

Growing your Peer Learning Network

Tools and Tips from Women Owning Woodlands Network

Across the country, more women are taking the reins of forest management, as owners, as managers, as family members. Simultaneously our culture is transitioning from one of absorbers of information to one of engagement and contribution. Observing these trends, a group of like-minded educators from around the United States came together to create simple and relevant tools to facilitate peer-learning education for women. If you would like to learn more about women ownership of woodlands, please see the included white paper.

This project is designed to take a more holistic approach to meeting the unique needs of an important and widely neglected audience: the women who own and make management decisions on millions of acres of working forests. A more proximate goal is that forestry and natural resource educators will better understand the unique needs of women owners of working lands, and provide learning opportunities perceived as relevant and valuable by this audience. Educational opportunities supported by this project will provide learning environments conducive to open, problem-based, learner-driven exploration. These offerings will increase learners' confidence, engagement in learning, development of mutually supportive personal relationships, and basic technical skills, leading to more informed land stewardship decisions.

The target audiences of this toolkit are:

- Educators and association leaders involved with forest and rangeland communities in the United States.
- Women who own forest or rangeland and are not currently engaged in their respective forestry or range communities.
- Women who own forest or rangeland and stand to serve as mentors or facilitators of these peer networks.
- Women who may not currently be managing, but who stand to inherit or otherwise acquire forestland.

Chapter 1: Introduction

Chapter 2: Getting Started

Chapter 3: Bringing People Together: The First Meeting

Chapter 4: Getting the Word Out

Chapter 5: Getting to Peer Learning

Chapter 6: Funding your Network

Chapter 7: Maintaining your Network

Chapter 8: Evaluating your Network



Resources for Landowners



Visit the Conservancy's website for additional information about what the land trust does in the Upper Delaware River region of New York and Pennsylvania.

Also, find the electronic version of the WaTW annual educational training and retreat application online at:

www.DelawareHighlands.org/watw



Check out the site, find information applicable to your forest landownership, connect through nearby events for women landowners and let us know if you have ideas for future content.

www.WomenOwningWoodlands.net