

# BY-LAWS

## SOUTHERN OHIO FORESTLAND ASSOCIATION

### ARTICLE I - NAME

The name of this Association shall be the Southern Ohio Forestland Association (SOFA)

### ARTICLE II - OBJECTIVES

The objectives of the Association are:

- 1) To encourage through education and demonstration sound management and appreciation of forest, wildlife, soil and water resources.
- 2) To provide education, information and technical assistance in the planning, management, and use of forest resources for economic and recreational purposes.
- 3) In order to promote such purposes, to acquire by gift devise, purchase, lease, or otherwise, such real or personal property as may assist in the promotion of the purposes of the Association and to hold, manage, maintain, display, lease, sell or convey such real or personal property in such a manner and at such time as the Executive Committee of the Association may determine.

### ARTICLE III - MEMBERSHIP AND DUES

- 1) All members have voting privileges.
- 2) Each member will receive evidence of membership.
- 3) Membership can be revoked for failure to pay dues.
- 4) Dues will not be refunded for any reason.
- 5) There will be three categories of membership: individual, family and contributing.
  - a) Individual will consist of one individual and will receive one vote.  
Dues will be \$15.00.

- b) Family membership will include all members of an immediate family and will receive two votes. Dues will be \$25.00.
  - c) Contributing membership will include any partnership, association, institution or corporation in good standing, having an interest in forestry, and will be entitled to one vote. Dues will be \$25.00.
- 6) Members with delinquent dues forfeit voting privileges and receipt of newsletter.

#### ARTICLE IV - EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE & OFFICERS

- 1) The Association will have an Executive Committee consisting of the following officers: Chair, Vice Chair, Secretary, Treasurer, Newsletter Editor, and Webmaster. All officers will be elected by the membership for a one year term and may be elected to additional terms, with the exception of the Vice Chair, who will automatically succeed the Chair after a one year term. All officers must be in good standing of the Association.
- 2) Duties of the Chair shall be to preside at all meetings of the Executive Committee. The Chair shall also preside at member meetings. The Chair will be the Chief Executive Officer of the Organization with authority to carry out all duties that might be assigned by the officers and membership.
- 3) The Vice Chair will assume the duties of the Chair when necessary, and other duties as directed by the Executive Committee. The Vice Chair will succeed the Chair after a one year term.
- 4) The Secretary will have responsibility for keeping the records of the Association, recording minutes of the meeting of the Association, posting the meeting minutes to the Newsletter Editor in a timely fashion, and performing other such correspondence duties as may be prescribed by the Association.
- 5) The Treasurer will act as custodian of the funds of the Association and provide supervision over the financial affairs of the Association, The Treasurer will provide regular financial reports to the Chair, provide for financial audits as needed, and report to the Association at the Annual

meeting and at any other time requested by the Executive Committee.  
Treasurer will sign all checks and keep membership rolls.

- 6) The Newsletter Editor's responsibilities will be to publish and post a newsletter, soliciting articles from the membership and reports from officers.
- 7) The Webmaster is responsible for maintaining the Association's web site and posting calendar entries and newsletters.

#### ARTICLE V - CONFLICT OF INTEREST

- 1) Conflict of interest is defined as the circumstances of a public office holder, business executive, or the like, whose personal interest might benefit from his or her official actions or influence.
- 2) No person employed by the Association shall be elected to a position on the Executive Committee during the time of their employment with the Association.
- 3) Any Executive Committee Member having a conflict of interest must declare it and refrain from discussing or voting on any relevant issues. Failure to do so will constitute grounds for removal from the Executive Committee.

#### ARTICLE VI - ELECTIONS

- 1) The Executive Committee, on or before October 1st of each year shall convene to explore interest and willingness, and nominate one candidate for each office.
- 2) At the Annual Meeting, the Chair shall solicit additional candidates from the members present, adding the names of any volunteered to the slate of officers for vote by members present. Voting will be by secret ballot, and candidates will be elected by a majority of members in attendance. At the discretion of the membership, a voice vote may be substituted.

#### ARTICLE VII - ANNUAL MEETING

The Annual Meeting will be held at the December year-end party.

## ARTICLE VIII - AMENDMENTS

The Bylaws may be amended at a properly called meeting of the membership. Fifty percent (50%) of the members present and voting at such a meeting will be required for approval. Notice of any proposed amendment will be provided in the newsletter no less than 15 days prior to the date of meeting or presented at the previous membership meeting.

ByLaws amended by Membership at regularly held meeting, April 13, 2017