

WORKSHOP AGENDA

CONSERVATION EASEMENT WORKSHOP FOR WORKING LANDS

JANUARY 5, 2012

10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Eastside Community Enhancement Center

Petersburg, Virginia

10:00 a.m. Welcome/workshop overview

The Honorable Todd P. Haymore, Virginia Secretary of Agriculture and Forestry

The Honorable Matthew J. Lohr, Commissioner, Virginia Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services (VDACS)

10:15 a.m. Understanding the basics of conservation easements

- Overview of conservation easements
- Landowner considerations
- Tax implications of donated conservation easements

Kevin Schmidt, Coordinator, Office of Farmland Preservation, VDACS

Lisa Hawkins, Attorney at Law, Lenhart Obenshain

Mark Botkin, Attorney at Law, BotkinRose PLC

11:45 a.m. Lunch (sponsored by Colonial Farm Credit)

- Update on Working Lands Discussion Group Efforts

Trey Davis, Assistant Director, Governmental Relations, Virginia Farm Bureau Federation

12:45 p.m. Starting the easement process/finding good partners

- Overview of Virginia Outdoors Foundation easement process
- Deciding which type of services to include on your easement team
- Finding good service providers as part of the easement process
- Key questions to ask your service providers

Sherry Buttrick, Easement Manager, Virginia Outdoors Foundation

Lisa Hawkins, Attorney at Law, Lenhart Obenshain

Mark Botkin, Attorney at Law, BotkinRose PLC

2:00 p.m. Landowner perspectives on easement donations

Rob Suydam, Forest Conservation Specialist, Virginia Department of Forestry

Philip Johnson, landowner

Pickett Upshaw, landowner

2:30 p.m. Landowner thoughts on increasing the role of working lands as part of Governor McDonnell's 400,000 acre goal

The Honorable Todd P. Haymore, Virginia Secretary of Agriculture and Forestry

Jeb Wilkinson, Jr., Chief Deputy Director, Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation

3:00 p.m. Wrap up/next steps/adjourn

The Honorable Matthew J. Lohr, Commissioner, VDACS