

GEORGIA FORESTRY  
COMMISSION



# News Release

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## **COMMENTS SOUGHT FOR CARBON REGISTRY**

Comments from the public are being sought by the Georgia Forestry Commission on a plan designed to help protect Georgia's environment through a new Carbon Registry. By logging onto the GFC website at [www.gatrees.org](http://www.gatrees.org), visitors can read the Carbon Sequestration Registry protocol, which was written by GFC foresters and University of Georgia forest researchers after obtaining input from a wide variety of Forestry Industry partners.

"The Georgia Legislature authorized the development of a Carbon Registry in 2004," said Nathan McClure Forest Energy and Development Director for the Georgia Forestry Commission. "The Registry plan we've developed describes the standards for project eligibility, registering projects, processes and procedures. It also describes the accepted methods for calculating carbon sequestered in projects." McClure said similar systems have been developed in California, Maine, Oregon and other parts of the world. Its implementation in Georgia could allow the carbon sequestration services of Georgia forestland to be traded to emission-dependent companies.

Georgia's proposed Carbon Sequestration Registry quantifies services provided by growing forests, which remove carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>), a byproduct of burning fossil fuels, from the air. Trees store the carbon in wood fiber, and release oxygen. When trees capture and store carbon in forest vegetation, soil and forest products, it is called "Carbon Sequestration." Carbon Sequestration is also considered an emerging market opportunity for southern forest owners as they seek reasonable returns for the nature services they provide.

The proposed protocol for Georgia's Carbon Sequestration Registry will be posted on the GFC website, [www.gatrees.org](http://www.gatrees.org), from January 10 - February 15, 2007.

"We look forward to receiving the input of Georgians on this important plan," said McClure. "A thoroughly executed plan will encourage forest growth, help landowners realize increased income, and be instrumental in protecting Georgia's environment."

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