

Registration Form:

*Registration Fee is \$10 (includes lunch)



Name _____

Address _____

City _____

State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____

Email _____

No. of People Attending _____

Total \$ enclosed _____

Return to:

Barron County UW-Extension
Bio Energy Crops Workshop
330 E. LaSalle Room 2206
Barron, WI 54812

For additional information or registering:

Phone: 715-537-6250

Fax: (715) 537-6814

tim.jergenson@ces.uwex.edu

Visit **www.bioenergyforum.com**
and for program updates

* Mileage reimbursable for uwex/dnr/usda/county
farmer/natural resource staff. CEU's available for CCA's



UW-Extension
Barron County Courthouse
330 E. LaSalle, room 2206
Barron, WI 54812

BIOMASS CROPS FOR RENEWABLE ENERGY



OCTOBER 8TH, 2008
SPOONER AG RESEARCH STATION
SPOONER, WI

UW
Extension

Biomass Crops for Renewable Energy: Opportunities and Challenges



Organized by Barron, Chippewa, St. Croix, Bayfield, Ashland, Burnett, Washburn, and Sawyer County UW Extension & the Spooner Ag Research Station

Project Background

As we confront the challenge of energy security, there is potential for expanding the use of locally grown biomass for renewable energy production, especially on marginal lands not suited for continuous row cropping.

The October 8th field tour and bioenergy discussion is for farmers, rural landowners, greenhouse owners, and others interested in growing, harvesting, and/or utilizing bioenergy crops for renewable energy. The focus will be on non-oil seed perennial crops including switchgrass, miscanthus, and short rotation woody crops.

Because they will be key players in the developing bio-economy, Extension agents, Land Conservationists, USDA staff, DNR staff, and other agriculture and conservation professionals are also encouraged to attend. CEU's for CCA's have been applied for.

Participants will leave with a better understanding of the economic and conservation opportunities that bioenergy cropping systems present - as well as the challenges. Registration includes lunch. Participants can attend either the first half of the day (10:30am-1:30pm) or the second half of the day (12:00pm-3:00pm) or both.

Featured Speakers:

Pam Porter is owner of P Squared Group, LLC, a consulting group specializing in energy, agriculture, and natural resource issues. She is a consultant to Agrecol, Inc, and received her MS in Agronomy studying the use of Switchgrass. She is Midwest Dir. of the Biomass Energy Resource Center and co-author of "Biomass A Feasibility Study of Heating Schools with Wood" and "A Native Grass Pellet Bio-Heat Roadmap for Wisconsin."

Jason Fischbach is the UWEX Agriculture Agent for Ashland and Bayfield County. He has a Masters degree in agroecology from the University of Minnesota where he studied warm-season grass and legume cropping systems. He was a graduate fellow with the Land Institute in Salina, Kansas. He is currently involved in efforts to domesticate hazelnuts for oil and bio-heat production

Workshop Agenda

9:30am – 10:30am Registration & Grants Discussion

Spooner Ag Research Station. Come early for informal discussion and handouts to learn about renewable energy grants and incentives available through State and Federal Programs
-Andrew Dane, Barron/Chippewa County UW-Extension

10:30am Welcome

10:30am – 12:00pm



Growing and Marketing Bioenergy Crops

What are the current and short-term options for growing and marketing biomass crops? Pam Porter will discuss results of a recently completed study "A Native Grass Pellet Bio-Heat Roadmap for Wisconsin" including:

- *Assessing land use for biomass production
- *Pelleting Switchgrass for Biomass Fuel

Dave Carlson, SEH, and Andrew Dane, UWEX, will introduce a "Bioenergy Feasibility Guidebook" that walks producers through a feasibility analysis in plain english:

- * What do I have?
- * What can I do with it?
- * Who will buy it and how much will they pay?

Session will conclude with a group discussion on what opportunities exist for farmers and potential buyers to work together to build a local bioenergy market

12:00pm - 12:30pm Very Tasty Hot Lunch (provided)

12:30pm – 1:30pm



Field Tour - Spooner Ag Research Station

Miscanthus Grass: Results of test plots in Barron Co.
-Tim Jergenson, Barron Co. Ag Agent

Switchgrass: Results of Spooner Ag test plots
Phil Holman, Spooner Ag Research Station

Hybrid Poplars: What we've learned thus far
Kevin Schoessow, Sawyer/Burnett/Washburn UWEX

1:30pm – 3:00pm



Bioenergy Crops: Potential Conservation Benefits

"Beyond monocultures: the benefits of perennial polycultures on biomass yield, nutrient cycling, and water quality"

-Jason Fishbach, Ashland/Bayfield UW-Extension

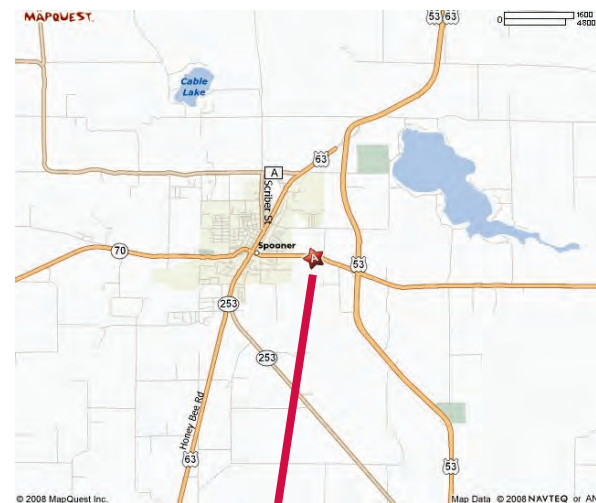
"Bioenergy Crops and Conservation: a Framework for understanding the opportunities and challenges that lie ahead"

-Pete Kling, St. Croix County UW-Extension

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Spooner Agricultural Research Station

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<http://www.uwex.edu/ces/sars/index.htm>



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