

THE INVITATION

THE 2019 ANNUAL
SAVE GEORGIA'S HEMLOCKS
HEMLOCK CAMP MEETING
A
GATHERING OF

KINDRED SPIRITS TO CELEBRATE AND PRESERVE THE MAGNIFICENT HEMLOCK

SATURDAY • MAY 4 • 10AM to 3PM

**ETC PAVILION • ON THE BANKS OF THE
COOSAWATTEE RIVER • ELLIJAY, GA**

MUSIC BY THE **ECLECTIC & VERSATILE** **BILL POUND**



**BBQ
PROVIDED**

FOOD

**BRING YOUR OWN
Potluck Picnic Dish**



RESERVATIONS are required before **WEDNESDAY, MAY 1**
CALL 706 455-2313 **EMAIL** KimberlyRaeWood@gmail.com

\$5 **ADMISSION**
KIDS UNDER 10 FREE



**ALEX
HARVEY**
PADDLERS HEMLOCK
ACTION TASK FORCE

**COME
HEAR**

**THOM
GREEN**
HEMLOCK
RESTORATION INITIATIVE



DON'T MISS

THIS OPPORTUNITY TO COMMUNE WITH NATURE AND TO CELEBRATE THE HEMLOCK
AND OUR MOUNTAIN ENVIRONMENT - AN EVENT FOR THE WHOLE FAMILY. SORRY, NO DOGS PLEASE.



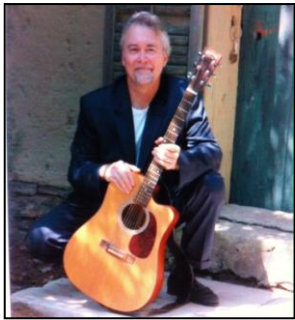
— SPONSORED BY —

SAVE GEORGIA'S HEMLOCKS

A day of appreciation and inspiration for our members,
volunteers, and supporters

www.SaveGeorgiasHemlocks.org • 706 429-8010

MUSIC – Bill Pound



For Bill Pound, being born and raised in Macon, Georgia has had a profound influence on his musical upbringing. Macon's heritage of musical diversity, from Little Richard to Otis Redding to the Allman Brothers Band, has inspired several generations. This is evident in the songs he has written, recorded, and released on CDs. Perhaps it is this heritage, coupled with twenty-five years of commitment to his art, that has made Bill the entertainer he is today. His years of touring experience allow him not only to sense a crowd's desires, but give him the ability to respond. From hard rock-and-roll to soft country, both the extremes and the middle ground belong to Bill when he's on stage.

Bill expresses his considerable talents through a variety of voices – electric, acoustic or slide guitar, silver and Native American flutes, harmonica, and vocals. Love of music, family and friends, nature, and living life and a strong faith are the forces that inspire, motivate and guide him. **Everyone thoroughly enjoyed Bill's music and the relaxed mood he set for the day.** For more information, please visit www.billpound.com.

FOOD – Poole's Barbecue *plus* everyone's covered dishes to share



We were treated to some of the best barbecue in north Georgia. Poole's is famous for mouth-watering chicken and pork dressed with Colonel Poole's original sauce – and they totally lived up to expectations. **It was SO YUMMY!!!**

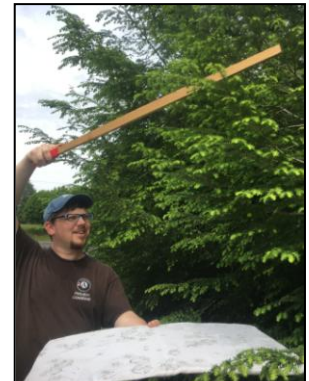
Everyone was also asked to bring a generous-sized covered side-dish to share so we had a wonderful variety of delicious selections on the buffet.



SPEAKER – Thom Green of the Hemlock Restoration Initiative

Thom Green is the Lead Technician and Outreach Support Associate for the Asheville-based Hemlock Restoration Initiative (<https://savehemlocksnc.org>), working with our good friend Margot Wallston. Before taking on his current role, he served through AmeriCorps Project Conserve as the HRI Stewardship and Volunteer Engagement Associate. After working for several years as an environmental educator in his native Oregon, Thom moved to western North Carolina in 2014 to earn an MS in Biology with a focus in forest ecology from Western Carolina University.

