



RM OF PINEY FOREST TOURS

The RM of Piney will be hosting three Walking Tours with our knowledgeable tour guide, Bob Austman. Tours will be provided rain or shine, but we ask that you come dressed for the weather. This is an interactive immersive event so be prepared for some light hiking.

Saturday, May 31st, 2025 from 1:00 – 3:30pm **FORESTRY 101 – WISDOM IN THE WOODS**

Don't know a White Poplar from a Black Poplar? Don't know a hardwood from a softwood? Then join us for the first, in a series of walking tours designed to educate you about our region's wonderful forest resource. Participants will learn how to properly identify tree species and their life cycle from seedling to maturity and look at how the various species interact in a healthy forest ecosystem. We will visit a publicly owned forest (Crown Land) as well as a private woodlot and compare how they are managed. Everyone will come away with a booklet on tree identification....so you can become your family's tree expert!!

Saturday, June 28th, 2025 from 1:00 – 3:30pm **BECOMING FIRESMART**

This tour will examine the role of fire in forest ecology. We will visit several recent burn sites and look at how forests can regenerate. Participants will come away with information about keeping their property in such a way to prevent ignition sources and to minimize risk in the event of a wildfire. We will also learn how to calculate the fire risk on any given day without having to refer to the nearest Fire Weather Hazard sign. We will also look at some equipment used by the Firetak crew when they are called into service. An informative booklet on being "Firesmart" will be made available to all.

Friday, September 26th, 2025 from 1:00 – 3:30pm **GOODS FROM THE WOODS**

What happens to those truckloads of logs you see heading north on Hwy 12? Join us for a tour of the Southeast Forest Products sawmill. Watch how several species of trees from our area are processed into lumber, firewood, and other forest products. We will also see how the lumber products are turned into more valuable items such as pallets for shipping, and trusses used in building construction. We will also learn more about how our renewable forest resources are becoming more sustainably managed.

**All participants are to meet at the RM office in Vassar (6092 Boundary St.) for all three tours.
Transportation will be provided from the RM office to and from each touring site.**

For Ages 12 & Up (only 15 spots available)

**Please call 204-437-2284 or email: carrie@rmofpiney.mb.ca
(To participate, please RSVP by the prior Monday of each tour)**

This is a Free Event!

Our Tour Guide:

Bob Austman has owned a woodlot in the RM of Piney since 1986. He works part time for Tree Canada as a quality control inspector for their planting projects, many of which have been in the RM of Piney. He also worked for the Manitoba Model Forest for 15 years as Education Coordinator and Forest Research Assistant. Their family woodlot is managed for recreational enjoyment, firewood production, hunting and wildlife viewing. He also is a board member on the Woodlot Association of Manitoba and represents Manitoba on the Canadian Federation of Woodlot Owners.