Virginia FFA/4-H: Junior Foresters

State Fair of Virginia

2026 Contest Letter

State Fair Address: Meadow Event Park 13111 Dawn Blvd Doswell, VA 23047 Caroline County	**Contest Registration and Tickets:** Participants must have a $6 Student Competition Ticket to enter the Fairgrounds unless they are already at the Fair for another competition. Agricultural Education instructors are responsible for ordering tickets: https://www.vaffa.org/state-fair-of-virginia	**Event Location:** Farm Credit Pavilion	**Date:** September 29, 2026 **Times:** *Contest Registration:* *10:00 AM* *Contest Start Time:* 10:15 AM *Awards:* Following the Forestry Field Day at the First Bank Showring Tent
Contest Superintendents: Mr. David Slack	**Entry Deadline:** September 16, 2026 by 5:00 PM.	**Questions? *Contact us!*** *Virginia FFA Association* Andy Seibel - gseibel@vt.edu Sarah Jo Jones - shelms07@vt.edu 540-231-3823	

Purpose:

The Junior Foresters event allows members to demonstrate knowledge and skills related to the forestry industry.

Rules and Guidelines:

1. A guide for Junior Foresters is available on the Virginia FFA Website.
2. Each 4-H county/city unit or FFA chapter is invited to enter a team(s) of three or four members. Clubs/Chapters may enter up to two teams per Junior or Senior Division.
3. When four members are entered, the three with the highest overall individual awards.
4. All work needs to be completed on an individual basis.
5. This contest is open to any bona fide 4-H or FFA member in Virginia.
6. Contestants must be 19 years of age or younger to be eligible to compete in the events.
7. 9th grade and under are eligible for the junior competition. 10-12th graders will be considered seniors.
8. Each contestant should have access to a clipboard, scan sheet, and pencil. Use of calculators is allowed, but not required. Measuring tools (rulers, Biltmore sticks, etc.) will be provided if needed.

9. In case of a tie for individual or team awards, ranking will be determined by the team (individual with the highest score in Class 1. If still tied, Class 2 will be used, and so on until broken.)

Judging/Scoring Criteria:

1. Fifty questions concerning total forest industry, regeneration, inventory, thinning, harvesting, marketing, and products.
2. Identification of 25 tree species found in Virginia (Resource: Common Trees of Virginia)
3. Identification of 10 insects/diseases of forest trees found in Virginia and identification of 15 forestry tools
4. Measurement activities can include any of the following:
    a. Board-Bd, ft.
    b. Logs-Volume
    c. Tree-Bd. Ft.
    d. Tree-Cu. ft. volume
    e. Given Land Area
5. Each class will be worth 50 points except Class 4 which will be worth 100 points. 30 minutes will be allowed for each class unless everyone has completed the rotation, in which case we will rotate early.

Awards:

Ribbons (Junior and Senior):

1st-6th Place Teams - Rosette Ribbons
1st-6th Place Individuals - Rosette Ribbons
7th-10th Place Individuals - Flat Ribbons

Individual Premiums (Given to top 10 overall individuals)

Placing	Premium	Placing	Premium
1st	$50	6th	$25
2nd	$45	7th	$20
3rd	$40	8th	$15
4th	$35	9th	$10
5th	$30	10th	$5

Team Premiums (Given to top 10 teams overall)

Placing	Premium	Placing	Premium
1st	$100	6th	$50
2nd	$90	7th	$40
3rd	$80	8th	$30
4th	$70	9th	$20
5th	$60	10th	$10

State Fair Scholarship Program:
Contestants will be eligible to participate in the State Fair Scholarship Program.Please see the State Fair website, www.statefairva.org, for more information regarding the State Fair of Virginia Scholarship Program and eligibility requirements for other available scholarships.The following scholarships will be awarded to the top three individuals:

Junior Scholarships

Placing	Amount
1st	$300
2nd	$200
3rd	$100

Senior Scholarships

Placing	Amount
1st	$400
2nd	$300
3rd	$200

Event Sponsor:

JAMES RIVER EQUIPMENT