

Northeastern Area



News Notes



Kathryn P. Maloney
Area Director

Friday, March 22, 2002



CHIEF AND OTHERS VISIT NEWTOWN SQUARE

On Monday, March 4, 2002, Chief Dale Bosworth; Deputy Chief, State and Private Forestry, Joel Holtrop; Associate Deputy Chief, State and Private Forestry, Robin Thompson; and Jerry Williams, Director, Fire and Aviation Management, began their visit to the Northeastern Area and Northeastern Research Station. Chief Bosworth spent Monday and part of Tuesday with the Northeastern Research

Station Management Team, while Deputy Chief Holtrop, Associate Deputy Chief Thompson, and Fire Director Williams spent their time with the Northeastern Area Executive Team. State Foresters Jim Barresi, NJ; Gene Francisco, WI; and Jim Grace, PA, also joined the NA Executive Team for a portion of the meeting. Other cooperators included Mayor Jason Varano, Berkley Township, NJ; fire committee chairman, William Schultz; landowner Tom Bullock, New Jersey Forestry Association; and Scott Dane, Biwabik, MN, city planner.

On Monday and Tuesday, Director Maloney provided an overview of the Northeastern Area. George Brooks, Michael Prouty, and Ken Knauer gave a values, contributions, and success stories presentation which included Fire Management, the Indiana FIA collaboration effort, and economic action success stories, respectively. Robin Morgan also presented an overview of OASIS (Open Accessible Space Information System) in New York City.

On Monday afternoon, the Deputy Chief and Associate Chief participated in an urban forestry and forest health field trip to Philadelphia. The trip was repeated for the Chief on Wednesday afternoon. The trip included a visit to Memorial Hall in Fairmount Park, which is designed to highlight the forest health issues and the needs of a large urban park system. Participants were able to view a restored model of the 1876 Centennial Celebration that is located in the basement of Memorial Hall and is listed on the National Register of Historic Places. Next, participants traveled to North Philadelphia neighborhoods to view Forest Service funded street tree plantings and greenspace improvements around Eastern State Penitentiary Park. From there, the group traveled to Project H.O.M.E. (**H**ousing, **O**pportunities, **M**edical Care, and **E**ducation). Project H.O.M.E. is a neighborhood organization dedicated to revitalizing North Philadelphia neighborhoods and is currently developing the "From Spaces to Places" plan and its relationship to the Mayor of Philadelphia's Neighborhood Transformation Initiative. The final stop of the field trip was a visit to Liberty Lands where a community-driven process is underway to transform a 2-acre brownfield into multi-use greenspace.

Prior to his departure on Wednesday, March 6, Chief Bosworth participated in a signing ceremony executing a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU), between the City of Philadelphia, the Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, and the USDA Forest Service. Along with Chief Bosworth, John Plonski, executive deputy secretary for Parks and Forestry for the Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, and Estelle Richman, managing director for the City of Philadelphia signed the MOU.

NA employees had an opportunity to talk with Chief Bosworth at a brown bag lunch on Tuesday, March 5, in the main conference room. All reports indicate the Chief enjoyed his visit with NA and returned to Washington with a



better understanding of the work of the Northeastern Area and its partners. We received word from the Chief upon his return to Washington about how much he enjoyed the time spent with us in Newtown Square.

We look forward to hearing the Chief speak about what he encountered on his visit at some future date in his travels around the Forest Service.

Kathy Maloney

Army Environmental Center Notes

ARMY NATIONAL GUARD NATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL WORKSHOP

Helene Cleveland and **Eric Wolters** attended the 2002 National Environmental Workshop hosted by the Army National Guard in Orlando, Florida, in early March. The workshop's theme was "Readiness through Stewardship" – a theme that the Forest Service Team at the Army Environmental Center has promoted through NA's partnership agreements with the Military Services. Mr. Ray Fatz, Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Army for Environment, Safety, and Occupational Health, was the keynote speaker. Mr. Fatz emphasized that partnerships with other Federal and State agencies and conservation organizations were a great way to protect America's resources entrusted to the Army and are consistent with the current administration's directives and initiatives. The Army manages over 14.4 million acres, more than the States of New Jersey, Rhode Island, Delaware, and Connecticut combined.

