Ph.D. Assistantship in
Phosphorus Dynamics of Planted Pine Forests
at Virginia Tech

We are recruiting a Ph.D. student to focus on the abiotic controls on phosphorus retention and bioavailability across a regionwide suite of planted loblolly pine forests in the southeastern US. The student will join a team of scientists from NC State and Virginia Tech that are broadly seeking to understand the relative importance and interaction of biotic and abiotic process that contribute to the long-term phosphorus availability that sustains productivity across the region.

The incoming student will be co-advised by Brian Strahm (brian.strahm@vt.edu) and David Carter (davidcarter@vt.edu) in the Department of Forest Resources and Environmental Conservation. The student will also have an opportunity to work closely with the Forest Productivity Cooperative, an international partnership of scientists and land managers committed to enhancing forest productivity through sustainable management. In addition, the student may also be considered for the Virginia Tech campus-wide Interfaces of Global Change interdisciplinary graduate education program after their first year in residence.

Successful candidates will be located on the main campus in Blacksburg, VA and are expected to begin in summer/fall 2022. Assistantships include: an annual stipend of ~$25,000-27,000 (based on 20 hours/week); a tuition waiver (worth ~$14,000); and a subsidy (presently 88%) of the university’s student medical insurance plan.

Interested students should contact us with a statement of interest, a CV, and contact information for three references.

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Brian D. Strahm
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