



News from the forest Summer wrap up

True Story of Smokey Bear

Turnbull Creek Educational State Forest (TCESF) and Smokey Bear took part in Bladen County Public Library's summer reading program. Participants got to hear the *True Story of Smokey Bear* and learn all about his five wildfire prevention rules which are as follows: 1. Only you can prevent wildfires! 2. Always be careful with fire. 3. Never play with matches or lighters. 4. Always watch your campfire. 5. Make sure your campfire is completely out before leaving it.



Sustainable Forestry Teachers Experience

This year TCESF was a field tour stop in the coastal Sustainable Forestry Teachers Experience workshop conducted by the North Carolina Forestry Association held in Wilmington, NC. The group consisted of educators across North Carolina coming together to learn all about sustainable forestry and gain professional development through participating in Project Learning Tree (PLT). At TCESF, the teachers learned about naval stores and forest management on the forest. They also learned how the agency responds to wildfires. Ranger Monique also assisted with PLT activities during the workshop.



Visitor Hours

March 1– Oct. 31

Monday: closed

Tuesday-Friday: 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Saturday/Sunday: 11 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Nov. 1- end of February

Monday: Closed

Tuesday-Friday: 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Saturday and Sunday: Closed

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Visit all of North Carolina's State Forests from the coast to the mountains. See NCFS website for more information, www.ncforestservice.gov

Forest Finds

Red headed pine sawfly

Neodiprion lecontei



A common forest pest that feeds on and causes defoliation in southern pine species. These were found on a longleaf pine tree at TCESF. Staff will keep monitoring to ensure no serious damage occurs to trees nearby.

Investigating Your Environment

TCESF staff participated in the NCFS educator workshop Investigating Your Environment (IYE) in July. This year, Ranger Monique served as an intern for the wildlife investigation led by Ranger Carrie.



Forest updates and improvements

Updated entrance sign

TCESF designed an updated entrance sign constructed by the Young Offenders Forest Conservation Program (B.R.I.D.G.E.) and installed by staff at Bladen Lakes State Forest (BLSF).



Equipment storage shed

Construction on the equipment storage shed, pictured right, began early July and was completed in August. All that remains is for TCESF staff to pack up and move in!



Mountains-to-Sea Trail

The TCESF Mountains to Sea Trail segment trailhead received an updated pedestrian/equipment access that will allow TCESF staff to properly close off the trail as needed. A trailhead kiosk is currently in the process of being installed. Stay tuned!

Upcoming events

- Smokey Bear Poster Contest for school aged children open, deadline Sep. 27. visit [Turnbull Creek Educational State Forest webpage](#) for details.
- Saturday class: Art and History of Papermaking Oct. 19, 2-3 p.m. Registration required, visit TCESF webpage for details.



The North Carolina Forest Service is a division of the North Carolina Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services. Steve Troxler, Commissioner

