



George Washington & Jefferson National Forests
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**FOREST SERVICE RE-STARTS
REVISION OF THE GEORGE WASHINGTON FOREST PLAN**

Roanoke, VA--- The U.S.D.A. Forest Service has issued the Notice of Intent (NOI) in the Federal Register to prepare the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) and Revised Plan for the George Washington National Forest. The Forest Service, together with the public, began revising the George Washington Forest Plan in 2007. The federal regulations which guided the planning process have changed; however we will continue to build on the issues and information discussed in our previous meetings. The NOI begins a 60-day comment period in which the public has an opportunity to further refine issues to study in the environmental analysis. To be most helpful in assisting the Forest Service in developing a draft plan and EIS, comments should be submitted by May 7, 2010. Evaluations, analysis and information discussed at previous meetings are available on our website at www.fs.fed.us/r8/gwj/forestplan/revision.

Upcoming public meetings will continue examining issues and discuss alternatives to evaluate. We hope you can join us from 6:30 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. at one of the following meetings:

Monday, April 12, 2010

Valley Elementary School, 98 Panther Drive, Hot Springs, VA 24445

Wednesday April 14, 2010

East Hardy High School, Baker, WV 26801

Monday April 19, 2010

Rockbridge County High School, 143 Greenhouse Road, Lexington, VA 24450

Wednesday, April 28, 2010

Woodstock National Guard Armory, 541 Hoover Road, Woodstock, VA 22664

Thursday, April 29, 2010

Augusta County Government Center, 18 Government Lane, Verona, VA 24482

For more information, please contact the George Washington & Jefferson National Forests at (540) 265-5100.

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The mission of the USDA Forest Service is to sustain the health, diversity, and productivity of the Nation's forests and grasslands to meet the needs of present and future generations.