

2020 Indiana Woodland Owner Conference

Woodland Owners Online Together (WOOT) • November 6-7

(Note: Some activities are “on your own” and available starting October 1st, see the IFWOA website for details)

Friday, November 6

7:30 PM ET/6:30 CT

Opening session • Live via Zoom

- Welcome
- Orient to the virtual conference, How to
- Division of Forestry update – Director John Seifert
- IFWOA organization update – Liz Jackson
- “Happy hour” small group breakouts



Saturday, November 7

Virtual Presentations • Live via Zoom

8:45-9:00 AM ET/7:45 CT

Opening and Welcome, orient to the virtual conference

9:00-9:30 AM

Senator Mike Braun – Remarks, Q & A

9:30-10:15 AM

Limiting Property Carrying Costs and Tax Liability – Lenny Farlee, Purdue University

10:15-10:25

Break or open chat time

10:25-11:10

Oak Management on Indiana Nature Preserves- Tom Swinford, IN DNR Division of Nature Preserves

11:10- 11:55 AM

Timber Stand Improvement: Techniques and Cost Share Options – Amy Spalding, National Wild Turkey Federation

11:55- 1:00

Lunch break (on your own)

1:00-2:00

Ask the Expert breakout sessions

Experts will be on hand in online “rooms” to answer your questions on the below topics, choose the topics you prefer and go to that room:

- **Wildlife Habitat Management** – Jarred Brooke, Purdue University
- **Wildlife Programs for Private Lands** – Josh Griffin and Shannon Winks, IN DNR Division of Fish & Wildlife
- **IN Division of Forestry Private Lands Programs** – IN DNR Div of Forestry district forester Janet Eger and Brenda Huter, CFM coordinator
- **Succession Planning** – Renee Wiatt, Purdue Institute for Family Business
- **Timber Markets & Industry Update** – Jeff Settle, IN DNR Division of Forestry
- **Invasive Species Management** – Dawn Slack, The Nature Conservancy/ Indiana Invasives Initiative, and Will Drews, SICIM
- **Songbirds & Bird Habitat** – Jessica Outcalt, bird ecologist & educator

7:00-8:15 PM ET/6:00 CT

Virtual Awards Program • Live via Zoom

- Welcome
- IFWOA organization update
- Awards Presentations
 - Photo contest winners
 - IFWOA Role Model Award
 - John F. Datena Forester Award
 - Charles Deam Forest Stewardship Awards presentations

Agenda may be subject to change. See <https://www.ifwoa.org/resources/annual-woodland-owner-conference/> for the latest agenda and information on programs or registration.

Indiana Woodland Owner Conference

Woodland Owners Online Together (WOOT) • 2020 Meeting Highlights

Friday November 6th Program Summary

Virtual Programs, Live Via Zoom

Opening & Welcome, Orientation to the conference

Executive Director Liz Jackson will provide an overview of plans, and ideas to enjoy the virtual conference environment.

Indiana Division of Forestry update

John Seifert, Division of Forestry director, will discuss ongoing division activities including the new 10-year Statewide Forest Action Plan and the 5-year Division of Forestry strategic plan, plus the private lands program.

Happy Hour small group breakouts

This year we can't provide the snacks and beverages, but grab your own as you sit back and visit with old friends or make new ones in this informal chance to say hello and share with fellow woodland owners.

Saturday November 7th Program Summary

Virtual Programs, Live Via Zoom

Limiting property carrying cost and tax liability

Lenny Farlee, hardwood extension specialist, Purdue University Department of Forestry & Natural Resources. Woodland ownerships is a long term endeavor with often long time periods between income, but ongoing annual costs to hold and manage the land. Lenny will discuss some ideas for limiting those costs and future tax liabilities.

Oak management on nature preserves – Tom Swinford, Assistant Director, Indiana DNR Division of Nature Preserves. Indiana Division of Nature Preserves manages for special habitats and rare and endangered species. Tom will discuss management activities they are using to successfully regenerate oak and ensure future success of these special places.

Timber Stand Improvement: techniques and cost share options – Amy Spalding, forester with National Wild Turkey Federation in Indiana. Timber stand improvement (TSI) is a forest management technique that can serve to improve the quality and health of your woods no matter what your management objectives are. Amy will share TSI techniques and ideas to get financial support for your management.

Ask the Expert breakout sessions – Attend the session you prefer to learn about programs and ideas for woodland owners and ask the experts your questions.

Sessions include:

Wildlife Habitat Management – Jarred Brooke, Extension Wildlife Specialist, Purdue University Department of Forestry & Natural Resources. Jarred will answer your questions about creating wildlife habitat on your property and resources to help you create better habitat.

