This past fall Forests Forever, Inc. launched a new effort designed to bring together community partners dedicated to natural resource education. FFI’s Education Consortium is an ambitious attempt to link organizations, agencies, businesses and individuals with the common desire to provide more opportunities for practical forestry learning in the Portland metropolitan area.

By the close of 2004, three major contributors joined together to provide the base funding for the Consortium. Clackamas County government (through their federal Title III program), Weyerhaeuser Company Foundation, and the Oregon Forest Resources Institute collectively have provided $65,000 for the Consortium. An additional $20,000 is being raised now from smaller contributors to reach the funding goal of $85,000 for 2005.

FFI President, Ken Everett, said the Consortium funds will be used to support the educational programs and delivery at Hopkins Memorial Tree Farm, including our full time education and outreach position.

The Education Consortium continues to grow in members and dollars. During the past three months, an additional $6,000 has been contributed by three families and three businesses in the area. This is exciting progress toward our goal. All contributors to FFI’s Education Consortium will be recognized on a special plaque located in Hopkins Hall at the tree farm. For more information or to contribute, contact Everett at 503-655-5524.

**2004 Accomplishments**

The past year was a busy one for education at the Hopkins Memorial Tree Farm. The following activities were reported by FFI’s Outreach Coordinator, Tim Lichen. Tim works full-time for Forests Forever designing, delivering and marketing our educational programs. These programs will continue and increase with success of the Education Consortium.

- 23 Tree Farm tours: 414 participants
- 2 Teacher workshops: 28 participants
- 5 Forestry workshops: 73 participants
- 2 Community Forest Hiking Events: 54 participants
- 18 School forest inquiry and study programs: 667 youth
- 2 GPS training events: 50 students
- 11 Community Volunteer Work Days and other volunteer activities: 200+ volunteers contributing more than 2,600 hours of forestry assistance
- Assisted with the development of the new FFI website: www.forestsforever-or.org
- Developed a new table-top, portable display about the Hopkins Memorial Tree Farm
- Participated in regular meetings of the North Clackamas Chamber of Commerce and the Oregon City Chamber of Commerce representing Forests Forever Inc. with the local business community
The support we receive for our facilities and programs has been tremendous over the years. We have donor members at many levels, from $25 to $1000 and will tell more of that story in our next issue. This time the spotlight is on our new Education Consortium and how much it is going to allow us to accomplish. Here are the supporters for 2004. The list is still growing with help from forest owners and businesses.

**Educational Consortium**
Clackamas County Board of Commissioners
Oregon Forest Resources Institute
Weyerhaeuser Company Foundation
Blount Inc.—Oregon Cutting Systems

**Donation of Materials and Services**
Effective programs depend on a background of facilities and services. Last year these were our supporters in another special category, helping prepare us to productively utilize new funds:

- Checkpoint Motors
- Earl Buche Investment
- MAP, Inc.
- Oregon City Garbage Company
- Gary Clark
- Lee-Built
- Starker Forests
- Thronson Forest Products
- RSG Forest Products
- Weyerhaeuser Co.
- Floragon Forest Products
- Northwest Hardwood
- Freres Lumber Co.
- Frank Lumber Co.
- Georgia Pacific Corp.
- Banks Lumber Co.

Many in-kind donations have come over the years and continue to make a big difference in the property and the programs at our tree farm. These two photos show just a tiny sample. Reducing brush to chips and keeping a good surface on the roads help provide good access for both our management tasks and our visitors’ enjoyment.

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Proper planting of forest seedlings is best learned by doing it. This group is from a class offered at Hopkins by OSU Extension Service on January 29. They got the experience and we got trees into the ground—what better deal is there?
Sabin Forestry Program

Students from North Clackamas School District’s Sabin-Schellenberg Center are with us part-time again this year. They focus their learning by doing at Hopkins Tree Farm in a reforestation project on a 3-acre unit that is part of our new 20 acres. In this “Sabin Unit” the students are learning all phases of reforestation: slash disposal, tree planting, and weed and animal damage control. Students may also get a taste of pruning in an adjacent young fir stand.

“What has been most helpful this school year,” says Rob Waibel, the Center's Forestry instructor, “is the closer coordination with tree farm staff and the many volunteers from the community who support the students.” FFI Board members and staff have helped teach and supervise this work thus far, but would welcome involvement by others. Think about your know-how and these young folks’ need to know it. Contact Tim at the tree farm if you might want to share your forestry skills and knowledge here.

Visit our New FFI Website

Same old code word gets you in: www.forestsforever-or.org.

New look once you get there: extensive remodeling to better reflect who we are.

