

# William R. Maxey



William Raymond Maxey has led a distinguished career in industrial forestry, and devoted much of it to managing West Virginia's forests.

After working as a company forestland manager for W. H. Ritter Lumber Co. (later Georgia Pacific, Inc.) in southwestern West Virginia. He became the forest manager for the West Virginia University (WVU) Forest System in 1967. Under his leadership, the University forest holdings were placed under sound management practices.

Maxey's expertise was increasingly incorporated into the teaching program at the WVU Division of Forestry. He taught classes in woodlot management, fire protection and forest measurements. He also helped establish a student chapter of the Society of American Foresters at WVU.

He returned to private industry in 1978 and became the superintendent of chip procurement for Westvaco in Covington, Va. He later supervised the company-wide Cooperative Forest Management Program, which gave more than 3,000 property owners constant advice on forest management, including a detailed management plan.

Maxey returned to his home state in 1993 as director of the West Virginia Division of Forestry and state forester. During his tenure, the Division earned statewide visibility and respect for its forest management achievements.

Maxey has been a statewide industry leader in other ways. He is past-president of the West Virginia Forestry Association, secretary/treasurer of the WVU Forestry Alumni Association, and a member of the Forest Farmers Association Board of Directors.

He is known as a visionary leader in the state forestry industry who possesses the ability to formulate plans and goals for proper leadership to improve West Virginia's vast forest resources.