



# Wisconsin Woodland Owners Association, Inc.

P.O. Box 285, Stevens Point, WI 54481-0285

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



**still growing!**

June 24, 2019

**WVVO OFFICE**  
**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**  
Nancy C. Bozek  
P.O. Box 285  
Stevens Point, WI 54481  
715-346-4798  
[wwoa@uwsp.edu](mailto:wwoa@uwsp.edu)

WI Department of Natural Resources  
Attn: Jim Warren  
PO Box 7921  
Madison, WI 53707  
[jamesk.warren@wisconsin.gov](mailto:jamesk.warren@wisconsin.gov)

**WVVO OFFICERS**  
**BOARD OF DIRECTORS**  
2018-2019

Dear Jim,

**PRESIDENT**  
Richard Wagner  
E5861 Clark St.  
Weyauwega, WI 54983  
715-281-7032  
[richardwagner@centurytel.net](mailto:richardwagner@centurytel.net)

The Wisconsin Woodland Owners Association (WVVO), representing the 350,000 plus private woodland owners covering more than 11 million acres in Wisconsin, appreciates the opportunity to review the proposed program guidance changes to the Wisconsin Forest Landowner Grant program (WFLGP).

**VICE PRESIDENT**  
Margaret A. Parsons  
1861 Ridge Rd.  
Junction City, WI 54443  
715-457-2470  
[mparsons@tds.net](mailto:mparsons@tds.net)

The WVVO Board of Directors supports the current "first come, first served" processing order for the WFLGP. We do not support the WDNR Division of Forestry Strategic Direction 2017-2022 intent statement that financial incentives should focus on landowners who are not currently participating in tax law programs.

**SECRETARY**  
Lois Raether  
4530 CTH K  
Chippewa Falls, WI 54729  
715-723-9736  
[raethertrees@gmail.com](mailto:raethertrees@gmail.com)

WDNR has not provided any evidence to show that landowners who are not currently participating in the tax law programs are being underserved by this program. In addition, tax law participants have made a commitment to practice sustainable forestry on their land for a significant period of time, where no commitment exists from those who have not signed a tax law contract. Under the "first come, first served" processing order, all landowners have the same opportunity to apply for and receive WFLGP funding.

**TREASURER**  
Arlene Roehl  
159 Lakeview Ave.  
Long Lake, MN 55356  
952-473-3036  
[ataroehl@gmail.com](mailto:ataroehl@gmail.com)

WVVO also notes another concern with the proposed change in how the August 1 batching period applications are processed. This change will impact time sensitive practices. By removing tax law contract holders from the August 1 batching period, time sensitive practices such as fall site preparation for tree planting, ordering of spring nursery stock, or contracting with service providers will be delayed. The next batching period is November 1, by then much of Wisconsin may be snow covered. This change in the order of processing applications may actually result in more funds being allocated later in the fiscal year followed by requests for extensions to match the approved action with the proper season or deadlines for completion.

**DIRECTORS**  
Randy Cooper  
3895 S. Woelfel Rd.  
New Berlin, WI 53146  
262-442-1275  
[rjkcooper@att.net](mailto:rjkcooper@att.net)

Dick Czaja  
6670 Cty Rd. B  
Pittsville, WI 54466  
715-884-6516  
[dickandmary@tds.net](mailto:dickandmary@tds.net)

WVVO appreciates the opportunity to comment on these proposed changes. We strongly encourage the WDNR to spend more time analyzing the impacts of this proposed change and its potential impacts on the historically funded practices of the program. Because this is a significant change, it should be publicized more broadly, especially to woodland owners with tax law contracts, for additional comments.

Keith Dobberstein  
W10096 Givens Rd  
Hortonville, WI 54944  
920-779-4429  
[kandkdobbb@yahoo.com](mailto:kandkdobbb@yahoo.com)

Sincerely,

Craig Edison  
280 Liberty Heights Dr.  
Chaska, MN 55318  
715-590-4925  
[edisonck@hotmail.com](mailto:edisonck@hotmail.com)

Richard Wagner  
President

Mark Erickson  
N4035 Lemke Dr.  
Medford, WI 54451  
715-748-3593  
[markerickson4035@gmail.com](mailto:markerickson4035@gmail.com)

Tom Jacobs  
W8367 Moonshine Hill Rd.  
Crivitz, WI 54114  
715-856-6340  
[trees.trails@gmail.com](mailto:trees.trails@gmail.com)

Steven J. Ring  
W7004 Detention Rd.  
Shiocton, WI 54170  
920-735-9702  
[sring@utilityssi.com](mailto:sring@utilityssi.com)