Workers credited for the project:
• leadership, coordination by Merrily Enquist, Board Member
• design expertise contracted by Charlotte Dorsey of Color My Web
• leadership, some new photos and text by Tim Lichen, staff

www.forestsforever-or.org

Science in the Forest

This looks to be a very busy spring for school visits to the tree farm. About 20 dates for approximately 500 students are already scheduled from March through the end of May. Schools are usually on site mid-morning until mid-afternoon and work in small groups to explore different aspects of the habitats found on our 140-acres. We are pleased to be using a very well respected field ecology program developed by Wolftree Inc. and supported in part by Oregon Forest Resources Institute.

Resource professionals from several public agencies and a few private corporations, along with a group of Portland State University students help guide middle and high school students in observation and data collection. This Science in the Forest curriculum uses inquiry methods that allow students to observe and measure the forest in order to answer their own questions. Student activities include measuring trees, assessing ground cover and identifying vegetation, inventorying wildlife and habitat features, or searching for insects in the water and on land.

It’s really great fun and stimulates lots of learning. Feel free to come observe or become more deeply involved. Volunteers are needed, training will be held at the tree farm on March 12; the field trip schedule varies.

Contact Us About Educational Opportunities

To “Contact Tim” for any program opportunities mentioned in this newsletter means reach this guy in one of these ways:
Tim Lichen
Community Outreach Coordinator
Hopkins Memorial Tree Farm
503-632-2150
tim.lichen@oregonstate.edu

Birds, Blooms and a Bounty of Volunteers to Greet Mothers

Your help is needed to greet and treat moms and their families on May 14 when Hopkins Memorial Tree Farm hosts its third annual Take Mom for a Walk in the Woods event. This spring celebration of motherhood brings a slightly different audience to our small woodland to take in the sights, sounds and other sensations of spring. To help make the day complete for our guests, the staff and Board of FFI request your assistance.

Volunteers are needed for everything from parking assistance, to hosting the refreshment station, to demonstrating use of forestry tools and management activities, to providing directions to our guests in the field. May 14, being a 2nd Saturday of the month, is our usual Community Workday—the nature of the work this May is hosting our guests and sharing our love of the forest with them. If it has been a while since you volunteered at Hopkins Tree Farm, here is an event you should consider. You could volunteer for a 2-6 hour shift depending on the nature of the task, your interests and availability. As usual, lunch will be provided for our volunteer cadre. Please call Tim at the tree farm ASAP to sign up for duties on May 14. Yes, you can bring your mother, too!
COMING EVENTS...

**Tree School 2005**  March 19 (8:00 am-5:00 pm) FFI is one of the sponsors of this important event for nearly 600 learners, and two classes that day are held in the woods at Hopkins Memorial Tree Farm.

**Tree Walk**  April 3 (2:00-4:00 pm) Enjoy this guided hike at the Hopkins Memorial Tree Farm on the Watershed Interpretive Trail and help kick off Arbor Week in Oregon. No registration required. Come and enjoy. Hike rated “easy”.

**Volunteer Community Work Day**  April 9 (8:30 am-4:00 pm) Focus on preparing the farm for spring and summer visitors: trail and facility maintenance, and some left-over weed control. Lunch provided if you call by April 7 to reserve your place at the table.

**Tree Farm Tours**  April 9 (9:30 am and 1:00 pm) 90-minute, FREE tours reveal how our woodland is managed from creek to hilltop to provide a range of values on a sustainable basis. No reservations necessary, however, groups are encouraged to call in advance.

**FFI Board Meeting**  April 21 (8:30 am-noon) in Hopkins Hall.

**Take Mom for a Walk in the Woods**  May 14 (8:30 am-4:00 pm) A family day to enjoy the beauty in our woodlands. Self guided tours, demonstrations, food and family fun! Reservations not required, though it is nice to know if large groups plan to join us. (see story on p. 3)

**Volunteer Community Work Day**  May 14 (8:30 am-4:00 pm) Special help needed: see bottom right of page 3.

**Basic Forestry Tools**  May 28 (9:00am-12 noon) Learn how to use common forest measurement tools—clinometer, diameter tape, Woodland Stick, and orientation with compass and aerial photo. It is practical, hands-on and in the woods. Participants receive a Woodland Stick with instruction card. **Pre-registration required**: free, and participants may join our volunteers for lunch following the workshop.

**Trees to Know**  May 28 (1:30 pm-3:00 pm) Learn basic tree identification using a dichotomous key in the forest at Hopkins Tree Farm. Participants receive *Trees to Know in Oregon* book. **Pre-registration required**: $15. Fee can be paid at the workshop.

*For information about any of these events, contact Hopkins Memorial Tree Farm at 503-632-2150*