

# WOOD MAGIC

## FOREST FAIR

### FOURTH-GRADE TEACHERS:

*Have we got a field trip for you this year!*

Wouldn't it be great to provide your students with an exciting, fun-filled learning experience next school year? Heading into its 17th year, the **Wood Magic Forest Fair** is a free, fun, forestry-fact-filled field trip and festival for fourth-graders. A half-day program of forestry-related educational experiences and demonstrations, the fair combines hands-on activities with visually engaging presentations to teach children about the importance of forest lands to wildlife, the economy and our daily quality of life.

*Students Have Fun While Learning*

The fair isn't just a walk in the woods; it's a learning experience. South Carolina's **Wood Magic Forest Fair** is a comprehensive environmental education program correlated to state curriculum standards in science and language arts. Nearly 31,000 students from every corner of the state have participated in the program since its inception in 1999, the overwhelming majority of whom demonstrate a significant gain in knowledge about forests, forest products, conservation, and the environmental, social and economic benefits of forests.

*2016 Locations*

**Wood Magic** will be held at these locations in 2016:

- **Piedmont Forestry Center**, Tamasee—September 20-23, 2016
- **Harbison State Forest**, Columbia—October 10-14, 2016
- **Hobcaw Barony Discovery Center**, Georgetown—November 15-18, 2016

*Want to bring your students to the Wood Magic Forest Fair?*

Enclosed is an application and letter with more information.

The Wood Magic Forest Fair is organized by the South Carolina Forestry Commission and financed through donations and grants. More than 100 volunteers from the forestry community come together every year to make this natural resource program successful.



# **WOOD MAGIC FOREST FAIR**

HARBISON STATE FOREST, PO Box 2170, Columbia, SC 29221 (803) 896-8855

March 4, 2016

Dear Teacher:

Wouldn't it be great to provide your students with an exciting, fun-filled learning experience next year? That is what over 1,000 fourth grade students experienced last year at South Carolina's Wood Magic Forest Fair. As one teacher who participated in a previous Fair exclaimed, "Our students experienced one of the finest learning chances I've ever been involved with!"

During this 4-hour program your class will learn the many benefits of the forests in our state, learn how wood is turned into many different products, learn how foresters use fire to help the forest and wildlife, make recycled paper, and experience a magic show about wood products. Teachers will receive many classroom activities and supplies to supplement your curriculum, and students receive a bag full of "goodies" that relate to forestry, including a Wood Magic T-shirt. All for **FREE!**

The Wood Magic Forest Fair has been so successful that applications have exceeded available slots every year, so don't delay in getting your application in. This fall we plan to hold this event on the following dates and at the locations shown below:

**Sept. 20-23 Piedmont Forestry Center** (14 miles NE of Walhalla on Hwy 11)

**Oct. 10-14 Harbison State Forest** (9 miles North of Columbia on Broad River Road)

**Nov. 15-18 Hobcaw Barony Discovery Center** (1 mile North of Georgetown on Hwy 17))

Please consider the following before returning your application:

1. Please fill out the application form carefully. As you will notice, we would like for you to coordinate with the other fourth grade teachers at your school and **select a lead teacher**. This person will be our primary contact for the application process. Also, we do not need to know the exact number of students at this point, just give us an estimate of the total number of classes expected to attend from your school and the average class size.
2. **Please check the school calendar for next year to make sure there are no conflicts with in-service days or holidays before selecting a day.** We will try our best to accommodate your selection, but due to the number of applications we receive this is not always the case. Please make note if certain days are not acceptable.
3. Be sure that your planning is such that you **arrive no later than 15 minutes before** your scheduled start time. Because the Fair is a tightly scheduled event and lasts approximately 4 hours, you may not be able to arrive back at school by the regular dismissal time. Please plan

for this and clear this with your principal before you apply. **If you cannot arrive on time and stay for the entire event we request that you do not apply.**

4. Both the students and teachers receive educational materials, t-shirts, lunch and snacks by attending the Fair. It is fun and exciting! However, the Wood Magic Forest Fair is an educational event, with the teachers having the responsibility of administering a pre-test and post-test assessment, and conducting activities to prepare the students for the fair. The grants that we receive to conduct this event require the cooperation of the teachers, principals, and staff to make it successful. These grants are what allow us to offer this program **FREE** of charge to South Carolina's fourth grade students.

