

Northeastern Area



Friday, August 22, 2003



LEWIS AND CLARK REMEMBERED

Two hundred years ago, one of this country's greatest adventures began when Lewis and Clark initiated their famous "Corps of Discovery" exploration of the continental United States. Their extensive mapping and documentation of the interior's waterways, topography, and rich flora and fauna were a critical first step toward the Nation's appreciation, settlement, and development of this vast addition to its territory. Their journey in large measure helped the United States begin to understand the incredible natural asset it had acquired. The Northeastern Area is supporting a multi-year, multi-agency bicentennial celebration of this historic expedition, called "Corps of Discovery II."

If alive today, would Lewis and Clark recognize the natural resources that so awed them two centuries ago during the original expedition? We think America's forests have contributed enormously to our strength as a Nation and to the quality of life Americans have enjoyed throughout our history. The bicentennial gives us a wonderful opportunity to highlight the recovery, resiliency, and management of America's forests. A national Lewis and Clark display will be enhanced and augmented by NA staff support, an NA brochure, and use of the national videotape produced by the Forest Service and the Forest History Society, "Resiliency and Recovery of America's Forests."

Teri Heyer, located in the St. Paul Field Office, is our "point of contact" for planning this celebration. Other NA employees who are committing their time and energy to this project include Dan Kincaid and Vicky Evans out of our Morgantown Field Office and Chuck Croston from Grey Towers. Thanks to all their efforts, the Area is well represented!

With the National Park Service as lead, we are also collaborating with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and with various State and nongovernmental partners. The bicentennial celebration will trace the journey of Lewis and Clark, beginning at the eventful meeting between Lewis and President Jefferson at Monticello, Virginia, where the idea of the trip began. Events are planned literally from sea to sea, with the culmination of the celebration occurring in 2005 marking the return of the expedition to St. Louis. This year, Area staff will be participating in bicentennial events in Huntington, West Virginia, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, and Indianapolis, Indiana.

This celebration is a great opportunity for us to work with new and existing partners to spread the word about the contributions forests have and continue to make to this Nation.

— Kathryn Maloney



FIRE AND AVIATION MANAGEMENT RECEIVES AWARD

The USDA Forest Service, Fire and Aviation Management, was the recipient of the prestigious *Miles Romney Achievement Award* for innovation in personal property management. This award was given to the Forest Service to recognize the unique and innovative nature of the Federal Excess Property Management Information System (FEPMIS).

The USDA Forest Service, Fire and Aviation Management, in cooperation with the National Association of State Foresters, has created an automated property management system that provides full accountability and management functions for property acquired through the Federal Excess Personal Property (FEPP) program. The program was conceived from a database program that was used by the State of Missouri to track State-owned and FEPP property. This interactive database allows sharing of the data needed to acquire, use, track, manage, and dispose of property by more than a thousand users throughout the United States and its territories. One of the key features of FEPMIS is flexibility. Each State can decide, based on the size and extent of its fire management organization, how many levels will have access to the database. Users at higher levels can perform all functions while those at lower levels have designated access that is limited by system security.

Team members who shared the award include April Baily - WO, National FEPP Program Officer; Jan Polasky - NA, Program Coordinator; Brad Harwood - WO, Database Manager; Melissa Frey - NA, Property Disposal Specialist; and Kathy Greene - NA, Property Disposal Specialist. This team has spent countless hours developing, improving, and training the users of FEPMIS. By October 1, 2003, all States will use FEPMIS to acquire FEPP property.



The award was accepted on behalf of Fire and Aviation Management by Lindon Wiebe (left) representing Jerry T. Williams. Attendees included (from second left to right) Thurman M. Davis, Sr. (General Services Administration [GSA] Deputy Administrator), Melissa Frey, Brad Harwood, G. Martin Wagner (GSA Associate Administrator), and Kathy Greene.

All photos courtesy of the General Services Administration.



