

PhD Opportunity at Purdue University: Response of forest structure and composition to overstory mortality from the emerald ash borer

We are seeking a motivated PhD student to become part of a collaborative project between the Hardwood Tree Improvement and Regeneration Center of the USDA Forest Service and the Department of Forestry and Natural Resources at Purdue University. The project will use long-term data to study changes in forest structure and composition in response to tree mortality from the emerald ash borer. Past change and potential trajectories of change will be examined at the gap scale within an old-growth forest and at the landscape scale across a network of plots distributed across Indiana.

The position is funded for three years beginning in January 2022 and includes a graduate stipend, tuition waiver, and access to employer assisted health insurance.

Applicants should have a GPA of 3.2 or higher. GRE scores are not required, but may be submitted.

Desired qualifications: an undergraduate or graduate degree in forestry, botany, ecology, plant science, biology or a related field (MS degree preferred, exceptional candidates with only a BS will be considered); experience conducting field research; training and/or experience in woody species identification; classwork or experience analyzing data in program R; interest in forest ecology, silviculture, and invasive insects.

To apply: Prospective applicants should send, via e-mail attachment, a brief letter of interest, CV (including GPA and contact information for three references), and unofficial transcripts to Mike Saunders (msaunders@purdue.edu) or Mike Jenkins (jenkinma@purdue.edu). We will begin reviewing materials on August 2, 2021.

Women and individuals from other historically under-represented groups are strongly encouraged to apply. Purdue University is an equal-opportunity, affirmative-action employer.

About Purdue: Purdue is a land-grant university of over 40,000 students and was ranked the 9th best public university in the U.S. by *The Wall Street Journal* and *Times Higher Education*. Located in West Lafayette, Indiana, Purdue is an easy drive from Indianapolis and Chicago. The Department of Forestry and Natural Resources (FNR) is housed administratively in the College of Agriculture (#8 world ranking); emphasizes interdisciplinary approaches across a broad spectrum of natural-resource sciences; and offers vibrant, nationally ranked graduate programs in ecology, forestry, fisheries, and wildlife. The West Lafayette-Lafayette area is home to a diverse community with a population of 174,000, good schools, safe neighborhoods, over 40 parks and extensive trail systems, active farmers' markets, and year-round community festivals and art events.

