



***Kentucky's New Director of the Division of Forestry: Bill Steele***

William (Bill) Steele, Jr., was appointed Director for the Division of Forestry on February 8, 2016. Bill is a native of Columbia, Kentucky, and has been the President and CEO of Kentucky Tie and Lumber Company, a family business employing 80 people, in Columbia. Bill has a BS degree in Forestry from the University of the South and is past President of the Kentucky Forest Industries Association. Bill's forestry business experience is a great addition to the excellent forestry personnel at the Division of Forestry.

***UK Forestry Extension Welcomes Two New Team Members: Dr. Matthew Springer and Laurie Taylor Thomas***

The University of Kentucky Department of Forestry is proud to announce the appointment of two new Extension employees: Dr. Matthew Springer and Laurie Taylor Thomas.

Dr. Springer is our new wildlife Extension faculty and has wildlife management experience in Pennsylvania and most recently southern Illinois. Matt will be handling wildlife and habitat issues in Kentucky and is replacing the late Dr. Thomas Barnes. You can reach him via email at [mattspringer@uky.edu](mailto:mattspringer@uky.edu).



Laurie Taylor Thomas is our newest Extension Associate. Laurie was with Extension a number of years ago and has returned filling the position left vacant from Doug McLaren's retirement. Laurie will handle both general forestry and youth programming including 4-H. You can reach her via email at [laurie.thomas@uky.edu](mailto:laurie.thomas@uky.edu).



***Kentucky Forest Leadership Program; June 6 - 10 -- Jabez, KY***

The Kentucky Forest Leadership Program is designed for high school students to gain hands-on experience with forestry and related disciplines. Students are challenged to comprehend a wide range of issues and learn how to think and make decisions on their own. This year the Kentucky Forest Leadership Program, in addition to the traditional Forestry program, is offering an Entomology and Wildlife

option. So if a student wants to learn about Kentucky's forests, but is interested in insects or wildlife they will get the opportunity to focus on these areas while learning about the forest. The program helps youth develop life-long learning skills based on observation, action and evaluation. For more information visit <https://kflp.ca.uky.edu/> or contact Laurie Thomas at [laurie.thomas@uky.edu](mailto:laurie.thomas@uky.edu) or 859.257.2703.

2016 Dates:	Event:	Location:	Contact:
June 6-10	Kentucky Forest Leadership Program	Jabez, KY	859.257.7597
July 16	Central Woodland Owners Short Course	Henry County Extension Office	<a href="http://forestry.ca.uky.edu/wosc">http://forestry.ca.uky.edu/wosc</a> or 859.257.7597
July 30	East Woodland Owners Short Course	UK Robinson Center for Appalachian Resource Sustainability in Breathitt County	<a href="http://forestry.ca.uky.edu/wosc">http://forestry.ca.uky.edu/wosc</a> or 859.257.7597
August 13	West Woodland Owners Short Course	UK Princeton Research Center in Caldwell County	<a href="http://forestry.ca.uky.edu/wosc">http://forestry.ca.uky.edu/wosc</a> or 859.257.7597
Sept. 16-18	Kentucky Master Woodland Stewards Program	Robinson Forest; Applications due August 15!	<a href="http://forestry.ca.uky.edu/woodland-stewards">http://forestry.ca.uky.edu/woodland-stewards</a>

# NEWS TO USE

## ***KY Master Woodland Stewards Program Accepting Applications***

Applications are currently being accepted for the 2016 class of the Kentucky Master Woodland Stewards Program, a joint-partnership between UK Forestry Extension and the Kentucky Division of Forestry. The goal of the program is to provide interested woodland owners with more advanced woodland management skills and to create forestry ambassadors across the Commonwealth. Following the training, participants, called Kentucky Master Woodland Stewards, agree to return to their communities and serve as ambassadors of sustainable woodland and wildlife management,

contributing to education and outreach efforts. Space is limited so if this is an opportunity you are interested in please complete and submit the application by August 15. The training school will be held from September 16 - 18, 2016, at UK's historic Robinson Forest. Selected applicants will be notified by August 22. To complete an online application or for more information about this unique opportunity please visit <http://forestry.ca.uky.edu/woodland-stewards> or contact Billy Thomas ([billy.thomas@uky.edu](mailto:billy.thomas@uky.edu)) at 859.257.9153.

## ***2016 Kentucky Woodland Owners Short Course***

Make plans to join us for the 2016 Woodland Owners Short Course (WOSC). This program is a great opportunity for you and your family to learn how to enhance your woodlands and get the most from your ownership experience. Most woodland owners are not aware of the wide variety of organizations and programs available to help them care for their woodlands. If you want to maximize your woodlands and get answers to your questions about them then the WOSC is right for you! For more information visit <http://forestry.ca.uky.edu/wosc> or call 859.257.7597.

- Central WOSC, July 16th, Henry County Extension Office
- East WOSC, July 30th, UK Robinson Center for Appalachian Resource Sustainability in Breathitt County
- West WOSC, August 13th, UK Princeton Research Center in Caldwell County

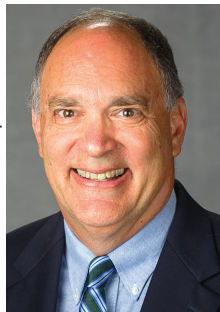


## ***Thanks for Your Service:***

### ***Doug McLaren, Leah MacSwords, and Diana Olszowy***

There have been many retirements from forestry in Kentucky over the last year. However, there are a few that have been of special significance to the Kentucky Woodlands Magazine and we would like to say thank you to: Doug McLaren, Leah MacSwords, and Diana Olszowy.

Doug recently retired from UK Forestry Extension after a long and very successful career touching a wide range of forestry and natural resource professionals, students, youth and has been a great ambassador for UK and our profession. Doug has not slowed down one bit though, as he is now the vice-president of the Kentucky Woodland Owners Association.



Leah MacSwords retired from her role as the Director of the Kentucky Division of Forestry in February of 2016. She has been an ardent supporter of the magazine and of course

provided long-term leadership for the Kentucky Division of Forestry and recognition for the Division and for Kentucky at the national level.

Diana Olszowy retires as longtime Stewardship Branch Manager at the Kentucky Division of Forestry. She holds a special



place with the Magazine as co-editor of 25 issues since its first publication in July of 2006. She has secured much needed funding for the Magazine, so that you can get it for free, wrote many articles and helped ensure its quality and longevity.

Thank you Doug, Leah, and Diana for your dedicated service to Kentucky's woodland owners and all those that depend on woodlands!

