

Northeastern Area



Friday, December 20, 2002



CHARTING A COURSE FOR 2003

At this time of year, it is traditional to look back on events and accomplishments during the past 12 months. I prefer to cast my view forward. As the Holiday season approaches, the number of opportunities and challenges we face in the upcoming year is impressive! For example:

Rebuilding trust — The strategy the Forest Service implemented last summer to cover the cost of wildfires, while necessary, caused many of our partners to question our Agency's commitment and ability to be a strong partner. I know every Area employee shares my commitment to rebuilding that trust.

I know of three important ways to begin this process in 2003.

- **Communicate** with our partners. Let's err on the side of over-communicating!
- **Unravel and streamline our financial systems.** We are keeping tabs on last year's commitments that were suspended by the wildfire crisis, while simultaneously preparing this year's program and financial assistance. We need to get out from under this "overload" situation so we can return to providing flexible and timely assistance to our partners.
- **Ensure accountability** in everything we do. Let's keep our promises, and expect from ourselves nothing less than we expect from our partners.

Dealing with uncertainty — I learned long ago that one of life's few "certainties" is that there is always uncertainty. This is particularly true today, as our nation fights a war on terrorism, prepares for a possible conflict with Iraq, reorganizes to ensure homeland security, and tries to energize a lethargic economy. A new Congress must deal with all this, plus decide how to fund the federal government amidst a looming deficit. I want to position the Area for success in light of these uncertainties.

Strategic Planning — Part of positioning the Area in these uncertain times involves clearly stating who we are and what we do. This next year we'll complete a revised strategic plan that I believe will break the mold, by linking our activities to forest sustainability criteria and indicators our State partners and NA synthesized from the international effort on forest sustainability. Our plan's strategic goals, objectives, and management strategies will actually be capable of being measured!

Safety — We need extra vigilance regarding safety – as we travel during the holidays and on the job, and as we go about our everyday work. Vigilance means being smart and aware: smart by avoiding situations that put us in harm's way, and aware by being observant in our everyday surroundings to events, people, and things that are out of the ordinary, and then taking appropriate action. I want 2003 to be a safe year for Area employees!

Balance — We must carefully manage a dwindling resource – our time. Finding the right balance between work and our personal lives is important. When that dynamic is in balance we become better people and better employees. Let's take care of ourselves, and each other, in the upcoming year.



The energy, talent, and commitment of Area employees continually impress me. With this in mind, I anticipate this upcoming year, with all its challenges and uncertainties, with optimism.

Have a safe and peaceful Holiday!

— Kathy Maloney



LIVING MEMORIALS PROJECT

In FY 2002, the Northeastern Area was authorized to fund the creation of living memorials in and around New York, southwestern Pennsylvania, and the District of Columbia that will stand in remembrance of September 11, 2001. From November 14 through 15, 2002, at Liberty State Park in Jersey City, New Jersey, NA hosted a workshop for Living Memorials Project grant recipients entitled *Thriving Places, Sacred Spaces*. Representatives from nearly all of the 34 projects came together to hear presentations from experts in the fields of “place-making,” ethno-botany, landscape architecture, and forestry. Participants were able to share their projects, strengthen the living memorials network, and join in a park-use

evaluation exercise led by the nonprofit Project for Public Spaces. Forest Service participants included **Robin Morgan**, Phillip Rodbell, Matt Arnn, **Bob Fitzhenry**, Mark Twery, Morgan Grove, Erika Svendsen, and Princeton ’56 Fellow Lindsay Campbell.

In a poignant moment in the meeting, NE Research Social Scientist Erika Svendsen compared the events following 9-11 to events following a forest burn: there was an explosion of life in the form of good will, volunteerism, and human spirit. The Living Memorials Project will continue to amplify the efforts of community partners in creating meaningful and lasting memorials that bring people together to celebrate life utilizing the power of trees. For more information, visit the project website at: <http://www.livingmemorialsproject.net/>.

