Review of Year 1

**Director:** Chris Evans  
**Coordinator:** Taryn Bieri
Background on Program

• The purpose of this program is to develop the knowledge and skill sets of beginning forest landowners in basic forest and natural resource management and management planning to allow them to actively manage their forested land.

• The class will:
  • Introduce the practices commonly used in the management of the Central Hardwoods Forests and the planning process through instruction.

• Structure
  • ~5 Instructional Classes (Traditional Lecture-style)
  • ~12 Field-based Mentorship Opportunities (Field-days)
  • ~3 Community Events
  • ~4 Public Events
Class Materials Provided

1. Jim-Gem Cruz-All/Angle Gauge
2. Tree and Log Scale Stick
3. Pocket Diameter Tape
4. Eye Protection, Ear Protection, & Leather Gloves
7. 3-ring Binder full of curriculum
8. Boot Brush
Instructional Classes

1. Introduction to the program; Forest Ecology & Development; Introduction to Forest Management
   • Presenters: Taryn Bieri & Chris Evans

2. Tree Diversity and ID & Invasive Plant Species: ID, Treatment, and Local Resources
   • Presenters: Taryn Bieri and Nick Seaton

3. Intro to Silviculture and Forest Measurements; Forest Management for Wildlife
   • Presenters: Jesse Riechman and Joy O’Keefe

4. Management for Oak Regeneration; Prescribed Fire
   • Presenters: Dr. Eric Holzmueller and Kevin Rohling

5. Timber Harvesting Process; Forest Management Plans
   • Presenters: Ben Snyder and Jenny Lesko

6. NRCS and Your Forest Webinar
   • Presenter: Margaret Anderson
Field-days

1. Chainsaw Training and Safety
   Presenters: Kevin Rohling & Chris Evans

2. Crop Tree Release
   Presenters: Chris Evans

3. ID, Survey, Mapping & Control of Invasives
   Presenters: Nick Seaton

4. Tree Identification
   Presenters: Ray and Taryn Bieri

5. Forest Health Field-Tour
   Presenters: Dr. Ellen Crocker

6. Forest Measurements
   Presenters: Jesse Riechman

7. Timber/Forest Stand Improvement
   Presenters: Mike Long

8. Tool Maintenance/Herbicide and Sprayers
   Presenters: Nick Seaton

9. Forest Soils and Climate Adaptation
   Presenters: Brooke Hagarty

10. Rx Burn Planning w/ SIPBA
    Presenters: Chris Evans, Kevin Rohling, & SIPBA

11. Rx Burn Implementation w/ SIPBA
    Presenters: Chris Evans, Kevin Rohling, Ray and Taryn Bieri, Zach DeVillez, & SIPBA

    Presenters: Chris Evans, Taryn Bieri, Kevin Rohling, Zach DeVillez, Casey Dorre

13. Maple Syrup Part 2: Processing
    Presenters: Chris Evans, Taryn Bieri, Kevin Rohling

14. Pruning
    Presenters: Chris Evans and Kevin Rohling
Community Events

1. Jim and Mary Maginel’s
2. Mike McMahan
3. Debbie Newman
Public Events

1. Forest Health in Southern IL  
   Presenters: Dr. Ellen Crocker UKY

2. Income from Private Woodlands Webinar  
   Presenters: Lenny Farlee Purdue U

3. EAB Workshop  
   Presenters: Dr. Fredric Miller JJC and Chris Evans

4. O.K.E.S Field-day  
   Presenters: Jeremy Schumacher

5. Agroforestry 101 Webinar  
   Presenters: Devon Brock-Montgomery Savanna Institute
Site Visits

As part of a match agreement with Shawnee R C&D Area Inc., site visits were provided to interested participants. A contractor would walk the participant’s property for a couple hours with them discussing their goals, pointing out interesting things they saw, and offering advice.

The contractor provided a write up following the meeting, with notes from the site visit (example below).
Testimonies

January 18th 2023 Program Participant following Site Visit

“Thanks to all that came out to look at our place. Up until now, I’ve been overwhelmed by the “fabricated” thoughts that our forest land is in really bad shape. It’s kind of funny how our minds can put us in this state and with a little input from experienced caring people, we can be brought to reality. I thought that the mass amount of coral berry (I think that’s what Chris said it was) was all invasive and taking over everything in the first two tracts. Knowing that many of the seedlings in the northern tract are ash, fear of taking out a desired species was eliminated. More practice with tree and plant ID is always a need on my part.

Now I’ve got more motivation to “get after” the tasks at hand so the land doesn’t progressively get worse. I might have to postpone any projects during syrup season though. I’ve sacrificed a batch by not being able to time multitasking too well. Live and learn.”

August 19th 2022 Emerald Ash Borer Workshop

"This was a top notch presentation. Presenters were knowledgeable and conveyed info to all individuals very well."
Testimonies

October 26th 2022 Program Participant Email

“Thanks again for all of your hard work these past months on the beginning forest landowner program. Both Ruth and I found it very useful and we learned more than we can retain so all the printed materials as well as the recordings will be useful in the near future. This program really hit the mark and for this being the first time offered all of you did a great job in putting this together.”

February 15th 2023 Survey Response from Participant

“It was unfortunate that I was only able to attend two of the all day sessions. Life circumstances kept me from being there. The two sessions I attended were amazing. Well organized and full of information. I really have to commend Taryn for the work she put into this program.”