*Yes, I would like to apply for the **Idaho Master Forest Stewards** Program. Please send an application to me at:*

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____

State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____

E-mail: _____

Alternatively, you may, request an Idaho Master Forest Stewards application by calling (208) 446-1680, sending an e-mail to kootenai@uidaho.edu, or downloading one from http://www.uidaho.edu/extension/forestry/content/masterstewards. Completed applications are due back by Tuesday, April 1st, 2014. Upon acceptance in the program, a $40 registration fee will be due.

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, those requesting reasonable accommodations need to contact Chris Schnepf (208-446-1680).

Idaho Master Forest Stewards Training

The Forestry Shortcourse (18 credits)

Other Required Existing UI Extension Forestry Programs (three sessions worth 18 total credits)**:** Thinning & Pruning Field Day, Insect & Disease Field Day, and Measuring your Trees.

Idaho Master Forest Steward Core Sessions (24 credits in four, 1-day sessions).

- **IMFS Core Session 1: Welcome to the Idaho Master Forest Stewards Program** *(Saturday, April 26, 2014, Twinlow Camp, Rathdrum)***:** family forests, orientation to the Idaho Master Forest Stewards, tree ID, participatory action research, Extension master volunteer experiences.
- **IMFS Core Session 2: How Adults Learn and Forest Plant Identification** *(Saturday, June 14, 2014, Palouse Divide Lodge, Emida, ID)***:** how adults learn, extension education methods, interpretive naturalist techniques, methods to identify common forest understory plants and shrubs. Field activities on plant ID.
- **IMFS Core Session 3: Becoming a Volunteer Forestry Educator** *(Saturday, July 12, 2014 - USFS Priest River Experimental Forest)***:** educational techniques, non-native plants invading Idaho forests, working with foresters and other natural resource professionals. Field activities on plant ID, stream ecology and forest ecology.
- **IMFS Core Session 4: Family Forestry Leadership** *(Saturday, September 13, 2014, Shoshone Mountain Retreat - on the Coeur d'Alene River):* family forest owner associations, citizen leadership skills (effective groups and meetings, citizen involvement in public policy issues, etc.). Field exercises reviewing forest measurement, forest ecology, and plant identification.

Case Study Credits (3 credits). Spend 4-8 hours with a natural resource professional and write a 2-page case study of what you learned.

Elective credits (7 credits). This can be additional case study credits, other non-required UI Extension programs, or other conferences or workshops.

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University of Idaho Extension
Kootenai County
1808 North 3rd Street
Coeur d'Alene, ID 83814-3407

IDAHO MASTER FOREST STEWARDS

Become an Idaho Master Forest Steward *2014*

University of Idaho Extension

Become an Idaho Master Forest Steward - 2014

Family Forests

Family forests are those owned and managed by families rather than a public agency or a large company. Individual families own anywhere from a few acres to hundreds of acres of forestland. Family forest owners manage 2.3 million acres of Idaho's forests. These forests are critical to Idaho's air and water quality, wildlife habitat, wood products, recreation, and many other shared benefits.

Fire, insects, disease, invasive species, and other factors can threaten these benefits. Most forest owners want to make well-informed decisions to care for their forests and meet their objectives, but may not know where to start. Some assistance is available through public agencies, but is increasingly limited.

Idaho Master Forest Stewards

In 2008, the University of Idaho received partial grant support from the Idaho Department of Lands to develop a new kind of outreach for Idaho forest owners. Sixteen forest owners met to co-design a program that would:

- increase participants' forestry knowledge and skills to provide educational assistance to forest owners and other groups; and
- provide a forum for richer peer to peer learning among forest owners.

Fifty-five people have participated in the ***Idaho Master Forest Stewards*** (IMFS) program thus far. Idaho Master Forest Stewards provide educational assistance to help fellow forest owners and other groups learn more about research based information on Idaho forests and forestry. They also work with University of Idaho Extension faculty and staff from the Idaho Department of Lands and other agencies to help guide efforts to more effectively meet the needs of family forest owners.

Training

Idaho Master Forest Stewards receive over 70 hours of training. Much of this consists of existing UI Extension programs that many Idaho forest owners have already completed. The program emphasizes life-long learning, so credit is given for programs taken prior to enrollment.

But the IMFS program also includes new indoor and outdoor educational experiences designed to take participants to the next level of managing their forest and helping other forest owners to do the same. These "IMFS core sessions" (see back of this flyer) are held in four, one-day sessions from April through September at forested sites throughout northern Idaho to expose participants to a range of forest ecosystems.

After completing their training, Idaho Master Forest Stewards join a community of peer forest owners who continue learning about Idaho forests and forestry, both as a group and individually.

Volunteer Service

In return for their training, Idaho Master Forest Stewards provide at least 70 hours of volunteer service. Idaho Master Forest Stewards function as University of Idaho Extension volunteers, similar to Master Gardeners and 4-H Leaders.

A variety of volunteer service activities are possible, including outreach to forest owners, helping with forest owner associations, or teaching youth about forests. Many forest owners volunteer for such activities already. This program gives participants more knowledge, skills, and confidence in those efforts.

To Apply . . .

If you are interested in becoming an Idaho Master Forest Steward, clip and mail the registration form on this flyer, e-mail our office at kootenai@uidaho.edu, or give us a call at (208) 446-1680. We will mail program details and an application to you. Alternatively, you can download the application form at http://www.uidaho.edu/extension/forestry/content/masterstewards. If you have specific questions about the program, call Chris Schnepf at 208-446-1680.

Completed applications are due by April 1, 2014. Up to 20 Idaho Master Forest Stewards trainees will be chosen, based on the strength of their applications. Upon acceptance in the program, a $40 registration fee will be due to help off-set the cost of program materials, refreshments, and volunteer recognition (name badges, etc.). Final locations for the 2014 sessions may be adjusted to reflect the geographic range of 2014 Idaho Master Forest Stewards trainees' residence.

The Idaho Master Forest Stewards program requires a substantial investment of time and energy on the part of participants. In return, the program will provide you valuable learning experiences and the means of making a significant, personal impact on Idaho forests!

College of Agricultural and Life Sciences / College of Natural Resources
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