

Spring NEWSLETTER



This year is off to a fast start, and we're proud to reflect on an action-packed first few months of 2025. From the exciting growth of industry-recognized certificate programs to impactful trainings and meetings, we're continuing to make strides in supporting workforce development within the forest industry. ForestryWorks® is deeply grateful for the many individuals and organizations working to advance the future of our workforce.



Read Across America Week

March 2-7, 2025

The forest industry showed up in big ways during Read Across America Week. Through classroom visits, kid's dress up days, library events, and more, industry leaders engaged their local communities to increase awareness of sustainable forestry while fostering a love of reading and literacy among students. There were countless social media posts highlighting events from ForestryWorks affiliates and partners, and incredible support for children's books like *Family Trees* by Lauren Hawkins and the *Tiny Timber Crew* series by Stephanie Fuller.



The week's events also opened doors for partnerships within the conservation community. ForestryWorks of Alabama was able to work with local Soil and Water Conservation Districts of the Alabama Soil and Water Conservation Committee to extend their reach throughout the week. Because of the financial and volunteer support of these and other partners, over 2,000 students were reached in more than 120 classrooms with the message of sustainable forestry and its importance to our communities and environment.



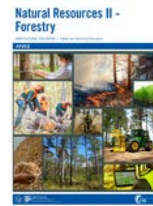
Read more about the outreach by ForestryWorks of Alabama
for Read Across America Week



ForestryWorks of Mississippi Hosts Ambassador Training for Industry Leaders

The Mississippi Lumber Manufacturers Association hosted a training to equip industry professionals with tools and resources to connect with students and promote forestry-related careers.

[Read More](#)



CONGRATULATIONS
to the first cohort of
North Carolina Certified Forest Workers from
Mountain Heritage & Rosman High Schools!



North Carolina Celebrates First Awardees of Forest Worker Credential

The first cohort of North Carolina Certified Forest Worker Credential awardees hail from Mountain Heritage High School and Rosman High School. Congratulations to the students and teachers on their hard work!

[Read More](#)

New Curriculum Pilots Launched! *Sawmill Worker and Logging Worker Now Piloting*



The newest offerings in the ForestryWorks® Curriculum Catalog are in the classroom! These innovative curriculum programs are designed to bridge gaps and meet the evolving needs of our workforce. Currently being piloted in Alabama, these industry-recognized certificate programs will be available for implementation by ForestryWorks® program administrators across the country beginning Spring 2026.

ForestryWorks of Alabama recently hosted free teacher trainings that provided teacher certification opportunities for Forest Worker, Sawmill Worker, and Logging Worker Curriculums. Ted Stevens, Education Director with the Texas Forestry Association, also attended to prepare for the upcoming curriculum launch by ForestryWorks of Texas.

[Learn more about the new Sawmill Worker Curriculum](#)

Participation in Industry Associations and Meetings

Jessica Ireland and Abigail Ridge of the North Carolina Forestry Association, and Caley Peyton of the Tennessee Forestry Association presented a session at the PLT Annual Conference in Clemson, SC. The session, titled "ForestryWorks® and PLT Green Jobs: An Effective Partnership for Career and Technical Education (CTE) Programs", focused on the workforce development efforts in their states.

Additionally, members of the ForestryWorks national staff recently attended regional meetings for SAF, SLMA, and FRA. These meetings create opportunities to engage with stakeholders, strengthen community partnerships, and provide insightful conversations with actionable ideas to address workforce needs

2024 IMPACT REPORT

Highlighting the efforts of ForestryWorks® partners and affiliates, and the impact made on the forest industry workforce



[View the full report](#)

EXTRA INSIGHTS

Articles + Audio

Equipping Career Coaches with Firsthand Knowledge of the Forest Industry

FRA Technical Release 25-TR-04

Reflections on Forestry Education and Recruitment

FRA Woods to Mill

Building Careers in Forestry

Middle of the Rez Road Podcast Episode featuring Michael Sullivan of Minnesota ForestryWorks

Workforce Development

Voices of Forestry Podcast From the Arkansas Forestry Association, this episode features a conversation with the Louisiana, Mississippi, and Alabama Forestry Associations.

Stay in the loop! Sign up for updates from ForestryWorks.