



The future of the forest is in your hands!

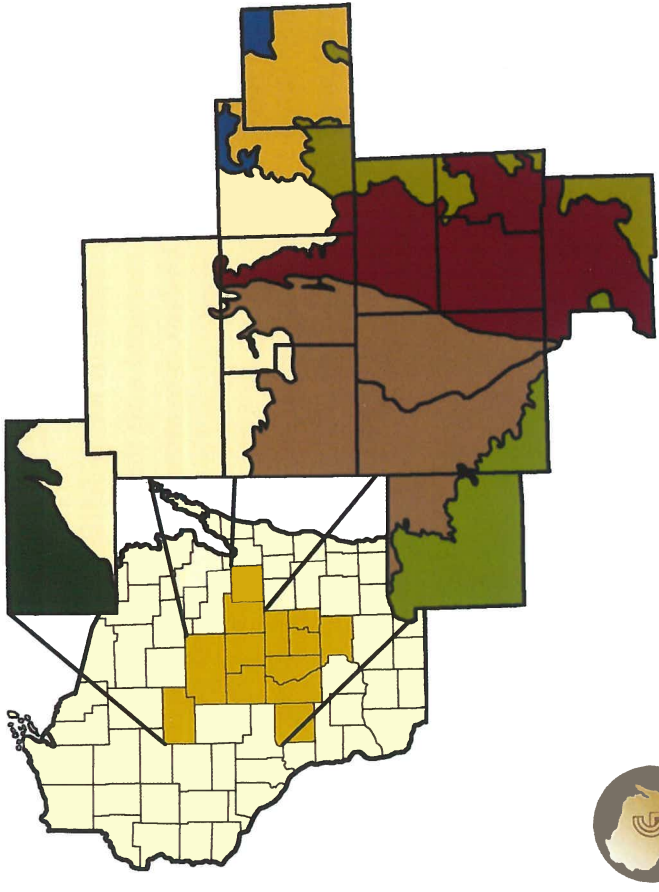
We all have a role to play in land stewardship. Whether you are a student, landowner, or interested in volunteering, you can make a difference in central Wisconsin.

If you do not own land, consider the management of public lands where you hike, hunt, or fish. Connect with the land managers of the property, learn about their management objectives, and ask them how you can help. Also, be sure to buy certified sustainably managed paper and wood products.




If you own a woodland in Wisconsin, there are a number of programs and organizations that can provide stewardship guidance for you and your woods.

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USDA
 United States Department of Agriculture
 Natural Resources Conservation Service
- EQIP / CSP:**
 Federal cost share for forest and habitat improvement.
www.wi-nrcs.usda.gov
- 
WI Tree Farm:
 Program that supports sustainable forest management.
www.witreefarm.org
- 
Wisconsin Woodland Owners Association:
 Educational non-profit community of woodland owners and professionals.
wisconsinwoodlands.org

- 
Managed Forest Law:
 State program for forest management and property tax benefits.
 dnr.wi.gov keyword MFL
- 
My Wisconsin Woods
 A public, private partnership serving woodland owners across Wisconsin.
mywisconsinwoods.org
- 
Deer Management Assistance Program:
 State program for learning how to improve habitat and manage wildlife.
 dnr.wi.gov keyword DMAP



Golden Sands RC&D Ecological Landscapes

-  North Central Forest
-  Forest Transition
-  Central Sand Plains
-  Western Coulees & Ridges
-  Northern Lake Michigan Coastal
-  Central Lake Michigan Coastal
-  Southeast Glacial Plains
-  Central Sand Hills

Golden Sands RC&D is a regional conservation 501 (c)3 nonprofit.

We work in 13 counties in central Wisconsin that contain eight different ecological landscapes. The Pinevilla Tree Farm serves as an example of a Central Lake Michigan Coastal Ecological Landscape. We encourage you to visit our website to learn more about other Demonstration Forests and to get involved in woodland and wildlife habitat management. Our website provides information about land management programs, cost share for habitat improvement, and/or tax benefits. There are lots of ways you can get involved in the land management movement in Wisconsin. We want to help landowners connect to state and federal programs that will work for them. With proper forest management, we hope more landowners across Wisconsin see the benefits of productive and healthy forests and wildlife habitat.

www.goldensandsrcd.org/livingclassrooms
Questions? Call our office: 715-343-6215

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This organization is an equal opportunity provider.

