

Northeastern Area



News Notes



Kathryn P. Maloney
Area Director

Monday, November 25, 2002



NEW BEGINNINGS

Autumn – a wonderful time of year! The change of seasons is marked by a rich display of leaf color. Fall has traditionally also been a time to harvest the products of summer's labor and give thanks for our abundance. While this time of year is a valuable point for reflection, it is also a time to look forward with new beginnings.

We in the Northeastern Area, and our many partners, have much to be grateful for. This region is abundant with many natural resources, and the fact that we have the opportunity to maintain and enhance those resources is a special gift.

Each day we have another chance to assist a landowner, community, or small rural business. And with each contact, we build on the collective knowledge and ability to manage resources. Just as the farmer tends the crops, providing the necessary care and essential components for a plentiful harvest, so too, must we continue to offer information, financial support, and guidance to help forest owners and users maximize their resource potential.

Sometimes the results of our efforts will be clearly present, immediate, and visible, while in other situations, the outcome may take longer to yield significant change. However, if we focus on the positive impact of incremental change and innovation by encouraging our many partners to share the knowledge they have gained with others, then the "harvest" of resource products, services, and aesthetics will be plentiful.

During this holiday season, I would like to extend my thanks to each of you for the great job you do every day to make the natural resources of our region even better.

— Kathryn Maloney





PROCUREMENT TRAINING AT NEWTOWN SQUARE

Administration and the Self-Directed Team sponsored Procurement Training at Newtown Square October 29 through November 1. The mandatory training was intended for our Purchasing Agents, Administrative Officers/Managers, and Support Services Specialists through the Station and Area to maintain their purchasing warrant requirements. (NA's **Debbie Croston** from Grey Towers attended.)

The meeting started with welcoming words from NA Director Kathy Maloney. Afterwards, Kathy was presented

an Octavia Tree Service Award from Administration, which stated, *"The foundation of any great organization is rooted in service. It is the nurturing force which fuels all growth"* in appreciation of Kathy's leadership. *"The Administrative Staff, along with employees from the Area, ask and expect a lot from you but rarely say 'Thank You.' We hope you will display this Award proudly in appreciation from your Administration Staff."*

Michael Rains, NE Director gave welcoming words to our group on Wednesday (10/30) and was given the same award.

Two days of the training were on COR (Contracting Officer's Representative) training. This training proved timely for our Newtown Engineering Staff and for NA's **Brad Onken** from Morgantown. The remaining day and a half we had guest speakers from the GSA (General Services Administration) and the SBA (Small Business Agency). We invited the Civil Rights staff to join the SBA portion of the presentation. We had a PowerPoint presentation on Competitive Sourcing, covered FSH 6309.32, FSAR, review of FY02 workload, complexities, challenges, and how we can work smarter. We also did an update on the new purchasing system coming in FY03/04, changes in PCMS, and heighten audits, etc. We wrapped up the meeting with Phyllis Grinberg, our Acting ADADM, sharing information from the recent AMC meeting and each Group Leader in ADMIN sharing pertinent information with the field folks. NA's **Terry Gross** was also invited to share information on his new position, including FFIS updates.

Army Environmental Center Notes



FOREST SERVICE LIAISON AT NATIONAL GUARD BUREAU HEADQUARTERS

Don Dagnan recently joined the Forest Service Team at the Army Environmental Center. Don serves as the liaison to the Army National Guard and is physically located at the Guard Bureau Headquarters in Arlington, Virginia. Don provides leadership and assistance in natural resources management and builds relationships between National Guard organizations and the Forest Service. The National Guard and State and Private Forestry have much in common in that they both carry out natural resources management responsibilities in every state and territory, primarily through state agencies.

Don's first field assignment is to Mississippi to assist Camp Shelby and the DeSoto National Forest update and reauthorize the special use permit for Camp Shelby. Don said: *"It'll be like going home; I used to be the soil scientist on the DeSoto."*



Don worked for the Natural Resources Conservation Service and the Tennessee Valley Authority before coming to work for the Forest Service. His most recent assignment was as a soils and watershed specialist at the Savannah River Technological Center, South Carolina, which is managed by the Forest Service for the Department of Energy. His experiences are varied and include watershed planning, burned area rehabilitation, erosion control, and nuclear decontamination and decommissioning. He earned his B.S. in Agricultural Natural Resources Management from Tennessee Technological University.

