

Citizen Resolution # 050222

(For Hearing Officer completion)



Allowing maple sap collection from state lands

There has been increased interest and participation in recent years of citizens across Wisconsin in producing maple syrup. Participants typically gather with family and friends in this activity through which they enjoy another aspect of Wisconsin's outdoors and take their place in the heritage and history of this ritual of spring that dates back to Wisconsin's native peoples. This is a sustainable activity, as the process of collecting the sap used to produce maple syrup does not harm the maple trees from which it is collected. And the finished product is a natural sweetener, with micro-nutrients that may have health benefits. It's easy to understand why there's currently increased interest in making maple syrup in Wisconsin. But not everyone with that interest has access to maple trees from which sap can be collected. However, the DNR administers a permit program which allows people to collect miscellaneous forest products from DNR properties for personal use. Those miscellaneous forest products include Christmas trees, boughs, firewood, small poles, saplings, burls and decorative branches - but not maple sap. (It's noted that the US Forest Service administers a similar permit program for the collection of miscellaneous forest products from National Forests, and under that program a permit may be obtained for the collection of maple sap from the Chequamegon-Nicolet National Forest in northern Wisconsin.) If maple sap was added to the list of miscellaneous forest products under DNR's Miscellaneous Forest Products Permit, DNR could then manage and regulate the collection of maple sap from DNR lands and provide those interested in collecting maple sap from those lands the ability to do so.

Would you support the Conservation Congress working with the DNR to add maple sap to the list of miscellaneous forest products which may be collected under a Miscellaneous Forest Products Permit issued by the DNR?

Additional Information provided by author:

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Please print typed resolution on 8 ½ X 11 white paper (one-sided) and provide the WCC County Chair with TWO COPIES at the spring hearing. Only the individual author or designated representative may present the resolution. The author or designated representative must be present at the time the resolution is introduced. No more than two resolutions may be introduced by any person during the Congress portion of the spring hearings.

Contact one of your [local WCC delegates](#) with questions or for assistance with writing your resolution.