



Pine/Hardwood Buffet Table - There won't be another like it.

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The top of the table was originally the backing for a large sign from years ago. It was sawn from a large pine on a traditional sawmill, the repetitive arcs were made by offset teeth on the blade. The top was originally milled as one piece, from the center of what was most likely a white pine log. Due to its long life outside, and despite white pine's rot-resistant characteristics, the heart wood had decayed somewhat and so was removed. The two sides were then rejoined to make the top solid again.

The legs and the apron that support the table came to us in the form of a wooden cart that had seen use in the transport of fire suppression equipment that was installed in the construction of Deep Portage Conservation Reserve. It also had spent many years outside but much of the material was reusable. The type of wood is unknown but fairly hard. The name of the fire suppression company still appears in traces of the original paint on the end pieces of the apron.

Enjoy the feel of the long-weathered wood grown by trees that reach into the past.

Finished in water-based poly. \$740, tax included.

Please leave us your contact info! We'd love to hear about how pieces fare and if we could make improvements.



White/Red Pine Bench - A substantial piece with a question. “When will you begin to listen to the trees?”

A large white pine from the Long Beach area of Ten Mile Lake provided the top to this bench (or coffee table?). The pine was one of several trees that were removed for a building site.

After a few years of watching the pile of logs “sleep”, permission was given for us to contract with a local trucker to have the logs brought to our home. The white pine was then milled on our band saw and the resultant live-edge slabs were given several years to dry. One of these sits before you here, with a little embellishment via woodburning.

The legs are made from red pine that was harvested after thinning of a plantation just east of Hackensack. The engraving of the legs was done by talented and persistent pine bark beetles. When removing the bark we tried to preserve the beetles' handiwork, perhaps there is a message written in beetle in there somewhere? Cass County lands currently are composed of 7 % red pine and 0.2 % white pine. We recommend planting white pine.

Finished with wood gum spirits and boiled linseed oil. \$375, tax included.

Please leave us your contact info! We'd love to hear about how pieces fare and if we could make improvements.



Jack Pine Stool - A surprisingly sturdy little stool with a question posed on top: "Have the seeds of eternity been planted in your soul?"

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This piece is made of native jack pine grown by our home. We try to use these pines only when they have reached their end of life, at that point they (usually) will still make wonderfully strong lumber. This stool was made from slabs that come off the side of the dimension lumber, enhanced by a little wood burning. Jack Pines are currently globally imperiled. They usually exist in fire-prone, sandy areas called pine barrens and often coexist with blueberries and other fruiting species. In a repeat of history, many pine barrens have been removed again to make way for a second wave of agriculture. The first time many of these areas of pines were farmed was during the first part of the 1900s when it was discovered to be quite poor farm ground, as the resultant abandonment and regrowth of pines testify. The advent of irrigation and chemical agriculture has temporarily made farming the sands possible but has created big water quality and quantity issues in the land-o-lakes. The pine cones that are depicted on the stool represent the native seed bank that is under the surface of many fields - seeds lying in wait for the chance to sprout.

Finished with wood gum spirits and boiled linseed oil. \$120, tax included.

Please leave us your contact info! We'd love to hear about how pieces fare and if we could make improvements.



Red Oak and Cherry Footboard Bench Set - For Jamie and Moose

The tops in this set are made from a twin stem red oak that weakened prematurely in the middle and was felled partly by wind, partly by chainsaw, a short distance from Pleasant Lake. It had been a beautiful yard tree that made me nervous to put on the sawmill. Yard trees are notorious for too often containing blade-dulling nails, wire, railroad spikes and even sometimes insulators from power lines. Fortunately there were only a few small nails buried in the end log, maybe for hanging a clothesline years ago. The legs that support both benches are made from pincherry that was growing in the woods where we live. The small bench is made to slide up to the end of the bigger bench to make two steps up to the bed for Moose. Finished with a hand rubbed mix of turpentine and linseed oil. Made for Jamie Konopacky for work done in defense of the Minnesota Pineland Sands.



