

## Bur Oak – Swamp White Oak Mixed Bottomland Forest

**Site Characteristics:** Stands are found in wet-mesic bottomland habitats. This community is restricted to river bottoms, low terraces, and low slopes along river floodplains on slackwater deposits with moderately well drained to poorly drained soils.

**Vegetation Characteristics:** The tree canopy may be closed to moderately open. The dominant tree species include *Bur Oak* and *Swamp White Oak*. *Shellbark Hickory* is often found in stands of this alliance, along with species such as *Green Ash*, *Pecan*, *Cottonwood*, and *American Elm*. Understory species include *Bog Hemp*, *Sedge* spp., *Woodreed*, *Rice Cutgrass*, *Poison Ivy*, and *Sessile-leaved Bellwort*.

**Range:**

**Conservation Status:** G2 - Imperiled

**Management Considerations:** Vegetation in this community represents a moderately early successional stage. Historically this type may have had a woodland structure because of fire. This type has been so heavily impacted by settlement and grazing that characterization is often difficult.



### Iowa NRCS Plant Community Description

This community description is a compilation of the Community Association and its over-riding Community Alliance descriptions as provided by NatureServe ([www.natureserve.org/explorer](http://www.natureserve.org/explorer)). Where necessary, community descriptions were adapted as recommended by Iowa plant community experts.

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BUR OAK - SWAMP WHITE OAK MIXED BOTTOMLAND FOREST						
SCIENTIFIC NAME	COMMON NAME	STRATA	FUNCTIONAL GROUP	IA CofC	SEEDS PER LB	STATE STATUS
<i>Boehmeria cylindrica</i>	Bog hemp	Herbaceous Layer	P-FORB	5	325000	
<i>Carex spp.</i>	True Sedges	Herbaceous Layer, Dominant	SEDGE, COOL SEASON			
<i>Carya illinoensis</i>	Pecan	Canopy, Associate	TREE	7	96	
<i>Carya laciniosa</i>	Shellbark hickory	Canopy, Co-dominant	TREE	8	30	
<i>Cinna arundinacea</i>	Wood reed	Herbaceous Layer	P-GRASS, COOL SEASON	4	973374	
<i>Fraxinus pennsylvanica lanceolata*</i>	Green ash	Canopy, Associate	TREE	1	14320	
<i>Leersia oryzoides</i>	Rice cut-grass	Herbaceous Layer	P-GRASS, COOL SEASON	2	544000	
<i>Leersia spp.</i>	Cutgrass	Herbaceous Layer	P-GRASS, COOL SEASON			
<i>Leersia virginica</i>	Whitegrass	Herbaceous Layer	P-GRASS, COOL SEASON	6		
<i>Populus deltoides</i>	Cottonwood	Canopy, Associate	TREE	1	425000	
<i>Quercus bicolor</i>	Swamp white oak	Canopy, Dominant	TREE	8	112	
<i>Quercus macrocarpa</i>	Bur oak	Canopy, Dominant	TREE	4	64	
<i>Toxicodendron radicans</i>	Poison ivy	Vine Component	W-VINE	0	30442	
<i>Ulmus americana</i>	American elm	Canopy, Associate	TREE	2	68000	
<i>Uvularia sessilifolia</i>	Sessile-leaved bellwort	Herbaceous Layer	P-FORB	9		

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