

**Comments or questions?**

**Please contact us:**

USDA Forest Service  
National Woodland Owner Survey  
160 Holdsworth Way  
Amherst, MA 01003  
Toll-Free Telephone: (855) 233-3372  
Fax: (413) 545-1860  
Internet: [www.fia.fs.fed.us/nwos](http://www.fia.fs.fed.us/nwos)



Public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 25 minutes per respondent, including time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information. Send comments regarding this burden estimate or any other aspect of this collection of information, including suggestions for reducing this burden, to Department of Agriculture, Clearance Officer, OIRM, Room 404-W, Washington, DC 20250; and to the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reduction Project (OMB#0596-0078), Washington, DC 20503.

Version: Wisconsin 5.0

# *National Woodland Owner Survey*



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**Thank you for participating in this survey!**

Please return the questionnaire in the  
postage-paid envelope provided.

If you would like a copy of the results of this survey, print  
your name and address on the back of the return envelope.



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If there are any additional comments or concerns that you would like to share, please write them below.

## Instructions

- ✓ Please provide answers for all of the wooded land that you own in Wisconsin. If you are part of more than one group that owns wooded land, please respond for the group that is listed on the outside of the envelope.
- ✓ The owner who makes most of the decisions about your wooded land in Wisconsin should answer this questionnaire.
- ✓ If this questionnaire is received by a company or other organization, please have a person knowledgeable about the organization's wooded land in Wisconsin answer this questionnaire. If the company listed on the envelope is a subsidiary of a larger company, please respond for the larger, parent company.
- ✓ If you do not own any wooded land in Wisconsin, please return this questionnaire in the postage-paid envelope provided and write on the cover "No Land Owned."

## General Questions About Your Ownership

1. Which category below best describes your ownership?

*Check only one.*

- Individual
- Joint, such as a husband and wife
- Family partnership
- Trust or estate
- Corporation or business partnership
- Other (please specify): \_\_\_\_\_

2. How many people are a part of this ownership?

Owners



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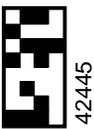
## General Questions about Your Wooded Land

3. Wooded land covers 47% of Wisconsin.  
Wooded land includes:
- ✓ Woods, woodlots, timberland, and forests
  - ✓ Land at least 1 acre in size, 120 feet wide, and has at least 10 trees per acre
  - ✓ Land at least 1 acre in size, where trees were removed and trees will grow again
- Wooded land does *not* include:
- ✓ Christmas tree farms, orchards, or nurseries
  - ✓ Land that is mowed for lawn
- a. How many total acres of land do you currently own in Wisconsin?  
       Acres of land in Wisconsin
- b. How many acres of wooded land do you currently own in Wisconsin?  
       Acres of wooded land in Wisconsin
- c. Do you currently own more than one property with wooded land in Wisconsin?  
 Yes  No  
 ↳ If yes, how many separate, unconnected properties with wooded land do you currently own?  
    Properties with wooded land in Wisconsin
4. Is your home (primary residence) on or within a mile of any of your wooded land in Wisconsin?  
 Yes  No  Not Applicable
5. Do you have a vacation home or cabin on or within a mile of any of your wooded land in Wisconsin?  
 Yes  No  Not Applicable
6. Do you own any land that is farmed or ranched in Wisconsin?  
 For the purpose of this survey, a farm or ranch is a place where, in most years, \$1,000 or more is earned from the sale of crops (other than forest products) or animals.  
 Yes  No  Not applicable  
 ↳ If yes, is any of it within a mile of any of your wooded land in Wisconsin?  
 Yes  No

## General Questions About You

Please provide answers for up to two owners. If you are responding on behalf of a business or other organization, skip this section.

	Owner 1	Owner 2
29. Are you retired?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
30. What is or was your main occupation?	<hr/>	<hr/>
31. What is your age?	<input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> Years	<input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> Years
32. What is your gender?	<input type="checkbox"/> Male <input type="checkbox"/> Female	<input type="checkbox"/> Male <input type="checkbox"/> Female
33. What is the highest degree or level of school you have completed?	<input type="checkbox"/> Less than 12th grade <input type="checkbox"/> High school/GED <input type="checkbox"/> Some college <input type="checkbox"/> Associate degree <input type="checkbox"/> Bachelor's degree <input type="checkbox"/> Advanced degree	<input type="checkbox"/> Less than 12th grade <input type="checkbox"/> High school/GED <input type="checkbox"/> Some college <input type="checkbox"/> Associate degree <input type="checkbox"/> Bachelor's degree <input type="checkbox"/> Advanced degree
34. Are you of Hispanic or Latino origin?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
35. What is your race? Select <i>one or more</i> .	<input type="checkbox"/> American Indian or Alaska Native <input type="checkbox"/> Asian <input type="checkbox"/> Black or African-American <input type="checkbox"/> Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander <input type="checkbox"/> White	<input type="checkbox"/> American Indian or Alaska Native <input type="checkbox"/> Asian <input type="checkbox"/> Black or African-American <input type="checkbox"/> Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander <input type="checkbox"/> White
36. What is your household's annual income?	<input type="checkbox"/> Less than \$25,000 <input type="checkbox"/> \$25,000 to \$49,999 <input type="checkbox"/> \$50,000 to \$99,999	<input type="checkbox"/> \$100,000 to \$199,999 <input type="checkbox"/> \$200,000 or more
37. On average, what percentage of your household's annual income is derived from the wooded land that you own?	<input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> Percent	



