



# Northeastern Area News Notes



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August 25, 2005

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## DIRECTOR'S NOTES

### Three R's for Success

The performance of government in general and the Northeastern Area in particular are under increasing scrutiny by legislators, policymakers, and the American public. This is a good thing! People care about the public service being provided and they care about getting good value (more of desired services, rather than less) for every tax dollar expended. By meeting these expectations, we provide services the American public supports and we solidify our reputation as a productive and useful part of government. There are three R's—Relevancy, Relationships, and Results—I like to keep in mind to focus on what will help us be successful.

**Relevancy** of what we do and who we serve is about our purpose! A clear tie and sharp focus on our mission is essential to our relevancy. Over time, remaining relevant demands we continue to assess whether our resources are directed at the highest priority problems and opportunities. Do our programs and the delivery of these programs adjust as resource needs change? Do our employees continue to possess state-of-the-art skills and abilities? Are plans in place to bring new skills and knowledge to bear on the services we provide?

**Relationships** are perhaps self-evident, and are the energy or the force essential to getting our work done! Are we trusted and valued as a partner? Do we really cooperate with cooperators? Are we relating well to the many broad natural resource communities across the landscape? Within these relationships with formal and informal groups and coalitions, are we committed or adequately involved to ensure our contribution to what is accomplished—from improved forest conditions to more livable communities? Are we humble enough to not demand “the lead” and the spotlight at all times? Are we approachable, available, and responsive? Internally, how do we behave at home? Do we work across administrative and program boundaries to provide seamless service?

**Results** matter! Tangible, measurable results are evidence of doing what we set out to do—reduce risks of wildland fire, restore the condition and function of a watershed, or determine effective controls for an exotic invasive pest. Do we deliver on our promises? Do we meet or exceed expectations? Results begin to answer the question “So what?” Working with our partners and delivering credible and valued results confirms the relevance of what we do and bolsters relationships, too. These three R's are connected, not mutually exclusive.

There are a lot of questions here. There are expectations (those of taxpayers, administration officials, congress, our partners, and others) that we should have answers as well! Individually, within each work unit, and across the Northeastern Area, these three R's influence our success, for good or not. The challenges of competitive sourcing and business process reengineering, as well as tight budgets, can be best met if we are purposeful and productive. I encourage you to take the



time to reflect on how well we are doing, and how we might do better, in terms of our Relevancy, Relationships, and Results.

If we ask these tough questions of ourselves, and take corresponding action to ensure the answers are acceptable, I'm confident the future accomplishments of the Northeastern Area and our partners will exceed expectations!

— Kathryn Maloney

## NEWTOWN SQUARE NOTES



**Present at the Chief's Award ceremony were (left to right) Pat Patterson, Jeff Horan, Chief Dale Bosworth, Mark Buccowich, and Robin Morgan.**

### **Spatial Analysis Project Team Honored With Chief's Award**

On June 23, 2005, Forest Service Chief Dale Bosworth recognized winners of the 2005 Chief's Awards for outstanding contributions to the agency's mission during 2004. The Forest Stewardship Program's Spatial Analysis Project Development Team, consisting primarily Northeastern Area and State staff, with Washington Office advocacy and support, was one of two recipients of the **Chief's Natural Resource Stewardship Award**. This team was recognized for development of the Spatial Analysis Project, as cited, "For innovative development of a spatial

analysis tool in support of the Forest Stewardship Program implemented by State forestry agencies, and resulting in strategic program delivery to landowners, heightened program accountability, and increased natural resource benefit."

Keys to the success of the Spatial Analysis Project, now national in scope, are as follows:

- Collaboration and synergy of the team, comprised of program and technical experts from both State and Private Forestry and State forestry agencies (Connecticut, Massachusetts, Maryland, and Missouri).
- Maximum State flexibility and customization, while conforming to consistent methodology and overall program design.
- States' needs are met—in prioritizing resources, developing policy, and in overall strategic program delivery.
- Timing—The SAP came along at the "right" time, as budgets decrease, technology increases, and accountability and oversight increase. There was a FORCE!

Noteworthy and appreciated is the fact that this is the first time the Natural Resource Stewardship Award, sponsored by the National Forest System (NFS) mission area of the Forest Service, has been awarded to a team within State and Private Forestry. This indicates NFS's recognition of the need, through State and Private Forestry, to strategically manage the Nation's forests beyond NFS lands. In the 20 Northeastern and Midwestern States served by the Northeastern Area, nonindustrial private forest lands total about 113.5 million acres, or roughly 67 percent of the region's forest land. The Forest Stewardship Program, administered by State and Private Forestry and implemented by State forestry agencies, provides technical and financial assistance to the owners of this forest land base.



