



Using the forest as a classroom

Henry County Hardwoods owner John Neese (left) leads West Tennessee educators on a tour of his operations as part of a three-day Forestry Conservation Workshop hosted by the Tennessee National Wildlife Refuge in partnership with the Tennessee Forestry Association. The workshop, which ended Saturday, used the forests as a classroom to teach forestry, wildlife and environmental education. Activities were led by professors, including David Mercker of the University of Tennessee Institute of Agriculture; Cindi Smith-Walters, who recently retired as the director of the Center for Environmental Education at Middle Tennessee State University; and Dave Walters, a retired forester and educator from the Tennessee Division of Forestry. The workshop also included a tour of Middleton Lumber Company, sessions on wildlife by refuge staff and aquatic education by the Tennessee Valley Authority. The workshops were funded by a grant from National Project Learning Tree and the Tennessee Sustainable Forestry Initiative committee

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