

Northeastern Area



News Notes



Kathryn P. Maloney
Area Director

Wednesday, May 22, 2002



ETHICAL LEADERSHIP

Is there any difference between the reputation of the Forest Service and that of the individuals employed by the Forest Service? There may be on some small scale, but largely the credibility of the Forest Service depends on the ethics, integrity, and professionalism of every employee, every day. Sound ethics and conduct have always been fundamental to the Forest Service and its

employees. In the past year, there has been a renewed focus on the importance of maintaining the highest standards in professional integrity and ethical conduct in all that we do, as Forest Service employees, and as we work with partners in program delivery.

Chief Bosworth faced a significant challenge as he took the helm of the Forest Service with the Canadian Lynx Survey findings of a breach in scientific protocol. That, coupled with a new federal policy issued in December 2000, calling for all federal agencies to implement a new federal policy on research misconduct, led Chief Bosworth to take firm action by establishing a new research directive (FSM 4086) that embraces the Forest Service Code of Scientific Ethics, and setting disciplinary action in place for breach of professional and ethical conduct.

While the new directive is research based and specifically addresses all projects funded wholly or in part by Forest Research appropriation, I expect all Northeastern Area employees to follow the intent of the directive. **Each of us must accept personal responsibility for ensuring integrity and credibility** of all that we do, **including our work** in collaboration with partners. Each of us is accountable for our actions and must be committed to the high professional standards of the agency. Along with the Chief, I am committed to upholding our ethical obligations, and in turn expect the same of you.

Since the earliest days of our agency, reputation and integrity have been integral to our fiber. Chief W.B. Greeley stated in 1922, *"The standing of the Forest Service depends upon the public confidence in our integrity, and integrity must be just as clear toward the Government as toward the public whom we serve."* Through time, this statement has only heightened in its relevance and importance. In the end, the rules are very simple. As Former Chief Jack Ward Thomas so aptly stated, I charge you to, *"obey the law and tell the truth"* in all you do.

— Kathy Maloney



FOREST SERVICE LAUNCHES ONLINE REGISTRY FOR 9/11 LIVING MEMORIALS

Washington, D.C. – Today, the United States Department of Agriculture Forest Service launched an online registry of living memorials that honor those lost in the September 11 attack on America.

The registry is part of the Living Memorials Project sponsored by the Forest Service, which honors the memory of the thousands of innocent citizens and the heroism of the firefighting units, police force, and emergency personnel who lost their lives in the horrific events of September 11.

A “living memorial” involves the planting of trees and creation of green space as a way to remember the heroes and the deceased of September 11. *“Trees, water and nature can be powerful forces for reflection and healing,”* said Anthony Gardner, Chairman, World Trade Center United Family Group, one of the supporting organizations of the project.

The online registry (www.livingmemorialsproject.net) intends to capture living memorial projects nationwide. Individuals and groups will be able to submit site information, post images, and share experiences, thoughts, and triumphs.

“What better way to honor the lives of those fallen heroes than with the planting of new life,” said Richard Fox, firefighter and president of the Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Memorial Foundation.

Not well known to the public is the fact that more than 500 Forest Service employees provided rescue and recovery efforts at the World Trade Center and the Pentagon for weeks and months after September 11th. *“The men and women of the Forest Service support memorial tree planting projects and will do everything to make them successful and to demonstrate our resiliency as a people,”* Joel Holtrop, Forest Service, Deputy Chief for State and Private Forestry, said.

The Forest Service, through its Urban and Community Forestry program, works in cooperation with state forestry agencies to provide technical assistance in the planting and care of community trees and forests. For more information, visit the website at www.livingmemorialsproject.net.

"CHAMPION TREE PROJECT" COMES TO MONTANA

MISSOULA, MT, May 7, 2002 — The national program of "Champion Trees" will make its debut in Montana on May 15, 2002, according to Frank McKinney, Executive Director of the National Museum of Forest Service History. A grove of Champion Trees has been established and will be dedicated at the museum site, located immediately west of the Forest Service's Smokejumper center and building complex along Highway 10 West.

