



Walnut Council National Meeting
Returning to our Roots
Southern Illinois University, Carbondale, Illinois
July 24-27, 2022

Dear Walnut Council member:

We are excited to get back together for the 2022 Walnut Council Annual Meeting! This year we visit beautiful Carbondale, Illinois, home of some of the original efforts in walnut research and one of the largest forestry schools in the Midwest. And we didn't get a chance to celebrate our 50th year in 2020 so we will take some time to look back on our history. Can't attend the entire event? Consider coming for a day or two, daily rates are available.

Please see the enclosed information with summaries of the field tours, agenda, registration and hotel information. Some details are not yet finalized, so check out the upcoming bulletin for more detailed information or check later online at www.walnutcouncil.org/annual-meeting.

With all the great things to see we know you'll be glad you attended. We hope you can join us for the meeting!

Liz Jackson

Executive Director, Walnut Council

2022 ANNUAL MEETING OVERVIEW

Sunday night will be at Southern Illinois University student center where we will be welcomed by local forestry staff and enjoy a dessert reception while we network with old friends and meet new ones.

Monday's field tour features the Touch of Nature outdoor education center at Southern Illinois University. The Forest serves as an outdoor learning laboratory for students studying forestry within the SIU College of Agricultural Sciences. It has been the site of both short- and long-term studies for more than 50 years.

Monday evening sessions will include a landowner show and tell with sharing of successes and failures by members. Contact us if you are interested in sharing your story.

Tuesday will be a variety of technical sessions on fine hardwood management and landowner issues, including an expert roundtable, bring your Q and A. Check out the specific topics on the agenda.

Wednesday AM, a provided breakfast buffet kicks off this day followed by expert presentations on forest health, invasive species, and other topics.

In the afternoon, there is an optional free tour of the nearby Crab Orchard National Wildlife Refuge with refuge managers.

Registration

The deadline for early registration is **July 13th**, although later registrations will be accepted with a late fee. Please register early to assist in planning. Full registration includes: Sunday reception, field tour (M), lunch (M,T) and indoor session (T), or spouse tour (M), banquet (T), breakfast (W) and meeting favor. Sunday and Monday dinner are on your own. Breakfasts are provided at the meeting hotel.

Those unable to attend the entire meeting may register for an individual day or days or for the banquet separately as shown on the registration form. To register, mail in the enclosed application with a check or register online with a credit card at <http://2022walnutcouncil.eventbrite.com>.

Hotel and Travel Accommodations: Call and Reserve Your Room Today!

Hotel facilities are at the Holiday Inn Carbondale (changing to a Holiday Inn Express this summer), 2300 Reed Station Pkwy, Carbondale, IL 62901. To reserve **call 618-549-2600** or or book online from a link on our meeting webpage at the special "NWC" group rate of \$96 + tax per night.

The meeting will be located at the SIU Student Center, 1255 Lincoln Avenue, Carbondale, IL unless noted otherwise. Campus shuttles and/or parking passes will be available.

Confirmation/Cancellation Policy

Confirmations will be sent within two weeks of receiving registration until July 8. After that date receipts will be available at registration. All cancellations and requests for refunds should be received by Friday, July 15. A \$25 per person administrative fee will be deducted from the total.

Sponsorships

Meeting sponsorships help keep registration costs down and can be an effective mode of advertising for individuals, organizations, and companies who promote the culture, growth, and utilization of high value hardwoods. Sponsors will be recognized by signage at the meeting and in the Walnut Council Bulletin or by a flyer in the registration packet. Contact Liz Jackson by phone at 765-496-5013 or by e-mail at walnutcouncil@gmail.com. We'd be extremely grateful for your support.

MORE INFORMATION OR QUESTIONS? Contact Liz Jackson, Executive Director, at 765-496-5013; walnutcouncil@gmail.com or check us out on the Web at www.walnutcouncil.org/annual-meeting.

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Walnut Council National Meeting Tour Highlights

FORESTRY FIELD TOUR HIGHLIGHTS

Touch of Nature Environmental Center—Monday, July 25 morning

The Touch of Nature Forest is 3400 acres south of campus and serves as an outdoor learning laboratory for students studying forestry within the SIU College of Agricultural Sciences. The forest also provides opportunities for researchers from other parts of Southern Illinois University, other universities and colleges, federal and state agencies, and private organizations. Formerly known as SIU's Outdoor Laboratory, the Touch of Nature forest has been the site of both short- and long-term studies for more than 50 years.

Discussion topics may include regeneration, oak establishment, log quality, invasive species, prescribed fire, and other forest management techniques. More specific details will be posted on our meeting web page when available.

Giant City State Park—Monday, July 25 afternoon

If time permits, after lunch we will travel to Giant City State Park. Nestled in the Shawnee National Forest, the park has 4052 acres of forest and was named for the unique impressions made by its massive sandstone structures and a landscape like none other, with lush garments of fern, moss, flowering mints, hundreds of species of wild flowers and more than 75 varieties of towering trees. Here we will discuss some of the forest management techniques to maintain and enhance the primarily oak/hickory forest.

OPTIONAL POST CONFERENCE TOUR: Crab Orchard National Wildlife Refuge

Wednesday, July 27, afternoon

Crab Orchard National Wildlife Refuge is made up of 44,000 acres of land on a former military munitions plant site. With a great diversity of flora and fauna, the major habitats on the refuge include oak hickory upland forest, bottomland hardwood forest, cropland, grazing units, brushland, prairie, wetlands and lakes. The tour may include a visit to habitat management near underground bunkers and a discussion of prairie and wildlife habitat management techniques.

ALTERNATE SPOUSE TOURS

Monday and Tuesday, July 25 and 26

On Monday the alternate tour will visit the beautiful Southern Illinois University museum and greenhouse, followed by a provided lunch at a local café. On Tuesday the alternate tour will have a crafts program with demonstration and then join the main conference group for a provided lunch in the SIU student center. More specific details will be posted on our meeting web page when available.