If you and your class would like to attend the Wood Magic Forest Fair, we guarantee that you will enjoy an exciting and fun-filled day learning about South Carolina's natural resources and the importance of forests in our daily lives. We hope you can come!

To make application to attend the Fair, fax, mail, or email your completed form to:

WMFF  
Harbison State Forest  
PO Box 21707  
Columbia, SC 29221  
Fax: (803) 896-8896  
Phone: (803) 896-8892  
Email: [mschnabel@scfc.gov](mailto:mschnabel@scfc.gov)

We hope to see you this fall at the Wood Magic Forest Fair!

Sincerely,

Stephanie Kolok  
WMFF Coordinator

P.S. If your principal needs a little extra nudge to give you permission to come to Wood Magic, direct him or her to our web site for some great pictures and more information:  
**[www.state.sc.us/forest/wmfair.htm](http://www.state.sc.us/forest/wmfair.htm)**

# 2016 WOOD MAGIC FOREST FAIR

## APPLICATION FORM

For Office Use  
Only: Date  
Received

Please mail, fax or email your application form to Harbison State Forest, PO Box 21707, Columbia, SC 29221.  
Fax: (803) 896-8896 Email: [mschnabel@scfc.gov](mailto:mschnabel@scfc.gov) **Registration is first-come, first-served as space permits.**

Please print clearly or type:

### SCHOOL INFORMATION

School Name \_\_\_\_\_

School Mailing Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

School Phone ( ) - - School Fax ( ) - -

Estimated # of Classes Attending 2016 Wood Magic Forest Fair = \_\_\_\_\_

Estimated # Students: Total \_\_\_\_\_ Per Class \_\_\_\_\_

### TEACHER INFORMATION

Please select a **Lead Teacher** for your school's 4<sup>th</sup> grade classes. This teacher will be responsible for all arrangements, correspondence, distributions, etc. between the school and the Wood Magic Forest Fair program.

Lead Teacher's Name \_\_\_\_\_

School E-Mail \_\_\_\_\_

Cell Phone (optional) \_\_\_\_\_

**Preferences for attending Fair:** Please understand that we will try to schedule you as close as possible to your requested day and time. Also note that **you need to arrive at least 15 minutes prior to your scheduled time**. Please discuss travel times with your principal and request time slots that are appropriate for your locale that do not conflict with next year's school calendar. **The Wood Magic Forest Fair is a tightly scheduled series of events, so if you cannot attend the entire event on time, please do not submit an application.**

### Label 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, and 3<sup>rd</sup> day choice for each location your school can attend:

Piedmont Forestry Center (Tamassee): \_\_\_ Tuesday \_\_\_ Wednesday \_\_\_ Thursday \_\_\_ Friday

Harbison State Forest (Columbia): \_\_\_ Monday \_\_\_ Tuesday \_\_\_ Wednesday \_\_\_ Thursday \_\_\_ Friday

Hobcaw Barony Discovery Center (Georgetown): \_\_\_ Tuesday \_\_\_ Wednesday \_\_\_ Thursday \_\_\_ Friday

### Label 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> choice time (keep in mind schools should arrive 15 minutes prior to their start time):

\_\_\_ 9:00-1:00 \_\_\_ 9:30-1:30 (*Hobcaw location only*) \_\_\_ 10:00-2:00

Is there a certain day, start time, or location that is very impractical for your class to attend? \_\_\_\_\_

Anything else you think we need to know: \_\_\_\_\_