



Tree Farm Tour and Awards Ceremony

Russell Brothers Farm

Florida Outstanding Tree Farmers of 2019

Escambia County, FL

Date: Friday, October 25, 2019

Sign in, meet and greet at the property at 9:00 am CT, tour at 9:30 am, lunch and awards ceremony at noon.

Tour:

Congratulations to brothers John and Keith Russell for their outstanding forest stewardship and being selected as Florida's Outstanding Tree Farmers of 2019. Their parents, Jay and Clara Russell, bought the property in 1946. John and Keith later purchased the property from them and have focused on longleaf restoration since becoming involved in the Longleaf Initiative Program in 2008. Located just south of Pine Barren Creek in the northwest corner of Escambia County, this property is 109 acres of planted longleaf pine and mixed bottomland hardwoods. John, pictured above and the family manager of the property, conducts much of the management himself toward the family's objectives of timber production, habitat for game and nongame species, recreation, and aesthetics. They planted longleaf pine about 11 years ago on much of the property with assistance from the USDA's Conservation Reserve and Emergency Forest Conservation Reserve Programs following the hurricanes of 2004. One of the most important tools for managing the longleaf pine forest is prescribed fire, which John conducts on a 2-year rotation to promote functional wildlife habitat and aesthetics. John also hosts field days at the property for local school kids to learn about the importance of longleaf pine forests. Join us at the property for a tour and awards ceremony. Please wear appropriate clothing for the field.



Register:

This event is free but pre-registration is required. Call the Florida Forestry Association, **(850) 222-5646** to reserve a space. **The registration deadline is October 18**. Directions to the property are on the back. Please share this announcement with others who may be interested.



Funding for this event is provided by the Florida Tree Farm Program, USDA Forest Service via the Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Service's Florida Forest Service, and the Florida Sustainable Forestry Initiative Implementation Committee.

Directions to Russell Brothers Farm

2210 Russell Road
McDavid, FL 32568

