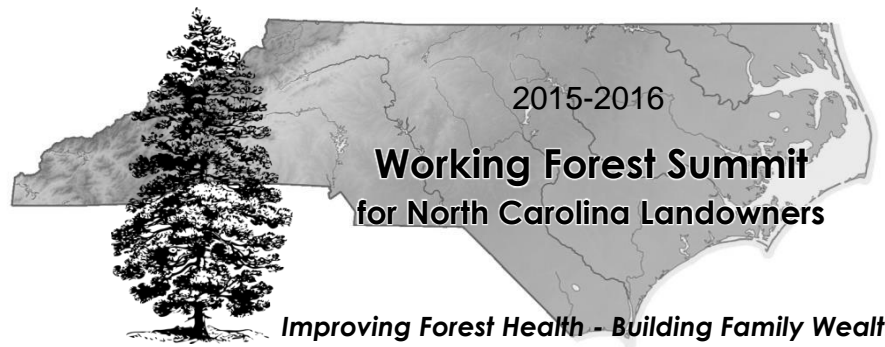


# Speaker Biographies



Wednesday, August 10<sup>th</sup>, 2016  
Cabarrus Arena & Events Center  
4751 NC Highway 49, Concord, NC, 28025

## 8:15 a.m. Market Trends: Current Conditions, Future Markets

**Dennis Hazel**                      **Dennis\_Hazel@ncsu.edu**                      **(919) 515 - 5573**

Dennis Hazel is an Extension Specialist and Associate Professor in the Department of Forestry and Environmental Resources at North Carolina State University. His current areas of responsibility include technology and policy development for woody-biomass based renewable energy, environmental sustainability of harvesting biomass energy feedstocks, and conducting supply studies for bioenergy projects and the forest industry. His degrees are in wildlife biology and forestry. Much of his current work is focused on the potential of fast-grown tree species for site remediation and production of energy feedstocks.

## 8:45 a.m. Estate Planning and Conservation Tools

**Mark Megalos**                      **Mark.Megalos@ncsu.edu**                      **(919) 513 - 1202**

Mark Megalos serves as Extension Forestry Specialist and Extension Associate Professor in the Department of Forestry and Environmental Resources at NC State University. Mark earned his undergraduate degree from Rutgers University and his Masters and Doctorate degrees from NC State University. Mark's responsibilities cover forest management, reforestation, carbon offsets, taxation, conservation opportunities and climate adaptation strategies on forested lands.

## 9:30 a.m. Income and Property Taxes

**Rick Hamilton**                      **ncrf799@gmail.com**

Rick's career began in Lincoln, Nebraska in 1974, where he served as District Forester and District Extension Forester in the Southeast 26 counties. In 1977, his tree died and he returned to NC State University as Forestry Extension Specialist and retired as Department Extension Leader in 2007.

Rick's entire career and part of his retirement is devoted to educating and assisting private forest landowners. Over the years, he covered many forestry topics, including timber taxes, forest herbicides, general forest management, water quality and timber marketing.

## 10:00 a.m. BREAK, Visit with Sponsors and Partners



**10:30 a.m. Growing for Value and Selling for Profit: Species, Grades and Quality Considerations to Meet Market Needs**

**Robert W. Lipford**                      **rob.lipford@ncagr.gov**                      **252-823-8346**

Robert Lipford was born and raised in southeastern Virginia and spent his younger years camping and hiking with the Boy Scouts. He graduated from Virginia Tech with a forestry degree in 1988. During his college years he spent three summers doing research work for the college. He spent a couple of years managing Christmas trees on a large Christmas tree farm in southwestern Virginia. He started with the NCFS in May of 1991 as a temporary HUGO Forester in District 12 (federal money). After a year he took a lateral transfer to Service Forester in District 12. He worked Cleveland, Gaston, and Cabarrus Counties over most of his time in D-12, but he also did some work in Iredell and Union Counties. In October 1993 he transferred to District 5 where he worked Franklin, Wayne Counties and Edgecombe County

In April 1996 he took a promotion to Staff Forester. One of his projects was a major edit of the NCFS Ranger Training Manual. In 1999 he returned to District 5, Rocky Mount, as one of the brand new Water Quality Foresters. In 2000, he was hired as the District 5 Asst. District Forester. A position he held until 2014. During which time he trained about 15 new foresters and moved from paper maps to GIS and from compass & chain to GPS. In 2014 he took the District Forester position in District 5. In June 2016 he returned to Staff Forester – FM position in Clayton.

