  

**2018 USDA - AFRI - White Pine Health in Eastern Timberlands or WHIET Workshop**

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**2018 USDA - NIFA - Multistate White Pine Health Meeting**

*Please note specific deadlines below*

**Workshop Goal:**The goal of the meeting is to form a cohesive team of personnel from diverse backgrounds, fields, agencies, and regions who are directly involved in studying and managing various aspects of abiotic and biotic stressors affecting eastern white pine (*Pinus strobus*) resilience and integrity.  We want to synthesize current state-of the-art knowledge about the eastern white pine health in addition to research and extension directions for prevention, protection, and amelioration of these forest health issues. The workshop will include multiple presentations from various regions, a field-trip to northern Georgia, and hands-on training related to current insects and pathogens on eastern white pine.

**Products:** The workshop will develop teams whose goals may include proceedings, peer-reviewed, and extension publications, training modules related to the scale insect and canker-types, and new research and extension projects for submission to several funding agencies.

**Participants:** Any state, federal, university or private personnel interested in health issues related to eastern white pine in North America.

**Call for Presentations:** We strongly encourage interested speakers to submit the attached form with a title, list of co-authors, and an abstract to Kamal Gandhi (kjgandhi@uga.edu) by 12th January 2018.

**Dates:**  6-9th February 2018 with arrival by mid-afternoon of 6th (Tuesday) and leaving in the late afternoon on the 9th (Friday).

**Location:** The workshop will be held at Flinchum’s Phoenix at the Whitehall Forest, Athens, Georgia.   See the attached map for directions to Whitehall Forest. Folks from out-of-state will need to fly to Hartsfield-Jackson Atlanta Airport (ATL). Shuttles are available from the Atlanta airport to Athens, and you will need to book a space (Groome Shuttle - <https://groometransportation.com/athens/>).

**Hotel:**  We have rooms reserved at Hotel Indigo. You can call the hotel reservations directly at 1-866-808-1483 and reference the **White Pine Working Group (block code WPH)** to get $109/night. Or use this link: [Hotel Indigo Athens - White Pine Working Group](https://www.hotelindigo.com/redirect?path=hd&brandCode=IN&localeCode=en&regionCode=1&hotelCode=AHNIN&_PMID=99801505&GPC=WPH&viewfullsite=true) (click "book now" and enter requested dates between check-in 2/6/18 to check-out 2/9/18). The group block and discounted rate will be available until 17th January 2018.

In the event that rooms are unavailable at Hotel Indigo, we also recommend:

* Hilton Garden Inn Athens Downtown: 350 E. Washington St, Athens (706-353-6800).
* Holiday Inn Athens-University Area: 197 East Broad St, Athens (1-888-465-4329).

**Attendee Form & Payment:** Please send the attached attendee form and payment to Brittany Barnes (barnes@uga.edu) by 17th January 2018. We are requesting $100/person to cover miscellaneous costs related to the meeting.

Make checks payable to “University of Georgia – Warnell School”, and send the payment to:

Brittany Barnes

Warnell School of Forestry and Natural Resources

180 E. Green Street

University of Georgia

Athens, Georgia 30602

**Any Questions:** Contact Principal Investigators - Kamal Gandhi (kjgandhi@uga.edu) and William Livingston (Williaml@maine.edu).

  

**ATTENDEE FORM**

**Send to barnes@uga.edu**

**(Deadline 17th JANUARY 2018)**

**NAME:**

**AFFILIATION:**

**MAILING ADDRESS:**

**EMAIL ADDRESS:**

**PHONE #:**

**ANY FOOD RESTRICTIONS:**

**ANY SPECIAL ACCOMODATIONS:**

**LOCAL TRAVEL ARRANGEMENTS:**

Hotel Name –

Are you renting a car? – YES ☐ NO ☐

Do you need a ride to Whitehall Forest in Athens – YES ☐ NO ☐

**COMMENTS:**

  

**PRESENTATION FORM**

**Send to kjgandhi@uga.edu**

**(Deadline 12th JANUARY 2018)**

**PRESENTATION TITLE:**

**CO-AUTHORS & THEIR AFFILIATIONS:**

**ABSTRACT (250 words maximum):**