
Wisconsin Forestry Notes

September 2011

Wisconsin DNR - Division of Forestry

Timber salvage from July 1 storm in northwest Wisconsin continues.

Latest news from NW storm recovery

The Natural Resources Board has granted the Governor Knowles State Forest permission to conduct a salvage timber sale in a wilderness area of the property. The July 1 straight-line winds impacted more than 130,000 acres of forests in Ashland, Bayfield, Burnett, Douglas, Polk and Washburn Counties, including 3,000 acres on the Governor Knowles State Forest – 2,000 of which are within a designated wilderness area. The 660-acre harvest in the 7,355-acre wilderness area will ensure adequate regeneration and reduce risks of insect, disease and fire damage. The estimated timber volume of this sale is 16,000 cords of pulpwood and 76,500 board feet of sawtimber.

In an ongoing effort to reach private landowners with timber salvage information, DNR held a media day on September 1, giving news crews an opportunity to survey storm damage both from the air and on the ground. Six television crews (including four TV stations out of the Twin Cities) and one newspaper reporter participated in the event. The Division of Forestry has also enhanced the online toolkit to help forest landowners recover from the storm: <http://dnr.wi.gov/forestry/stormRecovery/>

Wisconsin's forest industry leads the nation

According to a recent study by the American Forest and Paper Association, Wisconsin is number one among states in forestry jobs employing 56,533 workers, and in economic value of wood and paper products shipped at a combined total of \$16,201,241,000.

“The forest industry has been and continues to be one of Wisconsin’s great economic engines and this report verifies that fact. I look forward to further conversations with industry leaders on how we can maintain this momentum by building stronger relationships and putting the tools in place for even more growth in forest-based jobs and products,” said Governor Walker. Read the full release on the Governor’s website at: http://walker.wi.gov/journal_media_detail.asp?locid=177&prid=5980

Nurseries begin annual seedling sales in centennial year

Forest landowners can place orders for 2012 tree seedlings beginning Monday, October 3, a tradition that started 100 years ago with the start of the state nursery program. Since its start in 1911, the state nursery program has produced more than 1.5 billion seedlings, meeting its mission to ensure a consistent supply of high quality seedlings at an economical price to encourage reforestation in Wisconsin. The nurseries celebrated the program’s centennial in September with open houses for the public to tour the facilities and view historic displays and equipment.

As they begin the next century of operations, the nurseries are actively accepting seed for jack pine, sugar maple, swamp white oak, basswood, black cherry, hackberry and beech. For more information, find the contact information here: <http://dnr.wi.gov/forestry/Nursery/GeneralInfo/contact.htm>

2012 seedling sales have begun - order early to get the species you want!

Video shares story of home saved from devastation

Homeowner shares captivating story in new video about how he saved his house from wildfire.

The Division of Forestry has a new tool to reach rural landowners with the message that a few simple steps can help save homes in a wildfire. “Wildfire in Wisconsin: Would Your Home Survive?” tells the story of a homeowner whose house stood undamaged even though his property was directly hit by the 3,400-acre Cottonville Fire of 2005 in Adams County. The Division hopes that his captivating story will motivate other rural landowners to take similar preventative measures. Take a look at the video posted here: <http://dnr.wi.gov/forestry/fire/prevention/firewise/>

Look for gypsy moth egg masses now

Check your trees for tan-colored egg masses to assess defoliation damage next year.

Now is the time to look for gypsy moth egg masses. Caterpillars will hatch next April from egg masses that are visible now and eat the leaves off of nearby trees. The number of egg masses in an area this fall helps to predict the pest’s population size and potential damage to trees next year. Most egg masses will be found on tree trunks and the undersides of branches, but they can also be found on buildings, firewood, picnic tables, and other outdoor objects. If you find egg masses on your property, you can spray them with horticultural oil labeled for gypsy moth. This will help prevent them from hatching next spring. Watch for tiny holes in the egg mass caused by a helpful, tiny, non-stinging wasp called *Ooencyrtus*. These wasps also help control gypsy moth populations before they hatch. If any wasps are visible, wait to oil the egg mass until they are done with their helpful work and gone. For more information, visit: <http://gypsymoth.wi.gov>.

It’s a good day in the “neighborhood”

Special month encourages the 80% of Wisconsin residents who live in urban areas to learn about the forest where they live.

October is national “Neighborhoods Month” – an annual celebration of trees in communities. About eighty percent of Wisconsin residents live in the urban forest that includes 1.7 million acres in cities and communities statewide. Neighborhoods month encourages people to learn about ecosystems where they live, to plant trees and to green-up their communities. For more information: <http://neighborhoodsmoonth.org/>

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Paul DeLong, Chief State Forester Kirsten Held, Editor, Phone: 608-264-6036

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