

1 **RESOLUTION #88-2014**

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3 Resolution offered by Forestry, Land, & Recreation Committee.

4 **Resolved by the Board of Supervisors of Oneida County, Wisconsin:**

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6 **WHEREAS**, the Oneida County Forest Comprehensive Fifteen-Year Plan requires an  
7 annual work plan to be approved by the Oneida County Board of Supervisors; and

8 **WHEREAS**, the Oneida County Forestry, Land, & Recreation Committee has  
9 unanimously approved the annual Forestry Work Plan at their regular meeting held on  
10 November 5, 2014; and

11 **WHEREAS**, the Oneida County Board of Supervisors adopted the Forestry Department  
12 budget at their budget meeting held on November 12, 2014; so

13 **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Oneida County Board of Supervisors  
14 accept the recommendation of the Forestry, Land, & Recreation Committee and approve the  
15 Oneida County Forestry Department Annual Work Plan for 2015 as set forth in Exhibit # 1; and

16 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that a copy of this resolution be sent to the Wisconsin  
17 Department of Natural Resources.

18  
19 Vote Required: Majority = \_\_\_\_\_ 2/3 Majority = \_\_\_\_\_ 3/4 Majority = \_\_\_\_\_

20  
21 The County Board has the legal authority to adopt: Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_ as reviewed  
22 by the Corporation Counsel, \_\_\_\_\_, Date: \_\_\_\_\_

23  
24 Approved by the Forestry, Land, & Recreation Committee this 5<sup>th</sup> day of November, 2014.

25  
26 **Consent Agenda Item:** \_\_\_\_\_ **YES** \_\_\_\_\_ **NO**

27  
28 Offered and passage moved by: \_\_\_\_\_  
29 Supervisor  
30 \_\_\_\_\_  
31 Supervisor  
32 \_\_\_\_\_  
33 Supervisor  
34 \_\_\_\_\_  
35 \_\_\_\_\_ Ayes Supervisor  
36 \_\_\_\_\_ Nays Supervisor  
37 \_\_\_\_\_ Absent  
38 \_\_\_\_\_ Abstain  
39 \_\_\_\_\_ Adopted

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41  
42  
43  
44 by the County Board of Supervisors this \_\_\_\_\_ day \_\_\_\_\_, 2014.

45  
46 \_\_\_\_\_ Defeated

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50 \_\_\_\_\_  
51 Mary Bartelt, County Clerk

\_\_\_\_\_ David Hintz, County Board Chair

**2015 WORK PLAN FOR THE  
ONEIDA COUNTY FORESTRY DEPARTMENT**

In 2015 Oneida County Forestry Department management activities  
will be accomplished under the following accounts:

Account	New	Revenue		Personnel	Expenses		Requested
		Appl. Cont. Appropriations	Total		Other	Total	
56110 Co. Forest	1,221,440.00-	-0-	1,221,440.00-	264,398.00	95,450.00	359,848.00	861,592.00-
56111 St. Aid For Rds	11,700.00-	13,700.00-	25,400.00-	-0-	25,400.00	25,400.00	-0-
56116 St. Aid Wildlife	4,085.00-	3,915.00-	8,000.00-	-0-	8,000.00	8,000.00	-0-
55210 Co. Parks	57,550.00-	-0-	57,550.00-	175,241.00	57,300.00	232,541.00	174,991.00
55212 Campground	3,250.00-	-0-	3,250.00-	-0-	1,700.00	1,700.00	1,550.00-
55410 St. Aid Snowmo	299,400.00-	-0-	299,400.00-	-0-	299,400.00	299,400.00	-0-
55412 St. Aid ATV	21,210.00-	-0-	21,210.00-	-0-	21,210.00	21,210.00	-0-
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,618,635.00-</b>	<b>17,615.00-</b>	<b>1,636,250.00-</b>	<b>439,639.00</b>	<b>508,460.00</b>	<b>948,099.00</b>	<b>688,151.00-</b>

**FOREST MANAGEMENT ACTIVITIES**

**County Forest Annual Integrated Planning Meeting**

The County Forest Annual Integrated Planning Meeting between the Oneida County Forestry Department (OCFD) and the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) was held on September 09, 2014. The purpose of the planning meeting is to provide a forum where both departments can jointly establish and agree upon County Forest Management Goals for the upcoming year.

Individuals present at the 2014-15 County Forest Cooperative Planning Meeting were DNR County Forest Liaison, Manny Oradei; DNR Wildlife Manager, Michele Woodford; DNR Wildlife Technician, Eric Kroening; DNR Team Leader, Tim Friedrich; Oneida County Forest Director, John Bilogan; and Oneida County Assistant Forest Director, Paul Fiene. Items discussed were County Forest Time Standards, Wildlife Habitat funds, proposed timber sales and harvest acreage goals, reforestation, County Forest Roads, forest health and protection issues, forest reconnaissance, forest blocking, and SFI Forest Certification issues.