Continuing challenges for the Guard are sustaining the forests and grasslands they manage, while meeting an increased demand for military training on those lands. The Guard will be fielding a new Combat Brigade at Fort Indiantown Gap, PA. Since Fort Indiantown Gap is not large enough for all training operations, other installations and other lands in New York, New Jersey, Ohio, and Virginia may also be used.

More than 200 environmental program managers attended the workshop. Helene and Eric staffed a booth explaining the Forest Service's partnership with the Army, and Helene led a breakout session explaining the recent Interagency Agreement between the Forest Service, administered by NA, and the Army National Guard. Luis Rivera, a forester with the Caribbean National Forest, also attended the workshop as the Caribbean NF has a growing partnership with the Puerto Rico Army National Guard, which is facilitated through NA.

PRIVATE LANDS INITIATIVE'S FIRST SUCCESSES

The goal of the Private Lands Initiative is to protect endangered species habitat and sustain military training. Similar to the Forest Service's Forest Legacy Program, the Private Lands Initiative is one way where natural resources conservation and the sustainment of military training ranges can work hand-in-hand. **Eric Wolters** has been leading the initiative at USAEC. On January 29, Eric attended an event for the largest tract purchased so far. The Calaway tract contains 2,500 acres of longleaf pine, prime habitat for the red-cockaded woodpecker. The tract was actually purchased by the North Carolina Department of Transportation who will turn over management of the tract to The Nature Conservancy. The property is contiguous with Fort Bragg. The purchase was several years in the making and would not have happened without the partnership and hard work of The Nature Conservancy. The Army has rights to conduct light training on the property and limited hunting will be allowed.

In December 2001, The Nature Conservancy purchased the Carver's Creek tract with matching dollars from the Army. Carver's Creek tract is 1,700 acres on the eastern side of Fort Bragg, with great longleaf pine habitat. Since September 11, the training requirement for Army Special Forces has substantially increased. Starting this month, the Carver's Creek tract will be used for search, evasion, resistance, and escape training by Army Special Forces.

Eric and the partners also are trying to use the Forest Legacy program to buy an easement on adjoining property (a private working forest).





FIVE-YEAR CULTURAL RESOURCES PROJECT COMPLETED

Robert Whetsell, NA

archeologist/historian stationed at the Monongahela National Forest, delivered the final cultural resources assessment to the Defense Logistics Agency. Starting in the fall of 1997, Rob and archeologists from three national forests conducted cultural assessments at 17 facilities scattered across the US. The final two reports dealt with facilities in Scotia and Binghamton, New York.

One of the highlights of the Binghamton

assessment became the evaluation and consultation with the New York State Historic Preservation Office over the determination of eligibility to the National Register of Historic Places of a stone spillway built during World War II by Conscientious Objectors (see photo). These assessments provide the Defense Logistics Agency with locally tailored, but nationally consistent evaluations.

INTERNATIONAL PROGRAMS PRESENTATION

On January 16, **Mark Cleveland** and **Helene Cleveland** conducted a presentation in the Forest Service's International Programs Brown Bag seminar series. Mark and Helene discussed NA's role in assisting the Eighth US Army in South Korea and US Marine Corps Camp Butler in Okinawa, Japan, to a small but diverse audience that included people from International Programs, State & Private Forestry, U.S. Agency of International Development, Environmental Protection Agency, Natural Resources Conservation Service, Headquarters Marine Corps, The Nature Conservancy, and several other agencies.

Durham Field Office Notes

NEW EMPLOYEES AT DURHAM

Bob Fitzhenry joined the staff at Durham on March 11 as the new Information, Management & Analysis (IMA) Group Leader. Bob previously worked in communications and public affairs for SUBMEPP, an international naval unit based at the Naval Shipyard in Portsmouth, New Hampshire. He earned his B.S. degree in civil engineering from Worcester Polytechnic Institute, with an emphasis in environmental and land use disciplines. A Massachusetts native, Bob resides in Madbury, New Hampshire, a mere 3 miles from the office. He is an avid bicyclist and has written a book about mountain biking in the White Mountains. His wife Michelle teaches second grade. They have two boys: 5-year-old Conner and 18-month-old Sean.