Outagamie County



Demonstration FOREST

Pinevilla Tree Farm

This is private property! Please call Golden Sands RC&D to schedule a free site visit with the landowner.



The Golden Sands RC&D
Demonstration Forest Network
 "Connecting Communities to Land Stewardship"
www.goldensandsrcd.org/livingclassrooms
 715-343-6215



Welcome to the Pinevilla Tree Farm!

The Pinevilla Tree Farm started in 1993, after Steve and his father purchased 174 acres in Outagamie County. As a young boy, this property was very special to Steve. His parents, good friends of the previous landowner, taught Steve and his siblings about the trees, plants, and wildlife of the forest. After purchasing the property, as part of their commitment to sustainable management, Steve and his father transferred the existing Managed Forest Law (MFL) plan into their names. After his father's death in 1995, Steve continued to work with state, industrial and private foresters, along with certified loggers and agencies like the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) and the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources to achieve the goals outlined in the MFL plan. Planning and careful consideration of aesthetics, wildlife habitat and erosion control are required before each harvest. Steve employs sound forestry practices by harvesting mature and stressed trees, thinning plantations and natural stands, and encouraging the growth and timber quality of each species. Since 1993, Steve's forest has produced 300,000 board feet of saw timber and 2,500 cords of pulpwood with 12 timber harvests. He believes education is key to good forest management. Over the years, Steve has been very active with the Wisconsin Woodland Owners Association (WWOA), a statewide nonprofit educational association by and for private woodland owners in Wisconsin. WWOA offers year-round opportunities for new and experienced private woodland owners to learn about their woodlands. They also publish the quarterly, award-winning magazine *Wisconsin Woodlands*, and sponsor workshops, conferences and field days. WWOA chapters, located throughout Wisconsin, are a great way to learn about local issues and meet neighboring woodland owners. As an active member, Steve has hosted and attended private woodland owner field days and meetings, networked with other woodland owners on the importance of good forest management, and applied what he has learned to create a healthier forest. He encourages other woodland owners who have a passion for creating tomorrow's woodlands today to become members of WWOA.

The Pinevilla Tree Farm Tour

Area 1: Wetland Management for Wildlife
This area is currently managed with the assistance of the USDA-NRCS to increase habitat for American woodcock and golden-winged warblers. This 17 acre project will be finished after 10 years of dedicated management. To accomplish project objectives, tag alder is being cut in a checkerboard pattern. Additionally, trees in the area will remain untouched. These uneven management practices increase the age diversity of shrub species and provide perching and singing locations for birds. The southern part of this area has experienced red pine and spruce harvests and an aspen clearcut.

Area 2: Selective Hardwood Harvest

This location has experienced two selective harvests of oak, maple and hickory to open the canopy and promote understory growth. The site is speckled with large oak trees that are roughly 120 years old. They will either be harvested or become snags or woody debris on the ground.

Area 3: Aspen Clearcut and Fire

In 1997 this area was clear cut to promote aspen regeneration. Unfortunately, it was damaged by a ground fire which resulted in stunted regeneration of the stand. In 2014 maple and ash trees were removed in preparation for the arrival of the emerald ash borer and to open the canopy. Within this site grows a single hemlock, an anomaly amongst a pocket of mature balsam fir. It is speculated that it was mistakenly planted as a balsam fir.

Area 4: Blueberry Swamp

This location includes a vernal pond and bottomlands and was selectively cut in 2014 to release young oak and birch. The northeastern part is known as the Blueberry Swamp and was originally white pine. Weakened by successive years of extreme moisture conditions, the white pines were invaded and killed by the Ips beetle. These trees were not harvested to avoid disturbing the area and to provide wildlife habitat.

