

# *-Notice to Private Woodland Owners in Itasca County-*

## **2022 Master Woodland Owner Course**

### **Become a Steward of your Forest**

University of Minnesota Extension will be conducting a Master Woodland Owner Course in Itasca County starting in February 2022 and ending in June 2022\*. On-line application for the course can be found at: [Itasca Co MWOP Application](#) .

The Master Woodland Owner program delivers a complete training program for private woodland owners interested in becoming better stewards of their woods (<https://extension.umn.edu/natural-resources/master-woodland-owner>).

This landowner education program teaches family forest owners the ins and outs of forest health, management for recreation and wildlife, monetizing your land, estate planning and taxes, and more.

### **Hybrid Course Design**

The Master Woodland Owner course has a hybrid design with both in-person and virtual learning.

Online topics are offered as a series of self-paced modules with exercises and group discussions. In-person events enable you to learn hands-on and engage with instructors and fellow woodland owners.

The five-month course will include three in-person half-day workshops, three evening virtual learning sessions, and eleven online modules that participants complete on their own time.

### **Comprehensive Learning Topics**

Landowners that participate in the course will be able to:

- Consider the different reasons and ways to manage their woods and wildlife.
- Identify common native trees and invasive plants.
- Select appropriate trees for their woodland and know how to plant them.
- Map their property and conduct a woodland inventory.
- Meet and talk with local natural resources professionals.
- Discuss financial considerations of land ownership (including tax incentives and estate planning) with their family and financial/tax advisors, including marketing of timber.
- Develop specific actions that will provide a path to leaving their land in a better condition for future generations.

\* The course will be limited to 35 participants. Typical course registration is \$295 for participants, registration for this class is at a reduced rate (\$45) for Itasca County residents. Space is limited so if needed, preference will be given to landowners without a DNR-approved Woodland Stewardship Plan, woodland owners with 30 acres or greater, and to Itasca County woodland owners & residents.