

Upcoming Classes

Reserve your space!

Classes are free (except for Chainsaw Safety), however reservations are strongly requested: Please call or email the appropriate nature center at least one week before the program you wish to attend. Contact information is listed above the map of each nature center.

August

Introduction to timber harvesting and sales

Learn the steps and timeline involved in conducting a successful timber sale from establishment to selling to harvest. Gain an understanding of what is meant by thinning, selection harvest, group selection harvest, clear cut and shelterwood harvest. Learn what each term means and when each is used.

Maywood: Saturday, August 25, 9:00 to 11:00 a.m.

Presenters: Dan Pubanz, Wolf River Forestry
Tim Beyer, WDNR Forester

Following the indoor program, you may visit an active timber sale.

Brillion: Tuesday, August 28, 6:00 to 8:00 p.m.

Presenters: Dan Pubanz, Wolf River Forestry
Ron Jones, WDNR Forester

Following the indoor program, you may observe an established harvest near the nature center.

Woodland Dunes: Thursday, August 30, 6:00 to 8:00 p.m.

Presenters: Dan Pubanz, Wolf River Forestry
Sue Crowley, WDNR Forester

September

Special Class: Chainsaw safety and operation (fee charged)

Put safety first! This eight-hour course on chainsaw safety and operation will focus on personal protective equipment, chainsaw safety features, open face felling including pre-planning the fell, bore cutting, chainsaw reactive forces and understanding hinge strength. For more information about this class, see the instructor's website: www.ken-lallemont.com

Fee: \$80.

Instructor: certified chainsaw instructor, Ken Lallemont.

Time: 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Saturday, September 22

OR 10:30 a.m. to 7:00 p.m., Sunday, September 23

To Register: Call Woodland Dunes Nature Center
(920) 793-4007

September

Woodland Wildlife Extravaganza

Woodlands can support rich biodiversity. Learn about a broad array of woodland wildlife and how you can enhance habitat.

Habitat for Wisconsin's smallest mammals

Of the 60 species of mammals found in Wisconsin today, 35 are smaller than a grey squirrel. Though small, they play important roles in a healthy woodland. Which ones live on your property? Learn about our elusive small mammals and how to promote a healthy woodland ecosystem.

Presenter: Loren Ayers, WDNR Ecologist

Habitat for woodland reptiles and amphibians

If managed properly, woodlands can provide important habitat for salamanders, frogs, turtles and snakes. Learn about the fascinating lives of these critters, their importance in the ecosystem, and how you can provide habitat. Live reptiles and amphibians will be on hand for an up-close look.

Presenter: Bob Hay, WDNR Herpetologist

Habitat for woodland birds

Enjoy a morning seeing live birds up-close. Learn how to manage your woodland for birds that need the forest floor, shrub layer, canopy, or dead trees.

Presenter: Jim Knickelbine, Director, Woodland Dunes

Maywood

Saturday, September 8

Habitat for Wisconsin's Smallest Mammals: 9:30 to 11:00 a.m.

Habitat for Woodland Reptiles and Amphibians: 1:00 to 2:30 p.m.

Woodland Dunes

Saturday, September 8

Habitat for Woodland Birds: 9:00 to 11:00 a.m.

Habitat for Wisconsin's Smallest Mammals: 1:00 to 2:30 p.m.

Brillion

Saturday, September 8

Habitat for Woodland Reptiles and Amphibians: 9:00 to 10:30 a.m.

Saturday, September 29

Habitat for Woodland Birds: 9:00 to 11:00 a.m.

September & October

Invasive plant hike

Join us for a relaxed hike and learn how to identify and control some of the most prominent invasive plants threatening the health of Wisconsin woodlands. The longer you wait to control invasive plants, the more expensive and time consuming it will be.

Woodland Dunes: Wednesday, September 12, 6:00 to 7:30 p.m.

During the second half of the program you will learn how to effectively and safely control buckthorn and honeysuckle.

Brillion Nature Center: Saturday, October 13, 1:00 to 2:00 p.m.