In this initial phase of the project, 12 Champion Trees will be planted at the museum site. The first trees to be planted will be green ash and red ash. Saplings from other Champion Tree species collected in Montana and Idaho will be planted at the site as they become available.

According to McKinney, Champion Trees have been identified across the nation that are the biggest of their species and often the oldest, most hardy, and most resistant to pests, disease, and pollution.

The goal of the Champion Tree Project, a non-profit, nationwide initiative, is to identify, preserve, and propagate the Champion Trees. To preserve Champion Tree genes, the trees are cloned through a variety of methods, including grafting of shoots, layering to induce rooting, tissue culture, etc. Saplings are then planted at protected sites. The National Tree Trust, a non-profit group located in Washington, DC, provides financial support for the Champion Tree Project.

The dedication ceremony begins at 2:30 on Wednesday, May 15th, and will be attended by members of the Museum and a number of invited dignitaries. McKinney stated that the dedication is being held in conjunction with the annual membership meeting of the National Museum of Forest Service History.



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NOTE: Additional information about the Champion Tree Project is available on the web at:
<http://www.championtrees.org>.

The National Museum of Forest Service History is a non-profit, privately operated, nationally recognized organization. The mission of the museum is to preserve the material culture of the USDA Forest Service and to educate people about the history of the agency and its role in the history of conservation in the United States.

The permanent facility, when completed, will be open to the public year-round. It will provide a centralized national facility for archives, artifacts, and official and personal memorabilia portraying the entire scope of the Forest Service.

FOREST SERVICE PROJECT FEATURED AT FORUM BY PENNSYLVANIA HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY'S GREENSOURCE PROGRAM

From Spaces to Places: A Neighborhood Action Plan was funded by the Forest Service's Urban and Community Forestry program. This Greensource event on April 9 was the fourth in a series on community-based revitalization plans featuring open space. Presenters included: Patrice Carroll, FS Metropolitan Initiative Coordinator; Carolyn Placke, Director of Community Development for Project HOME; Anita Lager, Principal of Lager Raabe Sckafte Landscape Architects; and Mark Keener, Principal of Brown & Keener Urban Design. The project team worked with community residents to identify and prioritize new opportunities for open space and tree planting in a neighborhood with a large inventory of vacant lots. The project also included implementation of several demonstration sites that used simple landscape and tree planting designs to encourage community stewardship and discourage illegal dumping. The 40 attendees at the forum included landscape architects, planners, architects, foundation program officers, city agencies, and community activists.

PARKS, POWER AND VISION: LEARNING FROM OUR PAST TO IMAGINE A FUTURE FOR URBAN OPEN SPACE IN PHILADELPHIA

More than 100 professionals and volunteers with interests in parks and greenspace in Philadelphia gathered on March 15 for a conference organized by the City Park Association. Patrice Carroll, Metropolitan Initiative Coordinator, was part of the organizing committee for the conference. Of historical note, keynote speaker Elizabeth Milroy of Wesleyan University spoke of an early census of trees in the park. Of more current interest, was a presentation by Jeremy Nowak, The Reinvestment Fund, which challenged leaders to look for creative ways to make parks in Philadelphia "performing assets." He observed that some parks play a leading role in creating the most desirable "regional choice" neighborhoods, while other parks do little to lift reclamation and transitional neighborhoods.

FS URBAN AND COMMUNITY FORESTRY PROJECT FEATURED ON PBS FILM "WHAT'S UP WITH THE ENVIRONMENT"

The FS Urban and Community Forestry Project featured on the PBS Film "What's Up with the Environment" is an educational video and teachers guide produced by WNET (Channel 13 in NYC). The program aired on WHYY on Sunday, April 21, at 1:30 p.m. One segment on the beneficial uses of boisolids featured Liberty Lands, a project funded by the USDA Forest Service's Urban and Community Forestry program. Patrice Carroll, Metropolitan Initiative Coordinator, helped connect the producers with the community residents featured in the segment. Producers were thrilled to include the story of a former brownfield transformed into a 2-acre community greenspace with over 150 trees. Chief Bosworth visited Liberty Lands during his recent visit to Philadelphia.



