

Aldo Leopold Native Plant Demonstration Program

(FY-09) Accomplishments

A 2/3-acre native seed orchard was established in 2007 to serve as a future seed collection site for the Lake Superior Clayplain. The first two years consisted of plowing, tilling and seeding winter rye and chemical spraying to eliminate the reed canarygrass and other non-native species. Weed barrier was installed in 2009 to block out the remaining non-native vegetation in preparation for planting. A solar powered fence is in place to protect native plantings from deer browse.

Our first planting of native forbs, grasses and sedges was successful with a 95% survival rate. A dry summer prompted hand watering twice weekly to maintain plant health. Due to drought conditions, additional plants are being cared for at a local nursery and will be planted in the spring of 2010. Certified Master Gardeners assisted in weeding and plant care.

Contractors providing native plant materials for this site include Wildflower Woods Nursery, Leaning Pine Nursery, and Iron County Land & Water Conservation Department.

Once established, this orchard will produce over 100 lbs. of seed for ecosystem restoration projects.



Forest Service Weed Crew and Washburn District Botanist, Matt Bushman, cover weed barrier with mulch in preparation for planting.

Year Awarded: 2009

Project completion: 2010

Report number: (1)

Expenditures:

- FY09 funding: \$7,800
- Expend: \$7,800
- Remaining: \$0

Partners/Contractors/Coop: ;
Northwood's Cooperative Weed Management Area; Ashland/Bayfield County Master Gardener Association; University of Wisconsin Arboretum; U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

Contact Person & phone number:
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Teachers from area schools partnered with the Forest Service and University of Wisconsin Arboretum staff to plant the first native forbs, grasses, and sedges at a Earth Partnership for Schools Workshop at the Northern Great Lakes Visitor Center June 15-19, 2009.



**Chequamegon-Nicolet
National Forest**
Northern Great Lakes
Visitor Center
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