



Restoring Your Woodland to Health

1) **Research site history:**

- a. Original Surveyors Notes: <http://digicoll.library.wisc.edu/SurveyNotes/>
- b. Historic Aerial Images: <http://maps.sco.wisc.edu/WHAIFinder/>

2) **Evaluate current conditions:**

- a. Dane County DCI Maps: <http://dcimap.countyofdane.com>
- b. Online Mapping, Google Earth, GaiaGPS, etc: <https://www.gaiagps.com/>

3) **Develop target for restoration:**

4) **Clear invasive brush:**

5) **Remove aggressive/overabundant trees:**

6) **Control herbaceous invasive species:**

7) **Reintroduce a prescribed fire regime:**

8) **Reintroduce extirpated wildflowers and grasses:**

9) **Monitor and maintain:**



Oak Woodland/Savanna Information and How-To:

- *The Tallgrass Restoration Handbook, 2nd Edition* by Steve Packard & Cornelia F. Mutel
- *Restoring Ecological Health To Your Land* by Steven I. Apfelbaum and Alan Haney
- Pleasant Valley Conservancy's Website: <http://pleasantvalleyconservancy.org/>
- Vestal Grove's Blog: <http://vestalgrove.blogspot.com/>
- Strategies for Stewards: from woods to prairies: <http://woodsandprairie.blogspot.com/>
- Wisconsin DNR Oak Woodland Community Description: <http://dnr.wi.gov/topic/EndangeredResources/Communities.asp?mode=detail&Code=CTFOR010WI>

Weed Management:

- Good Oak's Weed ID Sheets Page: <http://goodoak.com/weeds>
- Frank's advice on Garlic Mustard Eradication: <http://goodoakllc.blogspot.com/2013/04/eradicating-garlic-mustard-requires.html>
- *Invasive Plants of the Upper Midwest* by Elizabeth Czarapata
- *Weeds of the Midwestern United States & Central Canada* by Bryson & DeFelice, eds.
- Wisconsin DNR's Invasive Plants Page: <http://dnr.wi.gov/topic/Invasives/>
- National Park Service's Weeds Gone Wild Site: <http://www.nps.gov/plants/alien/index.htm>
- The Organic Weed Management Website: <https://weedecology.css.cornell.edu/manage/>

Plant Identification:

- *Wildflowers of Wisconsin and the Great Lakes Region* by Merel R. Black & Emmet J. Judziewicz
- *Kane County Wild Plants and Natural Areas* by Dick Young
- *Spring Woodland Wildflower of the UW-Madison Arboretum* by Andrew L. Hipp
- *Illinois Wildflower* by Don Kurz
- *Trees of Michigan* by Linda Kershaw
- *Michigan Trees* by Burton V. Barnes and Warren H. Wagner, Jr.
- *Wild Berries and Fruits Field Guide* by Teresa Marrone
- *Edible and Medicinal Wild Plants of Minnesota and Wisconsin* by Matthew Alfs
- John Hilty's Illinois Wildflowers Site: <http://www.illinoiswildflowers.info/>
- Flora of Wisconsin: <http://wisflora.herbarium.wisc.edu/>
- Wisconsin State Herbarium: <http://www.botany.wisc.edu/herb/>



What wildflowers can tell you about woodland health:

Healthy

bloodroot
spring beauty
rue anemone
trout lily
trillium
hepatica
blue cohosh
doll's eyes
ramps
woodland phlox
large-flowered bellwort
wild columbine
golden alexanders
shooting star
tall anemone
American bellflower
bottlebrush grass
horse gentian
purple milkweed
poke milkweed
pointed tick trefoil
figwort
culver's root
yellow giant hyssop
purple joe-pye-weed
tall thistle
blue-flowered asters
Short's aster

Neutral

wild geranium
solomon's seal
feathery false Solomon's seal
starry false Solomon's seal
mayapple
Jack-in-the-pulpit
small-flowered buttercup
wood nettle
woodland sunflower
zig-zag goldenrod
side-flowering aster
Drummond's aster

Degraded (if abundant)

black snakeroot
sweet cicely
honestwort
wood avens
enchanters nightshade
stickseed
American pokeweed
tall nettle
white snakeroot
ragweed

Invaded

garlic mustard
dames rocket
motherwort
creeping Charlie
celandine
Japanese hedge parsley
deadly nightshade
Canada thistle
burdock
bull thistle



Tool Recommendations:

Brush Cutters:

- **Stihl MS131** or equivalent, with “bicycle handlebars”
- **Beaver Blades, 8”**: MUCH better than standard brush blades!

Chain Saws:

- small saw: **Stihl MS192, MS180, MSA200** (electric!) or equivalent
- medium saw: **Stihl MS251, MS291** or equivalent

Hand Cutting:

- hand saws: **Silky Zubat** or **ARS Cam 24 Pro**
- loppers (heavy duty, forged construction): **Hickock** or **Stihl**
- pruners, high-quality (worth the investment): **Felco** or **ARS VS-7z** or **ARS VS-8z, ARS**

HP-130DX

- clippers, low-cost (if you tend to lose tools): **Growtech Economy** or **Felco F5**
- also, get a holster for your hand clippers, always keep them handy.

Sprayers:

- high-quality hand sprayer: **Tolco 492** or **Birchmeier Spray-Matic 1.25 P**
- low-cost hand sprayer: **Ace Hardware** “red top” hand sprayer
- **Hudson SP2** or **Birchmeier**
- **Deluxe Shoulder Saver Harness** from Forestry Suppliers is worth every penny!

Propane Torch:

Start brush fires, kill garlic mustard seedlings and more!

- **Red Dragon Backpack Torch**

Weeding Tools:

- **Nisaku No. 650 Hori-Hori** for general weeding and utility
- **Nisaku No. 120 Precision Weeder** perfect for popping out garlic mustard roots!
- **Parsnip Predator** for large, tap-rooted weeds and small shrubs