

The LandCare Center

Changing Landscapes, Lifestyles & Livelihoods

April 2007

Landcare is land management for the 21st century. It is people working together to improve social, economic, and environmental conditions—the triple bottom line—in the places we live, work and play. As such, landcare is a holistic approach to sustainable natural resource management, integrating conservation and development. Landcare practices include forestry, agriculture, green industry and related activities on public and private lands in urban and rural areas.

The LandCare Center was created in 2006 to help build the capacity of the landcare movement and industry in Virginia and beyond. Leadership is provided by Virginia Tech, New River Land Trust, Grayson LandCare, USDA National Agroforestry Center, Virginia Water Resources Research Center, and others.

Accomplishments to date include:

- Introducing landcare to the Headwaters region of the Chesapeake Bay, Albemarle Sound, and Mississippi River basins.
- Establishing community-based landcare groups, including Grayson LandCare, see www.graysonlandcare.org, and Catawba Valley LandCare.
- Developing business and employment opportunities in the landcare industry. This includes projects such as the Blue Ridge Forest Cooperative, see www.briconline.com, a network of landowners and partners producing certified sustainable forest products and, more recently, a cooperative livestock processing and marketing initiative.
- Coordinating regional, national, and international landcare networks for learning and technology transfer of best practices.
- Offering landcare education and training programs, including study tours, workshops, and presentations to landowners, agencies, and others.
- Preparing more than \$5 million in funding requests to support landcare.

Partners include the National Associations of Regional Councils, Conservation Districts, and RC&D Councils, National Association of Woodland Owners, National Fish & Wildlife Foundation, Conservation Fund, Southern States, EcoAgriculture Partners, Blue Ridge Forest Cooperative, Virginia Cooperative Extension, Virginia Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, Virginia Department of Forestry, Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation, Virginia Farm Bureau, New River Highlands RC&D Council, Catawba Valley LandCare, Land-of-Sky Regional Council, Montreat LandCare, and many others.

***For more info, visit www.landcarecenter.org or contact landcare@vt.edu.**



Grayson LandCare
"Grassroots in Grayson"