State DNR Wildlife Programs for Private Lands – Josh Griffin and Shannon Winks, IN DNR Division of Fish & Wildlife Private Lands Program. Josh and Shannon will answer questions about Division of Fish & Wildlife programs that private landowners can use to create and manage for wildlife on their property.

IN Division of Forestry Private Lands Programs – IN DNR Division of Forestry district forester. Indiana's district foresters provide services to woodland owners to assist them in their forest management, including the Classified Forest & Wildlands Program. Ask questions about the CFW program and district forester services.

Succession Planning – Renee Wiatt, Family Business Management Specialist, Purdue Institute for Family Business. Succession planning is an important topic for business owners, land owners, and most importantly: FAMILIES! Communication is the key to getting the process started and also the key to ensuring that the plan is carried to completion. What can your family do to start the conversation and give everyone a voice along the way?

Timber Markets & Industry Update – Jeff Settle, Forest Resource Information for IN DNR Division of Forestry. Timber prices and demand fluctuate widely over the many decades rotation of a hardwood stand and are subject to outside economic forces, export markets, and many other factors. Ask your questions to learn about the Indiana hardwood industry.

Invasive Species Management – Dawn Slack, Director of Stewardship for The Nature Conservancy of Indiana, and Chair, Indiana Invasive Plant Advisory Committee, and Project Coordinator, Indiana Invasives Initiative, SICIM and Will Drews, SICIM chair. Invasive species have become a primary problem in natural areas, and one which requires more time and money to manage. They will answer questions about invasive plants in Indiana and steps landowners can take to combat them.

Songbirds & Bird Habitat

Jessica Outcalt, bird ecologist & educator, is a recent Ph.D. graduate from the Department of Forestry and Natural Resources at Purdue University. Jessica studied migration of songbirds through fragmented forests in Indiana. Jessica will answer your questions about encouraging songbirds on your property as well as bird feeding ideas, and good tools for getting involved in birding.

Annual Awards Ceremony

An opportunity to recognize those in Indiana who have exemplified good forest stewardship with the Charles Deam Forest Stewardship Award and foresters who have achieved the highest levels of their profession with the John F. Datena Award.



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“On Your Own” Activities



Join Our Outdoors October Challenges: Have some Family Fun!

The activities listed here are a great chance to get outside and to get your extended family involved, learning about your property and nature. Or stay inside and view our virtual field tours and exhibit hall. Post your fun on social media with #OutdoorsOctober #IFWOA

Scavenger Hunt

Calling all scavengers! Gather your household, and start exploring! Perhaps challenge other families or your extended family to a “competition.” Download the list of clues and track your progress. We have 2 levels:

Family: Safe and easy for all ages, preschool and up (with supervision): [Download now](#)

Master: A little more challenging: [Download now](#)

[Upload your photos to our scavenger hunt contest](#) through November 6 to be entered into a random drawing for a special prize, or find the items just for fun.

Remember to get permission on private property and practice the rules of [Leave No Trace](#), leaving behind natural objects, avoid damaging plants and trails, and dispose of any trash.

Photo Contest: Submit your Photos Now!

[Submit your entries here through Friday October 30](#)

Vote for your favorite photos in each category (available Nov 2-6)

Anyone can enter, and all entries will be available online for viewing and voting. Prizes for the photos with the highest vote in each category, winners announced at the November 7 awards banquet.

Get your kids or grandkids involved! We have a special category for kids under 18 to share their outdoor photos.

The categories are:

Woodland management

Scenic

Wildlife

Family Fun

Unique/Odd

Invasives

For Kids Only (under 18 submit only, any subject)

Virtual Field Tours: See our “Walks in the Woods”

What does your “walk in the woods” look like? Share a “minute or three” cellphone video of a walk or activity on your property or somewhere else in nature. Tell us about something that looks really neat, or a “show and tell” of a success or how to do something.

[Upload your video here through October 30.](#)

View the Virtual Field Tours (available Oct 26 – Nov 30)

Exhibit Hall & Poster Session

Exhibitors: Do you have programs or products of interest to Indiana woodland owners? Businesses and organizations can post a virtual display or advertisement about your organization, products, or programs in our “Virtual Exhibit Hall.”

Exhibits accepted through October 30 for public display October 26 through November 30.

[Upload a flyer, PDF, photo, video, or website promoting your information here.](#)
(password: ifwoa)

View the Exhibit Hall and Poster Session (available Oct 26- Nov 30)