



Save Georgia's Hemlocks

8-3-14 Agenda for SGH Leadership Team Meeting

11 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the home of Donna Shearer in Dahlonega. Lunch will be provided.

PROPERTY OWNER ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

Mark Dalusky, recently retired UGA Beetle Lab Director and forest entomologist, will share some ideas with us about our potential role in helping to establish a property owner assistance program for saving hemlocks on private property. There are several programs in existence for pests such as gypsy moth and pine beetle.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

We will review our calendar for the remainder of FY 2014 and update our list of volunteers for each event. We will begin thinking about our educational strategy for next year; i.e. whether to hold training in every program county, whether to consolidate certain counties in the east but do classes in every western county, how to make our publicity more effective

EDUCATION

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SERVICE

- * USFS – SGH: We have 3 treatment projects with the U. S. Forest Service between now and the end of the year. The one on Sept. 27 is our annual Hike and Help the Hemlocks, which will again be a joint outing with BMTA and will take place in the Little Rock Creek HCA this year. We need to discuss other partner group we'd like to engage and begin making plans.
- * DNR Wildlife Mgt – SGH: We have no scheduled treatment projects with any branch of the GA DNR, but we need to prepare a report for Chuck Waters on our accomplishments (including those of our partner, the Mountain Stewards) for the Cartecay project. We should also discuss whether we want to do anything further on that site.
- * DNR State Parks: By the week of Aug. 4, we should be receiving the MOU that will establish a formal relationship between SGH and the State Parks and Historic Sites Division of the DNR similar to those with the DNR Wildlife Management Division and the U. S Forest Service.
- * Injector Repair: We'll discuss the past accomplishments and the future of our injector repair service.

OTHER BUSINESS

- * Composter: The Friends of Unicoi State Park have generously offered us a large electric composter in hopes we can use it for our hemlock sapling potting and nursery initiatives. We need to discuss the logistics for accepting it, such as placement, security and liability, access to electricity, cost of operation, making it accessible to other community groups, amount of time required to manage its use, etc.
- * Evans Injector: One of our members, John Evans, has designed a new soil injector similar to the Kioritz and presented the plans and preliminary cost figures to Dave, Bob, Frank and Donna. The goal would be for SGH to play some appropriate role in making a functional, highly reliable, and affordable device available for treating hemlocks effectively, efficiently, and economically. So as a whole team now, we need to discuss a basic business plan and decide if it is feasible to go forward with getting the device to market. Dave will lead this discussion.

FINANCIAL MATTERS

Rose will not be with us, but Donna will present a summary financial report through July 31, 2014.

NEXT SGH LEADERSHIP TEAM MEETING – SUNDAY, OCTOBER 26, DAHLONEGA