Durham Field Office Notes

BRIDGES INSTALLED IN DEMONSTRATION FOREST

Construction is nearly complete on the 2.5-mile road in the Frost Valley Demonstration Forest laid out by **Dave Welsh** as part of forest transportation system training provided to the New York City Watershed staff. The road itself offered an opportunity to use several techniques to demonstrate a variety of water crossing and control practices. A number of bridges provided by the Forest Service were installed, including a 40-foot portable steel bridge, two portable 30-foot laminated wood deck bridges, and some low-tech skidder bridges.





Edna Tilley instructs DFO employees on the art of reading tea leaves.

CARE FOR SOME TEA?

NA and NE employees at the Durham Field Office were treated to a traditional “English tea” on November 21, care of volunteer extraordinaire **Edna Tilley**. Earlier this year, Edna initiated a monthly party to recognize employees celebrating birthdays. In honor of her own birthday, Edna chose to host a tea party, featuring tea from her native England. The menu included not only tea and an assortment of goodies served on fine china, but an introduction to the art of reading tea leaves as well. Guests then traded cups and tried their hands at interpreting each other’s tea leaves. **George Saufley** took the top prize, a teapot hand-painted by Edna, for his interpretation, with **Dennis Souto** and **Matsie Mairs** close behind.



State Senator Stephen Brewer and U.S. Representative John Oliver take a close look at the new biomass plant's feed system.

NEW BIOMASS POWER PLANT GETS “FIRED UP”

With his opening comment, “Welcome back to the future—the future of biomass energy that is,” President Daniel M. Asquino of Mount Wachusett Community College (MWCC) in Gardner, Massachusetts, officially opened the facility’s new wood-fired biomass power plant. **Dean Huber** and **Rob Clark** joined the crowd of over 100 attendees at the opening ceremony, who learned that this is the first phase in converting the entire college from expensive electric heat to lower-cost hot water heat produced by the plant. Featured in the new plant is state-of-the-art technology in fuel chip transports, wood fired boilers, emission controls, and energy management systems.

Planning for the 8 million BTU wood-fired heating plant began over 6 years ago, shortly after the creation of MWCC’s Forest & Wood Products Institute. The project’s success is directly linked to the strong partnerships formed during this journey. Among those identified as critical players were several members of our NA Economic Action Program team, including Dean Huber, DFO Wood Products Technologist; Gordon Boyce, MA Utilization and Marketing Specialist; and Joe Smith and Rob Rizzo of the Forest & Wood Products Institute.

MWCC’s biomass plant has already become a demonstration site and exemplary model for other institutions to study. The project is designed to pay for itself via energy cost savings between \$250,000 and \$400,000 per year. To close out the ceremony, State Senator Stephen Brewer made a very telling comment when he said, “This is not your grandma’s wood stove, but rather a sophisticated state-of-the-art energy facility that uses renewable fuel to achieve predictable and impressive energy savings.”





Third-grade students record the observation of a red-tailed hawk in their nature journals.

RESTORING ROXBURY'S PUDDINGSTONE GARDEN

Through funding from the Civil Rights program, Boston's Community Outreach Group is working to restore Puddingstone Garden, an inner-city park in Roxbury. Activities began in September with a conservation education program conducted at the park for third graders from nearby Holland Elementary School. Led by naturalist Sarah Grant and Community Outreach representative Lucia Droby, the students explored the natural habitats that exist in their community and developed their own nature journals. Program funds will also help to restore the declining landscape in the park. Urban Forester **John Parry** is assisting with the project.

NEW YORK CONTINUES REPLANTING EFFORTS IN THE WAKE OF ALB

DFO staff members traveled to New York City December 9 through 10 to review progress on reforestation efforts in Asian longhorned beetle (ALB) quarantine areas. **Karen Mollander, Dennis Souto, John Parry, and Matt Arnn** met with representatives from the New York Department of Environmental Conservation, Trees New York, the New York Urban Forestry Council, and USDA APHIS to discuss grant projects to replace trees on private and public property. The participation of APHIS's Chris Markham helped bridge the gap between the eradication project and replanting activities, and should lead to closer cooperation with APHIS. The group spent a day inspecting trees planted on private property on Long Island. Trees New York has administered the planting of over 300 trees in the past year; additional tree planting is scheduled for 2003.