October: To cut or not to cut: Caring for conifer plantations or bottomland/swamp hardwood forests

People often think that the largest trees are the ones to cut, but this is not always the case; doing so may actually harm a woodland. Learn how to decide which trees should be selected for cutting and why. Learn the benefits of removing some trees as well as the reasons for not cutting others. These workshops will focus on bottomland hardwood, swamp hardwood, and conifer plantations and their individual management strategies.

Maywood: Sunday, October 14, 1:30 to 3:00 p.m.

Forest Type : conifer plantation

Presenter: Tim Beyer, WDNR Forester

Woodland Dunes: Thursday, October 11, 6:30 to 8:00 p.m.

Forest Type : bottomland and swamp hardwoods

Presenter: Ron Jones and Sue Crowley, WDNR Forester

Brillion: Thursday, October 18, 6:30 to 8:00 p.m.

Forest Type : bottomland and swamp hardwoods

Presenters: Ron Jones and Frank Kirschling, WDNR Foresters

November

Money matters: forest investments 101

Whether you're a new owner of forest land or you've had the land in the family forever, it's important to know how to manage the financial aspects of your forestland investment. This program will cover issues such as buying land, how to treat income from timber sales, what's deductible, what tax credits are available, how to treat your forestland as a business, and estate planning.

Presenter: Geary Searfoss, CPA, EA, CF

Woodlands Dunes: Saturday, November 10, 9:00 to 11:00 a.m.

Maywood: Saturday, November 10, 2:00 to 4:00 pm

The top ten things to avoid when selling timber

Trees are a valuable product. Woods can be worth several thousand dollars per acre and, if managed properly, can earn you hundreds of dollars per acre per year. Following are the basic things you should know before you sell timber.

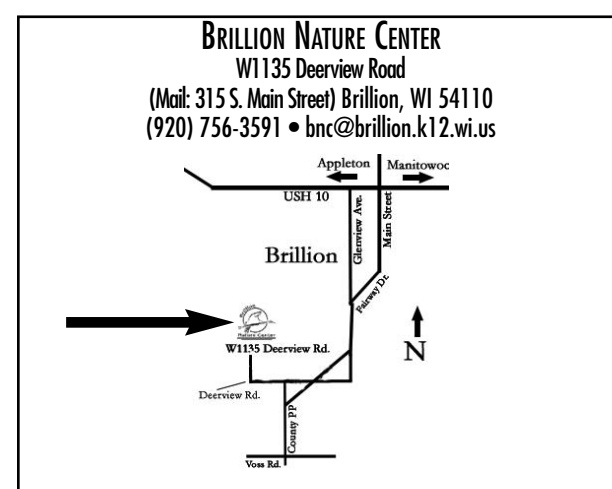
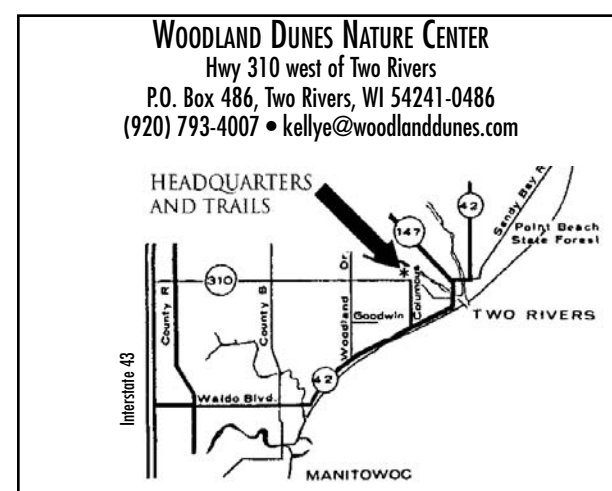
1. Don't sell to a timber buyer without checking references. Ask other landowners and local consulting foresters about their experiences working with a particular timber buyer.
2. Don't sell unless everything is in writing. The contract should state how the trees will be marked, the purchase price, the time period for harvest, the person liable for damage, etc.
3. Don't sell unmarked trees. If trees are marked, there is no question as to which trees will be harvested.
4. Don't sell timber on the spur of the moment. Once you sign a contract or accept money, you are committed.
5. Don't sell trees on a diameter limit. This often results in over-cutting the woods. The condition or potential of the tree should dictate if it is ready for harvest, not its size.
6. Don't sell only your best trees. Selling only the best—high grading—can hurt the long term productivity of your woods. Instead sell trees that are declining in value and less desirable or weed trees, mixing in better trees that have reached their peak value.
7. Don't sell "cut and scale" or "on shares." Unless you or your Consulting Forester know how to cut and scale trees, you are relying on the buyer to determine what trees are worth and to maximize the yield from the tree. Some buyers may not want to buy the lower grade logs at the tops of the tree. Sell your timber on a lump-sum, up-front payment and "take it or leave it" for only the marked trees.
8. Don't let a cash offer entice you into selling too quickly. Once you sign a contract, you are obligated to honor it.
9. Don't enter into a management agreement giving a company exclusive right to your timber. A buyer who works for a timber company cannot work for you without a conflict of interest.
10. Don't agree to include trees damaged during the logging. This increases the risk of trees being damaged intentionally. When marking trees, take care to ensure they can be harvested without damage to the remaining trees.

