February 4, 2013

Dear Woodland Owner/Manager:

You have been identified as an individual who may wish to participate in an intensive educational session on forestry. Forestry Extension at Iowa State University, Bureau of Forestry, Iowa Department of Natural Resources, Iowa State University Extension, and the Iowa Tree Farm Committee are sponsoring a MASTER WOODLAND MANAGERS Program beginning on August 21st 2013, and concluding on September 25th 2013. This educational program was first given in Iowa in 1988; to date, after 38 sessions, a total of 967 individuals have received this intensive forestry training in Iowa.

The objectives of this program are to: (1) develop highly-motivated, well-trained woodland owner/manager volunteers to improve and expand tree resources in the state; (2) show you how to better manage your own woodland; and (3) stimulate other landowners (neighbors and friends) to improve management on their lands because of your example, activities, and projects.

You will find on the backside of this letter a description of the five blocks of the program. An application form is enclosed as well. Please review the program description; if you are interested in applying, return the completed application form. There is a registration fee of $50 ($65 for couples) for this program to help defray cost of your textbook, materials notebook, and forestry scale stick. Your responsibility as a participant would be to attend all the sessions, actively participate in these learning experiences, and contribute at least 30 hours of public service after completing the program (Volunteering at Field Days, 4H events, youth group events, etc.).

This program will be the 38th such session in the state and will primarily focus on woodland owners and resource managers in Chickasaw, Floyd, Mitchell, Howard, Bremer and Butler Counties. This educational program will consist of a total of 30 hours of instruction (August 21st 6-10pm, August 28th 9am-5pm, September 4th 6-10pm, September 18th and 25th 9am-5pm.) The program will begin at Chickasaw County Conservation Board office and will utilize several indoor and outdoor areas on County Conservation Board lands and on Private tree farms.

If you have specific questions about the program or wish to have more details, you are invited to contact Jesse Randall, Extension Forester at Iowa State University at the address and phone number indicated above.

Please return your completed Application form and registration fee (Payable to ISU Forestry Extension) to Jesse no later than July 1st 2013, if you wish to be considered for this program. Applicants will be accepted in the order received, so return your application early: Enrollment is limited to 20 individuals. Outdoor activities will occur rain or shine so be prepared for inclement weather and we will be walking and working in the woods. There will be required reading each week that will introduce participants to the scheduled topics. We look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,

Jesse A. Randall
Extension Forester
&
Greg Heidebrink & Jason Walker
IDNR District Foresters
2013 Master Woodland Managers Program
Covers the Counties of Chickasaw, Floyd, Mitchell, Howard, Bremer and Butler Counties

[August 21 & 28, September 4, 18, & 25]

Objectives:
- Develop a network of highly-motivated, well-trained volunteers to assist land management professionals in the improvement and expansion of tree resources.
- Assist participating woodland owners improve management on their own lands by providing intensive forestry training.
- Stimulate other landowners to improve management of their woodlands by the example, activities, and service projects of these trained volunteers.

Location: Various locations around Johnson, Cedar and Jackson Counties, Iowa

COURSE OUTLINE

Block One (Wednesday, August 21, 6-10 pm) at Chickasaw County Conservation Board office

Reading Assignment

Program background, objectives, and plans
A. Introducing teaching staff & program participants
B. Responsibilities of teachers and of students
C. Baseline knowledge

Understanding the tree and the forest
A. Tree and shrub identification
B. Forest succession
C. Tree classification (size, position, developmental stages)
D. Growth and development of trees
E. Stands (types, density, age)

Iowa forests, assistance programs for landowners;
A. Current forest resource in Iowa
B. Assistance available (programs & people)
C. Developing your own woodland management plan;

Block Two (Wednesday, August 28, 9 am-5 pm) at Chickasaw County Conservation Board office

Measuring land and trees (Morning)
A. Land (distances, slopes, areas, legal descriptions, boundaries, mapping, aerial photos)
B. Trees (diameters, total heights, merchantable heights, volume, quality; tree scales)
C. Logs (diameters, length, quality; log scales)
D. Stands (stocking, basal area)
E. Tools of the trade
F. GIS & GPS

Inventorying the forest
A. Total vs. partial sample
B. Using plots for inventory estimation

