

Education and training

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Requirements for consulting and industrial foresters

Individuals or firms that want to enter into (or renew) a cooperating forester agreement must meet the requirements as specified in s. [NR 1.213 \[exit DNR\]](#), Wis. Adm. Code, the [Annual Cooperating Forester Application \(Form 2400-96\) \[PDF\]](#) and [Agreement \(Form 2400-97\) \[PDF\]](#), including

Specific academic and training requirements

- Educational requirements.** Under the definition in s. [NR 1.21\(2\)\(e\) \[exit DNR\]](#), Wis. Adm. Code, cooperating foresters are required to have a bachelor's or higher degree in forestry from a school with a curriculum accredited by the Society of American Foresters or an equivalent degree, as determined by the chief state forester and outlined below.

The criteria for a substantially equivalent degree must include a minimum of eleven courses across four broad areas of study as follows:

- o Forest ecology and biology: a minimum of one course in each of the following subject areas:
 - dendrology
 - forest ecology
 - soils
- o Measurement of forest resource: a minimum of one course in each of the following subject areas:
 - forest measurements
 - sampling design and techniques
 - surveying and mapping
- o Management of forest resources: a minimum of one course in each of the following subject areas:
 - forest management
 - silviculture
 - forest protection
- o Forest resource policy and administration: a minimum of one course in two of the following subject areas:
 - forest policy
 - forest economics
 - business management

Note: Individuals identified as a consulting forester in the DNR's consulting forester list as of Feb. 1, 1989, are eligible ("grandfathered") for the Cooperating Forester Program even if they do not meet the educational requirements specified above. Anyone who drops off the list because of failure to renew or any other reason may not return to the program unless all the current program requirements, including education, are met.

- Continuing education (training) requirement.** Complete at least 10 hrs of professional training relevant services to be provided as a Cooperating Forester in the 12 months prior to application (and each year thereafter).
 - o [Qualified Training](#) – What qualifies as acceptable training?
 - o [Training Opportunities](#) – Current training that is available to fulfill the 10-hour annual requirement.

Cooperating forester continuing education (training) requirements

Forest management

Apply

to be a cooperating forester.

Become

a certified plan writer.

Order

aerial photography.

For cooperating foresters

- ➔ [Cooperating forester program](#)
- ➔ [Applying and renewing](#)
- ➔ [Education and training](#)
- ➔ [Reference materials](#)
- ➔ [Private Land Management Team and Subteam](#)

Contact information

[Ron L. Gropp](#)

Private forestry easement
monitoring
608-267-7659

Annual requirement: At least 10 hours of professional training in the current year relevant to services provided by the Cooperator.

Qualified training is an event where a credible professional is presenting information for the educational benefit of the attendees relating to forestry, forestry-related subject matter, or subject matter related to services provided by the Cooperator.

For training reported on the Cooperating Forester application or renewal application include:

1. Name of Course
2. Date
3. Who sponsored or put on the training
4. Number of training hours
5. If questionable or listed under Needs More Information, attach the agenda from the course.

*The following lists are NOT all inclusive and are examples simply for your reference.

**If training sessions are questionable, please call Carol Nielsen for final determination.

***Attending different training sessions each year is recommended.

Qualifies	Needs more information	Doesn't qualify
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Annual cooperating forester meeting • BMP training sessions • Chainsaw training (FISTA) • CPW training & updates • Cross training for loggers & foresters • DNR Regional or in-service training sessions that pertain to forest management activities • Herbicide applicator training • Income tax on timber training • Insect & disease training • Invasive plant training • Log scaling & grading class • MFL training & updates • NHI portal training • Pesticide applicator training • SAF or other professional organization training sessions that pertain to forest management activities • Specific species or cover type silviculture training • Most training assigned SAF CFE contact hours in category 1 or 2 • WCFA spring meeting • WisFIRS training 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ACF practice of consulting forester • Annual PFM partners meeting • BIA annual forestry meeting • Consulting foresters meeting (Iowa) • GLTPA annual conference • Integrating forest management & forest hydrology • Inter-Tribal Timber Council symposium • Lake States LBR association meetings • Land steward conference • Logging conferences • MACF fall meeting • Merchandizing training • MLEP • Minn. forest management guidelines • MSU break-up jamboree • PFM partners • Tree farm field Day • Tree pruning seminar • WACF annual conference • Writers workshops • WWOA annual meeting 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Administering sales • Cruising timber • DNR specialist team member • Employee sponsored expert witness testimony training • Reading DNR handbooks • SAF meetings (General) • WCF meetings (General) • WisFIRS design sessions

Continuing education/training opportunities

This is not intended to be a complete list of continuing education (training) opportunities. If you are aware of other sessions available please submit them to [Chris Martin](#) or [Carol Nielsen](#), WDNR to share with others. See the [qualified training](#) to understand what is acceptable training.

Sessions will be updated as information becomes available.

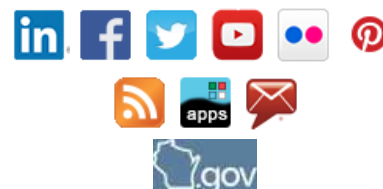
- DNR Sessions
 - [CPW training \[PDF\]](#) (March 17-19, 2015). Please contact [Nina Carranco](#) with questions about this training.
 - 2015 Annual Statewide Cooperating Forester Meeting (March 4, 2015) - Holiday Inn Hotel and Convention Center in Stevens Point, WI ([agenda and registration information \[PDF\]](#))
 - 2015 MFL recertification sessions (TBD) - All CPWs and DNR foresters with MFL responsibilities must attend one session.
 - [Best management practices training](#)
 - [National Heritage Inventory \(NHI\) portal training](#)
- Society of American Foresters (SAF)
 - [Continuing forestry education \[exit DNR\]](#)
 - [Wisconsin SAF calendar \[exit DNR\]](#)
- The Aldo Leopold Foundation
 - [The Woodland School \[exit DNR\]](#)
- Annual Sustainable Forestry Conference, Florence, Wis.
 - April 19, 2012, registration required. Contact Corrin Seaman, UW-Extension for registration information. E-mail: corrin.seaman@ces.uwex.edu; phone: 715-528-4480
- List of Approved Training
 - Use this list of [training sessions \[PDF\]](#) (this list will be continually updated) to track your continuing education hours when filling out the [Cooperating Forester CE tracking sheet \[PDF\]](#) form which is due with your renewal materials.

Last revised: Tuesday January 27 2015



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