Tree planting: tips for success

Successful tree planting is a process that can be broken down into ten important steps:

1. Set short and long term goals for tree planting.
2. Evaluate your planting site for climate, soil type, vegetation, topography, surrounding landscape, and endangered resources.
3. Select tree species that match your goals and your planting site.
4. Prepare your planting site before the trees arrive.
5. Transport your seedlings properly from the nursery, keeping them cool and protected from direct sunlight. Cover with a light colored or reflective tarp if possible.
6. Plant ASAP! Keep your seedlings cool (33-40°F) and moist (90-95% humidity) until planted.
7. Create a planting hole deep enough to accommodate the seedling's entire root system. Prune roots only when necessary, e.g., the roots of two- and three-year-old seedlings should be pruned no more than ten inches below the root collar.
8. Plant seedlings with the root collar at the soil line or not more than 1/2 inch deeper.
9. Control weeds and grasses with appropriate herbicides, mowing, tilling, or weed mats. Weed control treatments should be applied annually until trees are growing well (up to five years).
10. Protect your trees from deer through the use of fencing, tree shelters, repellents, bud caps—and hunting.

WDNR and cooperating consultant foresters can provide tree planting advice and develop written tree planting plans to help you with the process. Your forester can also help you locate tree planting equipment or custom tree planting services if needed.



Learn about your Land

Classes for Woodland Owners

in Calumet, Manitowoc,

& Sheboygan Counties

August - November 2007

A series of classes

Designed for you

Close to home

Multiple dates and locations

Topics that matter • Free

Experts on hand • Door prizes



Woodland Dunes Nature Center
P.O. Box 486
Two Rivers, WI 54241-0486
woodlanddunes.com

Nonprofit
Organization
U.S. Postage
PAID
Manitowoc, WI
54220
Permit No. 448

Seek professional help with timber harvesting

*"I have loggers in my woods and I am concerned that they may be taking too many trees.
Are they doing the right thing? Did I get a fair price?"*

To Department of Natural Resources (WDNR) foresters, a call like this indicates that a timber sale was not well planned. After investigating, the forester usually finds that the property owner has entered into an agreement with a logger that allows them to do exactly what they are doing. The damage done can take decades to repair. To prevent this from happening to you, do some research before entering into an agreement for a timber harvest on your property. Contact your local WDNR forester or a private Cooperating Forester (who can act as your agent) to gather information and advice before signing a contract. Once a contract is signed, there is seldom an inexpensive or easy way to halt the timber harvest.

Which trees should you harvest?

A timber harvest will affect your woods for a long time. Many landowner have only one harvest in their lifetime, although a well managed woodlot could have a harvest every 10 years. While there may be intermediate harvests, some hardwoods take decades to reach maturity and individual trees can live for a hundred years or more. These older trees should be harvested at their peak value, but you shouldn't harvest the best trees—those that are tall, straight and free of defects—before they have provided seed for regeneration. The genetic makeup of these trees is the most desirable; if they are given a chance to reproduce, the next generation has the potential to be as valuable as the current one.

