



FORESTRY CONTEST



Sponsored by: Idaho Department of Lands ~ Bonner SWCD ~ Natural Resources Conservation Service ~ US Forest Service

April 2019 Newsletter

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

Thursday, May 9

7:30 am to 2:00 pm

Delay Tree Farm, Careywood

Hwy 95, Mile Marker 455

CONTESTANT REGISTRATION DEADLINE APRIL 12TH

<https://www.idl.idaho.gov/forestry/contest/index.html>

MORE VOLUNTEERS ARE NEEDED & WELCOME!

Contact Karen Robinson at krobinson@idl.idaho.gov or (208) 263-5104.

Coaches Forestry Contest Schedule – May 9th

- ◆ En route to contest—Coaches call in final registration (exact number of teams and individuals per division: Rookie, Junior, or Senior)
- ◆ 7:30-8:30 Final contestant registration
- ◆ 8:30 Announcements and group picture
- ◆ 8:55-9:25 Groups walk to courses
- ◆ 9:15 Novice Forest Tour begins
- ◆ 9:30 Junior/Senior Competition begins
- ◆ 9:45 Rookie Competition begins
- ◆ 11:55 Novices Lunch 12:15 Rookies Lunch 12:45 Juniors & Seniors Lunch
- ◆ 1:00—2:00 Awards

WHAT TO BRING TO THE CONTEST:

“To be prepared is half the victory...”

For the test: pencils, clipboards (or stiff cardboard & rubber bands), clear plastic sheet (to cover tests if it's raining)

For the weather: sunscreen, rain gear, hat

For the woods: backpack, insect repellent, proper clothing (long sleeves & pants), proper shoes (no sandals), water & snack

THANK YOU for Supporting Forestry Education in Idaho

Thank you to the following agencies and individuals for their generous contributions!

David Ritz Memorial—Rick & Sherri Ritz

Idaho Soil & Water Conservation Comm.

Natural Resources Conservation Service

Idaho District Employees Association (IDEA)

Idaho Forest Group

Stimson Lumber

Bonner County Farm Bureau

Idaho Tree Farm Committee

Idaho Forest Owners' Association

Inland Forest Management, Inc.

Shawn Keough

Kurt & Sandy Koetter

Vaagen Bros. Lumber, Inc

Northern Lights

Conservation Districts: Ada, Benewah, Boundary, Camas, Custer, Clark, East Side, Gooding, Kootenai-Shoshone, Latah, Madison, Minidoka, Nez Perce, North Side, South Bingham, Twin Falls, West Side, Wood River

In-Kind Contributors: Coeur d'Alene Tractor, Idaho Forest Products Commission, Litehouse, Inc., Custom Den, Intermountain Logging Conference, Wood's Meat Processing, Super 1 Foods, Frito Lay, Bonner County, Ace Septic Service

Honorary Chairman — Curtis Elke



Curtis Elke has been an enthusiastic volunteer of the Forestry Contest since his first experience several years ago. Described by others as “a super nice person”, Curtis has championed the Forestry Contest within his agency, resulting in additional volunteers and funding. In fact, his support was instrumental in securing a generous 5-year NRCS grant to purchase equipment including practice kits that teams can use in preparation for the contest.

Curtis has worked for the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) for the past 21 years, and is currently the Idaho State Conservationist. As State Conservationist, he provides support through technical and financial assistance programs, public awareness of effective conservation measures to increase food production, profitability and land stewardship. He has served NRCS as a Soil Conservation Technician, Soil Conservation Planner, District Conservationist and Assistant State Conservationist in North Dakota, Oklahoma, Massachusetts, and South Dakota. He is a Soil Science graduate from North Dakota State University. Curtis has two children who both work for NRCS in California and Colorado.

"It's an honor and a great privilege being a public servant to our farmers, ranchers and community by providing leadership in delivering efficient and effective farm production and conservation planning and implementation with the optimal customer experience always in mind," Elke said.

Thank you, Curtis, for your huge role in educating Idaho youth about Idaho forest resources and the opportunities they have to learn about, enjoy, use, protect and manage these priceless resources for the future!