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## The Future of Your Wooded Land

27. How likely is it that you will sell or give away any of your wooded land in Wisconsin in the next 5 years?

Extremely likely	Likely	Undecided	Unlikely	Extremely unlikely
<input type="checkbox"/>				

If likely or extremely likely, answer a and b.

a. Who will likely receive it?

Check all that apply

- My children → \_\_\_\_\_ Number of children
- Another family member(s) → \_\_\_\_\_ Number
- Other individual(s)
- A business
- A government agency
- Don't know
- Other (please specify): \_\_\_\_\_

b. Why are you planning to sell it or give it away?

Check all that apply

- I am ready to give it away
- Too expensive to hold or maintain
- I need the money
- High market value
- No longer interested in owning it
- Part of investment strategy
- Other (please specify): \_\_\_\_\_

28. Please indicate your level of agreement with the following statements.

Check one box for each item.

	Strongly agree	Agree	Neither agree nor disagree	Disagree	Strongly disagree
I want my wooded land to stay wooded	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
I would sell my land if I was offered a reasonable price	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

## Your Reasons for Owning Wooded Land

7. How important are the following as reasons for why you currently own your wooded land in Wisconsin?

If you own one property, check one box for each item.

If you own more than one property in Wisconsin, consider them all and check one or more boxes for each item.

	Very important	Important	Moderately important	Of little importance	Not important	Not applicable
To enjoy beauty or scenery	<input type="checkbox"/>					
To protect nature or biological diversity	<input type="checkbox"/>					
To protect water resources	<input type="checkbox"/>					
To protect or improve wildlife habitat	<input type="checkbox"/>					
For land investment	<input type="checkbox"/>					
Is part of my home site/primary residence	<input type="checkbox"/>					
Is part of my cabin or vacation home site	<input type="checkbox"/>					
Is part of my farm or ranch	<input type="checkbox"/>					
For privacy	<input type="checkbox"/>					
To raise my family	<input type="checkbox"/>					
To pass land on to my children or other heirs	<input type="checkbox"/>					
For firewood	<input type="checkbox"/>					
For timber products, such as logs or pulpwood	<input type="checkbox"/>					
For nontimber forest products, such as berries or maple syrup	<input type="checkbox"/>					
For hunting	<input type="checkbox"/>					
For recreation, other than hunting	<input type="checkbox"/>					
Other	<input type="checkbox"/>					
↳ (Please specify): _____						

## The History of Your Wooded Land

8. a. How did you get your wooded land in Wisconsin?  
*Check all that apply.*
- Purchased  
 Inherited  
 Received as gift  
 Other (please specify): \_\_\_\_\_
- b. From whom did you get your woodland?  
*Check all that apply.*
- My parents and/or my spouse's parents  
 My spouse  
 Another family member  
 Other individual(s)  
 A business  
 A government agency  
 Other (please specify): \_\_\_\_\_
- c. In what year did you, personally, first acquire wooded land in Wisconsin?
- |  |  |  |  |
|--|--|--|--|
|  |  |  |  |
|--|--|--|--|
- Year
9. a. How many times have you sold or given away any of your wooded land in Wisconsin?
- Never → *If never, skip to question 10.*  
 Once (1 time)  
 2 to 5 times  
 6 or more times
- b. If sold or given away, who received it?  
*Check all that apply.*
- My children  
 Another family member  
 Other individual(s)  
 A business  
 A government agency  
 Other (please specify): \_\_\_\_\_
- c. Have you sold or given away any of your wooded land in Wisconsin in the past 5 years?
- Yes  No

## Concerns

26. Please indicate your level of concern about each of the following topics for your wooded land in Wisconsin.  
*If you own one property, check one box for each item.*  
*If you own more than one property in Wisconsin, consider them all and check one or more boxes for each item.*

