

NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

FOR MORE INFORMATION:

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RIFCO SPRING PROGRAM at LEVEL BEST FARM

The RI Forest Conservator's Organization (RIFCO) will conduct its Annual Spring Program at Level Best Farm in the Wood River Junction area of Richmond, RI on Saturday, May 7th from 9 a.m. to noon. The Spring Program is free, and will feature an educational woods walk that will focus on the benefits of forest management on private lands. This Tree Farm property, owned by Ken Mitchell, has been under management since the 1970's.

The guided walk will be led by foresters from RIFCO and the RI Tree Farm Program. The walk will include the viewing of cleared fire roads and habitat fields, along with mixed pine and hardwood areas that have had selective thinnings in the past. We will focus on the evolution of forest management plans over the years, beginning with those that state foresters provided in the early days to the more advanced types of Forest Stewardship Plans and Conservation Activity Plans now partially funded by the USDA-NRCS. The walk will also include tree identification, deer-browse impacts, forest ecology and other woodlot management topics.

The property is located at the end of Homestead Road, which runs off Route 91 in the Wood River Junction area of Richmond. We will gather under the open tree canopy adjacent to the fields just past Mr. Mitchell's residence at 22 Homestead Road at 8:30 am, and the program will start at 9. The RIFCO Spring Program is free and open to the public. Directions to the site are available by calling RIFCO at (401)568-3410, or one can go to www.rifco.org for more information.

The RI Forest Conservator's Organization is a statewide, non-profit organization dedicated to the protection and wise use of Rhode Island's forest resources.

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