Iowa Forestry Field Days
Forestry Extension, Iowa State University and the Division of Forests and Forestry, Iowa Department of Natural Resources in cooperation with County Extension Offices and County Conservation Boards, the Iowa Tree Farm Program, Iowa Woodland Owners Association, and others are providing educational Forestry Field Days at seven locations throughout Iowa this fall. The following is a listing of field day locations by dates, county, directions and topics to be covered. Some field days are provided without charge and some have a charge to recover our costs for lunches, refreshments and materials when provided. Please note, that in past years, many of you have received a direct mailing inviting you to a field day in your area. For most of you, this newsletter will be your only information about forestry field days.

SAVE IT AND POST IT.

LEE COUNTY & TREE FARM FIELD DAY
October 1, 2002, 9:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
Ron & Carol Fullenkamp’s Tree Farm
Topics: Plantations and Plantation Management; Timber Stand Improvement in Natural Stands; Farm Pond Management; The New Farm Bill and Forestry; Woodland Trusts and Ownership Transfers; Iowa Tree Farmers of the Year; Fish Shocking and Surveys; Soils and Site Selection; Woodlands After Harvesting; Succession and Post Harvest Treatments.
Directions: From West Point, north on Hwy X23 to the intersection of Hwys 16 and X23; continue north on X23, 1.5 miles to 110th Street; east on 110th street to the Tree Farm.
Cost: $8.00 for donuts, coffee, lunch and materials

BUTLER COUNTY
October 9, 2002, 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.
Klinkenborg Tree Farm
Topics: Regeneration of Native Woodlands—clearcutting, shelterwood with direct seeding; Direct Seeding Practices; Crop Tree Release after Clearcutting; Marketing Techniques for Timber; Tree Planting-planting preparation, hand and machine planting, weed control and maintenance.
Directions: From Parkersburg, north on Hwy 14, 4.5 miles to 280th Street; east on 280th Street 1.3 miles to the field day site.
Cost: $3.00 for refreshments and materials

ALLAMAKEE COUNTY/YELLOW RIVER
October 10, 2002, 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
Headquarters, Yellow River State Forest
Topics: Woodland Restoration Cost Share Practices; Planting Seedlings; Direct Seeding; Cover Crops for Weed Control; The New Farm Bill and Forestry; Woodland Management Cost Share Practices; Harvest and Regeneration; Weed Trees and Timber Stand Improvement; Pruning for Quality Timber; Invasive Plants—What are They and Management.
Directions: From Rossville, south on Hwy 125 to J66; west on J66, 11 miles to the Headquarters.
Cost: $7 for coffee, lunch and materials

CEDAR COUNTY
October 14, 2002, 12:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.
Tipton City Lagoon
Topics: Soils and Trees—good soils/bad soils, species selection; Walnut Plantation Care and Maintenance—plantation design and species combinations, pruning techniques, crop trees and crown competition thinning, site variation; Riparian Buffers—benefits of plantings along streams, cost share assistance.
Directions: From Tipton, east on Hwy 130 1-mile to Newton Avenue; south on Newton Avenue 0.2 miles to Red Star Rd; east on Red Star Road 0.3 miles to the plantation.
Cost: No Charge

DECATUR COUNTY
October 15, 2002, 12:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.
John and Sharon Orvis Tree Farm
Topics: Thinning in Timber Stands—crop tree release, weed trees and their control; Fire in the Woods; Savannah Management—restoration of the savannah woodland, using fire to maintain a savannah; plant identification—woodland and savannahs; Big Tree Management; Introduction to Grape Culture and Vineyards.
Directions: From Leon, east on Hwy 2, 2-miles to R52; south on R52 14.8 miles to J66; west on J66, 0.7 miles;
north on gravel road to the Tree farm.

Cost: No Charge

**HARRISON COUNTY**

Visitor Center, Loess Hills State Forest

**October 17, 2002, 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.**

Topics: Direct Seeding—two years after planting, weed control & competition; Tree Planting—plantation planning, hand and machine planting, weed control; Cost Share Assistance for Forestry; Iowa’s Prairies—what is a savannah, using fire for management.

