

Tribal Summit

Protecting Virginia Tribal lands and Heritage

Forest Management- Land of Many Uses March 16,-17, 2022





Introduction We will Cover

What is Urban/Community Forestry

Food Forests

Riparian Buffers



Virginia Cooperative Extension

Definition U/C Forestry

- Subset of traditional forestry, new discipline (70's)
- Small /Medium acreage of woody plant management for Food Forest, Ecoservices, Aesthetics and Leisure, Profit
- In and around communities.

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Activities

- Invasive plant removal, replace with natives.
- Reduce erosion wind (tall wind breaks) and soil, riparian buffers, (recharge aquifer, reduce runoff, retain nutrients, reduce soil runoff)
- Wildlife enhancement.





- Potential Activities
 Agro-Forestry-(non timber use) grow woody plants or herbaceous for sale and consumption ,and mushrooms , medicinal and provide additional pollinator plants.
- Blue Berry, Pawpaw, Persimmon, Hazelnut, Chokeberry, Viburnums, Mushroom cultivation, Muscatine Grape.





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Food Forests

- Perennial woody plants in a three layered pattern that provides fresh food.
- This is important in fragmented rural/suburban areas with food desserts.
- Community and private land used.





Urban Public Garden







Young Food Forest







Diagrammatic representation



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Food Forest

- This is a three layered ,low maintenance ,sustainable food production agro forestry based on an woodland ecosystem.
- Fruit trees , nut trees , shrubs, herbs, vines, and perennial vegetables, mushroom that yield directly to humans
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Establishment

- Determine wants/ needs of the citizens.
- Establish organization that will be the organizations managing board.
- This is a perennial endeavor that takes time to develop but has countless benefits.
- Investigate possible sites, soil, sun water.

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Potential plants Trees,(tall layer) nut, fruit, shade , Sourwood, use natives .

- Shrubs (middle layer) Paw Paw, Viburnums, Choke berry, Blueberry,
- Vines, ground covers Grapes, Strawberry.
- This is a sampling of potential plants.





Potential Growth







Benefits of Food Forest

- Supply fresh food to the area.
- Increase comradery within the community.

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• Provide Eco services, recharge ground water, reduce erosion, improve bio-diversity. (vertebrate and invertebrate)



Summary

- Food Forests have many benefits but they take time to establish (3-4) before the full benefits are realized.
- Their dual action Form and Function contribute greatly to the betterment of the community. Ecologically and Economically





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