



Hemlock Day on Signal Mountain, TN



A critically important educational program sponsored by the Signal Mountain Tree Board and presented by Donna Shearer of Save Georgia's Hemlocks, Inc. Come and learn how to save the hemlock trees on your own property and in the community while there's still time.

WHEN: Saturday, June 22, 2013

WHERE: Bachman Community Center in the Cafeteria (see map on page 2)

WHAT: **9:00 to 10:15 A.M. HEMLOCK HELP CLINIC** – This segment will present an overview of the hemlock crisis and currently available solutions. It will include information on:

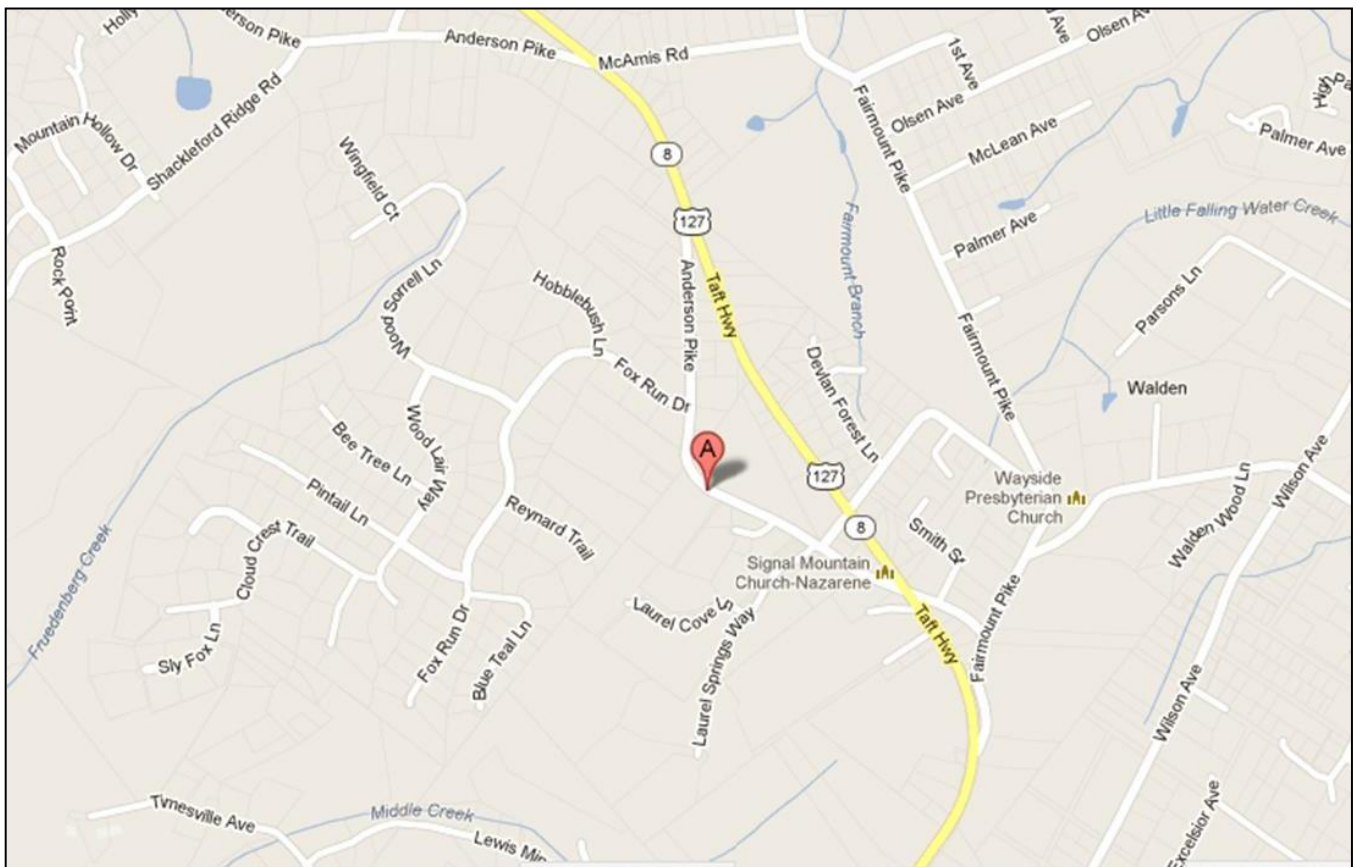
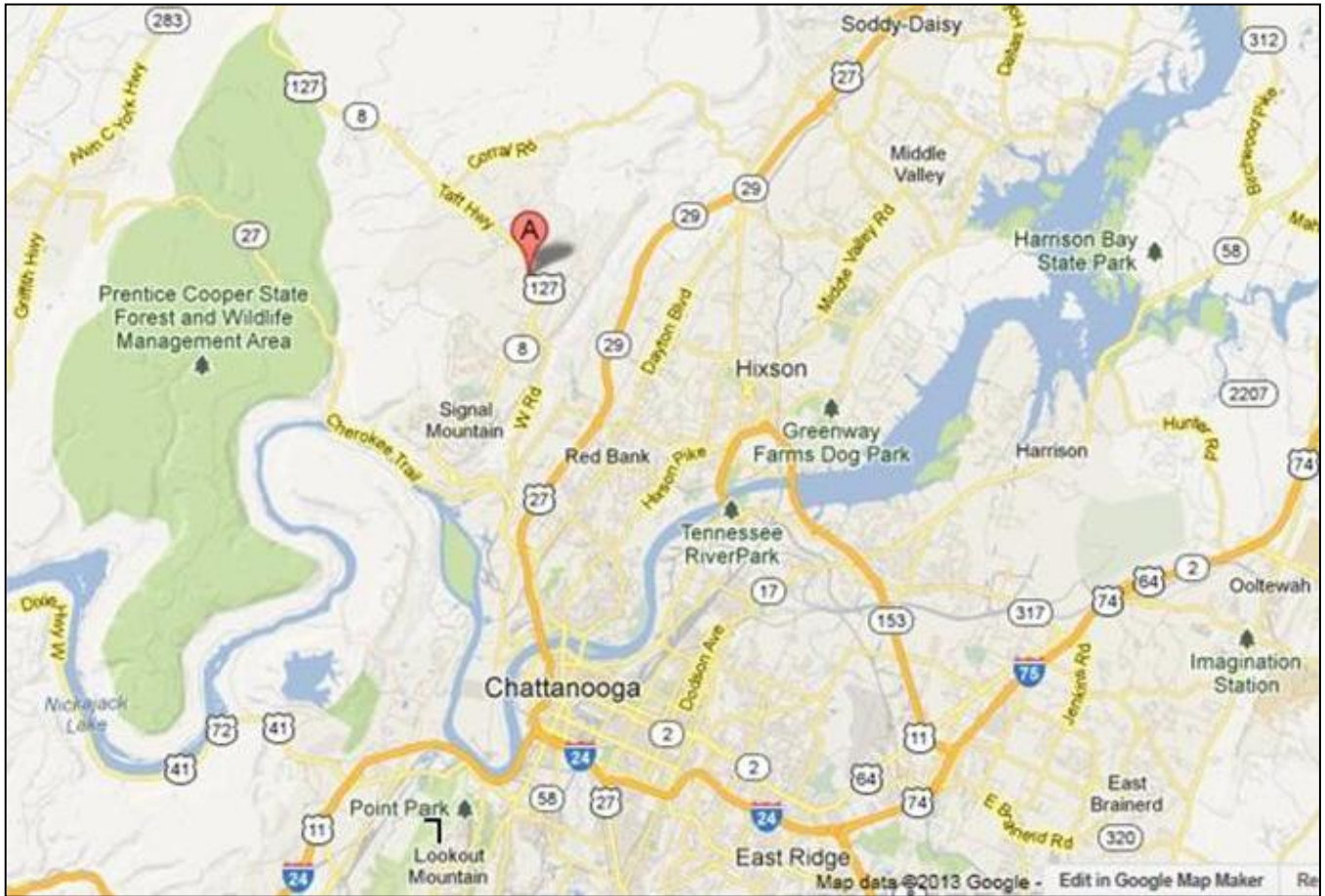
- The role and importance of hemlocks
- The insect that's killing them and how to recognize it
- Impact of the crisis on private and public lands
- Overview of cultural, chemical, and biological controls
- Options for getting the work done and estimating the cost
- Safety considerations
- Local resources and support available to individuals and neighborhoods

