**Public Service Announcement:**

**Spring 2018 Georgia Landowner Academy to be held in Fitzgerald**

A six part Georgia Landowner Academy will be held this spring to serve landowners with 10 or more acres. The program will discuss ways to make your land more profitable and sustainable, how to apply for USDA programs, and provide estate planning assistance. It will also address heirs property issues, recordkeeping, forestry, and agricultural business management.

The Academy will be held in historic downtown Fitzgerald in Ben Hill County. The sessions will be held every other Tuesday on the following dates: Feb. 27, Mar. 13, Mar. 27, April 10, April 24, & May 8. Classes will be from 5:30pm to 8:30pm and dinner will be provided.

The Academy is free and applications are welcomed from anyone owning at least 10 acres in Georgia. Interested landowners are requested to submit their application by February 6. Selected applicants will be notified of their acceptance by February 12 and will be provided the specific meeting location at that time. For application information, contact the Georgia Heirs Property Law Center at (706) 424-7557, ext. 6 or by emailing aarnold@gaheirsproperty.org.

The Georgia Landowner Academy is sponsored by Georgia Outreach for Landowner Development (“GOLD”) and its partners, Georgia Heirs Property Law Center, The Golden Triangle RC&D, Fort Valley State University, Georgia Forestry Commission, University of Georgia (“UGA”) Extension Program, UGA D. B. Warnell School of Forestry and Natural Resources, UGA’s Southern Regional Extension Forestry, and the following USDA agencies: Farm Service Agency, Rural Development, National Agricultural Statistics Service, and the Georgia office of Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS). NRCS is currently providing a grant that allows the program to be offered to the community at no charge.