"URBAN WILDS" VOLUNTEER WORKDAY

On a warm, sunny December day, NE's **Matsie Mairs**, and NA's **Debbie Muccio** and **John Parry** traveled to Roxbury, Massachusetts, for a volunteer workday at an "Urban Wilds" site—one of 39 urban woodlands administered by the Boston Parks Department. The nonprofit group Earthworks received a grant in 2001 to help restore 10 of these properties. Dennis Pultinas of Earthworks supervised the planting of native trees and shrubs at the site in an effort to restore this natural area surrounded by urban neighborhoods. Prior to the planting, area residents were involved in the project and educated about the importance of removing invasive plants and replanting native species. In the long run, these efforts will improve wildlife habitat and increase use by the public. Residents have volunteered hundreds of hours to help make their communities not only more forest friendly, but also more people friendly.

MAINE THANKS FOREST LEGACY FOR PROTECTING TUMBLEDOWN MOUNTAIN

Local residents and the Governor personally thanked the Forest Service for protecting a favorite place in Maine during a December 9 press event in the State House in Augusta. Departing Governor Angus King personally thanked **Deirdre Raimo**, representing the Forest Service, for providing \$2.22 million through the Forest Legacy Program to protect the 11,800+-acre Tumbledown Mountain conservation easement project in western Maine. Tumbledown Mountain became the sixth Forest Legacy funded project in Maine to be completed when the transaction was recorded on November 26. The Governor, Governor-elect John Baldacci, and representatives from the State and nonprofit organizations who worked on the project mentioned the Forest Legacy Program numerous times during the press event, which received both television and newspaper coverage. The sophistication of the questions asked by the reporters indicated the level of acceptance and understanding of conservation easements as a land protection tool in Maine. Over 43,995 acres have been protected in Maine through the Forest Legacy Program over the past 10 years using \$8.2 million in Forest Legacy funds.





Fire completely destroyed a workshop at Portsmouth's Urban Forestry Center.
(Foster's Daily Democrat photo)

DEVASTATING FIRE AT URBAN FORESTRY CENTER

A pre-dawn blaze destroyed a wood-frame shed at Portsmouth's Urban Forestry Center on December 9. The center, a State-owned facility managed by the New Hampshire Division of Forest and Lands, suffered the complete loss of the workshop and damage to the nearby caretaker's residence and meeting hall. The shed housed a pickup truck, assorted tools, a woodstove, and a large supply of firewood cut by Durham Field Office volunteers during a recent workday. Functions at the meeting hall, which has been the site of many Forest Service events, have been cancelled for the rest of December and possibly into January. No one was injured in the blaze. The fire's cause has yet to be determined.

The Northeast Center for Urban & Community Forestry Notes

TREE PLANTING RESOURCE KIT INTRODUCED

David Bloniarz recently introduced the National Arbor Day Foundation's (NADF) "Tree Planting Resource Kit for Volunteers" at the 49th annual Keep America Beautiful national conference in Washington, DC. The kit, developed by the NADF in cooperation with the Northeastern Area, America the Beautiful Inc., and Toyota Motors, contains a variety of tools that detail a step-by-step process to conducting a tree planting in a community, as well as tree planting instructional resources. A video on tree planting techniques and urban forest awareness, included in the kit, was also presented. For more information, please contact David Bloniarz at dbloniarz@fs.fed.us.

PERSONAL DIGITAL ASSISTANTS (PDAS) FOR URBAN FORESTRY

David Bloniarz recently delivered a presentation on "Personal Digital Assistants (PDAs) for Urban and Community Forestry" at the Pennsylvania U&CF Annual Conference in State College. The presentation outlined the use of Palm Pilots[®] and Pocket PCs[®] as valuable tools for urban forest inventory and management tasks, information archiving, and field referencing. The use of these handheld devices as tools for increasing the efficiency and accuracy of field data collection was outlined, and several freeware software packages were introduced.

