

Wisconsin Woodland Owners Assoc. (WWOA) Fact Sheet

Quick Facts about WWOA

- Idea of an association originally put forth at 1953 Silver Anniversary Forestry Conference.
- By the late 1960's many new woodland owners were identified with varied backgrounds and occupations. The new landowners were anxious to learn how to manage and utilize their land. They were also confused and overwhelmed by restrictions, legislations, and tax policies related to forest management. The time was ripe for an organization to address these new landowners concerns and protect the increasingly fragmented forest.
- 1976 WI DNR Bureau of Forestry applied for series of grants from the US Forest Service to assist in the formation of a woodland owners association. The DNR then subcontracted the formation of the association to UW- Madison Dept. of Forestry to find first board members and an acting executive director.
- June 7th, 1979 first board meeting was held. Articles of Incorporation filed on August 30, 1979.
- November 1979 first newsletter published. *Woodland Management* newsletter was reformatted as a magazine in 1984. Title was switched to *Wisconsin Woodlands* in 2012.
- WWOA has an 11 member Board of Directors elected at-large by WWOA voting members.
- WWOA office is staffed by an Executive Director, Office Assistant and AmeriCorps member.
- WWOA is self-funded through membership dues and donations. Additional income is provided from magazine advertisements, gift shop sales, fundraisers, and grants.
- WWOA has 12 local chapters covering every county in the state.

Membership Data

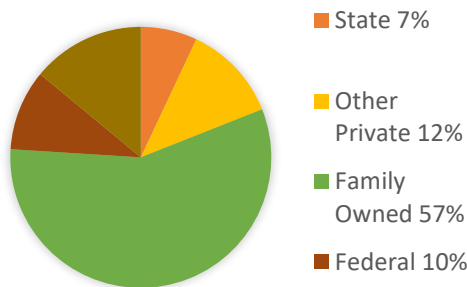
- As of March 2, 2021, WWOA has 1612 members.
- WWOA members own more than 265,000 acres (3% of family forestland owned).
- WWOA members primarily reside in Wisconsin but we have members in 32 different states and Australia.

Benefits of WWOA Membership

- Year-round educational opportunities include field days, topical workshops, online conferences & seminars, and an annual meeting providing a forum for exchange of information, ideas, and contacts.
- Award-winning quarterly magazine, *Wisconsin Woodlands*, with articles on best practices, landowner's experiences, expert advice, woodland related advertisers and much more.
- Informative website www.wisconsinwoodlands.org provides a calendar of events, legislative updates, management ideas, publications and links to resource professionals, and much more.
- Weekly educational enews *Learn Something New* starts your week off with interesting woodland topics.
- WWOA affiliation with National Woodland Owners Association gives woodland owners national voice on forestry issues.
- WWOA has active members on state and regional boards to give woodland owners a greater voice on important forestry issues.
- Women of WWOA gatherings offer educational experiences and social activities for woman landowners.
- Provides an annual \$5,000 scholarship to a UW-Stevens Point forestry student to assist in educating our next generation of foresters.
- Serves as an important link between woodland owners and natural resource professionals.
- Local Chapters are a great way to meet neighbors and learn more about local issues.
- WWOA membership includes many professional foresters and other natural resource professionals to help members learn about new management techniques, how to handle timber sales, and other woodland issues.

Wisconsin Forestry Facts

WISCONSIN FOREST OWNERSHIP



- 46% of Wisconsin is covered in forestland totaling 16.7 million acres.
- 57% of that forest is privately owned by 352,000 families, 9.1 million acres.
- Half of these family forest owners own 1-9 acres.
- Forest Ownership Breakdown by Entity:
 - State (1.17 million acres)
 - Federal (1.62 million acres)
 - Local Government (2.36 million acres)
 - Family Forest (9.1 million acres)
 - Other Private (2.85 million acres)
- <7% of family forest owners have written management plans,
- Only 27% of landowners solicited advice on land management.
- Private Ownership has risen nearly 1 million acres over the past 25 years.

Wisconsin Forest Industry Facts

- About 295 million cubic feet of timber harvested annually.
- Approximately 1,200 forest product companies exist in Wisconsin.
- Industry employs 64,298 people with total wages contributing about \$3.4 billion per year to Wisconsin's economy.
- The last four years have seen renewed growth within all forest industries except for papermills.
- Industry indirectly supports 125,350 jobs. Every forestry job adds 3.8 additional jobs in Wisconsin.
- It ranks 3rd in industry output in the state with total output of \$24.4 billion and value-added of \$6.7 billion.
- Forest recreation industry generates \$5.5 billion annually.

Wisconsin Timber Products

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| • Christmas Trees & boughs | • Firewood & Pellets | • Snowshoes |
| • Doors & Windows | • Pulpwood for paper | • Nuts & food production |
| • Lumber & Paneling | • Cardboard & Packaging | • Maple Syrup |
| • Posts, piling, decks, fencing | • Furniture & Cabinets | • Toothpicks |
| • Construction materials | • Animal bedding | • Kitchen supplies |
| • Wood Flooring | • Tools & handles | • Decorative birch poles & art |
| • Pallets | • Baseball bats & Sporting goods | • Wood Chemicals |
| • Wooden bridges | • Watercraft | • Many more! |

Wisconsin Woodland Property Tax Programs

- 1927 Wisconsin passed a constitutional amendment to allow differential taxation on forest lands. This was a response to forestland (or formally forestland) going into tax delinquency.
- 1927 Forest Crop Law (FCL) was created to help incentivize reforestation of larger tracts of land.
- 1954 Woodland Tax Law (WTL) was created to incentivize managing small woodlands.
- 1985 Managed Forest Law (MFL) replaces both Forest Crop Law and Woodland Tax Law
 - Law requires/encourages long-term management and sustainability on private woodlands.
 - Need 20 or more acres with 80% or more being productive forest.
 - Enroll in a 25-year or 50-year contract with approved WI DNR forest management plan.
 - Landowners pays a reduced annual property tax rate, and an additional fee per acre if land is closed to the public.
 - Woods can be enrolled in forest certification.