Orange, Green, Madison, & Culpeper Counties Consulting Foresters List

The Virginia Department of Forestry (VDOF) lists the names of foresters who provide forestry services to the public on a contractual or fee basis. These foresters have asked to be included on these lists. The performance of anyone listed below is not guaranteed or endorsed by the VDOF. A statewide Consulting Foresters list can be found on the Department of Forestry website, www.dof.virgnia.gov.

The Code of Virginia doesn't require licensure to be titled a Consulting Forester. However, to meet the legal definition, a consultant must have 10 years of experience or must have graduated from an accredited four-year forestry program. The Society of American Forester's Certified Forester certification is a trade certification for foresters in Virginia.

Before you hire a forestry consultant, you should:

- Talk to a few foresters, and ask them about their specialties.
- Ask what they will do and how much it will cost for their help.
- Ask about their experience
- Ask if they also buy timber could represent a conflict of interest.
- Landowners are encouraged to request several landowner references from any Forestry Consultant under consideration, and to contact those references before making their final decision.

Services of a forestry consultant

- Help you write a Stewardship Management Plan based on what you want to do with your woods. The plan provides guidance through the life of your property.
- Help you improve your woodland, ensuring you can make money if you decide to sell your trees.
- Help you find "timber buyers" (people to buy your trees) and get you the best price.
- Help you plant new trees now so that you can make more money later.
- Provide advice to attract more deer, quail, or turkeys to your woodland.
- Help you find people who will pay a fee for hunting in your woods.
- Appraise and sell your timber for you.

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