His newly found love of the Blue Ridge Mountains and passion for ecosystem-based forest management fuels his work to protect and restore hemlock forests. When not out in the forest or educating landowners about their trees, he enjoys dancing and spending time with his dogs Moonpie and Sugar.



Thom gave a very interesting presentation about HRI's work with a variety of partners to establish hemlock conservation areas, educate property owners to save their trees, treat more trees on public lands, and implement Integrated Pest Management and long-term biological controls. **Click here to see [Thom's HRI presentation](#).**

SPEAKER – Alex Harvey of the Paddlers Hemlock Health Action Taskforce

Alex grew up in North Carolina where, at an early age, he developed a passion for rivers and the outdoors. After studying biology at Johns Hopkins University and earning his PhD at Vanderbilt, he moved to Athens, Georgia to pursue a career in biopharmaceutical development. While continuing his pioneering work in pursuit of effective disease therapies, he enjoys time with his wife and two children, camping, traveling and taking care of their rescued cats and dogs.

He is an avid kayaker and mountain biker. In 2016 when he learned that the science of saving hemlocks had matured, he realized that there was a need for the paddling community to get involved and has since devoted much of his time coordinating teams of paddlers (<https://paddlersforhemlocks.com>) to save hemlocks on the Green River in North Carolina.



Alex shared his inspiring story of what he and his paddlers do, how they do it, and what motivates them to get out and do it. Click here to see [Alex's PHHAT presentation](#) and a [PHHAT documentary](#).



Short film: “The HemlockWoolly Adelgid – A Film about the Loss of an Ecosystem” <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AupnMjYaI0Q>

The Hemlock Woolly Adelgid. A species few people have heard of – yet it is devastating the Hemlock forests and the delicate ecosystems that depend upon them. From infestations in our own backyards, the Hemlock Woolly Adelgid has already spread throughout the east coast of North America from the Carolinas up into Canada.

This award-winning film by Chris Foito aims to engage and educate the viewer on this all too often, over looked invasive species by explaining its past, present, and what could easily be the future if significant action is not taken.

Through the use of cinematic visuals and archival footage of other forest pests, specifically the Emerald Ash Borer, the film illustrates the vital importance of The Eastern Hemlock Tree as a foundation species in North American forests and raises the questions of what should be done to prevent the spread of the Hemlock Woolly Adelgid and the growing phenomena of invasive species as a whole.



SGH Information Booth: Experts were on hand to answer questions about what’s happening to the hemlocks, how to recognize and assess the problem, why it matters, what people can do to save their own trees, and how they can help save the hemlocks on our public lands.

There was plenty of educational handout materials to pick up, saplings available for adoption, and a few special *surprise items* available for purchase.



Demo Station for Sapling Rescue & Potting: This station provided information about the most successful techniques and materials to use. Knowing how to choose and dig saplings with the best chance of survival and maintaining them in pots for 6 to 12 months with the growing conditions they need to reestablish a strong root system can allow a lot of little ones to be saved that otherwise might go untreated.

Then they can be replanted, offered for adoption, donated to schools and other nonprofits – getting more healthy hemlocks into the hands of people who will take good care of them.



Demo Station for Hemlock Treatment: This station provided information about how property owners can treat their own hemlocks by several different methods – soil drench, soil injection with 2 kinds of injectors, and basal trunk spray. Information was also available about the two primary kinds of chemical treatment – Imidacloprid and Dinotefuran – when it’s appropriate to choose each one and specific instructions for how to apply them by any of the methods.

Raffle: We had an eclectic collection of interesting and desirable items you might be lucky enough to win! Each person will receive a free raffle ticket at the check-in station, and additional tickets can be purchased at the raffle table. Please see the Photos page for more.



Recognitions and Awards: We want to give special recognition and thanks to our members, volunteers and supporters who have done so much to help carry out our mission. We appreciate and honor ALL OF YOU for your creative ideas, considerable time, energetic service and faithful dedication on behalf of our magnificent hemlocks.