Army Environmental Center Notes

ARKANSAS GUARD AND OUACHITA NF

The first project arranged through the Army National Guard/Forest Service Interagency Agreement is underway in Arkansas. The forestry crew from the Cold Springs Ranger District, Ouachita National Forest, is marking a timber sale at Fort Chaffee. The timber sale is just one of the forest management projects developed for Fort Chaffee through its natural resources management planning process. The Arkansas Army National Guard forester is also discussing other projects with Ouachita personnel including reforestation activities.

ARMY NATIONAL GUARD TRAINING LAND CONFERENCE

During the week of April 15, Fort Indiantown Gap, PA, hosted the Army National Guard's Range and Training Land Program and Integrated Training Area Management Program Conference. Managers of these two programs are responsible for meeting military training requirements and meeting the Guard's stewardship responsibilities. Approximately 300 program managers attended the conference sharing information on reducing erosion, maintaining water quality, and sustaining ecosystems while supporting the national defense and homeland security missions. **Helene Cleveland** attended the conference and gave two presentations on the opportunities available for cooperation in sustaining the environment via the Interagency Agreement between the Forest Service and the Army National Guard, which is administered through NA. Luis Rivera from the Caribbean National Forest also attended the conference.

PRESCRIBED BURN COMPLETED

Fire crews from the Ocala National Forest, Florida, conducted the first of a series of prescribed burns planned for the Navy's Rodman Bomb Target near Palatka in early March. The Forest Service crew burned 881 acres, reducing the fuel loads that have been building over the last 20 years. Once fuel loads are reduced on the remaining areas, prescribed burning can be conducted during the summer, which would improve the overall ecological health of the area. Personnel from the Ocala and the Navy enjoyed working together on this project made possible through the Army Environmental Center/Forest Service Interagency Agreement.

Durham Field Office Notes

SMALLWOOD 2002 CONFERENCE

Dean Huber and **Rob Clark** attended the SmallWood 2002 conference in Albuquerque, April 11 through 13. As an invited participant, Dean had the honor of wearing a ribbon attached to his nametag stating "Ask The Expert." He chaired a roundtable discussion on wood processing and process quality control. The conference addressed the need for utilizing vast acres of small diameter timber, especially in the Western States. Developing profitable methods to utilize this type of material is important to help reduce fire risk. The conference offered numerous concurrent sessions, along with a day of field trips. The 500 attendees from across the country represented Federal and State agencies, economic development organizations, nonprofit organizations, and community leaders. Other attendees from New England included Sarah Smith, Utilization and Marketing Specialist from New Hampshire, and Rob Rizzo, Associate Director of the Forest and Wood Products Institute in Massachusetts.



JOHN PARRY RECEIVES SHARON OSSENBRUGGEN AWARD

John Parry, Urban Forester for the Durham service area, was bestowed with the Fourth Annual Sharon Ossenbruggen Award, which recognizes an outstanding Durham Field Office employee. On May 2, in the crowded Durham conference room, to the sound of rain and applause, last year's winner **Tom Luther** presented John with a plaque, a certificate, and an IOU for the award money. **Deirdre Raimo**, acting as host, described why John was selected, *"His diplomacy is exhibited in his deceptively casual way of asking the tough questions, his friendly demeanor, and his subtle sense of humor."* John graciously said in accepting the award, *"Sharon has a reputation throughout the region, and she is still remembered. To receive an award named after someone with her reputation is a real honor, as well as knowing the people who received the award already and some of the nominees. I know some, because I nominated a few people myself."*



Last year's recipient, Tom Luther, presents John Parry (r) with the Fourth Annual Sharon Ossenbruggen Award. The plaque will be displayed in the Field Office lobby.

