

Summer 2012

The Fox Valley and Mid-Wisconsin Chapters will be hosting the 2012 annual meeting. The plan is to hold the conference in the Stevens Point at the Holiday Inn Conference Center with field trip on the second day to look at stand management activities. The event has been set for August 14th and 15th with the Executive meeting on the Monday night (13th) prior to the start of the conference.

They are currently working on Red Pine as a theme based on the recent revision of the Red Pine Chapter in the WDNR Silviculture Handbook. R.J. Wickham (Fox Valley Chapter) and Ron Schneider (Mid-Wisconsin Chapter) are serving as Conference Co-chairs. R.J. (Fox Valley) is working on the program and Ron (Mid-Wisconsin) on logistics. The Conference Planning Team met on August 10th to begin planning for the meeting. The Programs Committee met on September 12th to work on the conference program and identify field sites. Please feel free to contact them with thoughts or ideas on this topic. A follow-up meeting will be schedule for later this winter.

Future meetings¹

Given the current budget crisis there has been some discussion regarding the ability of employers to pay for employee's to attend continuing education and/or professional development programming. The Executive Committee made the decision at the January 2010 meeting to keep the schedule to one state meeting per year with two chapters joining in the presentation.

Recommendations

I am recommending that the Executive continue to schedule one state meeting per year with two chapters joining in the planning and implementation through the planned spring meeting in 2014. Spring 2014 is still part of the Wisconsin 2011 – 2013 biennial budget and given what we currently know the reasoning for going to a once a year statewide meeting will still be valid at that time.

I would like to encourage Chapters to start thinking about how they could become involved with the rollout of the Revised Forest Management Guidelines, BMP's for Water Quality, and BMP's for Invasives. There should be an excellent opportunity here for a joint meeting with timber professionals and other Natural Resource Managers to talk about the changes and changes for implementation.

I am currently working with Julie Peltier to plan an "urban Tree Grading" workshop for Southeast WI. This is something that we could easily expand to other chapters in cooperation with the Wisconsin Chapter of the International Society of Arboriculture and the local DNR Urban / Community Forestry Specialists.

I would encourage each chapter to consider at least one meeting a year along the lines of what the Fox Valley Chapter has been doing the last couple of years in cooperation with GLTPA.

No Action Items

Respectfully Submitted
John DuPlissis

¹ I am going to keep this information in my report for the near term to insure that everyone knows / remembers the reason for going to one meeting a year and our process for addressing potential training / education opportunities.