



# National Fire Plan

## Project Learning Tree Get “Fired-Up” Statewide Virginia 2003



With the assistance of National Fire Plan funding, the Virginia Department of Forestry (VADOF), Project Learning Tree (PLT), and the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) have collaborated in an effort to raise the level of fire awareness among educators all across Virginia.

Because many of the conflicts that arise when fire is discussed come from a lack of understanding of the benefits and dangers of fire, it has been very difficult for people to differentiate between the two without a basic knowledge of fire.

They also feel they have no options or control over such a primeval force.

BLM and PLT have partnered to provide this information through fire-focused educator workshops using the “Burning Issues” CD and several fire activities found in the PLT modules. In addition to these PLT fire workshops, partners agreed that educators should be exposed to at least one fire activity at every PTL Facilitator training in Virginia. An additional feature of this collaborative effort will expose all new VADOF employees to a basic two-hour session about the Project Learning Tree program.

This effort will have multiple benefits, including an increased level of awareness by educators of the complete fire picture in Virginia and the value of programs such as Project Learning Tree as teaching resources.



*On a field trip to Virginia Tech’s Fishburn Forest, PLT facilitators compare an unburned and an prescribed burned area, collected data and discussed burn benefits and results.*



*During Computer Lab simulation facilitators work through the Burning Issues CD and take an eco-venture of their own.*