Roger Monthey, who has served as the forest stewardship specialist on a term basis since the summer of 1998, has just accepted a permanent assignment as the field office landowner assistance specialist. Roger has a Ph.D. in Forest Resources (wildlife option) from the University of Maine-Orono and a M.S. in Water Resources Management from the University of Wisconsin-Madison. Prior to arriving in Durham, he spent approximately 20 years working for the Bureau of Land Management in the Western United States, tackling such hot topics as the northern spotted owl.





CRIME PREVENTION SEMINAR

Sergeants Andrew Parsons (New Hampshire State Police) and Joseph Morganella (Durham Police Dept.) presented a crime prevention seminar at the Durham Field Office on February 5. Parsons discussed his experience with bombs and offered suggestions for handling threats, building evacuations, and questionable mail. Morganella addressed workplace violence and crime. The officer's suggestions will be used to improve office safety and security.

(photo caption: Sergeant Parsons shows examples of how bombs may be disguised. Humor lightened the serious subject — the book he is holding, ironically titled *If Tomorrow Never Comes*, contains a mock bomb.)

MONTHLY FEATURED IN NORTHERN WOODLANDS MAGAZINE

An article co-authored by **Roger Monthey**, Marilyn Mollicone, and NE's Kenneth Dudzik appears in the spring 2002 issue of Northern Woodlands Magazine. The article, "A Moss and Liverwort Primer," was adapted from Roger's Biodiversity of a New England Woodlot series, which is available on the Durham web site (www.fs.fed.us/na/durham/who/stew_library.htm). The magazine has accepted a second article, "Lichens Growing on Northern Red Oak (*Quercus rubra*) Trees in the Northeast," for publication in 2003.

WELSCH SPEAKS AT THE MAINE STATE CAPITOL

On March 7, **Dave Welsh** gave a presentation on riparian ecosystems to the Maine State Legislature's Joint Standing Committee on Agriculture, Conservation, and Forestry. Dave, along with an aquatic entomologist and a zoology professor from the University of Maine, was invited to address the committee as they consider recommending shoreland-zoning regulations for the State. The 12-member committee includes at least two farmers and two foresters. A member of the Joint Standing Committee on Natural Resources and representatives from industry and environmental groups attended the session.

NEW AUDIENCE FOR INFORMATION ON EXOTIC PESTS

Dennis Souto recently addressed a new audience for information on exotic pests — the Maine Maritime Academy (MMA) community in Castine, Maine. On February 21, he spoke at a meeting of the Propeller Club, a group of mostly retired merchant marines and harbor pilots. The following day, he spoke to two classes at the academy. Dennis addressed the accidental movement of exotic pests to our country, focusing on three examples: solid wood packing material (Asian longhorned beetle), containers and the ship itself (Asian gypsy moth), and ballast water (zebra mussels). All of the audiences asked excellent questions and had innovative ideas about minimizing future introductions via shipping.



ECOLOGICAL CLASSIFICATION AND MAPPING IN THE NY-NJ HIGHLANDS

The development and use of ecological classification and mapping was the topic on an unseasonably warm and sunny February day at the Stoney Kill Environmental Center in Wappinger Falls, New York. Robert Herberger, Regional Forester for the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC), invited **Connie Carpenter** and Spider Barbour, an ecologist with the Hudsonia Environmental Research Institute, to discuss the ECOMAP component of the NY-NJ Hudson Highlands Study Update with about 20 DEC personnel and local consulting foresters. A poster session complimented the discussion. Poster topics included the results of the ecological mapping by the New Jersey State Forest Service, information on natural community mapping by the New York Natural Heritage Program, ecoregional planning by The Nature Conservancy, the Forest Health Survey work being undertaken by the University of New York and DEC, and ecological classification and mapping work in the adjacent Catskills region. Connie was fortunate to attend a local DEC staff meeting before her presentation and previewed a video they developed to convey the benefits of forest management to private forest landowners.

