

**April 21, 2005**

**Management workshops offered for woodland enthusiasts**

The University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point (UWSP), in cooperation with UW-Extension and the Department of Natural Resources is offering a program for woodland owners interested in learning more about sustainable forest management practices.

According to John DuPlissis, forestry outreach specialist at UWSP's College of Natural Resources, the Master Woodland Steward Program combines classroom instruction and outdoor experiences to teach participants the basics of forest ecology, forest management techniques, managing for wildlife habitat, business decisions and planning tools, as well as sources for technical and financial assistance for woodland owners. Whether participants are interested in managing woodlands for profit or pleasure, they can gain valuable skills and knowledge that will help them become better stewards of their woodlands by participating in the upcoming summer program.

The program will be offered during six one-day workshops throughout the summer. Individuals can register for only those seminars that are of interest to them or register for all six and work toward becoming a Master Woodland Steward. Seminars will be held at Trees for Tomorrow in Eagle River and UW-Madison's Kemp Field Station south of Woodruff.

Saturday, June 4	Tree identification and Forest measurements
Saturday, June 25	Forest Ecology and Crop Tree Management
Saturday, July 16	Wildlife Management
Saturday, August 6	Timber harvesting and managing income from your woodlands
Saturday, August 27	Goods from your woods - recreation, aesthetics, and specialty forest products
Saturday, October 1	Handling your finances - Financial and Estate planning

Each seminar will explore different forest resource management and stewardship issues with presentations from forestry and wildlife management specialists. Additionally, participants will receive reference materials and publications providing additional information on each topic.

The cost to attend is \$25 per seminar or \$100 for those who wish to become Master Woodland Stewards. Program graduates are asked to work in their community and local woodland owner organizations to serve as a resource and to promote forest stewardship in exchange for the training they receive. The Master Woodland Steward Program is open to anyone who owns or enjoys Wisconsin's woodlands. However, class size is limited and preference will be given to those interested in becoming Master Woodland Stewards.

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