



NATIONAL CONVENTION
Hartford, CT • October 22-25

From Roots to Canopy: 125 Years of Forestry and Natural Resources

Register by August 31 for early-bird rates!

safconvention.org



Get Ready for SAF25 in Hartford, CT, Where Forestry's Roots Run Deep!

Join us in Hartford, Connecticut, October 22 to 25, for the 2025 Society of American Foresters (SAF) National Convention to celebrate 125 years of professional forestry in the US! Celebrating "From Roots to Canopy: 125 Years of Forestry and Natural Resources," this event will bring together foresters, researchers, and policymakers to reflect on the rich history of forestry, share current advancements, and look ahead to the future of sustainable forest management.

"For 125 years, forestry has grown from strong roots in science, through a sturdy trunk of evolving practices, to a canopy of innovation that advances our profession. As we give a nod to the past during this convention, I'm excited to look ahead by engaging students and young professionals to carry our work forward with fresh energy and new ideas. After all, the best way to ensure a healthy forest, and a healthy profession, is to keep growing new seedlings."

—Robert Ficklin, PhD, program chair
2025 Committee on National Convention Programs

"I'm very excited to be part of this year's National Convention in Hartford. 2025 marks SAF's 125th year and I'm looking forward to celebrating the profession of forestry with my colleagues here in New England by reflecting on the past while learning from each other and looking to the future."

—Steven Roberge, general chair
2025 Committee on National Convention Programs

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On the cover: photo by Aaron Burden for the
National Association of State Foresters.*

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Interested in sponsoring or exhibiting at SAF25? Visit safconvention.org or contact us at events@safnet.org.



Explore New Opportunities!

The largest event of the year for professionals in the forestry and natural resources sector!

EXPERIENCE OVER 200 SESSIONS COVERING TOPICS THAT INCLUDE:

Agroforestry • Business Acumen • Economics, Policy, and Law • Forest Ecology, Forest Health and Genetics • Forest History, Philosophy, and Ethics • Forest Production and Utilization • Forest Technology • International Forestry • Inventory and Biometrics • Leadership Development • Recreation and Wilderness Management • Soils and Hydrology • Sustainability and Certification • Urban and Community Forestry • Water Resources • Wildlife Management • *And More!*

POSTER SYMPOSIUM

Connect with students and professionals on October 24 at the SAF25 Poster Symposium! Learn from and connect with authors and presenters from across the country as they highlight research and case studies on the many disciplines of forestry and natural resources.

SCIENCE FLASHES

Learn in a flash with these 10-minute presentations that take the audience on a quick trip into forestry and natural resources topics.

2025 SUB-THEMES

Foundations of Forestry: Building a Legacy of Knowledge, Conservation, and Stewardship

Sustaining Growth: Innovations and Practices in Forest Stewardship

Forests in the Community: Collaboration and Urban Connections

Forests for the Future: Resilience and Adaptation in a Changing World

Forestry's Next Frontier: Emerging Trends and Opportunities

**300+
SPEAKERS**

**UP TO 32
CFE CREDIT
HOURS**

Register today at safconvention.org. The technical session schedule will be ready to view by the end of July.

Plenary Sessions

Explore forestry from roots to canopy throughout the week during our three keynote sessions.

PLENARY I

Wednesday, October 22, 4:00–5:00pm

Roots: Foundations of Modern Forestry

This panel will explore the early days of forestry, examine the establishment of key philosophies and institutions that led to the development of foundational principles, and profile the pioneers who laid the groundwork for modern forestry practices.

Moderator: Tara Bal, PhD, CF, *Michigan Tech University*

Panelists: Asia Downtin, PhD, *Michigan State University*; Cristina Eisenberg, PhD, *Oregon State University*; Jason Newton, PhD, *University of North Carolina at Charlotte*

PLENARY II

Thursday, October 23, 8:00–9:30am

Trunk: Growth of Sustainable Practices

This panel will focus on the growth and maturation of sustainable forestry practices. Experts will discuss advancements in forest management, integration of technology, and implementation of policies that have shaped contemporary forestry.

Moderator: Stephanie Patton, *Weyerhaeuser*

Panelists: Rachel Cook, PhD, *North Carolina State University*; John Foppert, PhD, CF, *Paul Smith's College*; Edie Sonne Hall, *Three Trees Consulting*

PLENARY III

Friday, October 24, 10:30am–12:15pm

Canopy: Future of Forest Stewardship

This keynote presentation will look toward the future and discuss emerging trends, challenges, and opportunities in forestry. Topics will include forest and community resilience and adaptation, the role and responsibility of foresters, and innovative approaches to forest management.