WORKSHOP TO HIGHLIGHT VALUE OF PDAS

The New England Chapter of the International Society of Arboriculture and the Northeast Center for Urban and Community Forestry will present a workshop introducing the use of Personal Digital Assistants (PDAs) as they relate to arboriculture, tree care, and municipal forestry operations. The workshop, to be held in Northboro, Massachusetts, will provide a working educational environment for testing and using Palm Pilot[®] PDAs. The training session will introduce the Palm Pilot[®] PDA, demonstrate its value as a management and organizational tool, and review useful software related to tree care. Participants will each receive their own Palm Pilot[®] PDA. For more information or to register, please contact David Bloniarz at dbloniarz@fs.fed.us.





HAZARD TREE AWARENESS WORKSHOP

Arbor Care, Inc. and the University of Massachusetts/Amherst sponsored a Hazard Tree Awareness workshop, attended by over 30 arborists from Massachusetts, Connecticut, and New York, which included instruction, field exercises, and demonstrations of tree decay measurement instruments.

David Bloniarz presented a talk entitled "From Heritage Tree to Hazard," which outlined potential conflicts between tree preservation efforts and public safety issues. He also outlined a model protocol for prioritizing tree risks in a community.

David Bloniarz demonstrates the use of a Resistograph® instrument for measuring tree decay during the Hazard Tree Awareness Workshop in Sturbridge, Massachusetts.

STREET TREE INVENTORY FINDINGS PRESENTED

The results of a complete street tree inventory of Marblehead, Massachusetts, were recently presented to the Marblehead Park Commission during a public forum. **David Bloniarz**, Center Director, and **Adam Esten**, a University of Massachusetts student intern, presented an assessment of the composition, condition, and value of the town's street trees. The project, funded in part by the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Management, surveyed and mapped all of the public street trees, utilizing community volunteers and student interns from the University of Massachusetts/Amherst. An update of the inventory and GIS integration is planned for summer 2003. For more information, please contact David Bloniarz at dbloniarz@fs.fed.us.

Morgantown Field Office Notes

FLEP PLANNING IN THE WORKS

John Hazel and **Karen Sykes** have been visiting with the State Forest Stewardship Committees as they plan to implement the Forest Land Enhancement Program (FLEP) that should be in place for implementation in late February. The Committees are in the process of developing their State Priority Plans that lay out how they will participate in the program. FLEP provides a wide array of educational, technical, and financial services that assist non-industrial private forestland owners to provide sustainable forest products from their land. It provides an opportunity for cost-shared forest practices, similar to those that were available through the Stewardship Incentives Program, which is no longer in existence. The 2002 Farm Bill authorized \$100 million for the program through 2007. The Northeastern Area will have approximately \$6.5 million in FY 2003 to grant to the States. John Hazel met with the West Virginia Stewardship Committee on October 18; Karen Sykes, Mark Buccowich, and Hazel met with the Delaware Stewardship Committee on October 30 and the New Jersey Stewardship Committee on November 7; and Sykes and Hazel met with the Ohio Stewardship Committee on November 12. Terry Hoffman met with the Pennsylvania Stewardship Committee on October 3.



MEETING WITH PA CONSERVATION DISTRICTS

John Hazel met with Pennsylvania Conservation District personnel at their fall meeting in State College, Pennsylvania on November 1. The meeting included a panel to discuss the Farm Bill, and in particular, the Forest Land Enhancement Program (FLEP). Panel members included Karl Brown (Executive Secretary of the State Conservation Commission), Ron Rohall (President of the Pennsylvania Conservation Districts), Dave Trimpey (State Conservation Commission member and forester for Kane Hardwoods), Pennsylvania State Forester Jim Grace, and Rita Stevens (WO – LOA Programs). Allegheny National Forest Supervisor Kevin Elliott and Hazel were present to answer questions about implementation of the FLEP. The panel participated in a signing of a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the Pennsylvania Conservation Districts, Pennsylvania Bureau of Forestry, and the Forest Service agreeing to greater cooperation between these agencies in forest stewardship.

CHINESE VISIT MORGANTOWN

On November 8, **John Hazel** met with Allan Bullard and his guests from China. Mr. Wu Jian, Director of the Forest Pest Control Division of the Chinese State Forestry Administration, and Dr. Jianghua Sun of the Chinese Academy of Sciences, visited to discuss the major forest pests of China, several of which have been introduced from the United States. Mr. Wu Jian made a presentation to Morgantown Office staff on the Chinese State Forestry Administration and their programs to control forest pests.