Area 5: Hunter Haven

This site is known as Hunter Haven because many deer have been successfully harvested in this area. This section of aspen was clear cut to promote regeneration but it failed because it was over-browsed by deer. The area where the aspen had been is now filled with milkweed and provides habitat for monarchs and other pollinators.

Area 6: Harvesting Variety

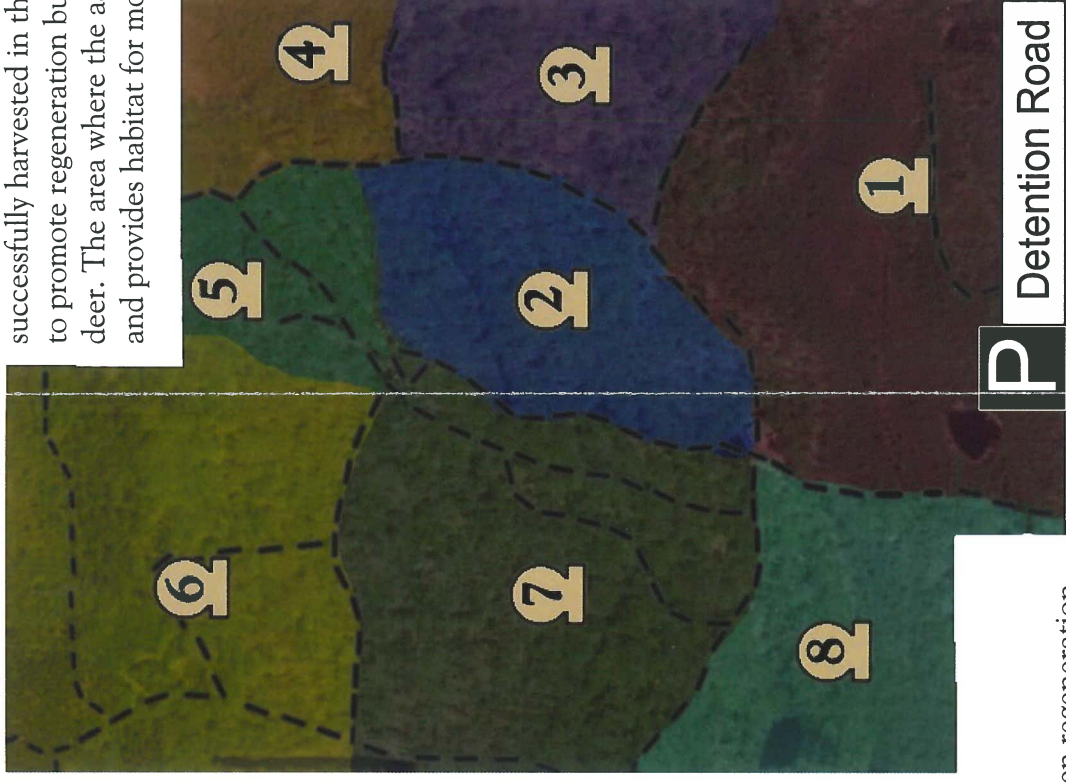
This section has experienced a variety of harvests including red pine and spruce harvest, aspen clearcuts, shelterwood harvest of white pine and selective swamp hardwood harvest. The southern part of this area is composed of bottomland hardwoods and ash.

Area 7: Storm Damage and Regeneration

This area was selectively harvested in 1984 and 2005 with an additional shelterwood harvest in 2005. White oak and maple have regenerated since the release. Steve takes pride in caring for and protecting new tree seedlings. He prefers to construct metal wire enclosures rather than use the traditional tree tubes. He has found that trees survive and grow straighter using this method. In 2020 the entire property underwent a salvage cut to recover downed trees from a strong summer storm in 2019. The cut was done during the winter to reduce soil compaction.

Area 8: Keeping Wildlife in Mind

This area is wetter and has a shallow scrape which was created for frogs, turtles and salamanders. Similar to the rest of the property Steve leaves standing dead trees and woody debris on the forest floor for these same critters and more. The northern part of this area had a shelterwood harvest done in 2004.



Thank you to these Demonstration Forest sponsors!



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