

## Mary Weaver

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**From:** Farrell, Robert <rob.farrell@dof.virginia.gov> on behalf of Farrell, Robert  
**Sent:** Tuesday, November 2, 2021 10:52 AM  
**To:** DOF-ALL EMPLOYEES  
**Subject:** The Branch  
**Attachments:** 2021-11-01 Branch.pdf

Good morning everyone,

I hope that you are taking advantage of today's Election Day holiday to engage in the democratic process and vote. Less than half of Virginia's eligible voters participate in these Governor-election years. The good news is - that means half of Virginia has to refrain from complaining about the state government for four years because they didn't care enough to help choose who runs it. I can dream at least.

Aside from the election, there is a lot going on this week. I hope that many of you will tune in tomorrow morning for the Hardwood Forest Habitats Initiative webinar. This will also serve as a test run to see how these webinars function for sharing information with the agency. Maybe we will offer something like this every couple of months.

On Thursday morning we will join Joe Schaefer's family to remember our coworker and celebrate his life. Thursday afternoon we will be joined by Governor Northam and Secretary Ring to celebrate the creation of Charlotte State Forest, our 26th state forest. From there, I will go to Farmville for the Governor's Rural Prosperity Summit which is happening Thursday and Friday. And VDOF will accomplish lots of other great stuff around the state, as demonstrated in this week's Branch which includes lots of great stuff that you did two weeks ago.

Thanks for making it all happen. Have a good week.

Rob Farrell

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