Don can be reached at 703-607-9987 or e-mail at don.dagnan@ngb.army.mil.

Durham Field Office Notes

NA FOREST HEALTH ICON RETIRES

Jim Linnane retired on November 3 after a productive 30-year career in forest health that spanned three Forest Service regions. In the course of his 13 years at the Durham Field Office, Jim managed the Forest Health Program, helped to coordinate the response to the 1998 Ice Storm, and served as the acting field representative for NA.

At Durham, Jim focused on strengthening the relationship between the field office and the seven States in his service area. He also increased the level of technical assistance the program provided to Federal and Native American resource managers. Jim's integrity, knowledge of forest health issues, and easy-going personality were tremendous assets to the Northeastern Area and earned him the respect of coworkers and customers.

On October 28, the forest health program managers from all seven States attended a testimonial dinner to honor Jim. The States presented mementos and expressed their appreciation for the support that Jim provided to their programs.

Jim began his Forest Service career as an entomologist in the Rocky Mountain Region and was the assistant director for the Forest Health Program in the Southwestern Region prior to his move to NA. Jim, his wife Linda, and their daughter Jackie plan to remain in Rollinsford, New Hampshire, at least for a little while, as they further explore their options.



Jim Linnane (right) accepts a certificate of appreciation from Brent Teillon on behalf of the Vermont Department of Forest, Parks and Recreation for his years of support of the forest health program in Vermont.

DURHAM WELCOMES ASSOCIATE CHIEF SALLY COLLINS

Forest Service Associate Chief **Sally Collins** arrived in Boston early on November 7 to begin a whirlwind 2-day visit hosted by the Durham Field Office. Joined by NA Director **Kathryn Maloney**, Durham Field Representative **Karen Mollander**, and tour guide/chauffeur **John Parry**, the group spent most of the day on an urban forestry tour in and around Boston. The site visits, which highlighted the range of partnerships in the Urban Forestry Program, demonstrated such projects as Urban Wilds Restoration and Urban Orchards, street tree inventories, the Heritage Tree program, and a project to map and protect critical areas in the Boston Harbor ecosystem. The group then headed north to Boxford, Massachusetts, to observe how stewardship plans were developed and implemented on town-owned forest land.





Sally Collins (front row, center) poses with NA Director Kathryn Maloney (left), Durham Field Rep Karen Mollander (right) and State Foresters and cooperators following panel discussions (back row, from left: Bob Edmonds, UNH Coop Extension; Don Smith, CT State Forester; J.B. Cullen, NH Division of Forests and Lands; Philip Bryce, NH State Forester; Tom Doak, ME State Forester; Jim Beil, NY Assistant State Forester; and Robert Davies, NY State Forester).

Sally expressed her heartfelt thanks for the trip in a message to Kathryn Maloney and Karen Mollander: *"I just wanted to pass on my personal thanks for a wonderful trip last week. Logistically, it worked out perfectly, and I feel I got a good sense of the issues you are facing and facing well. . . . I couldn't have asked for a better trip. I really can't think of a time when I was given such a warm, welcoming reception."*

The next morning, Sally met with NA and NE employees during a coffee hour at the Durham Field Office before heading off to a full-day program at the Urban Forestry Center in Portsmouth. Sally was joined by a number of the region's State Foresters as well as other cooperators for panel discussions on collaborative stewardship and response to emerging issues. The afternoon included a tour of the center and a visit to an area where biological control of the hemlock woolly adelgid is underway.



Dennis Souto (right) demonstrates to Sally Collins (in sunglasses) how surveys are conducted to determine the presence of *Pseudotsugus tsugae*, a predator beetle released to control hemlock woolly adelgid.

