

John F. (Jack) Tillinghast



John F. “Jack” Tillinghast began his career with the United States Forest Service in the Civilian Conservation Corps in Missouri. He later served the state of Illinois as a district forester, followed by a stint with the American Foresters Association in Pennsylvania. There Tillinghast began a career as a forestry consultant, later moving operations to West Virginia, breaking ground as one of the first forest consultancies in the state. Tillinghast was among the premier forestry consultants during his 40-year career. He has helped bring about sound forest management on thousands of acres of timberland owned by natural resources concerns in the southern portion of West Virginia.

His concern for the professional conduct of those in his field led to the creation of the Association of Consulting Foresters of America, Inc. The national Association, currently organized in 22 chapters, has members in 40 states and two Canadian provinces. The Association has revolutionized consulting forestry in North America.

West Virginia chose Tillinghast to help lead a team to develop a strategic plan for forestry in the state. He has participated in four Governor’s conferences on forestry, served on the West Virginia Board of Reclamation Review, as president of the West Virginia Forestry Association (then called the West Virginia Forests, Inc.), and as a forester for U.S. AID in Iran.

His principles of honesty, ethics and professionalism are highly regarded. He has always offered professional guidance and assistance to those planning careers in the field of forestry, sharing his experience and expertise with students around the state.