



Northeastern Area News Notes



September 29, 2005



DIRECTOR'S NOTES

Safety Is No Accident!

Just after Labor Day, a group of 30 or so safety committee members and employees active in safety throughout the Northeastern Area and the Northeastern Research Station gathered in Newtown Square for 2 days of focus on our safety program. I launched the meeting with a strong reminder that each of us is first responsible for our own personal safety. When we come together in the workplace, we have the added responsibility to look out for the well-being of our coworkers as well. There is a parallel airline safety message about putting on your own oxygen mask first, then assisting others near you who may need your help!

The attention we pay to safety is often influenced by our individual perceptions of what the risk is to our well-being. We manage perceived risks by avoiding, removing, or mitigating them. We also plan our responses to risks by legislating or policymaking, evaluating the risks, and getting expert help to address certain risks. The thoughtful consideration of risks to our safety is certainly the origin on the quip “safety is no accident!”

As participants at the recent meeting shared information from their units, all heard that this year had not been a good one for vehicle accidents. At least one rollover and one collision totaling a vehicle were discussed. All agreed that the drivers were lucky to have escaped relatively unscathed. However, a good safety record cannot rely on luck.

So, what do I expect NA employees will do to ensure their work is done safely?

Besides being alert and aware of risks we confront in the workplace, there is a need for deliberate consideration of how to manage these risks—avoid, remove, or mitigate them! A tool to help, called a **job hazard analysis (JHA)**, already exists. The JHA helps with recognition of what is the risk and how best to manage it. Through a JHA we consider various tasks of any work activity—driving, field work, office work, etc.—and analyze those tasks to identify potential hazards and the steps we can take to avoid, remove, or mitigate those hazards. The JHA requires us to anticipate and think through the risks as well as how we will deal with them.

The JHA documents these considerations by the employee, their supervisor/work leader, and their line officer. There are even some standard JHAs already done for common work in the Forest Service. Job hazard analysis software is available from the Missoula Technology and Development Center to help supervisors prepare a job hazard analysis. This product, developed specifically for USDA Forest Service use, focuses on implementing the Forest Service Health and Safety Codes.

Forest Service policy states that line officers will “ensure that supervisors inform employees of safety and health hazards associated with their jobs or workplaces.” The JHA tool supports



compliance with this policy. I encourage you be active in your unit's safety committee, offering your ideas and bringing up concerns that need to be addressed. Safety is nothing new but is always critically important in all we do. Let us each commit to safety in our workplaces in this new fiscal year. I am counting on you to make 2006 even safer than 2005!

The current JHA form is FS-6700-7 (2/98). The JHA software is available at <http://fsweb.mtdc.wo.fs.fed.us/programs/safety/oneclick/jha.htm>.

The Region 1 database of JHAs is available at http://fsweb.r1.fs.fed.us/hr/6700_health_and_safety/jha/jha_index.html.

— Kathryn Maloney

NEWTOWN SQUARE OFFICE NOTES

Fire and Aviation Staff Assists in Hurricane Katrina Relief Efforts

The NA Fire and Aviation staff has been busy since Hurricane Katrina made landfall on August 29. The Forest Service, in support of the National Response Plan, is tasked with providing emergency support to FEMA during a disaster. In anticipation of an event, FEMA opens a Regional Response Operations Center and dispatches an Emergency Response Team—Advanced to a predetermined location; it eventually opens a Joint Field Office. The Forest Service is tasked as the lead Federal agency for Emergency Support Function (ESF) #4—Firefighting. This role has proven crucial with Hurricane Katrina as numerous Federal and State wildland firefighting resources have been called upon for logistical and mobilization support to the victims, evacuees, and relief personnel, as well as for supplies needed to support the response and recovery effort.

To date, the fire staff has served in the ESF4 capacity in Orlando, FL (**Billy Terry**); Baton Rouge, LA (**Alan Zentz** and **Tom Brady**); Mobile, AL (**Steve Davis**); Jackson, MS (**Bob Hartlove**); Atlanta, GA (**Jan Polasky**); and Washington, DC (**Billy Terry**). In addition, **Dan Zimmerman** has been activated and is assisting with the coordination of the Department of Defense aviation mission in the State of Louisiana.



