



Learn How You Can Participate In **The Restoration of the American Chestnut In Central Virginia**

From the early 1900's to 1940's, an exotic blight attacked and killed over 4 billion American chestnut trees. American chestnut was a dominant tree species across the east and was considered as important as the oaks we have today. The American Chestnut Foundation is nearly 30 years into its efforts

to produce a blight-resistant tree and restore the species to our forests.

Volunteers in Central Virginia are doing their part in the restoration process by finding surviving Americans, making controlled pollinations, planting breeding orchards, establishing restoration plantings, conducting citizen-assisted research, educating students and the general public and raising funds to support the restoration goals of the organization.

The efforts in Central Virginia have reached a level that can support, and be supported by, a **Central Virginia Chestnut Restoration Branch**. Local Foundation volunteers are holding a series of meetings to discuss our efforts, and to start the formation of the Branch. Come learn how you can be a part of this new chestnut effort!

Information Sessions

Speakers will cover the what, how and why of chestnut restoration, followed by a question and answer session

Saturday, April 12th, 10am - 11am, Madison Extension Office

2 South Main Street, War Memorial Building, 2nd Floor, Madison, VA 22727

Thursday, April 17th, 7pm - 8pm, Ivy Creek Natural Area Education Building

The Ivy Creek Natural Area is located six miles north of Charlottesville, VA, on Earlysville Road. It is one half mile from the intersection of Hydraulic and West Rio Roads

Sunday, April 27th, 2pm - 3pm - Nelson Center

8445 Thomas Nelson Highway, Lovingson, VA 22949

Organizational Meeting

Participants will plan the organization and upcoming activities of the Central Virginia Branch

Thursday, May 15, evening, 7pm-9pm, Virginia Department of Forestry

900 Natural Resources Drive, Charlottesville VA

Chestnut Pollinating Season Field Trip (Lesesne State Forest)

Come see volunteers conducting controlled pollinations on large surviving American and backcross chestnuts. A guided tour will review over 40 years of chestnut research conducted here. See over 10 acres of mature chestnuts in bloom!

Saturday, June 14 (rain date – June 21), 10am-Noon

2650 Cub Creek Rd, Roseland, VA 22967