NEW ENGLAND CONSERVATION DISTRICTS MEET

The New England State Conservation Districts held their annual leadership meeting in Portsmouth, New Hampshire, on March 7 through 8. The conservation districts, all members of the National Association of Conservation Districts, meet annually to share information with State and Federal partners in New England. Issues discussed included EPA plans for water quality, earmarks in the Federal budget, farm bill implementation, State district activities, and reports from Federal partners. **John Parry**, urban forester, attended the meeting to give a presentation on field office and urban forestry activities in the region.

VERMONT URBAN FORESTRY COUNCIL UPDATE

The Vermont Urban Forestry Council met on March 12 to discuss emerging urban and community forestry (U&CF) issues in the State. The State is developing a Vermont Tree Town program to recognize communities with advanced U&CF programs. The council is also putting finishing touches on their 5-year strategic plan. **John Parry**, urban forester, gave a presentation on the Vermont U&CF program review that was conducted last summer.

NORTHEAST CENTER FOR URBAN AND COMMUNITY FORESTRY

CHANGING FACE OF NEW ENGLAND CONFERENCE

The Northeast Center for Urban and Community Forestry recently cosponsored a conference on the campus of the University of Massachusetts focusing on the changing face of New England landscapes. Attended by over 200 participants, the daylong conference featured presentations on invasive woody plants, drought, fire threat, and urban planning. **David Bloniarz**, Project Coordinator, and Dr. Dennis Ryan, University of Massachusetts/Amherst, cochaired the conference, which included speakers from USDA APHIS and the University of Massachusetts. Next year's conference is scheduled for March and will focus on "Preserving Vintage Trees."

ARTICLES PUBLISHED

Two articles were recently published in *Tree Care Industry*, a monthly periodical of the National Arborist Association. The journal has a circulation of over 40,000 and is distributed to tree care professionals, arborists, and community foresters. "Working with Builders to Save Trees" was coauthored by **David Bloniarz**, and Dr. Dennis Ryan and Paul Fiset of the University of Massachusetts/Amherst. "Irrigation Installation Opportunities," which discusses tree protection and underground irrigation, was coauthored by David Bloniarz, Dr. Dennis Ryan, and



Stephen Corrigan, president of a large landscape contracting firm that works throughout New England and New York. The articles are available on-line at <http://www.natlarb.com/content/pubs/articles.htm>.

INNER CITY TREE STEWARD TRAINING

David Bloniarz has recently provided training assistance to the City of Springfield Inner City Tree Steward Program. Utilizing funding from the Northeastern Area's Inner City Grant Program, over 30 participants are completing 16 hours of training on tree planting in their inner city neighborhoods. Training has included instruction on planning for tree planting, community outreach, tree physiology, planting technique, and maintenance. The City of Springfield Planning Department, Park Department, the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Management, and the Northeast Center for Urban and Community Forestry are all cooperating on the training and project implementation.

CITY GREEN ANALYSIS

The Northeast Center for Urban and Community Forestry has been working with the City of Cambridge, Massachusetts, to complete planning for an ecosystem analysis this summer. **David Bloniarz** is working with the City's Forestry and Community Development Departments to develop a work plan for the project, which will complete an analysis using American Forest's CityGreen computer program. Funding for the project has been provided through a Massachusetts Department of Environmental Management grant.

ELM WATCH

David Bloniarz recently delivered a presentation on "Planning for Street Tree Plantings" to representatives of Elm Watch and the Housatonic Vocational High School in Cannan, Connecticut. Elm Watch is a nonprofit organization working in Massachusetts, Connecticut, and New York to protect, preserve, and restore the American elm in the tri-state region. The organization will be working with the students to plant elms in the town and on the school grounds later this spring.

