

The Woods in Your Backyard Press Release

Owners of 1-10 acres of land who are interested in making the most of their property can greatly benefit from using the newly published manual, *The Woods in Your Backyard*. This full-color publication helps you to identify your goals for your land, and walks you through the steps to achieve them. Whether you are interested in converting lawn to forest, creating wildlife habitat, or providing a useful outdoor space for your family, this book is for you.

The publication includes a self-assessment manual and accompanying workbook that guide users to make informed decisions that ensure clean water, viable native wildlife populations, recreational opportunities, and forest health. The manual is made up of four parts that include a series of lessons, activities, and relevant information. It presents a step-by-step process for creating a personalized management and action plan. The lessons include detailing objectives, drawing a map, conducting inventory, planning activities, and converting lawns to forest. Information for each potential management goal is provided. The workbook section allows individual landowners to complete the self-assessment for their own property using a case study as a guide.

Local, trained volunteers will be available for further instruction and to help individuals achieve the land management goals they recorded in their workbook.

To order a copy of *The Woods in Your Backyard*, go to www.nraes.org. For more information on this publication or to find out about other forestry-related publication, write “The Woods in Your Backyard,” 18330 Keedysville Road, Keedysville MD 21756, or call 301-432-2767. Information about this and other forest stewardship resources is available on the web at www.naturalresources.umd.edu.