Durham Field Office Notes

DURHAM CRC HOSTS LAWN GAMES FROM AROUND THE WORLD

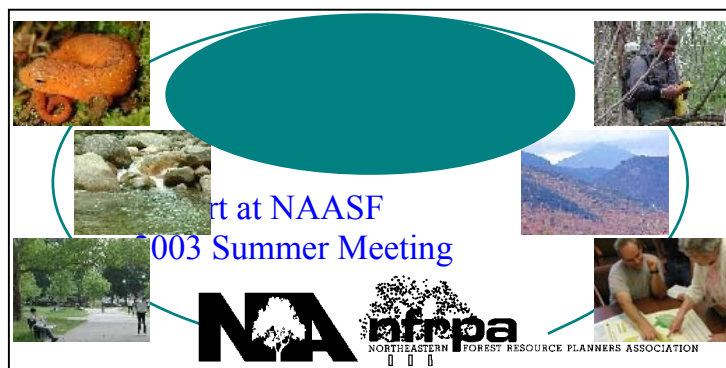
The Durham Civil Rights Committee (CRC) was won over by the spirit of summer and offered a July event to the loosely interpreted theme “Lawn Games from Around the World.” A brown-bag picnic lunch for regional natural resource professionals was intertwined with lawn game stations on T’ai Chi, yoga, lacrosse, bocce, and croquet. Staff from the Great Bay National Wildlife Refuge and the Natural Resources Conservation Service joined with the Forest Service in this community gathering.

“Something loose and fun, but still important, was due,” noted Bob Fitzhenry, Civil Rights Committee Chair in Durham. “The lawn games event provided important cultural background, particularly with T’ai Chi and yoga. The other great result was the turnout from NRCS and the wildlife refuge. With that, we gain greater appreciation and respect for each other and each other’s work.”

The T’ai Chi and yoga demonstrations highlighted movements and poses, as well as the meditative, philosophical, and cultural origins of the disciplines. The enthusiasm and appreciation of the more than 20 participants lead the T’ai Chi instructor, Gerry Tilley, to offer free classes once per week to NA/NE Durham. Gerry is the daughter of Forest Service retiree Edna Tilley, who now works as a volunteer.

The lunch following the demonstrations gave employees of the Forest Service, NRCS, and the wildlife refuge the opportunity to get acquainted personally, share professional ideas, and speak about the Civil Rights efforts in their own offices. The event built bridges for future cooperative efforts and gave us new cultural insights through T’ai Chi, yoga, and the other Lawn Games From Around the World.

COLLABORATIVE SUSTAINABILITY INITIATIVE UPDATE



Connie Carpenter, Sherri Wormstead, and Austin Short (Delaware State Forester) presented an update on the NA/NAASF sustainability criteria and indicators work to the State Foresters at their summer meeting in Hartford, Connecticut, last month. They highlighted accomplishments of the criteria and indicators work group (made up of members of the Northeastern Forest Resource Planners Association and NA staff), including efforts to identify data sources and develop recommendations for reporting on the NA/NAASF base set of forest sustainability

indicators. Packets were given to each State Forester containing data source information for the base indicators, a CD with the *Sustainability Assessment Highlights for the Northern United States*, and copies of two brochures that were developed to advertise the NA/NAASF commitment to sustainability.

TRENTON FORESTRY SEMINAR ON SUSTAINABILITY AND CERTIFICATION

Sherri Wormstead gave a presentation on the NA/NAASF sustainable forestry initiative at the latest Trenton Forestry Seminar, which was titled “Sustainability and Certification: the Inevitable Convergence.” Topics of other presentations given as part of the daylong session included the Forest Stewardship Council (FSC) and sustainability, by David Bubser, manager of USA SmartWood; the Sustainable Forestry Initiative (SFI), by Bill Banzhaf, president of



the Sustainable Forestry Board; the reality of conservation easements in forest sustainability, by Timothy Kaden, a land preservation specialist; landowner options working in partnership with the conservation community, by Michael Cantania, president of Conservation Resources, Inc.; and reasonable goals and expectations for sustainability and forest management, by Shawn Baker, coordinator of the Virginia Forest Landowner Education Program. The seminar drew upwards of 75 attendees.