SGH Leadership Team

Name	Position	Starting Yr
Donna Shearer	Chairman	2009
Bob Pledger	Vice Chairman & Program Manager for Hemlock Treatment – east Bob had a parallel program going in Lake Rabun Community when we joined forces to form Save Georgia's Hemlocks in 2009, is Leader of our Facilitator Program, and a true community leader with a gift for getting things done through volunteers and ensuring they enjoy it. He has led the majority of our treatment projects and contributed the most volunteer hours on our Leadership Team. He recently helped LRA get a new fire boat.	2009
Dave Teffeteller	Board Member & Communications Director – Dave is responsible for our print media, Facebook page, our banners, signage, and Camp Meeting flyers, as well as the eye-catching and informative pull-up displays we're using here and at all our educational events, and all the attractive logo items available through CafePress such as our t-shirts, coffee mugs, and the beautiful new Christmas cards he created for us. A gifted artist, Dave has implemented design standards that make us LOOK as professional as we aspire to actually BE. He is also an avid fly fisherman and has a tremendously tender heart for animals.	2010
Chris Curtin	Board Member & Program Manager for Saplings – west Chris is a hiker, talented musician, world traveler, Master Naturalist and earth mother who raises herbs, has two ponds full of fish and ducks, and keeps bees. With an excellent sense of the practical, she made most of the arrangements for HCM and helped sort out myriad logistics for it. She keeps her head when everyone around is losing theirs and restores a sense of calm and practicality when it's needed most. She's friends with more talented and interesting people than anyone I know. She brought us Bill Pound and Poole's Barbecue, and we thank her ever so much.	2012
Buz Stone	Board Member & Program Manager for Saplings – east Buz is the most positive spirit I know, always sees the positive and potential in any situation, has never a critical word but always see the best in every person. His gifts of kindness, encouragement, and affirmation make each person around him feel they're the most wonderful person in the world. We have received more donations in celebration of Buz and the help he has provided than anyone. He is also Chairman of Foxfire Board, talented artist in wood, and most special to me – he has taught me the meaning of a grateful heart.	2012
Darrell Sheffield	Board Member & Program Manager for Education – east Darrell has a deep love of the outdoors and believes in making it a family affair -- hiking, backpacking, and camping. He's an excellent teacher, and even though he's still working more than full-time, he finds time for helping hemlocks. Darrell is also the proud father of our youngest Facilitator, Mason Sheffield, who recently won an important FFA competition. See next page.	2014
Kim Wood	Secretary for educational events With a background in real estate, property management, and event planning, Kim is highly organized, not afraid to take on any task, and has more energy than the energizer bunny. She handles our participation in all the festivals we go to, books space for our training classes, keeps track of all the registrations and reservations and confirmations, and never drops a detail. Along with Chris, Kim is my go-to person for anything and everything that requires planning and coordination. She handled all the attendance correspondence for HCM and has been a tremendous help in putting it together, as well as many other educational events throughout the year.	2016

Derrick Morris	Program Manager for Education – west Derrick is a true self-starter with a creative mind full of good new ideas. He initiated treatment in Laurel Ridge including fund raising and volunteer recruitment and now sharing some of the teaching responsibilities. On the weekend of May 19 he will be heading a huge project to treat more than 800 trees in the cabins area of Lake Winfield Scott.	2016
John Shearouse	Technical Advisor for Saplings Program John is an experienced arborist and the owner of Shearouse Nursery. With a long personal history with Boy Scouts (as Bob and Buz and Dave do) and a gift for making connections such as UGA Warnell School, he has taught us a tremendous amount about growing and caring for trees	2016
Frank Gheesling	Retired Board Member & Program Manager for Hemlock Treatment – west Background in forestry and mapping among many other things, patient and meticulous and inventive nature, soil injector repair, found CT&D, accomplished photographer and serious birder. He and Linda – always working as a team – have participated in the most events Any nominations for a new board member???	2011

