



# Save Georgia's Hemlocks

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## 4/18/10 Meeting Notes

A quarterly board meeting of Save Georgia's Hemlocks was held Sunday, April 18 at 3:00 p.m. at the home of Tom Porter, 37 Neshoba Court, Ellijay. In attendance: Donna Shearer, Dave Teffeteller, Jimmie Walters, Tom Porter, Bob Pledger, Rob Strangia and Helen Daniels.

New board members Dave Teffeteller, Tom Porter, and Helen Daniels were introduced. Helen Daniels will serve as secretary. Each board member gave a brief history of their hemlock involvement.

All members signed an Acknowledgment form indicating they have read, understand, and agree to abide by the organization's Articles of Incorporation, Bylaws, Conflict of Interest Policy, Donor Privacy Policy, and other organizing documents that may be approved by the Board in the future.

### **501(c)3 Nonprofit Status**

Received IRS letter of Determination confirming SGH is an official 501(c)3 Nonprofit classified as a public charity.

### **Activities 12/1/2009 – 4/18/2010**

- Presentations
- New service offered: Assistance to Homeowners Associations to develop customized hemlock help plans
- Hemlock Help Clinics
- New service offered: Mentoring groups in Tennessee to develop their own Hemlock Help for Homeowners Program.
- Facilitator Training

Details of activities can be found at the [Current Activity Report](#) link on the About Us page of the web site.

## **STRATEGIC PLANNING**

### **Vision:**

To preserve, conserve, and restore Georgia's hemlocks for future generations.

### **Mission:**

Save Georgia's Hemlocks is a nonprofit organization of concerned citizens dedicated to saving endangered hemlocks through educational and charitable service.

### **Goals:**

- Educate: Enhance public awareness of the hemlock wooly adelgid crisis, the practical solutions, and emerging technologies.
- Enable: Ensure easy access to information, advice regarding economical solutions, and direct assistance for homeowners.
- Encourage: Establish a clear understanding of the aesthetic, economic, and environmental reasons for property owners to take timely and effective action to save their hemlocks.

**Objectives:**

- Financial Development and Management
  - Management of funds in account
  - Maintenance of financial records
  - IRS compliance
- Fundraising
  - Grants
  - Special events
  - On-line donations through Paypal
- Public Relations and Communication
  - Media
  - Newsletters
  - Email
- Education
  - Web site – repository of information
  - Hemlock Help Clinics and Facilitator training
  - Hemlock Help Line
  - Published articles and print materials
- Outreach
  - Schools and community organizations
  - Environmental labs
  - Citizen science
- Information Technology
- Program Development
- Charitable Service
- Volunteer Recruitment and Training

**TO DO:**

- Investigate and decide on D&O insurance by May 8.
- Look into Save Georgia Hemlocks Day
- Each board member to send Bob information on strategy and budget concerns in their area of accountability. This includes what it is, where we stand now, priority, short term goals, long term goals, expected results and budget considerations. It should also include any items each member deems appropriate from Donna's draft "to do" list. The agreed upon submission date is by Sunday, May 2. Bob will send an e-mail with some prompts to help develop strategies.

The next board meeting will be Saturday, May 8. Time and location information will be announced later.