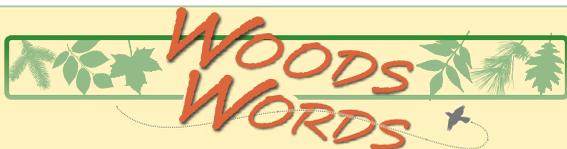


SOURCES OF WOODLAND INFORMATION & ASSISTANCE

Several Wisconsin-based websites can answer landowners' basic questions. One portal for several of these informational websites is www.woodlandinfo.org sponsored by the University of Wisconsin-Extension. Check out the numerous publications on the site which can help you with everything from identifying trees to finding a sample timber sale contract. All the publications mentioned in this brochure can be found on this site. Testimonials from landowners provide insight into how they work in their forest to meet their goals.

DNR foresters are also available to personally help you with almost any forest-related question. A DNR forester can assist you in developing a forest management plan or refer you to a consulting forester for hire. Training and experience varies among consulting foresters, so it is wise to get references before hiring one. A list of consulting foresters can be found on the WDNR website, www.dnr.wi.gov/forestry

Woodland Owners Association (WVOA) is another great resource for landowners. WVOA is a statewide organization, but has local chapters to facilitate local landowner interaction. WVOA events provide opportunities to learn what others are doing on their own woodlots and to get advice about foresters and loggers. To learn more, visit www.wisconsinwoodlands.org



Woods Words is a newsletter for woodland owners on issues related to caring for forests and getting the most out of them. If you are interested in receiving this free, quarterly e-mail newsletter, please subscribe by sending an e-mail to: learnaboutyourland@gmail.com (subject: subscribe)

Are you thinking about the future of your woodlands and how you will pass it on to the next generation?

Consider our class on passing the land to your successors, *Ties To The Land*. This 2-session class walks participants through the planning process for a successful transition.

It will be offered at various times and locations in 2012. For more information, contact Kris Tiles at 715.261.1254 or check out the website www.woodlandinfo.org under *Ties To The Land*.

ADDITIONAL LOCATIONS

Want to attend a *Learn About Your Land* event in another location? Here are all the offerings this spring:

February VILAS, ONEIDA
AND PRICE COUNTIES
CONTACT BILL KLAKE 715.365.2658

February SAUK, RICHLAND,
AND GREEN COUNTIES
CONTACT JOHN EXO 608.355.3554

January-March WAUSHARA, ADAMS,
AND WAUPACA COUNTIES
CONTACT KRIS TILES 715.261.1235

March MILWAUKEE AREA
CONTACT BILL KLAKE 715.365.2658

February-April OUTAGAMIE,
MANITOWOC, SHEBOYGAN, FOND DU LAC,
AND WASHINGTON COUNTIES
CONTACT KRIS TILES 715.261.1235

April SUPERIOR
CONTACT BILL KLAKE 715.365.2658

Can't attend in person?

TRY OUR INTERNET SERIES

Online classes will be offered in March and April. Check out the classes and dates on woodlandinfo.org under *Learn About Your Land*.

For more detailed listing of upcoming classes and dates, check out the website at www.woodlandinfo.org under "Learn About your Land" or visit us on Facebook: [Learn About Your Land](https://www.facebook.com/LearnAboutYourLand)



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FOR WOODLAND OWNERS WHO WANT TO KNOW MORE

By the UW-Extension Regional Natural Resource Program
Winter 2011-2012

Your woodland is a dynamic system. Plants and animals are constantly moving in and out of your forest. You are part of that dynamic feature by putting in trails, harvesting trees, and just being an owner of your forest. You can steer the changes in your forest to best fit your needs by following some professional management guidelines, and by keeping an eye on the health of your forest. These may seem like overwhelming tasks, but the good news is that there are people, publications, and programs out there to help you.