The Spatial Analysis Project Development Team award winners include Mark Buccowich, Helen Butalla, Tom Luther, Robin Morgan, and Barb Tormoehlen (Northeastern Area); Karl Dalla Rosa (Washington Office); Joel Stocker and Tom Worthley (Connecticut); Jeff Horan and Pat Patterson (Maryland); Steve Anderson, Chandreyee Lahiri, and Nathanael Lloyd (Massachusetts); and Steve Westin (Missouri).

For additional information, contact Barbara Tormoehlen, NA Forest Stewardship Program Coordinator, at 812-277-3567 or btormoehlen@fs.fed.us.

### **Fire Staff Attends Annual Northeast Forest Fire Supervisors Meeting**

The annual meeting of the Northeast Forest Fire Supervisors was held June 20–24 in Bar Harbor, Maine. Hosted by the Maine Forest Service and Fire Supervisor Bill Williams, and supported by Fire and Aviation Management, the meeting was attended by the fire supervisors from the 20 Northeastern Area States, Eastern Region Fire Management staff, National Association of State Foresters representatives, and staff from the Washington Office. This working meeting between the fire supervisors, Fire and Aviation Management staff, and partners provides an opportunity to coordinate fire management priorities within the area.

### **Fire on Capitol Hill**

Area Director Kathryn Maloney and Assistant Director for Fire and Aviation Management Billy Terry visited Capitol Hill June 29–30. There, they met with Senate staff members from 12 Northeastern Area States to share the accomplishments made in those States with the aide of Federal funding through the State Fire Assistance Program.

### **The Summer Fire Season Heats Up**

What got off to a seemingly slow start has now changed—the summer fire season is here. The Northeastern Area has mobilized several crews to the Western States in recent weeks. In addition, for the first time since 1995, there has been a significant summer fire season in the Northeastern Area and in Quebec, Canada. Crews and single resources have been dispatched to Minnesota and Michigan. In addition, six Type 2 IA (Initial Attack) crews were mobilized to Quebec, a first for the Northeastern Area. There were several challenges in the mobilization, including the remoteness of the assignments and the language barrier (necessitating the need for bilingual crew bosses). **Tom Brady**, Northeastern Area Fire Liaison, coordinated this effort with the States.

## **ARMY ENVIRONMENTAL CENTER**

### **Interagency Team Conducts Fire Training in South Korea**

Forest Service and Army employees conducted wildland fire training for the 8<sup>th</sup> U.S. Army in South Korea during June and July. **Nort Phillips** from the Green Mountain National Forest, Vermont, **James Flores** from the Hiawatha National Forest, Michigan, and **Tom Hilliard** from Fort Stewart, Georgia, trained more than 100 people in various courses including Engine Boss and Fire in the Urban



**Nort Phillips directs students during Engine Boss training.**



Environment. Planned prescribed burns didn't occur due to poor weather; however, students did have hands-on time with equipment.

The 8<sup>th</sup> Army managers were extremely pleased with the training and have requested that it be conducted twice a year.



**Joseph Furnish collects invertebrates at the Jungle**

### **Hunting Aquatic Macroinvertebrates in Okinawa**

This spring, **Dr. Joseph Furnish**, Pacific Southwest Region aquatic ecologist, returned to Marine Corps Base Camp Butler in Okinawa, Japan, to continue work on whether water quality was being impacted by military training activities. He was accompanied by Dr. William D. Shepard, a professor at the Department of Biological Sciences at California State University. Combining data on aquatic macroinvertebrates and on water quantity and sedimentation values will allow the Marine Corps to determine whether any restoration activities need to occur. Dr. Shepard remarked, "It has been very difficult to find a negatively impacted water site. It speaks well of the Marines."

### **2005 Boy Scout Jamboree**

The Conservation Trail at the 2005 Boy Scout Jamboree at Fort AP Hill, Virginia, was a big success. Federal, State, and nonprofit organizations hosted 30 different hands-on conservation exhibits. The U.S. Army Environmental Center and the Forest Service jointly staffed an exhibit on the Army's use of Forest Health Monitoring methods, entitled "Fort Jamboree." Northeastern Area staffers included **Jim Anderson, Helene Cleveland, Steve Davis, Paul Polasky, and Jim Steinman.**

Scouts and the general public could earn the Conservation Trail patch if they completed 10 exhibits; 16,000 patches were given out. More than 9,700 people came through Fort Jamboree during the 9-day event.