Assessing a logging company

Most logging companies are good stewards of our natural resources. A good logging company, run by professionals, will be as concerned about your woodlot as you are. You or your agent should check a logger's references and look at examples of previous logging jobs. Find out if the Great Lake Timber Professionals Association has certified the company as a Master Logger. This performance-based program formally recognizes those loggers who have attained the utmost level of training and experience, and who demonstrate an unending commitment to sound forest stewardship. A list of Master Loggers is at www.wpla.org/master.html.

Legal details

Prior planning and discussion with the logger can increase your satisfaction with a timber harvest. Include any important points in a written timber sale contract so that your wishes are enforceable. Wisconsin law requires that a cutting notice be filed with the county clerk at least 14 days prior to the harvest. For lands entered into the Managed Forest Law (MFL) program, a separate MFL cutting notice must be filed with the WDNR forester at least 30 days prior to the harvest.

You are invited to learn more about your woodland

This free educational series offers private woodland owners valuable information for managing and better understanding their property. Learn about woodland ecology, forest management, tree identification, forest health, timber harvest, logging and forestry techniques, and more. These classes are taught by WDNR and other natural resources professionals—it's a great opportunity to meet and talk with them. Choose the dates and locations most convenient for you, and please join us for one, some, or all of these sessions. These classes are the last in the series. Our grant funding is ending, but we hope to provide programs again in a year or so. We've enjoyed meeting those of you who have attended this series! We hope that the programs have been useful to you and that you feel welcome to contact your local WDNR forester with woodland questions.

Bids

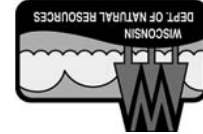
There are several types of harvests; loggers usually specialize their harvest operation for certain forest products. Obtaining bids from several loggers is the best way to ensure that you get a fair price for your timber. Different timber harvest equipment and techniques can greatly change the results and profitability of a timber harvest, so when you obtain bids, you need to be sure they are for the same type of harvest. Because the process can be quite complex, you should consult a forester for help in understanding the options and choosing the best for you.

Basic questions to ask

- Does the harvest plan take into account areas that are sensitive to activity, e.g. recreational trails, springs or waterways?
- What species, sizes and number of trees will be cut?
- What is the estimated volume to be cut and what is the payment per unit of volume?
- What equipment will be used? (Equipment could vary from a tracked or wheeled processor doing the cutting from a cable skidder to a forwarder hauling wood to the stacking area.) The equipment used can cause dramatically different results on the site.
- Where will that equipment be driven? A thoughtful layout of skid trails can increase access to your property while avoiding sensitive areas.
- Where will the wood be stacked? This area will experience traffic from logging equipment and trucks. A level, firm, well-drained site is best.
- Is clean-up work after the harvest included in the contract?
- How will the log trucks pick up the wood? Access for large trucks may require crossing a neighbor's property or parts of your property that can not support a heavily loaded vehicle, especially in wet weather. Make sure repairs are covered in the contract.
- Beware of timber theft and fraud.
- Do your research. Make sure your timber is ready for harvest and will be cut in a sustainable manner to protect the future of the forest.
- Know the value and volume of your timber before you sell. Talk to a WDNR forester or hire a Cooperating Forester to set up and administer the sale for you.
- Take your time in making a decision; don't sell to the first person who contacts you.
- Get references from landowners who have worked with the forester or logger you are considering. Visit the sites of previous logging jobs.
- Research logging companies or individual timber buyers by name at the Wisconsin Circuit Court's Internet access site: wcca.wicourts.gov/

There is always a demand for quality timber; but without the proper research, you could sacrifice a potentially sustainable yield of quality timber, devalue your property and end up with an unsightly scar on your landscape.

