

# South Carolina

Board of Registration for Foresters

**2018 NEWSLETTER** 

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### William D. Sligh, Jr.

Forester

# Office Information

### Office Staff

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### Office Contact Information

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www.llr.sc.gov/POL/Forestry/

### **Board Office Hours**

The Board is open Mon. – Fri., 8:30 a.m. – 5 p.m., except on the following State holidays:

- July 4, 2018, for Independence Day
- September 3, 2018, for Labor Day
- November 12, for Veteran's Day
- November 22-23, for Thanksgiving Day
- December 24-26, for Christmas Day

# **Meeting Dates**

The SC Board of Registration for Foresters will meet at the SC Department of Labor, Licensing and Regulation in Room 204 at 10 a.m. on the following dates:

July 12, 2018 November 15, 2018

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# SC Forestry Commission's (SCFC) 2018 Southern Pine Beetle (SPB) Pheromone Survey and SPB Program

The South Carolina Forestry Commission has completed its 2018 southern pine beetle trapping survey. Covering 32 counties in the state historically most at risk for southern pine beetle, this year's survey showed increasing populations



in Pickens County. Landowners in Oconee and Edgefield Counties should be vigilant as well since higher than normal populations were detected in these counties. SPB activity has been increasing in the southern region for the past two years and is expected to see increases in South Carolina in the next year or two. Management goes a long way in preventing SPBs. On-time thinning, less dense planting spaces, and understory treatment (prescribed burns or herbicides) to reduce competition all help pine forests fight off SPB.

The complete report is available at:

http://trees.sc.gov/id18.pdf

For more information contact the Forest Health Division of the South Carolina Forestry Commission (<a href="http://trees.sc.gov/id.htm">http://trees.sc.gov/id.htm</a>).

# Check Out the Board's Online Services

LLR offers licensees many great online services. You can check the status of your application, change your address, and print pocket cards. You can avoid paying \$5 for a duplicate pocket card by printing one right from the website.

To access online services, you will need the user

identification and password provided with your "reminder" card for renewal.

https://eservice.llr.sc.gov/SecurePortal/Login.aspx?ReturnUrl=%2fSecurePortal%2findex.aspx

# **Don't Forget About Your Continuing Forestry Education**

Each registered forester is required to obtain 10 Continuing Forestry Education (CFE) credits annually. A minimum of five credits must be acquired in Category 1. A maximum of five credits in categories 2-6 may be carried over for one year. 20 CFE credits must be obtained during each licensure period (i.e. July 1, 2017- June 30, 2019).

To help licensees keep track of their CFE credits, the Board has created a CFE Reporting Form. This form will also be used as part of the CFE Audit for the 2017-2019 licensure period. The form is available at: <a href="https://www.llr.sc.gov/POL/Forestry/forms/CFE">www.llr.sc.gov/POL/Forestry/forms/CFE</a> Form.pdf.

Additional information about the CFE requirements can be found on the Board's website at: <a href="http://llr.sc.gov/POL/Forestry/index.asp?file=ce.htm">http://llr.sc.gov/POL/Forestry/index.asp?file=ce.htm</a>

# Board Releases Licensure Statistics

As of June 22, 2018, there are

697

Registered Foresters in South Carolina.

Since July 1, 2017, the Board has issued

18

new licenses by examination, reciprocity or reinstatement.

# **Frequently Asked Questions**

### What is the Cost of Registration as a Forester?

The application fee is \$50 and the registration fee is \$130 (two-year license fee). The registration fee is prorated for applications received after April 1<sup>st</sup> of the year prior to renewal (2016, 2018, etc.). The prorated registration fee is \$65.

# Does South Carolina Grant Reciprocity to Foresters Who Are Registered in Other States?

Yes. Reciprocity is considered for those applicants coming from states with laws compatible with South Carolina's. Foresters who have not taken and passed an equivalent examination for registration may have to take the South Carolina exam. Licensure by Reciprocity is assessed on an individual basis.

## We Want to Hear from You!

It is our hope that the information provided in this newsletter was beneficial to you as a Registered Forester in the great state of South Carolina! If you have questions for the Board or suggestions for a future newsletter, please submit information to contact.foresters@llr.sc.gov.



# How to File a Complaint

Licensees perform valuable work for the public as professional foresters in the State of South Carolina. The majority of licensed professionals are competent, skilled practitioners, and you are a witness to their good work. In the course of your work in this state, you may also witness work or processes that don't meet the requirements licensees must uphold, or find work performed by unlicensed individuals.

Licensees play an important role in safeguarding the public, and the Board relies on you to advise us when you encounter unprofessional, unethical, or unlicensed activities. We encourage you to file a complaint with the Board if you witness a possible violation. The Board can accept anonymous complaints and pursue them if the related information or documentation is publicly available, if you do not wish to be the formal complainant.

The public relies on you to file a complaint if you suspect violations of Board's statutes or regulations. It is not taken lightly, and will be investigated in a timely manner.

Complaints must be filed through the online complaint form. Instructions on filing complaints are available at:

www.llronline.com/POL/Forestry/index.asp ?file=complaint.htm.