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UPSTATE happenings

NOV 2013

Tuesday, Oct 22, 10:00 - 1:00
Field Trip: Clemson Forest
Autumn Plants and Landscapes

John Garton will lead us as we drive and walk to various locations along the Lake Issaqueena Road (gravel) to see autumn colors, wildflowers, fruits, and woodland settings of the Clemson Experimental Forest.

Meet at the North Forest Gate on Lake Issaqueena Rd. Wear field clothes and footwear. Bring a bag lunch/snack and drink. We will finish after lunch.

Limit of 20 people.

To reserve a space, email Judy Seeley, judy_seeley@hotmail.com Please include your cell phone number for last minute communications.

Directions from Clemson: On Hwy 133, go approx 4 miles north from Hwy 123. At Lawrence Chapel United Methodist Church turn left onto Old Six Mile Rd and go 100 yards. Gate is on your right.

Sunday, Oct 27
Field Trip: Fall Seed Collecting
See below.

Tuesday, Oct. 29, 9 am - 12 noon
Work Day in the Meadow Patch
Learn about and plant native grasses and forbs, and remove invasive plants in the Skip Still Meadow. Also, help maintain a rain garden and learn about rainwater harvesting and rain barrel set up. (Costumes welcome in the meadow patch!)
SC DNR Clemson Office, 311 Natural Resources Drive, Clemson.

Fall Seed Collecting Field Trips
Leader: Bill Stringer
Botanize country roadsides and national forests while collecting seeds for the UNPS and for your own planting. Upstate Chapter of SCNPS has several meadow projects for which we need native seeds. Come out to learn the fall grasses and forbs and to help harvest the seeds.

We will carpool to nearby counties, meeting at 9:45 am and finishing around 4 pm. We will eat lunch at nearby restaurants. Wear field clothing and shoes and bring water and a

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How's the patient? the magnificent hemlock

It has been awhile since we've heard news from the battlefield in the war against *Adelges tsugae*. This tiny, voracious pest, you'll recall, is a deadly enemy of hemlock trees, killing as much as 80 percent of native hemlock forests up and down the East coast over the last half-century. In 2006 and again in 2007, Dr. Joe Culin of Clemson University spoke to our chapter about ongoing efforts to eradicate the Hemlock Woolly Adelgid (HWA) with biological controls – specifically, the release of predator beetles bred to attack this destructive pest. On both of those occasions when Culin visited our meeting, he was accompanied by LayLa Burgess, one of his colleagues at Clemson's HWA Biological Control Laboratory.

Now Burgess is back, to update us on this important battle against an alien invasive which threatens the very survival of one of our most beloved coniferous species. Burgess, a Seneca native, holds a B.S. in plant sciences from the College of Charleston and an M.S. in botany from Clemson University. Earlier this year, she completed another Master's degree, in forest resources. She manages the HWA lab at Clemson and oversees a dedicated group of technicians and students who rear *Sasajiscymnus tsugae*, the predatory beetle that eats the adelgid.

Their lab, Burgess says, "has been plugging away at this HWA project for 10 years." They began by rearing and releasing beetles into designated Hemlock Conservation Areas in three nearby national forests (Sumter in South Carolina, Nantahala in North Carolina, and Chattahoochee in Georgia). Hundreds of thousands of beetles have been released over the last seven or eight years. Gradually, the work has evolved into improving beetle-rearing protocols and refining strategies for releasing them, as well as public education and monitoring the health of hemlock forests. In some areas, Burgess reports, the predatory beetle populations are beginning to establish themselves and reproduce on their own, at levels high enough that the scientists have recovered some. They feel there probably still aren't enough beetles in the wild to completely bring the HWA under control, but "establishment (of beetle populations) has been a feat unto itself," Burgess says.

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LayLa Burgess
Clemson University

Tuesday, Nov 19, 7:00 pm

Founders Hall in Dining Commons, Southern Wesleyan University, Central

For a map and more information, visit <http://www.scnps.org>

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Native Plant Society**
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Upstate Chapter

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Upcoming Events

snack if you need one. We will go out on two Sundays, when it is safe during hunting season to go into the national forests.

Sunday, Oct 27, 9:45 am - 4:00 pm

Meet at 9:45 at Home Depot on Woodruff Rd in Greenville to form carpools. We will travel in Greenville and Laurens counties.

Sunday, Nov 3, 9:45 am - 4:00 pm

Meet at 9:45 at the Pickens County Courthouse parking lot. The Pickens County Courthouse is at 214 E Main Street, Pickens, SC 29671; the parking lot is behind the courthouse. We will travel in Pickens and Oconee counties.

To reserve your space, email Bill Stringer at catboyz@nctv.com. Please indicate which date(s) you will attend, the number in your party, whether or not you are willing to drive and how many riders you can accommodate. Please also send your cell phone number for last minute information.

Saturday, Nov 16, 10:30 am SCNPS Annual Meeting

See story at right.

Tuesday, Nov 19, 7:00 pm

How's the Patient? the magnificent hemlock

See story page 1.

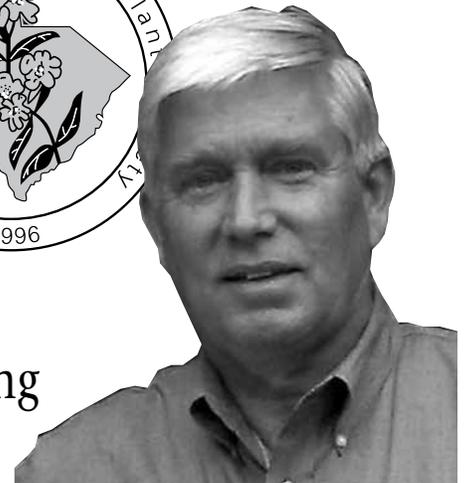
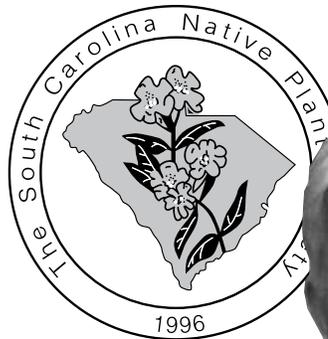
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How's the patient?

Her talk at our November meeting will review why we care about our native hemlock, characteristics of the HWA as an invasive, and the U.S. Forest Service's Bio-Control Initiative.

— Jeanne Malmgren

*Instead of a
symposium in
2013, SCNPS will
have an annual
meeting featuring
Rudy Mancke as a
speaker.*



Saturday, Nov 16 SCNPS Annual Meeting Rudy Mancke

The meeting will be held on Saturday, Nov 16th, 10:30 am, at Saluda Shoals Park, 5605 Bush River Rd, Columbia, SC, next to the wetland preserve.

There will also be a brief overview of SCNPS's accomplishments this year, the director of the park will review the attractions in the park, and there will be elections. Lunch will be served. After the meeting, there will be guided trail walks, kayaking on the Saluda River and a scavenger hunt for the kids. Native plants and books will be on sale.

Preregistration is required. The cost is \$20 for adults and any children eating lunch. The fee is \$5 for children not eating. Registration is online and in advance only at

scnpsaludashoals.eventbrite.com

Kayaks may put in at the park ramp and take out at the Gardendale Landing. You may bring your own kayak or rent one from the park. For details about renting a kayak call the park at 803-731-5208. For more information about the park go to www.icrc.net/saluda-shoals-park.