USDA Deputy Under Secretary Tenny and NY Governor Pataki Select First Trees for World Trade Center Living Memorial Grove

USDA Deputy Under Secretary David Tenny and New York Governor George Pataki selected the first trees September 7 for a memorial grove of nearly 300 hardwood trees that will one day adorn the site of the World Trade Center (WTC) Memorial grove.

Deputy Under Secretary Tenny and Governor Pataki selected several mid-sized native sweetgum (*Liquidambar styraciflua*) trees at a nursery in Eastport, NY, for the 6-acre WTC memorial grove at Ground Zero. The trees will be moved to a common area in the spring of 2006 and placed with about 260 other deciduous trees set aside for the memorial site. They will be monitored and sculpted through 2007. The trees should be 30 to 35 feet tall by the time the World Trade Center Memorial grove is completed in 2009.

“The Forest Service’s Living Memorials Project uses the power of trees to create lasting, living memorials to the victims of 9/11 and to help ease the suffering of families, communities, and the Nation,” said Deputy Under Secretary Tenny.

“The New York trees . . . are a living symbol of our State’s resolve and renewal in the wake of enormous tragedy and will become living components of the World Trade Center Memorial,” said Governor Pataki. “The memorial will be a lasting tribute to those we lost on September 11, 2001 that will not only honor the friends, neighbors, and loved ones we lost, but demonstrate the strength and resilience of our city and our Nation as we continue to heal, remember, and rebuild.” Governor Pataki thanked the Department of Agriculture and the Forest Service for their support in funding the memorial grove project.

The sweetgum trees were purchased with part of the funds from a \$150,000 grant originating from the Forest Service’s Living Memorials Project (LMP), a national, community-based initiative developed in response to the September 11 attacks and managed through the Northeastern Area. Through congressional support, the Forest Service provided \$3 million as well as professional expertise and administrative tools to more than 50 LMP sites nationwide. Federal, State, and community LMP partnerships have planted thousands of trees, revitalized vacant lands, built new neighborhood parks, and renewed hundreds of acres of green space from Boston to New York City to Washington, DC, and southwestern Pennsylvania.

Matt Arnn, Bob Fitzhenry and Glenn Rosenholm accompanied the Secretary during the event.

For more information on the Forest Service’s Living Memorials Project, visit www.livingmemorialsproject.net/.



Governor George Pataki (left), USDA Deputy Under Secretary David Tenny (front row, second from right) and Northeastern Area Landscape Architect Matt Arnn (front row, far right) among the many World Trade Center Living Memorial participants. (Photo by Darren McGee, New York State Department of Economic Development)



Newtown Square Welcomes Martina C. Hoppe

Martina C. Hoppe joined the staff in Newtown Square on July 25 as the new regional watershed planner for the Northeastern Area. She recently worked as a community planner and Liberty RC&D coordinator for the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service in northern New Jersey. Prior to her assignment with NRCS, she coordinated completion of the *NY-NJ Highlands Regional Study: 2002 Update for the Forest Service*. Martina also worked as a planning consultant doing environmental impact statements and comprehensive planning in New York and Connecticut.

Martina is a professional planner who earned her B.S. degree in urban and regional studies and her master's in Regional Planning (M.R.P.) from Cornell University. Martina is a native New Jerseyan who lives in Jersey City and enjoys spending time in New York City. She's also an outdoor enthusiast and dog lover, and enjoys competing in local long-distance running races on the weekends.



Martina brings a wealth of planning experience to her new assignment in Newtown Square.

DURHAM FIELD OFFICE NOTES



Margaret Miller-Weeks (left), Florence Peterson, and Debbie Muccio take a short break from pruning and weeding the center's flower gardens.

