

Are you passionate about forest advocacy and education in Georgia? Are you new to the forestry community and the Georgia Forestry Association? If so, the GFA Emerging Leaders program could be for you.

The Emerging Leaders program is an all-volunteer group representing various sectors of the forestry community. The group typically meets four times a year, including meetings that coincide with Forestry Day at the Capitol and the GFA Annual Conference & Forestry Expo. In addition, the group is involved in a variety of fundraising projects and events such as the Georgia Forestry Foundation's Annual Longleaf Classic Golf Tournament.

## HOW DO YOU GET INVOLVED?

There is no cost to join this group if you are or your company is already a GFA member. If you would like to be a part of the Emerging Leaders, contact Michele Dunham at [michele@gfagrow.org](mailto:michele@gfagrow.org) or at 478-992-8110.

### 2015 MEETINGS

Winter Meeting  
GFA Forestry Day at the Capitol  
February 12, 2015  
Atlanta, GA

Summer Meeting  
GFA Annual Conference and Forestry Expo  
August 1-3, 2015  
Jekyll Island, GA

Fall Meeting  
Leadership Training  
Date and Location TBD

### 2015 LEADERSHIP

2015 Chairman  
Jason Little  
Forest Resource Consultants, Inc.  
[jlittle@frcemail.com](mailto:jlittle@frcemail.com)  
(478) 475-4910

2015 Vice Chairman  
Garret Mack  
Forest Investment Associates  
[gmack@forestinvest.com](mailto:gmack@forestinvest.com)  
(404) 495-8650

## ABOUT THE GEORGIA FORESTRY ASSOCIATION

The Georgia Forestry Association works to promote the value of Georgia's working forests and forest industries while educating business, environmental and political leaders about responsible forest management practices and landowner rights. On a day-to-day basis, GFA's support of the forestry community involves:

- » Giving members a voice on issues that affect the future of Georgia's forests and those that depend on them.
- » Monitoring political, environmental and economic developments that could affect members' interests and land use options.
- » Protecting the interests of its membership - the individuals and businesses that depend on healthy, accessible, working forests.
- » Advocating for strong markets for Georgia's forests and forest products.
- » Promoting the economic and environmental benefits of Georgia's working forests and forestry-related businesses.

# EMERGING LEADERS GUIDING PRINCIPLES

## PURPOSE

The Georgia Forestry Association, Inc. (“The Association”) is organized as a corporation under the Georgia Nonprofit Corporation Code and operated to be the leading advocate for forestry in the State of Georgia. The Association is an issues oriented organization that provides leadership, environmental education, information, forums and other support to promote the responsible use of Georgia’s forests.

The Emerging Leaders Group (ELG) is a recognition-based group that is focused on the development of young business professionals through leadership training, social interactions, and educational opportunities. The goal of the ELG is to build the leadership and professional skills of its members, who are associated directly or indirectly with the forestry community, so they are ready to assume future roles as leaders of the Georgia Forestry Association. These skills will be developed through programs and speakers that specialize in leadership training, communication and other forest business related activities.

The ELG is an official group recognized by the Georgia Forestry Association and therefore will function according to the bylaws of the Association.

## MEMBERSHIP

Upon the payment of membership fees and/or dues as documented in the by-laws of the Association, individuals may then begin to participate in the meetings, gatherings or events related to the activities of the ELG. While qualifications to participate in this group are limited, members of the group shall be near the beginning stages of their respective careers.

## MEETINGS

At least three meetings shall be held annually, with the location and topics of the meetings determined by the Chair and Vice-Chair. The Chair, with the consent of the Vice-Chair, may call additional meetings. The summer meeting shall be held in conjunction with the Association’s Annual Conference as determined by the by-laws of the Association.

## OFFICERS

Officers shall be elected at the Fall ELG meeting and take office in January of the following year. The ELG shall elect a Vice-Chair to serve a one (1) year term. The Vice-Chair shall automatically succeed as Chair for a one (1) year term. From time to time, the ELG Chair may appoint additional officers and/or other agents to serve ad-hoc, as deemed proper. A member of the GFA Staff shall serve as Secretary of the ELG.

The Chair shall preside at all meetings of the ELG and shall be responsible for insuring the policies of the Association as set by the Board are carried out. The Chair will also serve as liaison for the ELG on the Association Board of Directors as an observer with no voting rights. The Chair shall recommend to the ELG officers and/or membership such actions or programs directed at the aims and purposes of ELG.

The Vice-Chair shall preside at meetings in the absence or disqualification of the Chair. He shall assist the Chair in furthering the aims and purposes of the ELG. In the event of inability of the Chair to serve for any reason, the Vice-Chair shall become the Chair of the ELG until further action is taken by the ELG membership. The Vice-Chair shall perform such other duties as the Chair directs.

The Past Chair position shall be filled by the immediate past Chair and shall serve one (1) year in this position. This position will serve as a supporting role for the acting Chair and Vice-Chair.

Any vacancy, which may occur among the officers, shall be filled by a special election held at the next meeting of the ELG.

*Updated: February 6, 2015*