# WOOD MAGIC
## FOREST FAIR

## FOURTH-GRADE TEACHERS:

### Have we got a field trip for you this year!

Wouldn't it be great to provide your students with an exciting, fun-filled learning experience next school year? The **Wood Magic Forest Fair** is a free, fun, forestry-fact-filled field trip and festival for fourth-graders. A 3.5-hour program of forestry-related educational experiences and demonstrations, the fair combines hands-on activities with visually engaging presentations to teach children about the importance of forest lands to wildlife, the economy and our daily quality of life.

### Students have fun while learning

The fair isn't just a walk in the woods; it's a learning experience. South Carolina's **Wood Magic Forest Fair** is a comprehensive environmental education program correlated to state curriculum standards in science, math and language arts. More than 45,700 students from every corner of the state have participated in the program since its inception in 1999, the overwhelming majority of whom demonstrate a significant gain in knowledge about forests, forest products, conservation, and the environmental, social and economic benefits of forests.

### 2026 Locations

**Wood Magic** will be held at these locations in 2026-2027 school year:

- **Piedmont Forestry Center**, Tamassee—Oct. 6-9, 2026
- **Harbison State Forest**, Columbia—Oct. 26-30, 2026
- **Hobcaw Barony Discovery Center**, Georgetown—Nov. 17-20, 2026

### Want to apply? Need more information?

If you'd like to apply or just want more information, contact **Wood Magic** coordinator Matt Schnabel at:

**(803) 896-8892** –OR– **woodmagic@scfc.gov**

The Wood Magic Forest Fair is organized by the South Carolina Forestry Commission and financed through donations and grants. More than 160 volunteers from the forestry community come together every year to make this natural resource program successful.

March 16, 2026

Dear fourth-grade teacher:

Wouldn't it be great to provide your students with an exciting, fun-filled learning experience next year? That is what more than 1,700 students experienced in 2025 at South Carolina's Wood Magic Forest Fair. Kayla Miller from Kingsbury Elementary said, "This was an incredible hands-on learning experience! The activities were fun, engaging, and perfectly designed to help students connect with nature and understand the importance of forests. The staff were knowledgeable, patient, and enthusiastic, making the entire day both educational and memorable."

During this 3.5-hour, **SCDE standards-correlated program**, your class will learn the many benefits of the forests in our state, learn how wood is turned into many different products, learn how foresters use fire to help the forest and wildlife, make recycled paper, and experience a magic show about wood products. Teachers will receive many classroom activities and resources to supplement your curriculum, and students receive a bag full of "goodies" that relate to forestry, including Wood Magic and Smokey Bear items. All teachers, chaperones and students will receive a pizza lunch. All for FREE!

The Wood Magic Forest Fair has been so successful that applications have exceeded available slots every year, so don't delay sending in your application. Wood Magic will be held at these locations in the 2026-2027 school year:

- **Piedmont Forestry Center**, (Tamassee)—Oct. 6-9, 2026
- **Harbison State Forest**, (Columbia)—Oct. 26-30, 2026
- **Hobcaw Barony Discovery Center**, (Georgetown)—Nov. 17-20, 2026

If you are unable to attend in-person, please check out our virtual WMFF program at: https://www.scfc.gov/education/wood-magic/.

Please consider the following before returning your application:

1. We would like for you to coordinate with the other fourth-grade teachers at your school and select a lead teacher. This person will be our primary contact for the application process. Also, we do not need to know the exact number of students at this point, just give us an estimate of the total number of classes expected to attend from your school and the average class size.

2. Please check the school calendar for next year to make sure there are no conflicts with in-service days or holidays before selecting a day. We will try our best to accommodate your selection, but due to the number of applications we receive this is not always the case. Please make note if certain days are not acceptable.

3. Be sure that your planning is such that you arrive no later than 15 minutes before your scheduled start time. Because Wood Magic is a tightly scheduled event and lasts approximately 3.5 hours, you may not be able to arrive back at school by the regular dismissal time. ***Please plan for this and clear this with your principal before you apply. If you cannot arrive on time and stay for the entire event, we respectfully request that you do not apply. Late arrivals/early departures affect the other schools attending as well as our volunteers.***

4. Both the students and teachers receive educational materials, a goody bag and lunch by attending Wood Magic. It is fun and exciting! However, it is an educational event, with the teachers having the responsibility of administering a pre-test and post-test assessment, and conducting activities to prepare the students for the fair. The grants that we receive to conduct this event require the cooperation of the teachers, principals, and staff to make it successful. These grants are what allow us to offer this program **FREE OF CHARGE** to South Carolina's fourth-grade students.

If you and your class would like to attend the Wood Magic Forest Fair, we guarantee that you will enjoy an exciting and fun-filled day learning about South Carolina's natural resources and the importance of forests in our daily lives. We hope you can come! To apply to attend the Wood Magic Forest Fair, please email or mail your completed application form to:

woodmagic@scfc.gov

—OR—

SC Forestry Commission
Wood Magic Forest Fair
PO Box 21707
Columbia, SC 29221

# 2026 WOOD MAGIC FOREST FAIR
## APPLICATION FORM

(for office use only)

Please mail your application form to the **SC Forestry Commission, Attn: Wood Magic Coordinator, PO Box 21707, Columbia, SC 29221** or scan and email it to **woodmagic@scfc.gov.**

**Registration is first-come, first-served as space permits.**

*Please print clearly or type:*

### SCHOOL INFORMATION

School Name _____

School Mailing Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

School Phone (_____) _____-_____

Estimated # of Classes Attending 2026 Wood Magic Forest Fair = _____

Estimated # Students: Total _____ Per Class _____

### LEAD TEACHER INFORMATION

Please select a **Lead Teacher** for your school's 4th grade. This teacher will be responsible for all arrangements, correspondence, and distributions. Include a summer phone number for coordinator scheduling questions.

Lead Teacher Name _____

School E-Mail _____ Summer E-mail _____

Classroom Phone (_____) _____-_____ Summer Phone (_____) _____-_____

**Preferences for attending Fair:** Please understand that we will try to schedule you as close as possible to your requested day and time. Also note that **you need to arrive at least 15 minutes prior to your scheduled time**. Please discuss travel times with your principal and request time slots that are appropriate for your locale that do not conflict with next year's school calendar. **The Wood Magic Forest Fair is a tightly scheduled series of events, so if you cannot attend the <u>entire 3.5-hour</u> event on time, please do not submit an application.**

**Label 1st, 2nd, and 3rd day choice for <u>each</u> location your school can attend:**

Piedmont Forestry Center (Tamassee): ____Tuesday ____Wednesday ____Thursday ____Friday

Harbison State Forest (Columbia): ____ Monday ____ Tuesday ____Wednesday ____ Thursday ____ Friday

Hobcaw Barony Discover Center (Georgetown): ____ Tuesday ____ Wednesday ____ Thursday ____ Friday

**Label 1st, 2nd, & 3rd choice times (keep in mind schools should arrive 15 minutes prior to their start time):**

_____ 9:00-12:30 _____ 9:30-1:00 (Hobcaw only) _____ 10:00-1:30

Is there a certain day, start time, or location that is very impractical for your class to attend? _____

_____

Anything else you think we need to know: _____