**Chief Bosworth meets Colonel Tony Francis (right), Commander of the U.S. Army Environmental Center, and Colonel White, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, at the 2005 Boy Scout Jamboree.**





# DURHAM FIELD OFFICE NOTES



**Janet Zeller discusses trail access improvements with workshop participants.**

## **Universal Access on Trails Workshops Hosted in New Hampshire**

Two workshops were held in New Hampshire to help communities design, build, and maintain recreational trails that increase access to the natural environment for all. AJ Dupere from the New Hampshire Division of Forests and Lands developed the idea and worked with Bob Spoerl from the New Hampshire Bureau of Trails and **John Parry** to host the workshops, which were supported by an NA Civil Rights grant. The grant will also support trail renovations that will increase access at two State properties in New Hampshire.

The workshops attracted 50 attendees representing parks departments, public works agencies, municipalities, nonprofit organizations, and State and Federal staff. The key speaker was Janet Zeller, USDA Forest Service, Washington Office, who spoke about the new Forest Service trail accessibility guidelines and techniques to maximizing accessibility while maintaining the natural environment. Speakers from the State of New Hampshire and conservation organizations discussed working in wetlands and designing and maintaining accessible trails. The workshop also included outdoor exercises and discussions on trail accessibility issues.

## **Job Training Initiative Provides Career Opportunities for New York City Residents**

Trees New York, a nonprofit organization based in New York City, has developed a unique entry-level forestry career training program based on the notion that working with trees can translate into an economic future. This training program began in 1998 through collaborations with the New York office of Enterprise Foundation and others. A specialized curriculum was developed to include fieldwork in tree climbing, maintenance, planting techniques, and safety. Trees New York (TNY) works with local companies to provide placement opportunities for their students, who are mostly from urban neighborhoods in the city. A recent grant from the Northeastern Area enabled TNY to produce a DVD to share their program methodology with other organizations interested in this type of training. Joe Bernardo, the lead trainer for TNY, hosted **John Parry** on a visit in June to watch the training and learn more about the program's success. Those interested in the DVD should contact the Durham Field Office.



**Students learn the ropes in Tree New York's Arboriculture Training Program.**

## **New York Urban and Community Forestry Conference a Success**

New York held its annual Urban and Community Forestry "ReLeaf" Conference in Syracuse July 28–30. The conference, sponsored by the Central New York ReLeaf Committee, the New York Department of Environmental Conservation, and the Urban and Community Forestry Council,



attracted over 130 people with exciting workshops, tours, and a barbeque and boat ride on Onandaga Lake. The Northeastern Area provides financial support for the conference. **John Parry** attended to present information on the Tree Inventory Software developed by the Northeast Center for Urban and Community Forestry, and to participate in the council's board meeting.

## GREY TOWERS NOTES



**Visitors learned about wood turning on a portable lathe.**

### **Festival of Wood Features Crafts, Music, Programs, Activities**

Despite blistering heat, more than 1,400 visitors attended the first annual Festival of Wood at Grey Towers August 13–14, learning about the many ways we use wood in our daily lives. Wood craftsmen, musicians performing with wood instruments, children's activities using wood, and educational exhibits about wood use and sustainable forestry all contributed to the 2-day event, which was designed to raise awareness about the natural and cultural heritage of wood.

Throughout the tristate region an opportunity to exhibit and demonstrate a wide range of wood crafting skills, including wood turning and carving, Windsor chairs, wooden snowflakes, wooden bowls, spoons and fishing lures, sawdust folk art, and more.

In addition to the wood crafts, the Festival of Wood offered music with wood instruments and numerous children's activities, including birdhouse building, paper making and a poster contest. Junior Forest Rangers were sworn in, photos were taken with Smokey and Woodsy, and visitors learned how to use an increment borer. Films and videos were shown throughout the weekend, house and garden tours were given, and hikes along the Grey Towers Forestry Trail were offered.



**Children had a chance to build and take home bluebird boxes.**



**Performers like this strolling guitarist illustrated how wood is used in music.**

Participants and supporters included the following: Pocono Arts Council; Milford Fire Department; Gifford Pinchot Audubon Society; Milford Experimental Forest; Pinchot Institute for Conservation; American Chestnut Foundation; Penn State Cooperative Extension; Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, Bureau of Forestry; Catskill (NY) Watershed Agriculture Council; Pike County (PA) Builders Association; and the USDA Forest Service (Law Enforcement, Office of Communications, and Forest Products Laboratory).

