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# ARKANSAS AGRICULTURE DEPARTMENT

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1 NATURAL RESOURCES DRIVE, LITTLE ROCK, AR 72205 | (501) 225-1598 | AAD.ARKANSAS.GOV



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SECRETARY OF AGRICULTURE

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**Contact:** Adriane Barnes, (501) 516-6255, [adriane.barnes@arkansas.gov](mailto:adriane.barnes@arkansas.gov)

## Arkansas to Host 2<sup>nd</sup> Biennial Forum on Forestry and Drinking Water

**LITTLE ROCK, AR** – Arkansas partners will participate in the second Biennial Statewide Forum on Forestry and Drinking Water November 7-8 at DeGray Lake Resort State Park near Arkadelphia. The forum allows state and federal conservation agencies, forest industry leaders, private landowners, alongside drinking water utilities experts, and rural water associations to dialogue and create partnerships. Their common goal in collaborating is to protect drinking water sources and help improve and sustain good management of Arkansas forests.

“Clean, healthy drinking water is heavily tied to healthy, actively managed forests,” says Dr. Bob Morgan, Chair of the Forests and Drinking Water Committee. “The first forum helped us to establish critical partnerships in public education, training opportunities, and long-term strategies to achieve both goals. We hope in the second forum to look at success stories since 2015 and identify specific projects, events, and outreach efforts to continue our mission of protecting and managing Arkansas water and forests.”

Sessions will include presentations from the Beaver Watershed Alliance, Arkansas Forestry Commission, The Nature Conservancy, Central Arkansas Water, Green Bay Packaging, Weyerhaeuser, the Arkansas Water Resources Center, and others. The forum is split between presentations and panel discussions, as well as breakout groups and field tours. [Find a full event agenda, here.](#)

“Clean drinking water comes first from healthy managed forests. We at the Arkansas Forestry Commission work with loggers and landowners to use voluntary best management practices to protect our water quality during all phases of forest management. Working with many partners to protect our drinking water is a top priority for all of us actively engaged in responsible forest management,” says State Forester Joe Fox.

[Register online to attend the Arkansas Forum on Forestry and Drinking Water.](#)

The AAD is dedicated to the development and implementation of policies and programs for Arkansas agriculture and forestry to keep its farmers and ranchers competitive in national and international markets while ensuring safe food, fiber, and forest products for the citizens of the state and nation. Learn more: [www.aad.arkansas.gov](http://www.aad.arkansas.gov).

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