



Forest Management for Creating a Deer Hunting Paradise

October 8, 2025 | 9 a.m.-4 p.m. | Hancock Agricultural Research Station

Learning Objectives

- Understand basic deer ecology including their habitat requirements and how their requirements vary seasonally.
- Explain how to use silvicultural treatments to increase forage production and where/when they are appropriate.
- Identify where and how to incorporate cover to meet the year-round needs of deer.
- Explain how to account for deer home range size within forest management plans.

Agenda

9:00-9:05am	Intro
9:05-9:50am	Deer Ecology and Behavior <i>Matt Esser, Private Lands Deer and Habitat Biologist, WI DNR</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Fawning, Doe age, survivorship by age category, food preferences by season
9:50-10:20am	Elements of Deer Habitat and Timber Sales <i>Mike Demchik, UWSP Professor of Forestry</i>
10:20-10:35am	Forage Production
10:35-10:45am	Break
10:45-11:45am	Deer Management Assistance Program (DMAP) <i>Matt Esser, Private Lands Deer and Habitat Biologist, WI DNR</i> Managed Forest Law (MFL) <i>Fred Hengst, Tax Law Forestry Specialist, WI DNR</i>
11:45am-12:30pm	Lunch
12:30-1:00pm	Travel to field sites
1:00-4:00 p.m.	Managing for Deer and Their Habitat and Differing Spatial Scales