The event was supported in part by fees collected at Grey Towers under the new site designation legislation and by the Northeastern Area.



## What's Eating All the Hemlocks?

Grey Towers Horticulturist **Elizabeth Hawke** recently gave a public workshop on hemlock woolly adelgid. Participants learned how this tiny insect about the size of the head of a pin has caused widespread decline and death of hemlocks from southern New England to the Smoky Mountains. The workshop provided information for landowners on what they can do to protect and prevent further decline of Pennsylvania's State tree. She discussed how to recognize a hemlock woolly adelgid infestation and what to do once the insect is identified.

## Chestnut Tree Program Held at Grey Towers

**Josh Flad**, a forester with the Milford Experimental Forest, recently gave a talk at Grey Towers on the once-prolific American chestnut tree. Participants learned about how chestnut blight caused this beautiful tree to virtually disappear from our landscape. Flad also described what's being done today to try to bring it back, including the work being done at the experimental forest. The program was cosponsored by the USDA Forest Service and the Milford Experimental Forest, a project of the Pinchot Institute for Conservation.

Flad also provided some historical context. For example, in 1910, a young Aldo Leopold, while attending Forestry School at the Yale Forestry School camp at the Milford Experimental Forest, sent a letter home noting that there was such a heavy chestnut crop that it could probably feed the whole town of Milford for the coming winter. Within a few years, most of the chestnut trees had succumbed to the blight.

## Kids Learn Landscape Painting

The beautiful Grey Towers landscape has inspired artists for over 100 years, and this summer we discovered that it also provides inspiration to kids! Northeastern Area Creative Consultant Jim Lockyer, on special assignment to Grey Towers, recently gave a plein air landscape painting workshop to a group of young artists on the estate grounds. The children learned the technique and sharpened their observation and painting skills. The class was a part of the Grey Towers Conservation and the Arts program.



Two youngsters use the grounds of Grey Towers for inspiration during a children's plein air landscape painting workshop.

## European Foresters Visit Grey Towers

When Gifford Pinchot wanted to learn about scientific forestry, he had to visit Europe; there was no scientific forestry being practiced in America. About 50 forestry representatives from three countries Pinchot visited—France, Germany and Switzerland—traveled to Grey Towers this spring as part of a trip to the United States that retraced the path that Gifford took when he returned to America with his new knowledge. Grey Towers and the Pinchot Institute hosted a 2-day colloquium, “Working Toward Common Goals in Sustainable Forest Management: The Divergence and Reconvergence of European and American Forestry.” A roundtable discussion focused on common European and U.S. responsibilities at the domestic and global level, and opportunities for reinforced cooperation and coordination. The European visitors also toured the Michaux and Mt. Alto State Forests in Pennsylvania, the Biltmore Estate, the Pisgah National







Forest, and the Southern Research Station in North Carolina, and wrapped up their tour with a day at the Smithsonian Folklife Festival in Washington, DC.

Department of Agriculture Deputy Undersecretary Dave Tenny attended the colloquium for European foresters at Grey Towers.

## MORGANTOWN FIELD OFFICE NOTES

### Forest Service Chief Spends a Day Visiting Sites in Cleveland

Forest Service Chief Dale Bosworth visited the Cleveland area on June 16, completing a Midwest media outreach tour that included stops in Minneapolis, Chicago, and Detroit. Accompanied by Morgantown Field Office Representative **John Hazel**, Ohio Division of Forestry Chief John Dorka, and Ohio Division of Forestry Associate Chief Andy Ware, the chief visited the Stearn's Farm Restoration Project in Parma, the Mill Creek Waterfall and Park Project in Slavic Village, and the Wilmont Family Farm in Broadview Heights. The stops focused on cooperative watershed improvement, urban and community forestry, and forest stewardship. The day's events provided an opportunity for the chief to make media contacts that included the *Cleveland Plain Dealer*, *Toledo Blade*, *Farm and Dairy*, *Dayton Daily News*, *Ohio Woodland Journal*, Associated Press, and National Public Radio. The chief made announcements about Forest Service assistance to the Ohio Division of Forestry for the Forest Legacy Program and emerald ash borer eradication. The chief's day ended with a casual dinner with John Dorka, Andy Ware, John Hazel, and forest land management, industry, and education leaders in Ohio to discuss forestry at both the State and national levels.



