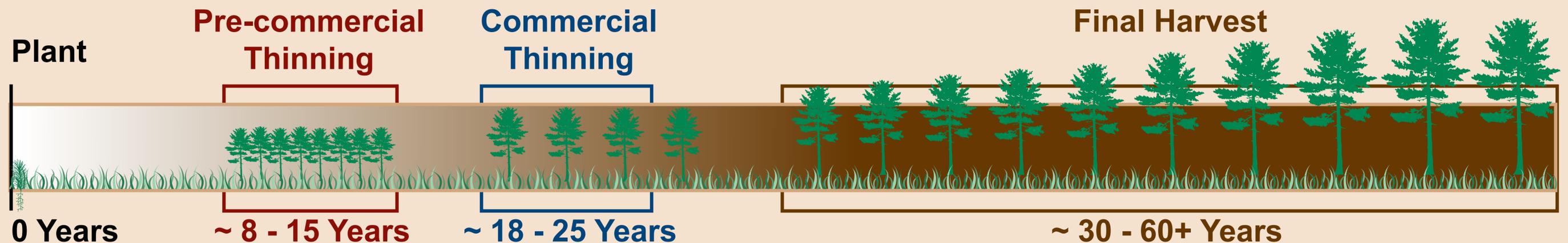
Why Thin A Pine Stand?

This stand of loblolly pine (*Pinus taeda*) has been thinned. Thinning has many benefits in a pine stand. It improves forest health by reducing competition among the trees, allowing those that remain to grow faster with less stress, and reducing the chances of southern pine bark beetle attack. Thinning also allows some sunlight to reach the forest floor, promoting the growth of plants that serve as food and cover for wildlife. In the long term, thinning can even encourage oaks to regenerate under the pines.

A pine stand's first thinning is usually pre-commercial, meaning the trees removed are not large enough to be sold for forest products. Someday, this woody material may become valuable, as biomass fuel markets develop. Meanwhile, landowners can often take advantage of cost-share money for pre-commercial thinning of pine stands.

A commercial thinning happens when the trees are older. This type of thinning can generate income, as the trees are large enough to be marketed for paper pulp, oriented strand board, posts and small sawlogs.

Typical Pine Sawtimber Management Regime



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