**The Beginning of Change, Tribal History, Tribal Treaties**

**The Menominee Forest Story**

Plans have been made for a two-day conference, on October 11-12, 2024 to present the unique story of the Menominee Forest in eastern Wisconsin. This tract of sustainably managed Forest, visible from the Space Station, has captured the attention of a wide audience within the Natural Resource community in the United States. While K-12 educators will be a key audience, researchers, and a wide range of people with interest in indigenous culture and forest practice will take value from the Conference.

The Conference will look at life patterns of the Menominee prior to European contact, a look at centuries old practices of the forest as ‘sustainer’ being taught at the College of the Menominee currently, treaties with other tribes and the federal government beginning in the early 1800’s, the issue of ‘termination’ as a federally recognized tribe in the 1950’s and then ‘restoration’ of that status in the 1970’s, and finally a review of current sustainable forest practice. A Poster session featuring authors, researchers and archivists is planned prior to the evening banquet on the first day of the Conference.

Field tours of the Tribal Museum and Cultural Center, along with a look at modern practice in forestry and efforts to retain skills in traditional agriculture on various locations on the Reservation are planned.

A series of free pre-conference webinars in September will build understanding for the slate of speakers scheduled in October.

Open Registration for the Conference will be offered at the Forest History Association of Wisconsin website [www.foresthistoryassociationwi.org](http://www.foresthistoryassociationwi.org) in June. Registration for the field tours will be limited.