**Remedial Action Plan President Tom Denbow (left) and Cuyahoga River Navigator Jim Right (right) present Forest Service Chief Dale Bosworth (center) with an American Heritage River commemorative plaque.**







**Samantha Bennett and a student water a newly planted oak tree at Jackson Mill.**

## **Planting for the Future**

During the week of July 10, 16 shade trees of various species were planted around Jackson's Mill Conference Center in Weston, West Virginia. During this time, **Samantha Bennett** coordinated a tree planting workshop at the West Virginia 4-H Alpha I summer camp. Samantha is a West Virginia University (WVU) student and intern for the USDA Forest Service who wishes to pursue a career in urban forestry. Fellow WVU student Claire Carpenter also helped plan and carry out the workshop. Claire is an intern working as a Public Affairs Assistant for the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS). She helped coordinate the project in order to gain experience with forestry and to give NRCS an opportunity to work with other agencies in promoting conservation. Those overseeing the project included **Vicky Evans** of the USDA Forest Service and Dave Parker, Interim Manager of Jackson's Mill.

The tree planting started on Monday and lasted until Thursday. The workshop was a class activity for the 4-H campers, each session lasting about an hour. Two trees were planted during this 1-hour period. Six campers signed up for the workshop and additional volunteers helped with the tree planting. Trees were also planted in the afternoon with the help of volunteers and Jackson's Mill staff members. Samantha's goal was to plant 4 trees per day in order to meet her goal of 16 trees. With all the help she received, she was able to achieve this goal ahead of schedule. All those involved with the tree planting hope that their efforts to enhance the landscape of Jackson's Mill will continue and that future generations can enjoy the trees for years to come. Campers who were involved in the project look forward to the day when they can bring their own children or even grandchildren to Jackson's Mill and can say, "I helped plant those trees when I was your age."

## **Kids Identify Insects and Diseases at Forestry Contest**

The 26<sup>th</sup> National 4H Forestry Invitational Contest was held at Jackson's Mill in Jane Lew, West Virginia, from July 24 through July 28. West Virginia University Entomology Professor Linda Butler administered the Forest Health section and Morgantown Field Office Pathologist **Martin MacKenzie** ran the pathology section. Teams from 17 States as far away as Oregon and Louisiana participated. The students were expected to be able to identify 10 out of 30 insects (both damaging and beneficial) and 10 out of 20 diseases (or health indicators). Several students scored 100 percent. The test included not only current threats, such as the Asian longhorned beetle, emerald ash borer, and beech bark disease, but also historically important organisms, such as the gypsy moth and Dutch elm disease.

Although the Alabama team won once again, 7 of the top 10 individual scores were held by students from different States. West Virginia came in 8<sup>th</sup> place and was the only NA State to rank in the top 10.

West Virginia State Forester Randy Dye asked the 60 students to go out and be "missionaries for good forest stewardship!"



## Group Conducts Tests on a Database Developed to Store Surveys for BMP Monitoring Protocol

**Helen Butalla** and **Cindy Barnett** have developed a database to store surveys for the Best Management Practices (BMP) Monitoring Protocol that is being used by States in the Northeastern Area. **Karen Sykes** and **Roxane Palone** invited the women to a day in the field to see how their database is being used. The group visited Jean Conley, a Tree Farmer who owns 130 acres near Fairmont, West Virginia. The farm, which has been in the Conley family since 1807, consists of 30 acres of hay for 25 beef cattle and 40 acres of forest. The forest was harvested in 2003 and 2004 using best

management practices that included a temporary stream-crossing structure on a tributary of Booths Creek. Using pocket and tablet PCs, the group evaluated the stream crossing and riparian buffer for evidence of sediment entering the creek as a result of the logging. Helen and Cindy learned what BMPs are, how they are installed, and how foresters can monitor their effectiveness.



**Cindy Barnett, Roxane Palone, and Karen Sykes answer questions on their PCs to evaluate BMP effectiveness.**

Generally, the logging company did a good job of installing water-control devices once the harvest was complete.

## Washington Office Pathologists and Entomologists Tour Allegheny National Forest to Better Understand Eastern Forest Health Issues

In June, a group of pathologists and entomologists from the Washington Office (WO) visited the Allegheny National Forest. The group was led by **Martin MacKenzie** from the Morgantown Field Office. The purpose of the visit was to familiarize the staff with eastern forest health issues and discuss the differences between forest health issues on the east and west coasts.

