

## Northern Pin Oak – Bur Oak Forest

**Site Characteristics:** Stands are found on sandy, well-drained to excessively well-drained soils. These develop from glacial outwash, glaciofluvial deposits, or alluvial sediments. The soils are relatively infertile and acidic. Stands can be found on flat to moderately sloping sites.

**Vegetation Characteristics:** The tree canopy is moderately closed, with typically 70-80% cover. The more open stands tend to have well-developed shrub layers while closed-canopy stands have fewer shrubs. Some stands, especially those in which fire has been excluded for long periods, can have tree densities up to several hundred trees per hectare. Northern pin oak is the dominant tree species and makes up the great majority of the canopy in most stands. Stands of this community typically contain at least 50% cover or basal area of northern pin oak.

**Range:**

**Conservation Status:** G4 - Apparently Secure

**Management Considerations:** This forest type often occurs on sites that could support barrens or savanna communities. The forests develop where natural firebreaks have limited burning frequency or where fire suppression has been instituted.

### 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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FOREST, NORTHERN PIN OAK - BUR OAK						
SCIENTIFIC NAME	COMMON NAME	STRATA	FUNCTIONAL GROUP	IA CofC	SEEDS/LB	STATE STATUS
<i>Acer rubrum</i>	Red maple	Canopy, Associate	TREE	*	22,720.00	
<i>Amphicarpaea bracteata</i>	Hog peanut	Vine Component	H-VINE, LEGUME	4	12,960.00	
<i>Carex pensylvanica</i>	Pennsylvania oak sedge	Herbaceous Layer	P-SEDGE, COOL SEASON	6	480,000.00	
<i>Cornus foemina</i>	Gray dogwood	Shrub Layer	SHRUB	1	17,718.00	
<i>Corylus cornuta</i>	Beaked hazel	Shrub Layer	SHRUB	10	549.00	
<i>Geranium maculatum</i>	Wild geranium	Herbaceous Layer	P-FORB	6	80,000.00	
<i>Juniperus communis</i>	Common juniper	Shrub Layer	SHRUB	5	40,363.00	
<i>Juniperus horizontalis</i>	Creeping juniper	Shrub Layer	SHRUB	10	34,892.00	T
<i>Maianthemum racemosum</i>	False Solomon's seal	Herbaceous Layer	P-FORB	4	6,400.00	
<i>Populus tremuloides</i>	Quaking aspen	Canopy, Associate	TREE	2	3,600,000.00	
<i>Prunus serotina</i>	Wild black cherry	Canopy, Associate	TREE	3	4,800.00	
<i>Pteridium aquilinum</i>	Bracken fern	Herbaceous Layer	FERN	4		
<i>Quercus alba</i>	White oak	Canopy, Associate	TREE	6	128.00	
<i>Quercus ellipsoidalis</i>	Hill's oak, Northern pin oak	Canopy, Dominant	TREE	4	245.00	
<i>Quercus macrocarpa</i>	Bur oak	Canopy, Associate	TREE	4	64.00	
<i>Quercus rubra</i>	Northern red oak	Canopy, Associate	TREE	6	125.00	
<i>Quercus velutina</i>	Black oak	Canopy, Associate	TREE	4	245.00	
<i>Vaccinium spp.</i>	Blueberry	Shrub Layer	SUB-SHRUB			

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