

Illinois Forestry Development Council

Fiscal Year 2025 Annual Report

IFDC Accomplishments

SMALL PROJECTS PROGRAM

The IFDC provided funding for six small projects this past year. These projects helped address forestry issues defined by the Council and included actions to mitigate these issues as outlined in the updated Illinois Forest Action Plan.

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Accomplishments 1

IFDC Members 2



June 2025

IFDC Website

ifdc.nres.illinois.edu

- [Southern Illinois Prescribed Burn Association](#) partnered with the [Forest Restoration Support Team](#) to update their websites so that they are better able to communicate with their members.
- [Illinois Forestry Association](#) used funding to promote the Illinois Forestry Development Act program with private forest landowners and produced a quarterly newsletter that was distributed to all IFA members.
- [Illinois Forestry Association](#) printed and distributed 2,500 copies of the Management of Invasive Plants and Pests of Illinois field guide.
- [Illinois Tree Farm](#) partnered with Illinois Walnut Council and Illinois Forestry Association to host a family forestry field day at the McCully Heritage Project located in Calhoun County.
- [Shawnee RC&D](#) printed and distributed 1,000 copies of the Illinois Forestry for the Birds pocket guide.
- The [Association of Illinois Soil and Water Districts](#) and [Illinois 4-H](#) continued their tree planting efforts in 49 Soil and Water Conservation Districts across Illinois.

IFDC MEETINGS

More information about the Illinois Forestry Development Council is available on our website: <http://ifdc.nres.illinois.edu/>. The website includes publication of IFDC sponsored reports as well as minutes from previous meetings.

The Council meets on the 2nd Wednesday of the odd months. Meetings are typically held remotely.

Illinois Forestry Development Council

The Illinois Forestry Development Council was created in 1983 upon passage of the Illinois Forestry Development Act (525 ILCS 15). The Council's charge is to identify and evaluate the social, economic, scientific, and educational value of Illinois' forest lands and forest products industries. The 29 members of the Council represent the following interests or groups:

MEMBER	REPRESENTING	MEMBER	REPRESENTING
Vacant	Landowner Engaged in Farming	Ms. Lydia Scott	Environmental Issues
Vacant	Landowner Engaged in Farming	Dr. Robert Schooley Mr. Chris Evans**	University of Illinois/Natural Resources and Environmental Sciences
Mr. Steve Graves	Private Timber Grower	Dr. John Groninger	Southern Illinois University, Forestry Program
Vacant	Private Timber Grower	Mr. Jerry Costello II Mr. Scott Schirmer**	Illinois Department of Agriculture
Mr. Joel Pisoni	Wood Products/Primary Forest Industry	Ms. Natalie Phelps Finnie Mr. John Teefey** Mr. Kenneth Jolly	Illinois Department of Natural Resources IDNR State Forester
Mr. Scott Swisher	Wood Products/Primary Forest Industry	Ms. Sylvia Garcia Ms. Kim Watson**	Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity
Mr. Matt Pustejovsky	Illinois Tree Farm Committee	Mr. Chris B. Meister	Illinois Finance Authority
Mr. Paul Deizman Ms. Troia Bethke**	Illinois Forestry Association	Dr. Christopher Merrett	Illinois Institute for Rural Affairs
Mr. Casey Calvert	Illinois Walnut Council	Vacant	IL Speaker of the House
Vacant	Illinois Chapter of the Society of American Foresters	Mr. Patrick Windhorst (R)	IL House Minority Leader
Dr. Kirk Stodola Dr. T.J. Benson**	Illinois Chapter of the Wildlife Society	Mr. Patrick Joyce	IL Senate President
Vacant	Urban Forestry Representative	Vacant	IL Senate Minority Leader
Mr. Joe Hansen	Illinois Arborist Association	Ms. Tammy Willis*	USDA/Natural Resources Conservation Service Illinois
Mr. Steve Stierwalt Mr. Dale Shumaker**	Association of Illinois Soil & Water Conservation Districts	Mr. Felipe Cano*	U.S. Forest Service Shawnee National Forest

**Ex-officio Members*

***Designee or Alternate*

For more information on the Illinois Forestry Development Council go to:

ifdc.nres.illinois.edu