**Directions:** The Forest Visitor Center is located on the West edge of Pisgah.

Cost: No Charge

**BLACK HAWK COUNTY**

Hartman Reserve Nature Center

**October 21, 2002, 3:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.**

Topics: Deer Management; Oak Management—timber stand improvement, fire as a tool in oak management, slowing succession, underplanting in woodlands; Tree Planting Program—tree planting, controlling competing vegetation; Invasive Species—why and what are invasives, options for control and management; county programs; Woody Plant Identification.

**Directions:** Hartman Reserve Nature Center, Waterloo

Cost: $10 for refreshments and materials

**Iowa’s Outstanding Tree Farmers for 2002**

Ron and Carol Fullenkamp have been named Iowa’s Outstanding Tree Farmers for 2002. They will be recognized during a Tree Farm Forestry Field Day at their Tree Farm on October 1, 2002.

The Fullenkamp’s have been active managers of their land since it was purchased in 1988 and 1990. The 136 acre Tree Farm has had a written management plan since 1989, with several revisions over the years. Robert Petrzelka of Geode Forestry has been involved with the planning and management of the Tree Farm. Much of the tree planting and timber improvement has been done by the Fullenkamps, their children and grandchildren. It is truly a family affair.

The management of their Tree Farm has strived to improve the woodland for wood production, wildlife habitat and aesthetics. Harvest of over-mature and lower quality sawlogs was completed in 1991. Plantings were completed in 1990 with walnut, green ash, red oak and Scotch pine, eighteen acres of walnut and oak in 1994 and a direct CRP seeding in the fall of 1997. They have established and maintain trails through the Tree Farm for their use and for use as fire breaks. They have completed crop tree release on most of the Tree Farm.

Ron and Carol, both graduates of the Master Woodland Manager’s programs have most active at encouraging other landowners to become better stewards of their lands. They will be hosts this fall for the Master Woodland Managers course in SE Iowa. The Fullenkamp’s have hosted the SE Iowa Forestry Field day in the past and are active with extension in the planning of the field day. They host and help with school groups and other community functions at their Tree Farm. They were hosts for the 1991 state-wide Soil and Water Conservation Society meeting in 1991. They have worked with the Iowa DNR to reintroduce ruffed grouse and work with the Iowa DNR on their annual turkey sighting survey.

**Consultant, Bob Petrzelka**

Ron and Carol are main-stays in their community. Neighbors and friends know that they know trees, plants and forestry, Tree Farming and wildlife and recognize them as sources of information and help. Bob Petrzelka their Consulting Forester says: “It would be hard to find a stronger advocate for forestry and forest management than Ron and Carol. They both have a tremendous land ethic and are respected members of their community. While other landowners may have a bigger acreage numbers than the Fullenkamps, it is safe to say that no one squeezes more enjoyment and education for so many people out of a stand of timber. If we could clone Ron and Carol, the forests of Iowa would be in excellent hands!”

**CONTRATULATIONS TO RON & CAROL!**
Forest Land Enhancement Program (FLEP) - FLEP cost shares forestry practices such as tree planting, forest stand improvement, riparian buffers, wildlife habitat, invasive species control, carbon sequestration, and management plans. FLEP money is provided to the IDNR Bureau of Forestry through the USDA Forest Service. Currently, FLEP money is expected to be available by early November 2002. Iowa’s allocation of FLEP is unknown at this time. It is expected that $200,000 to $300,000 will be available annually for the next six years. Cost-share rates will likely be 75%, although the per acre maximum payments have not yet been established. FLEP will be administered through the Bureau of Forestry and landowners will sign up with their District Forester.