Different forest health issues exist on the two coasts. When Ralph Thier of Idaho became the WO national entomologist and was paired with pathologist Kerry Britton of Georgia, they were invited to take an orientation tour of an eastern forest on the Allegheny National Forest. Because the Allegheny is home to an intensified grid of Forest Health Monitoring plots, the forest silviculturists were invited to tell the WO guests what the plot grid means to their forest and its ongoing plan revision.

The guests were given an opportunity to visit a conifer stand suffering from a pocket decline and a northern hardwood stand heavily impacted by the exotic beech bark disease. Britton participated in the deployment of a modified purple trap that uses an experimental beech extract lure, and Thier helped in a pilot field evaluation of a technique to inoculate red pines with some of the cryptic *Graphium* fungi that must play some role in the red pine pocket decline syndrome.





**Michael Effinger is the new Forest Inventory and Analysis supervisor for Ohio and West Virginia.**

### **Morgantown Welcomes Michael Effinger**

**Michael Effinger** joined the Morgantown office in July with duties as the northeast Forest Inventory and Analysis (NEFIA) supervisor for Ohio and West Virginia. As a Forester, he has worked for the USDA Forest Service NEFIA for a little over seven years. Michael has completed FIA inventories and special studies in NH, VT, NY, PA, MD, DE, NJ, OH, and WV.

Michael grew up primarily in Lancaster county Pennsylvania. He became interested in a career in natural resources when he was a young teenager. After high school, Michael went to Penn State University to earn degrees in both Wildlife and Fisheries Science, as well as Forest Science. During the summers throughout college, Michael worked for the PA Game Commission as a Wildlife Food & Cover Worker (Middle Creek Wildlife Management Area), and for the US Army Corps of Engineers as a Park Ranger (Blue Marsh Lake Project).

Currently, he supervises 12 employees throughout OH and WV. There are three duty stations in each State with two employees per location. The three Ohio duty stations include New Philadelphia, Marietta, and Chillicothe, and the three West Virginia duty stations include Elkins, Dunbar, and Lewisburg. There is a Quality Control (QC) staff consisting of two individuals who reside at the Marietta duty station. As the supervisor, Michael handles many of the administrative duties for the 12 foresters and the two QC foresters. His daily duties include approving travel vouchers, timesheets, and leave requests; updating the production database; overseeing quality control of research plots; answering field and administrative questions; conducting formal training; contacting landowners; purchasing; and visiting the duty stations to work with the crews to complete research plots. The crews complete research plots every day, 12 months a year, and it's Michael's job to make sure that the State(s) get inventoried on time and that the data collected is of the highest quality. For information on Forest Inventory and Analysis (FIA) in the northeast please visit our web site at [www.fs.fed.us/ne/fia/](http://www.fs.fed.us/ne/fia/).

### **Pennsylvania Bureau of Forestry Cooperative Management Review Conducted**

**John Nordin, Victor Mercado, Kathy Duran, and John Hazel** conducted a Cooperative Management Review of the Pennsylvania Bureau of Forestry June 28–30. Assistant State Forester Mike Lester, program managers, human resource specialists, and grant specialists for the Bureau of Forestry participated in discussions that focused on financial management, grants administration, civil rights compliance, program delivery, and working relationships. The Bureau of Forestry continues to be an excellent partner with the Forest Service. Among other commendable findings, it was determined that the beurea is providing comprehensive leadership in forestry issues across the Commonwealth.





## **Twardus Visits Forest Health Monitoring Pilot Study in Tennessee**

**Dan Twardus** spent 2 days during the first week of August on the urban Forest Health Monitoring (FHM) pilot study taking place in Tennessee. Dan visited with State forestry crews that were installing plots in the Nashville area and with the Southern Research Station Forest Inventory Analysis (FIA) Quality Assurance crews. The Tennessee urban FHM pilot study is one of two taking place this year; the other is in Colorado. Dan, **Anne Cumming**, and **Manfred Mielke** (St. Paul Field Office) have worked closely with FIA over the past several months to initiate these

pilot studies that measure urban tree conditions and status at the State level. These pilots follow similar efforts undertaken in Wisconsin, Indiana, and New Jersey. The National Association of State Foresters, through a special task force, has requested information about these pilot studies in order to develop recommendations about national implementation of urban forest inventories and assessments.