Forest Succession - (Afternoon field trips to various stands)
A. Stand Inventory and mapping practice
B. Stand Stocking guides and how to use them
C. Planning for the future forest stand

Tree ID refresher
Management Plan work over break

**Block Three** (Wednesday, September 4, 6-10 pm) at Chickasaw County Conservation Board office

**Reading Assignment**

Tree ID refresher
Management Plan updates/questions

Marketing timber
- Biological vs. economic maturity
- Pre-harvest operations; post-harvest treatments
- Selling procedures and methods
- BMP’s

Chapter 10
- Specialty Products
  - Christmas trees
  - Maple syrup
  - Windbreaks
  - Riparian Buffers

Chainsaw safety & maintenance

**Block Four** (Wednesday, September 18, 9 am - 5 pm) Chickasaw County Conservation Board office

Tending the forest (silviculture) (All Morning)
- Regeneration systems (even-aged vs. uneven-aged; clearcutting, seed tree, shelterwood, selection) - Tour different regeneration systems
- Intermediate treatments (weeding, thinning, crop tree release; pruning)

Crop Tree Release exercise (Afternoon)

Managing woodlands for wildlife (integrated into morning and afternoon)
- Major species (game & nongame)
- Individual requirements for different species
- Habitat development and improvement

**Block Five** (Wednesday, September 25, 9 am - 5 pm) at Chickasaw County Conservation Board office

Planting trees (Morning)
- Purposes for planting
- Common planting designs and patterns; planting plans
- Matching species to growing site; understanding and using soils information
- Selecting tree stock
- Preparing the site for planting
- Care and handling of planting stock
- Planting techniques and methods (hand & machine)
- Controlling weeds
- Protecting from fire and animal damage/deer damage

Tree Pruning exercise

Chap. 8, 9, 12;
Pm-413, Pm-413a, Pm-413b, F-301, F-325, IDNR;
Chapter 10
F-348, Pm-1499, 1500
F-337
PM-1717, 1716
PM-1626 a,b,c,d
PM-1374b
Chap. 4 & 5;
Pm-941, Pm-1133, Pm-1374c, Pm-1374d, F-326, F-327, F-341,
F-350, F-351, F-360, F371
Minn. NR-FO 5938-S
Chap. 11;
Pm-1302f, Pm-1302g, Pm-1351b, Pm-1351d, Pm-1351i, IAN-401
Chap. 4;
Pm-1271, Pm-1676, Pm-1677,
F-304, F-336, F-345, F-355,
F-358, F-363, F-364,
WL-46, WL-47, IDNRf
Chap. 5 & 7;
Managing insect & disease pests  
Pm-482, Pm-1280  
Pm-1407, Pm-1481  

XVI. Group Review of your management plans  
F-367  

XVII. Field exams  
A. Tree and shrub identification  
B. Measurement and evaluation of standing trees  

XVIII. Written exam & review  

XIX. Evaluation of program and instruction by participants  

XX. Presentation of certificates & patches  

XXI. Discussion of public service activities, commitments, highlights of upcoming Forestry Field days  

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Textbook Provided:  

Additional reading for your information:  
-Specialty management  
A. Firewood - F-338, F-370, F-335  
B. Shade Trees - SUL 5, F-359  
C. Viticulture - www.hort.iastate.edu, go to Extension/outreach, to Viticulture  
-Woodlands and Tax Considerations Chapters 12 and 13, PM-1162, F-356  

SPEAKERS:  
Greg Heidebrink, District Forester, Iowa DNR  
Jason Walker, District Forester, Iowa DNR  
Laura Jesse, Plant Pathology, Iowa State University, Ames  
Steve Jungst, Professor Emeritus of Forestry, Iowa State University, Ames  
Paul Wray, Professor Emeritus of Forestry, Iowa State University, Ames  
Aaron Lumley, Forestry Supervisor, Iowa DNR  
Jesse Randall, Extension Forester, Iowa State University, Ames  
Joe Herring, District Forester, Iowa DNR  

SPONSORS:  
Bureau of Forestry, Iowa Dept. of Natural Resources  
Forestry Extension, Iowa State University Cooperative Extension  
Iowa Tree Farm Committee