The Annual Sharon Ossenbruggen award ceremony includes a pizza luncheon where Durham Field Office employees receive length-of-service awards and other recognition for their efforts. The event is capped with the presentation of the Sharon Ossenbruggen award. The award was established in memory of Sharon Ossenbruggen, who worked in both research and State and Private Forestry at the Durham Field Office. Fellow employees nominate award candidates. A committee of peers reviews the nominees for five attributes that Sharon so wonderfully exhibited: creativity, innovation, leadership, diplomacy, and dedication.

DURHAM CLEANS UP ITS ACT



Jim Linnane, a.k.a. "the gatekeeper," models appropriate safety gear while monitoring the dumpster at Durham's clean-up day.

On April 17, Durham's NE and NA staffs joined together for a clean sweep of the building's labs, offices, and storage spaces. The day began at 8:30 with a brief safety meeting before turning the hounds loose. A potluck lunch provided a much-needed break at midday. By late afternoon, two oversized dumpsters were nearly filled. The best result was that everyone had a great time working and eating together while freeing up valuable space. So our advice to any office that wants to have a great time together is—clean up your act!

NEW ENGLAND NATIONAL FORESTS SEEK URBAN INPUT

Partners from the White and Green Mountain National Forests, State and Private Forestry, and conservation organizations in Boston conducted their second dialog group meeting on April 3 to share information and foster cooperation between the national forests in New Hampshire and Vermont and groups in the Boston area. More than 30 people attended the session, led by Urban Connections coordinator Cindy Chonacky, with assistance from **John Parry**. An intern will be on staff to assist with summer activities, which will include a staff information exchange between the White Mountain National Forest and Boston groups.

AREA-WIDE URBAN FORESTRY MEETING

The Northeastern Area Urban Forestry Coordinators (NAUFCO) held their annual meeting in Annapolis, Maryland, May 8 through 10. State and Forest Service staffs met to share information, take part in educational opportunities, and discuss emerging issues in urban forestry. Several NA staffs gave presentations during the meeting, including



Robin Morgan, Phillip Rodbell, Anne Cumming, Donna Murphy, and Tom Dilley. **John Parry** attended from the Durham Field Office and gave an update prepared by **Dave Bloniraz** and **Matt Arnn** on technology transfer projects currently underway in New England and New York.

DURHAM CELEBRATES ARBOR DAY CLOSE TO HOME



NA and NE employees planted a hemlock outside the Field Office to honor the victims of September 11 (standing, left to right: Dennis Souto, Karen Mollander, Bob Evans, Ron Page, John Parry, Florence Peterson, John Brissette, and Bob Smith; kneeling, Carol Lagodich with Mesha). A red maple was also planted in memory of NE Project Leader Dale Solomon.

The Sharon Ossenbruggen Arboretum Committee organized a workday at the Durham Field Office to celebrate Arbor Day and to continue work on the arboretum project. After being postponed a day by heavy rains, employees braved gusty winds to complete as much work as possible before a mid-afternoon power outage cut the day short. In addition to planting, mulching, and weeding, employees took time for honor and remembrance. A red maple was planted in memory of **Dale Solomon**, an NE project leader who lost his battle with cancer earlier this year. A hemlock was planted as part of the Forest Service's Living Memorials project in recognition of the tragic losses that occurred on September 11.

BOSTON URBAN WILDS

Work continues in Boston's Urban Wilds—a collection of natural lands across the city targeted for restoration and protection. The nonprofit group Earthworks has been coordinating work on some of the 70 properties to control invasive species, plant trees, and establish trails. The Forest Service's Urban and Community Forestry Program has provided funds to Earthworksto restore urban woodlots in the city. **Roger Monthey** and **John Parry** were in the field on April 24 to assist Earthworks by using GPS technology to map planting areas and boundaries. **Tom Luther** is directing the GPS work.



