



For Release November 14, 2011

The first EcoEternity® Forest in Georgia

**A “green” alternative to traditional cemetery burials:
Natural interment honors individuals while preserving forests...**

Dahlonega, Georgia, November 14, 2011

Today, EcoEternity LLC and Glisson Camp & Retreat Center will open a natural burial concept called EcoEternity Forest. The Consecration Ceremony for the EcoEternity Forest at Glisson is scheduled for November 14, 2011 at 1:30pm in Dahlonega, GA.

What is an EcoEternity Forest?

An EcoEternity Forest is an alternative burial concept for those who prefer an interment in nature. Memorial trees are chosen as a resting place for the cremated ashes of individuals, families or friends. In contrast to a traditional scattering of ashes, a tree provides a living memorial. It can be visited, shared and photographed. A specific location may be very important for those who want to share remembrances.

Honoring individuals, preserving forests...

A tree interment also preserves natural forests by not sealing the soil with concrete vaults or steel caskets. The concept is a bonding with nature: the decision for a natural burial place in an EcoEternity Forest will actively assist forest conservation and avoid clear cutting or development for an extended time. Selected trees are inventoried and marked by an arboretum tag, allowing quick identification by family members and friends. Also, a memorial plaque may be attached to the tree stating the family name and an epitaph for the tree lessee. This natural gravesite is protected for up to 99 years.
Russell Davis, Glisson Director:



"As Glisson approaches 100 years of ministry, we have become increasingly aware of our deep connection with multiple generations of families. The EcoEternity Forest at Glisson reaffirms our life-long relationships with the families and individuals we serve, and creates an opportunity to be in ministry with new families at a significant point in their lives."

The EcoEternity Forest concept has its roots in Europe...

In 1993, Ueli Sauter founded the first small FriedWald (German term for an EcoEternity Forest) in Switzerland. In 2000, Axel Baudach adapted the original idea to German culture and initiated the first EcoEternity Forest in Germany in 2001. Since then, over 150 similar Forest Burial Grounds have been established, leading to a significant change in German national burial culture. By creating a public-private partnership model, Baudach helped preserve some of Germany's most prestigious natural forests.

Axel Baudach, co-founder EcoEternity Forest LLC:

"First I thought this idea would only apply to Germans because of our close relationship with forests and trees. However, over time I noticed that immigrants like Asians or Americans leased Memorial Trees in our forests. That is when I thought this may be a universal idea for people enjoying outdoor and nature. South Korea and the U.S. are my first ventures in this regard."

News Release
The Concept of EcoEternity® Forest



About EcoEternity LLC, Virginia

In June 2006, Jack Lowe and Axel Baudach founded EcoEternity LLC, adapting the European concept to U.S. culture and laws. EcoEternity partners with forest owners such as municipalities, churches, or private forest owners that plan to preserve their forest property for extended periods. EcoEternity is responsible for the entire administration and the day-to-day contacts with people interested in pre-planning their interments. Since 2007, six Forests have been opened in four states: Pennsylvania, Ohio, Virginia, and North Carolina. The first Forest in Georgia will be consecrated on November 14, 2011 in Dahlonega, GA.

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Consecration Ceremony Details:

November 14, 2011 at 1:30pm
690 Camp Glisson Road
Dahlonega, GA 30533

Bishop Mike Watson of the North Georgia Conference of the United Methodist Church – the largest United Methodist Conference in the country – will be present to consecrate the EcoEternity Forest