



Options for Managing Your Woodland

Attend a Free Field Day or Webinar

Who should attend?

These Field Days and Webinars are aimed at family forest owners. Whether you own 20 acres or over 200 acres, are you getting the most from your woodland?

Field Days

A field day is a perfect opportunity to explore options for your woodland and learn how a management plan may make you eligible for reduced property taxes or financial aid for woodland improvements.

At each location you will learn how to:



Improve wildlife habitat



Design recreational trails



Produce useful products for the family



Explore income opportunities



Recognize serious pest problems



Protect soil and water resources.

On each date woodland tours are offered from 9:00 am – 12:00 pm and 1:00 – 4:00 pm. Choose one time and location.

Be prepared to walk 1 ½ to 2 miles on forest trails.

Dress for an outdoor experience.

Saturday, August 27, Deep Portage Learning Center, 2197 Nature Center Drive NW, Hackensack, MN 56452

Directions: www.deep-portage.org/map.html.

Meet in Resources Heritage Center.

This forest mainly includes aspen, Norway (red) pine, and white pine with a few red maples and red oaks on rolling hills adjacent to a lake. A few tamaracks grow in a bog. An old stand of aspen is retained to show its evolution without management. Most stands are harvested by clearcutting. Some pines regenerate naturally, but there also are plantations of different ages. Managing the forest for timber and grouse are primary objectives, but forestry and wildlife specialists will discuss a wide range of forest products and wildlife that you could produce on a similar forest. They also will point out potential problems from invasive plants, insects, and diseases.

Instructors:

Woodland owners to be determined

Mel Baughman, retired forester, University of Minnesota Extension

Diomy Zamora, Extension Educator, University of Minnesota Extension

David Wilsey, Extension Educator, University of Minnesota Extension

Julie Miedtke, Extension Educator, University of Minnesota Extension

Jodi Provost, Private Lands Wildlife Manager, Minnesota Department of Natural Resources

Erik Lindquist, Cass County Land Department:

Keith Simar, Forestry Consultant

Saturday, September 10, Eagle Bluff Environmental Learning Center, 28097 Goodview Drive, Lanesboro, MN 55949

Directions: www.eagle-bluff.org/maps-directions.html.
Meet in Discovery Center, Auditorium.

This forest is dominated by oaks, but includes a wide range of species: sugar maple, basswood, green ash, black walnut, boxelder, aspen, and others. There are Norway (red) and white pine plantations of different stand ages. Participants will learn how to improve the quality of timber through pruning and selective thinning as well as how to harvest and regenerate hardwoods and conifers. This woodland occurs along the Root River where riparian buffer considerations are necessary when harvesting. Steep hills are also a consideration for soil and water protection. Deer, turkeys, gray squirrels, furbearers, and various nongame species are the primary wildlife. You can learn about producing shiitake mushrooms, maple syrup, and other products. Emerald ash borer has been found in southeast Minnesota along with several other destructive plants, insects, and diseases. Here is your chance to learn about management options in the face of these problems.

Instructors:

Woodland owners to be determined
Mel Baughman, retired forester, University of Minnesota Extension
Angela Gupta, Extension Educator, University of Minnesota Extension
Gary Wyatt, Extension Educator, University of Minnesota Extension
Dean Current, Research Associate, Center for Integrated Natural Resources and Agricultural Management
Valiree Green or Jim Edgar, Forester, Minnesota Department of Natural Resources
Emily Hutchins, Private Lands Wildlife Manager, Minnesota Department of Natural Resources
Mitch Gilbert, Forestry Consultant
Johnny Micheel, Forestry Consultant

Friday, September 16, Boulder Lake Environmental Learning Center, 7328 Boulder Dam Road, Duluth, MN55803

Directions: <http://www.boulderlake.org/maps/Directionsmap.pdf>.
Meet in Learning Center.

Aspen, white pine, Norway (red) pine, jack pine, balsam fir, and white spruce are the primary species here. Some stands grew naturally, but several pine stands were planted. Deer, grouse, bears, furbearers, and various nongame species occur here. A deer-proof fence shows the affects on tree species regeneration by excluding deer from the woodland. This forest offers opportunities to produce traditional wood products as well as birch bark products, black ash baskets, balsam boughs for wreaths and other gifts of nature. Learn about destructive plants, insects, and diseases that every landowner should watch for.

Instructors:

Woodland owners TBD

Mel Baughman, retired forester, University of Minnesota Extension

Mike Reichenbach, Extension Educator, University of Minnesota Extension

Julie Miedtke, Extension Educator, University of Minnesota Extension

Jodi Provost, Private Lands Wildlife Manager, Minnesota Department of Natural Resources

John Geissler, Director, Boulder Lake Environmental Learning Center

Staff Forester TBD, St. Louis County Land Department

Jan Bernu, Forestry Consultant, Two by Forestry

Friday, September 23, Sonnenberg Farms, 53621 395th Street, New York Mills, MN 56567

Directions: from New York Mills (west of Wadena), exit off Highway 10, go north about 1 mile on County Road 67 (N. Broadway Ave.), turn left on 395th Street, and drive about ¼ mile to rural address 53621 on the right (north) and enter long driveway.

