

Illinois' 188,000 private woodland owners, who control an estimated 82% of the state's 4.86 million acres of forestland, are the primary audience targeted by RREA funds. In Illinois, RREA funding is leveraged with state monies and private gifts estimated at around \$50,000 per year.



Forestry field day sponsored by University of Illinois and Iowa State University.

“Before this field day, I didn’t really address it, because I really didn’t know a lot and that was the whole idea behind signing-up for this field day. It was a great opportunity to gather more knowledge and continue to make improvements to my forest. It is just a wonderful program.”

Tri-State Field Day Participant, Aug. 2022

Tri-State Forestry Field Day is Big Hit:

Illinois Extension Forestry partnered with Iowa State University Extension Forestry to host a Tri-State Forestry Field Day in the spring of 2022. Over 50 attendees participated in this event featuring hands-on learning about a variety of forest management, invasive species, forest soils, and tree identification topics presented by local forestry, natural resources, and wildlife experts.



Extension forestry specialist Chris Evans talking about the value of forest wetlands.

Kayaks offer unique opportunity to learn about vital forest wetlands and swamps:

Forested wetlands can be difficult to access for field days and learning events but using kayaks can provide an opportunity to get an up-close view of these vital ecosystems. Illinois Extension forester Chris Evans held two kayak botany tours in 2022 at the Crab Orchard National Wildlife Refuge. Twenty-nine participants joined Evans in kayaks to paddle around the shoreline of Devil’s Kitchen Lake in southern Illinois to learn about forest wetland ecology, and management, and plant identification.

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