



# NEWS FROM WISCONSIN'S WOODS



A partnership of the Wisconsin Tree Farm Committee and Wisconsin Woodland Owners Association

Volume 13 Issue 1 • April 2019

## Join the Celebration on May 18

YOU are invited to join WWOA's 40<sup>th</sup> year celebration of educating and assisting Wisconsin's private woodland owners by attending our 40<sup>th</sup> Year Anniversary Open Woods events on May 18, 2019. Plan your visit at <https://wisconsinwoodlands.org/calendar-of-events/2019-open-woods-event/> and check for updates on host sites and activities.

WWOA's Open Woods hosts welcome everyone to their woodlands for this special celebration. Bring your family, friends, and neighbors to enjoy a walk in the woods or special activity. Each site will offer a variety of fun events such as walks with the hosts and forester or other natural resource professionals to showcase how the woodlands have been cared for or tentative projects on the land. Other activities may include children's activities with Smoky Bear, crafts, natural bird feeders, wildflower seed bombs, tree/plant/wildlife identification, exhibits from various nonprofit organizations and agencies. Some locations are also offering snacks and refreshments or encouraging participants to bring a picnic lunch to enjoy in the woods.

### *Open Woods Hosts and Counties to date:*

#### **Adams County**

Krahn family, 912 14<sup>th</sup> Ave., Arkdale, WI 54613

#### **Chippewa County**

Steven & Lois Raether, 4530 County Road K, Chippewa Falls, WI 54729

#### **Dunn County**

Brian & Mary Blakeley, E5228 920<sup>th</sup> Ave., Boyceville, WI 54725

#### **Green County**

Green Co. Forestry Education Center – W6037 County Road P, Monroe, WI 53566

#### **Jackson County**

Dennis Deitelhoff– N700 Bush Rd., Melrose, WI 54642

#### **Juneau County**

John & Gayle DeBaun, 4988 Preuss Rd., Kendall, WI

#### **Marathon County**

Andrew & Susan Schmidt, 242661 Buffalo Ridge Rd., Town of Texas, Wausau, WI 54403 (under the high power transmission lines)

#### **Marquette County**

Byron Hill, 5202 County Road J, Town of Harris, Westfield, WI 53964

#### **Monroe County**

Curt & Melissa Jacob, 19394 Edgewood, Tomah, WI 54660

#### **Outagamie County**

Steve Ring & Jack Tackman, W7004 Detention Rd., Shiocton, WI 54170

#### **Portage County**

Chuck Pogorelnik, 2467 Miller Ln., Town of Eau Pleine, Junction City, WI 54443

#### **Shawano County**

Debra Schroeder-Fisher & Jerry Fisher and Herman & Christina Kafura, W9953 Butternut Rd., Gresham, WI 54128

#### **Vernon County**

David & Diane Hoffman, N3267 Mohawk Valley, Stoddard, WI 54658

#### **Waupaca County**

Merlin & Georgie Becker, N3896 N. Military Dr., Weyauwega, WI 54973

#### **Wausara County**

Gerry & Bonnie Guokas, N5681 7<sup>th</sup> Ave., Plainfield, WI 54966

#### **Wood County**

Richard & Mary Czaja, 6670 County Rd. B, Pittsville, WI 54466

*Thank you so very much to our volunteer Open Woods hosts for sharing their woodlands! If you are a WWOA member and would like to host or volunteer for an Open Woods in your county, please contact Sarah at 715-346-4798 or [volunteer.wwoa@gmail.com](mailto:volunteer.wwoa@gmail.com). See you soon!*

## WOW—40 Years!

Thank you to all WWOA members for your generous gifts of time, talent, and dollars to help us reach this milestone anniversary—time sure flies when you are among friends!

*Won't you celebrate this special year with us?*

Save these dates on your calendar -

**May 18**—Open Woods events across the state

**Sept 19-22**—WWOA's Annual Meeting at the Hotel Marshfield in Marshfield. Reserve your hotel room by calling 855-583-2700 and request WWOA's special room rate of \$85/night + tax.

