

## KWC Calendar

24 Oct - Forest Management Guidelines Field Session; \$75;  
218-722-5442

**03-Nov - Kickapoo Forestry Guided Hike**, Paul and Marcia Bader farm, La Farge, WI. 608-625-2515 More on page 1

7 Nov - Understanding Wood II; Cloquet Forestry Center, Cloquet, MN; \$89 (\$99 after october 26) Common products made of wood, manufacturing processes, product properties, proper applications, new and emerging technologies and products. Jim Bowyer: 612-624-4292; bowyer@cnr.umn.edu

8-9 Nov The Midwest Working Landscape Forum's Conference - Working Landscapes in the Midwest: Creating Sustainable Futures for Agriculture, Forestry, and Communities; Lake Lawn Resort; Delavan, WI .. A diverse group of Midwest stakeholders will explore practices and policies that promote land-based economic activity that is environmentally and socially sustainable for the long term. Funded by a broad group of government and non-profit entities. Marin Byrne, 612-870-3436; marin@iatp.org; www.workinglandscapes.org

9 Nov - Chain Saw Safety: Making the Right Cut; Iowa County, WI, The Woodland School, \$40. Rob Nelson; 608-355-0279; rob@aldoleopold.org; http://www.the-woodlandschool.org

13-15 Nov - Forestry Field Skills Course; Cloquet Forestry Center, Cloquet, MN . Mary Ann Hellman, 612-624-7222; mhellman@forestry.umn.edu; http://www.cnr.umn.edu/cce

14-Nov - Natural Resource Seminar: Update on Worms and Forest Decline, 3-4:30 pm, free; College Center, Itasca Community College, Grand Rapids, MN. Speaker: John Almendinger, MN DNR/Forestry. Bonnie Henriksen, 218-327-4465, bhenriksen@it.cc.mn.us

26 Nov - 06-Dec - Natural Resources Institute, Module 2: Decision Making & Systems: Thinking for Natural Resource Professionals \$1,900. Oregon State University, Corvallis, OR Kelly Duffield; duffield@u.washington.edu; http://www.cfr.washington.edu/outreach/nri/NRIhome.html


30 Nov - Understanding Wood III. U of MN, St. Paul Campus \$89 (\$99 after Nov. 16). Jim Bowyer, 612-624-4292; jbowyer@cnr.umn.edu

**8 Dec - Kickapoo Forestry Guided Hike**, South Kickapoo location TBA; More on page 1.

9-12 Dec - Midwest Fish & Wildlife Annual Conference: Transitions in the Conservation Landscape, Des Moines, IA http://www.state.ia.us/midwest2001

12 Dec - Natural Resource Seminar: Implementing the Vision of Forestry for Minnesota, College Center, Itasca Community College Grand Rapids, MN ., free. Bonnie Henriksen; 218-327-4465; bhenriksen@it.cc.mn.us

9 Jan 2002 - WOLF ECOLOGY EXPERIENCES IN N. MINNESOTA; AUDUBON CENTER OF THE NORTHWOODS, Sandstone, MN: (320) 245-2648

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**The mission of the Kickapoo Wood Cooperative is to provide sustainable forestry education, management and marketing services to residents of the Kickapoo Valley and neighboring watersheds.**

# Kickapoo

## Kickapoo Forestry Guided Hike

*How should I manage my woods as it can be? How should I manage an existing forest? Get answers to these questions.*

On Saturday, November 3, foresters, landowners and Kickapoogians will join Paul Bader's 65-acre property for a hike in the woods from 9:00am to 12:00pm. Brad Hutnik will be along, a staff forester at the University of Wisconsin. He is one of two SmartWood-certified foresters in Wisconsin. He manages the best ecosystems and environmental responsible forestry management plan for the property. Hutnik will point out what he looks for in a forestry management plan for a property, and describe recommended practices including wildlife habitat, water quality, aesthetics, and economic value. He will provide refreshments, and a table with books, brochures, and extension materials on forestry practices. The event will be so dress for the weather, and come with a national hike in the beautiful driftless zone.

