Landowners share tree planting experience at a food plot being restored to oak woodland.

LANDOWNER CONSERVATION ASSOCIATIONS

Habitat Game Changer
OVERVIEW

- What are Landowner Conservation Associations?
- What makes them “Game Changers?”
- Why should I care and what difference does it make?
- What can I do to promote LCAs?
LANDOWNER CONSERVATION ASSOCIATIONS

- Non-profit associations whose members are private landowners.
- Their mission is to promote more conservation activities on members’ property.
- Mutual support group sharing knowledge, tools, supplies and labor.
- May use joint buying and selling power in the marketplace.

When landowners share knowledge and experience everybody wins
WHAT’S IN A NAME?

- Landowner Cooperative Associations (Habitat Management)
- Wildlife Management Cooperatives
- Forestry Management Associations
- Prescribed Fire Associations
MAKING CHANGE

- What Willie Sutton has to teach us - >50% Private Land
- Expansive view of Aldo Leopold’s Land Ethic
- The power of organization
ORGANIZE
Together we can accomplish what would be impossible for a single landowner
ADVANTAGES - WIIFM

- Share Equipment and Tools
- Spread Best Practices
- Share Labor, Seed and Plants
- Market advantage on sales and purchases
- Qualify for Additional Funding
Landowner groups find the level of organization that meets their needs.

- Permanent organization staff
- Formal organization no staff
- Neighbors share labor and resources
- Watch Packers, drink beer and swap stories
- Not Involved
MISSION & VISION

• Invasive Species Management
• Wildlife Management
• Habitat Restoration
• Resource Production
• Legacy
• Privacy
CHANGING THE GAME

- Value Individualism
- Culture War - Storming Norms
- Neighborhood Dynamics

LONG-TERM CHANGE

Planting mix of pine and oak for oak woodland restoration
PARTNERS

- **CWMAs**
- Sporting Groups
- Other Non-Profits (e.g., TNC, Prairie Enthusiasts, WWOA, IPAW)
- Sustainable Farming Networks
- Federal and State Agencies (e.g., DNR)
- County and Municipal Departments
- Universities (Academic and Extension)
PARTNER ASSISTANCE - NOW

- Coordinate landowner support with other partners
- Work parties on private lands
- Share expertise, tools, equipment and seed
- Assist with grants and support applications
LONG-TERM PARTNER ASSISTANCE

• Advocate for legislation for LCA funding
  - Recognize LCAs in law
  - Provide funding for weed management & prescribed fire
  - Indemnify property owners for LCA activities

• Promote peer-to-peer cultural change
  - Involve landowners in decision-making
  - Outreach through local events
  - Sponsor local field days
  - Support leadership training
QUESTIONS?