Cooperating Forester Minimum Academic Requirements

Under the definition in s. NR 1.21(2)(e) [exit DNR], Wis. Adm. Code, cooperating foresters are required to have a bachelor’s or higher degree in forestry from a school with a curriculum accredited by the Society of American Foresters OR a substantially equivalent degree as determined by the chief state forester and including a minimum of eleven courses across four broad areas of study:

- **Forest ecology and biology**: a minimum of one course in each of the following subject areas:
  - dendrology
  - forest ecology
  - soils

- **Measurement of forest resource**: a minimum of one course in each of the following subject areas:
  - forest measurements
  - sampling design and techniques
  - surveying and mapping

- **Management of forest resources**: a minimum of one course in each of the following subject areas:
  - forest management
  - silviculture
  - forest protection

- **Forest resource policy and administration**: a minimum of one course in two of the following subject areas:
  - forest policy
  - forest economics
  - business management

**Note**: Individuals identified as a consulting forester in the DNR’s consulting forester list as of Feb. 1, 1989, are eligible ("grandfathered") for the Cooperating Forester Program even if they do not meet the educational requirements specified above. Anyone who drops off the list may not return to the program unless all the current program requirements (including education) are met.