**The FIA crew examines urban tree conditions in Nashville, TN.**



**Participants at this year's Best Management Practices Monitoring Protocol training in Maine.**

## **Best Management Practices Monitoring Protocol Training Held in Maine**

Best Management Practices (BMP) Monitoring Protocol training was held in July for the Maine Forest Service. The service foresters were led by Chris Martin, Water Resources Forester from Augusta, Maine; the State Forester was represented by Don Mansius. Technical assistance was provided by **Dave Welsch** of the Durham Field Office and **Roxane Palone** of the Morgantown Field Office. The group visited field sites in Mount Vernon, New Sharon, and Anson in order to learn how effective BMPs were at keeping sediment out of watercourses. Riparian areas, stream crossings, and haul and skid roads were evaluated. The BMP Monitoring Protocol was developed to provide

States with a consistent, effective means to quantify how well practices are protecting water resources.

## **Keystone College Hosts Environmental Education Institute**

Keystone College in La Plume, Pennsylvania, once again hosted the Environmental Education Institute Stewardship Course in July. The institute is funded through a grant from the Education and Research Consortium of the Western Carolinas. Eighteen secondary school teachers participated in an intense week, learning tools for teaching forestry concepts. Highlights of the stewardship course included a tour of Deer Park Lumber, the Delaware Water Gap National Recreation Area, and historic Grey Towers. Several indoor classes were also conducted. **Donna Murphy**, Mid-Atlantic Center for Urban and Community Forestry, taught courses about exotic and invasive plants as well as riparian buffers. **Roxane Palone** spoke about the effects of white-



tailed deer on forest regeneration, and **Bill Oldland** gave a presentation about exotic forest insect pests.

## ST. PAUL FIELD OFFICE NOTES

### **Aerial Pest Detection Surveys in the Upper Midwest**

**Marc Roberts** and **Dennis McDougall** recently completed aerial pest detection surveys of the Superior and Chippewa National Forests in Minnesota; the Chequamegon-Nicolet National Forest in Wisconsin; and the Ottawa, Hiawatha and Huron-Manistee National Forests in Michigan. The total national forest acreage flown was over 16 million acres. Additionally, another 2.6 million acres of other Federal land was flown. Major damaging agents observed this year were jack pine budworm defoliation of jack pine and spruce budworm damage of white spruce and balsam fir. Hardwood trees have gotten a break this year, with gypsy moth defoliation acreage being reported only in Michigan. The recent forest tent caterpillar outbreak appears to have collapsed. Surveys of national forest and other Federal lands in Illinois and Missouri are scheduled for the month of August.

### **Morton Arboretum Surveys for Early Emerald Ash Borer Detection**

The Morton Arboretum is cooperating with the USDA Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service and the Forest Service to detect the possible presence of the emerald ash borer in northeastern Illinois. A broad, comprehensive survey is underway to find the borer as early as possible to minimize tree loss. The Morton Arboretum is using survey protocols established by the Northeastern Area to survey and monitor the Chicago metropolitan area for emerald ash borer. **Tom Dilley**, Chicago Metropolitan Initiatives Coordinator, and **Judy Antipin**, Forest Health Public Affairs Officer, have been instrumental in this effort. This latest survey is the next step in the Emerald Ash Borer Readiness plan prepared by the Morton Arboretum with input from nearly 40 organizations representing State, Federal, county, and municipal agencies, regional councils of governments, the green industry, and nonprofit organizations.

### **Chicago Wilderness/Aveda Earth Month Partnership**

This year, Chicago Wilderness was selected as 1 of only 12 organizations across the country to be an Earth Month Partner with Aveda, a manufacturer of plant-based hair care, skin care, and makeup products. Aveda has raised more than \$3.5 million in support of the environment over the last 5 years. As its 2005 Earth Month theme, Aveda chose to focus on the preservation of threatened and endangered plant species. Participating Aveda salons and experience centers in Illinois and Wisconsin donated a portion of the proceeds from the sale of any rosemary mint products to Chicago Wilderness. Additionally, Aveda employees organized cut-a-thons and raffles, distributed Chicago Wilderness materials to customers, held an environmental educational day at the Chicago Aveda Institute, and participated in several restoration workdays. As a result of this Earth Month partnership, Chicago Wilderness received more than \$80,000 to support their work. The Northeastern Area has been a long-time partner with Chicago Wilderness; St. Paul Field Representative **Mike Prouty** is a member of their Steering Committee.

