

# Woodlands as Resources

## SESSION ONE

### 1A. Planting Trees: What to Think About Before You Plant:

Establishing a forest requires careful planning. See examples of how stock type and origin affect the future survival and growth of seedlings. Discuss tree planting methods and techniques and ask your questions about tree planting. *Rick Klevorn, MN DNR*

**1B. How to Recognize Forest Insects and Diseases:** 'What is causing this damage and how do I get rid of it?' is a common lament of many woodland owners. See a general overview of the identification and management of common insects and diseases in Minnesota forests. *John F. Kyhl, USFS State/Private Forestry*

### 1C. Maple Syrup: A Sweet Springtime Tradition:

A brief overview of the biology and chemistry of maple sap flow and maple syrup production. We will also describe the techniques used at St. John's to produce syrup from the sap of sugar maple trees. *Stephen Saupe, CSB/SJU Biology Department*

### 1D. Woodland Property Taxes: Changes and Opportunities:

A look at proposed assessment and classification changes contained in the Department of Revenue's report to the legislature on rural woodlands, as well as a review of the history and current status of the Sustainable Forest Incentive Act. *John Hagen, Minnesota Department of Revenue*

### 1E. Common Loon Preservation-

**Minnesota's State Bird:** Consider the status of the Common Loon for the past and future decade. Data since 1994 from area organizations will be presented. Hazards to loons will be discussed and plans for loon nesting platforms will be made available. *Bruce Wollmering, OSB*

**1F. Nature Writing and Poetry:** What does it take to write nature poetry? Probably an ear for the sparrow's song, the crow's caw or the wind in the trees. Join two MN writers for listening, reading, writing and discussion of nature writing. *Larry Schug, CSB/SJU, and Beth Waterhouse, 'Writing\*Editing\*Teaching'*

## SESSION TWO or LUNCH A

**2A. Herbicide Use in Forestry:** Weed control both before and after planting can be essential to the survival and growth of newly planted trees. Learn about herbicide use, labels, and equipment calibration. *Dale S. Sutherland, UAP Distribution*

**2B. Invasive Insects in Minnesota:** Invasive species are an increasing threat to the health of many ecosystems, including forests. Discuss some important exotic forest insects that are already here and those that are likely to arrive. *John F. Kyhl, USFS State and Private Forestry*

**2C. Firewise: Protect Your Home and Forest from Wildfire:** Learn how you can create a firewise community. Presenters will provide an overview of the national and state firewise programs, and describe one community's and one land owner's experience in working with this program. *Marty Asleson, City of Lino Lakes, and MN DNR Staff*

**2D. Woodland Property Taxes: Changes and Opportunities:** Repeat of session 1D. *John Hagen, Minnesota Department of Revenue*

**2E. Central Minnesota Wildflowers: A Botanical Primer:** This presentation will feature the common wildflowers in central MN. For each species we will discuss identification tips and fun facts including economic uses. *Stephen Saupe, CSB/SJU Biology Department*

**2F. St. John's Woodshop Tour:** See St. John's Abbey woodshop where all campus furniture is made from wood harvested sustainably on campus lands. *St. John's Woodshop Staff*

## SESSION THREE or LUNCH B

### 3A. Minnesota's Past, Present, and Future Forests: From Glaciers to Global Warming:

Review the natural and human history of Minnesota's forests from the last ice age to the present, providing context and perspective for the landscape surrounding Saint John's University. *Eli Sagor, U of MN Extension Service*

### 3B. Minnesota's Certified Master Logger Program:

Learn how a certified logger may add value to your timber and provide added confidence that the job will be done right. Certification is an independent, third-party audit of a logging business' harvest, safety, and business practices. *Jake Donnay, U of MN*

### 3C. What the Heck is a Conservation Easement?:

Come and learn the basics of a land protection option known as a conservation easement. Learn what easements are, how they work, the personal and local benefits of easements, as well as potential tax benefits. *Sarah Strommen, Minnesota Land Trust*

### 3D. Native Tree and Shrub Selection for Your Yard:

Learn about native woody plants for use in your home landscape. Highlighted will be the beautiful and desirable plants, as well as those less desirable woody plants that do serve a purpose in the natural scheme of things. *Dave Hanson, U of MN*

### 3E. Prairie and Oak Savanna Restoration:

Explore the largest tall grass prairie and restoration project in history. Learn how to restore your land to native prairie and oak savanna, along with the benefits of restoration. *The Nature Conservancy Staff Member*

### 3F. St. John's Pottery Studio and Kiln Tour:

Visit the United States largest wood-fired kiln as it is prepared for it's next firing using wood harvested from St. John's campus. **Session Outdoors**

## SESSION FOUR

**4A. Managing for Fine Hardwoods:** Learn how to manage for fine hardwoods and increase the quality of your hardwood forest. Examples of what trees to keep, when to thin, and when to conduct intermediate timber harvests will be presented. *Terry Helbig, MN DNR*

**4B. Restoring Your Land:** Learn pruning, thinning and the importance of controlling undesirable species such as buckthorn. Examples of specific tree improvement projects and maintenance of newly planted areas are provided. *Chad M. Converse, SAF Certified Forester*

**4C. Conservation Easements: Beyond the Basics:** Building on concepts learned in session 3C, this presentation will go into more detail about the process of negotiating and creating a conservation easement. Topics include developing the baseline report, long term stewardship, and monitoring of the easements. *Sarah Strommen, Minnesota Land Trust*

**4D. Hazardous Tree Defects in Your Backyard Woods:** Trees are key to the enjoyment of your backyard woods. Structurally defective trees, however, can fail and cause personal injury and property damage. Learn how to identify and manage hazardous tree defects and help ensure a safe environment. *Jill Pokorny, USDA Forest Service*

**4E. Owls in your Woods:** Enjoy a multi-media presentation about these important predators in your woodlands and how to encourage their presence. *Sarah Gainey, Saint John's Arboretum*

**4F. St. John's Forest Tour:** During a long day of learning, stretch your legs during a walking tour of part of the 2,500 acres that surround Saint John's. Highlights include the oldest planted trees in Minnesota along the shores of crystal-clear Lake Sagatagan. *Tom Kroll, Saint John's Arboretum Session Outdoors*

## SESSION FIVE

**5A. Herbicide Use in Forestry:** Repeat of session 2A. *Dale S. Sutherland, UAP Distribution*

**5B. Growing and Tending Hybrid Poplar:** Planting hybrid poplar for pulp and paper, bio-energy, and environmental protection is becoming popular in Minnesota. Discuss the basics of growing, tending, and managing hybrid poplar from site preparation and establishment of seedlings to the management of a plantation. **Session only for landowners with no prior experience but who have interest in hybrid poplar.** *Diomedes Zamora, U of MN Extension Service*

**5C. Conservation District Overlay Zoning:** Discover how this zoning works, the advantages and disadvantages, and how it may work in your area. *Jim Erkel, MN Center for Environmental Advocacy*

**5D. Goods From the Woods:** Learn about the harvest, use, and marketing of a variety of non-timber forest products. See hands-on visuals and participate in a discussion.

**5E. Riparian Forest Management:** Learn the importance of maintaining healthy riparian forests and the ways you can achieve this. Also discussed will be the importance of and human impact on vernal pools and coarse woody debris management in streams, lake, wetlands and riparian forests. *Jeremy Steil, U of MN*

**5F. Oak Regeneration Forest Tour:** Travel to Saint John's oak regeneration sites. See effect of ten years of shelterwood harvests, natural seeding, planting, and prescribed fires. *Tom Kroll, Saint John's Arboretum Session Outdoors*