



THE REGISTERED FORESTER

Summer 2024

WELCOME NEW BOARD MEMBER

Governor Kay Ivey appoints Michael Delaney to the State Board of Registration for Foresters In April of 2024.

Michael Ross Delaney has a deep-rooted passion for the outdoors, cultivated through a Bachelor of Science in Forestry from Auburn University and a lifetime spent in the outdoors. His love for forestry and business administration led him to become a Registered Forester in Alabama and a Certified Commercial Investment Member (CCIM), allowing him to excel in Timberland management and commercial real estate development and management.

As a Partner at Delaney Property Group, LLC, Michael spearheads projects in 17 states, focusing on single and multi-tenant retail development, as well as residential development. His role as Vice President and Principal at Delaney Development, Inc. involves timberland management, land acquisition, and real estate sales, showcasing his expertise in various facets of the industry.

Michael's dedication extends beyond his professional endeavors. He is actively involved in numerous organizations, including the Alabama Wildlife Federation and the Forest PAC, where he serves on the Board of Directors. His commitment to the environment and sustainable practices is evident in his work with the Forest PAC Board and the Alabama Forest Land Trust where he serves as the Vice President. He also currently serves on the South Alabama Advisory Board for Oakworth Capital Bank.

Outside of work, Michael enjoys hunting, fishing, and golfing, finding solace and inspiration in nature. He is a devoted family man, married to Janet G. Delaney, and is a proud father to Michael Ross Delaney, Jr., James Randall Delaney, and Anna Gray Delaney.

Through his work and personal interests, Michael exemplifies a universal approach to life, blending his love for the outdoors with his professional expertise to create a meaningful impact in both the real estate industry and the forestry community.



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STATE BOARD OF REGISTRATION FOR FORESTERS

Alan P. Bruce, R.F.
Chair

*Forest Forever Committee
Public Information Committee
Examination Committee
Examination Sub-Committee*

Dana M. Stone, R.F.
Vice-Chair

Violations Committee

Ashley P. Smith, R.F.
Secretary

Stephen W. Herrington, R.F.
Member

*Finance & Administration Committee
Continuing Education Committee*

Michael R. Delaney, R.F.
Member

Staff

Lea Anna Meadows, Executive Director
Olivia Martin, Assistant Attorney General
Chris Howell, Assistant Attorney General

**Alabama State Board of
Registration for Foresters**
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Montgomery, Alabama 36130-4500
Ph. (334) 240-9301
LeaAnna.Meadows@asbrf.alabama.gov
www.asbrf.alabama.gov*

Hours of Operation

Monday – Friday
9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

*Due to building security,
please call for an appointment.*

2025 License Renewals

All registered forester licenses are due to expire on September 30, 2024, unless renewed by that time. Renewal notices for the 2025 renewal period will be mailed by the Board's office on or before July 1, 2024. The renewal fee is \$150.00 for all licensees. Those who renew their licenses between October 1 and December 31 must pay \$250.00 (renewal fee+ \$100.00 late fee). The on-line renewal application and printable form will be made available at <http://asbrf.alabama.gov/forms/> on-line renewal beginning July 1. If you do not have access to the Internet, please call the Board's office at (334) 240-9301 to request a copy of the renewal form.

Important: Please do not attempt to renew any license prior to July 1.

When renewing online, you will have the opportunity to print your RF pocket card.

Those whose licenses have expired for non-renewal are prohibited from identifying themselves as registered foresters and practicing professional forestry. The Board will revoke the license of any licensee who fails to renew annually by December 31.

Board Fees for FY 2025

Application Fee	\$60.00
Reinstatement Application Fee (Paid in addition to the applicable renewal fee)	\$150.00
Reciprocity Application Fees (Initial Application)	Same as charged for Alabama Applicants in the reciprocal state
Re-Examination Fee	\$100.00
Renewal Fees	
All Licensees	\$150.00
Late Penalty (Paid in addition to the applicable renewal fee)	\$100.00
License Replacement Fee (Certificate)	\$50.00
Printed Roster	\$10.00
Registered Forester Window Decal (Auto)	\$1.00
Registered Forester Cap	\$18(+S/H)
Registered Forester Cap W/RF NO.	\$23(+S/H)
Returned Check Fee	\$30.00

Registered Foresters caps are available for purchase. There will be an additional \$5.00 charge for adding initials and RF number.

