HARDWOOD UNIVERSITY

Fall 2026

October 20, 2026, 1 day – Purdue University Martell Forest, Name that Tree and ID that Wood

Hands-on experience in identifying local hardwood species of trees when looking at bark, leaves, and twigs. Practice distinguishing and identifying wood from these trees. Learn about the importance of Midwest hardwoods as a fascinating carbon-sequestering material (Farley, Haviarova)

October 21, 2026, 1 day – Danzer, Edinburgh, IN, Marketing Hardwood Veneer, Stave, Sawlogs

Discuss tree quality and log merchandising. The highest-value use of our hardwood resource is for fine face veneers. Excellent markets have always existed for “perfect” trees and logs. Marketing of “somewhat less than perfect” trees and logs can present a challenge. The practicing forester may be unsure what a particular veneer buyer can accept and why the log or tree value varies widely and changes weekly. Furthermore, the markets for the veneer itself change. A tour of the Danzer facility and showroom are included (Thesin, Gazo).

November 18, 2026, 1 day – Pike Lumber Company, Akron, IN, Grade-Sawing Hardwood Logs

Theory and practice of sawing hardwood logs into lumber. Observe external characteristics affecting lumber quality and the measurement of selected logs. Discuss decisions made at the head saw, resaw, edger, and trimmer that affect the lumber grade. Cut logs on a portable sawmill to observe the process in practice and evaluate the impact of right/wrong decisions (Gazo).

Spring 2027

March 24, 2027, 1 day – Cole Hardwoods, Logansport, IN, Air Drying Hardwood Lumber

Discuss the moisture content of wood, why drying is necessary, and various ways to dry lumber. Review principles of setting up a quality air-drying yard, proper lumber stacking, and basics of wood preservation (Gazo).

April 14, 2027, 1 day – MacBeath Hardwood, Edinburg, IN, Kiln Drying Hardwood Lumber

Discuss various methods and types of dry kilns and their pros and cons. Learn to develop a kiln-drying schedule and a way to select and check kiln samples. Discuss lumber drying defects and how to prevent them (Gazo).

April 28, 2027, 1 day – Purdue University Martell Forest, Introduction to Hardwood Lumber Quality/Grading

Basic overview of reasons for grading lumber, measurement of boards, and NHLA lumber grading rules. Limited practice of grading sample boards. Discuss how log quality affects lumber grade and how head sawyer, resaw, edger, and trimmer operators can maximize value potential (Gazo).

Register at: https://www.ihla.org/event/