



2025 Northeastern & Southern Forest & Conservation Nursery Meeting

Restoration of Bottomland Forests in Wisconsin

Waterfront Hotel
113 S Main Street, Prairie du Chien
Wisconsin

July 21-23, 2025



Photo courtesy of Dr Nick Labonte

Agenda Overview

Day 1 - Monday, July 21

4-8pm Registration (Terrace)
5-7pm Icebreaker
(Backwater Bar & Grill)

Day 2 - Tuesday, July 22

7-8am Breakfast (Terrace)
8-4:30pm Conference (Terrace)
4:30-5pm Northeastern Nursery
Association meeting
6-9pm Banquet (Backwater Bar)

Day 3 - Wednesday, July 23

7-7:45am Breakfast (Terrace)
7:45am-5pm Field trip
(lunch provided)



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Tuesday, July 22

7–8am Continental breakfast

Wisconsin's Nursery Program

8:00am **Welcome from Wisconsin**, Heather Berklund, Chief State Forester, Wisconsin DNR

8:30am **History of Wisconsin's Nursery Program**, Jeremiah Auer, Regeneration Specialist, Wisconsin DNR

9:00am **Mycorrhizae in the Nursery and Outcomes for Successful Plantings**, Dr Richard Lankau, Professor, University of Wisconsin–Madison

9:30am **Soils, pH Issues at the Nursery**, Dr Nick Balster, Professor of Soil Science, University of Wisconsin–Madison

10:00am Morning break

Regional Bottomland Restoration Efforts

10:30am **Regeneration Challenges in Upper Mississippi River Floodplain Forests**, Andy Meier, Lead Forester, US Army Corps of Engineers – St. Paul District, Mississippi River Environmental Section

11:00am **Nursery Products and How They are Integral to the Mission of the Upper Mississippi and Other Wildlife Refuges in the Midwest**, Dr Bruce Henry, Forest Ecologist, US Fish and Wildlife Service

11:30am **Silvicultural perspectives on artificial regeneration in oak management**, Dr Dan Dey, retired – USDA Forest Service

12:00pm Lunch

Navigating Forest Health Challenges

1:00pm **Pest Issues Associated with Nursery Stock in Wisconsin**, Kyoko Scanlon, Forest Pathologist

1:30pm **Updates on the American Elm Breeding Program**, Dr Leila Wilson, Research Ecologist, USDA Forest Service Northern Research Station

2:00pm **Update on Butternut Conservation and Improvement Work**, Dr Nick Labonte, Regional Geneticist, USDA Forest Service Eastern Region National Forest System

2:30pm Afternoon break

SilviCast Panel and Field Trip Prep

3:00pm **Biochar Research Update**, Dr Nick Balster, Professor of Soil Science, and Alexa Kloske, University of Wisconsin–Madison, Department of Soil and Environmental Science

3:30pm **SilviCast: Update from the Conference**, Greg Edge, Silviculturist, and Brad Hutnik, Forest Ecologist, and panel discussion

4:30pm Northeastern Nursery Association meeting

6:00pm Banquet at hotel



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Wednesday, July 23

- 7:00am Breakfast (provided)
- 7:45am Leave the Waterfront Hotel for White Oak progeny test
- 8:25am Tour White Oak progeny test
- 9:00am Leave for Wilson State Nursery in Boscobel
- 9:30am Tour Wilson State Nursery with tractor/wagons
- 11:30am Field lunch at the nursery (provided)
- 12:30pm Leave for Bell Center seed orchards
- 1:00pm Tour Bell Center with tractor/wagons
- 2:00pm Leave for Sturgeon Slough Trail parking area, Prairie du Chien
- 2:45pm Arrive at Sturgeon Slough Trail parking area (walking only)
- 4:30pm Return to hotel
- 5:00pm Dinner on your own / Departure

**Thank you for attending the 2025 Northeastern &
Southern Forest & Conservation Nursery Meeting!**

We welcome all feedback to ensure we provide you with relevant information and engaging events. Please fill out the post-event survey to let us know what you thought of this year's program.