**Timber Sale Establishment**

Approximately 2000 acres of mature timber will be harvested in 25 areas as specified in Section 202 of the WisFirs forest reconnaissance computer printout. This will entail approximately 750 acres of Northern Hardwood thinning and 550 acres of Aspen harvest for regeneration. In addition, approximately 700 acres of

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miscellaneous timber types will also be harvested. The sale areas are distributed throughout the three County Forest Blocks (Enterprise, Cassian-Woodboro, and Lynne-Little Rice). The allowable cut for 2015 is 2332 acres. The estimated value of this 2332 acres of timber sales is approximately \$1,300,000.

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The labor required to establish the aforementioned timber sale acreage will be provided by the OCFD with assistance from DNR Forestry personnel. In addition, in 2015 the Oneida County Forestry Department will also have assistance from two LTE Foresters. Both of the LTE positions combined will be 2,000 hours in length, and are funded exclusively with levy money. Said positions will be limited to work related to timber sale establishment and updating of old reconnaissance.

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Acres by Forest Cover Type Scheduled for Harvest in 2015

<u>Forest Cover Type</u>	<u>Total Acres on County Forest</u>	<u>Acres Scheduled to Harvest in 2015</u>
<u>Aspen</u>	<u>32,229</u>	<u>647</u>
<u>Cedar</u>	<u>2,490</u>	<u>62</u>
<u>Balsam Fir</u>	<u>386</u>	<u>97</u>
<u>Red Maple</u>	<u>1,343</u>	<u>83</u>
<u>Northern Hardwood</u>	<u>13,484</u>	<u>771</u>
<u>Red Oak</u>	<u>2,315</u>	<u>396</u>
<u>Red Pine</u>	<u>2,134</u>	<u>111</u>
<u>White Pine</u>	<u>364</u>	<u>4</u>
<u>Black Spruce/Tamarack</u>	<u>2,380</u>	<u>147</u>
<u>Swamp Hardwood</u>	<u>1,472</u>	<u>14</u>
	<u>Total Acres Scheduled</u>	<u>2,332</u>

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The 2,332 acres scheduled for harvest in 2015 lie in all three blocks of the County Forest. Approximately 25 separate timber sales will be established to address the scheduled acres to be harvested.

Due to unforeseen factors such as wind storms, insect or disease outbreaks and other acts of nature, the above scheduled acres may change. A goal of establishing 2,000 acres is planned.

For more detailed information regarding the acres scheduled for harvest, such as which compartments/stands are scheduled, contact the Oneida County Forestry Office at (715) 369-6140.

### Timber Sale Administration

It is anticipated that between 35 and 45 timber sale contracts will be active in the year 2015. Department involvement will include contract administration, sale inspection, and fiscal record keeping. A harvest of 35,000 cord equivalents with an equivalent value of approximately \$1,450,000 is anticipated. The haul permit system will continue to be used for pulpwood and wood scaling will be utilized for saw logs. Weekly timber sale inspections by both County and DNR personnel will be conducted on all active sales.

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### Forest Reconnaissance

Forest Reconnaissance work scheduled for 2015 includes the updating of reconnaissance information that is older than 15 years as time permits. A total of approximately 3000 acres of recon update is anticipated.

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### Forest Protection

Cooperation with the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) will be sought to protect the forest from insects, disease, and forest fires. Cooperation from the DNR will also be sought to assist in the eradication of Glossy Buckthorn and Garlic Mustard. These two non-native invasive plant species were found in the Enterprise Block of the County Forest in 2013. A combination of chemical and mechanical treatment has begun on these non-native invasive species. With the recent discovery of Oak Wilt in the Woodruff area, Lake Nokomis area, and in the Town of Lake Tomahawk, the OCFD will continue to monitor oak stands for any signs of Oak Wilt. If it is found, all attempts will be made to isolate the infection and prevent additional spread. The U.S. Department of Agriculture, Animal Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS), will be contracted to help control nuisance beaver damage.

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Isolated beaver colonies that have been identified as posing a threat to timber productivity, or causing damage to County Forest Roads and Trout Streams will be targeted for capture and removal.

Forest insects and diseases already in our area, and/or projected to emerge or migrate into our area were discussed. Emerald Ash Borer (EAB) was found in Oneida County in October of 2014. The result of this discovery is that Oneida County is now quarantined against the movement of ash log/pulp products and all firewood out of the county without the proper

documentation. The OCFD will continue to work with the Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection (DATCP) and the DNR to devise a strategy to minimize the environmental and economic impact this discovery may have on the County.

### **Reforestation and Plantation Release**

Establishment of small irregularly shaped clear cuts ranging in size from 3-10 acres will be established in scattered areas adjacent to the Washburn Recreational Trail System. Upon completion of the aforementioned harvest, the harvested areas will be planted with fast growing coniferous species to provide evergreen cover along the trail.

The reforestation efforts described will greatly reduce the visual impact of subsequent timber harvests planned for the area surrounding the Washburn Recreational Trail by providing a natural visual screen. Time permitting, several recently thinned hardwood stands will be chain scarified to expose mineral soil and prepare a seed bed for Oak, Maple, Pine, and Birch trees.

A 35 acre Red Oak regeneration site was chemically treated in 2014 to reduce the competition from Red Maple on Oak seedlings. This was partially funded by a 50-50 matching County Conservation Aids grant through the DNR. It is anticipated that another 35 acres will be treated in 2015.