Volunteers for HCM 2019

- * Chris Curtin for playing the major role in planning and making all the detailed arrangements, including securing the venue, the musician, and the barbecue!
- * Dave Teffteller for handling the publicity and creating the great looking flyers and other logo items that present us as professionally as we aspire to be
- * Kim Wood for handling all the reservations and confirmations and providing much excellent logistical advice
- * Ed McLean and Bruce Golbey for greeting our guests and directing parking
- * Dave Teffteller and Kim Wood for staffing the Welcome Station and giving out HCM materials
- * Frank & Linda Gheesling for decorating the picnic tables and taking great pictures during the event
- * Betty Larsen for lending us her wonderful Bose sound system for our keynote speakers
- * Chris Curtin, Betty Larsen, Elaine McLean, and Bella Brown for organizing the kitchen and managing the food service
- * Buz Stone and Darrell Sheffield for staffing the SGH information station
- * Jim Heilman and Ray Lorenzi for staffing the hemlock treatment demo station
- * Rena and Phoenix Milford for staffing the saplings demo station
- * Robin Massaro and Chris Curtin for making the raffle such great fun
- * Jen Houts, Will Lance, and Mark Shearer for their help in setting up and doing many tasks that were needed throughout the day

To all of you for the many helps not enumerated above -- THANK YOU! YOU'RE THE BEST!!!

Special Recognition for Mason Sheffield

<https://www.facebook.com/NOFOFFA>

[North Forsyth Ffa](#)

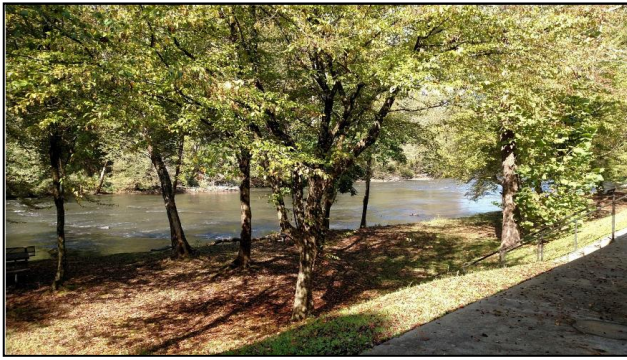
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Mason Sheffield was the first student from North Forsyth FFA to ever win a first place title in a major FFA state level competition at a state convention. He made history for our school's program by winning the state level live on stage for his Forest Management Proficiency which encompassed an SAE project with over 400+ hours with Save Georgia's Hemlocks and the University of North Georgia Beetle Lab. Mason will be representing Georgia FFA by competing at the National FFA Convention in October 2019.

Congratulations Mason!

The hemlocks lift their branches to you ALL!



The ETC Pavilion



This year's crowd was a bit smaller than usual because of the stormy weather forecast and the many other activities going on a Saturday in May, but it was a very appreciative and enthusiastic group. Everyone enjoyed the good music, delicious food, warm company of old and new friends, and the interesting and inspirational messages our keynote speakers brought us.

We thank everyone for coming, missed those who weren't able to be with us, and look forward to Hemlock Camp Meeting 2020, which will likely be on a Sunday in June, as we have done in most prior years.

Between now and then, we hope you'll all feel appreciated and be inspired!



Welcome Station – Dave & Kim



SGH Information Station



**Treatment Demo Station
Jim Heilman & Ray Lorenzi**



**Buz Stone, Thom Green, Rena Milford
at the Saplings Demo Station**



Saplings Demo Station



**Ken Taylor, creator of the
15-year old bonzai hemlock**



Two Tables of Raffle Items



SGH Logo Items for Sale



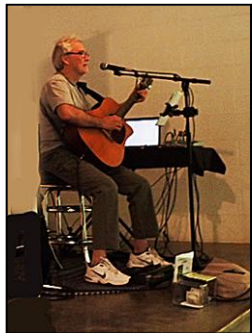
**Chris & Bella
preparing the buffet**



Loading up at the Buffet Line



Enjoying the Picnic Lunch



Bill Pound playing



Thom Green speaking



Alex Harvey speaking



Listening to our guest speakers



Chris & Robin drawing the raffle