

BRANCHING OUT

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The Rainforest Alliance is an international nonprofit conservation organization that certifies forestry operations, ensuring that they meet rigorous standards for the conservation of natural resources and the rights and welfare of workers and local communities.



The mark of responsible forestry

columbia FOREST PRODUCTS™

Innovating Responsibly™

Columbia Forest Products, North America's longstanding leader in the hardwood plywood and veneer industry, unveiled a new corporate brand identity during a ceremony to dedicate a new core veneer production facility in Boardman, Oregon.

As part of its new branding initiative, Columbia also introduced a new corporate tagline: Innovating Responsibly™.

According to Brad Thompson, President and CEO, the new corporate tagline describes what Columbia promises to the market and to the wider world. "Innovating Responsibly" captures what we stand for and what our customers can expect from us. It's a memorable phrase that reflects unique points of differentiation from our competitors," Thompson remarked.

Columbia's commitment to continuing innovation in ways

that change the hardwood industry for the better include:

- One of the first companies to join with the U.S. Forest Stewardship Council and commit to rigorous standards for procuring wood materials
- Columbia prepares its timber buyers to draft and implement long-term forestry management plans with landowners to assure proper logging practices
- The company is acknowledged as a leader in healthier manufacturing through development and adoption of its EPA award-winning PureBond® formaldehyde-free technology
- The company is also a pioneer in leveraging tree farm science - as illustrated by the June 2013 dedication of its new core veneer production facility located on an 18,000-acre hybrid poplar tree farm near Boardman, Oregon

- Columbia has improved product quality even while "stretching" usable wood supplies and reducing waste - as demonstrated in the recent introduction of MPX cross-band veneer technology.

Columbia has a strong record of accomplishments demonstrating a commitment to customer service, environmental responsibility, and innovative manufacturing.

Columbia recognizes that our innovation and growth are only part of the equation. The key to success has been good relationships with our landowners, distributors, customers, and everyone in between. Thanks for helping us do the right things as a manufacturer. We look forward to bringing you new and environmentally-friendly innovations in our plywood and veneer.

WILDLIFE CALENDAR FOR FEBRUARY

February is the time to either create early successional habitat or maintain it

Last issue, we looked at wildlife management items for the fall time of year. This issue, we are focusing ahead to late winter in February.

February is the time of year to burn old fields to enhance wildlife habitat. Leaving a border between fields and woods to develop into early successional habitat is extremely valuable for wildlife. This strip should be allowed to grow herbs and shrubs from 2 to 4 feet in height. These successional growth strips should be 12 to 15 feet in width. If you haven't

been maintaining this type of habitat, you can create it by disking field edges and allowing nature to take over.

This is a good time to start planting trees and shrubs for wildlife. Apple, crabapple, persimmon, wild cherry, and of course white oak are good trees for wildlife. Shrubs choices include: elderberry, blueberry, hazelnut, and blackberry.

Continue timber stand improvement activities such as pruning and girdling trees and releasing crop trees. This is the time to

fertilize target trees and vegetation as well.

Erect or clean out duck boxes and bluebird houses. For birders, keep bird feeders full and try suet feeders for winter time.

Now is the time to plant clover and alfalfa plots and begin planning native warm-season grasses.

Condensed from UT Wildlife Calendar, UT Extension

NON-TIMBER FOREST PRODUCTS

Non-timber forest products are plants and products that come from forestland other than timber. This is one way to generate revenue in between harvests to help pay for taxes and improvements to your property. Below is a list of some of the opportunities that you may be interested in. There is a wealth of information available from state extension for growing or marketing these products.

- Herbs: Ginseng, black cohosh, and goldenseal are the most well known and generate the most revenue. They can be grown in the shade of your timber on good sites. Growing wild simulated ginseng on forestland has become popular over the last several years as prices have increased in Asia.
- Mushrooms are another item growing in popularity. They can be grown on logs in shaded but open forests and marketed locally. Shiitake and Portobello are commonly grown.
- Edibles: nuts, fruits, berries. Planting fruit trees in

your forest can provide food for you, or mast for wildlife. Apples and pears are more prevalent in the southeast. In open areas along fields and roads, blackberries or blueberries can be established. Pecans, walnuts, and hazel nuts can be grown and gathered, or left for enhancing wildlife. Some people gather acorns and sell them for wildlife food. Other edibles include: ramps, morels, and paw-paw.

- Wood products other than sawlogs. Many people sell crotch logs and burls for more money than the log itself. Firewood is also frequently sold off forestland. Some people market wood for craft items such as blanks for wood burning or wood turning, and hand carving. Craft items such as rustic furniture can be made from smaller stems or larger branches. The more enterprising landowners often have small portable sawmills to make their own lumber.
- Bark has been in demand for the last several years,

particularly yellow-poplar bark. This is used for siding and trim work on rustic and high-end homes. Some homebuilders use small diameter (3 inches) branches with the bark still intact for interior trim and detail work. Also, branches and roots with good figure can be sold to artists and custom home builders.