10:30 A.M. to 3:00 P.M. FACILITATOR TRAINING WORKSHOP – This segment is for individuals and groups who want practical “how-to” information *and* have a willingness to use it to make a meaningful difference in their local communities. It will include in-depth training on:

- More about the hemlocks
- More about the hemlock woolly adelgid, levels of infestation, and lifecycle
- Using cultural controls
- Using chemical controls
 - Appropriate treatment materials, application methods, and timing
 - How to do it yourself or find a *properly* qualified professional
 - Using the Chemical Calculator
 - Understanding product labeling and observing safety guidelines
 - Judging treatment success or failure
- Update on biological controls
- Working with individual property owners
- Organizing a neighborhood hemlock help project
- Special skills and hands-on practice

REGISTRATION: Both classes are free, but **registration is required by Thursday, June 20, 5 p.m.** Contact Barbara Womack 423-886-3854 or bgwomack@epbfi.com. You may sign up for just the Clinic or for the Clinic and the Facilitator Training Workshop. Anyone wanting to take the Facilitator Workshop *must* attend the Clinic.

SAVE GEORGIA'S HEMLOCKS is a 100% volunteer, 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization of concerned citizens dedicated to saving endangered hemlocks through education and charitable service. To learn more, see page 3 and visit www.savegeorgiashemlocks.org or call the Hemlock Help LineSM 706-429-8010.



About Save Georgia's Hemlocks, Inc.

Save Georgia's Hemlocks (SGH) is a rapidly growing grassroots organization of energetic individuals with diverse backgrounds, interests, ages, and origins, united by a common purpose to save the hemlocks. Based in Dahlonega, Georgia, we began our efforts in July 2009 with a large goal – to serve all of north Georgia where the woolly adelgid is a serious threat. Since then, with the help of many partners and volunteers we have made steady progress, but there is still much to do.

MISSION: SGH is a 100% volunteer, 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization of concerned citizens dedicated to saving endangered hemlocks through education and charitable service.

VISION: Through our efforts of preservation, conservation, and restoration, there will be a healthy population of hemlocks in Georgia for future generations.

GOALS:

- **Educate** – Enhance public awareness of the hemlock woolly adelgid crisis, current practical solutions, and emerging control technologies.
- **Enable** – Ensure easy access to information, advice regarding economical solutions, and direct assistance for property owners.
- **Encourage** – Establish a clear understanding of the aesthetic, economic, and environmental reasons for property owners to take timely and effective action to save their hemlocks.

Over the past 4 years, SGH has helped many hundreds of property owners save tens of thousands of their hemlocks. In 2012 the group began working with the U. S. Forest Service to treat trees on the national forest and this year is also helping the Georgia Department of Natural Resources save hemlocks in state parks and wildlife management areas. SGH has mentored government agencies and nonprofit organizations in several other states, maintains the Hemlock Help Line serving the U. S. and Canada, and is eager to do more.



Donna Shearer- Founder, Chairperson, and Speaker



Atlanta native Donna Shearer realized her childhood dream of living in a log cabin in the mountains when she and her husband Mark moved to Dahlonega in 2002. With their home situated in a dense hemlock grove along a trout stream, it was particularly troubling when in 2005 they discovered their evergreen sanctuary was threatened by an infestation of the hemlock woolly adelgid.

Rather than give up, they began researching the hemlock problem and treating the trees on their own property. The successful results motivated Donna to share the benefit of their knowledge, experience, and environmental passion with others, and in 2009 she and a small group of volunteers founded Save Georgia's Hemlocks.

Donna and SGH were recently honored for their hemlock conservation efforts as recipients of the 2012 Cox Conserves Heroes award, which carried with it a \$10,000 grant the organization will use to continue and increase its educational and charitable service outreach.