STATE FORESTER DISCUSSIONS IN PROGRESS

With the confusion generated from the FY02 budget withdrawal to cover fire suppression costs, and the current Continuing Resolution situation, Newtown Square is conducting discussions with each State Forester to better understand how each operates in terms of their fiscal year and budget constraints. It is hoped that by having a better understanding of each state's situation and the difference between states, the Area can better make decisions in grants management. **John Hazel** scheduled teleconferences that included Kathy Maloney or John Nordin, Annie Robinson, the State Forester, their fiscal specialist, and himself. Conferences were conducted with Randy Dye (WV), Austin Short (DE), John Dorka (OH), Jim Barresi (NJ), and Jim Grace (PA) during the week of November 13. A conference scheduled with Steve Koehn (MD) on November 18 will complete calls and visits with State Foresters served by the Morgantown Field Office.

2002 URBAN FOREST HEALTH MONITORING (FHM) FIELD SEASON MEETING

Anne Cumming, Urban Forester, and **Dan Twardus**, Forest Health Specialist, attended a 2002 Urban FHM Field season meeting in Madison Wisconsin. Manfred Mielke, SPFO, and Bill Burkeman, NC Station, organized and facilitated the session which included representatives from Wisconsin and Indiana Departments of Natural Resources as well as two contractors. Data from the 2002 field season were presented in draft form. Field protocol and processes were discussed and recommendations were made. Anne, Dan, Manfred, Bill, and other FS individuals will be working in cooperation with the States of Maryland, Wisconsin, Indiana, and Massachusetts to process Urban FHM data that was collected in 2001 and 2002. New Jersey has been scheduled for pilot urban FHM/FIA plots in 2003.

NEW JERSEY FOREST HEALTH DISCUSSED

Following **John Hazel's** and **Karen Sykes'** visit with the New Jersey Stewardship Committee in Bordentown on November 7, they traveled to Trenton for a courtesy visit to the New Jersey State Forester's office. The primary purpose of the visit was to discuss the forest health situation in New Jersey. The state is facing problems with southern pine beetle in southern New Jersey, hemlock woolly adelgid in the northeastern part of the state, bacterial leaf scorch is severely impacting street tree and residential area red oak, gypsy moth continues to be a threat, and most recently Asian longhorned beetle has been found in Jersey City. Through Noel Schneeberger's and Dan Twardus' efforts, NA is coordinating with APHIS, New Jersey Agriculture, and New Jersey Forestry on this newest introduction of Asian longhorned beetle to NA. Hazel and Sykes met with Jim Barresi and Ed Lempicki, and agreed on the cooperative pest suppression needs that would be requested for FY 2003 treatment.



WAYNE NATIONAL FOREST VISIT

On November 14, several of the Morgantown Field Office staff visited with the Wayne National Forest Leadership Team in the Forest Supervisor's Office in Nelsonville, Ohio. The visit was a follow-up to a visit by Forest Supervisor Mary Reddan and her staff to the Morgantown Field Office (MFO) in July.

John Hazel, Martin MacKenzie, Rick Turcotte, Melissa Emerson, Ann Steketee, Jeff Bejune, and Karen Sykes represented all of the MFO groups. Supervisor Reddan and her staff gave presentations to describe the programs and activities which are taking place on the Wayne National Forest. These included Mary Ann Creager (Administrative Officer), Carleen Yocum (Operations Group Leader), Gary Willison (Watershed Group Leader), Ricardo Garcia (NR Group Leader), Mike Baines (Ironton District Ranger), Myra Williamson (Athens District Ranger), George Hall (Law Enforcement Officer), and Ken Arbogast (PAO). The July visit set the stage for closer working relationships, which have been helpful, particularly in planning for Forest Health issues that the Forest is facing. The November visit reinforced the mutual benefits of working together, with opportunities for action across all NFS and S&PF program areas. The Wayne National Forest and Morgantown Field office plan to continue meeting.