SUSTAINABILITY POSTER A HIT WITH THE GREAT LAKES FOREST ALLIANCE

Sherri Wormstead, Connie Carpenter, and Larry Pedersen (Michigan DNR) authored a poster on the NA/NAASF sustainability criteria and indicators initiative for presentation at the Great Lakes Forest Alliance's second annual sustainable forest management summit. The Great Lakes Forest Alliance is a forum to foster and facilitate cooperative efforts that enhance management and sustainable use of the public and private forest lands in Michigan, Minnesota, Wisconsin, and Ontario. Sherri designed the poster and Larry presented it at the summit in late June, which attracted close to 100 participants. Larry commented, *"The poster attracted lots of attention—there were always people reading it. I believe it attracted folks to the C&I sourcebooks, which were on the table beneath it. Over 30 copies of the sourcebooks were taken [as opposed to publications under other posters]. I could have brought more sourcebooks, but couldn't top the poster. Great job!"* A three-page summary of the poster appears in the *Popular Summaries* publication for the summit.



State partners from New England and New York came to Durham, New Hampshire, to gain new GIS skills for the job.

DFO FOREST FRAGMENTATION WORKING GROUP DELIVERS GIS TRAINING TO STATE COOPERATORS

Tom Luther, John Parry, Roger Monthey, and Deirdre Raimo of the Durham Field Office's Forest Fragmentation Working Group recently worked with University of New Hampshire Cooperative Extension to provide hands-on training in the application of ArcView GIS software to State cooperators representing the Forest Legacy, Forest Stewardship, and Urban and Community Forestry Program areas. The hands-on, 3-day workshop focused on developing skills to view, query, modify, and present spatial and tabular data, and culminated in an exercise in which students conducted an analysis to identify roadless (unfragmented) lands. Fourteen students representing six States and the USDA Forest Service attended the training. The workshop also included a brainstorming session on continuing education opportunities

designed to build the States' capacity to address forest fragmentation, parcelization, and urban sprawl.

Although the class attendees would have preferred other than dorm housing, they rated the class highly:

- "Instruction was outstanding."
- "Well done. Highly relevant."
- "I now have a foundation of knowledge that I can use to help apply GIS technology in Maine."
- Instructors were "very energetic and understanding of user levels."

DAVE BLONIARZ EARNS IMPACT AWARD FOR WORK WITH ALB IN NYC

Dr. Dave Bloniarz, Director of the Northeast Center for Urban and Community Forestry, received the Girl Scout's Impact Award, the highest award that can be given to any person outside the organization.

Dave worked with Zaomi Zurcher, former Chair of New York ReLeaf, to develop an Asian longhorned beetle (ALB) awareness program for the Girl Scout Council of Greater New York. The 2-day training program for girls 12 to 18 years old, named the New York ReLeaf Cadette and Senior Girl Scout Beetle Buster Partnership, focused on ALB identification, awareness of the damage it causes, and identification of the trees it feeds on. As followup to training, students in turn committed to conduct 25-hour ALB community awareness projects, which would earn them the Community Service Bar from the Girl Scouts.



“It has always been a pleasure to work with Dr. Bloniarz,” noted Naola Gersten-Woolf, who submitted the successful nomination. “He is a very dedicated urban forester and communicator.”

In addition to the Beetle Buster Partnership, Dave has worked on several other New York ReLeaf programs the Girl Scouts have been involved with.

Grey Towers Notes

EDUCATORS GO “WILD” AT GREY TOWERS

Thirty-one educators attended a workshop at Grey Towers this month to learn how to introduce conservation and environmental education into their classrooms. Elementary and secondary level teachers from the tri-state region, resource agency personnel, and conservation group representatives received curriculum materials, activity guides, and hands-on training for programs that will enable them to work with students to develop awareness, hone skills, and increase knowledge about conservation and the environment. Grey Towers staff also introduced the new Academic Standards for Environment and Ecology, now required by the Pennsylvania Department of Education, and demonstrated how to correlate the instructional material to meet those standards. Participants were introduced to Project WILD, a K-12 curriculum program sponsored by the Pennsylvania Game Commission that emphasizes wildlife and its habitat; Ecosystem Matters, an activity and resource guide published by the Rocky Mountain Region of the USDA Forest Service; and to the Grey Towers site as an educator’s resource. The curriculum guides and other materials were distributed to the educators.