Seven Durham Field Office staff members took part in a massive fall volunteer community cleanup and maintenance operation held at the Urban Forestry Center in Portsmouth, NH, on September 14. The Forest Service workers were part of a 150-member contingent of volunteers from throughout the nearby governmental and corporate community taking part in the 14th Annual United Way Day of Caring. This year marked Durham's fourth year of participation. Work projects assigned throughout the facility were diverse, ranging from weeding and pruning to siding installation and wood chopping. **Bob Fitzhenry, Margaret Miller-Weeks, Florence Peterson, Debbie Muccio, Tom Rawinski, John Parry, and Glenn Rosenholm** helped with garden work, maintenance, and repairs, as well as splitting and hauling cords upon cords of firewood.

Durham Joins Regional United Way Day of Caring Effort

Seven Durham Field Office staff members took part in a massive fall volunteer community cleanup and maintenance operation held at the Urban Forestry Center in Portsmouth, NH, on September 14. The Forest Service workers were part of a 150-member contingent of volunteers from throughout the nearby

governmental and corporate community taking part in the 14th Annual United Way



Tom Rawinski kept a smile on his face while pulling quack grass.



National Christmas Tree: The Good News and the Bad News

The good news is that the Green Mountain National Forest in Vermont will be supplying the national Christmas tree in 2007! The bad news is that balsam woolly adelgid has damaged some of the trees selected as possible candidates. To make sure that these pests (grinches?) don't ruin the celebration, six trees were treated on September 14 with the systemic insecticide imidacloprid, which will hopefully provide the protection needed until the trees are cut and transported to Washington, DC. Imidacloprid is widely used to control hemlock woolly adelgid, a close relative of the balsam woolly adelgid. Peter Wild, CEO of ArborJet, a manufacturer of plant injection systems, was kind enough to donate the material, equipment, and time to make the stem injections. We thank Peter for his generosity and expertise. And we're keeping our fingers crossed!



Susan Cox teaches tree identification at the recent New Hampshire Teacher Institute.

Summer Teacher Institutes

Susan Cox assisted with two successful teacher institutes held this summer. First, the New York City Watershed Forestry Institute for Teachers was held in Phoenecia, NY. Teachers from New York City schools as well as schools in the watershed region of the Catskills learned about the watershed, the culture, the natural resources, and the connection New York City residents have with the watershed area and vice versa. Teachers are trained in Project Learning Tree, Project WILD Aquatic, and the Catskill Center's Sense of Place curriculum.

The New Hampshire institute, held as part of efforts with the New Hampshire Education and Environment Team (NHEET), centered on the theme "Curriculum Connections Through Schoolyard Investigations." Teachers learned how they can apply their curriculum standards with projects out in the schoolyard or local forest.

The following quote from Jim Hanson, a high school math teacher in New Hampshire, is proof of the impact these summer institutes can have on teachers. *"You might well ask, 'how could such a workshop benefit you as a math teacher?' The answer is easy. The whole workshop was set up to show how to integrate various aspects of an ecological program into almost any curriculum. I'm now basing an entire unit in my algebra and geometry classes on lessons learned on compass usage and map reading. Not only will my students learn and experience these subjects, but the door to the mathematical principles behind all of it is opened widely. The same is probably true for almost every subject. One of my fellow teachers at the workshop was a physical education teacher who found a whole new way to bring student focus on physical education through a variety of ecology and conservation aspects."*

Armillaria Workshop in New Hampshire

Durham's Forest Health group held an Armillaria workshop September 21–22 at New Hampshire's Hubbard Brook Experimental Forest. Understanding Armillaria root rot and how to identify it is important in managing forest stands. Participants came from Pennsylvania, New Hampshire, Vermont, and Ontario,

Phil Wargo looks for *Armillaria* rhizomorphs at the recent workshop.



Canada, to follow workshop leader and retired Forest Service research pathologist **Phil Wargo** around in the woods excavating tree roots for the elusive but prized *Armillaria* rhizomorphs (black, shoestring-like structures). Participants wielded Pulaskis and hand axes as they chopped through dead and declining root systems in search of mycelial fans and rhizomorphs, fungal structures used to identify the *Armillaria* species present. Basidiocarps of the fungus, also known as honey mushrooms, were plentiful thanks to recent rains.



