


WISCONSIN FORESTRY NOTES

February 2014

Wisconsin DNR - Division of Forestry

Managed Forest Law legislation introduced

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Legislature looking at Managed Forest Law revisions.

Legislation based on the [Wisconsin Council on Forestry's Managed Forest Law \(MFL\) recommendations](#) has been introduced and referred to the Wisconsin State Assembly Committee on Environment and Forestry. The bill, AB700, proposes a multitude of changes to the [MFL program](#). Visit the [legislature's site](#) to read the bill and [sign up to be notified](#) as action is taken on the proposal.

Wisconsin forestry practices study kicks off

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Research study begins; results will guide future policy decisions.

A comprehensive study of Wisconsin DNR forestry practices began in January 2014. The Great Lakes Timber Professionals Association and the Wisconsin County Forests Association received a state grant for the two-year study. Results of the study will help guide decisions and policy development for investment in forest-based manufacturing, while ensuring that social and ecological benefits provided by Wisconsin's forests remain viable for future generations. The National Council for Air and Stream Improvement has been selected as general contractor for the study. Visit the [Wisconsin Council on Forestry website](#) for more information and for ongoing reports as the research gets underway.

Division annual report published online

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Read the Division's 2013 annual report online now.

Collaboration on the Germann Road fire, meeting timber harvest goals and beginning implementation of the Division's new Strategic Direction are just a few of the Division of Forestry accomplishments highlighted in the 2013 annual report. [You are invited to read it online](#) and share it with others!

Staff training focuses on industry, customer service

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Division provides forest industry and customer service training for staff.

Division of Forestry personnel gathered in January for training that included sessions on Wisconsin's forest industry, designed to help staff better understand the challenges facing our partners. An opening session called "Understanding Wisconsin's Forest Products Supply Chain and the Partnerships that Make it Happen" was followed by three panels comprised of primary industry representatives, loggers and cooperating foresters. Division employees also had training on customer service. As a reminder, [you are invited to offer feedback after any interactions](#) you have with the Division of Forestry.

Urban forestry grants awarded

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More than \$600,000 in grants will support urban forestry work.

The DNR Urban Forestry Grant Program has awarded \$602,486 to 46 Wisconsin communities, nonprofit organizations and counties for community urban forestry projects. Grant funds for 2014 projects will support tree inventories and assessments, management plans, emerald ash borer (EAB) preparedness plans, urban forest restoration projects, staff training, public education and other urban forestry efforts. The [list of grant recipients](#) is available online.

“Friend of Forestry” awards to two external partners

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Partners at UWSP and Aldo Leopold Foundation honored.

The Division of Forestry recently honored two partners as Friends of Forestry. UW-Stevens Point Forestry Professor Mike Demchik has worked with DNR forestry programs in central Wisconsin for a number of years, conducting research on state-owned lands and bringing his silviculture students to state lands to work with DNR foresters for hands-on timber marking experience.

The Division also recognized the Aldo Leopold Foundation for their leadership in promoting sustainable forest management on private lands in Wisconsin and nationally. Executive Director Buddy Huffaker and his staff have partnered with DNR on a variety of programs, including the Driftless Forestry Network.

Urban forestry council recognizes excellence

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Awards showcase outstanding urban forestry work throughout Wisconsin.

The [Wisconsin Urban Forestry Council](#) presented their lifetime achievement award to Todd Ernster for long-time service to the profession. Innovation awards went to the Mequon Nature Preserve and also to a partnership that processes and markets Milwaukee’s urban wood. The City of Menasha and the Canadian National railroad received an award for their tree planting partnership, as did a coalition of groups whose work has resulted in a healthier and more diverse urban forest for the City of Sparta. The distinguished service award went to Laura DeGolier for her work on Fond du Lac’s Greenway Arboretum. [Information about the awards](#) can be found online.

Still time to order tree seedlings

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Order seedlings now for planting this spring.

Online ordering of DNR tree seedlings ended February 1, but orders are still welcome for the 2014 spring planting season. Landowners still needing to order seedlings should print the tree application found on the [ordering page](#) and mail it with payment to the [Griffith State Nursery](#).



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