Roger Monthey uses a GPS unit to map invasive species control sites on a Boston Urban Wild site.



The Northeast Center for Urban & Community Forestry

TREE INVENTORY SYMPOSIUM

David Bloniarz recently delivered a presentation entitled “You’ve Completed a Tree Inventory: Now What?” at the Connecticut Department of Environmental Protection’s Tree Inventory Symposium in New Haven. The daylong workshop was attended by over 60 participants and included presentations by the Department of Environmental Protection, municipal information specialists, and community-based organizers. David’s presentation outlined strategies for establishing management plans for a community’s public forest resources.

STREETSCAPE DESIGN PRESENTATION

David Bloniarz delivered a presentation on “Streetscape Design Strategies” to the Massachusetts Public Works Association Annual Meeting in Amherst. The meeting, attended by over 100 public works directors from across the State, offered a session on issues related to trees and municipal infrastructure. Speaking with David was Tom Brady, president of the Massachusetts Tree Wardens and Foresters Association, and Dr. Dennis Ryan, University of Massachusetts/Amherst.

TECHNOLOGY AND THE URBAN FOREST—CALL FOR POSTERS AND DISPLAYS



A conference hosted by the Northeast Center for Urban and Community Forestry on June 12 in Marlboro, Massachusetts, will focus on state-of-the-art technologies available to urban and community forest managers. The conference will showcase many of the recent technological advances that are currently being used in urban and community forest management, including public and private tree management.

A call for informational posters and tabletop displays is being announced in order to provide an opportunity for the widest scope of projects, products, and tools to be displayed and exhibited at the 1-day symposium.

If you have a project, product, tool, or technology-related initiative that you would like to display at the Technology and the Urban Forest Conference, please visit <http://www.umass.edu/urbantree/posters>.

WATERSHED TOUR

David Bloniarz recently conducted a tour of the Mill River watershed, focusing on the 80 square miles the watershed occupies within the city limits of Springfield, Massachusetts. The tour showcased recent initiatives related to improved water quality, community education, and proposed enhancements of the watershed. Attended by students from the University of Massachusetts, Department of Natural Resources Conservation, the tour included a series of site visits throughout the watershed.

USING COMMUNITY VOLUNTEERS PRESENTATION

David Bloniarz delivered a presentation entitled “Utilizing Community Volunteers: A Checklist for Success” to a University of Massachusetts Department of Natural Resources Conservation class in urban forestry. The



presentation outlined strategies for utilizing community-based programming in the inventory, analysis, and management of urban and community forests.

Grey Towers Notes

CONSERVATION EDUCATION PROGRAMS “GROW” FROM WORK PROJECTS AT GREY TOWERS



Students help make potting soil at Grey Towers. The participants were able to take home a potted plant, just in time for Mother's Day, and Grey Towers reward was clean, nutrient rich potting soil for our landscaping needs

Forest Service staff at Grey Towers National Historic Landmark has figured out a way to overcome the sometimes-daunting task of readying the Grey Towers site for the regular tour season, while trying to serve hundreds of school children visiting for their annual spring field trip.

Horticulturist **Elizabeth Belcher** was planning numerous springtime landscape projects and Education Specialist **Lori McKean** was scheduling outdoor conservation education programs when they hit upon the idea of having the students perform some of the tasks! Teachers, parents, and students readily agreed to conduct “service projects” as part of their Grey Towers visit. Each service project has an educational component, is designed to enhance an awareness of the students’ natural surroundings, and introduces them to the Grey Towers site and the Pinchot conservation legacy. It is anticipated that the “hands-on” work will help promote a sense of stewardship.

Some of the projects that needed to be completed at Grey Towers this spring and were accomplished by the students this past month included: tree planting (with a lesson on reforestation and deer management); making potting soil (with a lesson on composting and decomposition); wildflower seed planting (with a lesson on fire and regeneration), and trail work (with lessons on various forestry topics).



Students plant wildflower seeds below the historic amphitheatre, where a brush pile had been burned.