**11:15 a.m. Question/Answer for Speakers; Complete Evaluations**

**11:30 a.m. Lunch (provided)**

**12:30 p.m. Wildlife in Your Forest Management Plan With Financial Assistance**

**John Isenhour**                      **john.isenhour@ncwildlife.org**                      **(704) 637 - 2400 x101**

John Isenhour grew up in Stanly County, but spent much of his youth exploring his family's property in Gold Hill, NC. He has been a Technical Assistance Biologist with the North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission for the past 11 years. His office is in the Salisbury, NC Natural Resources Conservation Service Area Office and his work area covers 33 piedmont counties.

As a technical assistance biologist he provides landowners guidance to meet their wildlife objectives and helps to identify funding opportunities for habitat oriented projects. Prior to working with the Wildlife Commission, John was employed by the NC Forest Service for 9 years as an Educational Forest Ranger in Clayton, NC. He has a bachelor's degree from NC State University in Wildlife Management. In his spare time he enjoys sharing the outdoors with family and friends.



### 1:15 p.m. Ensuring Your Forest's Health

**Brian Heath**

**brian.heath@ncagr.gov**

**(828) 413 - 2291**

Brian Heath has been employed with the NC Forest Service for 22 years. He is originally from the Shenandoah Valley, and he received a bachelor's degree in forestry from Virginia Tech. He has spent the last 14 years of his career focusing on forest health issues in the western half of North Carolina. He has three kids and resides in Alexander county.

### 2:00 Break – Visit with Sponsors and Partners

### 2:15 p.m. Forest Landowner Panel

#### Woodland Management: My Perspective

**Carolyn Hart**

**Mecklenburg County Landowner**

**carolynhart1@gmail.com**

Carolyn Hart grew up on a mountaintop acreage in Travelers Rest, SC. So, after years in Nashville, Atlanta and Baltimore and accepting a job in Charlotte, she was more than ready to return to her country roots. She bought 72 acres outside Huntersville NC, which she enrolled in the NC Forestry Stewardship Program and where she has lived with her family for the past 22 years.

#### Steps to Become an Active Landowner

#### Dale Newport – New London, Stanly County Landowner

Dale is a life long resident of Stanly County. He graduated from Wingate College in 1974 and NC State University in 1977 with a degree in Agriculture Education. He taught Vocational Agriculture at North Stanly High School. He was the Agriculture teacher there until 1992 when he ventured out and started his own agriculture - forestry services business. He is an active member of New London United Methodist Church and the Richfield Civitans. He continues to be a supporter of the FFA at North Stanly High School. Dale enjoys kayaking and is very involved in forestry and land management. He is married, has two daughters and three grandchildren and seven John Deere tractors.



## Using Available Resources to Manage Your Timber

### Barbara Highfull – Charlotte, Richmond County Landowner

Although Barbara (Babs) Highfill knew that it was the timber on her family's farms that sent her and two siblings through college (thanks to the foresight of her father) the reality that someone in her generation needed to understand the process of managing the land and timber did not hit until the late 70's when she learned of NC Extension Service classes in Robeson County. She took the classes went on the tour, and learned the importance of developing a relationship with a registered forester.

When she moved with her husband John to Mecklenburg County, she and John had the wonderful opportunity to take a Master Forester class--two times-- through the Extension Service in Mecklenburg. They began going to Forest Service workshops, reading forestry magazines, joined North Carolina Forestry Association and then The North Carolina Tree Farm Program. Babs is now a board member of the North Carolina Tree Farm Program which was established to provide through their web site on-line information about forestry issues, post notices about area forestry workshops, as well as help forest landowners make contact with registered foresters who can assess if the forestland in question can become a certified tree farm. The Tree Farm Program provides an opportunity for tree farmers to network. Who doesn't love to talk about his or her tree farm?