Christian Binggeli (second from right) tests out the NED inventory software as (left to right) Ben Urquhart, Tom Luther, and Roger Monthey look on.

Tree Inventory and Management Plan for Boston's Franklin Park

The Franklin Park Coalition has received a grant from the Massachusetts DCR to develop a tree inventory and management plan for shade trees and urban woodlands that make up this popular Boston city park surrounding the Franklin Park Zoo. In September, **Tom Luther**, **Roger Monthey**, and **John Parry** met with Christian Binggeli and Ben Urquhart, the foresters conducting the work, to assist in planning the inventory. Tom provided training in using Forest Service GPS equipment to map trees and other resources. Roger and John provided expertise on how to inventory woodlands and shade trees and the use of NED inventory software. The resulting management plan developed for the park will greatly improve protection and maintenance on the property as well as assist with assessing budget needs.

Forest Festival

On August 25, the White Mountain National Forest hosted a forest festival to commemorate the Forest Service Centennial. The event included exhibits from Research and State and Private Forestry. An estimated 1,000 people attended and participated in guided hikes, tours, and demonstrations. Kids had an opportunity to earn their Junior Forest Ranger badge. Kids and adults alike had many questions for Entomologist **Kevin Dodds** regarding his display of bugs and traps. Also participating in staffing the NA exhibit booth were **Karen Mollander, Margaret Miller-Weeks, Bob Fitzhenry, Debbie Muccio, and Tom Luther**. The evening included an employee and partner BBQ with surprisingly great music from the Reluctant Rangers.



(Clockwise from top left): The White Mountain National Forest's Mount Washington Auto Road served as the backdrop for the Centennial Celebration.

A Forest Service employee dressed in 1900s attire demonstrates backcountry cooking techniques.

Tom Luther (left) shares a moment with Bob Edmonds of UNH Cooperative Extension.



MORGANTOWN FIELD OFFICE NOTES



Mark Buscaino (left) discusses urban forestry with U.S. Rep. Don Sherwood on a recent trip to tour sites involved in the Northeast Pennsylvania Urban and Community Forestry Program.

Urban and Community Forestry Program Highlighted in Pennsylvania

John Hazel visited sites involved in the Northeast Pennsylvania Urban and Community Forestry Program with **Phil Rodbell** during the week of August 29. Forest Service Urban and Community Forestry Director **Mark Buscaino** accompanied them to get an introduction to the program. **Donna Murphy** led the visit with representatives of the Pennsylvania DCNR, Penn State Coop Extension, and the Urban and Community Forestry Council. A dozen projects were visited, providing tour participants with an opportunity to meet with residents of communities that received grants. The trip included a visit with U.S.

Representative Don Sherwood, who announced a grant award for the community of Tunkhannock for streetscape and downtown revitalization. The Congressman met with the group over lunch to discuss the program. While in the area, Hazel met with Keystone College staff to discuss working relationships and the Mid-Atlantic Center for Urban and Community Forestry.

Ed Cesa Appointed to Pennsylvania Hardwoods Development Council

Pennsylvania Governor Ed Rendell recently appointed **Ed Cesa** as an official member of the Pennsylvania Hardwoods Development Council. Cesa will represent the Forest Service on the council, replacing Ken Knauer (recently retired) as the official agency representative.

The Pennsylvania Hardwoods Development Council was created by the General Assembly in 1988 to be responsible for the development, expansion, and promotion of the hardwoods industry in Pennsylvania. Since 1996, the council has resided as a bureau-level office within the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture. Strategic objectives of the council include the following:

- Work with State and local governments and other entities to promote access to timber resources on both private and public land.
- Promote and expand the development, processing, and manufacturing of value-added forest products.
- Support and assist the forest products industry in developing domestic and international markets for value-added products.
- Promote public knowledge of the forest products industry in Pennsylvania and an understanding of the role that forest products play in people's daily lives.