Students help plant saplings along the Grey Towers Forestry Trail.

The staff at Grey Towers is looking for future ways to involve youth and the community with additional educational service projects at the site.



SOME OF THE CONFERENCES AND WORKSHOPS HELD AT GREY TOWERS THIS PAST MONTH:

- ❑ A GPS Mapping Software workshop was held for members of the **New Jersey Division of the Society of American Foresters**.
- ❑ The Upper Delaware Regional Meeting of the **Keystone Watershed Network** offered area watershed groups an opportunity to network and learn of watershed and water quality monitoring issues, such as landscaping impacts, deer overpopulation, stormwater runoff and discharge, and the Hemlock Woolly Adelgid.
- ❑ The annual meeting of the **Eastern National Forests Interpretive Association**: Participants got a sneak peek at new interpretive outlet items and heard special presentations on new marketing ideas, grant writing, and using a graphic artist to produce items for retail. Forest Service staff that participated in the conference included Lynn Dennis, who runs the Grey Towers interpretive outlet; Lori McKean, Grey Towers Education Specialist; Pat Thrasher, Midewin National Tallgrass Prairie; and Jim Lockyer, Newtown Square. Peter Pinchot, Chairman of the Board for the Pinchot Institute for Conservation and Director of the Milford Experimental Forest, gave a tour of the Experimental Forest and the historic Yale Forestry School site on Pinchot family property adjacent to Grey Towers.
- ❑ **Forest Supervisors Leadership Forum** – 12 Forest Supervisors met for a 4-day session exploring the theory and practice of leadership, specifically as it relates to Forest Supervisors. The Forest Supervisors Leadership Forum is one component of the leadership program, an ongoing program to help advance and develop leadership skills in the National Forest System. The program is sponsored by the Deputy Chief for National Forest Systems and is coordinated by Grey Towers National Historic Landmark. Overall leadership is vested in the Forest Supervisors Leadership Council, a representative group with participants from each Region and the Washington Office.

CHAR MILLER LECTURES ON NEW GIFFORD PINCHOT BIOGRAPHY

Char Miller, author of the newly released “Gifford Pinchot and the Making of Modern Environmentalism” spoke at Grey Towers on May 10. Miller spoke of how Pinchot, as the father of forestry and leader of the environmental movement, was a far more complicated and influential figure than has generally been recognized. His lecture reintroduced Pinchot as a pioneering environmentalist and progressive politician. Miller gave the same lecture to Forest Supervisors who were attending a Forest Supervisors Leadership Forum at Grey Towers that same week.

Morgantown Field Office Notes

AMERICAN HERITAGE RIVER MEETING

Representatives from 13 of the 14 American Heritage Rivers (AHR), including Steve Davis from the Cuyahoga, attended the American Heritage River Navigator/Community partners meeting April 9 to 11 at the U.S. Military Academy in West Point, New York. The theme of the conference was “Linkages”. We are looking for better ways for AHR to work with Federal agencies, Congress, the Administration, and other Federal programs to meet our local community needs. Bill Leary, Assistant Director of Natural Resources for the President’s Council on Environmental Quality, indicated that the initiative has continued White House support and is funded for the full 5 years as specified by the Executive Order. This will take the initiative through at least June 30, 2003, (USDA Forest Service support for the Cuyahoga would continue through September 30, 2003). The Community Partners and River Navigators made key decisions for the continuation and enhancement of the initiative.



A summary of the decisions include:

- Recommend AHRI be housed in the Coastal America Program in CEQ but with our own director and several support staff. We have the projects they need and they have the Federal contacts, space, and recognition we need.
- Convene a meeting in Washington, DC on May 24 re-forming the AHRI A team (representatives from several key Federal agencies) that was disbanded with the arrival of the new administration.
- Once DC support solidified, expand initiative to the 20 rivers allowed in the Executive Order.
- Gain administration and congressional support and request appropriation for AHRI in the 2004 budget.

