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**SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION**  
Washington, DC 20549

**FORM 8-K**

**CURRENT REPORT  
PURSUANT TO SECTION 13 OR 15(d) OF THE  
SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934**

Date of Report (Date of earliest event reported): May 1, 2013

**HIGHWOODS PROPERTIES, INC.**  
(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

**Maryland**  
(State or other jurisdiction  
of incorporation or organization)

**001-13100**  
(Commission  
File Number)

**56-1871668**  
(I.R.S. Employer  
Identification Number)

**HIGHWOODS REALTY LIMITED PARTNERSHIP**  
(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

**North Carolina**  
(State or other jurisdiction  
of incorporation or organization)

**000-21731**  
(Commission  
File Number)

**56-1869557**  
(I.R.S. Employer  
Identification Number)

3100 Smoketree Court, Suite 600  
Raleigh, North Carolina 27604  
(Address of principal executive offices, zip code)

Registrants' telephone number, including area code: (919) 872-4924

Check the appropriate box below if the Form 8-K filing is intended to simultaneously satisfy the filing obligation of the registrants under any of the following provisions:

- Written communications pursuant to Rule 425 under the Securities Act (17 CFR 230.425)
  - Soliciting material pursuant to Rule 14a-12 under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14a-12)
  - Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 14d-2(b) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14d-2(b))
  - Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 13e-4(c) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.13e-4(c))
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**Item 8.01. Other Events.**

On May 1, 2013, Highwoods Properties, Inc. (the "Company") and Highwoods Realty Limited Partnership entered into separate equity distribution agreements with each of Wells Fargo Securities, LLC, BB&T Capital Markets, a division of BB&T Securities, LLC, Comerica Securities, Inc., Jefferies LLC and Piper Jaffray & Co. Under the terms of the equity distribution agreements, the Company may offer and sell up to \$150,000,000 in aggregate gross sales price of shares of common stock from time to time through such firms, acting as agents of the Company or as principals. Sales of the shares, if any, may be made by means of ordinary brokers' transactions on the New York Stock Exchange or otherwise at market prices prevailing at the time of sale, at prices related to prevailing market prices or at negotiated prices or as otherwise agreed with any of such firms.

Subject to the terms and conditions of each equity distribution agreement, each firm will use its commercially reasonable efforts to sell on the Company's behalf any shares to be offered by the Company under that equity distribution agreement. Under the terms of each equity distribution agreement, the Company also may sell shares to any of the firms as principal, at a price per share to be agreed upon at the time of sale. If the Company sells shares to any such firm acting as principal, it will enter into a separate terms agreement with that agent, and the Company will describe the agreement in a separate prospectus supplement or pricing supplement. If the Company engages the firm for a sale of shares that would constitute a "distribution" within the meaning of Rule 100 of Regulation M under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, the Company and the firm will agree to compensation that is customary for the firm with respect to such transactions.

The shares of common stock will be issued pursuant to the Company's automatic shelf registration statement on Form S-3 (Registration No. 333-172134), as amended, including the related prospectus dated February 9, 2011, and a prospectus supplement dated May 1, 2013, as the same may be amended or supplemented.

**Item 9.01. Financial Statements and Exhibits.**

(d) Exhibits

**No.    Description**

1	Form of Equity Distribution Agreement, dated May 1, 2013, among Highwoods Properties, Inc., Highwoods Realty Limited Partnership and each of the firms named therein
5	Opinion of Hunton & Williams LLP re legality
8	Opinion of Hunton & Williams LLP re tax matters
23	Consent of Hunton & Williams LLP (included in Exhibits 5 and 8)

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## SIGNATURES

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, each of the registrants has duly caused this report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned thereunto duly authorized.

### **HIGHWOODS PROPERTIES, INC.**

By: \_\_\_\_\_ /s/ Jeffrey D. Miller

**Jeffrey D. Miller**

*Vice President, General Counsel and Secretary*

### **HIGHWOODS REALTY LIMITED PARTNERSHIP**

By: Highwoods Properties, Inc., its general partner

By: \_\_\_\_\_ /s/ Jeffrey D. Miller

**Jeffrey D. Miller**

*Vice President, General Counsel and Secretary*

Dated: May 1, 2013