Grey Towers Notes



CHIEF BOSWORTH HOLDS LEADERSHIP SESSION AT GREY TOWERS

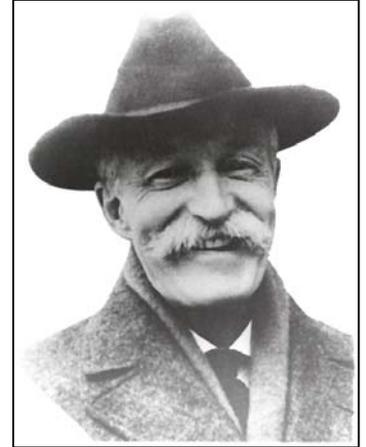
Chief Dale Bosworth spent a few days last month at Grey Towers National Historic Landmark with eight of his Washington Office Leadership staff in a team building session. The renovated conference facility at Grey Towers offers a unique meeting space and retreat-like setting that enabled the group to meet their goals and objectives.



GREY TOWERS OUTREACH: PROGRAMS ON LANDSCAPE AND GIFFORD PINCHOT GIVEN

Grey Towers Horticulturist **Elizabeth Belcher** will present a pictorial program, "Historic Landscapes," in partnership with Penn State College Cooperative Extension. This program will take participants through the development of the Grey Towers historic landscape. She also will address the Grey Towers landscape restoration project and will share how to use historic plants in today's gardens.

Grey Towers Education and Information Specialist **Lori McKean** gave a presentation on Gifford Pinchot and the history of Forestry in America on March 15 through 16 to members of the Lycoming County (PA) Audubon Society and participants in the statewide conference of the Bluebird Society of Pennsylvania. The presentation offers a glimpse into why Gifford chose forestry as a career and details his contributions as first chief of the USDA Forest Service and two-term Governor of Pennsylvania.



NATIONAL AUDUBON SOCIETY TO PARTNER WITH GREY TOWERS AND PINCHOT EXPERIMENTAL FOREST FOR DEER MANAGEMENT WORKSHOP SERIES

Grey Towers National Historic Landmark and the Milford Experimental Forest will be working in partnership with the National Audubon Society, Pennsylvania, on a series of workshops addressing the problems and impacts of overabundant deer in Northeast Pennsylvania. National Audubon will work with Peter Pinchot, Director of the Milford Experimental Forest, to plant demonstration plots and erect seedling cages on the property. A series of public educational workshops will be held at Grey Towers. The targeted audience is natural resource planners, land managers, and the general public. Pictured here: Peter Pinchot, on left, meets with Pennsylvania Audubon consultant Bryon Shissler on the Milford Experimental Forest property.

Morgantown Field Office Notes

DC CMR AND UCF PROGRAM REVIEW

A 1-day review incorporating components of the traditional Cooperative Management Review and the Urban and Community Forestry Program review was held in Washington, DC, on February 28. The review highlighted achievements and identified issues and opportunities to strengthen working relationships between DC and the Forest Service. Shortly after the review, it was announced that the "Trees and Landscape Division" was renamed as "Urban Forestry Administration" under the District Division of Transportation. Mark Buscaino, DC City Forester/Associate Director, was a key member of the review team, also including John Nordin, Phillip Rodbell, Robert Ragos (Forest Service Civil Rights Title VI National Program Delivery Manager, DC), **Anne Cumming**, and **John Hazel**. It was noted that the DC program has strong support from Mayor Anthony Williams, Director of the District Division of Transportation Dan Tangerlini, and Chief of Staff Kevin Anderson.



CVC RECEIVES GOVERNOR'S AWARD

The Conemaugh Valley Conservancy (CVC) has been selected to receive the 2002 Pennsylvania Governor's Award for Watershed Stewardship in the Partnership Category. CVC has been our partner in implementing the Kiski Basin Initiative, and work conducted through this partnership played a role in the CVC receiving this prestigious award. The Northeastern Area's Kiski Basin Initiative and the Forest Legacy program were specifically recognized in the application for the award. The CVC led to the Kiski-Conemaugh River Basin Alliance, initially a coalition of five watershed groups which has now expanded to 14 watershed groups. To date, 105 of 126 municipalities in the Kiski Basin formally adopted resolutions supporting the Rivers Conservation Plan under the leadership of CVC to implement water improvement projects. More than 50 partners now are involved that with the Forest Service include local watershed associations, environmental groups, colleges and universities, County Conservation Districts, PA State agencies, National Park Service, Corps of Engineers, Fish and Wildlife Service, and private corporations and foundations.

