

Alabama Forestry Camp 2005

By James Jennings, Outreach Forester, Alabama Forestry Commission

The 2005 session of Alabama Forestry Camp, in its eighth year, is coming up soon. Held at the Federation of Southern Cooperatives facility near Epes, Alabama, in Sumter County, the camp will run from Sunday, June 5 through Thursday, June 9.

This five-day camp for high school students interested in forestry, conservation, and/or natural resources is designed to introduce basic forestry concepts through classroom instruction and outdoor activities. However, the week is not "all work and no play." There are also fun evening activities and recreation. The purpose of Alabama Forestry Camp is to provide a positive learning experience.

At this year's camp, students will participate in sessions covering tree identification, forest management, forest products, wildlife, water quality, urban forestry, and forest history. There are also off-campus visits to recreational parks, a private landowner's property, and forest industry facilities. During Career Night, students will have the opportunity to talk to college recruiters about careers in forestry and natural resources. The final day of the camp includes a graduation ceremony and luncheon for students, instructors, counselors, and family members. All students will receive a certificate of completion of the camp.

Alabama Forestry Camp is **free** to anyone who qualifies to attend. Open to both boys and girls, the student must be 15-18 years old and have completed the

9th grade, but not graduated from high school. Camp participants will be housed in dormitories with 24-hour adult supervision. Each attendee is responsible for providing his or her own transportation to and from camp. All other transportation, meals, and snacks will be provided. The application should be completed and signed by both student and parent. All applications must be postmarked by **April 15, 2005**. Space is limited.

If you know of someone interested in attending Alabama Forestry Camp, have them call any county office of the Alabama Forestry Commission for an application or for more information. Applications are also available on the Alabama Forestry Commission website at www.forestry.state.al.us. ☎

For current information on the Southern Pine Beetle situation in Alabama, visit the Alabama Forestry Commission web page at: www.forestry.state.al.us

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