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For Immediate Release

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**FIND Outdoors Announces Reopening of The Cradle of Forestry,
in Pisgah National Forest**

March 28, 2025 – Pisgah Forest, NC – FIND Outdoors is excited to announce the seasonal reopening of the Cradle of Forestry in Pisgah National Forest on April 5, 2025. This historic site, often referred to as the birthplace of modern forestry in America, continues to serve as a hub for conservation education and outdoor experiences.

“The Cradle of Forestry is more than a destination – it’s a place where history, education, and nature come together,” said Clinton Wickers, Cradle Site Manager. “We’re thrilled to welcome visitors back to experience the legacy of forestry and explore the beauty of Pisgah National Forest.”

Opening day attendees will enjoy complimentary admission and programming throughout the day, including:

- **10:30 AM – 11:30 AM** - Character Meet & Greet
- **11:00 AM** - Book signing and reading with Carolyn Bennett Fraise, the author of "MOON TREE: The Story of One Extraordinary Tree"
- **1:00 PM- 2:00 PM** – Up Close Encounter with Birds of Prey
 - Jeff Curtis presents an exciting falconry demonstration featuring majestic birds of prey. Get up close to these incredible birds and learn about their role in the ecosystem.
- **3:00 PM – 4:00 PM**– Fur, Feathers, and Scales



- The WNC Nature Center brings an exciting educational presentation featuring animals with fur, feathers, and scales. Meet live animals and learn how they adapt to their environments.

Guided tours of the Biltmore Campus Trail and Forest Festival Trail will also be available.

Originally established as part of George W. Vanderbilt's Biltmore Forest School in the late 19th century, the Cradle of Forestry stands as a lasting tribute to the nation's commitment to sustainable forest management. In keeping with that legacy, the Cradle is introducing updated interpretive signage along the Forest Festival Trail later this season. This updated feature will take visitors on an engaging journey through Carl Schenck's forestry practices and how they continue to influence modern forestry today.

Hours

Beginning April 5, the Cradle of Forestry will be open in 7-days a week from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Admission

\$10/adult (13+)

\$5/child (4–12)

\$5/Federal Passholder

Season Passes to the Cradle of Forestry are also available for \$35/individual or \$55/family and include:

- Regular Admission to the Cradle of Forestry during the season
- 15% discount at the Cradle of Forestry Gift Shop
- Half-Off Admission for Special Programs/Events offered throughout the season

For more information, visit: <https://gofindoutdoors.org/sites/cradle-of-forestry/>

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About FIND Outdoors

FIND Outdoors is the Southeast's leading provider of public land access, offering exceptional recreational experiences to inspire people to connect with nature. With well-managed outdoor recreation sites, campgrounds, visitor centers, guided tours, and educational opportunities for all ages and abilities, FIND Outdoors strives to make nature accessible to all. The organization also manages retail outlets that offer forest-related gifts and souvenirs, nature-based activities for children, local crafts, and trail guides. FIND is an over 50 year-old 501(c)(3) tax deductible nonprofit based in Pisgah

Forest, NC serving over one million visitors annually in three states: North Carolina, Georgia, and Kentucky.