Moderator: Sara Santiago, *Yale School of the Environment*

Speaker: Thomas Easley, PhD, *Easley Branch, LLC & Mind Heart for Diversity, LLC*



TARA
BAL



ASIA
DOWNTIN



CRISTINA
EISENBERG



JASON
NEWTON



STEPHANIE
PATTON



RACHEL
COOK



JOHN
FOPPERT



EDIE
SONNE HALL



SARA
SANTIAGO



THOMAS
EASLEY

Explore New England!

Planned by New England SAF, learn how forestry is managed in Connecticut and the New England area by joining any of these eight technical field tours offered before and after convention. For full tour details, visit safconvention.org.

WEDNESDAY TECHNICAL TOURS

Agroforestry: Forest Farming, Maple Syrup Production, and Silvopasture | 7:45am–3:30pm

This tour will explore agroforestry practices and research happening in New England. There will be three stops, and each will allocate time to discuss practices with agroforestry practitioners and researchers, ranging on topics from silvopasture to maple syrup production (and a tasting—yum!).

Exemplary Forestry: Managing for Income, Carbon, and Biodiversity | 8:00am–4:00pm

“Exemplary Forestry,” as advocated for by the New England Forestry Foundation, involves planning forest management to maintain steady financial returns while gradually growing in-forest and in-product carbon levels.

Connecticut’s Witch Hazel Industry, Chestnuts, and Acorns | 7:30am–3:30pm

American Distilling Inc. is the world’s largest source of distilled witch hazel extracts and is a leader in responsible manufacturing and sustainable sourcing of witch hazel from Southern New England’s forests. The first half of the day will be spent touring the manufacturing facility. The second half of the day will be spent learning about Connecticut’s outsized role in American Chestnut recovery efforts and ending with a visit to one of the study locations where acorn production is annually assessed.

Climate Adaptive Silviculture and Early Intervention Trials for Oak Regeneration and Recruitment | 8:00am–2:00pm

Visit Southern New England oak sites to study examples of climate adaptive silviculture protocols, strategies, and prescriptions implemented with long-term goals of climate resilience and perpetuating oak communities. You will also survey and share recent observations from field trials of “early intervention techniques” with oak regeneration and recruitment focused on sub-canopy shade reduction and deer browse protection.

Regeneration of Watershed Forests | 8:10am–3:30pm

Forested watersheds are the source of clean drinking water for urban and suburban areas in southern New England. Stands are managed to maintain diverse, healthy forests while maintaining aesthetics along several highly used hiking trails. During this tour, attendees will survey stands regenerated over the past 20 years to witness the challenges of managing forests with high public visibility and deer browse damage.

All tours are \$90 per attendee and include lunch and snacks. For more tour details, visit safconvention.org.

SATURDAY TECHNICAL TOURS

Hull Forestlands LP, Myers Pond Forest | 11:45am–5:00pm

Explore Myers Pond Forest, owned by the Hull Forestlands, LP, a forest with a rich history of management beginning in the early 1900s under the ownership and direction of George Hewitt Myers, a Yale Forestry School graduate. This industrial forest seeks to maximize income while maintaining the forest as a forest through a program that includes silviculture, conservation restrictions, recreation, and carbon sequestration. Attendees will delve into each of these program elements as well as view some of the rich history that the property has to offer, including the Myers summer estate site, private Myers cemetery, Lawson water-powered sawmill site, and more.

New Beginnings Highland Forestry | 11:30am–4:45pm

Attendees will learn the history of the famous Salisbury Iron Works atop the Taconic Mountain Range in Northwest Connecticut's Highlands Forest. The Salisbury iron ran smelting furnaces from colonial times into the beginning of the 20th century, all fired by charcoal made from the forested hills and mountains surrounding the furnaces. Over a century later, the area's maturing oak and mixed hardwood forests are now providing timber and wood fuel once again to markets for local use and export.

Urban and Community Forestry in Keney Park | 11:30am–4:30pm

One of New England's largest public parks, boasting nearly 700 acres, is conveniently at hand. Keney Park in Hartford, Connecticut features both landscaped and natural areas, offering the opportunity to discuss several urban and community forestry themes, including stewardship in urban forested natural areas, urban silviculture, trails, and youth engagement and education. This tour also includes the Keney Park Urban Wood Utilization Site and Tree Nursery managed by the Keney Park Sustainability Project.



Connect, Discover, and Engage in the SAF25 Expo Hall!

Our 2025 partners represent the latest and greatest in the forestry and natural resources profession. Connect and collaborate with our sponsors and exhibitors in the following ways.

OPENING RECEPTION

Launch this year's convention at the SAF25 Opening Reception! Mingle with sponsors and exhibitors and reconnect with colleagues while exploring the cuisine of Connecticut in the exhibit hall.