This project is produced under a 2006-2007 grant from the Wisconsin Environmental Education Board and funding from the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources in partnership with the University of Wisconsin - Extension Basin Education Initiative, Brillion Nature Center, Maywood Environmental Park and Woodland Dunes Nature Center.



Maywood Environmental Park



Wisconsin Environmental Education Board



Upcoming Conferences

Wisconsin Woodland Owners Association

28th Annual Meeting
September 13-16, 2007
Ho-Chunk Casino, Hotel and Conference Center, Baraboo.
Presentations, workshops, field trips, entertainment, camaraderie. Check at www.wisconsinwoodlands.org or call Nancy Bozek at (715) 346-4798 for more information.

14th National Tree Farmer Convention

October 11-14, 2007
Monona Terrace, Madison
Presentations, activities, field trips, entertainment, camaraderie with woodland owners from around the nation. Choose from northern WI forest tour, USDA Forest Products Lab tour, WI school forests tour, and more.
Registration deadline: September 21. Fee: \$275 (field trips and tours extra) Check www.treefarmssystem.org or call the national office at (202) 463-2733 for more information.

Northeast Wisconsin Woodland Owner Conference

January 12, 2008.
Northeast Wisconsin Technical College, Green Bay
Registration Information: Ron Jones (920) 997-3285

Southeast Wisconsin Woodland Owner Association Annual Meeting

February 9th, 2008.
Country Springs Hotel and Conference Center, Pewaukee, WI
Registration deadline: January 21.
Check www.wisconsinwoodlands.org

Oshkosh Woodland Owner Conference

February 2008.
LaSures Banquet Hall, Oshkosh
Registration Information: Chad Cook (920)232-1990

Assistance Available from WDNR Foresters:

The first place to look for advice about caring for your woodland is the local WDNR Office. Each county has a WDNR Forester whose role is to guide landowners to practice sustainable forestry. They will visit your land and answer your questions, providing personalized, individual service. Following are some of the things they can do for you:

- Provide general forest management information (office or property visit) on a broad range of multi-resource topics including timber production, forest health, wildlife management opportunities, protecting endangered resources, recreational opportunities and forest aesthetics
- Prepare brief to detailed written forest management plans to meet owners' objectives
- Administer forest tax law programs (Managed Forest Law)
- Advise landowners about tree and shrub planting projects
- Coordinate tree shipments from the WDNR state nursery and use of county tree planting machines
- Advise how to improve growth and value of immature forests
- Provide timber sale advice including harvest methods, names of Consulting Foresters or timber buyers.
- Timber sale establishment (Limitations: All requests for timber sale establishment must first be referred for 60 days to Cooperating Foresters for assistance. If there is no interest from Cooperating Foresters, then WDNR may establish a timber harvest as time allows. WDNR Foresters are restricted from actually selling the timber, acting as the owners' agent, or administering sale contracts.)
- Provide technical and administrative assistance for State and Federal cost sharing programs.
- Promote the Cooperating Forester Program by referring landowners to private or industrial foresters when they need services that the state does not provide.

Call your WDNR Foresters for assistance

CALUMET COUNTY
Frank Kirschling
(920) 832-2746
frank.kirschling@Wisconsin.gov
OR
Jill Schroeder
(920) 832-2747
jill.r.schroeder@Wisconsin.gov
WDNR, Ag. Services Center, 3369 W. Brewster St.,
Appleton, WI 54914-1602

MANITOWOC COUNTY
Sue Crowley
(920) 755-4984
susan.crowley@Wisconsin.gov
WDNR, 2220 E. CTH V, Mishicot, WI 54228

SHEBOYGAN COUNTY
Tim Beyer (920)
892-8756, ext 3047
tim.beyer@Wisconsin.gov
WDNR, 1155 Pilgrim Rd, Plymouth, WI 53073

Branch out for woodland information

Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources
Home page for the Division of Forestry:
<http://WDNR.wi.gov/org/land/forestry/>
Private lands forestry information:
<http://WDNR.wi.gov/org/land/forestry/Private/>
Forest tax laws information:
<http://WDNR.wi.gov/org/land/forestry/ftax/>

