



**FOREST HISTORY ASSOCIATION**  
of WISCONSIN

# Woodchips

[Home](#)
[About Us](#)
[Leadership](#)
[Membership](#)

## Introduction to Identification and Ecology of Northeastern Conifers

Conifer trees are a common feature of woodlots, forests and landscapes. The value and qualities of trees are determined in part by the type of tree. Knowing the principles of tree identification will help owners appreciate the value of trees and the types of benefits those trees might provide. This presentation will cover the core principles of tree identification, including how to use twigs, buds, bark, fruit, growth habit, habitat (and even leaves) for identification. Knowledge of these principles will help participants learn how to identify a wide range of trees. Several common trees will be used to illustrate the principles. [Watch Video](#)

## In the News

### Milwaukee Brewery Makes City Christmas Tree into Beer

Black Husky Brewing will launch its 'City Spruce' Ale on Dec. 3, using branches from Milwaukee's Christmas Tree. Milwaukee's Christmas tree is the gift that keeps on giving. The city's tree now sits in Deer District for the holiday season. Erwin Boehme, 93, donated the tree to the city. He planted it by seed himself in the 1970s. People will now be able to enjoy the beauty of the 31-foot Colorado blue spruce downtown, but the celebration of the arbor doesn't stop there. [Read More](#)

### Rhineland's Holcombe Conifer Forest Inducted into Old-Growth Forest Network

Tucked behind a nursing home and water treatment plant, the 32-acre Holmboe Conifer Forest State Natural Area meanders alongside the Pelican River in Rhineland. "This is just gloriously beautiful," says John Bates, as he leads a hiking group through the forest. "It is spectacular, I think." The interpretative hike is in celebration of the area's induction to the Old-Growth Forest Network, a program to identify and protect publicly accessible old-growth forests throughout the country. [Read More](#)

### People, Fire and Pines: How Fire Use by the Anishinaabeg Shaped the Boundary Waters

During the summer of 2021, the Border Lakes Region between Minnesota and Ontario experienced one of its most active fire seasons in recent history. In Ontario's Quetico Provincial Park, more than 123,000 acres burned – fully 14% of the park's area. In the Superior National Forest in Minnesota, wildfires burned over 30,000 acres, including in the Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness. There, hundreds of wildland firefighters were part of a 31 million dollar effort to suppress these blazes, despite many of the fires occurring in a federal wilderness with special protections under the Wilderness Act of 1964 that define these lands as "untrammeled by man." [Read More](#)

### State Capitol Holiday Tree Being Set Up for Holiday Season

MADISON, Wis. — It's beginning to look a lot like Christmas at the Wisconsin State Capitol as workers put up this year's holiday tree. A News 3 Now crew captured crews setting up the State Capitol Holiday Tree in the Rotunda Friday morning. Holiday displays are also being set up elsewhere on the Capitol grounds. [Read More](#)

### Ambrosia Beetles Attack Sugar Maple Regeneration

This summer, the Forest Health Lab received sugar maple seedlings with brownish yellow leaves, which were sent by a Waukesha County landowner who observed many understory sugar maple seedlings and saplings quickly turning brown throughout the summer. This mortality continued until the end of September. The landowner wanted to know why these plants were dead and dying.

[Read More](#)

### Your Guide to Christmas Tree Farms Around Wisconsin

Christmas is fast approaching and for many, the spirit of the holiday season starts with selecting the right Christmas tree. From Milwaukee to Chippewa Falls, here's your guide to Christmas tree farms across Wisconsin. [Read More](#)

### 1923 National Christmas Tree

1923 marked the first year of a "national" Christmas tree in Washington, D.C. The program for this event identified the tree as the "National Christmas Tree," a title changed to "National Community Christmas Tree" by the following year. [Read More](#)



**FOREST HISTORY ASSOCIATION**  
of WISCONSIN

# Woodchips

## Visiting Woodchips Embedded Links to Webpages

Hyperlinks embedded into Woodchips allow readers to enjoy featured video or audio presentations as well full news articles or papers of interest with just a simple click of their mouse. The links appear at the end of an article (a news headline with one or two introductory sentences) typically as **Watch Video**, **Read More**, or **For More Information**.

To open the link, place your cursor over **Watch Video** or **Read More** and so on, and then left click on your mouse. That should open the link in a new window providing access to the specifically linked webpage.

With this issue of Woodchips, we will start listing the full URL to each hyperlink on a second page. If needed, the URL can be copied and pasted into your web browser address bar (also known as location bar or URL bar).

Past issues of Woodchips are found on the Forest History Association of Wisconsin webpage at <https://www.foresthistoryassociationwi.com/woodchips/>

To keep issues of Woodchips arriving in your e-mail's inbox, keep your e-mail address up-to-date in FHAW membership records by contacting our membership chairman, Jim Kerkman at [highknollroad@centurylink.net](mailto:highknollroad@centurylink.net) or the editor, Don Schnitzler, at [thefhaw@gmail.com](mailto:thefhaw@gmail.com).

## Links shared in this issue of Woodchips

### **Introduction to Identification and Ecology of Northeastern Conifers**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cbHLZyxBdc>

### **Milwaukee Brewery Makes City Christmas Tree into Beer**

<https://www.wisn.com/article/milwaukee-brewery-makes-city-christmas-tree-into-beer/41857131>

### **Rhinelanders' Holcombe Conifer Forest Inducted into Old-Growth Forest Network**

<https://www.wxpr.org/energy-environment/2022-10-07/rhinelanders-holmboe-conifer-forest-inducted-into-old-growth-forest-network>

### **People, Fire and Pines: How Fire Use by the Anishinaabeg Shaped the Boundary Waters**

<https://storymaps.arcgis.com/stories/e115dd5925094de38edb19843ff751b4>

### **State Capitol Holiday Tree Being Set Up for Holiday Season**

<https://www.channel3000.com/state-capitol-holiday-tree-being-set-up-for-holiday-season/>

### **Ambrosia Beetles Attack Sugar Maple Regeneration**

<https://forestrynews.blogs.govdelivery.com/2022/11/01/ambrosia-beetles-attack-sugar-maple-regeneration/?fbclid=IwAR1jVvWUkdT1NrJ36t-7lUp9XOfgaslwmivil-WOi0aOqrhdNizbkF6D9hQ>

### **Your Guide to Christmas Tree Farms Around Wisconsin**

<https://spectrumnews1.com/wi/milwaukee/news/2022/11/19/your-guide-to-christmas-tree-farms-around-wisconsin>

### **1923 National Christmas Tree**

<https://www.nps.gov/whho/learn/historyculture/1923-national-christmas-tree.htm#:~:text=1923%20marked%20the%20first%20year,Tree%22%20by%20the%20following%20year.>