The Pennsylvania Hardwoods Development Council is chaired by the Secretary of Agriculture and includes representation from various State agencies, and members of the Pennsylvania Senate and House of Representatives. Members of the public serving on the council represent every sector of the forest products industry, including sawmill operators, veneer manufacturers, value-added processors, furniture producers, pulp and paper producers, and maple syrup processors. Trade associations, regional hardwood promotion groups, economic development agencies, and academic institutions are also represented. For additional information about the council, visit <http://www.agriculture.state.pa.us/agriculture/cwp/view.asp?a=3&q=127137>.



Morgantown Field Office Holds Fundraisers for Hurricane Katrina Relief

The Morgantown Field Office Courtesy Committee held two fundraisers to collect donations to send to relief efforts in Gulf Coast areas affected by Hurricane Katrina. The committee raised \$246 at an ice cream social on September 8. Employees chose from six flavors of ice cream and a wide variety of toppings. The committee followed up with a hot dog sale on September 13 that raised an additional \$256. The Courtesy Committee will send a check for \$502 to the National Forest Foundation to help Forest Service employees who have been displaced by Hurricane Katrina.



Morgantown Field Office employees Karen Felton and Dan Twardus joined many others in supporting the hot dog fundraiser for Hurricane Katrina relief.



Participants from the workshop gather outside for hands-on experience with invasive plants.

West Virginia Hosts Invasive Plant Workshop

The West Virginia Division of Forestry and the Morgantown Field Office hosted an invasive plant workshop entitled, “Forests Out of Balance: The Impact of Invasive Plant Species,” August 22–24 at the National Conservation Training Center in Shepherdstown, West Virginia. **Karen Sykes**, along with eight State forestry and agriculture agency representatives, had been planning this workshop since March 2004. The purpose was to develop and provide training for service and consultant foresters to

identify and control invasive plant species that impact the forests in the Mid-Atlantic and Ohio regions. In addition to service, consultant, and extension foresters, the workshop also drew attendees from other natural resource disciplines from at least six other States. Approximately 175 people attended to hear about why foresters should be concerned about invasive plants, the current and future problem plants in forests, and how silvicultural practices can promote or limit control of invasives, and to see how various control methods are used on specific invasive plants. It was such a success that attendees have suggested developing similar workshops in their home States. The speakers’ presentations can be found on the NA Invasive Plants Web site at http://na.fs.fed.us/fhp/invasive_plants.

Annual Ecological Society of America Meeting Held in Montreal

The Ecological Society of America held its annual meeting in Montreal, Quebec, August 7–9. **Anne Cumming** attended a half-day workshop entitled “The State of the City: What’s the Status of Urban Ecosystem Research and How Can We Create a Research Agenda.” This workshop was well attended by other Forest Service staff, U.S. EPA, university researchers, and nonprofit organizations (Heinz Center). Anne also attended several other half-day sessions, including “Urban Stream Ecosystems” (where she met NA’s Sally Clagget), “Urban Plant Communities,” “Social Capacity Development for Environmental Management: International Cooperation and Ecological Solution,” and “Spatial Heterogeneity in Urban Ecosystems: Integration and Scaling in Coupled Natural-Human Systems.” Anne has prepared a summary of the talks and posters encountered while in Montreal.



Research Findings on Bacterial Leaf Scorch Presented in New Jersey

Fifty professionals met at the Environmental Discovery Center at Palmyra Cove Nature Park in Palmyra, New Jersey, on September 16. They gathered for an update and to report findings of bacterial leaf scorch (BLS) research that has been conducted over the last 3 years in the New Jersey communities of Riverton Borough, Trenton City, Collingswood Borough, Burlington City, and Hamilton Township.