GREY TOWERS HOSTS FORESTRY ECOLOGY WORKSHOP

The Pennsylvania Institute for Conservation Education co-sponsored a Forest Ecology workshop at Grey Towers on August 11, Gifford Pinchot’s birthday. The date was chosen because of the significance of introducing resource personnel and educators to forestry basics at Pinchot’s historic home. The daylong workshop was facilitated by Dr. James Finley, Assistant Director for Extension at the Penn State School of Forest Resources; Peter Pinchot, director of the Milford Experimental Forest and Chairman of the Board of the Pinchot Institute for Conservation (and Gifford’s grandson); and Grey Towers staff. Participants explored the woods around Grey Towers and the Experimental Forest to learn about dendrology, inventorying, management practices, forest health, and stewardship.

FOREST SERVICE INTERNATIONAL PROGRAMS STAFF LEARNS ABOUT PINCHOT HISTORY

Staff from the USDA Forest Service International Programs and others from the Washington Office visited Grey Towers this summer for a first-hand introduction to the life of the Forest Service founder and first chief, Gifford Pinchot. Grey Towers staff gave a presentation on Pinchot and his contributions to the American conservation movement and the ambitious political career that followed as Governor of Pennsylvania. Participants then learned more during a guided interpretive tour of the historic mansion and gardens and took a hike to Pinchot Falls before getting back on the bus for their trip back to D.C.



Morgantown Field Office Notes

NAASF SUMMER MEETING

John Hazel attended the Northeastern Area Association of State Foresters (NAASF) meeting in Hartford, Connecticut, July 13 through 15, 2003. All members of the NA Executive Team spent the time with the State Foresters or their representatives discussing invasive species, Criteria and Indicators, the National Fire Plan, NA's Strategic Plan, the Stewardship Pilot Project, BMP monitoring protocol, Living Memorials, and Forest Legacy, as well as other topics. It was good to have all seven State Foresters served by the Morgantown Field Office present, providing an opportunity for Hazel to have side bar discussions with them. Other Forest Service employees attending included Joel Hoptrop (Deputy Chief S&PF), Connie Carpenter (DFO), Mark Buccowich (NTS), Ted Beauvais (WO-Assistant Director-Coop Forestry), Michael Rains (NE Director), Chip Scott (NE-NTS), Barb Tormoehlen (NTS), Larry Yarger (WO-Budget Coordinator), Al Todd (NTS), and Dave Welsch (DFO). The National Association of State Foresters, Alabama Forestry Commission, Smartwood, Colorado Forest Service, NACD, National Academy of Public Administration, Western Forestry Leadership Coalition, NRCS, the Southern Group of State Foresters, and a variety of forestry related vendors were represented. Connecticut State Forester Don Smith hosted the meeting that included a field trip to look at management on Connecticut State Forests.

ENVIROTHON NATIONAL COMPETITION

The Canon Envirothon is an annual competition in which high school teams from all over the United States and Canada compete for scholarships by demonstrating their knowledge of environmental sciences and natural resources. The 2003 Canon Envirothon National Competition was held July 26 through August 1 near Emmitsburg, Maryland. More than 50 high school teams gathered at Mount St. Mary's College and Seminary for the weeklong events, which included an entire day each of teaching, testing, and preparation for oral presentations. The four main testing categories are forestry, wildlife, soils, and aquatic ecology. A fifth testing topic, which changes every year, was agricultural land preservation and conservation. **Vicky Evans** and **Karen Sykes** attended the teaching stations and oral presentations to gain a better understanding of how these sessions were conducted. Vicky gave a presentation to the Canon Envirothon Council on preparations for next year's National Competition, which will be held in West Virginia. Results of this year's competition can be found at <http://envirothon.org/competition/Canon2003/index.htm>.



Students learn about birds of prey at the wildlife teaching station.



Students get an overview of the hydrologic cycle at the aquatics ecology teaching station.