“INVESTIGATING GIS APPLICATIONS FOR URBAN AND COMMUNITY FORESTRY” WORKSHOP



On Wednesday, March 27, the **Mid-Atlantic Center for Urban and Community Forestry** and the Delaware Department of Agriculture, Forest Service, hosted a workshop titled “Investigating GIS Applications for Urban and Community Forestry”, in Mendenhall, Pennsylvania. Presentations focused on current GIS applications that Delaware, Maryland, and New Jersey are using to better manage their urban forest, assist with master planning, and facilitate internet-based reporting. Dave Nowak Ph.D., Northeast Research Station presented various assessments of urban forest structure, benefits, and value using the Urban Forest Effects (UFORE) model and step-by-step methods on how to analyze urban forests that

have been developed to make data collection easy. Thirty-five professionals attended the workshop.

NATIONAL RCA AWARDS REVIEW PANEL CONVENES IN MISSOULA, MT

Annually, the Chief of the Forest Service recognizes outstanding accomplishments in the area of Rural Community Assistance (RCA) through special awards. Awards are given in the categories of Action, Leadership, and Spirit. These awards can go to communities, groups, and individuals who make rural America a better place to live and work. The Action Award is given for completed activities by individuals or groups, in cooperation with the Forest Service, which show successful implementation of the concepts in the Forest Service’s national strategy for rural community assistance. The Leadership Award is given to Federal or non-federal groups or individuals who have demonstrated exceptional leadership in enabling community-based planning or action. The Spirit Award is given to rural communities working on a current activity in cooperation with a Forest Service unit to further their rural community assistance efforts in the spirit of the Forest Service national strategy for RCA. Awards consist of certificates and engraved crystal statues. This year, 18 nominations were submitted to MaryAlice Stoner, the Review Team Leader. Nominations were ranked on April 23 to 25, and recommendations were sent to the Washington Office. **Roxane Palone** of the Morgantown Field Office represented the Northeastern Area on the team. NA submitted three nominations from Pennsylvania, Ohio, and Minnesota. Other Forest Service team members were Joyce Casey, Washington Office, and Elaine Waterbury, Albuquerque.



St. Paul Field Office Notes

NORTHEASTERN AREA PROVIDES TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE TO BRAZIL

Dennis Haugen, Entomologist, traveled to Brazil in April to assist with a cooperative USDA Forest Service project on *Sirex noctilio*, an exotic woodwasp. Our agency is cooperating with the Brazilian Forestry Division of EMBRAPA (their federal Agriculture Research Organization) located in Curitiba, Parana. Dennis provided technical expertise and reviewed accomplishments of Brazil's biological control program. He also promoted nematode inoculations (the key biological control agent) along the leading edge of the *sirex* populations to the timber industry, which includes many United States companies.

Sirex noctilio, a woodwasp from Europe and Asia, is a major exotic pest in Brazil, New Zealand, Australia, and South Africa. If it became established in the United States, it would be a major threat to pine plantations. To reduce this risk of introduction and establishment into the United States, the USDA Forest Service is assisting Brazil in implementing a biological control program to minimize expanding *sirex* populations in southern Brazil. Dennis was the entomologist for the *sirex* biological control program in South Australia from 1987 to 1991 and is one of the leading experts on *sirex* within our agency.

WHAT DOES BEER HAVE TO DO WITH RESPONSIBLE FORESTRY?

