

Front Cover — Bottomland areas at the Savannah River Site (SRS) feature an abundance of hardwoods, many of which display brilliant colors during the autumn months. Showing off crimson leaves here in a background of green is a swamp tupelo, or swamp blackgum (*Nyssa sylvatica* variety *biflora*), a common swamp tree found along the Atlantic and Gulf coastal plains from Delaware to Texas, and up the Mississippi River valley to Arkansas and Tennessee. At SRS, the tree often appears in drier areas of the Savannah River Swamp, in the lower reaches of small streams, and in Carolina bays. The swamp tupelo is known primarily as a valuable source of food for wildlife and pollen for honeybees—as well as for its colorful fall foliage. This year's cover photograph was taken by Al Mamatey of the Westinghouse Savannah River Company's Environmental Protection Department. The cover was designed by Eleanor Justice of the company's Management Services Department – Illustrating and Design Group.

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