

**The Renewable Resources  
Extension Act (RREA)  
at  
The University of Georgia**



**The University of Georgia**

**Daniel B. Warnell**

**School of Forestry and Natural Resources**

Forestry, Wildlife, Water and Soil Resources, Fisheries and  
Aquaculture, Natural Resource Recreation and Tourism

RREA programs at The University of Georgia are leveraged with \$30 to \$40 of state, private, local, and institutional funds; and engage a full spectrum of partners to deliver educational programs to stakeholders. In recent years, RREA funds were used to:

- Hold more than 200 one- and two-day workshops across the state to train county extension agents and private landowners on forest management practices such as maximizing harvest; finances and taxes; insect, disease and invasive exotics control; pine straw production; wildlife habitat management, etc. Stakeholders are expected to increase forest resource income on one million-plus acres by over \$10 per acre per year. Pine straw production alone will provide \$750,000 to \$1,000,000 annually.



Georgia landowners learn latest innovations in intensive forest management practices.

- The Sustainable Forestry Initiative (SFI) has 23 industry participants operating on 4 million acres, planting 750 million seedlings, protecting 40 special sites featuring rare plants, unique geological features, or historical sites

- The Mary Kahrs Warnell Forest Education Center provides school-aged students and teachers with educational programs about sustainable forest management practices and forest ecosystems. The Center reaches more than 5,000 adults and children annually.

- Develop a series of workshops for community foresters and professional arborists to help them understand the intricacies of tree geometry and biomechanics and the truly significant power of storms on trees. Trees loaded beyond their breaking points with rain, wind and ice continue to endanger lives, property, communications, and power utilities. And for these same professionals and construction contractors, workshops to explain the importance of and how to protect trees in developments. Trees add significant economic and environmental value to home sites.



Georgia's community foresters are supported by the RREA program, impacting communities throughout the state.

*"This is the best training of my career!" – County agent on forestry training.*

*"Of particular importance in this rapidly developing state of ours is the need of the building and development industry to understand the basics – and economic incentives – of tree protection during construction. You have helped us reach more of that industry and we look forward to continuing that momentum" Dudley Hartel, President, Georgia Urban Forest Council"*

Georgia RREA contact: Dr. James M. Sweeney, Associate Dean for Research and Service, Warnell School of Forestry and Natural Resources, The University of Georgia, Athens, GA 30602-2152. phone: 706-542-2866 email [jsweeney@warnell.uga.edu](mailto:jsweeney@warnell.uga.edu)

## **The Renewable Resources Extension Act (RREA) at Fort Valley State University**

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RREA programs will assist Fort Valley State University in designing and developing an Outdoor Forestry Classroom/Laboratory to train High School Agriculture Teachers and Limited Resource Forest Land Owners on forestry stewardship issues. RREA funds will be leveraged with state and USDA Capacity Building funds to carry out training workshops. RREA funds will be used as described below:

- The planned workshops at the Outdoor Forestry Classroom/Laboratory will be available for Georgia High School Agriculture Teachers and Limited Resource Forestry Land Owners. Workshop will train High School Teachers about the benefits and opportunities of forestry stewardship practices in field day competitions on the local, state and national levels for preparation of various forestry career development events.
- Limited Resource Forestry Land Owners will participate in workshops that will provide updates on benefits and opportunities of forest stewardship practices. Management and sustainability of forest resource; trees and forest products will be topics covered in these workshops.

*“Workshops to provide Agriculture Teachers training on using several forestry tools, like the clinometers, the increment borers and G.P.S. will be helpful to us in the future”.*

*Virgil Blalock, FFA Agriculture Teacher,  
Northside High School Warner Robins GA,  
31088*



Workshop topics on devastating insects and diseases will be covered.

**Fort Valley State University RREA contact:** Johnny Carter, Professor of Horticulture, College of Agriculture, Home Economics and Allied Programs, PO Box 4681, Fort Valley, GA 31030. Tel: (478) 825-6832; email: [carterj@fvsu.edu](mailto:carterj@fvsu.edu)