Brad Hutnik is familiar with sustainable forestry certification standards, as well as DNR state tax-reduction and landowner education. He is a graduate of both UW-Madison and UW-Stout, and has worked for Conservation Stewardship (Stor Enso), the Nature Conservancy,



## From the KWC Coordinator

Paul Bader, our new coordinator, began working with timber in 1971 when he rebuilt an old sawmill and began a custom sawing business. Later he built and installed sawmills and custom equipment, and worked for a large hardwood company Midwest Hardwood Lumber for 5 years. Witness to the decline in timber quality due to high-grading and overharvesting, Paul has a heartfelt personal commitment to sustainable forestry.

The KWC steering committee hired me in August to take over the duties of Chris Cox. Since that time I have been busy coming up to speed on the formation of the cooperative and working with the steering committee formulating the bylaws. We have defined membership in a broad way. Voting membership is open to any woodland owner who pays the one-time fee and non-voting membership is open to any interested person or organization. Educational services are available to all members and most are available to non-members as well. Forestry and marketing services are available to those members with Forest Plans.

### Business Plan

We have also been working on a business plan. Unlike other sustainable woods coops in the region, KWC is developing a member service plan oriented toward using and marketing products already owned by the members, namely their woods and its products, instead of the manufacturing of wood products. Other coops are processing logs into lumber and drying it for millwork and flooring, and have invested a lot of capital up front. Our approach is to begin by providing supportive services, then later make capital investments when we can do it with minimal debt. We are conducting educational programs based on sustainable forestry practices. KWC can coordinate the development of forestry plans based on members' objectives. It is our hope that by early next year, a timber stand improvement (TSI) and firewood production crew can be trained and contracted to carry out some aspects of our members' forestry



### KWC Steering Committee

Rhett Adams Phil Gudgeon  
Ben Hansen Jack Knight  
Aaron Larson Richard Hansen  
George Siemon

larger our membership the more "market clout" we can exert.

### Member Development

I cannot emphasize enough the need to increase our membership. Not only will a large and broad-based membership give us marketing advantages, it will also make it possible to add and maintain reliable services. It can help the development of the "certified wood" market by supplying manufacturers and retailers with certified sustainable timber, further increasing its value. If we are to carry out our mission of providing (reliable) sustainable forestry education, management and marketing services, then it will be necessary to have enough Forest Plans to keep a full-time crew working. To these ends we are launching a membership drive.

It is our goal to have 50 members with 5,000 acres by the end of the year. Currently we have 22 members and as an incentive to join we have decided to offer a **free "woods walk survey" to anyone joining the coop before January 1, 2002.** We

have published a new brochure describing the mission and the services offered. I have written to the membership and asked them to help in this drive by providing brochures to their friends and neighbors who may be interested in joining. A landowner survey has also been developed and sent to members. Responses to the survey will help the coop develop the programs that are needed, so please send yours in right away. The survey will also help the "Woods Walk Surveyer" ascertain the forest management objectives of prospective members. A protocol for the conductors of "Woods Walk Surveys" has been created so that we have uniform guidelines for a detailed description of the forestry options for woodland owners. A steering committee member who has experience in woodland management will conduct individual member "Woods Walk Surveys".

### Workshops and more

The coop is also planning two workshops on sus-

*From the Coordinator, continued from page 1*

provided by The Forest Industry Alliance (FISTA). FISTA has programs for safety, tree felling and skidding, practices for water quality and the best management practices. Workshops can also be designed to increase production and processing by the woodlot owner.

Further development of the KWC will include just how we plan to accommodate KWC's operation. We will probably include some of the educational programs at workshops designed to address the needs of the woodlot owner. We will have to at least cover the cost of the services. We will try to obtain outside funding for the services. Hourly charges to members for the conduct of forestry services and charge for marketing services have been discussed.

I have arranged a meeting with the woodlot foresters to explore the ways in which the DNR can cooperate. The State Conservation Service have cost-share programs for developing forest plans and other services. We hope that we can work out a relationship that can enhance each other's operation. The inclusion of "Use Value" property valuation is very important to many landowners. We will land into the Managed Forest Land program. We will choose the MFL plan we can help the woodlot owner that will satisfy both "Smart Wood" and "Use Value" requirements. The State also has a program that can make cost-share available to landowners.

It has become evident to me that it is necessary to further KWC's growth as an organization that will enhance the management of our forests and the economic well-being of the region. It is important to remember that we cannot obligate anyone to anything other than a membership fee. The purpose is to provide a forum for forestry practices in the region and to help us achieve that goal.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank Chris Cox and the steering committee for their contribution into KWC's coordinator position.