CAREER JOB FAIR

Helen Wassick and **John Hazel** participated in a Health and Technical Career Job Fair the Monongalia County Technical Education Center (MTEC) in Morgantown, WV, on March 19. They displayed a poster, met with students to discuss the Forest Service career opportunities, and conducted mock interviews. MTEC's connection to the Morgantown Field Office is the Partnership in Education Program. This program is a cooperative, mutually benefiting relationship between schools, businesses, and community organizations.

WV STATEWIDE FLOOD PROTECTION PLAN

John Hazel continued his participation on the West Virginia Statewide Flood Protection Plan Taskforce with a meeting in Charleston, WV, on March 20 to review the draft plan. The Task Force, created by Governor Robert Wise as a result of heavy rains that caused major flooding in southern West Virginia, is preparing a plan to identify floodplain management needs and to establish strategies, measures, and priorities for meeting these needs. The plan will provide direction for better management of natural floodplains and develop flood loss reduction strategies. In addition to the Forest Service Northeastern Area, other Task Force member agencies include WV Soil Conservation Agency, WV Division of Forestry, WV Office of Emergency Services, WV DNR, WV Geological and Economic Survey, WV Division of Highways, WV University Extension Service, WV Farm Service Agency, WV Insurance Commission, WV Division of Labor, WV Real Estate Commission, WV Board of Land Surveyors, WV Soil Conservation Districts, Regional Planning Councils, WV Rivers Coalition, FEMA, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, NRCS, National Weather Service, Fish and Wildlife Service, U.S. Geological Survey, National Park Service, EPA, and the Federal Highway Administration.

St. Paul Field Office Notes

EARLY ESTIMATES INDICATE OAK DECLINE AFFECTING 2.5 MILLION ACRES OF FOREST IN MISSOURI

Manfred Mielke, Forest Health Monitoring, met with Bruce Moltzan, Missouri Department of Conservation Plant Pathologist, and Ross Melick, Mark Twain National Forest, to coordinate aerial survey and ground truthing efforts to better map areas of oak decline in Missouri. According to initial information available from Missouri Department of Conservation satellite images, more than 2.5 million acres of forest may be affected. (Neighboring Arkansas has reported damage in the millions of acres.) In addition, Manfred is working with the Missouri Department of



Conservation and the University of Missouri – Columbia to develop a monitoring and evaluation project of oak decline in Missouri.

Oak decline is difficult to map. The decline affects the shorter-lived black and scarlet oaks, making it difficult to distinguish which trees are suffering from decline, versus old age. The triggering event for oak decline is likely several years of drought coupled with an aging scarlet oak population. Other causal agents – hypoxylon canker, armillaria root rot and red oak borer – are associated with oak decline. Red oak borer is of particular concern because it renders the logs unusable. A tree with 3-10 red oak borers is still useable; however, Arkansas is finding trees with over 100 borers per tree. Missouri experts are concerned that oak decline will negatively impact the economy of small-timber dependent communities.

FOREST HEALTH HIGHLIGHTS

Check out the latest and greatest forest health conditions and concerns for our 20 Northeastern Area States at: <http://www.na.fs.fed.us/spfo/fhm/index.htm>. Once again the Northeastern Area and our State partners lead the country in compiling and sharing forest information.

INCREASING ORGANIZATIONAL EFFICIENCY

Lisa Burban, Group Leader/Urban Forester, conducted facilitation training for the Tree Trust, a nonprofit tree advocacy organization located in Minnesota. Lisa developed the training specifically to assist the Tree Trust in improving their relationships with grassroots community organizers, schools, and individuals that plan and implement tree-planting projects. Tree Trust staff expressed sincere appreciation for Lisa's assistance and applauded her targeted training. In the words of Tree Trust Outreach Director, Janette Monear, "Lisa's wide range of technical expertise has helped us on many occasions, and her ability to link us with other sources of information and organizations has been incredible. We do not 'reinvent the wheel,' we call Lisa."