PROCESS FOR BOARD MEMBER NOMINATIONS

Each year three qualified nominees that agree to serve on the Alabama State Board of Registration for Foresters (ASBRF) are presented to the Governor. The Governor reviews and appoints one of the candidates to serve a five-year term on the Board.

The traditional source of Board nominee candidates came from the Alabama Division of the Society of American Foresters (Alabama SAF). The Society of American Foresters (SAF) was established in 1900 as the national society advancing forestry and the profession. SAF developed professional standards and ethical constructs for foresters to provide credibility for forestry concepts and practices. Alabama laws required that the AL SAF provide the 3 Board member candidates from its membership.

AL SAF is a logical professional source of Board appointees, but membership and participation has declined over recent years. Providing a diversity of nominee candidates annually has become more constrained with some uncertainty for future candidate prospects. As such, two new laws were recently passed. First, a Board member nominee candidate no longer is required to be an AL SAF member. Second, in addition to AL SAF submitting nominee candidates for the Board, other forestry organizations meeting certain criteria may nominate candidates.

The criteria for a forestry organization to nominate candidates includes forestry organizations that have Alabama Registered Foresters, that promote the practice of professional forestry and support Registered Foresters as qualified practitioners under the laws of Alabama. Alabama Registered Foresters are considered a forestry organization meeting the criteria, allowing any Registered forester to nominate a qualified candidate nominee.

Since there may be more than three nominee candidates, an independent nomination selection committee will review and select the three nominees to send to the Governor.

Candidates must agree to be submitted to the Nomination Selection Committee for consideration as a potential nominee (one of three) that may be submitted to the Governor for selection and appointment as a new Board Member. The Nominees and Candidates not selected by the Governor will remain as nominee candidates available to be submitted to the Governor should an unexpected Board Member vacancy occur during a normal member term.

Candidates should understand that Board Members have certain responsibilities and duties. Candidates should seek to understand what their commitments will be as a ASBRF Board Member. Some, but not all, of the requirements of a Board Member include taking an oath of office to uphold and defend the laws and constitution of the State of Alabama, submit personal and family financial information in compliance with the Alabama Ethics Commission, attend quarterly scheduled Board Meetings in Montgomery, attend legislative meetings as requested, proctor and administer testing, review and approve licensing of applicants, continuing education approval, address violations, promulgate rules and regulations, oversee board finance and administration, facilitate nomination process of new Board Members and other board business as needed.

Candidate nominee qualifications include being a US Citizen, having a residence in Alabama, being an Alabama Registered Forester, and having been engaged in the practice of professional forestry for at least 10 years. Candidates will need to provide some personal and practice diversity information for the selection committee to consider. A letter of introduction by the candidate explaining his or her desire to serve on the Board along with a biography will need to be provided at the time of submittal of a nominee candidate. As an additional option, the person and/or organization may also submit a letter of recommendation for the nominee candidate.

The Board Member Nomination Candidate Form is located via the web link: <https://asbrf.alabama.gov/pdfs/2021/BoardMemberCandidate-FormFillable.pdf>. Or if on the Home page of the ASBRF website, select forms in header section, and other forms in drop down box and then select Board Member Nomination Form from the list of forms.

The form is a fillable PDF document that can be filled out, saved, and printed as needed for a nomination candidate. The form along with the candidate's letter and biography can be scanned and returned to the Board office by email to Lea Anna Meadows: LeaAnna.Meadows@asbrf.alabama.gov or by US Mail: Alabama State Board of Registration for Foresters, PO Box 304500, Montgomery, AL 36130-4500. If you need Lea Anna to send you a hard copy, please call her at 334-240-9301 or mail her at the address above.

Nomination of Board member candidates are due August 31, 2024. Please advise Lea Anna by phone if you send candidate documents by US Mail to ensure that the documents are received.



Congratulations to Paul Gilliland on recently taking and passing the oral Registered Forester examination! Know someone who has put off taking the RF exam? Remind friends and co-workers who qualify to take advantage of the verbal assessment. Contact Lea Anna Meadows for more info!



The Board administered the Registered Foresters exam to twenty-five AUCFWE seniors on April 26, 2024.

