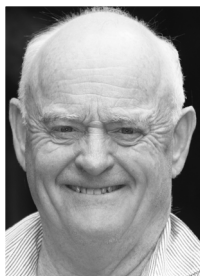


# Russ Richardson



Russ Richardson was born September 17, 1951 in Montague, Massachusetts. His involvement in forestry started in 1967 during his high school days. When he petitioned his high school to start a course called “conservation.” The passion continued to grow in 1971 he helped organize the first Earth Day at the North Dakota School of Forestry. He received his Bachelor’s of Science Degree in Forestry in 1973 from the University of Montana. He then worked for three years as logger in Washington and for the U.S. Forest Service in Montana. He returned home in 1975 where he worked as a

consulting forester.

Richardson moved to Weston, West Virginia, in 1989, he set up a consulting forestry business and real estate brokerage. He owned and managed over 1,000 acres of prime woodland along Crummies Creek. This led to him establishing thriving relationships and becoming extremely active in WV forestry.

He is best known for being an outspoken advocate for sustainable forest stewardship. He has introduced and supported new ideas for the WV forestry industry. He has also hosted several forestry tours on his property to promote new ideas such as non-timber forest products. In the world of advocacy, he is credited for his field-level work that provided the most direct benefit to the woodland owners and woods throughout WV.

He served as the chair of the WV Tree Farm Committee from 1995 to 1997 and they greatly benefitted from his leadership. After 24 years of service, he is still a committee member. He was also the president of The WV Woodland Owners Association and served as their president from 1998 to 2004.

Richardson was a part of the discovery and research of the pathogenic Bipolaris fungus that affects Japanese stiltgrass. In 2007, he was featured in an article about using the herbicide Acclaim Extra on the invasive fungus, and worked with WVU faculty and graduate students on his property to test the effectiveness of this new herbicide.

Richardson and his wife, Paula, are commonly seen out helping their neighbors. He also opens his farm up for educational use and also fields calls from WV property owners related to forestry, timber sales and real estate.

