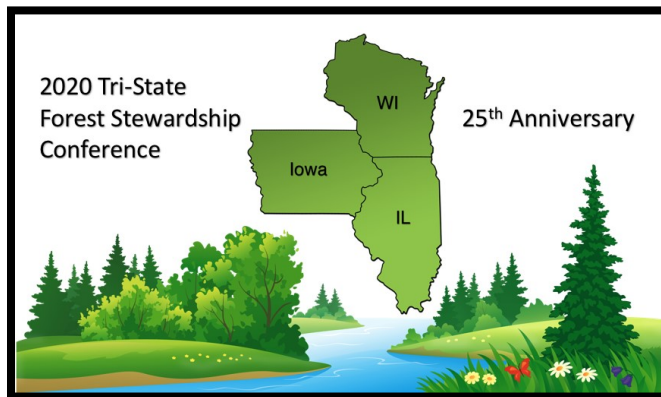


Tri-State Forest Stewardship Conference 2020

25th Anniversary

Saturday, March 14, 2020
Highland Community College
Student Conference Center, Bld. H (2nd floor)
2998 W. Pearl City Rd., Freeport, IL 61032



Registration Details:

Registration Fee: \$40/person
Online Registration Deadline is March 10, 2020
Online Registration Link:
<https://go.illinois.edu/forestcon>

The Tri-State Forest Stewardship Conference is hosted by:



IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY
Extension and Outreach

Check-in, Refreshments, Exhibitors 8:00-8:50 am
Welcome/Opening Remarks 9:00-9:25 am

Session 1 9:35-10:30 am

A. The White Oak Initiative

Mr. Paul DeLong, American Forest Foundation (Am. Tree Farm System)

The White Oak Initiative works to ensure the long-term sustainability of America's white oak and the economic, social, and conservation benefits derived from white oak dominated forests. While currently white oak growing stocks are sufficient to meet demand, forest monitoring, and long-term projections indicate problems in maintaining high-quality white oak regeneration.

B. Silvopasture: Your Silver Bullet?

Dr. Ashley Conway, University of Missouri (Center for Agroforestry)

Silvopasture has untapped potential as a productive and sustainable land management system for wooded property. This presentation will explore the depth of that potential, as well as discuss the challenges to overcome and the risks to mitigate for a successful practice.

C. Cost-Sharing Opportunities for Landowners Through Trees Forever

Mr. Kevin Bennett, Trees Forever

Kevin will give an overview of the work that Trees Forever does in Illinois and Iowa. He will also share information on the various cost-share programs available to landowners through Trees Forever. These programs focus on improving water quality and establishing habitat for pollinators.

D. Wisconsin's Invasive Species Rule & Forest Practices

Ms. Bernie Williams, Wisconsin DNR (Forestry)

In 2009 Wisconsin adopted an Invasive Species Rule classifying the threat of invasives as either Restricted or Prohibited and in turn Forestry adopted BMPs Best Management Practices to comply. Ten years in we've learned the lesson of practicality and how to tell a good story about invasive plants.

Session 2 10:45-11:40 am

A. Oaks & Wildlife: Getting the Most out of your Oak Stand for Wildlife

Mr. Jarred Brooke, Purdue University (Extension Wildlife)

Can you increase acorn production in oak trees? How can you manage a stand of oaks to benefit wildlife? This presentation will help address these questions and more.

B. Protecting your Land with Conservation Easements

Mr. Brian Fankhauser, Iowa Natural Heritage Foundation

Many conservation-oriented landowners are concerned about what will happen to their land after they are gone or can no longer care for it. Come learn how conservation easements work, the financial benefits associated with them, and why they are an excellent tool for permanently protecting private land during, and beyond one's lifetime.

C. Agroforestry in Action Ms. Kaitie Adams, Savanna Institute

Will cover the five USDA supported agroforestry practices (windbreaks, riparian buffers, alley cropping, silvopasture, and forest farming) and how they can be implemented across the Midwest. Agroforestry can increase soil health, diversify farm income, sink carbon, and provide ecosystem benefits beyond field margins. Learn the innovative ways farmers and landowners are incorporating trees into their farms and businesses.