FIRE SEMINAR

Dan Kincaid recently made a presentation to undergraduates at a forestry seminar at West Virginia University. The subject broadly covered "the Forest Service and its role in fire management." Kincaid used various agency statistics and charts to talk about the past few years' fire seasons. There were several questions about the Healthy Forests Initiative, the wildland urban interface, drought, safety, and other related topics. He also spent considerable time discussing Colorado's Hayman Fire, where he had an assignment in 2002 as an Incident Information Officer. There were numerous questions about the role of the media and the role of an information officer during a major event such as the Hayman Fire.

MID-ATLANTIC HIGHLANDS PROGRAM UNVEILED

Karen Sykes represented the Forest Service at a reception to learn more about a program that would be addressing social and environmental problems in the Mid-Atlantic Region.

The U.S. EPA and Canaan Valley Institute invited nearly 150 participants to attend a presentation on the "*Mid-Atlantic Highlands Action Program-Transforming the Legacy*," a report describing how a Highlands Action Program (HAP) can assist people and implement sound environmental and socioeconomic stewardship in the four-state area of the Mid-Atlantic Highlands. Congressman Alan B. Mollohan (D-I-WV) hosted the presentation and gave an introductory address on the needs of the region. Once the document is distributed and more agencies know more about HAP, EPA will enter into agreements with state and federal agencies and (non-governmental organizations)NGOs to assist it in carrying out the goals of the report.

WEST VIRGINIA CONSERVATION EDUCATION COUNCIL

The West Virginia Conservation Education Council (CEC) recently held its fall meeting in Gassaway, West Virginia. The Morgantown Field Office (MFO) participates as a member of the group, which consists of federal and state natural resource agencies, teachers, soil and water districts, interested individuals, and other related organizations.

Dan Kincaid represented the MFO. The WV DNR – Environmental Resources Agency made a presentation about their various programs and responsibilities. The MFO was asked to make a presentation at the spring meeting in 2003. Upcoming '03 events with which the CEC is involved are:

- The Governor's Environmental Conference, March 16 through 18
- State Conservation Camp, June 9 through 14



- DNR Junior Conservation Camp, July 7 through 11
- Summer Teachers Workshop, July 14 through 18
- Forest Industries Camp, July 20 through 26
- The WV Science Teachers Conference, October 10 through 12
- The Youth Environmental Conference, October 31 through November 2.

There was discussion about the Envirothon. Several CEC members will be attending the national Envirothon this year in Maryland in preparation for West Virginia hosting the national Envirothon competition in 2004.



Consultant foresters attend workshop for riparian areas.

FOREST MANAGEMENT IN RIPARIAN AREAS OF THE CATSKILLS AND LOWER HUDSON VALLEY

On December 2, the Watershed Agricultural Council of the New York City Watershed sponsored a training session for forestry consultants as part of a pilot project on managing forest riparian areas. The training helped the consultants understand how to delineate riparian areas and know how they function. **Karen Sykes** gave a presentation on various ways to manage riparian areas based on landowner objectives, and **Dave Welsch** (Durham Field Office) discussed silvicultural treatments within riparian areas. Justin Perry, forester for the Watershed Agricultural Council, further explained the pilot project, which includes writing plans for riparian stands within a landowner's property.

KINCAID NAMED CHAIR-ELECT OF SAF WORKING GROUP

Dan Kincaid, Information Management & Analysis Group Leader in Morgantown, was recently named chair-Elect of SAF's F3 Education and Communications Working Group. This group shares information with members on a variety of communications, media relations, conservation education, and related topics. It also plans related presentations and sessions to be held at the national SAF conferences each year. Kincaid is a 31-year member of SAF and has held a variety of positions at the local and national levels, including Chair of the Ohio SAF and two separate terms on the National SAF Communications Committee. He was elected as a Fellow in SAF in 1990.

WVU PROFESSOR SPEAKS ON ECO-TERRORISM

Dr. James Armstrong, Associate Professor of Wood Industries at West Virginia University, gave a presentation on eco-terrorism at the December "family meeting" of the various USFS units located in Morgantown. Professor Armstrong taught a class on the subject in the spring of 2002 at WVU. He outlined some of the history of eco-terrorism and several events, including the USFS Warren, Pennsylvania Lab arson, which has occurred more recently. The group had several questions for Armstrong, particularly with current concern about building and employee safety, as well as the ongoing formation of the federal Department of Homeland Security.

