

# GIS means...



## *Saving the forest from fire*

Wildfires are a serious concern to the Virginia Department of Forestry (VDOF). Wildfires destroy an average of 9,000 acres in Virginia each year. People cause about 97 percent of the Virginian wildfires, the majority of which are caused by open fires, arson, and smoking.

VDOF is using geographic information system (GIS) technology and remote sensing to track current wildfires, identify areas susceptible to wildfires, and organize wildfire prevention and control measures. GIS allows VDOF to plan controlled burns, which help prevent the spread of wildfires. VDOF uses the Virginia Forest Resource Information Mapper (ForestrIM) to present GIS data to the public. This Internet-based system allows the user to explore hundreds of characteristics of the Virginia forests. Users can make notes on maps and save them for later.

### **Learn more on this year's GIS Day!**

GIS Day is a grassroots event where local GIS users and vendors join together to show the public how GIS is used in their community every day. GIS Day events include lectures, software demonstrations, map galleries, games, and activities.

## *Join the Celebration!*

### **When**

November 15, 2006 from 10 am to 2 pm

### **Where**

Barker Hall, University of Kentucky

[www.gisday.com](http://www.gisday.com)



Building understanding and collaboration in YOUR community...one GIS Day event at a time