



PlumCreek

News Release

For immediate release
May 5, 2008

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Plum Creek Replants Approximately 1.5 Million Seedlings on Wisconsin Lands

Planting efforts result in natural regeneration and growth of millions of trees

TOMAHAWK, Wis. — Plum Creek Timber Company today announced it has just completed its spring 2008 planting of approximately 1.5 million seedlings statewide. The effort is part of Plum Creek's plan to regenerate and grow Wisconsin forests for future generations.

“This is a big undertaking since the million and a half Red Pine seedlings are planted by hand, one at a time,” said Scott Henker, senior resource manager for the Lake States Region. “Forty years of experience in tree improvement and nursery management have helped redefine the company's seed development, sowing, irrigation, fertilization, pruning and harvesting technologies to produce vital seedlings that surpass the industry standard for health and viability.”

Planting operations were conducted over the last few weeks in three areas of Wisconsin. Approximately 1 million seedlings were planted in the Wisconsin Rapids area, 300,000 seedlings in the Tomahawk area and 200,000 seedlings in the Hayward area. Each year, Plum Creek plants approximately 85 million seedlings on its land nationwide.

According to Henker, the replanting process begins with seeds adapted for rapid growth in a wide range of geographical locations. Professional nursery teams use techniques such as precision vacuum sowing, root wrenching, mechanical lifting and spray-on root moisture retention gels to ensure maximum uniformity, larger root collar diameters, high root-to-shoot ratios and robust root systems in the seedlings that are planted. These seedlings become trees that grow straighter and faster, resist disease better and produce more wood volume.

“The science behind the replanting process and the forestry industry as a whole is amazing and changing every day,” said Henker. “We have 13 foresters in Wisconsin that use state-of-the-art technology to manage and track our forests. It's all in an effort to stand behind our commitment to sustainable forestry, and our replanting effort is just one of the ways we demonstrate that commitment.”

According to Plum Creek, the seedlings planted in 2008 will grow for at 25 years before they begin to be thinned so that the remaining trees can continue to grow for up to 60 years.

During all of that time, the seedlings will grow to further enhance Plum Creek's land as great habitat for wildlife and produce quality forest products.

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Plum Creek is the largest and most geographically diverse private landowner in the nation, with approximately 8 million acres of timberlands in major timber producing regions of the United States and 10 wood products manufacturing facilities in the Northwest. In Wisconsin, Plum Creek practices sustainable forestry on approximately 400,000 acres of forestland in 26 counties throughout the state. For more information on Plum Creek in Wisconsin, visit www.plumcreek.com/wisconsin.