

November 2002

Woodland Leaders News



University of Wisconsin - Stevens Point

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Woodland Leadership Institute Class of 2002

Sixteen Woodland owners from across the state graduated from this year's Woodland Leadership Institute. The men who made up this year's crew came with varied backgrounds, interests, and experience. However, they all shared a deep concern for Wisconsin's forest lands and their experience with the Institute helped them all to gain new insights and a deeper understanding of the issue that face Wisconsin's forests. They came as strangers but part as friends and colleagues.



Wisconsin's Woodland Leadership Institute Class of 2002

Some of the highlights from this year's program include a presentation by Tom Rausch, DNR retired, on The Development of Forest Policy and Legislation in

Wisconsin; a field trip to the Northern Highlands American Legion State Forest where Jeff Olson and Susan Brisk gave us an overview of the State forest master planning process and the management of state owned forest lands; and as always the graduation at the Leopold Shack. *Continued on page 2*

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Special points of interest:

Woodland Leaders Class of 2002

Master Woodland Stewards Program Launched

Forestry Outreach Programs website

Master Woodland Steward Program Launched

"I am still inspired thinking that this may be unleashing the most powerful new force of front line stewards and advocates for sound forest policy that I've seen in my (albeit brief) tenure! "

Wendy Hinrichs Sanders, Executive Director, Lake States Forestry Alliance

The Master Woodland Steward Program became a reality this year after several years of planning and hard work by many within the Extension Community. The program was piloted this year with Matthew Davis, UWEX Basin Educator in the Upper Chippewa Basin, hosting a site

at Hayward; and Bill Klase, UWEX Basin Educator in the Headwaters Basin, hosting a site at the Kemp Research Station.

As I think about my experiences with this program I am struck by something that happened on the very first night.

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Class of 2002 cont...

A major part of the Institute is the development of Action Plans by the participants. Action Plans are required as part of the Institute to help provide a focus for the graduates to use what they learned from participating in the Institute in their communities.

Examples of some of the projects the graduates are working on include:

Work with a local newspaper to produce a series of monthly articles, interviews with local experts, that would take landowners through the process of developing a management plan for their property.

Work with Milwaukee Area Technical College to develop a video on sustainable forest management that would target the urban and suburban population of the state and would describe forest management activities by non-industrial private forest landowners.

Work on developing a series of briefing papers targeted at legislators to explain sustainable forest management and accepted silvicultural practices in aspen, red pine and northern hardwoods.

Additionally, many of this year's

"It is a great opportunity to define and clarify the work you can do in your community to further sustainable forestry."

Class of 2002 graduate

graduates are actively involved in the leadership of Woodland Owner Organizations or Wood Cooperatives and plan to use what they have learned through the Institute to provide leadership and help their organization grow.

Master Woodland Stewards cont...

Tom Steele, Director of the Kemp Research Station, gave an overview of the station and talked about how the students from Madison came to Kemp to practice and apply the theory that they learned in their classes.

As I thought about what he said I looked around at the people in the room and realized that this program is in many ways a mirror image. Because this program is for landowners who have been getting their fingernails dirty, many all of their lives, who are looking to gain

a better understanding of forest processes, of why things happen the way they happen, and the long-term effects of their decisions as they actively manage their woodlands.

The graduates of this program came away with a valuable experience and are motivated to use what they have learned



Photograph courtesy of Matthew Davis, UWEX

Master Woodland Steward (Hayward Session),

Forestry Outreach Programs website is up and running!

The Forestry Outreach Program's website is up and running. This website is designed to inform and educate people about the Woodland Leadership Institute and the Master Woodland Stewards Program. It will also help keep program graduates in touch with the programs.

The home page provides a general overview of both programs. From there you can select the home page of either

program. Both of the programs homepages are set up the same way. It provides a general description of the program and provides links that answer some basic questions about the program. The sites also provide browsers with an idea of what we expect of program graduates. It provides some examples of what our program graduates are doing in their community and an opportunity to

hear what program graduates think about the program.

The site is still under construction and there are

several additions to make. Please check it out and let me know what you think.



You can view the site at:
www.uwsp.edu/cnr/fop

Nominations for the Class of 2003

We are currently in the process of seeking nomination for the Woodland Leadership Institute's Class of 2003.

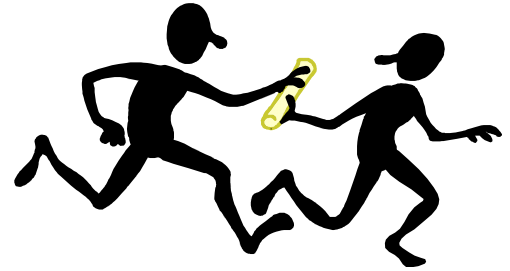
The Institute seeks candidates through nominations because this program is not for everyone. Likewise, many people tend to underestimate their own abilities and are often shy about putting their name forward. Our graduates are expected to take what they have learned and play a leadership role in their community as advocates for forest stewardship and sustainability.

I am asking for your help because your own experiences with these programs are

the strongest recommendation that anyone could receive.

The nomination process is simple. All you need to do is send me the person's name and contact information and I will send them an application. They are also welcome to contact me directly to receive an application package or download it from our website.

However, I would ask that you take some time to talk with potential candidates about the program and their ability to participate in the institute. I think that you will find that most people will be flattered that you thought of them as



candidates for the Institute.

The timeline for the Nomination and application process is as follows:

Nominations are due by December 15, 2002

Applications are due by January 31, 2003

Candidate selections will be announced
February 15, 2003

Items and Issues

Bringing Smart Growth and Sustainable Forestry Together.

I would like to encourage each of you to become involved in your county, township, or city's comprehensive planning committee. There are many different issues that each unit of government's comprehensive plan must address and we need woodland owners to step forward and be advocates for sustainable forestry in their community.

The goal of each community's

"Comprehensive Plan" is to create a vision and implementation plan for the future. It is important that these plans include a vision for the future of our forest lands to insure the sustainability of our forests, communities, and quality of life.

For more information about the Comprehensive Planning Law and Natural Resources visit the DNR's Community Planning and "Smart Growth" website at: www.dnr.state.wi.us/org/es/science/landuse/smart_growth/index.htm

State Forest Master Planning

I would also like to encourage you to become involved in the State Forest Master Planning Process. Each State Forest in Wisconsin is in the process of developing a Master Plan to guide its future management.

To learn more about what is happening go to the DNR's Division of Forestry homepage at: www.dnr.state.wi.us/org/land/forestry/ and click on State Forest Master Planning.

Upcoming Events

The Wisconsin Rural Leadership Program will be hosting the First Annual Wisconsin Community leadership summit at the Hotel Mead in Wisconsin Rapids, April 3-4, 2003

The Purpose of this program is to help build communities through a forum of leadership development, creating networks and collaboration in leadership.

This program is designed for community leaders and organizers, local government

officials, state agencies, organizations, businesses, **leadership program alumni** and organizers, community development professionals and anyone who would like to 'make a difference'.

The program will cover four areas of leadership development including:

Building individual and community leadership skills by providing practical tools to motivate others.

Share resource information.

Create partnerships and integrated programming.

Recognize outstanding leadership.

For more information contact about this event contact JoAnn Stormer

Phone: 608-263-0817 Email:
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or check out their website at
www.uwex.edu/ces/wrlp

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Photo Courtesy of Paul Pingrey, WDNR

Daniel Einstein, WLI Class of 2002, looking over a Forest management plan.

University of Wisconsin Extension
Forestry Outreach Programs
Helping Wisconsin's Woodland Owners
put their Vision's into Action

*For more information about
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