University of Wisconsin – Cooperative Extension
Woodland owner self-help information:
<http://basineducation.uwex.edu/woodland/>
Publications to print out: <http://forest.wisc.edu/extension/forfact.htm>
Publications to order or print:
<http://learningstore.uwex.edu/>

Wisconsin Woodland Owners Association (WWOA)
www.wisconsinwoodlands.org • Phone: (715)-346-4798

Wisconsin Family Forests
www.wisconsinfamilyforests.org • Phone: (715) 213-1618

American Tree Farm System, Wisconsin Tree Farm Committee
Email: wffc@athenet.net • Phone: (715) 445-5991

Woodland Management Calendar

Event	Timing	Notes
Plan spring planting	Summer, Autumn	
Tar spot season	August	raised black spots on leaves
Web worms are active	August/September	
Order trees from counties and state	October	order spring planting stock
No oak pruning (oak wilt)	April 1 - July 15	
Finish spring planting	April/May	
Garlic mustard begins to bloom	May	pull or spray
Pine sawfly treatment	Mid-May	
Anthraxnose season	June	dead areas on leaves
Look for gypsy moth larvae	Mid-June	
MFL (managed forest law) application deadlines	July 1	May 15 with a plan

Cooperating Forester Program

The WDNR began the Cooperating Forester Program in 1989. Currently, about 120 private Consulting Foresters and Industrial Foresters participate voluntarily, offering their services to private landowners. *Consulting foresters* are independent contractors who charge a fee for their work. They serve the best interests of the landowners. *Industrial foresters*, employed by forest products companies, may offer service in return for the first right to bid on timber when you are ready for a harvest.

Cooperating Foresters are listed in a WDNR directory and receive referrals from WDNR foresters. In return, they agree to comply with WDNR standards and rules when providing forest management service. Cooperating Foresters also agree to attend continuing education courses and file periodic reports with the Department. Cooperating Foresters provide many of the same services offered by WDNR foresters. In addition, they may offer:

- Complete timber sale services (timber marking, volume calculations, bid specifications, sale negotiation, sale supervision, contract preparation, sale administration, income tax etc.)
- Custom tree planting and forest improvement services (including labor)
- Forest pest control applications
- Forest appraisals for tax or investment purposes
- Boundary line establishment, surveying
- Expert witness testimony in trespass and damage claims
- Acquisition and sale of private forest land
- Christmas tree management
- Road layout and design
- Forest resource and economic studies
- Commercial recreation planning and development

For advice about how to select a private consulting forester, see Forestry Facts #75 (<http://forest.wisc.edu/extension/forfact.htm>), *Hiring a Consulting Forester*, or view a list of items to consider when contracting with a consulting forester on WDNR Forestry website (www.WDNR.state.wi.us).

Issues with Moving Firewood

Firewood can harbor many different kinds of invasive pests and diseases that are harmful to Wisconsin's trees, both in forests and cities. Gypsy moth, oak wilt, and the emerald ash borer are examples of pests and diseases that hitchhike on firewood, making their way into previously unaffected areas and posing a serious threat to trees throughout the state.

To protect our parks and forests from these firewood hitchhikers, the Wisconsin WDNR created a permanent rule that prohibits bringing firewood onto any WDNR properties from more than 50 miles away or from outside of Wisconsin. To help reduce the spread of gypsy moth, a federal quarantine prohibits moving firewood from eastern Wisconsin to western Wisconsin or to states west of Wisconsin. This includes campsites in state parks and forests.

Even if you are not visiting state properties and you are just heading to the cabin or property for a visit, it's best to burn local wood rather than transport firewood more than 50 miles.

Your local forester can tell you if there are local forest pests that you should be aware of. A new firewood information line is available with the very latest information regarding firewood and Wisconsin WDNR properties. The toll-free number is: 1-877-303-WOOD (9663).

Acceptable Firewood: Firewood purchased within 50 miles of a state forest, park, or other state-managed property AND harvested in Wisconsin or firewood from a vendor certified by the Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection or dimensional and untreated lumber scraps, such as 2-x-4s.