**SFI IN BRIEF**

**SFI PROJECT LAUNCHING THIS CONFERENCE & BEYOND**

The SFI Program responds to local needs and issues across North America through 34 SFI Regional Implementation Committees. The SFI Program supports and connects a grassroots network involving private landowners, independent loggers, forestry professionals, Indigenous people, local government officials, academics, scientists, and other conservationists. Meetings have already been held in Little Rock, AR and Rhinelander, WI and future meetings are scheduled in the coming weeks.

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**34 SFI IMPLEMENTATION COMMITTEE SPRING MEETINGS AND WEBINAR**

SFI is hosting its spring implementation committee meetings in collaboration with the SFI Project Learning Tree (PLT) program, which enables educators to bring the classroom into the world and the world into the classroom. The focus for the 2019 spring meetings is stewardship.

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**2019 PROJECT LEARNING TREE CONFERENCE A BIG SUCCESS**

The Project Learning Tree (PLT) conference took place May 17-18 in Richmond, VA. The theme for the conference was "Forests of Opportunity." Conference highlights included a keynote by Richard Louv, founder of the Children & Nature Network, learning about natural flora and fauna from the Nature Center, and witnessing first-hand how sustainably managed forests support the production of dimensional pine lumber and Kraft paper while visiting Green Bay Packaging facilities.

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**THE GREEN RIDE FOR GREEN JOBS IS ON THE ROAD**

Recent highlights from SFI include the launch of the Green Ride for Green Jobs. The ride, which is on the road until June, will head across the nation to spread awareness about the benefits of green jobs in forest sectors. Recent honorees have included Lewis, a procurement forester for Westrock, one of the world's largest paper and packaging companies, and Crawfordville Elementary School in Florida, a Title 1 school where more than 40% of the school population is free or reduced lunch eligible. The program encourages students to see green jobs through the lens of their own personal interests and backgrounds.

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