D. Trees Along our Streams: The Role of Forests and Forestry in Addressing Water Quality Issues and Flooding in the Midwest

Dr. Billy Beck, Iowa State University (Extension Forestry)

The roles that trees, woodlands, and forests play in addressing water quality issues and flooding in the Midwest will be discussed, as well as practical forestry-based methods and programs aimed at reducing streambank, floodplain, and gully erosion.

Break 11:40-11:55 am

Session 3 12:00-12:55 pm

A. Oak Ecosystems: Adaptation, Decline, and Action

Ms. Olivia Rauen, National Wild Turkey Federation

Oak trees are crucial to our native woodlands but are declining in health and representation each year. Learn the challenges they face in today's landscapes and what landowners and conservation groups large and small – are doing to revitalize oak ecosystems...and how you can too!

B. Woodland Wildflowers & Pollinators

Dr. John Marlin, University of Illinois

Presentation will discuss common woodland wildflowers and associated trees and shrubs. Emphasis will be on propagating the plants and their usefulness to pollinators, especially native bees.

C. Making Habitat Work on the Modern Landscape

Mr. Jason Bleich, Pheasants Forever Inc., Quail Forever (PF/QF)

This presentation will highlight the importance of pollinators, high quality pollinator / native prairie habitat establishment and management, and how to work with partners and landowners to get these vital acres on the landscape. There will also be updates on conservation programs and new partnership opportunities that are available for landowners.

D. Timber Sales & the Timber Marketing Process

Mr. Mike Woolery, Greenwood Forestry Consulting

Navigating the timber sale process can be a daunting process for most forest landowners. This presentation will cover the most important aspects of marketing your standing timber for sustainability and long-term profit.

Lunch 12:55-1:45 pm

Session 4 1:55-2:50 pm

A. Oak Management & Prescribed Burning: When is Fire the Right Tool? Mr. Brad Hutnik, Wisconsin DNR (Forestry)

Prescribed fire is not a tool to be applied without a lot of forethought. This presentation will explore questions landowners which will help them determine if fire is the right tool for their them.

B. Seeing the Forest for the Bees

Mr. Greg Schmitt, Iowa DNR (Wildlife)

The talk will focus on species of greatest conservation need to consider when managing woodlands to meet your objectives. Bees, endangered bats, reptiles and amphibians, etc.

C. Hobby Maple Syrup Mr. Troy Heeren, Iowa State University (Extension)

A brief history of maple syrup and everything needed to get started. Topics covered will include the tools, equipment, and the techniques need for a successful first season.

D. Chainsaw Maintenance: Essential Tips & Tricks

Mr. Jay C. Hayek, University of Illinois (Extension Forestry)

Jay will teach you everything you need to know – and wanted to know but were too afraid to ask – about basic chainsaw maintenance and upkeep!

Session 5 3:05-4:00 pm

A. Current & Emerging Forest Health Issues: Battling Bugs, Floods, and Fungi

Mr. Michael Hillstrom, Wisconsin DNR (Forestry)

Forest landowners continue to battle a variety of invasive pests from emerald ash borer to oak wilt. And a crop of new pests are lurking in nearby states. We'll discuss the current status of the major pests impacting forests in our area and the best management options.

B. Forest Stand Improvement Techniques

Mr. Paul Bane, Illinois DNR (Forestry)

A review on how to help your forest grow high quality timber by giving your trees ample resources needed to grow. The talk will touch on desired species, form, and how to successfully perform forest stand improvement.

C. Forest Management for the Birds

Dr. Adam Janke, Iowa State University (Extension Wildlife)

Forest birds set the soundtrack of summer for many forest landowners and managers. Those summer-time serenades come from a wide variety of places within the forest: ranging from the tops of the canopy to the banks of a stream, and everywhere in between. In this presentation, we'll explore the biology and ecology of the birds we share our forests with and explore how forest management practices can help ensure the soundtrack of summer keeps playing in your forest for years to come.

D. Winter Tree Identification: Bark, Twigs, and Fruit

Ms. Melody Gerver, Iowa State University (NREM)

Fine tune your winter tree identification skills !!! Lean botanical terminology and specialized techniques to identify trees during the winter months.