The study, a collaborative effort of the New Jersey DEP Forest Service, Bartlett Tree Research Laboratories, and the Morgantown Field Office Mid-Atlantic Center for Urban and Community Forestry and Forest Health Management programs, has resulted in the development of Best Management Practices for BLS. Bacterial leaf scorch, caused by the bacterium *Xyella fastidiosa*, affects the vascular system of a wide range of landscape tree species, causing progressive decline and death of the host. In New Jersey, the disease is threatening existing populations of red and pin oak. **Donna Murphy** presented the 2002 Maryland BLS study that showed that 36 percent of 265 plots across Maryland contained trees that were infected by the disease. Dr. Bruce Fraedrich, Bartlett Tree Research Laboratories, presented draft findings of treatments that will be released for the New Jersey Shade Tree Federation Meeting scheduled for October 21–23. Dr. Jim LaShomb from the Rutgers University Entomology Department presented information on BLS vector research. The research and symposium were managed by Pam Tappen-Lipse of the New Jersey Forest Service.

New Headquarters Staffmembers Visit Morgantown Office

On September 13, NA's new Forest Health and Economics Assistant Director **Jerry Boughton** and Public Affairs Officer **Keith Tackett** visited Morgantown to be introduced to the staffs and programs of the field office. The day included a meeting with the MFO Executive Team, followed by smaller group discussions with staff in the Information Management and Analysis, Economic Action Program, and Forest Health Protection groups. They also visited with staff from the Wood Education and Resource Center and the gypsy moth Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement team.

Pre-Service Teachers Learn About Project Learning Tree

West Liberty State College pre-service teachers attended a Project Learning Tree (PLT) workshop at Oglebay Resort and Conference Center in Wheeling, West Virginia, August 25–26. A total of 85 pre-service teachers attended the workshop to learn how they can integrate PLT activities into their school curriculum.

Morgantown Field Office Public Affairs Specialist **Devin Wanner** assisted with the PLT workshop on the second day. Wanner presented his experiences related to western wildfires when the instructor covered a PLT fire activity. About eight PLT activities were conducted with the students to familiarize them with the steps and how the activities can be modified to meet class structure needs. The instructor in charge of the pre-service teachers at West Liberty is also interested in holding a “Wonders of Wetlands” workshop during the spring semester.



Devin Wanner talks about wildfire to pre-service teachers at a Project Learning Tree workshop.



IRM Support for Morgantown

On August 26, **Kathy Stewart**, Information Resources Management Customer Relations Specialist from the Forest Service office in Delaware, Ohio, visited to meet with all of the units co-located in Morgantown. She presented a background and update on Information Resources Management and was able to answer questions from the group on problems individuals were having in getting help.



Casey Munchel (Ohio Division of Forestry) and Devin Wanner pose in front of the Ohio State Fair's 14-foot tall Smokey Bear, a popular fair attraction.

State Fairs Provide Opportunity for People to Learn About the Environment

In early August, Morgantown Public Affairs Specialist **Devin Wanner** visited the State Forester's offices in Delaware and Ohio. The purpose of the trip was twofold: first, to get acquainted with the staff, and second, to discuss opportunities for the Morgantown Field Office to provide assistance in public affairs and conservation education. As part of the Delaware visit, Wanner toured the Delaware Forest Service exhibit at the State Fair. Wanner spent half an hour talking with Delaware State Forester Austin Short about their education and public affairs programs. Wanner then met with Judith Leith at the fairgrounds and discussed her agency's participation in the Delaware State Fair.

In Ohio, Wanner met with Division of Forestry Assistant Chief Andy Ware and was introduced to many of the staff, including Division of Forestry Chief John Dorka, Ann Egan, Mike Boden, Sue Wintering, and Casey Munchel. At the Ohio State Fair, Wanner was able to see just how popular the 14-foot tall Smokey Bear is with fairgoers. Smokey has been a part of the Ohio State Fair since 1965. Many people are now bringing their children and grandchildren to see Smokey and telling stories of their childhood visits with Smokey.

Morgantown Field Office Holds Annual Picnic

Morgantown Field Office employees gathered together for a picnic on August 25 at the West Virginia University Westvaco Natural Resources Center. About 20 employees enjoyed hamburgers and hot dogs grilled by Field Representative **John Hazel**, while employees provided the remaining side dishes. Hazel gave a presentation after lunch on the importance of safety at work and thanked everyone for having a safe year. He then asked if anyone had any topics they wanted to discuss. Several questions were asked concerning the budget outlook and the buyout.