DID YOU KNOW...

Steve Bratkovich, Marketing and Utilization, compiled the following forestry facts from the American Forest and Paper Association report on U.S. Dept. of Commerce numbers:

- The 20 Northeastern Area States have over 40 percent of the U.S. total of forest-related employment (forestry, paper, and lumber-related jobs).
- Forest-related employment in Ohio is GREATER than forest-related employment in Oregon.
- Forest-related employment in Iowa is DOUBLE forest-related employment in Montana.
- Pennsylvania forest-related employment is GREATER than COMBINED forest-related employment in Oregon and Montana.
- As far as earnings (\$) from forest-related industries, four of the Northeastern Area States are in the top 10 in the nation (Wisconsin, Minnesota, Pennsylvania, and Ohio.)

ICE STORM DAMAGES 80 PERCENT OF KANSAS CITY'S URBAN FOREST

Lisa Burban, Group Leader/Urban Forester; **Jim Hermann**, City of Minneapolis; and **Justine Gartner**, Missouri Department of Conservation; assisted the Kansas City Parks and Recreation Board (KCPRB) with a review of their storm-preparedness response. The KCPRB requested Lisa and her team to evaluate and assess the effectiveness of the City's response to an ice storm that damaged an estimated 80 percent of the City's trees and resulted in approximately 1 million cubic yards of woody debris. The City received a Federal Disaster declaration from FEMA to aid in disaster clean-up and recovery efforts. Lisa and her team spent 2 days visiting sites within the city, observing clean-up operations and discussing storm response with community leaders and concerned citizens. The evaluation team was impressed with not only the devastation of the storm, but the organization and coordination of



the City's response. Lisa is preparing a report for the KCPRB that summarizes the review and offers commendations and recommendations to help the city deal with future storm events.

ALICE BROWN JOINS THE FRANCIS MARION NATIONAL FOREST

Alice Brown, former term employee for the Northeastern Area in Chicago, received a permanent appointment to the Francis Marion National Forest in South Carolina. She will be a Forest Technician responsible for timber cruising, wildlife management, fire, and other duties as assigned. She will be working in the McClellansville District Office about 30 miles north of Charleston. Alice is ecstatic to have found a permanent job with the Forest Service and, in her words, "I'm looking forward to my new responsibilities." One of the things she is most excited about is being the pump operator for engines and portables.

INTERAGENCY INFORMATION SHARING

Bob Leaverton, USDA Forest Service Interim National Fire Plan Coordinator, has asked **Peter Bedker**, Natural Resources Analyst, to serve as the Forest Service representative to the joint Department of Interior – Department of Agriculture National Fire Plan Data Collection Tool. Peter will serve as second-in-charge of this ambitious project to link accomplishment data between all of the agencies and organizations that cooperate on the National Fire Plan. Russell Berry of the U.S. Geological Survey will serve as Project Leader.

The "Virtual Forest"

Looking for a tool to better prepare students for a field trip to the forest? The Boreal Virtual Forest or Central Hardwoods Virtual Forest CD, sponsored by the Indiana Division of Forestry, might be the answer!

These interactive CDs allow students to take simulated trips through the forest, with each CD offering 25 different forest plots. All trees in each plot are mapped, and students see the actual eye-level view. By moving a mouse, they can look around 360 degrees. If they want to learn more about a given tree, a click of the mouse button will reveal a close-up of the leaf, leaf margin, twig, and fruit, along with a dichotomous key so they can identify the tree. If they want to see the leaves and twig from a different angle, all they need to do is rotate it by using the mouse. If students have questions, there is a panel of experts along on these "virtual" trips to address such topics as fire, insects and disease, wildlife, forest management, and forest products.

Educators, natural resource managers, and forest industry representatives who have seen these CDs demonstrated have marveled at their content, versatility, and ease of use. They are appropriate for both elementary and secondary students, with some applications that would even challenge college students. The CD also benefits students who have physical limitations or inner-city children who have little or no access to forested areas. The Virtual Forest programs run on all Mac and IBM-compatible computers.

