

# Staunton C. Haynes II



Staunton Clark Haynes II of South Charleston graduated WVU Magna Cum Laude with a B.S. in Forest Research Management in 1972, followed by a M.S. in Plant Pathology in 1976.

He spent 34 years at the West Virginia Department of Agriculture (WVDA), 24 as a forest pathologist and 10 years as assistant director of the Forest Health Section. As pathologist, he conducted surveys for pests that threaten forest, ornamental, nursery and Christmas tree industries.

He co-authored the Nursery and Forest Pest Newsletter, wrote articles for the Market Bulletin, and was frequently sought out by media as a subject-matter expert. He also developed and helped produce the WVDA Forest Health Calendar, 5,000 of which were printed annually. The unique publication is known regionally for its contemporary coverage of forest insect and disease issues featured each month.

He was involved in detecting and combating several forest pests, including oak wilt, white pine blister rust, beech bark disease, ash yellows, emerald ash borer and hemlock woolly adelgid.

He was named Assistant Director over Forest Health in WVDA's Plant Industries Division in 2010. In that position, he oversaw the Gypsy Moth Suppression and the Slow the Spread gypsy moth mating disruption programs. The programs were critical measures in controlling the population of the state's most harmful insect pest. In addition, he organized and hosted the annual Gypsy Moth Review at the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service facility at Shepherdstown, a forum for government and industry to discuss gypsy pest control efforts.

He was instrumental in preparing the forest health section of the state Division of Forestry's Forest Assessment. This monumental project was required by the U.S. Forest Service as a condition of receiving cost-share and grant funding. The document examined the status of West Virginia's from a variety of aspects and was submitted in 2010.

He has been a member of the American Chestnut Council since 1980, and participated in the West Virginia Invasive Species Council from 2000-2010. He was inducted into the Alpha Zeta Agriculture Honorary in 1971, and the Xi Sigma Pi Forestry Honorary in 1972. In 2010, he received an award from the Gypsy Moth Management Board for “Years of Outstanding Contribution and Dedicated Service to Gypsy Moth Management from 2000-2010.”

He is a member of the First United Methodist Church of South Charleston and works with its Heart & Hand charity. He is a member of the South Charleston Community Advisory Panel, and he contributes time to the Ward Hollow Wildlife Habitat at the Tech Park in South Charleston. For 23 years, he taught a forest protection classes at the Forest Industries Camp, a one-week gathering sponsored by the forest industry and others that provides young people with an opportunity to explore careers in forest-related careers.