Participants
The strength of the Institute is in the diversity of the participants. The program is geared to men and women who represent a geographic cross-section of the state as well as various state and federal agencies and NGO’s with a stake in the sustainability of natural resources. The participants also have a commitment to seeking collaborative, consensus-based processes.

The Program
NRLDI is sponsored by the Department of Forestry & Natural Resources at Purdue University, in cooperation with the Department of Agricultural Economics. NRLDI is funded in part by the Renewable Resources Extension Act. An advisory board representing industry, environment, government, and education provides overall guidance to the Institute.

The program is structured around three separate three-day sessions held at various state park lodges. Participants are expected to attend all three sessions in their entirety and complete various readings, activities, and homework assignments.

Costs
The majority of the costs are covered by the grant. Participants will pay only for their travel to the seminar sites and a fee of $500. A limited number of $250 scholarships are available for the self-employed and volunteers of not-for-profit organizations.

Dates for 2006
Session 1: September 13 to 15
Turkey Run State Park
Session 2: October 18 to 20
Spring Mill State Park
Session 3: November 8 to 10 McCormick’s Creek State Park

Applications

Further Information
Dr. Janet Ayres
Purdue University
Dept. of Agricultural Economics
403 W. State Street
West Lafayette, IN 47907-2056
PH: 765-494-4215, FX: 765-494-9176
ayres@purdue.edu

Sam Carman, Education Director, Division of Forestry, IDNR
2004 Participant
I’ve attended many leadership or management trainings over the years, and must admit that I approached this one with some skepticism. The NRLDI exceeded my expectations and improved the way I seek collaboration with others – especially those with whom I have disagreements. Attending the Institute is a big commitment but well worth the time invested.”
People often disagree over how our natural resources should be used and managed. Disputes arise over such issues as endangered species, private property rights, wetlands, timber management, and air and water quality. People with a stake in these issues tend to focus on their disagreements rather than building on their common interests. Policy gridlock often results as decision-making moves from the meeting room to the courtroom. Gridlock is not necessary. People involved in these disputes can reach mutually acceptable solutions by communicating in a more meaningful and effective way, opening the debate to include all stakeholders, and working together to find collaborative, sustainable agreements.

The goal of the Natural Resources Leadership Institute is to develop leaders within the natural resources communities who can build collaborative relationships with others around contentious issues. By applying the skills learned in the program, NRLDI graduates will be more knowledgeable about how to work collaboratively with others, build consensus, and find sustainable solutions to complex environmental issues.

Workshop topics include:

**Session 1 – Understanding Self & Others and the Nature of Controversial Natural Resource Issues**
- Learn about your own personal approach to leadership and problem solving.
- Learn how to build relationships with others.
- Learn how to communicate with others through better listening skills and speaking your message clearly.
- Learn the nine ways to influence others.
- Understand your emotions, the role they play in conflict, and how to better manage high emotions.
- Learn how to diffuse conflict.
- Learn more about the nature of natural resource conflicts.
- Learn the difference between interests and positions.
- Learn the concepts of “Principled Negotiation.”

**Session 2 – Multi-Party Collaborative Problem Solving Processes, Tools & Techniques**
- Understand groups, their dynamics and the role of leadership.
- Learn the principles and processes of collaborative problem solving and when to use it.
- Learn various facilitation techniques to lead a group through a collaborative process.
- Learn how to deal with data and scientific information in conflict situations.
- Understand consensus decision making.

**Session 3 – Negotiation Skills, Tools & Techniques**
- Learn principles of interest-based negotiation in multi-party situations.
- Learn how to prepare to negotiate.
- Learn about factors that contribute to negotiation effectiveness.
- Learn negotiation skills.
- Learn how to devise agreements that are sustainable.
- Practice negotiation in a complex, multi-party issue.

---

Susannah Hole
Grazingland Specialist
Natural Resources Conservation Service
2005 participant

“I recommend this NRLDI course for any science and conservation professional who has to deal with the public on a one-on-one or group setting. This course gave me a whole new set of tools. It was invaluable in learning how to effectively interact with others.”