



Appalachian Forest

NATIONAL HERITAGE AREA

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Call for Presenters

Appalachian Forest Discovery Summit

September 18, 2025, Snowshoe Mountain Resort

Are you passionate about the Appalachian Forest National Heritage Area (AFNHA), its history, and heritage? Do you have insights, experiences, or research you're eager to share with a dynamic audience? We invite you to submit a proposal to present at the Appalachian Forest Discovery Summit!

The Appalachian Forest Discovery Summit is an annual event that brings together stakeholders who share an interest in the unique natural and cultural resources centered on the highland forests of WV and western Maryland that make our region significant. Our goal is to foster collaboration, share best practices, and inspire new ideas for the continued support and growth of our region.

We are seeking engaging and informative presentations on a variety of topics related to the AFNHA themes of Abundant Forest, Resilient Forest, Crucible of Isolation, and Logging Boom Build the Nation. Detailed information on the [Themes](#) and the [Mission](#) of AFNHA can be found on our website.

Potential topics include, but are not limited to:

- Red Spruce in AFNHA History and Status
- Karst Landscapes and their significance
- Appalachian Highlands Culture
- Forest Farming and Agritourism
- Outdoor Recreation
- Sustainable Tourism in AFNHA
- Indigenous Appalachia
- Accessible tourism

Presentation Formats

We welcome proposals for multiple presentation formats:

- **Keynote Address:** 45-60 minutes – A high-level, inspiring presentation on a broad topic .
- **Concurrent Session:** 60-75 minutes – In-depth presentations on specific topics,

often followed by Q&A.

- **Panel Discussion:** 60-75 minutes – A moderated discussion among 3-4 experts on a timely issue.

Submission Guidelines

To submit a proposal, please prepare the following:

1. **Presentation Title:** A clear and concise title.
2. **Abstract/Summary:** A brief overview of your proposed presentation, outlining its key objectives, content, and expected takeaways for the audience.
3. **Learning Objectives:** List 2-3 measurable learning objectives for attendees.
4. **Target Audience:** Specify who would most benefit from your presentation.
5. **Presenter(s) Bio:** A short biography highlighting your relevant experience and expertise
6. **Previous Presentations:** Samples of other presentations you have given if applicable.
7. **Contact Information:** Contact information for all members of the presentation team including name(s), phone number(s) and email(s)

Important Dates

- **Call for Presenters Opens:** June 6, 2025
- **Submission Deadline:** July 15, 2025
- **Notification of Acceptance:** July 30, 2025
- **Presenter Agreement Deadline:** August 15, 2025
- **Presentation Materials Due:** September 5, 2025

How to Submit

Please submit your proposal through our online portal: [HERE](#)

Why Present at the AF Discovery Summit?

Presenting at the AF Discovery Summit offers a unique opportunity to:

- **Share your expertise** with a dedicated and engaged audience.
- **Network** with peers, leaders, and potential collaborators.
- **Enhance your professional profile** and gain recognition.
- **Receive valuable feedback** on your work.

Presenters will receive a modest Honorarium for your participation and a per diem for related travel and lodging. We will feed you lunch as well!

We look forward to receiving your innovative proposals! If you have any questions, please contact Maria Bray, maria@afnha.org or 304-636-6182.