Grey Towers Notes



GREY TOWERS ANNOUNCES HOLIDAY EVENTS

Grey Towers National Historic Landmark, Milford, Pennsylvania, has a variety of holiday events planned for its annual "Christmas at Grey Towers" program.

The month-long festivities begin with the annual tree lighting ceremony at 7 p.m. Friday, December 6, and continue throughout December with programs, Open Houses, a visit from Santa, and musical concerts.

Some of the holiday events include:

- ❑ Annual outdoor tree lighting ceremony, Friday, Dec. 6 at 7 p.m.
- ❑ Gifford Pinchot Audubon Society Christmas Tea, with a special presentation by Audubon of Pennsylvania speaker Steve Hoffman, Saturday, Dec. 14, 2 p.m.



- ❑ Children's Program: A special "Reading Ranger" program is planned for 12:30 p.m., and Santa will visit during Open House, from 1-4 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 15. Call the Pike County Library, (570) 296-8211, to reserve a spot for the Reading Ranger program.
- ❑ Demonstrations by the Lost Art Lacers of North Jersey, Sunday, Dec. 15, 1 to 4 p.m.
- ❑ Holiday Lieder Concert, Dec. 20, 7 p.m.; Dec. 21, 5 p.m.; and Dec. 22 at 3 p.m. Call (570) 409-0902 or (570) 296-8277.

The annual Christmas Open House, when visitors can visit all three floors of the mansion, is planned for Dec. 9 through 13, Dec. 15, and Dec. 16 through 20, 21, and 23, from 1 to 4 p.m.

The Milford Garden Club will once again "deck the halls" of Grey Towers with festive holiday decorations.

For more information call Grey Towers at (570) 296-9630.



CONSTRUCTION BEGINS ON LETTER BOX RESTORATION

Renovation of the Letter Box, a small outbuilding on the Grey Towers estate that originally served as an office and archive for Gifford Pinchot, is now underway.

Funds for the renovation were raised by the Forest Service through a grant from the *Save America's Treasures* program, and matching private dollars from the Pinchot Institute for Conservation, Grey Towers' non-profit partner.

The building, which was designed in 1925 by well-known architect Chester Aldrich, will be used for conservation education and the arts and outreach programs. Some historic items will be on display. The construction project includes a new heating and air conditioning system, special ultra-violet window shades to protect early volumes of forestry and conservation books that will be housed there, and selective restoration of the interior space, including installation of audio-visual equipment to show films and videos. Restorative treatments will also be applied to several political cartoons and an historic, 1899 map of the U.S. Territories and Insular Possessions.

Pinchot used the Letter Box as an archive for his papers. Today, those papers are at the Library of Congress, the largest collection of any civilian. Grey Towers is celebrated as the birthplace of his many innovative thoughts and writings on forest conservation, as well as his autobiography, *Breaking New Ground*.

FALL A BUSY SEASON FOR GREY TOWERS CONSERVATION EDUCATION PROGRAMS

The new school year was a busy season for Grey Towers Conservation Education programs, with nearly 1,000 school children from the New York-New Jersey-Pennsylvania region attending programs on forestry, forest history, fire prevention and, of course, Grey Towers as the historic home of Gifford Pinchot, founder and first chief of the Forest Service. All ages especially enjoyed the new Forestry Trail, where they learned to read tree rings, identify trees, and study decomposing logs, among other things.



Morgantown Field Office Notes

DC METRO NURSERY

On October 9, the National Tree Trust and the University of the District of Columbia held an open house at the District of Columbia Community Nursery located at the Muirkirk Farm in Beltsville, Maryland. **John Hazel** attended representing the Forest Service. The nursery is working for recognition as a national model for community nurseries, providing education, community development, volunteerism, and professional development activities. The National Tree Trust and the University of the District of Columbia, with corporate sponsorship from Potomac Electric Power Corporation (PEPCO), are growing containerized seedlings for free distribution to non-profit organizations for planting within the District of Columbia area. Hazel spoke with David Flannigan, District of Columbia National Tree Trust Program Director, about coordinating this program with the DC Urban Forestry Program led by DC State Forester Mark Buscaino, but also with personnel from the FHP MFO Staff, NRS, Morgantown, USDA, APHIS, PPQ, the WV Chapter of TNC, and numerous WVU Biology Department staff and graduate students.

