



AGRICULTURE & FORESTRY HALL OF *FAME*

WEST VIRGINIA | 2024

*LLOYD RUDOLPH
(RUDY) WILLIAMS II*
FAIRMONT, WV

“ I love my job. I’ve been doing it for so long, but there hasn’t been one day in 40 years that I’ve woken up and thought, “Man, I wish I didn’t have to go to work.” It’s something I look forward to. I don’t see myself retiring any time soon. ”

Lloyd “Rudy” Williams always knew he wanted to be a forester, and his dream has led him to serve over 40 years with the West Virginia Division of Forestry, following his passion and commitment to all aspects of forestry operations. After graduating from East Fairmont High School, Rudy attended WVU’s Forestry program, graduating in 1980, and started his forestry career immediately afterward.

Rudy’s commitment to forestry has benefited both the state and the nation through his work as a wildland firefighter, coordinating firefighting efforts nationwide. He has served as a board member of the Mid-Atlantic Forest Fire Compact and Chairman of the Prevention Team. An avid advocate for Smokey Bear, Rudy has always ensured that Smokey is actively involved in outreach and education.

He has worked with a multitude of other foresters, both locally and regionally, helping to mentor and lead several programs. His long career has provided decades of continuity and mentorship, ensuring productivity and effectiveness in forestry programs.

Currently, Rudy serves as a Regional Forester for Region 1 in Farmington. He has also held the positions of Regional Forester for Parkersburg and Milton, as well as WV State Fire Coordinator from 2002 to 2006. As an Eagle Scout, he regularly gives back to the Scouting America organization, assisting many Scouts in completing their merit badge qualifications. Additionally, he has shared his expertise at the National Scout Jamboree at the Summit Bechtel Reserve.

Rudy is the WV State Tree Farm Committee Region 1 Chair, past chair of the WV Society of American Foresters, past board member of the WV Forestry Association, and a founder and continuing member of the WV Envirothon Committee.