Morgantown Field Representative John Hazel (left) and IMA Leader Chuck Reger were the grill masters for the office picnic.



ST. PAUL FIELD OFFICE NOTES

Participation and Conflict: Lessons Learned from Community Forestry

Lisa Burban, Group Leader for Forest Management, co-authored the article “Participation and Conflict: Lessons Learned from Community Forestry,” which appeared in the June 2005 issue of the *Journal of Forestry*. Lisa co-authored the article with Jan Thompson of Iowa State University, Bill Elmendorf of Pennsylvania State University, and Maureen McDonough of Michigan State University. The article draws upon the authors’ collective experience and knowledge working with multiple audiences and stakeholders in urban and community forestry.

Dialogue on Diversity

Lisa Burban developed and presented the workshop “Dialogue on Diversity” for northwestern Indiana natural resource and urban greening professionals. Lisa and her co-presenter, Maureen McDonough of Michigan State University, developed these workshops to assist natural resource professionals with attracting broader and more diverse citizen participation in natural resource programs. The workshop highlights tools developed by Lisa and Maureen, such as “A Recipe for Reaching Out” and “Top Ten Tips for Success.” These tools present concepts and ideas for outreach in a non-threatening way and in an easy-to-use format.

Aerial Survey Results Viewer

Dennis McDougall, Forester, **Quinn Chavez**, GIS Specialist, **Peter Bedker**, National Information Center, and **John Kolsing**, Information Management and Analysis, are pleased to announce the development of a new Aerial Survey Results Viewer to display current and past year’s aerial survey damage data. Using the powerful ArcIMS platform, the viewer allows any user with Web access to display, create, and print customized aerial survey damage maps by overlying aerial survey results with a wide number of available thematic layers and/or base maps. Users will ultimately be able to download damage shapefiles for use in their own GIS applications. “*The development of this new viewer allows us to provide timely aerial survey data to a much larger number of Forest Service and non-Forest Service users than we have been able to in the past. By making easy access to historical data, analysis of past trends can help land managers better understand the role that forest stressors have played on the landscape,*” reported Dennis McDougall. Visit <http://www.na.fs.fed.us/ims/aerial/viewer.htm>.

Emerald Ash Borer News

Katie Armstrong, Emerald Ash Borer Liaison, reports that emerald ash borer has been detected for the first time in Michigan’s Upper Peninsula. The insect was found during a survey of ash trees in Brimley State Park, in Chippewa County along the Lake Superior shoreline. The Michigan State Department of Agriculture will likely remove all ash within half a mile of the new infestation.

St. Paul Plan of Work Meeting Highlights Invasives

Jerry Boughton, Assistant Director for Forest Health and Economic Action, and **Nancy Berlin**, Region 9 Invasives Coordinator, participated in the St. Paul Field Office Annual Plan of Work Meeting. Jerry, Nancy, and **Katie Armstrong**, Emerald Ash Borer Liaison, gave presentations updating the field office on recent invasives developments from their respective vantage points. The meeting concluded with work planning sessions focused on collaboration across program area and surfacing projects of interest.



Retirees Prove Their Athletic Prowess

Jim Hanson, Retired Deputy Field Representative, and **Rich Wiest**, Retired Stewardship Coordinator, defeated **Manfred Mielke**, Pathologist, and **Joe O'Brien**, Pathologist in their annual golf tournament.

EDITOR'S NOTES

Thank you to the following contributors to this issue: **Mary Wick, Robin Morgan, and Maureen Brooks**, Newtown Square; **Helen Thompson**, Durham; **Devin Wanner**, Morgantown; and **Gina Childs**, St. Paul.

For current and past issues of the NA News Notes visit <http://www.na.fs.fed.us/>.

DEADLINE!

Deadline for the next issue of NA News Notes will be COB **Wednesday, October 19, 2005**. Please e-mail articles to Deborah Muccio at dmuccio@fs.fed.us. Please send text separate from photos and graphics, and include captions for all images.