Wildlife Habitat Incentive Program (WHIP) – WHIP cost shares a suite of practices that improve wildlife habitat. This program is administered by the Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS). Eligible WHIP practices include tree/shrub planting, forest stand improvement, windbreaks, shelterbelts, conservation cover, critical area planting, fencing, and wetland wildlife habitat management. WHIP is expected to eventually be funded at over one million dollars annually in Iowa. Landowners can have plans developed by NRCS field staff, District Foresters, and/or DNR private lands biologists. The person or agency that completes your plan will depend on the specific wildlife habitat practice that you are seeking to implement. For example wetland restoration projects may be completed by NRCS staff and/or private lands biologists. Tree planting plans and forest stand improvement plans will be completed by a forester. Applicants need to sign-up at their county NRCS office. NRCS is currently accepting WHIP applications, so if you have a project that has a wildlife component sign-up now.

Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) – Both the regular CRP program and the continuous CRP program were reauthorized in the current Farm Bill. Currently rules are being revised on this Farm Service Agency (FSA) program. It is expected that there will be a general CRP sign-up in early 2003.

Environmental Quality Incentive Program (EQIP) – The EQIP program, administered through NRCS, is expected to provide tens of millions of dollars to Iowa for landowner cost-share. EQIP is designed to assist landowners with improving soil and water quality, wildlife habitat, and surface and groundwater conservation. At least 60% of EQIP funds are targeted to livestock producers. However, there are provisions in the Farm Bill that define private non-industrial forestland as eligible for EQIP funds. There are still many details to be worked out regarding EQIP funding, for additional information and to provide input on how you would like EQIP funds prioritized in your county contact your local NRCS office.

These programs are still in the infancy stage and there will undoubtedly be changes, revisions, and refinements to each of these programs. To determine what program will work best for you, contact you District Forester or county NRCS office.

Paul Tauke, Forestry Supervisor, Bureau of Forestry, Iowa Department of Natural Resources

Red Osier Dogwood

Featured Shrug-Dogwood

More than 40 species of dogwoods grow in the temperate regions of the world; thirteen species are native to North America and six species of dogwoods are native to Iowa. Dogwoods have many desirable characteristics for which they are planted and grown. Their flowers, fruits and stems make them useful as ornamental plants. They provide habitat and for many species of wildlife and are useful for windbreaks and conservation practices in Iowa. One explanation for the name “dogwood” is that an astringent solution made from the bark was used to wash mangy dogs; perhaps a more realistic derivation of the name is from the use of “daggerwood” sticks to skewer meats.

Dogwoods are fairly easy to distinguish; they have simple leaves without teeth or lobes. The leaves have veins that
curve towards the tip of the leaf and run almost parallel to the leaf margin. In addition, the leaves when broken carefully across the veins will have fibers remaining intact as the leaf halves are separated. The leaves are mostly opposite in arrangement; the exception is alternate-leaf dogwood. Pagoda dogwood is the largest of the dogwoods, often growing to 15-25 feet in height. Fruit is bluish black in color.

Dogwoods are very important woodland plants in Iowa. Because they often grow in thickets, they provide excellent habitat for wildlife and provide browse during winter months for deer and rabbits. They are excellent food providers; their small, berry-like fruits are prized by many species of birds including grouse, turkey, pheasants, and many songbirds.

Pagoda dogwood (Cornus alternifolia) or alternate leaf dogwood is native to mostly the eastern half of Iowa. It is readily distinguished from the other dogwoods by its alternate leaf arrangement. Its common name comes from its branch arrangement in tiers resembling the ornamental pagoda. In recent years, it has become a favorite ornamental plant for Iowa landscapes. It grows best in rich, moist, well-drained soils. Pagoda dogwood is the largest of the dogwoods, often growing to 15-25 feet in height. Fruit is bluish black in color.

Gray dogwood (Cornus racemosa) might be considered the “blue collar” species; it is native to all but extreme NW Iowa and is the most common dogwood. Gray dogwood grows on dry open woodland sites. Fruit is white when ripe.

Red osier dogwood (Cornus stolonifera) with its bright red twigs is found in northern and western Iowa. Red osier dogwood tolerates moist soil conditions and often grows in large clumps. The mature fruit is dull white when mature.

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Dogwoods are a wonderful component of our woodlands and woodland edges. They contribute to the woodland ecosystem and are a good choice for other uses including windbreaks, wildlife habitat plantings, and as landscape plants around our homes.