*Got Trees? Chip In* by participating in our membership drive. Write your name on the Referred line of WWOA's membership brochure and encourage another woodland owner to join!

Wear our 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary gear with a new brightly colored anniversary logo. Visit our Gift Shop to see the 40<sup>th</sup> logo on t-shirts and baseball caps at <https://wisconsinwoodlands.org/gift-shop/>.

Share your lessons learned from WWOA in *Wisconsin Woodlands* magazine by sending them to our editor, Barb Benish Schmitz at [barbara.a.benish@gmail.com](mailto:barbara.a.benish@gmail.com).

## NRCS Deadlines

The USDA, Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) has announced two upcoming deadlines for cost-share programs.

The deadline for Conservation Stewardship Program (CSP) applications to be considered for funding in fiscal year (FY) 2019 is **May 10, 2019**. CSP helps woodland owners build on their existing conservation efforts while improving wildlife habitat. Projects may include removal of invasive species or brush, or improvement and stabilization of stream banks for fish habitat. Learn more at <https://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/main/national/programs/financial/csp/>

Woodland owners can apply for a second round of USDA conservation funding through the Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP). EQIP cost-sharing can assist with minimizing soil and water erosion, removal of trees infected with Emerald Ash Borer, and other forest management practices. The application deadline is **May 17, 2019**, for funding in 2019. Learn more at [https://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/detail/wi/programs/financial/eqip/?cid=nrcs142p2\\_020742](https://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/detail/wi/programs/financial/eqip/?cid=nrcs142p2_020742)



## Tick Season

WWOA encourages you to be proactive in protecting yourself from tick-borne diseases. At the 2018 Annual Meeting, we had a wonderful presentation on Lyme disease by Rebecca Keith, FNP-BC, of Keith Family Wellness in Minong. We are grateful for her willingness to share the presentation with WWOA. It is now available on WWOA's website at <https://wisconsinwoodlands.org/resources/webpages/tick-resources/>

## Receive Newsletter Electronically

If you are receiving this newsletter via U.S. mail and wish to receive it electronically (and sooner), please send an email to [wwoa@uwsp.edu](mailto:wwoa@uwsp.edu) with your name, mailing address and this request.

Have you Liked us on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/WisconsinWoodlands/](http://www.facebook.com/WisconsinWoodlands/) so we can keep in touch with you?

## 2018 Tree Farmers of the Year, Tom & Leslyn Jacobs

Tom and Leslyn Jacobs were selected as the 2018 Wisconsin Outstanding Tree Farmers of the Year. They own and manage 875 acres of woodland in Marinette and Oconto Counties since 1984. They follow their management plan that focus on practicing Sustainable Forestry and keep records of their practices. In addition to practicing sound forest management they have constructed & maintained a wooden bridge on Waupee Creek, built a cabin from 85% of their own wood, maintain 38 Acres of wildlife openings, 12 miles of property lines are marked and identified, maintain bird houses and wildlife habitat and so much more. They completed 21 commercial timber sales since 1984. They maintain 15 wildlife ponds. They constructed over 29 miles of roads and trails using proper BMP's, road fabric, culvert installation, permits, seeding and maintenance. The family personally planted and re-planted over 20,000 trees including red pine, white spruce and balsam fir. They mow 6 acres of prairie grasses. Milkweed is promoted for Monarch Butterfly habitat. They have established an "Old Growth" Stand and/or Area about 3 acres. This area will never be harvested. The "Old Growth" consists sugar maple, hemlock, northern red oak and red maple. They shear naturally grown balsam and white spruce for Christmas trees for personal and family use. They prune and/or trim bottom branches off red pine and spruce that are along roads and trails. They also search out Northern Red Oak saplings to trim branches and "open up" to more sun-light and always trimming trees along trails and roads.

