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and water.

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Enhancing Forest Diversity for Wildlife Habitat

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– On Saturday, May 13th, the Valley Stewardship Network will be traveling south to Crawford County for a forest field day to learn about managing land for forest diversity and we would like you to consider joining us. Did you know that planting oaks



provides a vital spring food source for migratory birds? Migrating songbirds that travel thousands of miles to nest in Wisconsin include Wood Thrushes, Scarlet Tanagers, Baltimore Orioles, hummingbirds, and most warblers.

One of our most abundant, precious, and poorly understood resources in the Driftless Area is our forests. This workshop is designed to help you learn more about the mysteries and complexities of our woodlands. Our experts include: Mike Mossman, a retired DNR forest ecologist; Lisa Hartman, who was instrumental in the Trumpeter Swan recovery and top notch birder; and Randy Hoffman, retired DNR Biologist and author of *Wisconsin's Natural Communities: How to Recognize Them, Where to Find Them*.

This will be an information-packed event. We will learn about forest birds and what they depend on as they migrate to us each year, oak regeneration and the obstacles oaks face in spreading out to the sun for

a long life, and landowner management strategies like prescribed burning that will help forest diversity. We will visit sites on this 54-acre property, owned by hosts Maggie Jones and David Linton, where a recent burn was done and a field where 47 bushels of acorns were broadcast in the Fall of 2015.

This family friendly event will be held Saturday, May 13th from 9 am - noon at 41425 Spring Valley Lane, Blue River, WI. This is a FREE workshop. Contact VSN to reserve your spot(s) today! You can reach us via email: info@valleystewardshipnetwork.org, phone: (608) 637-3615, or register online: www.valleystewardshipnetwork.org/calendar.

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Valley Stewardship Network is celebrating 17 years of land and water stewardship in the Kickapoo Valley and adjacent watersheds. Best known for its water quality monitoring programs, VSN also offers outreach and education programs to help farmers, landowners, residents and visitors understand and support our local ecology for the health of our communities. More at www.valleystewardshipnetwork.org