



2024

Basic Grazing School

Hosted by

Virginia Forage and Grassland Council
Virginia Cooperative Extension
Natural Resources Conservation Service

in partnership with

Rapidan River Ranch



***Sign-up now for this intensive,
2-day grazing school.***

**Class size is limited, with priority given
to the first 25 producers to register!**

May 14 & 15, 2024

Rapidan River Ranch
3374 Graves Mill Rd.
Madison, VA



Place
Stamp
Here

Participant Profile - Complete and Return with Registration

Name: _____ Farm Name: _____ Locality and State: _____

How many years have you been farming? _____ How much pastureland _____ (ac.) and hayland _____ (ac.) do you manage?

How much of the following types of livestock do you manage?
Brood cows _____ Stockers/Yearlings _____ Bulls _____ Replacement Heifers _____ Sheep _____ Goats _____
Horses _____ Other _____

Describe your current grazing management (Circle One) 1. Continuous Grazing 2. Rotational Grazing 3. Management Intensive Grazing

What markets do you typically target to sell your livestock/ products (Circle all that apply)
Traditional livestock market 2. Co-mingled graded auction sales 3. Wholesale 4. Direct retail on-farm store
5. Retail farmers markets

MEETING LOCATION

**Rapidan River Ranch, Madison VA
3374 Graves Mill Rd.,
Madison, VA 22727**

*Located roughly 3.4 miles north of
Wolfstown on Rt. 662 (Graves Mill Rd)*



CHESAPEAKE BAY FOUNDATION
Saving a National Treasure



United States
Department of
Agriculture

Natural Resources Conservation Service



Virginia Tech • Virginia State University



*Virginia Cooperative Extension programs and employment
are open to all, regardless of age, color, disability, gender,
gender identity, gender expression, national origin,
political affiliation, race, religion, sexual orientation,
genetic information, veteran status, or any other basis
protected by law.*

*If you are a person with a disability and desire any
assistive devices, services or other accommodations to
participate in this activity, please contact Matt Booher 540
-325-7503 during business hours of 7:30 a.m. and 4:00
p.m. to discuss accommodations 5 days prior to the event.*

2024 VFGC Grazing School

What will I need to bring to the school?

Clothing/gear/footwear for all types of weather. Much of the school will be outside, rain or shine! Any available aerial and soils maps, soil analyses, and herd or flock information for your farm.

Do I need to make plans for meals and lodging?

We start at 8 am each morning. Morning snacks and lunches will be provided for both days, but breakfast is on your own. Dinner will be provided on day 1, and we finish around 4 pm on day 2 so you can grab dinner on your way home. There are some Airbnb options near the farm. The *Wolfstown Farmette Guest House* and the *Old Rose Tavern B&B* are in nearby Wolfstown (5 min away). *Madison Vines Cottages* is in Madison (10 min away).

What approach or method of grazing does this school teach?

We partner with experts from Virginia Cooperative Extension/Virginia Tech, the Natural Resources Conservation Service, partner organizations, and experienced producers to provide instruction for this school. Our focus is on teaching the fundamentals of plant growth and grazing management, soils management, and flexible grazing system design to enable you to adapt to your specific farm and grazing style. Additionally, we teach the integration of soil, water, and wildlife conservation as an important component of the grazing system.



Program Registration

No refunds for cancellation after May 6

Name _____

Name _____

Address _____

City State Zip

County _____

Daytime Phone _____

Email _____

\$150.00 registration per attendee

*Registration includes
2 lunches, 1 dinner, & course materials
Plus a free 1-year VFGC membership*

Make Check Payable to:
VFGC

Mail Check and Registration to:

2024 Grazing School
Margaret Kenny
3599 Indian Oak Road
Crewe, VA 23930

OR
Register Online
at
vaforges.org/events



Designed with beginning and experienced producers in mind, this 2-day, intensive course will teach you everything you need to know to better manage grazing on your farm.

- Basic pasture and forage management
- Soil fertility & nutrient management
- Fundamentals of grazing management
- Designing a rotational grazing system
- Installing and using electric fencing
- Strategies to extend the grazing season
- Matching forage quality & animal needs
- Economics of grazing
- Herd/flock health
- Animal handling

You will have hands-on opportunities in the field to work with temporary fencing, identify forage and weed species, evaluate pasture, and learn the critical points of designing an animal handling facility.

Finally, put it all together for your farm: the last day of the school features a workshop where you can sit down with our instructors to begin developing a custom grazing plan.



Questions about the school?

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