

Living on the Land Curriculum: Addressing Stewardship for Small Acreages. (A04-minshew112052-Oral)

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Abstract:

Living on the Land (LOL)--Stewardship for Small Acreages is an educational curriculum that targets small acreage landowners. In the West, a growing number of people are moving to rural areas to live on a few acres. Through the cumulative effects of their numbers, they are significantly impacting natural resources. These cumulative effects result in excess soil erosion, poor surface and groundwater quality, degraded fish and wildlife habitat and loss of land productivity. This new population's educational needs have created a great demand for information and technical assistance to help them manage their wildlife, land and water resources. The LOL curriculum aims to raise awareness among small acreage landowners and to provide the tools for them to be better stewards. One of the key strengths of the curriculum is its adaptability to fit the needs of local audiences. This 36-hr curriculum includes an instructors' guide and five lessons in PowerPoint format entitled 1) Setting the Stage, Inventorying Resources, 2) Your Living Soil, 3) All Life Depends on Water, 4) Love Your Grass as Much as Your Animals and 5) Don't Forget the Animals.

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