Tom and Leslyn have been very active outside of managing their woodlands. Tom has been a member of the Wisconsin Tree Farm Committee since 1988 and was Chair of the Committee from 2001 to 2008. Tom has served as Treasurer of the WTFC since 2006. Tom & Leslyn have been a member of WWOA and the Phoenix Falls Chapter of WWOA since 2001. Both Tom & Leslyn partake in many WWOA Field Days and Annual Conventions. Tom is a WWOA Board of Director from Fall of 2016 to present. Leslyn and Tom are both members of the Society of American Forester since graduating from UW-

Stevens Point as Foresters. Tom serves on the Wisconsin SAF Forestry Hall of Fame Committee since 2014. They have hosted numerous field days on their property. They have assisted in planning for meetings and conventions.

As husband and wife, parents and as foresters; Tom and Leslyn have sustainably managed their Tree Farms since their first purchase in 1984. They have included their family when taking care of the forest land and also when it comes to enjoying the wildlife, forest habitats and outdoor recreation that their Tree Farms offer.

Tom & Leslyn started their own forestry consultant business in the early . Tom & Leslyn plan to continue to be very much involved in Organizations that promote Forestry Education to Family Forest Landowners and the Public as they remain active members of the Tree Farm Program (State Wide & Nationally), active members of Wisconsin Woodland Owners Association and other various "Volunteer Organizations".

Tom and Leslyn will also continue to educate themselves in Sustainable Forestry by remaining WDNR Cooperating Foresters and Tom as a WDNR Certified Plan Writer to enable them to better serve family, friends, family and others needing forestry assistance.

### Save the Date!

Tom and Leslyn will be hosting the 2019 Wisconsin Tree Farm Field Day on their property on **August 17, 2019** in Marinette County . More information will become available as plans are developed. You can find this information at the Wisconsin Tree Farm website: [www.itreefarm.org](http://www.itreefarm.org).

### Outstanding Tree Farmer of the Year Program

Wisconsin is fortunate to have so many hard working Tree Farmers that are proud of their accomplishments and are wonderful stewards of the land. These individuals need to be recognized for what they do. If you are one of them and want to be nominated for the Outstanding tree Farmer of the Year, please contact your local tree farm inspector or call 715-252-2001 for more information.

*A partnership of the Wisconsin Tree Farm Committee  
and Wisconsin Woodland Owners Association*

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## **WISCONSIN FIRST IN NATION FOR AFF'S WOODSCAMP TECHNOLOGY, PROMOTING TREE FARM**

In 2015, American Forest Foundation (AFF) set a new vision to significantly increase the number of family forest owners caring for their land and making a positive impact on clean water, wildlife habitat, and sustainable wood supplies. In order to reach its goals, AFF has been implementing a variety of new strategies and tactics – partnerships, and modern-day outreach methods – to help connect with more landowners and help them overcome the initial barriers to forest stewardship.

Taking this work to the next level, AFF has recently focused on technology, adding a new web-based tool, WoodsCamp, to help streamline the process of matching landowners with conservation programs and opportunities.

WoodsCamp helps landowners learn something about their trees they didn't already know, and connect with the right resources and programs to assist them in caring for their land. WoodsCamp pulls in publicly available data from a variety of sources and makes it more accessible and easier to find to navigate. Landowners can self-identify their property through a Google map which then provides a report of the trees on that parcel. A landowner can then enter their goals for their property, and WoodsCamp provides a list of programs, experts and assistance that are a match.

For this year's Wisconsin Tree Farm Field Day, landowners who have raised their hands on the WoodsCamp platform will be informed of the annual event and invited to take part. This will be at no additional expense to the committee, further demonstrating the efficiencies of the technology.

If you are interested in learning more about WoodsCamp and how it is being used to recruit landowners, please contact Will Martin, [wmartin@forestfoundation.org](mailto:wmartin@forestfoundation.org). You can also go to our website:

[www.witrefarm.org](http://www.witrefarm.org)