- Leasing land for hunting has been an option for landowners for many years. Interest in recreational use for camping, hiking, and wildlife watching has been growing in recent years. ATV and horseback riding are other types of leases that landowners can pursue. Some landowners also have trap shooting and specialty game hunting leases.

There are many options for landowners to generate revenue on their property. The key is to start today and start turning your opportunities into real money.



HEATING WITH FIREWOOD

As cooler weather sets in, many of us start thinking of getting some wood ready for our fireplace or woodstove. A wood fire can provide a pleasant, inexpensive and environmentally-friendly way to heat your house. Here are a few tips for getting the most from your firewood:

- Be safe. Have your wood burning system cleaned and inspected before use. Creosote is a black residue from wood smoke that can accumulate on the inside of chimney pipes. Eventually this creosote layer may ignite and burn at dangerously high temperatures. Dirty chimneys should be cleaned

before use. Using dry firewood and burning hot fires periodically can help to keep your chimney clean.

- Dry firewood is the best. Ideally, your firewood should have been cut to length and split no later than in the spring. This allows the heat of the summer to dry out ('season') the wood. Stacking and covering your firewood pile in an area where the sun and wind hits it can help to speed the seasoning process.

- Denser hardwoods provide more heat. Oak, hickory and hard maple are all dense woods. Keep in mind

that any tree species, including those with softer wood (e.g. yellow poplar, gum and pine), will burn well if dry. The difference is that, for a given size piece, harder woods provide more fuel. The means you don't have to fill the stove as often.

- Firewood is carbon neutral and environmentally friendly!

Condensed from University of Tennessee Forest Products Extension, Adam M Taylor



STATE AG AND FORESTRY EXTENSION

Do you know what that black stuff is on your tomatoes? What about that white stuff on the shrubs around your house? What is causing that leaf to turn brown on the edges on that tree you like to hunt from?

All these questions and more have answers that can often be found at extension. Each state has agents and specialists who work with universities, families, and farmers. Their mission is to help connect experts with people who have questions about agriculture and related fields. State extension joins together county, state, and federal programs to provide all citizens access to knowledge generated by universities. Students are probably familiar with one of extension's popular outreach programs, 4-H clubs.

Most people are familiar with extension's work with large

farms and cattle operations. Some may be familiar with outreach centered around forest management or plant nurseries. But did you know that many publications are available for private landowners and small farmers?

There is information from extension that tells you how to:

- Identify trees or plants
- Grow fruit trees
- Plant a year-round garden
- Can and preserve food
- Manage oaks
- Do timber stand improvement
- Improve deer health and buck quality
- Attract more wildlife with soft mast
- Identify pest insects
- Build a barn or shed

- Manage pond health and quality
- Troubleshoot plant, tree, and garden issues
- Determine fertilizer rates for pasture
- Identify local flowers or birds
- Raise chickens and goats
- Make your own cheese and butter

The list of resources available from extension is nearly endless. Extension has county agents who can come to your farm or forest and answer questions or help with problems. You can also go online and download the information you need. There are many publications; often with color photos. They work to serve you, so be sure and check out extension in your state.

The list of resources available from extension is nearly endless

Corporate Headquarters

7900 Triad Center Dr
Greensboro, NC 27409
800-637-1609

Timber Offices

Old Fort, NC Timber Office
Greg Decker
828-724-9495

Craigsville, WV Timber Office
Richard Ray
304-742-5317

Klamath Falls, OR Timber
Office
Mark Slezak
541-273-2504

Newport, VT Veneer Division
Dwight Jensen
802-334-6711

Forest Certification Manager
Richard Taylor Jr
423-914-3446

FSC IN NUMBERS

There are over 35 million acres of certified forest management in the US. There are over 3,300 companies that are Chain-of-Custody certified in the US.

Minnesota, Wisconsin, Maine, and Michigan have some of the largest acreages that are certified. These states average 500,000 acres or more of certified forestland.

To learn more about certified forests in the US, check out this website:

us.fsc.org

Globally, there are over 447 million acres of FSC certified forest area. There are certified forests in over 80 countries managed under 1,216 Forest Management certificates.

Columbia Forest Products

At Columbia, we have both a Forest Management and a Chain-of-Custody certificate. We currently manage over 52,000 acres in 6 states. There are around 40 forestland owners who own and manage these properties to the FSC standard.

WE'RE ON THE WEB!

You can visit our site at: www.cfpwood.com. Please come by on occasion and look for our forestry section for landowners.