Check us out on Facebook for regularly updated information to *Learn About Your Land*
<http://www.facebook.com/LearnAboutYourLand>
(you don't need a Facebook account to access this)

FOR WOODLAND OWNERS WHO WANT TO KNOW MORE

All the publications mentioned in this brochure can be found at www.woodlandinfo.org

WOODS WORDS

5 STEPS TO HIRING A CONTRACTOR

During your tenure as a woodland owner, it is likely that you will need to hire a forester, a logger, a wildlife biologist, an accountant or some other professional to help you achieve your woodland goals. However, before anyone gets to work on your property, there are a few things you can do to ensure that you are working with the right people and you are getting what you want from them.

5 steps to finding the right contractor:

- 1 Determine what you need from a contractor** – once you have a project in mind, work through the steps of what you can do, and what you need to hire someone for. Remember that natural resources professionals can have various specialties. For example, a forester may have knowledge on how to manage for specific wildlife, or they may have to consult with a biologist.
- 2 Ask neighbors or other woodland owners who they have worked with** – check with your neighbors to see who they have hired for various woodland projects, and whether they recommend them. You can also check with professional organizations to see whether they list members, and where they work.
- 3 Learn something about the background and experience of the contractor** – once you have narrowed down your list of candidates, contact them. Ask for a list of nearby jobs and references, what type of work they do, and what education they have supporting that work (school or continuing education).
- 4 Make sure the contractor wants to help you meet your goals** – ask the contractor to visit your property with you. Do they understand your goals for the project? Do they seem to understand what you want?
- 5 Use a contract for services** – before you hire a contractor, write up a contract. Be clear about your expectations of when the project will be complete, what services are expected, and what success will look like.

Resources to help you get started:

Black
Cherry

How to hire a contractor
Hiring a consultant forester

Nine
Bark

5 STEPS TO KNOWING YOUR PROPERTY BOUNDARIES

There are many reasons to get to know your property boundaries, both legal and ecological. Since a legal boundary won't keep invasive plants and pests away, it is good to walk your boundaries for health inventory purposes. More importantly though, it is good to know what is going on around your property. If you or a neighbor are having a timber sale, timber theft can be a serious offense, one that you want to avoid. However, if your neighbor is having a sale, it might be a good way to get into the action and share some added profits by working together with a logger.

5 steps to get started:

- 1 Find the legal description for your property** – this can be found on the bill of sale or a property tax bill. It can also be found in a plat book, which will give you a chance to see who your neighbors are.
- 2 Check with the county clerk or the land information office to see whether a survey has been registered for your property** – if a survey has been recently completed, you can see a description of the work done. This should include how the boundaries and corners were marked, which will make it that much easier to walk your boundaries.
- 3 Talk with your neighbors about the location of corners and lines** – make sure that everyone is in agreement as to where these are. If you have a disagreement, you may need to have your land surveyed.
- 4 Establish easily recognized monuments for your corners** – these can include things like a pile of large rocks or a large, metal stake that are clearly visible and can be easily found.
- 5 Walk your property at least once a year** – whether you live on your woodland property or off-site, it is good to walk your property boundaries at least once per year. This is a good way to monitor what is happening on your land and around you.

Bur
Oak

For more information on
property boundaries:

Red
Oak

10 Ways to Protect Your Woodland Property



5 STEPS FOR SAFELY USING A CHAINSAW

Cutting firewood is a popular activity for many woodland owners. However, it is a dangerous activity. Here are 5 steps you can take to use a chainsaw safely.

- 1 Learn to cut like a pro** – take a class to learn how to use a chainsaw for felling, limbing and processing trees safely and efficiently.
- 2 Have all the appropriate safety gear** – including a helmet with a face shield, hearing protection, chainsaw chaps or pants, work gloves and boots.
- 3 Use the buddy system** – work with at least one other person in the woods.
- 4 Plan your tree felling before you start cutting** – understand and implement the concepts of danger zones and escape routes.
- 5 Maintain your chainsaw** – that means keep the air filter clean, always add bar oil when you add fuel, and keep your chain sharp and at the right tension.

Resources to help you get started:

Safe Tree Harvesting

Buying a Safe Chainsaw

Protective Clothing for Chainsaw Operators

VISIT FISTAUSA.ORG TO LEARN MORE ABOUT CHAINSAW SAFETY TRAINING PROGRAMS.

White
Ash

Sugar
Maple