**Tennessee Forests & Water Forum Program**

*September 15 & 16, 2021*

*Virtual Forum - Central Time Zone*

***Wednesday September 15***

10:00 AM **Welcome & Introduction to Southeastern Partnership for Forests and Drinking Water** – Kathy Hawes

10:05 AM **Forum Goals and Objectives** – Brian Ham, Tennessee Department of Environment & Conservation, and Ali Williams, US Forest Service – Cherokee National Forest

10:15 AM **Watershed & Public Health Perspectives**

*Strengthening Watershed Partnerships & Collaboration* – Jeff Schaeffer, Director, Tennessee Tech Water Center (7 minutes)

*Link Between Forests, Drinking Water and Public Health* – Graeme Lockaby, Auburn University (7 minutes)

*The Importance of Karst to Water in Tennessee* – Cory Holliday, The Nature Conservancy (7 minutes)

*Fish, Wildlife, and Habitat Management in Tennessee* – Emily Granstaff, Tennessee Dept. of Fish & Wildlife, and Ali Williams, US Forest Service – Cherokee National Forest (10 minutes)

*Tennessee River Basin Network and Tennessee Valley Authority Programs* –Shannon O’Quinn, Tennessee Valley Authority (10 minutes)

*Watershed Benefits of Land Conservation and Restoration* – Jeff Lerner, Healthy Watersheds Consortium and US Endowment for Forestry and Communities (7 minutes)

11:10 AM **QUESTIONS** (10 minutes)

11:20 AM **BREAK** (10 minutes)

11:30 AM **Forestry/Landowner/Land Use Perspectives**

*Tennessee Forestry Programs and Initiatives* – Jess Yahnke and Brian Hughett, Tennessee Division of Forestry, and Caley Monigan, Evergreen Packaging/Pactiv Evergreen (12 minutes)

*US Forest Service Initiatives in Tennessee* – Ali Williams, US Forest Service – Cherokee National Forest (7 minutes)

*Connection Between Recreation and Water in Tennessee* – Jenni Veal, Consultant (formerly with Southeastern Tennessee Tourism Association) (7 minutes)

NOON **QUESTIONS** (10 minutes)

12:10 PM **LUNCH BREAK** (20 minutes)

12:30 PM **Drinking Water Source Protection Perspectives**

*TN Source Water Protection Overview* – Brian Ham, Tennessee Department of Environment & Conservation, and J.W. Griffin, Tennessee Association of Utility Districts (10 minutes)

*Tennessee Source Water Protection Case Studies* – David Stafford, Winchester Springs in Cedar Grove, and Johann Coeteze, Elizabethton Water Utility (10 minutes)

*Memphis Aquifer CAESER Project* – Brian Waldron, Director and Scott Schoefernacker, Associate Director of Water at University of Memphis Center for Applied Earth Science and Engineering Research (CAESER) (10 minutes)

1:00 PM **Breakout Group Discussions (facilitated)**

2:00 PM **ADJOURN**

***Thursday September 16***

10:00 AM **Breakout Discussions Report Out**

10:20 AM **Land Conservation Perspectives**

*Land Conservation and the Connection to Forests and Water Resources* – Rob Bullard, The Nature Conservancy (7 minutes)

*Land Stewardship Priorities for Tennessee* – Christie Henderson, TennGreen (7 minutes)

*Harpeth Conservancy’s Forests and Drinking Water Programs* – Ryan Jackwood, Science Director, Harpeth Conservancy (7 minutes)

*Tennessee Department of Environment & Conservation Lessons Learned* - Jaclyn Mothupi, TDEC External Affairs (7 minutes)

10:50 AM **Funding and Financing Perspectives**

*Lessons Learned from the Healthy Watersheds Consortium Grant Program & Innovative Watershed Funding from the Southeast* – Jeff Lerner, Healthy Watersheds Consortium Grant Program (10 minutes)

*Funding and Financing for Watershed Stewardship* – Jenny E. Adkins, USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), and Sam Marshall, Tennessee Department of Agriculture (10 minutes)

11:10 AM **QUESTIONS** (10 minutes)

11:20 AM **BREAK** (10 minutes)

11:30 AM **Policy and Planning Perspectives**

*Tennessee Watershed Planning, Watershed Assessments and Water Quality Standards Overview* – Richard Cochran, Division of Water Resources, Tennessee Dept. of Environment and Conservation (7 minutes)

*Land and Water Policies that Affect Tennessee’s Watersheds* – Sarah Houston, Protect Our Aquifer (formerly with University of Memphis Center for Applied Earth Science and Engineering Research (CAESER)) (10 minutes)

*Thrive Regional Partnership and Natural Treasures Partnership* – Rhett Bentley, Thrive Regional Partnership, and Charlie Mix, University of Tennessee (10 minutes)

NOON **QUESTIONS** (15 minutes)

12:15 PM **LUNCH BREAK** (30 minutes)

12:45 PM **BREAKOUT SESSIONS** (facilitated) – focused on action plan development

1:45 PM **Breakout Session Report Out and Next Steps**

2:15 PM **ADJOURN**