Bob Sonnenberg is the Regional Tree Farmer of the Year. Before human settlement, this area was covered with white pines and oaks. Bob now manages natural stands of mixed hardwoods with bur oak, red oak, basswood, ash, aspen, and ironwood, but he has planted many acres with Norway (red) and white pine. He selectively harvests the hardwood stands, removing the poor quality trees and preserving the better quality trees for more growth. He is getting ready to thin pine stands to sustain growth. His land is in a relatively flat landscape with numerous wetlands. Deer and a few roughed grouse are the primary game species. Bob has a wide variety of small scale logging and wood processing equipment to show. With this equipment he harvests his own logs, saws lumber, dries lumber, and sells lumber and firewood. Bob designed his own mouse bait stations to control those pests in new tree plantations. He installed a Clemson beaver control device in a culvert to prevent beavers from damming the culvert. With farm equipment and a small scraper he maintains farm roads, including firebreaks around pine plantations. Learn about potential threats from invasive plants, insects, and diseases.

Instructors:

Bob Sonnenberg, Woodland Owner

Eli Sagor, Extension Educator, University of Minnesota Extension

Diomy Zamora, Extension Educator, University of Minnesota Extension

Mike Reichenbach, Extension Educator, University of Minnesota Extension

Dean Current, Research Associate, Center for Integrated Natural Resources and Agricultural Management

Dave Johnson, Forester, Minnesota Department of Natural Resources

Jodi Provost or alternate, Private Lands Wildlife Manager, Minnesota Department of Natural Resources

Chad Converse, Forestry Consultant

Webinars



Webinars are one-hour presentations that you can view from your computer. View visual aids on your computer screen while listening to the sound through your computer's sound system. It's a great way to get useful information without leaving your home or office. Instructions to access the Web link will be provided after you register.

Forest Stewardship Planning

August 24, 2011, 12:00 Noon to 1:00 pm

Every woodland owner would benefit from a written plan prepared with assistance from a forester or other natural resource professional. A woodland is part of a complex ecosystem in which the species composition of plants and animals may change over time. Professionals with education and experience in forestry can help you understand your woodland, how it is changing, and what you could do to better achieve your long term goals. Whether you are interested in songbirds, recreational trails, firewood, timber, deer hunting, or other opportunities, a professional will listen to your interests and offer appropriate management options for you to consider.

In any such plan, the landowner specifies objectives, listens to ideas presented by the forester, and chooses which actions to include in the plan. Depending on the size and complexity of your woodland, you may need a very simple plan for implementing a particular action or a comprehensive Forest Stewardship Plan describing how to get the most out of your entire woodland property. This Webinar will inform you about the different types of plans, who can help you prepare them, what a plan costs, and what benefits you will get from it. Speaking of benefits, a plan might qualify you for a lower property tax classification or make you eligible for cost-sharing to carry out forest management under a government program such as the Environmental Quality Incentive Program.

Instructor: Mel Baughman, retired Professor and Extension Forester, Department of Forest Resources, University of Minnesota

Supported by: Minnesota Department of Natural Resources

Your Property Online: Where to find soils, water, and land management information

September 20, 2011, 12:00 Noon to 1:00 pm

When analyzing the natural resources on your property to figure out how best to manage it, the Web offers great resources, but which ones are reliable? We will show you how to find useful soil maps, protected waters maps, and information about Minnesota's voluntary site-level forest management guidelines. (1) Soil maps will show you which soil types are found on different parts of your property. Accompanying information will then tell you the characteristics of each soil type and its capability to grow trees, support roads, or produce agricultural crops. Invest in

forest management where your soils are most productive. (2) Many streams, lakes, and wetlands are protected from certain types of development in order to maintain flows, water quality, and sometimes navigability. County, state, and federal governments are all involved in issuing permits for various land and water uses that affect water. Learn about the classification of water bodies on your property and what regulatory authorities may have jurisdiction over it. (3) Minnesota's voluntary site-level forest management guidelines are aimed at protecting soil, water, biological, aesthetic, and cultural resources so these resources and values are sustainable over the long run. These guidelines must be considered for many forest practices, such as timber harvesting, tree planting, and road building. Just about any time you disturb the soil or water or alter the vegetation, the guidelines help you do it sustainably. If we fail to follow these voluntary guidelines, there are people in our communities who will advocate for regulation which costs more to implement and enforce.

Instructors:

Eli Sagor, Extension Educator, University of Minnesota Extension
Charlie Blinn, Professor and Extension Specialist, Department of Forest Resources, University of Minnesota

Property Tax and Incentive Payments September 27, 2011, 12:00 Noon to 1:00 pm

When the Minnesota Legislature finally passes its budget bills, it also will make significant changes in property tax and incentive payments on forest land in 2011. Learn about these changes and how you can qualify for the lowest property taxes under the new laws. (1) The Sustainable Forest Incentive Act, which offered an incentive payment of at least \$7 per acre per year for landowners with a forest management plan, is being eliminated. (2) The requirement that forest land must be removed from Green Acres, but then qualifies for a similar tax break in a Rural Preserve Program is being thrown out the window. Forest land that once was in Green Acres now can remain or be put back into Green Acres. (3) Only Class 2c Managed Forest Land remained untouched. The transition between these laws may be confusing so get the latest information through this Webinar.

Instructor: Mike Reichenbach, Extension Educator, University of Minnesota Extension

Registration



Field Days and Webinars are free but advance registration is required.

Register for Field Days at least 5 days in advance.

Register for Webinars at least 2 days in advance.

Register at: <http://z.umn.edu/woodsreg>

Or call: Kathy @ 507-389-6972

You will be asked to provide your name, e-mail address, and postal mailing address.

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