

## **The Renewable Resources Extension Act (RREA)**

Tennessee forest landowners continue to benefit from the RREA program by gaining knowledge of responsible natural resource management and then implementing sound practices on their land. Recommended practices and other resource information are distributed through educational programs, publications, and demonstrations of applied research. Efforts are leveraged by partnering with the Tennessee Department of Agriculture, Division of Forestry, Tennessee Forestry Association, and private enterprise. A summary of impacts for 2006 include:

### **Impacts**

- ◆ Five new counties were added to the County Forestry Associations bringing the state total to 44 counties, representing 1,800 landowners and 276,000 acres.
- ◆ A total of 58 educational programs were delivered to 2,168 participants, including landowners, loggers, resource professionals, youth, and homeowners.

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The *Tennessee Healthy Hardwood* initiative was launched with a goal of demonstrating forest management practices on state forest land. Across the workshops, 74 percent of the participants indicating they would implement something they had learned from the workshop and expressed a 48 percent increase in their knowledge level of forest management practices.

- ◆ Research was completed on the awareness, acceptance and perception of benefits of forest certification with 1,050 private forest landowners. Results indicate that landowners were willing to consider certification and believed strongly that certification would improve forest management and would lessen the need for forest regulation.

Landowners attend Tennessee Healthy Hardwoods Field Days.

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