UPDATE ON ED CESA'S DETAIL TO THE WEST VIRGINIA UNIVERSITY'S APPALACHIAN HARDWOOD CENTER (AHC)

Two key activities have been accomplished since Ed Cesa started his part-time detail with the AHC in February 2002. They include the completion of a 5-year strategic plan for the Center. The plan was completed through a series of meetings and discussion sessions with both the AHC staff as well as a stakeholders located throughout West Virginia. MFO staff that assisted with this effort included Roxane Palone, who helped with documentation of discussions with external stakeholders and AHC staff, and Sandy Fosbroke, who assisted with desktop publishing of the completed plan.

The second activity was the development of the 2002 edition of the *West Virginia Wood By-Products Directory*. This publication lists wood product companies in West Virginia that have available wood by-products (such as sawdust or chips) available for sale as well as companies and organizations that have a need for these types of products. In

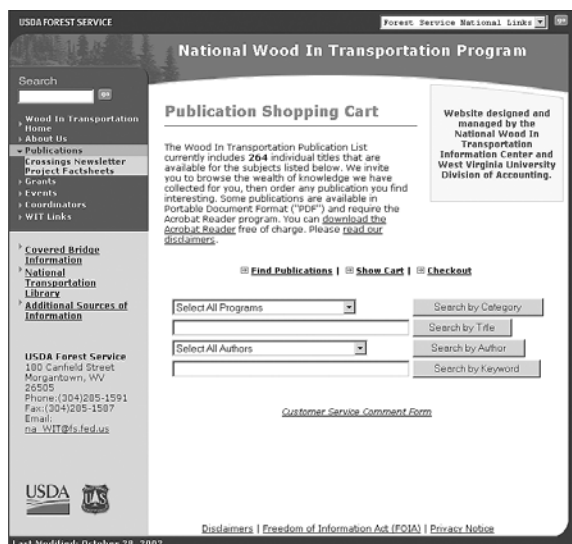


addition, the AHC staff has completed an interactive web site of wood by-products (<http://www.ahc.caf.wvu.edu/hardwoodtrader/>). A user of the Web site can obtain a customized report on available wood by-products for a fixed radius around most towns and cities in West Virginia. MFO staff that assisted with the wood by-products directory included Jeff Bejune, who analyzed and reported survey results, and Tinathan Lewis, who assisted with desktop publishing of the publication. Copies of either publication can be obtained by calling Ed at 304-285-1530.

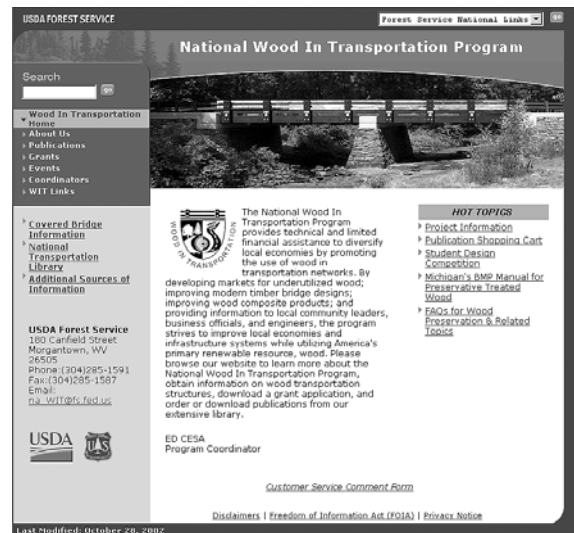
UPDATE ON THE NATIONAL WOOD IN TRANSPORTATION PROGRAM WEB SITE

The National Wood In Transportation (WIT) Program Web Site has been revamped! In addition to having a new appearance that follows standard Washington Office format, the Web site now has a new Web page that makes it easier for visitors to locate and order publications from the National Wood In Transportation's library. Jeff Bejune, a recently hired MFO – Economic Action Program employee, revised the Web site.