LEWIS AND CLARK COMMEMORATION

Lewis and Clark's Corps of Discovery, which occurred from 1803-1806, explored the lands of the Louisiana Purchase from the Mississippi and Missouri Rivers, across the Rockies, and all the way to the Pacific Ocean. The exploration is being commemorated by numerous events between 2003 and 2006, many of them in the Eastern United States where Meriwether Lewis and Thomas Jefferson did the initial planning and organizing for the famous trip. The Forest Service is a primary partner along with many other Federal agencies, organizations, and communities to host and put on presentations and events for the next 3 years along the original route taken by the explorers. The National Park Service has primary responsibility for the displays, interpretive activities, and presentations. NA and Region 9 personnel are assisting by making presentations during some of the stops along the Ohio River venues. **Dan Kincaid** of the Morgantown Field Office made two presentations at the recent Corps of Discovery 5-day stop in Huntington, West Virginia. The theme for his presentations was "The Eastern Forests: A History of Resiliency and Recovery," based upon Doug MacCleery's work on that topic. Future presentations featuring NA personnel Chuck Croston – Grey Towers, **Vicky Evans** – MFO, and Teri Heyer - SPFO will occur in Indiana and in Pittsburgh.

WO DETAIL

Roxane Palone was on assignment to the Washington Office for a 2-week detail in July. She worked with Cooperative Forestry Director Larry Payne to prepare the Forest Service Washington Office staff for the National Resource Conservation and Development (RC&D) Conference in San Antonio, Texas. She also worked with Steve Yaddof on issues relating to the Economic Action Programs. In addition, Roxane is preparing a briefing paper on how the Forest Service and USDA Rural Development can work together to further each other's missions and goals.

THE TRI-ANNUAL NATIONAL RC&D CONFERENCE

The Tri-Annual National Resource Conservation & Development Program (RC&D) Conference was held in San Antonio, Texas, from July 20 through July 24. Larry Payne represented the Chief of the Forest Service. About 25 Forest Service employees attended the conference, including **Roxane Palone**, **Chris Grant**, and **Jeff Bejune** of the Northeastern Area. Chris and Jeff staffed the National Wood In Transportation exhibit at the conference, one of 12 Forest Service exhibits there. Roxane was part of a presentation that informed RC&D Councils on how to approach and work with the Forest Service in the Economic Action Programs. The Forest Service and the Natural Resources Conservation Service recently signed a new memorandum of understanding that will promote cooperation and collaboration in working in the RC&D Program. The Forest Service has been partners with the RC&D Councils since 1965 and takes its USDA authority very seriously. During the conference, all the regional RC&D Associations met. A Forest Service representative was at each meeting.

THE PENNSYLVANIA USDA STATE TECHNICAL COMMITTEE MEETING

The Pennsylvania USDA State Technical Committee Meeting was held in Harrisburg on July 25. **Roxane Palone** represented the Forest Service at the meeting. The Committee meets periodically to discuss how to best implement Farm Bill programs at the State level. The NRCS will be reorganizing as an agency, resulting in the elimination of the regional offices and instituting technical service centers. The Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP) is expanding into 23 more counties of the Chesapeake Bay in Pennsylvania, as well as into the Ohio River Basin. The Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP) is doing well in Pennsylvania. Each EQIP team receives \$200,000 plus a livestock and cropland allocation. New farms receive 90 percent cost-share on the first \$30,000 and the cost-share rate is 75 percent for existing farms. The NRCS will fund 50 farms under the Farm and Ranchland Protection Program for almost \$3.9 million. Gene Odato, Bureau of Forestry, reported on the Forest Land Enhancement Program (FLEP). The State received \$650,000, of which 80 percent will be used for practices and 20 percent will be used for education and outreach. Forest regeneration and overpopulation of deer will be the focus of the program. NRCS is now accepting applications for the new Grassland Reserve Program. Gary Smith discussed the Technical Service Provider (TSP) initiative. This program builds capacity in the private sector to do conservation work. TSPs must be certified to do the work. They will only do EQIP during the first year. As a result of TSPs, NRCS will be reducing its workforce by 15 employees.



