

Walter Wright

From: John Pennington <john@beaverwatershedalliance.org>
Sent: Thursday, April 21, 2016 8:07 AM
To: John@beaverwatershedalliance.org
Subject: May 19th Speaker Series to Feature Urban Forestry and Funding Opportunity
Attachments: Speaker Series Urban Forestry Program_5 19 16.pdf

Dear NWA Leader,

I hope to see you at our upcoming Speaker Series Program on May 19th in Fayetteville Arkansas. Patti Erwin, Urban Forestry Coordinator for the State of Arkansas will be presenting about how we can enhance the “green” in your community. Attendance at this program is limited to 35, and each community that attends from the Beaver Lake Watershed will earn the opportunity to gain \$1,000 for an urban forestry project of their choice. More info about the program is attached and embedded below.

Speaker Series, *Investing in Water Supply Protection*, to Focus on Array of Benefits Provided by Urban Forests (454 Words)

The next installment of the *Investing in Water Supply Protection* speaker series is will feature Patti Erwin, Urban Forestry Coordinator, of Arkansas Forestry Commission. Her presentation will focus on the many benefits of healthy working forests to our communities. “Presence of healthy urban forests have been shown to increase the health and economic vitality of communities in addition to protecting water quality and providing numerous invaluable ecosystem services,” stated Patti Erwin, Urban Forest Coordinator for the State of Arkansas.

According to John Pennington, Executive Director for the Beaver Watershed Alliance (BWA), “This message ties into our long-term strategy of trying to retain as much forest and healthy forest as we can for water quality protection by helping communities find out more about the direct benefits for their community that are derived from urban forests.”

Forested land in the Beaver Lake Watershed currently accounts for 71% of the land cover, but is anticipated to decline by 10% over the next 35 years as it is replaced by urban areas to accommodate the region’s growing population. Working with communities and landowners now to promote benefits of forestry will assist thoughtful growth and retention of forested land in the future. Healthy forests not only benefit long term water quality of surface water drinking supplies, but also increase health and economic vitality of communities and provide habitat for wildlife as well as many other ecosystem services.

Beaver Lake supplies nearly a half million people with clean drinking water, provides over forty million tourism and recreation dollars for the local economy, and is the key factor to a successful future in the region. For these reasons, Beaver Watershed Alliance offers the quarterly speaker series that focuses on the rationale behind investing in watershed protection activities today that can benefit our entire region for years to come through the voluntary protection of Beaver Lake and its watershed.

This free program includes lunch and is being held at the Staybridge Suites, University Room, located at 1577 West 15th Street, Fayetteville, AR 72701 on May 19th from 11:30 am until 1:00 To RSVP, call or email BWA at 479-750-8007 or info@beaverwatershedalliance.org.

The Beaver Watershed Alliance (BWA) is formed of a diverse stakeholder group representing agricultural, recreation, conservation, water utility, business, and private landowner perspectives who all work together for the benefit of Beaver Lake and its watershed. BWA offers its programs to all eligible persons regardless of race, color, sex, gender identity, sexual orientation, national origin, religion, age, disability, marital or veteran status, genetic information, or any other legally protected status, and is an Affirmative Action/Equal Opportunity Employer. To learn more about BWA, or how

you can become involved in voluntary watershed protection go to www.beaverwatershedalliance.org or contact BWA at 479-750-8007 or info@beaverwatershedalliance.org.

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