INNOVATION ZONES

Experience hands-on learning opportunities with our popular innovation zones! These 30-minute sessions, eligible for CFEs, are scheduled during breaks and allow convention partners to demonstrate their latest tools, tech, and educational resources to attendees. Each innovation zone will have a theme ranging from tools of the trade, technology, and education.

CAREER FAIR

Looking to grow your team or your career? Connect with leading organizations actively seeking new talent in forestry and natural resources at our dedicated Career Fair.



Interested in representing your organization at SAF25?
Visit safconvention.org for more information and to reserve your exhibit booth.

Network and Socialize

Connect with students and professionals at meetups, receptions, and socials throughout the week.

ALUMNI RECEPTIONS

This annual tradition is a great way to connect and engage with alumni from your alma mater!

COMMUNITIES OF INTEREST SOCIAL

Current and future Community of Interest members are invited to join the Forest Science & Technology Board and Community of Interest officers to learn more about Community opportunities and discuss new trends in research and technology.

PEOPLE, POLICY, AND POPCORN

Engage in dynamic discussions about current issues, policies, and opportunities related to forests and their management with leaders in the field. Topics will include wildland fire, northeast climate adaptation, EUDR and Chinese tariffs, state forest management, and words from the USDA Forest Service Chief.

POLICY SOCIAL

Hosted by the SAF Committee on Forest Policy, this social is open to all attendees interested in discussing forest policy and networking with policy influencers.

QUIZ BOWL

Bracket play meets pub-style trivia in our annual collegiate forestry competition. Cheer on universities and colleges from across the country as they battle head to head over forestry and natural resources questions to earn the coveted quiz bowl trophy. Want to join the action? Sign up early on our website as team slots fill up fast!



People, Policy, Popcorn



Quiz Bowl



Women in Natural Resources

SAF CONNECT: LEADERSHIP BRIEF

At SAF Connect, attendees hear directly from SAF CEO Terry Baker, SAF President Bettina Ring, SAF Vice President Tara Bal, CF, and SAF Immediate Past President Rebecca Barnard on important messages and topics. This exclusive event provides insight on trending topics and preeminent activities within the organization and sector.

SILENT AUCTION

Support the Mollie Beattie Visiting Scholar Program and SAF General Fund by bidding on one-of-a-kind silent auction items displayed in the expo hall. There will be special prize opportunities, too! Every dollar raised gives back to the forestry community. Local units and members are encouraged to donate gift baskets, handcrafted items, apparel, gift cards, specialty foods, and more. To learn how, visit <https://www.eforester.org/Main/Donate/>.

STUDENT MEETUP

Engage with mentors and interact with other students from across the country at this year's Student Meetup, hosted by SAF's Student Executive Committee.

STUDENT SOCIAL

Mingle and connect with other students for a night of trivia, games, and pizza at the Student Social.

WOMEN IN NATURAL RESOURCES MEETUP

Join a community of women in forestry and natural resources at the Women in Natural Resources Meetup! Hosted by the Women's Forest Congress, this networking and educational event will provide you with the tools needed for better engagement in the profession.

For more information, visit safconvention.org.

YOUNG PROFESSIONALS MEETUP

Engage and learn from other young professionals at this education and networking roundtable session hosted by SAF's Young Professional cohort.

YOUNG PROFESSIONALS SOCIAL

Network with other young professionals from across the country at the second annual Young Professionals Social.

*Young
Professionals*



Have a guest attending the conference with you and looking for an activity to participate in? Visit safconvention.org for more details on our companion tour offerings this year.

Lodging

We strongly encourage all attendees to stay at one of these hotels at the secured discounted rates.



HARTFORD MARRIOTT DOWNTOWN

200 Columbus Blvd, Hartford, CT 06103

Discounted group rate is \$189/night (single or double occupancy) plus tax. Government per diem rates offered.



RESIDENCE INN HARTFORD DOWNTOWN

942 Main St, Hartford, CT 06103

Discounted group rate is \$179/night (single or double occupancy) plus tax.

Visit [safconvention.org](https://www.safconvention.org) for more information and to reserve your hotel rooms online. Make your hotel reservations by September 26 for guaranteed discounted rates. Rooms at the government per diem rate are limited.





Celebrate 125 Years of the Society at SAF25!

Celebrate “Our Forests, Our Future” as SAF turns 125 years old. We will have multiple opportunities offered throughout the year and at convention for you to celebrate with us.

SPECIAL 125 YEARS MERCH

Exclusively at convention, you'll have access to purchase hats, T-shirts, sweatshirts, stickers, challenge coins, and other apparel and collectible items that commemorate 125 years.