### **Chicago Wilderness to Present at the White House Conference on Cooperative Conservation**

Chicago Wilderness has been selected as 1 of only 30 case studies to be featured at the White House Conference on Cooperative Conservation in St. Louis, Missouri, in August. Stemming from a presidential executive order issued a year ago, the conference will bring 1,200 people from across the country to share examples of cooperative conservation and to learn from successful



initiatives. Chicago Wilderness will be featured in a book from the conference as well. The Departments of the Interior, Agriculture, Commerce, and Defense and the Environmental Protection Agency are cohosting the conference. The Northeastern Area is one of the founding members of Chicago Wilderness. For more information about the conference, visit <http://www.conservation.ceq.gov/about.html>.

### **Edens Lost and Found**

Recently, a special premiere screening of the new PBS series *Edens Lost and Found* was held at Chicago's Millennium Park. *Edens Lost and Found* documents how everyday citizens are working together to bring nature back to their cities. The documentary highlights and examines the relationship between ordinary citizens, their communities, environmental groups, and government. Produced by the award-winning media production company of Harry Wiland and Dale Bell, *Edens Lost and Found* illustrates practical community solutions to pressing urban environmental issues. Chicago, Los Angeles, Philadelphia, and Seattle were the four cities chosen for this PBS series, which will premiere in the winter of 2006. Some of the projects highlighted in the Chicago portion of the series, such as Eden Place Nature Center, Chicago Wilderness, and Mayor Daley's GreenStreets Program, have all benefited from the technical assistance of **Tom Dilley**, Chicago Metropolitan Initiatives Coordinator.

### **A Little Art on the Prairie**

**Tom Dilley**, Chicago Metropolitan Initiatives Coordinator, will participate at the upcoming "Third Annual Arts of the Prairie Show" at Wolf Road Prairie in Westchester, Illinois. This popular nature arts and crafts show will expand this year to include information from various conservation organizations and agencies. Tom assisted organizers of the art show with contacting conservation organizations. He will also be the Northeastern Area representative, distributing information on urban forestry and forest health as well as information regarding the Northeastern Area and North Central Research Station.

### **New Publication Available on Invasive Exotic Insect**

**Dennis Haugen**, Entomologist, and E. Richard Hoebeke, Entomologist with Cornell University, coauthored a new pest alert publication on a potentially devastating invasive insect. *Sirex* woodwasp is native to Europe, Asia, and northern Africa and is a pest of pine trees. It is known to attack several North American pine species including Monterey, loblolly, slash, shortleaf, ponderosa, lodgepole, and jack pine. Recent detections of *Sirex* woodwasp outside of port areas in the United States prompted the entomologists to develop this pest alert. Broad awareness of the symptoms and signs of *Sirex* woodwasp will be critical to detecting an infestation quickly and managing the pest. Copies of the pest alert may be obtained by calling the St. Paul Field office or visiting the Northeastern Area Web site at

[http://na.fs.fed.us/spfo/pubs/pest\\_al/sirex\\_woodwasp/sirex\\_woodwasp.pdf](http://na.fs.fed.us/spfo/pubs/pest_al/sirex_woodwasp/sirex_woodwasp.pdf).

### **Wisconsin Governor Publicizes Private Forest Certification**

Wisconsin Governor Jim Doyle recently announced that an additional 2 million acres of private woodlands are now certified, bringing the amount of certified forest land acres in the State to 5 million, approximately one-third of Wisconsin's forest land. In addition, Wisconsin's State Forests have dual certification under both the Forest Stewardship Council and the Sustainable Forestry Initiative. Not only does this demonstrate to the public that Wisconsin is a leader in meeting the strict standards for ecological, social, and economic sustainability, but it helps them maintain a competitive edge in the marketplace.





## **Blandin Foundation Creates Fund to Ensure Better Forest Management**

The Blandin Foundation of Minnesota announced that it will establish a \$6.25-million fund with The Nature Conservancy to protect wildlife habitat and ensure better forest management on thousands of acres in north-central Minnesota. The money will be used to buy conservation easements and to restrict development on large segments of forest land that might otherwise be subdivided and sold. The Blandin Foundation has been an important partner with the Northeastern Area on a number of State and Private Forestry projects designed to inform landowners and create a better awareness about forestry and conservation issues.

## **EDITOR'S NOTES**

Thank you to the following contributors to this issue: **Mary Wick** and **Barb Tormoehlen**, Newtown Square, **Helene Cleveland**, Army Environmental Center; **Helen Thompson**, Durham; **Lori McKean**, Grey Towers; **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, September 21, 2005**. Please e-mail articles to Deborah Muccio at [dmuccio@fs.fed.us](mailto:dmuccio@fs.fed.us). Please send text separate from photos and graphics, and include captions for all images.

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