

TEACHERS' TOUR 2022



The SC Sustainable Forestry Teachers' Tour was held June 21-25 in Georgetown, SC. Twenty-one teachers from across South Carolina participated. They visited forests, logging operations, and wood product mills and were given a comprehensive overview of SC's \$21 billion forest industry, looking at forestry's economic, environmental, and social impact. They learned about sustainable forestry practices, conservation, endangered species, careers in forestry, and much more.

A Sponsors Dinner was held at the conclusion of the program. Special thanks was expressed to all the Tour Sponsors, speakers, and participants.

"What seemed to impress the teachers the most was that forestry really is a science, and through proper management, our forests in the state are productive, diverse, and sustainable," said Emily Oakman, the Forestry Association's Director of Landowner Outreach, Forestry Education and Programs. Oakman also served as a program instructor. ■

■ Above, the group gathered for a snapshot at International Paper, Georgetown, SC; explored a tract with pitcher plants, and toured Canfor Southern Pine's sawmill.



Oakman

COMMENTS

From A Few Of The Participants

- I thoroughly enjoyed the content presentations each day. The forestry professionals we met care about each other, the environment, and were especially willing to share their sustainability message with us. – *Phil Rabon*
- Seeing the industry from start to finish because I truly saw the sustainability of this industry. – *Cindy Lilly*
- Learned a lot about the sustainable practices used in forestry. I really liked learning how the entire forestry industry works together like a big family. – *David Settle*
- The career exploration and connections. This is incredibly valuable information for my high school students. – *Samantha King*
- I enjoyed seeing so many different aspects of the forestry industry. I will be able to share the info with my students. – *Chet Horton*
- I enjoyed the field trips to different forest areas. – *Incentlee Lemon*
- I enjoyed most that we moved around, touched and were able to go see! I loved seeing the machinery – wow! – *Cynthia Kerr*
- I enjoyed learning about the “phases” of forestry and about the various things/supplies/goods made from trees! I LOVED Black River trail and the wonderful friendships made! – *Michelle Butler*



Tour participants visited a timber harvesting operation and learned more about various aspects of the process.



Participants learn more about products produced at Canfor Southern Pine.



A fun snapshot taken at International Paper.

TOUR STOPS

The 2022 SC Teachers' Tour stops included:

- John Spearman's Tree Farm [Spearman is 2004 Regional Tree Farmer Of The Year, and 1999 SC Tree Farmer Of The Year]
- Canfor Southern Pine's sawmill
- Forests managed by Resource Management Service
- Black River Cypress Preserve
- International Paper's paper mill
- Francis Marion National Forest
- Horry-Georgetown Technical College
- Hobcaw Barony

TOUR SPONSORS & CONTRIBUTORS

The Tour was hosted by the Forestry Association of SC, SC Forestry Commission, SC Sustainable Forestry Initiative Implementation Committee, and SC Timber Producers Association.

Black River Cypress Preserve, Ronnie and Susie Byrd, Canfor Southern Pine, Collum's Lumber Products, LLC, Francis Marion National Forest, Georgia-Pacific, Great Woods Companies, LLC, Hobcaw Barony, Belle W. Baruch Foundation, Horry-Georgetown Technical College, Charles Ingram Lumber Co., International Paper, Leo Lambert Logging, Inc., Marion Wood Products, Potts Forestry & Real Estate, Resource Management Service, Sabine & Waters, SC Tree Farm Committee, John and May Spearman, West Fraser, WestRock, White Oak Forest Management, Wilson, Wright & Coleman, Winyah Chapter - Society of American Foresters