For additional information go to: www.ecologik.net or contact Sam Carman, Indiana Division of Forestry, 317/232-4119.

LOUIS F. WILSON: 1932-2002

Lou Wilson died Wednesday, January 30, 2002, in Punta Gorda, FL, at the age of 69. A memorial service was held at the Wilson residence in Punta Gorda on Saturday, February 2, 2002.

Lou Wilson was born November 22, 1932, in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. Lou earned his Ph.D. in entomology at the University of Minnesota in 1962. That same year, Lou was hired as a Research Entomologist with the USDA Forest Service, North Central Research Station, Insect Unit, which is located on the Michigan State University campus. Lou was an adjunct professor in the Departments of Entomology and Forestry at MSU. Lou taught forest entomology at MSU for 8 years. Lou worked with the USDA Forest Service Insect Unit in East Lansing, MI, until



his retirement in 1990. During his career, Lou worked on more than 70 different species of forest insects and authored or co-authored more than 200 publications.

Lou Wilson had many interests outside of entomology. He was an avid grower of bromeliads. In 1977, Lou published "Bromeliads for Modern Living," (Merchants Publishing, Kalamazoo, MI). Lou was also deeply absorbed with metaphysics, and in 1994 he published his major work, "A Universal Pattern of Consciousness," (Christopher Pub House, Hanover, MA, 528 pp).

Lou Wilson is survived by his wife, Diane Wilson, four children, and five grandchildren. Donations in memory of Lou Wilson can be made to the American Cancer Society.

PERSONNEL ACTIONS

New Employees

Lois Tulino	Program Assistant, GS-6	Grants and Agreements
Elizabeth Belcher	Horticulturist, GS-7	Grey Towers
Thomas Dilley	Community Planner, GS-12	St. Paul-Chicago, IL
Larry Soenen	Forester, GS-12	AEC-Okinawa, Japan
Patricia Purnell	Grants & Agreements Asst., GS-8	Grants and Agreements
Robert Fitzhenry	Supv. Tech. Trans. Spec., GS-13	Durham Field Office

Separations

Joseph Michaels	Forester, GS-14	Retirement	11/30/01
Brenda Wilkins	TT Specialist, GS-12	Retirement	1/12/02
Mark Tracy	Bio Science Tech, GS-5	Exp. of Appt.	11/4/01
Richard Fessenden	Maintenance Worker, WG-4	Resignation	1/9/02

Promotions

Zaneta Hammond	GS-9	GS-11	Grants and Agreements Specialist
Richard Marino	GS-5	GS-6	Computer Assistant
Alice Carlton	GS-14	GS-15	Director, Grey Towers (Temporary)

Reassignments

	From:	To:
Maria Alleyne, GS-5	NADIR	Grants and Agreements

Awards

Time Off

Joseph Branscome	WERC-Princeton
Derondah Bradley	WERC-Princeton



Cash Awards

Alan Zentz
Janet Polasky
Lori Gordon
Zaneta Hammond
Susan Hahn
George Saufley
Peter Bedker
Kathy Anderson (2)
Dennis Haugen
Timothy Reynolds
Dwight Scarbrough
Robert Wicksnes
Alvin Hoffman
Janet Gonzales
Charles Croston
Ellen Geis

Fire Management-Newtown Square
Fire Management-Newtown Square
Fire Management-Newtown Square
Grants and Agreements-Newtown Square
Durham Field Office
Durham Field Office
St. Paul Field Office
Grey Towers
Grey Towers
Grey Towers
Grey Towers
Grey Towers

Editor's Corner

THANKS TO:

The following contributors to this issue: **Dianna Johnson**, Newtown Square, **Lori Danuff McKean**, Grey Towers; **Gina Childs**, St. Paul; **Melissa Emerson**, Morgantown; **Helen Thompson**, Durham; **Dave Bloniarz**, NC for U&CF, and **Helene Cleveland**, AEC.

DEADLINE!

Deadline for the next issue of NA News Notes will be April 15, 2002.