My Journey to Become a REGISTERED FORESTER

Bradley Dunham AL RF# 2469

Forestry Management Specialist | Coosa County | Alabama Forestry Commission

My journey to become a registered forester in the state of Alabama truly began on March 16th, 2015, the day I transferred from the Alabama Department of Environmental Management (ADEM) to the Alabama Forestry Commission (AFC). I graduated from Auburn University with a bachelor's degree in wildlife science in December of 2003. After almost a year of job searching, I was offered a position as a biologist aide with ADEM in September of 2004. I accepted the position and began my career with the State of Alabama. I worked for the next 11 years in Montgomery as Biologist Aide, Pollution Control Specialist, and finally an Environmental Scientist.

Following the retirement of Blake Kelley, a long time forester and work unit manager in Coosa County, I was asked if I would be interested in a Biologist position with the Alabama Forestry Commission. Having an opportunity to come back home and assist landowners in managing their forests was something that I couldn't wait to do! I was interviewed and offered the position, which I gladly accepted. I was told during my interview that I would be a Biologist as long as I worked for the AFC, since only registered foresters were promoted into management positions. And so the journey continues...

I had been working with the commission for approximately three years when I was approached by State Forester Rick Oates one morning at Flagg Mountain. When Mr. Oates pulled up and said he needed to talk to me about something, initially I was terrified. I didn't even know Rick knew my name... Little did I know, he was about to answer one of my prayers. That day he asked me what he could do to make me happy and make me want to stay with the AFC. I told him that I would like to have an opportunity to earn a promotion one of these days. Again, I was told that only registered foresters were promoted at the AFC. Rick then asked if I would consider returning to Auburn to obtain a degree in forestry. I immediately got those good ole goosebumps, knowing now that this was God's will for me.

Folks, my journey to RF had just hit overdrive! Honestly, I was a little apprehensive at first about returning to college almost 20 years after graduating the first time around. Could I still do it? Am I too old for all of this? But, after praying about it and talking to my family I decided to face the challenge head on! I applied to the Auburn University graduate school and was accepted soon afterwards. Over the next two years, I juggled work, school, and family while pursuing my master's degree in Natural Resource Management. Along the way, I was given the nickname of "Mr. Brad" from my classmates, I still smile every time I think of them! They made me feel like one of the gang from day one!! With God's help and a lot of hard work I maintained a 4.0 GPA in graduate school and graduated in May 2022. During this time, I also tested for and passed the Alabama Registered Foresters

Exam. Yes, the six hour, all day of writing, Alabama RF Exam... You see, what God has planned for you cannot be stopped and what isn't His will can't be forced.

Finally, lets fast forward to May 2024. After gaining two years of post-graduation work experience, I received an email from Mrs. Lea Anna Meadows stating that my application to become a registered forester had been approved!! Finally, after nearly five years, my journey to RF is complete!! I can't wait to see where God leads me here at the AFC, I truly feel that He continues to answer my mother's prayers over me. She has always prayed Numbers 6:24-26 The Lord bless you and keep you; the Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you; the Lord turn his face toward you and give you peace. AMEN



Special thanks to Bradley Dunham for sharing his account of becoming an Alabama Registered Forester.

For the first time during my 10-year tenure as ASBRF executive director, we exceeded 1000 Registered Foresters with Bradley being #1000! Congratulations to ALL of our new Foresters!

If you would like to share your story in a future newsletter of how you became a RF, please email me at leaanna.meadows@asbrf.alabama.gov.

Thank you, Lea Anna

Alabama Board of Registration for Foresters
513 Madison Avenue
Montgomery, AL 36130-4500

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U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
NO. 109
MONTGOMERY, AL

ROSTER UPDATE

You may view your current contact information on the online roster at <http://asbrf.alabama.gov/>. To submit changes, submit the online Change of Address form at <https://www.asbrf.alabama.gov/> or email updates to;
LeaAnna.Meadows@asbrf.alabama.gov.

Change of Address Form

Full Name _____ License Number: _____

Title: _____

Company: _____

Business Address: _____

Business City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____ County _____

Business Phone: _____ Business Fax: _____

Business E-mail: _____

Home Address: _____

Home City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____ County _____

Home Phone: _____ Home Fax: _____

Home E-mail: _____