Conifer Health Colloquium and Field Tours

Conifer Conservation and Ecology in the Central Appalachians

**Dates:** October 16 – 17, 2019

**Meeting Location:** Blackwater Falls State Park Lodge

**Field Trip Locations:** Blackwater Falls State Park & Canaan Valley Wildlife Refuge

**FREE – Public Welcome!**

**Sponsored by The WV Highlands Conservancy**

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| **Conifer Health Colloquium ~ ~ ~** October 16, 2019 | |
| 2:45 – 3:30p | ***Hemlock Forest Health Monitoring, Treatment and Ecology***  John Perez, Biologist, New River Gorge National River & Gauley River National Recreation Area |
| 3:30 – 3:45p | ***Update on Hemlock Health and Treatment in the Central Appalachians***  Amy Hill, Forest Stewardship Coordinator, State and Private Forestry, USDA Forest Service |
| 3:45 – 4:00p | Break |
| 4:00 – 4:30p | ***Balsam/Canaan Fir Research Updates***  Hessl Lab, Geography, WVU |
| 4:30 – 5:15p | ***Balsam Fir Woolly Adelgid Resistance and Management***  Ben Smith, Research Scientist, Forest Restoration Alliance |
| 5:15 – 6:00p | Speaker panel discussion on conifer conservation in the Central Appalachian Highlands |
| **Field Tours ~ ~ ~** October 17, 2019 | |
| 9:00a | Gather at the Blackwater Falls State Park Lodge entrance to carpool for field tours |
| 9:15 – 12p | Site visits in the Blackwater Falls State Park focus on Hemlock Woolly Adelgid research and treatment plots. |
| 12 – 1p | Lunch @ restaurants in Davis, WV |
| 1 – 2:30p | Site visits in Canaan Valley focus on balsam (Canaan) fir research and restoration sites undertaken by The Nature Conservancy, Canaan Valley National Wildlife Refuge, West Virginia University, and Canaan Valley State Park. |
| 2:30 – 3:30p | *chairlift ride to the top of Weiss Knob for views of a mature spruce forest, as well as topography of the Canaan Valley area that enables fir trees to thrive* |

RSVP at restoreredspruce.org