FALL MID-ATLANTIC UTILIZATION AND MARKETING MEETING

On October 1 through 3, 2002, the annual fall mid-Atlantic Utilization and Marketing Meeting was held at the Shot Cherry Cabin near Spruce Knob, West Virginia. More than 25 professionals from the States of West Virginia, Ohio, and Virginia participated in some function of the 3-day meeting. The purpose of the annual meeting is to provide an opportunity for the state economic action program coordinators and similar professionals in the six states of the Morgantown Field Office to meet, obtain training, and discuss issues and activities pertaining to utilization and marketing. **Ed Cesa** assisted Ed Murriner and Bill Pownell in organizing the meeting. **Jeff Bejune**, recently hired forest products technologist, and Ed Cesa represented the Morgantown Field Office. Matt Bumgardner and Delton Alderman, both from the Northeastern Research Station located in Princeton, West Virginia, provided overviews of their respective unit's work. The highlight of the meeting was an informational session held at the WV Wood Technology Center in Elkins, West Virginia. This session provided an opportunity for academia and government-based wood technology programs in West Virginia to meet and discuss project activities. Groups represented at the meeting included the West Virginia Division of Forestry, WVU – Appalachian Hardwood Center, WV Wood Technology Center, and USDA Forest Service. Also, Denver Barnett gave an informative presentation on the new West Virginia Hardwood Alliance Zone.

NORTHWEST OHIO TREE COMMISSION SEMINAR

This annual seminar sponsored by the Ohio Division of Natural Resources (ODNR), Division of Forestry, Urban Forestry, was held at Bluffton College, Bluffton, Ohio, on Thursday, October 10, 2002. Stephanie Miller, ODNR, Division of Forestry, Urban Forester for northwestern Ohio organized and moderated the seminar. Topics and speakers included: "Options for Trees, Sidewalk and Curb Conflicts" by Pat O'Brien, Forestry Inspector, City of Toledo, Ohio; "Theoretical Urban Forestry" by Alan Siewert, ODNR, Division of Forestry, Urban Forester for northeastern Ohio; "Emerald Ash Borer: A New Exotic Beetle Threatening Ash Trees in North America" by **Bob Acciavatti**, USFS, Forest Health Protection, Morgantown, West Virginia; "Basic Tree Identification" by Joe Puperi, ODNR, Division of Forestry, Service Forester; "Hazard Tree Evaluations and Resistograph Demonstration" by Pat O'Brien; a review of the "Me and My Tree Video" by Del Barton, City Forester, Lima, Ohio; and a forum on "Utilizing Young People to Improve Your Community's Tree Care Program" by three speakers -- Greg Gerwin, Gibsonburg, Ohio, Village Administrator; Rick Nelson, Montpelier, Ohio, Parks and Recreation Director; and Art Landseadel, Sylvania, Ohio, City Forester. About 50 individuals representing ODNR and many municipalities throughout northwestern Ohio attended the seminar.



BEST MANAGEMENT PRACTICES (BMP) MONITORING

The Maine-led project on BMP monitoring protocols continued its training efforts in Wisconsin the week of October 15. **Karen Sykes**, from the Morgantown Field Office, **Dave Welsch** from the Durham Field Office, and two Maine Forest Service foresters were the trainers. The project began as a focus funding proposal for FY 2002 and is currently being tested in 10 NA pilot states to determine a process by which monitoring methods can be standardized and provide reliable, consistent information. The collected data will demonstrate BMP effectiveness in protecting water quality. Foresters and hydrologists from Wisconsin attended the training session, which was held in the glacial terrain of central Wisconsin. BMPs were evaluated on both private and forest industry lands.

PAPER PRESENTED

Ann Steketee presented a paper titled "Ecology of American Woodcock in Canaan Valley" at the Canaan Valley Celebration in mid-October. The paper was a result of her thesis work at West Virginia University.