OLD FORESTER FOR FORESTERS

SAF worked with the White Oak Initiative and Old Forester to make two specialty barrels of bourbon with rich, golden flavors to celebrate SAF's anniversary. A limited batch of 750ml bourbon bottles will be available for purchase for \$90 per bottle when you register for convention. As per Connecticut liquor laws, all bottles must be picked up at the convention in Hartford and may not be shipped.

125TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

To close out the second-to-last day of convention, we will be toasting to SAF's 125 years at the Connecticut Science Center. Convention attendees are invited to explore all of the exhibits that the science center has to offer while enjoying various tastes of New England.

125 YEARS OF IMPACT

Join the SAF 125th Anniversary fundraising campaign. Celebrate 125 years of championing the profession of forestry and shaping the future of forestry by giving to SAF as part of our 125 Years of Impact campaign. There are many ways to contribute: make a one-time gift of \$125 to honor this milestone year; make a pledge to join the 1900 Founders' Circle and give over time; make a business contribution directly to a fund or program; and more.



Registration Rates

Register early and save!

2025 REGISTRATION RATES

Registration Type	Early Rates	Regular Rates	On-Site Rates
Member	\$500	\$570	\$630
Member <i>Retired and Golden</i>	\$450	\$515	\$565
Student <i>member and non-member</i>	\$205	\$235	\$255
Non-Member	\$670	\$770	\$850
Classroom Rate <i>up to 15 students at one school</i>	\$2,615	\$3,000	\$3,250
Agency Rate <i>up to 5 employees of a single government agency</i>	\$2,160	\$2,700	\$3,030
One Day <i>Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, or Saturday</i>	\$250	\$290	\$325
Guest	\$95	\$110	\$120

REGISTRATION INCLUDES

access to all in-person activities including the opening reception, plenaries, concurrent sessions, socials, 125th Anniversary Celebration, and exhibit hall. Ticketed events include pre- and post-convention workshops and technical tours, as well as Fellows breakfast.

CANCELLATION POLICY

Refund requests must be received by October 1, 2025. A \$75 administrative fee will be deducted from the total refund due.

GUEST REGISTRATION

Guest registration is only for those that DO NOT qualify under another registration category.

Can't attend the entire convention?

Purchase a one-day registration for Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, or Saturday.

For more information and to register, visit safconvention.org.

Schedule-at-a-Glance

Check out what's on deck for SAF25. For more details, visit safconvention.org. Schedule is subject to change.

Wednesday, October 22

7:30am – 3:30pm Technical Field Tours and Workshops

4:00 – 5:00pm Plenary I

5:15 – 7:15pm Opening Reception and Expo Hall

7:30 – 10:00pm Quiz Bowl

Thursday, October 23

8:00–9:30am Opening Ceremonies and Plenary II

9:30–10:30am Break and Exhibits; Innovation Zones

10:30am–12:00pm Scientific and Technical Sessions

11:00am–12:00pm People, Policy, and Popcorn

12:00–1:30pm Lunch Break and Exhibits

1:30–2:30pm SAF Connect: Leadership Brief

1:30–3:00pm Scientific and Technical Sessions

3:00–4:00pm Break and Exhibits; Innovation Zones; People, Policy, and Popcorn

4:00–5:30pm Scientific and Technical Sessions; Young Professionals Meetup

5:30–7:00pm Student Social; Donor Gratitude Reception; Policy Social

7:00–9:00pm Alumni Receptions

Friday, October 24

7:00–8:00am Fellows Breakfast

8:00–9:30am Scientific and Technical Sessions

9:30–10:30am Break and Exhibits; Innovation Zones; Poster Symposium; People, Policy, and Popcorn

10:30am–12:15pm Plenary III, Awards Parade, and Passing of the Torch

12:00–1:30pm Lunch Break and Exhibits

12:00–5:00pm Career Fair

1:30–3:00pm Scientific and Technical Sessions; Student Meetup

3:00–4:00pm Break and Exhibits; Innovation Zones; People, Policy, and Popcorn

4:00–5:30pm Scientific and Technical Sessions; Women in Natural Resources Meetup

5:30–6:30pm Past Presidents Reception; Young Professionals Social; Certification Social

6:00–7:00pm Communities of Interest Social

7:00–9:00pm 125th Anniversary Celebration

Saturday, October 25

9:00–10:30am Scientific and Technical Sessions

9:30–11:00am People, Policy, and Popcorn

10:30–11:00am Refreshment Break

11:00am–12:30pm Scientific and Technical Sessions

12:00–5:00pm Technical Field Tours



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From Roots to Canopy

