

The Mountaineer

A NEW EXPERIENCE IN LOCAL NEWS

HCC receives gift of local teaching forest

18 October 2019



Haywood Community College recently held an acceptance ceremony for the Joe and Sue Morrow Teaching Forest.

This forest will be used as an outdoor laboratory for students in the college's natural resources programs and will provide invaluable hands-on learning experience throughout its more than 50 acres.

Second-year students may begin utilizing this teaching forest as early as spring semester. Haywood County Soil & Water Conservation holds the conservation easement on this property.

"It is wonderful that Joe and Sue Morrow will leave behind such a legacy through this gift," said HCC President Dr. Barbara Parker "The forest will significantly impact our students and the community forever. We sincerely thank them."

The Morrows are both retired educators and are engaged in the community. Joe worked as a teacher, coach, assistant principal, principal and assistant

superintendent. In addition, he worked for the NC Community College System. Sue worked at the elementary and middle school levels.

HCC forest management technology instructor Kesi Stoneking Goure said every class in the natural resources programs will benefit from the Joe and Sue Morrow Teaching Forest.

“The proximity of this property to the school is really beneficial,” Goure said. “I am looking forward to getting students out there. It will be really interesting to study this forest as it grows.”

HCC fish and wildlife lead instructor Shannon Rabby echoes the sentiment.

“There are many ways we plan to use this forest, from ornithology class to planting native grasses to having students get hands-on practice developing a wildlife management plan,” Rabby said. “We are very grateful.”

Source:https://www.themountaineer.com/news/hcc-receives-gift-of-local-teaching-forest/article_38df55b2-ef55-11e9-ba4d-8bfc147eb85a.html