

**Summary of Evaluation Results for
“Family Forest Heritage Day”
Workshop at SVCC- Alberta, VA**



Date: 01 April 2005

We received evaluations from 12 participants in the workshop. Another 15 landowners attended part of the workshop but left before evaluation forms were distributed.

The key finding is that 83% of respondents were “very likely” to use some of the information presented. The remaining 17% said “maybe” they would use some of the information. The respondents listed multiple topics that they found “most useful”, including timber sales (83%), fish ponds (17%), mushrooms and ginseng (one respondent).

100% of the respondents found the workshop “understandable”, “very helpful”, and “felt that the workshop would help them make more money from their woodlands”. 100% of the respondents also found the workshop materials “very useful”. 68% of respondents found the length of the workshop “just right”, one found it “too short”, and 25% found it “too long”. General comments about the workshop were overwhelmingly positive, noting particularly that speakers were well prepared: “very interesting”, “excellent, excellent”, etc. Only two questions were not covered during the workshop: liability for damage to woodlands and how to sell small plots of timber.

Most respondents found out about the workshop through an “agency” (58%) or “flyer” (58%). 33% had received a postcard. One respondent listed “personal contact”, one person listed “media”, and one person listed the “SVCC” as a source.

Woodland acreage owned by participants ranged from 21 to 250 acres, with an average of 100 acres. 68% of respondents use their woodlands for hunting or fishing. Most respondents (58%) came from Brunswick County (VA). One came from Halifax. The rest did not respond to the question. In the last five years, 75% had been visited by a state forester; 50% had hired a consulting forester; and 83% had sold some timber.

83% of respondents had inherited at least some of their woodlands. 48% of respondents did not know what they were going to do with their woodlands in the future, while 25% said they plan to pass all of their woodlands on to heirs, and 33% felt they would sell some of their woodlands and pass some on to their heirs. 75% did not have wills specifying who would receive their woodlands.

One quarter of the respondents were female. Ages ranged from 46 to 74. The educational background of respondents varied greatly, from elementary school only to some graduate study. 58% of respondents were “Black /African American”, 33% were White/Caucasian, and one did not respond.