ED CESA RECEIVES CERTIFICATE OF APPRECIATION FROM PENNSYLVANIA GOVERNOR MARK SCHWEIKER

During the Pennsylvania Rural Development Council's 10-Year Celebration that was held in September 2002, near Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, **Ed Cesa** received a Certificate of Appreciation signed by the governor that stated, *"In recognition of your time and service to rural communities as a Pennsylvania Rural Development Council member."* During this time, Ed was and still is the official USDA Forest Service representative on the Council. During this period, Ed served as the chairperson of the Sustainable Forest-Based Economic Development Committee and chairperson of the Timber Bridge Working Group (TBWG). The TBWG consisted of partnership building and cooperation among organizations such as PENNDOT, DCNR, and the Dept. of Agr., Penn State, consulting engineers, industries, and the USDA Forest Service. Accomplishments of the working group ranged from a number of red maple glued-laminated timber bridges designed and built on the state forest road system, to a number of PENNDOT deck replacement projects, to the development of standard designs for glued-laminated pedestrian timber bridges.

EVANS AND COGER BECOME PLT FACILITATORS



Cinda Francis, Vicky Evans, and Tinathan Coger attend PLT Training.

Vicky Evans and **Tinathan Coger** attended a Project Learning Tree Facilitators Training Session on October 23 through 24 in Martinsburg, West Virginia. They are now qualified to hold 1-day Teachers Workshops to train educators how to use the PLT materials in their classrooms. **Dan Kincaid** assisted with the facilitators training as a member of the state PLT Steering Committee. About 18 facilitators were trained during the 2-day session, representing the USFS, the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, the WV Division of Forestry, the wood products industry, the WV Division of Wildlife, the West Virginia Forestry Association, WVU Extension, and the WV DNR Division of Environmental Resources. Another facilitators training session will be held this winter in the western part of the State.



FORESTRY WORKSHOP AT THE CANAAN VALLEY INSTITUTE

The Canaan Valley Institute (CVI) is a not-for-profit, non-advocacy organization that provides assistance to watershed and other volunteer groups in the Appalachian region. It also serves as a clearinghouse for information about the resources of the Mid-Atlantic Highlands and shares that information with stakeholders. To familiarize its employees with forestry terminology and issues, CVI arranged a workshop at the Davis, West Virginia, headquarters on October 28. **Karen Sykes** was invited to participate in a panel discussion pertaining to watershed issues and landowner assistance. Other panel members included forestry agency representatives from West Virginia, Pennsylvania, and Virginia; forest industry; woodland owners; forestry consultants; and WV Extension. Pam Edwards, research hydrologist at the Fernow Experimental Forest, presented an overview of forest hydrology.

MORGANTOWN PARTICIPATES IN WVU CAREER FAIR

The Morgantown Field Office was one of 21 exhibitors at the recent WVU College of Agriculture, Forestry, and Consumer Sciences Fall Career Fair. Exhibitors included federal and state agencies, non-profit organizations, and private companies. Students perused the exhibits and talked with potential employers about careers and possible jobs in the natural resource fields throughout the day from 9:00 a.m. until 4:00 p.m. The MFO used the Forest Service display from Newtown Square and handed out the new recruiting brochures and information, which were supplied by Human Resources. **Dan Kincaid** staffed the exhibit for the MFO.

THE IMPORTANCE OF COMMUNICATING IN NATURAL RESOURCES

Dan Kincaid spoke to the Forestry 101 class at WVU about the importance of communications, public relations, and working with the media for natural resource professionals. Dr. Joe McNeel, Director of the WVU Division of Forestry, is committed to making this concept an integral part of undergraduate education in the Forest Resource Management, Parks & Recreation, Wood Industries, and Wildlife & Fisheries curricula. There were about 43 students in attendance at the presentation. Kincaid also distributed information to the students about Forest Service careers and summer jobs.