	Great concern	Concern	Moderate concern	Of little concern	No concern	Not applicable
Air pollution	<input type="checkbox"/>					
Damage or noise from off-road vehicles	<input type="checkbox"/>					
Damage from animals	<input type="checkbox"/>					
Development of nearby lands	<input type="checkbox"/>					
Drought or lack of water	<input type="checkbox"/>					
Global climate change	<input type="checkbox"/>					
High property taxes	<input type="checkbox"/>					
Invasive plant species	<input type="checkbox"/>					
Keeping land intact for future generations	<input type="checkbox"/>					
Misuse of wooded land, such as vandalism or dumping	<input type="checkbox"/>					
Trespassing or poaching	<input type="checkbox"/>					
Unwanted insects or diseases	<input type="checkbox"/>					
Water pollution	<input type="checkbox"/>					
Wildfire	<input type="checkbox"/>					
Wind or ice storms	<input type="checkbox"/>					
Other	<input type="checkbox"/>					
↳ (Please specify): _____						

24. How helpful would each of the following be to you?

*Check one box for each item.*

	Very helpful	Helpful	Moderately helpful	Of little help	Of no help	Not applicable	Don't know
Advice on woodland management	<input type="checkbox"/>						
Advice on how to transfer land to the next generation	<input type="checkbox"/>						
Advice on selling or giving away development rights	<input type="checkbox"/>						
Cost-sharing for woodland management	<input type="checkbox"/>						
More favorable tax policies	<input type="checkbox"/>						
Stronger timber markets	<input type="checkbox"/>						
Other	<input type="checkbox"/>						
↳ (Please specify): _____							

25. How would you **prefer** to get advice or information related to your wooded land?

*Check all that apply.*

- Talk to someone
- Have someone visit my land
- Written materials, such as brochures or other publications
- Internet
- Conference or workshop
- Other (please specify): \_\_\_\_\_
- I don't want/need advice or information

## Uses of Your Wooded Land

10. Who makes the management decisions, such as whether or not to harvest trees, for your wooded land in Wisconsin?

*Check all that apply.*

- Me
- My spouse
- My children
- My parents
- Another family member
- My business partner
- My land manager or forester
- Other (please specify): \_\_\_\_\_

11. Do you have a written management or stewardship plan for any of your wooded land in Wisconsin?

- Yes → If yes, have you taken actions to implement it?
  - Yes  No
- ↳ Who wrote it?  
*Check one.*
  - I did
  - Private consultant forester
  - Forest industry forester
  - State or local government forester
  - Federal government forester
  - Other (please specify): \_\_\_\_\_
- No → If no, why not?  
*Check all that apply.*
  - I don't want/need one
  - Too busy
  - Too expensive
  - Too complicated
  - Other (please specify): \_\_\_\_\_



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12. a. Have any trees been cut or removed from your wooded land in Wisconsin since you have owned it?

*Check all that apply.*

	Yes, for personal use	Yes, for sale	Yes, for other reasons	No
Firewood	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Logs	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Wood chips	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Unwanted trees	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

↳ (Please specify): \_\_\_\_\_

*If no to all the above, skip to question 13.*

- b. Was a professional forester used to plan, mark, contract, or oversee any of the cuts?

Yes  No  Don't know  Not applicable

- c. Was a certified or master logger used for any of the cuts?

Yes  No  Don't know  Not applicable

13. Have nontimber forest products been collected from any of your wooded land in Wisconsin since you have owned it?

*Check all that apply.*

	Yes, for personal use	Yes, for sale	No
Edibles, such as berries or maple syrup	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Medicinal, such as ginseng or St. John's wort	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Landscaping, such as transplants	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Decorative, such as boughs or birch bark	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

↳ (Please specify): \_\_\_\_\_

## Sources of Information

23. Have you talked with anyone or received advice/information about care, management, or protection of your wooded land in Wisconsin in the past 5 years?

Yes  No

↳ *If yes, please answer a, b, and c.*

- a. What was it about?

*Check all that apply.*

Insects or plant diseases

Wildlife or wildlife habitat

Timber production

Land conservation

Fire safety

Other (please specify): \_\_\_\_\_

- b. How did it happen?

*Check all that apply.*

Talked to someone

Someone visited my land

Received a brochure or other written material

From the Internet

Attended a conference or workshop

Other (please specify): \_\_\_\_\_

- c. Who was involved?

*Check all that apply.*

State or local government employee

Federal government employee

Private consultant

Another landowner

Family member or friend

Other (please specify): \_\_\_\_\_

## Recreation on Your Wooded Land

21. a. Who, with your permission, has hunted, hiked, or otherwise recreated on your wooded land in Wisconsin in the past 5 years?

*Check all that apply.*

- Me and/or my spouse
- My children
- Other family members
- Friends
- Neighbors
- The general public for free
- The general public for a fee
- Other (please specify): \_\_\_\_\_
- Nobody → *If nobody, skip to question 22.*

b. How did you/they recreate?

