

Subject: : Conservation

Topic: : Relief From Rhododendron

Re: Relief From Rhododendron

Author: : TimMurphy

Date: : 2007/4/5 14:38:38

URL:

Dear RLeeP,

The real reason they remove the trees from the streams in the Wisconsin Driftless area is because they are invasive species. Box elder and willows are not supposed to be there. The land never was historically wooded, it was covered in prairie grasses and that is what they want growing on their streams.

The native grasses are deeply rooted and do a much better job of stabilizing a stream bank. Even in a flood the grass offers no impediment to water flow, the creek merely rises out of it's banks and returns to them once the water subsides.

As it stands now wood and woody debris builds up along trees during high water events and it scours and gouges the soil out of the opposite banks collapsing the banks and dumping more topsoil into the stream. Those streams are not supposed to be flowing through 6 to 6 feet of deposited topsoil. The trees are the problem in The Driftless.

I'm not making this up, this is directly from a friend of mine who is an active TU Chapter President in Wisconsin.

Regards,

Tim Murphy 😊