GREENE COUNTY WATERSHED ALLIANCE RECEIVES \$800,000 EPA WATERSHED INITIATIVE GRANT

President Bush's initiative to support community-based approaches to watershed restoration awarded 20 grants totaling \$15 million nationwide. One of the three projects funded in the Mid-Atlantic region was the Dunkard Creek Watershed Restoration Project in southwestern Pennsylvania and northern West Virginia. **Roxane Palone** provided the Greene County Watershed Alliance with technical assistance and was on hand when the huge check was presented to Teri Davin, President of the Watershed Alliance, by Jon Capacasa, Director, Water Protection Division, EPA Philadelphia Office. The Dunkard Creek Watershed Restoration Project is a comprehensive public-private partnership effort involving Federal, State, and local government agencies, nonprofit organizations, educational institutions, and private industry. Highlights of the project include:

- Development and implementation of a "hands-on" environmental education program relating to wetlands, aquatics, and upland habitat for all ages
- Installation of a kiosk with interpretive panels about the watershed
- Demonstration of water management practices
- Clean up of a large trash dump in the watershed
- Creation of 3 acres of naturally functioning wetlands
- Creation of wildlife habitat for bats, osprey, birds, and amphibians
- Improvement of 6 miles of Dunkard Creek degraded by acid mine drainage using a passive treatment system
- Development of a citizen water monitoring program

Mid-Atlantic Center for Urban and Community Forestry at Keystone College

MID-ATLANTIC CENTER FOR URBAN AND COMMUNITY FORESTRY SUPPORTS TREE AUTOPSY WORKSHOPS

The Mid-Atlantic Center for Urban and Community Forestry at Keystone College will host two Tree Autopsy Workshops in partnership with the Maryland DNR and Ohio Division of Forestry. The first workshop, scheduled for August 26, 2003, at Savage River State Forest in Grantsville, Maryland, investigates why and how trees have died. Dr. **Martin MacKenzie**, Forest Pathologist with the Morgantown Field Office, will educate attendees on growth and decay patterns, focusing on bacteria and fungi as agents of decomposition. Highlights include field autopsies and a demonstration on the use of a Digital Microprobe recently purchased by Maryland in partnership with the USDA Forest Service.

The second workshop is scheduled for September 11, 2003, at the Torch Center in Toledo, Ohio. The workshop traces tree histories to reveal how structural problems may have originated. Highlights include presentations by Pat O'Brien, Forestry Inspector with the City of Toledo, Dr. **Martin MacKenzie**, and Dr. Frank Telewski, Michigan State University. Demonstrations include an Air Knife and Resistograph recently purchased by the Mid-Atlantic Center. For more information, contact Donna Murphy, Center Coordinator, at dmmurphy@fs.fed.us.



St. Paul Field Office Notes

STEWARDSHIP DAYS IN CHICAGO

Teri Heyer, Conservation Education Specialist, and **Tom Dilley**, Urban Forester, participated in the 6th Annual Stewardship Days in Chicago. Teri and Tom presented 'The Good, The Bad, and the Ugly,' a presentation designed to inform children about the positive and negative attributes of forest insects. Stewardship Days is an event designed to bring information about natural resources and conservation to urban youth and is sponsored by the Chicago Park District. Thousands of children between the ages of 7 and 12 participate in Stewardship Days. Originally the brainchild of the Illinois Department of Conservation Forestry Division, Stewardship Days involves a multitude of conservation organizations including Federal, State, and local governments, as well as nonprofit and for profit organizations. In addition to the Northeastern Area State and Private Forestry, the Midewin National Tallgrass Prairie as well as the Region 9 Summer Interns hosted activities for children.

NEW INFORMATIONAL RESOURCE ON OAK WILT

Linda Haugen, Plant Pathologist, **Jenny Juzwik**, Research Scientist with the North Central Research Station, and Steve Cook, Oak Wilt Consultant, developed a self-paced short course on CD-ROM titled, "Oak Wilt: People and Trees; A Community Approach to Management." The CD-ROM has been specifically designed for urban and community foresters, city administrators, tree inspectors, park and recreation staff, and others involved in oak wilt management. The CD contains PowerPoint slide shows, an image collection, short movies and audio clips, printable oak wilt publications, and additional resources.

ST. PAUL FIELD OFFICE IN THE NEWS

Steve Katovich, Entomologist, was quoted in the Sunday edition of the Minnesota Star Tribune in the front-page article, 'A Shiny Green Invader.' The article describes the emerald ash borer infestations in Ontario, Michigan, and Ohio and describes the potential threat to Minnesota. Robert Haack and Therese Poland, two scientists with the North Central Research Station, were also quoted in the article. **Michael Connor**, Forest Health Group Leader, was quoted in the Chicago Sun-Times and the Chicago Herald in articles describing the threat of emerald ash borer to Chicago. Both articles were generated from a press conference Mike attended regarding emerald ash borer in Illinois.

