

# Michigan Society of American Foresters - White Oak Webinar Series



In partnership with the national [White Oak Initiative](#) and Michigan White Oak Coalition.

All webinars are free with funding from American Forest Foundation and USDA Forest Service.

Audience: Foresters, land managers and family forest landowners. *All are welcome!*

Webinar 1 – oak ecology & silviculture

Date: November 2, 2022 from 3:00 to 4:30 pm EST

Speakers: Greg Nowacki, USFS - research ecologist; Stacy Clark, USFS - silviculturalist

Register Here: [https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN\\_X693NTZ3T8yvo-T7co3F6A](https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_X693NTZ3T8yvo-T7co3F6A)

Webinar 2 – insects and diseases of oak

Date: December 7, 2022 from 3:00 to 4:30 pm EST

Speakers: Deb McCollough, MSU Forestry - entomology; Isabel Munck, USFS - pathology

Register Here: [https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN\\_qlw3du8sQNOBqvpTByz2KA](https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_qlw3du8sQNOBqvpTByz2KA)

Webinar 3 – markets & economics for oak in Michigan

Date: January 4, 2023 from 3:00 to 4:30 EST

Speakers: Chris Schmiede, DNR – utilization & marketing; Jagdish Poudel, DNR - economics

Register Here: [https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN\\_wu3OumrcTK6sepQW1dww9w](https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_wu3OumrcTK6sepQW1dww9w)

Webinar 4 – ecological restoration of rare oak ecosystems

Date: February 1, 2023 from 3:00 to 4:30 pm EST

Speakers: Jesse Lincoln, MI Natural Features Inventory; Steve Woods, Huron Pines & MI Prescribed Fire Council

Register Here: [https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN\\_PyxuV2WIS7-wjoNnHTyJ7g](https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_PyxuV2WIS7-wjoNnHTyJ7g)

Webinar 5 – managing oak for wildlife

Date: March 1, 2023 from 3:00 to 4:30 pm EST

Speakers: Ryan Boyer, National Wild Turkey Federation; Michael Paling, American Bird Conservancy

Register Here: [https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN\\_d3XBbs95QuuWhIU02Te4Lg](https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_d3XBbs95QuuWhIU02Te4Lg)

Questions: Mike Smalligan, 517-449-5666, [SmalliganM@Michigan.gov](mailto:SmalliganM@Michigan.gov)

Michigan SAF has applied for 1.5 Category 1 CFEs for each 90-minute webinar session.

Find out about Michigan SAF at [www.MichiganSAF.org](http://www.MichiganSAF.org) and national SAF at [www.eForester.org](http://www.eForester.org).

*Michigan SAF offers professional networking, continual improvement, leadership, ethics and service to society.*

## White Oak Initiative



The White Oak Initiative is a national coalition promoting sustainable management of white oak forests - because oak provides many economic, cultural and environmental benefits. White oak occupies 104 million acres of public and private forest across the eastern and central United States. White oak forests are important habitat for plants and animals. White oak is a major commercial species producing furniture, flooring, cabinetry and barrels for wine and spirits. The [American Forest Foundation](#) created the White Oak Initiative in 2018 with funding from [USDA Forest Service](#).

Due to shifts in land management and ecological changes, mature white oaks are not being replaced by new white oak seedlings at a pace that will maintain current populations. The White Oak Initiative brings together industries, universities, state and federal agencies, private landowners, conservation organizations and trade associations to address this issue. The initiative seeks to reverse the decline of America's white oak population through collaboration and enhanced forest management practices. A national [Assessment and Conservation Plan](#) for white oak management and restoration is available at [WhiteOakInitiative.org](#).

### White Oak Initiative in Michigan

The Department of Natural Resources is leading a team of partners to bring ideas and resources from the national White Oak Initiative to Michigan. American Forest Foundation awarded \$50,000 from USDA Forest Service grants to the Michigan partners do outreach to the public and woodland owners in 2022 and 2023.

- [Michigan Department of Natural Resources](#) is hosting a Michigan white oak coalition and connecting the Michigan effort to American Forest Foundation and partners in other states.
- [Michigan United Conservation Clubs](#) is planting 2,500 white oak seedlings on State Game Areas and other lands open to the public through its "On The Ground" service projects.
- [Michigan Prescribed Fire Council](#) is promoting prescribed fire on private land with "Learn and Burn" workshops and fire demonstrations.
- [Land Conservancy of West Michigan](#) is developing a demonstration site to showcase ecological restoration of rare oak barrens.
- [Michigan Tree Farm Committee](#) is offering reimbursements up to \$500 to Tree Farmers or Michigan Forest Association members if they buy and plant oak seedlings in their woods between 2021 and 2023.
- [National Wild Turkey Federation](#) is hosting field days for turkey hunters and woodland owners in the Lower Peninsula to showcase managing white oak for great turkey habitat.
- [Barry Conservation District](#) is hosting field days for landowners and Tree Farmers at State Game Areas and other locations in the southern Lower Peninsula.
- [Michigan State University Extension](#) is developing several promotional and educational videos about white oak management and restoration.
- [Michigan Society of American Foresters](#) is hosting a webinar series in the fall of 2022 and winter of 2023 for foresters and landowners to explore oak restoration and management.
- [Michigan Department of Agriculture and Rural Development](#) is promoting oak management to landowners and foresters through the Qualified Forest and Forestry Assistance programs.