



# Outstanding Tree Farmer Nominations Sought

Each year the SC Tree Farm Committee conducts a contest to select the state's outstanding Tree Farmers. Any Tree Farmer in South Carolina is eligible to participate. Below is basic information about the contest.

## **Contest purpose is to:**

- promote sustainable forest management on privately owned lands,
- recognize Tree Farmers who have done an outstanding job of managing their property, and
- educate the public about benefits of sustainable forest management.

## **Qualifications required:**

- exceptional on-the-ground multiple use (timber, wildlife, protection of soil and water, aesthetics, and recreation) forest management,
- active involvement by the landowner in management of his/her land, and
- active in promoting forestry and the Tree Farm program in his/her community.

## **Benefits of participating:**

- public recognition,
- the opportunity to meet other Tree Farmers, and
- the opportunity to enter regional and national competitions.

The individual selected as the Outstanding Tree Farmer of the Year for the state, attends the South Carolina Forestry Association's (SCFA) Annual Meeting as a guest of the SC Tree Farm Program and SCFA. The Outstanding Tree Farmer of the Year will be presented a plaque and chainsaw.

## **How is the contest conducted?**

The state is divided into Tree Farm districts and each one can nominate a candidate. A Tree Farmer can be nominated by either his/her inspecting forester, cooperating consulting forester, cooperating SC Forestry Commission forester, and/or Tree Farm Committee member.

Nomination forms for each district are submitted to the state committee which evaluates and selects finalists. A committee visits each finalist and selects the most suitable Tree Farmer to represent the state. All district nominees are recognized for their accomplishments during an awards ceremony and field tour held on the property of the previous year's Outstanding Tree Farmer of the Year.

To participate or nominate someone, contact:

### **L. Denise Bonnette, SC Tree Farm Committee Chair**

484 Mason Dickson Rd., York, SC 29745, 803-230-8436 (C), bonn0181@comporium.net

### **George D. Kessler -- SC Tree Farm Committee Vice Chairman**

Clemson University, 4008 Six Mile Highway, Central, SC 29639, 864-868-9487, 864-608-4040 (C), Gksslr@clemson.edu

### **Scott Phillips, SC Tree Farm Committee Secretary/Treasurer**

SC Forestry Commission, P O Box 21707, Columbia, SC 29221, 803-896-8844 (O), 803-667-1067 (C), sphillips@forestry.state.sc.us