

WHAT IS THE MINNESOTA AGROFORESTRY INSTITUTE?

The Minnesota Agroforestry Institute is a three-day training that includes classroom workshops and on-farm visits. It will provide all participants the opportunity to integrate the concepts learned into a practical farm plan.

WHAT IS AGROFORESTRY AND WHY IS IT IMPORTANT?

Agroforestry is a land management approach that provides opportunities to combine productivity and profitability with environmental stewardship, resulting in healthy and sustainable agricultural systems that can be passed on to future generations. Considered as a sustainable agriculture practice and as a continuous living cover strategy, agroforestry be used to bring trees or perennial plants in the landscape where are they most appropriate for environmental protection.

Agroforestry practices can benefit famers and woodland owners. Participants will learn about agroforestry options and how to apply agroforestry practices in their educational and technical assistance programs. Participants will also be able to discuss agroforestry options with colleagues and policy makers.

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EVENT SPONSORS

Minnesota Sustainable Agriculture Research Education (SARE)

Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS)

Soil & Water Conservation District (SWCD)

Board of Water and Soil Resources (BWSR)

University of Minnesota Extension

Minnesota Agroforestry Institute

June 19-21, 2018
Southwest Research and Outreach Center
(SWROC) – University of Minnesota
Lamberton, MN



Clockwise from lower left: Riparian forest buffers, Hybrid poplar-hazelnut-pumpkin alley cropping system, and forest farming – mushroom production (photo credit: UMCA)

Agroforestry and Bioenergy Program

UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA
EXTENSION

SELECTED TOPICS

✓ PRESENTATION OF MAJOR AGROFORESTRY PRACTICES

- Alley cropping
- Forest farming
- Forest Farming/ gardening/permaculture
- Riparian and upland forest buffers
- Silvopasture
- Windbreaks

✓ AGROFORESTRY PLANNING & DESIGN

- Case Study - Exercises
- Keyline design - a technique used to conserve water in agricultural landscape

✓ ROLE OF AGROFORESTRY ON BIOENERGY

✓ ENTERPRISE DEVELOPMENT OF AGROFORESTRY

✓ ECOSYSTEM SERVICES FROM AGROFORESTRY

- Wildlife habitats
- Pollinator/Beneficial insects
- Invasive species control
- Water quality, soil conservation, reducing non-point source pollution
- Carbon sequestration
- Climate change mitigation

HANDS-ON PRACTICE

The cornerstone of this event will be an applied planning and design exercise. Agroforestry Institute participants will work in small groups to gain hands-on practice in agroforestry design based on the needs of a working farm. As a result of this event, participants will help to enhance Minnesota landowner adoption of agroforestry.

Instructors and resources will be from:

- University of Minnesota Extension
- University of Minnesota Center for Integrated Natural Resources and Agricultural Management (CINRAM)
- US Department of Agriculture National Agroforestry Center (USDA NAC)
- Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS)
- Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD)
- Board of Water and Soil Resources (BWSR)
- Selected agroforestry experts, farmer educators and agroforestry practitioners



Alley Cropping Systems: A) Black Walnut and Soybeans, B) Willow and native polycultures

EVENT LOCATION

Southwest Research and Outreach Center (SWROC) University of Minnesota
23669 130th St.
Lamberton, MN 56152

EVENT SCHEDULE

Tuesday, June 19, 2018
8:00am - 7:00pm

Wednesday, June 20, 2018
8:00am - 6:00pm

Thursday, June 21, 2018
8:00am - 12:00pm

REGISTRATION

Registration can be completed online at <https://www.regonline.com/MNAGRForInst2018>
Registration closes on May 31, 2018. The event organizers hope participants can attend all three days of the event.

The fee for this event is \$100, which covers the costs for three lunches, two dinners and refreshments. Participants are responsible for their own breakfast, lodging and transportation costs.

This event is approved for 15 CEUs.

A limited number of scholarships might be available through Minnesota SARE, which accepts application from May 1 to May 31, 2018. Contact Kate Seager for more information: [612-625-8235](tel:612-625-8235); kseager@umn.edu