

## NEWS RELEASE

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### Financial Assistance Workshop for Forest Landowners Set for Oct. 2 in Ahoskie

**AHOSKIE, N.C., Sept. 12, 2018**—The region’s forest landowners are encouraged to attend a free financial assistance workshop that will be held Oct. 2 at Roanoke-Chowan Community College in Ahoskie. Attendees will receive information on program eligibility and technical and financial assistance available through the U.S. Department of Agriculture’s Farm Service Agency, the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service, the North Carolina Forest Service and the North Carolina Department of Agriculture. Participants also will hear from agency representatives about programs and financial assistance available to landowners who wish to implement practices such as tree planting after harvest, prescribed burning, wildlife habitat improvement, and other forest management and conservation practices.

“Forest landowners should know there are several programs available to help them convert property that they often view as a burden into a significant asset,” said Alton Perry, program manager for The Roanoke Center’s Sustainable Forestry and Land Retention Project, which is sponsoring the event. “This workshop is designed to close that knowledge gap and help put forest landowners on a path to increasing intergenerational wealth in their families and achieving sustainable forest management.”

To register for the workshop, call 252-209-2267; registration deadline is Sept. 25. The event will run from 9 am to 1 pm; lunch will be provided. To learn more about the Sustainable Forestry and Land Retention Project and its services, visit [www.RECforestry.org](http://www.RECforestry.org)

Sixty-five percent of North Carolina’s forestland is owned by non-industrial private landowners. The forest sector provides nearly \$33 billion to the state’s economy, according to the North Carolina Department of Agriculture.

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