



## Overview

The [Women's Forest Congress](#) is a new, dynamic and inclusive forum to develop strategies, solutions and radical change for forests. We are women throughout the forest community who are sharing personal and professional experiences, connecting with each other, shaping the latest innovations and considering how actions informed by our perspectives can make a profound impact on the future of forests.

## A Growing Community

Since our first virtual gathering in July 2020, the Women's Forest Congress has drawn hundreds of attendees to its quarterly meetings. The virtual gatherings regularly feature amazing thought leaders as keynote speakers, and provide a safe space for networking, sharing, and laughing.

Thousands follow the Women's Forest Congress on social media and the website features [blogs](#) from diverse perspectives. Thousands receive a monthly newsletter providing the latest news on what's happening in our Community. And finally, we are grateful to the more than 30 organizations supporting the WFC including non-profits, government agencies, and large and small for-profits.

## Vision

We envision a forest community where there is universal equity, inclusion, and a shared sense of belonging. All voices are heard, supported, and empowered. The influence and impact of all are manifest in our relationships with forests.

## Mission

Our mission is to create community and cultivate change. Together we create safe spaces to connect, inspire, and act as catalysts for change for the benefit of forests and all who rely on them now and for the future.

- We value and abide by community agreements
- We champion diversity, equity, inclusion and accessibility
- We support and provide ways to learn and grow together
- We employ inclusive and collaborative leadership models
- We are solutions-focused and results-oriented



# 2022 Women's Forest Congress

## Purpose

The Women's Forest Congress Steering Committee and working groups have been hard at work planning for the inaugural in-person [Women's Forest Congress](#) to be held October 17-20 in Minneapolis Minnesota. [Registration](#) is now open.

Women will gather to use our diverse perspectives and collective expertise to develop strategies and solutions to address the most pressing current and forthcoming challenges for forests and women. And we will advocate for the most compelling opportunities for women in the forest community as they arise.

## Critical topics to be addressed include:

- Leadership for Equity & Inclusion
- Workforce Opportunities for Increasing Recruitment, Retention, and Leadership
- Women as Catalysts for Change
- Addressing Today's Greatest Forest Challenges
- Supporting Each Other

## Women's Forest Congress: Our Use of Terms

### CONGRESS

A formal meeting or series of meetings for discussion between delegates, especially those from within a particular discipline, who are working toward a shared vision

### FOREST COMMUNITY

All who live in, manage, steward, work in, work for, care for, play in, and love all types of forests.

### FORESTS

Areas consisting of trees and undergrowth – includes the vast contiguous forests of rural areas, large and small patches of forests in suburbs, and the isolated and clustered trees that are found in urban parks and communities.

### FORUM

A physical or virtual place, meeting, or medium where ideas and views on a particular issue or issues can be exchanged. WFC's forum has taken the form of a movement that resonates with many, as well as virtual gatherings. In 2022, our forum will include the movement, virtual events, and an in-person gathering.

### WE

"We" includes the Steering Committee, Advisory Council, Working Group Members, and all who champion our mission and events.

### WOMEN

"Women" is meant to include trans, non-binary, and gender non-conforming participants, as well as women of all ages, perspectives, cultural backgrounds, professional levels, and education.



**WOMEN'S FOREST  
CONGRESS**