MID-ATLANTIC CENTER FOR URBAN AND COMMUNITY FORESTRY ADVISORY MEETING HELD

The Mid-Atlantic Urban and Community Forestry Coordinators recently spent a full working day at the Morgantown Field Office on October 22, participating in the annual advisory meeting for the Mid-Atlantic Center for Urban and Community Forestry. The Morgantown Field Office hosted a “Meet the Staff” morning social prior to the start of the meeting. **Melissa Emerson, Karen Sykes, Barbara Morgan, Jeff Bejune, and Helen Wassick** visited with Mark Buscaino, Mike Galvin, Bob Hannah, and Bryan Hall, who thanked them for all their support. The meeting opened with a presentation by **Ann Steketee** on the IMS Geo-Referenced Database project she has been developing for the States and commenced with presentations on Wood Waste Utilization by **Ed Cesa** and an update on the UFORE Analysis of Morgantown, West Virginia, by Sandhya Mohan, PhD Student, WVU and Advisor Jonathan Cumming. **Anne Cumming** and **Donna Murphy** hosted the meeting. **Frank Cromer** provided IT services.

ANSI TREE, SHRUB, AND OTHER WOODY PLANT MAINTENANCE, STANDARD PRACTICES WORKSHOP

On Wednesday, October 23, the Mid-Atlantic Center for Urban and Community Forestry sponsored “ANSI Tree, Shrub, and Other Woody Plant Maintenance, Standard Practices Workshop” that was attended by 55 participants. Attendees included regional foresters, urban foresters, shade tree commission members, certified arborists, and utility foresters from Pennsylvania, Ohio, West Virginia, Maryland, and Tennessee. Dr. Tom Smiley and Joe Bones, Certified Arborists, Bartlett Tree Experts, delivered the workshop that focused on interpreting and applying the ANSI 300 Pruning, Tree Support Systems, and Lightning Protection Installation Standards. A morning lecture series focused on proper pruning types, cuts, pruning objectives, and considerations in writing specifications. The afternoon was spent outdoors on the grounds of West Virginia University where there were hands-on demonstrations of cleaning, crowning, thinning, subordination, bracing techniques, and structure pruning.



ANNUAL GYPSY MOTH REVIEW

The Annual Gypsy Moth Review "Fortress North America vs. the Gypsy Moth" was held November 4 through 7 at Niagara Falls, Ontario, Canada. The agenda covered a vast array of topics including Aerial Application Technology, Post 9/11 Program Security and Forestry Aviation Issues, Media and the Gypsy Moth, Pheromones for Forest Insect Control, Gypsy Moth in Northern Climates, *Bacillus thuringiensis*: Still Acceptable?, and Cross Border Regulations. **Amy Onken** (Forest Health, MFO) gave a presentation on Gypsy Moth Control in North America: 2002 Operations and 2003 Predictions, and Harold Thistle (FHTET, WO) moderated the Aerial Application Technology session. The meeting was very well attended with more than 200 participants representing various state and federal agencies from the United States, provinces from Canada, and representatives from the New Zealand Ministry of Forests.

St. Paul Field Office Notes

REGIONAL FORESTER VISITS ST. PAUL FIELD OFFICE

Mike Prouty, Field Representative, invited Randy Moore, the new Regional Forester for Region 9, to meet with partners, and discuss issues and opportunities within the State of Minnesota. **John Nordin**, Northeastern Area Deputy Director; Mike Carroll, Minnesota State Forester; Al Ek, Head of the University of Minnesota's Department of Forest Resources; Susan Stafford, Dean of the College of Natural Resources; Jim Sanders, Forest Supervisor of the Superior National Forest; and Dave Zumeta, Executive Director of the Minnesota Forest Resources Council, participated in the meeting. Afterwards, John Nordin and Mike Prouty spent an afternoon with Mike Carroll, Minnesota State Forester, and Mike Brandrup, Iowa State Forester, discussing Northeastern Area grants and their administration.

