



Extension

UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON
DODGE COUNTY

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For Immediate Release
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Season's greetings from Extension Forestry. My name is Tony Johnson, and I am a forestry outreach specialist and maple syrup program manager. I say the same thing every season, but it really is a great time of year to be outside. I encourage folks across the badger state to bundle up and spend some time in the woods this winter. With leaves mostly down, winter provides a different, bug-free, perspective to consider opportunities to promote wildlife, recreation, and the next generation of trees in the forest.

If you ever have questions about your own woodlands, consider reaching out to your local WI DNR service forester. Every county in Wisconsin has a private lands service forester available to assist landowners with property walk-throughs and no-strings attached advice on all things woodlands. You can locate your local DNR service forester here: <https://apps.dnr.wi.gov/fal/>

If you're interested in taking your forestry knowledge and skills to the next level while staying indoors this winter, the Extension Forestry Program has a webinar series for you. Starting January 9th and running through the end of February, we're hosting online lunch hour classes about invasive species impacts and management, promoting songbird and herptile habitat, creating a forestry plan and accessing financial and technical assistance to make that plan a reality. Be sure to sign up for our newsletter: <https://go.wisc.edu/v26mul> and keep an eye on our website for details and registration information coming soon: <https://woodlandinfo.org/>

The Extension Forestry Program also helps organize winter landowner conferences around the state every year. I am part of a team planning the annual Fox Valley Woodland Owners Conference, Saturday Feb. 3, 2024, in Oshkosh, WI. We will have great food, presentations about forest health and regeneration, the 2023 Pallet Fire, and attracting wildlife to your woods, as well as numerous foresters, peers, and non-profit partners to add to your network. The event details and registration are available here: <https://woodlandinfo.org/events/fvconference2024/>

Other woodland owner conferences can be found on the Wisconsin Woodland Owners Association (WWOA) website: <https://wisconsinwoodlands.org/calendar-of-events/>. WWOA is a non-profit educational association for Wisconsin's private woodland owners that offers members a quarterly magazine, chapter field days, topical workshops, winter landowner conferences, and an annual meeting every September. WWOA chapters, covering the whole



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state, are a great way to learn more about local woodland issues, connect with resource professionals and meet neighboring landowners. To find your local chapter visit this website: <https://wisconsinwoodlands.org/local-chapters/>

Finally, for the maple sugar enthusiasts out there, the Extension Maple Syrup Program has some events coming up in early 2024. First, the Wisconsin Maple Syrup Producers Association (WMSPA) is hosting their annual Winter Institute in Marshfield WI, Jan 5-6. We will be there to provide an Extension update Saturday morning and give a sugarbush forestry presentation that afternoon. Registration and more info for that event can be found here:

<https://wismaple.org/calendar-of-events>

Also, the Wisconsin Extension Maple Syrup Program hosts a regular webinar series called the Wisconsin Maple Hour. The Maple Hour features a timely topic for maple producers with a guest speaker and space for live Q&A. On Feb. 15th, we've got a comprehensive Maple Tapping Clinic and on Mar. 13, we're hosting an Invasive Species in the Sugarbush workshop. You can sign up for both webinars and watch the entire archive of Maple Hour presentations, covering everything from maple tree identification to cooking with maple syrup, here:

<https://maple.extension.wisc.edu/maplehour/>

Again, we wish everyone a happy and safe holiday season. And remember to get in the woods this winter. You won't regret it!



Maple Syrup Program
Division of Extension



Extension Forestry
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Have questions? Extension is here to help.



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