



## Woody Biomass Harvest & Utilization: Opportunities for Private Forest Landowners Workshop



**Friday  
September 18, 2009  
North Central Research  
and Outreach Center  
1861 East Hwy 169  
Grand Rapids, MN**

U of M Extension - Itasca County  
Julie Miedtke  
123 NE 4th Street  
Grand Rapids, MN 55744-2659

## Program Partners:

UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA  
**EXTENSION**



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# About the Workshop/ Field Day

Come and learn about the appropriate role and use of woody vegetation for energy! At this workshop we will address practical considerations of harvesting woody biomass for energy. Specifically, we will discuss ways that biomass harvest can create new management opportunities to improve the productivity of our forests through the application of various silvicultural concepts and principles, and through the understanding of the ecological foundation of woody biomass harvest. We will also present case studies on the potential site impacts of biomass harvesting and utilization. We will also discuss market opportunities for biomass harvest and “co-products” from biomass harvest that can provide additional income to private landowners and Site Level Guidelines for Woody Biomass Harvesting developed by the Minnesota Forest Resources Council.

## Target Audience

- Woodland Landowners
- Natural Resource Professionals
- Energy Intensive Businesses
- Stewardship Plan Preparers
- Loggers

The morning session offers classroom learning opportunities with lectures from leaders in natural resource profession. The afternoon offers a field tour with a stop at MN Power Rapids Energy Center and to see a horse logging demonstration on an intermediate treatment of a Norway Pine stand owned by a nearby private forest landowner, Dave Parent.

*This is a Woodland Advisor Program that offers two elective credits. Continuing education credits will also be available for Certified Foresters and Forest Stewardship Plan Preparers and Loggers.*

Saturday, September 19, 2009  
For more information call toll free:  
888-223-5629  
Or visit the website at:  
www.goodsfromthewoods.org

# Workshop Topics

## •The Ecology of Woody Biomass: What It Is and Why It Is Important?

*Dr. Brian Palik-USFS Northern Research Station*

Woody biomass includes most of the live and dead plant material you see in a forest. In its various forms, it provides habitat and food for a wide variety of organisms. It is also important for regulating the availability of soil nutrients and water. Removing woody biomass, without consideration of its various ecological roles, can have negative consequences for plants and animals, and for important processes that keep a forest healthy. In this talk, we will discuss the various forms of woody biomass you find in a forest, its ecological roles, and some of the consequences of harvesting this material.

## •Silvicultural Implications of Biomass Harvesting

*Dr. Anthony D'Amato-University of Minnesota*

Increasing attentions is being focused on using woody biomass as an energy source in Minnesota and nationally. In particular, harvest residues and sub-merchantable trees are commonly being viewed as feedstocks for bioenergy facilities in the region. This talk will focus on how the emerging markets for these materials might affect the effectiveness and relative costs of silvicultural treatments aimed at improving stand productivity, including early thinning treatments. In addition, the operational, economic, and ecological feasibility of the widespread application of these treatments will be discussed.

## •Biomass From Your Back Forty

*Julie Miedtke-University of MN Extension-Itasca County*

Lessons will be shared from landowners that are implementing their Woodland Stewardship Management plans and contributing woody vegetation for renewable energy. Information will also be shared on the new Itasca County Chipper Day program, supported by DNR-Firewise, with neighbors helping neighbors making homes and cabins a safer place to be.

## •Managing Your Forest for Biomass and Carbon Credits--Are They Compatible?

*Dr. Dean Current-University of Minnesota*

The recent increase in interest in biomass for energy and carbon sequestration to address climate change issues has created opportunities for forest landowners. Carbon credits have primarily been provided for forest areas that are left to sequester carbon but recently credits have been provided for forest management that results in carbon sequestration. This talk will explore the extent to which landowners producing biomass for energy might be able to benefit from carbon credits.

## •Market Opportunities for Woody Biomass

*Mike Polizin- Minnesota Power*

Energy generation provides a great market for woody biomass. We will look at the opportunities to deliver biomass to regional markets and what the typical specifications for fuel are. Also what does the future for biomass look like?

•**Field Tour:** Following lunch, participants will have a bus tour with a visit to Minnesota Powers Rapids Energy Center and a field trip to the Parent Tree Farm situated on the banks of the Mississippi River in Cohasset. While in the woods, horses Mick and Bud owned by Ed Nelson, will be conducting an intermediate treatment of a 35 year old Norway Pine Plantation.

*An Intermediate Treatments is something that can be included in the family forest landowner tool kit and will help meet a diverse suite of objectives. Intermediate treatments are entries into a forest stand between the time of establishment of reproduction and up until the 'end-of-rotation' harvest. Intermediate treatments include: planting, weeding/vegetation control, sanitation practices and prescribe fire. The intent of intermediate treatments are to sustain the health of forest ecosystems, improve stand quality including high quality products like sawtimer, optimize yields and help landowners earn income from the land.*

### Woody Biomass Harvest and Utilization:

#### Opportunities for Private Forest Landowners Workshop

Friday, September 18, 2009 - 8:30 am to 4:00 pm

Cost: \$20.00 (Cost includes morning snack, lunch and bus tour)

**Deadline to Register is September 14, 2009**

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Indicate any dietary needs: \_\_\_\_\_

**Register by September 11, 2009 by phone at 218-327-7486 or by mail:**

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