EXPERTS ESTIMATE OVER FIVE MILLION TREES KILLED BY EMERALD ASH BORER IN MICHIGAN

In the recently released *Emerald Ash Borer Initial Damage Assessment* (November 12, 2002) Frank Sapio and Frank Krist, of the Michigan Department of Natural Resources, estimated that over 5 million forest trees within the 200,000 square miles of Southeastern Michigan are dying from emerald ash borer. Approximately 600,000 of these trees are landscape and street trees. **Steve Katovich**, Entomologist, is preparing the USDA Forest Service strategy – "Emerald Ash Borer: A New Threat to America's Forest." This strategy will outline the roles and responsibilities for State and Private Forestry as well as the North Central and Northeastern Research Stations in response to this devastating insect. Steve represents State and Private Forestry in the Michigan Invasive Species Group. Steve, along with **Lisa Burban**, Group Leader for Forest Resources Management, and **Gina Childs**, Group Leader for Information Management and Analysis, participate on the Emerald Ash Borer Restoration Team and have assisted in the development of an Emerald Ash Borer Restoration Plan. The plan is the result of a team effort between government agencies, non-profit organizations and the nursery industry to regreen the area affected by emerald ash borer.

NEW LIFE AND PROFITS FROM OLD TREES

Steve Bratkovich, Marketing and Utilization, and Dr. Sam Sherrill, University of Cincinnati, co-presented "New Life--and Profits--From Old Trees" to the attendees of the National Arborist Association Tree Care Industry Expo held recently in Milwaukee. Arborists and municipal tree care providers often struggle with ideas for ridding themselves of urban wood waste. Capitalizing on his recently published book, *Utilizing Municipal Trees: Ideas from Across the Country*, Steve presented examples of the various ways municipalities across the country – including arborists – are effectively using urban wood waste. Dr. Sherrill discussed his personal experiences as a woodworker in using urban trees for many of his furniture projects; he also presented ideas on how arborists could establish utilization projects as part of their business.



GYPSY MOTH MANAGEMENT IN ILLINOIS

The Illinois Natural History Survey sponsored a gypsy moth management session to familiarize land management organizations with the status of gypsy moth in Illinois and the options for treatment (eradication vs. suppression vs. slow the spread). **Mike Connor**, Group Leader for Forest Health; Sandy Liebhold, Northeastern Research Station; and Donna Leonard, Region 8 Forest Health Protection, gave presentations regarding treatment options and the latest research. Michael McManus, Northeastern Research Station provided valuable insight into the longterm implications of gypsy moth on the forest resource as well as an overview of Research's historical involvement in gypsy moth. Michael McManus also facilitated the discussion session for attendees. Ken Kruse from APHIS gave a presentation on gypsy moth eradication, and Stan Smith and Jim Cavanaugh from the Illinois Department of Agriculture gave presentations on the current status and plans for treatment of gypsy moth in Illinois. **Dwight Scarbrough**, Entomologist, participated in the dialogue and answered technical questions regarding Illinois' program. More than 40 people participated in this session at Champaign, Illinois, and a duplicate session in the Chicago area has been suggested.

MAKING THE CASE FOR GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE

Lisa Burban, Group Leader for Forest Resources Management, and Dick Rideout, Wisconsin Urban Forestry Coordinator, made a technical assistance visit to the Urban Open Space Foundation in Madison, Wisconsin. The Foundation received a 2001 Inner City Community-Based Forest Management grant for the *Troy Gardens Natural Areas Restoration* and received a 2001 Title VIII grant for the *Community Open Space Partnership* from the Northeastern Area Urban and Community Forestry Program. Lisa and Dick toured improvements made to the Troy Gardens natural areas. Later, they learned about the Open Space Partnership and provided resources and contacts to further support the effort. The Open Space Partnership resulted in three forums attended by over 150 people. The forums were designed to provide participants the opportunity to discuss the importance of green space and 'make the case' for green infrastructure. Participants are committed to designing and planning communities where parks and open space are given the same consideration and priority as roads and utilities.