In addition to revising the Web site, Ed Cesa and Chris Grant have worked with the staff of the Division of Accounting at West Virginia University to develop a new user-friendly publication shopping cart. As the number of publications in the National Wood In Transportation library increased over the years, a need arose to provide the public with the means to locate those publications of interest. A publication-shopping cart was developed for the WIT Web site as a way to address this issue. Now visitors to the Web site can search through the Program's extensive library using the criteria *category*, *title*, *author*, and *keyword*. Ordering publications is just a matter of a few clicks of the mouse and completing a simple checkout process. To visit the WIT shopping cart directly, go to: <http://spfnic.fs.fed.us/wit/WITpubs/PubSearch.cfm>. For additional information about the revised website, contact Jeff Bejune at 304-285-1583.



Publication Shopping Cart Web Page



www.fs.fed.us/na/wit

St. Paul Field Office Notes

EXOTIC FOREST HEALTH WORKSHOP

Dennis Haugen, Entomologist, and Peter Dziuk, Minnesota Department of Agriculture, hosted and coordinated the 6th annual Exotic Forest Pest Workshop for the Midwest States in St. Paul this December. Midwestern representatives from APHIS, state Departments of Agriculture, state Departments of Natural Resources, University Extension, and the USDA Forest Service attended. The goal was to share information on the applied management of exotic forest pests with neighboring states. The workshop was filled with discussions on the emerald ash borer infestation in Michigan, the Douglas-fir beetle introduction into Minnesota, status of the Asian longhorned beetle



eradication projects, gypsy moth trapping results, the regulatory incident of *Sirex noctilio* in Indiana and its threat to North America, state plans for invasive species, and a woodland invasive plant species survey developed by Iowa State University. This workshop provides a valuable forum for exchanging information and cooperating across state lines. The next workshop is scheduled for December 3 through 4, 2003, in Champaign, Illinois.

WASTE NOT WANT NOT

Steve Bratkovich, Marketing and Utilization Specialist, recently participated in a discussion of possible strategies for using the ash trees lost to Emerald ash borer in Michigan. Since many of the dead trees are large, and this insect does relatively little damage to the wood, the possibility exists to salvage some of the trees for wood products. This committee is examining the market potential of the damaged ash as well as the potential for wood chips. In addition to looking at possible uses for damaged wood, **Lisa Burban**, **Steve Katovich**, and **Gina Childs** participate in the Emerald ash borer project by serving on planning and restoration committees.

BRINGING HOME THE BACON

Jim Hanson, Deputy Field Representative, and **Joe O'Brien**, Plant Pathologist, participated in the Special Technology Development Evaluation Panel for the Forest Health Enterprise Technology Team (FHTET). Jim represented Forest Health interests for Region 8 as well as the Northeastern Area and Joe represented the US Forest Service Disease Committee, as he is the current chair. The team reviewed more than 30 proposals submitted from all over the country. The Northeastern Area fared well with 4 out of the 5 submitted proposals approved for funding. One of the projects approved for funding will support detection and monitoring efforts for Emerald ash borer in Michigan. FHTET expects to allocate an additional \$150,000 to support ongoing projects in the Northeastern Area as well. For more information about the projects selected for funding, contact Jim Hanson.

WOOD AND FIBER SUPPLIES: NOW AND THE FUTURE

This year's Minnesota Society of American Foresters meeting will focus on wood and fiber production and current consumption trends. Opening day keynote speakers will be Dr. Jim Bowyer from the University of Minnesota and Keith Jacobson from the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources. For more information, contact: Katie Fernholz, kfernholz@iatp.org, 612-870-3415.

EMERALD ASH BORER IN THE NEWS

The November 2002 issue of Arbor Age featured an article on Emerald ash borer in Michigan. Arbor Age is an industry magazine targeted to arborists and tree care workers. **Gina Childs**, Group Leader for Information Management and Analysis, submitted the article.

Editor's Corner

THANKS TO:

The following contributors to this issue: **Mary Wick**, Newtown Square; **Helen Thompson**, Durham; **Dan Kincaid**, **Karen Sykes**, 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 **January 10, 2002**. Please mail articles to Tinathan Coger at tcoger@fs.fed.us.