Quaking Aspen Live Edge Bench - "Meet me in the Forest"

This two person bench is made from aspen that was milled by a friend from his woods just south of Birch Lake. While it has waited in our shed the wood worms have done the work of making their designs under the bark, which we have preserved when debarking. If you look closely, the wood worms may have a message beyond "Meet me in the Forest" which is burned into the back. It is fastened together with screws and capped with plugs cut from the same aspen. Aspen dominates most of the forest land in our area now because it is so quick to outgrow other species after logging. It becomes a very hard wood once dried and needs to be kept dry since it is prone to breakdown out in the elements.

Finished with oil-based polyurethane. \$700, tax included.



White Pine Live Edge Bench - "Between every two trees..."

This two person bench has a seat and back made from white pine that was milled by a friend from his woods just south of Birch Lake. The sides came from a white pine that another friend removed from a yard during his business of hazardous tree removal. The wide slabs have some beautiful contrasting grain and bluing in places that worked well to provide the background to the quote by John Muir "Between every two pines is a doorway to a new world."

This quote is burned into the back, along with two white pines incorporated into the wording. It is fastened together with screws and capped with plugs cut from the same pine. It is easily carried as it is quite light.

Finished with oil-based polyurethane. \$900, tax included.



Paper Birch Live Edge Bench - “If you would know strength...”

This two person bench is made from birch that was milled by a friend from his woods just south of Birch Lake. The slabs have some beautiful spalting along with fantastic holographic, cloud-like qualities. “If you would know strength and patience, welcome the company of trees”, a quote by Hal Borland, is burned into the back. It is fastened together with screws and capped with plugs cut from the same birch. It is quite heavy due to the density of birch. Birch trees can also be tapped for sap in the spring, after maple trees are done, starting about the time that frogs begin croaking. The sap is good and has about half as much sugar content as maples. Finished with oil-based polyurethane. \$700, tax included.



Paper Birch Live Edge Bench - “The best time to plant a tree...”

This two person bench is made from birch that was milled by a friend from his woods just south of Birch Lake. The slabs have some beautiful spalting along with the normal coloration. A Chinese proverb “The best time to plant a tree is twenty years ago, the second best time is now” is burned into the back. It is fastened together with screws and capped with plugs cut from the same birch. It is quite heavy due to the density of birch. Birch trees can also be tapped for sap in the spring, after maple trees are done, starting about the time that frogs begin croaking. The sap is quite good and has about half as much sugar content as maples.

Finished with oil-based polyurethane. \$700, tax included.



Quaking Aspen Live Edge Bench - "A tree's true genius..."

This three person bench is made from an aspen that was milled by a friend from his woods just south of Birch Lake. "A tree's true genius is the ability to sculpt light into solid form" - a saying of my own - is burned into the back. While the lumber waited in our shed the wood worms did the work of making a few designs under the bark, which we have preserved when debarking. The wood shows exceptional holographic qualities and very beautiful large knots which are suggestive of non-arboreal lifeforms in the grain. The back and side pieces are interestingly matched and the piece is fastened together with screws and capped with plugs cut from the same aspen. Aspen dominates most of the forest land in our area now because it is so quick to outgrow other species after logging. It becomes a very hard wood once dried and needs to be kept dry since it is prone to breakdown out in the elements. Finished with oil-based polyurethane. \$1000, tax included.



White and Red Pine Fay and Dorothy Harrington Mid-table Set - a solid pair

White and Red Pine Fay and Dorothy Harrington Mid-table Set - a solid pair

These tables are made from a single live edge white pine slab that was milled by a friend who lived just south of Birch Lake. The slabs are supported by pole legs of red pine which we salvaged from a slash pile on Potlatch managed land. The cross member board between the legs is also white pine that was saved from a burn pile by a friend.

Fay Harrington is credited with being the “father” of Deep Portage Conservation Preserve. “Proceed with determination”, one of Fay’s favorite sayings, is burned into the top of one table.

Dorothy Harrington, Fay’s wife, also instrumental in Deep Portage’s formation, is known for maintaining a positive attitude when faced with challenges, brushing off difficulties by saying “Anyway, anyway...” and moving on. This quote is burned into the other table top.

A set of tables is an inadequate homage for this solid couple and the important effects they have had through the exposure of thousands of kids to healthy forests.

