

# Northeast Wisconsin Forestry & Wildlife Partnership

## Joint Chiefs' Landscape Restoration Partnership



The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Forest Service and Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) are collaborating on 14 new projects across the nation, bringing together agricultural producers, forest landowners, and National Forest System lands to improve forest health using available Farm Bill conservation programs and other authorities under the Joint Chiefs' Landscape Restoration Partnership (JCLRP).

This partnership enables NRCS and the Forest Service to collaborate with agricultural producers and forest landowners to invest in conservation and restoration at a large enough scale to make a difference. Working at this scale helps reduce wildfire threats, protect water quality and supply, and improve wildlife habitat for at-risk species.

Through the new three-year projects, landowners will work with local USDA experts and partners to apply targeted forestry management practices on their land, such as thinning, hazardous fuel treatments, tree planting and other systems to meet unique forestry challenges in their area.

## Partnership Highlights

The Northeast Wisconsin Forestry and Wildlife Partnership project has been developed through the JCLRP to address wildfire threats, water quality, and wildlife habitat. Desired landscape-level outcomes are a reduction in storm-caused fuel loads and fire risk; increase in water quality due to decreased sediment, greater access to habitat for aquatic organisms, and decreased or maintained stream temperatures; an increase in suitable habitat for golden-winged warblers, brook trout, and monarch butterflies; and an increase in forest health due to oak wilt prevention, reduction of emerald ash borer impacts, appropriate stand stocking, and shifts in composition to resilient tree species.

The project area is centered on the Lakewood-Laona Ranger District of the Chequamegon-Nicolet National Forest (CNNF), and includes portions of the Eagle River-Florence Ranger District, private and Tribal lands in Florence, Forest, Langlade, Marinette, Menominee, Oconto, Oneida, and Shawano counties.

## Project Priorities

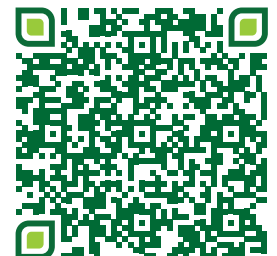
- Forest Management Plans
- Trout stream crossing improvement
- Wildfire hazard reduction/storm damage cleanup
- Oak wilt and emerald ash borer mitigation

Landowners interested in applying for funding should visit their local USDA Service Center or visit the Wisconsin NRCS website at: [www.nrcs.usda.gov/wi](http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wi)

## Application Process

- 1) Establish eligibility for USDA Programs by working with your local NRCS office.
- 2) Apply for the Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP). Funding for this project will be allocated through EQIP signups.
- 3) Work with NRCS to create a Conservation Plan by selecting and designing the conservation practice(s) that will advance your property based on the identified challenges and opportunities.
- 4) NRCS will rank your application based on local resource concerns and, if selected, work with you to complete a contract that will provide financial assistance for the selected conservation practices.
- 5) NRCS will assist with resources to implement the Conservation Practices in the contract on your property.

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FOR MORE INFO ABOUT THE JCLRP

