



For Immediate Release

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The Society of American Foresters (SAF) Announces National Award for Eugene E. Stoots, Jr. CF

(Bethesda, MD)—The Society of American Foresters has announced that Eugene E. Stoots, Jr. CF will receive a national award for his outstanding contributions to the forestry profession during a ceremony at the 2016 SAF National Convention, November 2–6, in Madison, Wisconsin.

The John A. Beale Award recognizes outstanding efforts over a sustained period of time by an SAF member in the promotion of forestry through voluntary service to the Society. Presented annually, the engraved award includes a cash honorarium of \$500.

Stoots embodies the criteria of the John A. Beale Award in every regard, in his initiative, service, and leadership, both within SAF and in the field of forestry generally. He has provided continuous service to the Society since 1984, bringing a diverse perspective to his leadership positions that is reflective of his diverse career in forestry while working for both the forest industry and the public sector.

In the early 2000s, Stoots moved to Virginia to work for the Virginia Department of Forestry (VDoF) as a regional forester, where he oversees the management and protection of one-third of Virginia's forestland. Stoots has ably served SAF in leadership positions during his time in Virginia, serving as chair of the Appalachian SAF, assisting on the planning committee for the 2013 National SAF Convention in Charleston, S.C., and serving as a member of the House of Society Delegates, all while remaining an active member of his local SAF Chapter. He was elected as an SAF Fellow in 2015.

"This year's national award recipients join a group of elite individuals who have demonstrated unusual dedication to the practice and promotion of forestry," said Matt Menashes, CEO of SAF.

The awards process is a rigorous one. It begins with written nominations and references by professional peers. The Forest Science and Technology Board or the Committee on Professional Recognition then reviews the nominations. These bodies forward their recommendations to the SAF Board of Directors for its review and approval. The review process produces candidates with a national profile and a comprehensive history of sustained contributions to the forestry profession and service to the public.

The Society of American Foresters (SAF) is the national scientific and educational organization representing the forestry profession in the United States. Founded in 1900 by Gifford Pinchot, it is the largest professional society for foresters in the world. The mission of the Society of American Foresters is to advance the science, education, technology, and practice of forestry. A 501 (c) (3) nonprofit organization, SAF members include natural resource professionals in public and private settings, researchers, CEOs, administrators, educators, and students.