



News Release

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NEW MEMBER NAMED TO GEORGIA FORESTRY COMMISSION BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Georgia Governor Sonny Perdue has appointed Charles "Chuck" E. Williams to serve on the Georgia Forestry Commission's Board of Directors. Williams is president and chief executive officer of North Georgia Bank in Watkinsville, and is a forest landowner who brings great experience and passion to his new position.

"For many years I have been a customer of the Georgia Forestry Commission," said Williams, who lives on acreage that straddles the Greene/Oconee county line. "As this part of north Georgia continues to grow, I hope my perspective as a small, private, non-industrial landowner will be of service to the board and to the people of Georgia." Williams added that he believes his career in commercial banking and fiscal management can assist the GFC as it faces challenges with restricted budgets due to declining state revenues.

"We are delighted that Chuck is coming onboard," said Robert Farris, Director of the Georgia Forestry Commission. "His experience and his leadership skills will be of tremendous value as we fulfill our mission to protect and conserve Georgia's forestry resources."

Williams is a member of the University of Georgia Alumni Association Board of Directors and Finance Committee, the Board of Directors of the Oconee County Rotary Club and is chairman-elect of the Georgia Bankers Association. He is also a member of the Georgia Forestry Association and Forest Stewardship Steering Committee. He was named Tree Farmer of the Year in 2005 and is a member of the Georgia Tree Farm Advisory Committee. Williams is a member of the UGA College of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences Advisory Council, the Clarke-Oconee Cattleman's Association, and the Oconee County 4-H Program Development Team. He earned an associate's degree from Abraham Baldwin Agricultural College and a bachelor's degree from the University of Georgia.

Williams and his wife, Beth, make their home in Watkinsville.

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