FORESTRY PRACTICES BENEFIT IN NEW FARM BILL

Mike Majeski, Watershed Specialist, attended the Driftless Area Initiative Workshop earlier this month. The Driftless Area is a portion of Illinois, Iowa, Minnesota, and Wisconsin that was touched by the last glacial period. Steep slopes covered with forests and narrow valleys characterize the area's terrain and ridge tops supporting dairy farms. While the workshop largely focused on the changing dairy industry in the area, one presentation outlined improvements to the conservation programs as a result of the new Farm Bill. First of all, the funding authorized has greatly increased. Most programs will double in 2003 and are expected to increase through 2007. The Wildlife Habitat Incentives Program, Wetland Reserve Program, Farm Land Protection Program, and Environmental Quality Incentives Program all have forestry components. The program subcommittee will initiate funding recommendations and the State Technical Committee will approve the allocations. Forestry practices have a greater chance of being considered for funding if State Foresters and their staff are involved on both the State Technical Committee as well as the subcommittees.

URBAN NATIONAL FOREST COALITION MEETS IN CHICAGO

Several years ago, the Forest Supervisors of National Forests located close to urban areas and heavily impacted by urban people formed a network to support forestland management near urban centers. The Midewin National Tallgrass Prairie recently hosted a meeting of the Urban National Forest Coalition, and **Tom Dilley**, Chicago Metropolitan Initiative Coordinator, participated in the meeting and gave a presentation on Northeastern Area State and Private Forestry initiatives in the Chicago metropolitan area. The purpose of the meeting was to give coalition members a chance to discuss issues unique to Urban National Forests, such as working with diverse populations and accommodating large numbers of visitors. Tom highlighted projects where he is working with diverse populations to improve their neighborhoods and at the same time increase the visibility and reputation of the USDA Forest Service.



2002 GYPSY MOTH REVIEW

Dwight Scarbrough, Entomologist, attended the 2002 Gypsy Moth Review in Ontario as the St. Paul Field Office Forest Health representative. Mike Brown, Forest Health Staff member with the Missouri Department of Conservation was the conference Chair. The purpose of the Gypsy Moth Review is to evaluate the current status of gypsy moth management, technology, and research efforts and encourage a cooperative effort for treating gypsy moth across state lines and national boundaries. The review is expanding to include information on how the cooperative approach to treating gypsy moth could be applied to other non-native insects affecting the North American forest resource. More than 200 attendees, from both Canada and the United States, participated in the review. The review covered topics such as the human health aspects of biological control, aviation safety relating to spray projects in a post September 11th world, and how to work effectively with the media. Just as important, the review fosters the networking and building of cooperative relationships to deal with exotics across state, regional, and national boundaries to protect the forests of North America.

MAPPING THE GREEN STUFF

Tom Dilley, Chicago Metropolitan Initiative Coordinator, is one of the technical advisors to the Center for Neighborhood Technology's collaborative Green Infrastructure Project. Other partners include Kane and McHenry County, Openlands, the Environmental Protection Agency, and the Illinois Nature Conservancy. The purpose of the project is to map the green infrastructure within a 14-county area of Illinois, Wisconsin, and Indiana. The desired outcome of the project is a map that will be used to guide land and water use decisions in this highly populated yet ecologically important area. The Green Infrastructure Project is funded by the Joyce Foundation and will be using information from the Oasis Project in New York City, where applicable, in designing this mapping project.

ST. PAUL FIELD OFFICE WEBSITE CONTINUES TO BE POPULAR SOURCE OF INFORMATION

The North Central Research Station recently upgraded the St. Paul Field Office Internet connection to a higher speed line – just in time, too. The website currently receives more than 1.5 million hits each month; a little over 70,000 are unique visitors each month. The pages visited the most include “*Why Leaves Change Color*,” the *Silvics Manual*, and “*How to Prune Trees*.”

Editor's Corner

THANKS TO:

The following contributors to this issue: **Mary Wick**, Newtown Square; **Helene Cleveland**, AEC; **Helen Thompson**, Durham; **Lori McKean**, Grey Towers; **Dan Kincaid** and **Melissa Emerson**, Morgantown; and **Gina Childs**, St. Paul. For her willingness to post the NA News Notes on the Web, **Helen Butalla**.

DEADLINE!

Deadline for the next issue of NA News Notes will be **December 13, 2002**. Please mail articles to Tinathan Coger at tcoger@fs.fed.us.

