

Northwest Arkansas Forest & Drinking Water Workshop: Final Report – November, 2016



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Mr. John Pennington of the Beaver Watershed Alliance circulated a “Final Report” from a prior Northwest Arkansas Forest & Drinking Water Workshop (“Workshop”).

The Workshop was held on September 16th.

The Final Report notes that:

... leaders and stakeholders from Arkansas state agencies in Northwest Arkansas’ forestry, drinking water and conservation communities (attachment “A”) convened in Russellville, Arkansas for a Northwest Arkansas Forest and Drinking Water Workshop. The purpose of the Workshop was to explore the connections between forests and drinking water, and to brainstorm specific ways to collaborate Northwest Arkansas watersheds to continue to sustain these two very important interdependent resources.

The Workshop’s primary goals and objectives are described in the Final Report as:

- Stimulate and accelerate community-based watershed protection to benefit both forests and drinking water;
- Give participants clear, actionable steps to improve water quality through forest land protection;
- Provide regional examples of successful watershed protection efforts, tools, and messages;
- Provide information about available watershed protection funding;
- Discuss how to move forward collaboratively with at least one on-the-ground project to enhance forest and drinking water protection.

The Final report provides a detailed discussion of:

- Background and history;
- Workshop overview;
- Morning group discussion points;
- Mulberry River Watershed breakout group discussion;
- Lee Creek Ford/Frog Bayou Watershed Regional watersheds (Beaver Lake, Illinois River, Little Sugar Creek, Kings River) breakout group discussion;
- Beaver Lake Watershed breakout group discussion;
- Russellville Ford/Waldrone/Conway Ford/Mulberry Watershed breakout group discussion.

A list of participants and the Workshop Agenda is included in the Final Report.

[Copies of the Final Report can be downloaded here.](#)