*Check all that apply.*

- Hunting
- Fishing
- Hiking/walking
- Bicycling
- Camping
- Horseback riding
- Skiing or snowmobiling
- Off-road vehicles, such as ATVs or snowmobiles
- Other (please specify): \_\_\_\_\_

22. Is any of your wooded land in Wisconsin posted to restrict access and/or use by the general public?

Yes  No

↳ If yes, what is restricted?

*Check all that apply*

- Trespassing
- Hunting
- Motorized vehicles
- Other (please specify): \_\_\_\_\_

14. Which of the following have occurred on your wooded land in Wisconsin **in the past five years**?

*Check all that apply.*

- Cut and/or removed trees for sale
- Cut and/or removed trees for own use
- Collected nontimber forest products
- Reduced fire hazard
- Controlled burn/prescribed fire
- Eliminated or reduced invasive plants
- Eliminated or reduced unwanted insects or diseases
- Road construction or maintenance
- Trail construction or maintenance
- Improved wildlife habitat
- Livestock grazing
- None of the above

15. How likely are the following to occur on any of your wooded land in Wisconsin **in the next five years**?

*Check one box for each item.*

	Extremely likely	Likely	Undecided	Unlikely	Extremely unlikely
Cut and/or remove trees for sale	<input type="checkbox"/>				
Cut and/or remove trees for own use	<input type="checkbox"/>				
Collect nontimber forest products	<input type="checkbox"/>				
Reduce fire hazard	<input type="checkbox"/>				
Controlled burn/prescribed fire	<input type="checkbox"/>				
Eliminate or reduce invasive species	<input type="checkbox"/>				
Eliminate or reduce unwanted insects or diseases	<input type="checkbox"/>				
Road construction or maintenance	<input type="checkbox"/>				
Trail construction or maintenance	<input type="checkbox"/>				
Improve wildlife habitat	<input type="checkbox"/>				
Livestock grazing	<input type="checkbox"/>				



16. Have you ever leased or collected money (other than from logging) for allowing people to use your wooded land in Wisconsin?

Yes  No

↳ If yes, please answer questions a and b.

a. What did they use it for?

Check all that apply.

- Hunting
- Recreation (other than hunting)
- To graze/pasture livestock
- Land conservation, such as the Conservation Reserve or Environmental Quality Incentives Programs
- Carbon capture/sequestration
- Public water supply protection
- Wildlife habitat/biodiversity
- Other (please specify): \_\_\_\_\_

b. Have any of these activities occurred in the last 5 years?

Yes  No

17. Cost-share programs provide landowners with money to help them establish or otherwise manage their wooded land. Examples include the Conservation Reserve Program, the Environmental Quality Incentives Program, the Forest Land Enhancement Program, and various state funded programs.

a. How familiar are you with cost-share programs?

Extremely familiar	Moderately familiar	Somewhat familiar	Slightly familiar	Not at all familiar
<input type="checkbox"/>				

b. Have you ever used a cost-share program to help you establish or manage your wooded land in Wisconsin?

Yes  No  Don't know

↳ If yes, have you done so in the last 5 years?

Yes  No  Don't know

18. To encourage good woodland management, groups have created green certification programs to recognize landowners who comply with the groups' standards. Examples include Tree Farm, Green Tag, Forest Stewardship Council, and Sustainable Forestry Initiative.

a. How familiar are you with green certification?

Extremely familiar	Moderately familiar	Somewhat familiar	Slightly familiar	Not at all familiar
<input type="checkbox"/>				

b. Is any of your wooded land in Wisconsin currently green certified?

Yes  No  Don't know

19. Some state and local governments have programs that defer, reduce, or eliminate property taxes for wooded land. In Wisconsin, there is the Managed Forest Law program.

a. How familiar are you with this program?

Extremely familiar	Moderately familiar	Somewhat familiar	Slightly familiar	Not at all familiar
<input type="checkbox"/>				

b. Is any of your wooded land in Wisconsin currently enrolled in this program or a similar one?

Yes  No  Don't know

20. Development rights can be sold or voluntarily given away.

a. How familiar are you with this concept?

Extremely familiar	Moderately familiar	Somewhat familiar	Slightly familiar	Not at all familiar
<input type="checkbox"/>				

b. Have development rights been sold or voluntarily given away on any of your wooded land in Wisconsin by either you or a previous owner?

Yes  No  Don't know

c. If No or Don't know, how likely are you to do so in the next 5 years?

Extremely likely	Likely	Undecided	Unlikely	Extremely unlikely	Not applicable
<input type="checkbox"/>					