CHICAGO PUTS PLANS IN PLACE TO FIGHT EMERALD ASH BORER

Michael Connor, Group Leader for Forest Health, **Judy Antipin**, Forest Health Public Affairs, and **Tom Dilley**, Urban Forester, participated in an emerald ash borer planning meeting hosted by the Morton Arboretum in Chicago. The meeting included participants from Federal, State, and local governments as well as private organizations. Mike Connor provided the overview of the role and responsibility of the Forest Service in an invasive insect infestation. The purpose of the meeting was to develop an action plan for Illinois describing the roles and responsibilities of each organization as well as critical actions that need to be completed before emerald ash borer hits Illinois. Following the planning meeting, the Morton Arboretum hosted a press conference on emerald ash borer; participating press included the Chicago Tribune, the Chicago Sun-Times, and the Chicago Herald.

ADDING VALUE TO TREES LOST TO EMERALD ASH BORER

Steve Bratkovich, Utilization and Marketing Specialist, is on the planning team for an upcoming workshop on September 25, 2003, in Ann Arbor, Michigan, focusing on the production of railroad ties from ash wood. Michigan has been heavily impacted by emerald ash borer and potentially could have a large supply of dead ash trees. Currently, railroad ties are in heavy demand and ash is a suitable species for railroad tie production. With proper



treatment, infested ash trees might be able to be used for railroad ties. If successful, this could help stimulate small business as well as put trees to use that would otherwise have to be burned or chipped. The USDA Forest Service Forest Products Laboratory is sponsoring and coordinating the workshop, and Steve is assisting with the planning and will be a speaker at the workshop.

ST. PAUL FIELD OFFICE WRAPS UP AERIAL PEST DETECTION SURVEYS ON FEDERAL LANDS

Dennis McDougall, Forester, and Marc Roberts, Forester, are close to wrapping up another season of flying and mapping insect and disease problems on Federal lands. Each year the St. Paul Field Office surveys approximately 15.6 million acres of federally managed forest—that's over 70 percent of the Federal land in the Northeast! Forest Health Monitoring and forest planners use the data collected by Dennis and Mark to establish trends and predict any potential problems.

PREPARING FOR NATURAL DISASTERS IN HARD TIMES

Lisa Burban, Forest Resources Management Group Leader, **Jill Mahon**, Urban Forestry Center Coordinator, and **Jill Pokorny**, Plant Pathologist, helped plan as well as deliver key presentations at the recent "Preparing for Natural Disasters in Hard Times" workshop in Minnesota. The workshop, coordinated by the Tree Trust, is designed to encourage communities to have a plan in place in the event a natural disaster occurs and also to give them the tools to minimize damage to trees and maximize safety in the event of an ice storm, tornado, flash flood, or other natural occurrence. The workshop was well attended and provided timely advice and useful tools to city foresters and land managers across the Twin Cities.

FIRST STOP FOR LEWIS AND CLARK

Teri Heyer, Conservation Education Specialist, assisted in the traveling display honoring the anniversary of Lewis and Clark's famous adventure across the country. The Indiana State Fair hosted the traveling display, which includes a replica of the famous keelboat used by the explorers, as well as a large walk-through display. Teri augmented the static display by giving a presentation each day titled, "The Resiliency and Recovery of the Eastern Forests." The display and her presentation were popular attractions at the State Fair. This will be the only appearance of the display at a State Fair this year.

Editor's Corner

THANKS TO:

The following contributors to this issue: **Mary Wick** and **Melissa Frey**, Newtown Square; **Bob Fitzhenry** and **Helen Thompson**, Durham; **Lori McKean**, Grey Towers; **Melissa Emerson**, **Roxane Palone**, **Dan Kincaid**, and **Karen Sykes**, Morgantown; and **Gina Childs**, St. Paul; **Frank Cromer**, for her willingness to post the NA News Notes on the Web; and to **Sandy Fosbroke** for an extra "eye."

DEADLINE!

Deadline for the next issue of NA News Notes will be COB **September 12, 2003**. Please mail articles to Tinathan Lewis at talewis@fs.fed.us.