Finished with oil-based polyurethane. \$1000, tax included.



Large Maple Birdhouse Surprise

This piece came from a large maple in the Long Beach area of Ten Mile Lake. The maple was one of several trees that were removed from a sap producing “sugar bush” to make room for a building site.

The sugar bush was used by the former owners in the 50’s and 60’s, and again by us in 2011-2012. Back in the day, there was a sugar shack onsite, in the midst of the maples, and sap was run across an elaborate wood-fired evaporating tray that would receive sap at one end and dispense nearly finished syrup at the other, quite an accomplishment.

The beginning hollow inside the mouth was expanded to make room for a bird nest, suitable for many of the smaller birds in the area. The eyes are of white cedar. There is no finish so as not to introduce chemicals into the birds’ nesting lives. \$60, tax included.



Small Maple Birdhouse Surprise

This piece came from a large maple in the Long Beach area of Ten Mile Lake. The maple was one of several trees that were removed from a sap producing “sugar bush” to make room for a building site.

The sugar bush was used by the former owners in the 50’s and 60’s, and again by us in 2011-2012. Back in the day, there was a sugar shack onsite, in the midst of the maples, and sap was run across an elaborate wood-fired evaporating tray that would receive sap at one end and dispense nearly finished syrup at the other, quite an accomplishment.

The beginning hollow inside the mouth was expanded to make room for a bird nest, suitable for many of the smallest birds in the area. The eyes are of white cedar. There is no finish so as not to introduce chemicals into the birds’ nesting lives. \$45, tax included.



White Oak Coffee Table

This piece consists of a top that was saved during a salvage operation by a friend and legs from the limbs of a tree near our house that was skinned by porcupines. The top did not look like much until it was planed down, and then the beauty appeared. The legs have an interesting y-branch that was fit to be a leg and cross member, not many trees will grow a crook like this.

Finished with water based poly, not for sale.



Understory Staff

This staff is from the woods near our house, possibly an osier of some sort. Often we find it hard to use the trails after a snow tips the members of the understory into the trail. This is one such, left with an interesting fork.

Finished with spar varnish.
\$50, tax included

Please leave us your contact info! We'd love to hear about how pieces fare and if we could make improvements.



White Cedar Staff

This staff is from a white cedar that we transplanted as a seedling from the SE shore of Ten Mile Lake to our home.

The cedar had twin trunks, so when we decided to move the tree again we removed the weaker trunk that is now the staff in your hand.

The single trunk cedar in its new spot has not grown well, perhaps it mourns its twin.

Finished with spar varnish. \$50, tax included



Paper Birch Staff

This staff is from a group of paper birch that a friend harvested from his place south of Birch Lake many years ago with the intent of making furniture with it. He is gone now but his work remains, some of which you can hold in your hands.

Finished with spar varnish.
\$50, tax included

Please leave us your contact info! We'd love to hear about how pieces fare and if we could make improvements.



Understory Staff

This staff is from the woods near our house, possibly a cherry of some sort. Often we find it hard to use the trails after a snow tips the members of the understory into the trail. This is one such, with a bit of a bow to it.

Finished with spar varnish.
\$50, tax included

Please leave us your contact info! We'd love to hear about how pieces fare and if we could make improvements.

**Plumber
Lumber**
LLC ®

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White Pine Map Rack -

This construction is made from an odd shaped white pine board that a friend saved from a burn pile. Made for use at Deep Portage Learning Center, the logo is wood burned on the side panels. White pine dominated portions of our area before logging began. It grows to impressive heights in Minnesota if allowed. Sadly, on Cass County lands only 0.2% of forests are now considered white pine stands. We recommend planting white pine, they will need protection from deer and rabbits until they get to 7 feet tall. The needles from white pine make a fine tea.

Finished with oil-based polyurethane. \$120, tax included.



**Plumber
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LLC ®

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Paper Birch Live Edge Chair

This construction is made from a paper birch that a friend harvested near his home south of Birch Lake many years ago with the intent of making furniture with it. He is gone now but his sawyer work remains, some of which has been used for this chair. It is quite comfortable as well as beautiful.

Finished with oil-based polyurethane. Sold.