The Summit Brewing Company, a microbrewery in St. Paul, Minnesota, has always been a supporter of responsible forestry practices. Now, however, it is demonstrating that support by taking action. Minnesotans know that healthy forests ensure the ecological integrity of the Mississippi River and what surrounds it. Carefully managed forests maintain the vibrancy of the soil. Soil in turn serves as the filter that keeps the water clean. And clean water contributes to the conservation of the nation's longest river. Summit Brewing uses clean water from the Mississippi as an essential ingredient for its beer. That is why Summit has taken this commitment to the market place by purchasing wood pallets that have been independently certified by the Forest Stewardship Council as coming from well-managed forests in the Mississippi watershed. – *From a Summit Brewing Company News Release, April 24, 2002.*

COOK COUNTY FOREST PRESERVE DISTRICT RECEIVES \$200,000 FROM THE NORTHEASTERN AREA

Lisa Burban, Group Leader, Forest Resources Management; **Tom Dilley**, Urban Forester; and Mike Mason, Illinois State Forester, met with Joe Nevius, Director of the Cook County Forest Preserve District, to discuss the intent and direction of the recent earmark allocated to the Forest Preserve. The Urban and Community Forestry funding will support the eradication of buckthorn, an invasive plant, from the oak woodlands of Cook County. The Cook County Forest Preserve District contains some of the best examples of oak savannah and tallgrass prairie that exist anywhere in the world.

JENNIFER LOPEZ LENDS HER SUPPORT TO SUSTAINABLE FORESTRY

Check out the latest Forest Stewardship Council Public Service Announcement featuring Jennifer Lopez. She is the spokeswoman for the campaign "Nothing Else is Good Enough" promoting that only the Forest Stewardship council label can guarantee that the wood you purchase comes from a forest that was managed according to the world's highest standards. The Forest Stewardship Council is supported by a balance of environmental, business, and social interests including major retailers such as Home Depot and environmental groups such as The Nature Conservancy.



The Council has over 400 certified companies in the United States and over 8,000 wood products worldwide that carry their logo and follow sustainable forestry practices.

FOREST PARK MISSOURI INITIATES LAWNMOWER DAMAGE PREVENTION PROGRAM

Lisa Burban, Urban Forester, and **Phillip Rodbell**, Urban Forestry Program Manager, recently traveled to Missouri to review the Forest Park Congressional Initiative and meet with Forest Releaf, one of the leading non-profit tree planting organizations in the Midwest. The City of St. Louis Forestry and Parks Division has created an outstanding training and outreach program on preventing damage to trees from lawnmowers. Unfortunately, lawnmowers (and their operators!) are one of the most significant threats to the health of trees in urban parks. Forest Park is a historically significant urban park with treasured trees and landscapes. Park staff developed this educational program as a way to promote a stewardship ethic and improve forest health within Forest Park. In addition, Philip and Lisa met with staff of Forest Releaf and visited their 'growing out stations' for the National Tree Trust. Forest Releaf recently received recognition from the National Arbor Day Foundation for their support of the Tree Trust and their success with these tree nurseries.

URBAN FORESTRY TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER

Lisa Burban, Group Leader for Forest Resources Management, presented an update on the Midwest Center for Urban and Community Forestry activities at the National Technology Transfer meeting in Washington, DC. Since 1992, the Midwest Center has served as a regional Center of Excellence for technology transfer and serves the States of Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, and Wisconsin. Over the past 10 years, the Center has supported the development of 17 publications, 13 videos, 12 books, 9 national or regional conferences, 6 software programs, 5 web-based curricula, 2 media kits, 2 slide sets, 2 posters, 2 outreach programs, and several pilot studies. The majority of the products has been distributed nationally and has helped urban forest managers improve the delivery of their services and will lead to a healthier urban forest.

Editor's Corner

THANKS TO:

The following contributors to this issue: **Mary Wick**, Newtown Square; **Helene Cleveland**, AEC.; **Robert Fitzhenry** and **Helen Thompson**, Durham; **Lori Danuff McKean**, Grey Towers; **Melissa Emerson** and **Roxane Palone**, Morgantown; **Gina Childs**, St. Paul; **Patrice Carroll**, Metropolitan Initiative Coordinator; **Lennie Eav**, Washington, DC; and **Frank McKinney**, Executive Director, National Museum of Forest Service History.

DEADLINE!

Deadline for the next issue of NA News Notes will be **June 17, 2002**. Please mail articles to Tinathan Coger at tcoger@fs.fed.us.

