



# AGRICULTURE & FORESTRY HALL OF FAME

## JUERGEN A. WILDMAN

Juergen A. Wildman's career with the West Virginia Division of Forestry (DOF) spanned 31 years. He wrote more than 250 forest management plans for landowners, conducted upwards of 50 timber sales, and helped landowners and the state maximize the commercial and environmental potential of their woodlots. He is a two-time DOF Employee of the Year.

Wildman was born in Munich, Germany, and attended high school in New York. He received his bachelor's degree from State University of New York College at Oswego in 1980, and then his M.S. in Forestry at WVU in 1985.



He began his career as a service forester in Kanawha County, and later served in the same role in Marion and Taylor counties. He retired in 2017 as the Landowner Assistance Specialist and now does private forestry consulting.

During his time at DOF, he also planned and conducted numerous tree farm tours. He is widely recognized for his knowledge of invasive and native species and for his in-depth preparation for tours and presentations. Timber owners attending the tours often left with a better understanding of management practices after seeing them on the ground in person.

He was the nominating forester for a West Virginia tree farm that was among the four finalists for the National Tree Farmer of the Year in 2001. Wildman was instrumental in nearly all the interventions and practices put in place at the farm over a ten-year period.

Six times he volunteered to fight wildfires in western states. He also helped plant a large stand of hybrid chestnut trees on a clear-cut in a labor-intensive project at Coopers Rock State Forest.

He received the Monongalia Conservation District Public Service Award in 2018.