No additional conifer planting is anticipated for 2015.

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### **Forest Certification**

The Oneida County Forest is certified under the Sustainable Forestry Initiative (SFI) program. The SFI certification requires periodic random audits of forests that are certified under this program. In 2014 no significant issues were identified as needing attention by Wisconsin County Forest programs certified under SFI. The following is a list of minor items identified by SFI as needing attention, and the action plan developed by the DNR and adopted by the Oneida County Forestry Department to address the areas of concerns.

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### SFI Corrective Action Requests (CARs)

No new CARs were issued following the 2014 SFI Audit. However, one opportunity for improvement (OFI) was issued. This is:

1. There is an opportunity to improve the promptness of responding to the SFI annual progress report.

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Deleted: There is an opportunity to improve by more consistently determining and recording the "Habitat Classification Types" on the Timber Sale Notice and Cutting Report (Form 2460-001A).¶  
¶ Oneida County currently records Habitat Classification Types on the Timber Sale Notice and Cutting Report so no action is needed.

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This CAR deals with the DNR's reporting system and the County needs to take no action.

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### **Wildlife Management**

In cooperation with the Department of Natural Resources, wildlife management activity on the County Forest will center around forest openings maintenance, habitat trail mowing, seeding hunter hiking trails, and timber sales designed to promote both game and non-game wildlife habitat.

In addition to those projects listed above, State Aid Wildlife funds have also been budgeted in 2015 for the following wildlife habitat projects:

- 1) Control encroachment of undesirable vegetation into wildlife openings and hunter hiking trails with a combination of prescribed burns and mowing,
- 2) Control damage to forest roads caused by beaver by contracting with the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) for removal of undesirable beaver colonies, and
- 3) Timber Stand Improvement (TSI), to release 15 to 30 acres of oak regeneration from competing maple stump sprouts.

### **County Forest Roads**

In 2012 the Oneida County Forestry Department identified 29.7 miles of existing County Forest Road that required widening and/or resurfacing to remain compliant with Wisconsin Department Of Transportation (WDOT) specification standards for County Forest Roads. To address these road deficiencies, the Oneida County Forestry Department developed a 4-Year Road Widening and Resurfacing Plan. 2014 marked the 2nd year that the road widening and resurfacing plan has been implemented. In 2014, Camp Six Road, which measures 5.76 miles in length, was resurfaced with gravel and widened to the 16 foot WDOT specification standard. In 2015, Zimmer Road, which measures 7.09 miles in length, is scheduled for widening and resurfacing.

The Forestry Department's culvert replacement plan calls for 5 aging and/or otherwise failing culverts to be replaced in 2015. Because the culverts scheduled for replacement in 2015 are relatively small in size, (18-24 inch diameter), they will be installed with Forestry Department equipment and personnel.

In addition to the projects mentioned above, in 2015 normal road

maintenance is scheduled to take place on the balance of County Forest Road System. Road maintenance includes: grading, signing, wash-out repair, spot graveling, brushing, mowing, and beaver flood control.

### **Equipment and Facilities**

Each year an amortized allotment of funds is budgeted in a non-lapsing account for the replacement of existing department equipment. In 2015 the following equipment has been budgeted for replacement: Trade in an existing 3/4 ton 4-wheel drive pickup truck equipped with a 7.5-ft. V-plow, and replace with a similar 3/4 ton 4-wheel drive pickup truck and plow.

## **PARK & RECREATION MANAGEMENT**

### **Parks**

In addition to the timber and wildlife management programs mentioned above, the Oneida County Forestry Department will also administer and maintain two day-use parks and one campground. Almon Park is the largest and most popular park maintained by the Oneida County Forestry Department. Some of the more popular features offered at Almon Park include a large swimming beach, 18-hole disc golf course, picnic shelters and several miles of picturesque hiking trails. Perch Lake Park offers a heated shelter building, lakeshore picnic facilities, an ADA compliant fishing pier, and serves as the main trail head for the Washburn Silent Sports trail system.

The Enterprise Forest campground features 11 oversized campsites, 2 toilet buildings, onsite firewood, potable water, and is directly connected to the Enterprise ATV Trail System.

### **Trails**

Miscellaneous recreational opportunities provided by the Oneida County Forestry Department in 2015 will include: 35 miles of cross country ski trail, 25 miles of hiking trail, 12 miles of mountain bike trail, 10 miles of snowshoe trail, 395 miles of snowmobile trail, and 30 miles of ATV trail. In addition to those trail systems mentioned above, the Oneida County Forest offers hundreds of miles of unimproved woodland trails open and available to the public for recreational use.

### **Capital Improvement & Scheduled Maintenance Projects**

In addition to those projects listed above, funds have been budgeted in 2015 for the following park improvement and maintenance projects:

### Almon Park

- Seal coat and repair cracks in existing asphalt connecting road.
- Install speed bumps in parking lots 1 and 2.
- Replace 1 small swimming beach shelter building.
- Tree pruning.

### Perch Lake Park

Complete parking lot expansion project.