

March 2004

Volume 6, Issue 1

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Urban Projects

From the Morgantown Field Office, USDA Forest Service
Serving the Mid-Atlantic States

URBAN TREE RISK MANAGEMENT TRAINING PLANNED AT UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND

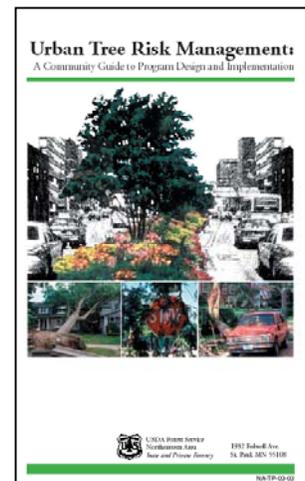
A regional "train-the-trainer" workshop is scheduled at the University of Maryland May 25-26, 2004. The workshop, "Urban Tree Risk Management Training," will introduce, demonstrate, and instruct participants on uses of innovative urban tree risk management tools and resources developed by the USDA Forest Service, Northeastern Area S&PF Forest Health Protection Program, the Northeast and Midwest Centers for Urban and Community Forestry, and TreeRadar, Inc.

The purpose of the workshop is to provide a sound knowledge base and understanding of tools and concepts necessary to begin to integrate tree risk management assessment into community, municipal, and city planning. The training incorporates state-of-the-art techniques and strategies used in urban forest management. The workshop is designed for professionals who can then pass the information and tools on to others throughout Maryland, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, the District of Columbia, Delaware, Ohio, and West Virginia.

Relatively new topics, such as dividing a community into tree risk zones, writing risk policy, and using new computer technologies for data collection, will be presented.

Traditional topics related to assessing tree defects, evaluating risk, prevention, and corrective processes will be presented to ensure a comprehensive level of training. Sessions will be interactive and presented by the authors of *Urban Tree Risk Management: A Community Guide to Program Design and Implementation*. Key trainers throughout the Mid-Atlantic region will support field sessions.

The workshop builds on a similar workshop developed by the Midwest Center for Urban and Community Forestry in the fall of 2003. The Maryland DNR Forest Service; USDA Forest Service, Northeastern Area S&PF Forest Health Protection Program; University of Maryland; CGA Casey Trees; and MAC ISA are supporting the workshop. Registration opens March 15, 2004, and can be accessed on the MACUCF Web site at <http://www.fs.fed.us/na/morgantown/macucf>. 🌳



NA NEWS FROM THE NORTHEASTERN AREA

IMS GEOREFERENCED SUBGRANT DATABASE INTEGRATED INTO NIC

This past fall, the Integrated Mapping Systems (IMS) Congressional-Legislative Reporting Database was piloted in Maryland, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Ohio, Delaware, West Virginia, and the District of Columbia. Thanks to the assistance of the Mid-Atlantic Urban and Community Forestry Coordinators, all subgrant data necessary to populate the database were assimilated and linked to corresponding spatial data layers.

Successful completion of the spatial database pilot and continued endorsement by the USDA Forest Service resulted in Phase II funding to expand the spatial database to the Northeastern and Midwestern States and to move forward with planned integration with the USDA Forest Service National Information Center (NIC) Grant Reporting Database.

On review of a recently released profile for the project, Marc Buscaino, USDA Forest Service National Urban and Community Forestry Director, commented, "Not only does this venture represent good information management, it is an excellent example of technology transfer as well. It shows how urban and community forestry is effectively reaching out to our partner base and working with research to build stronger programs in both State and Private Forestry and Research." 🌳

NEW!

AIR POLLUTION CALCULATOR DEVELOPED BY THE NORTHEASTERN RESEARCH STATION

The USDA Forest Service Northeastern Research Station has developed an Air Pollution Calculator. Version 1.0 is designed to estimate pollution removal and value for urban trees using UFORE data analyzed for various cities (via pulldown menu) and user inputs about the study area. Inputs include units (lbs or kg), area of the study region, and percent tree cover in the study region. The program is designed to automatically calculate results immediately after inputting area and percent tree cover. The estimated dollar value per unit of pollution removal is based on 1994 median values for the U.S. but can be altered if more current or locally specific values are available. The calculator is currently being beta tested by a scientific review committee and will be available via download on the Research Station's Web site this summer. 🌳

UPDATE!

STORM DAMAGE ASSESSMENT PROTOCOL

Modifications to the Storm Damage Assessment Protocol continue. The Northeast Center for Urban and Community Forestry is working with the Davey Resource Group to incorporate more accurate debris disposal costs, develop a formal MOU with FEMA, and update the Storm Damage Resource Center Web site.

Over the past 4 months, project staff and representatives from the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation have met with FEMA officials and attended training on reporting and preparation of FEMA Preliminary Storm Damage Assessment findings. Feedback on the initial Storm Damage



Source: www.umass.edu/urbantree.

Assessment Protocol has been solicited from members of the Massachusetts Tree Wardens and Foresters Association.

The next tasks associated with the project include continued discussion with FEMA, Web site revisions, final beta testing of pocket PC and Palm PDA data collection software, and preparation of training workshops for regional delivery. Check out the protocol at: <http://www.umass.edu/urbantree/>. 🌳

SURVEY OF URBAN FOREST MANAGEMENT IN NORTHEASTERN AREA CITIES TO BE RELEASED

Patrice Carroll, former USDA Forest Service Metropolitan Coordinator, performed an informal survey of urban forest management in six large cities within the Northeastern Area. The survey was completed in hopes of justifying the need for increased resources to support Philadelphia's urban forest. Street tree programs in New York City (NYC), Chicago, Philadelphia, Detroit, Baltimore, and Washington DC were surveyed with a focus on management, inventory, and technology.

Findings showed that these six urban forestry programs are responsible for managing 1.9 million street trees per year. Together, they serve a public of over 14 million citizens and supervise over 27,000 plantings, 27,000 removals, and the pruning of 173,000 trees each year. The survey is in its final editing phase and expected to be released soon. For additional information, contact Phillip Rodbell at prodbell@fs.fed.us. 🌳

BUILDING EFFECTIVE U&CF PARTNERSHIPS: WORKSHOPS PLANNED BY THE USDA FOREST SERVICE

Four workshops are planned throughout the Northeastern Area this fall that will teach techniques that can be used at the State and local level to influence public policy, improve urban forestry visibility, and develop creative partnerships. Specific topics include developing and implementing a public policy agenda, working with local and State government officials, developing effective success stories, and using public relations to advance urban and community forestry agendas.

Workshop details will be released later this summer. More information can be obtained by contacting Anne Cumming, Lisa Burban, or John Parry, USDA Forest Service Urban and Community Forestry Coordinators. 🌳

MAC ISA PRESENTS PRESIDENT'S CITATION TO ANNE BUCKELEW CUMMING

The Mid-Atlantic Chapter of the International Society of Arboriculture (MAC ISA) presented one of its highest awards to Anne Buckelew Cumming. This fall, Anne received the President's Citation in recognition of her outstanding achievements as a past board member and now as a member at large. She has dedicated herself to making sure that the finest educational seminars are available to MAC ISA members and the general public. In addition to the award, Anne was presented with a business card holder made of exotic woods topped with silver oak leaves. Congratulations, Anne, on recognition well deserved! 🌳

NEW URBAN AND COMMUNITY FORESTRY LOGO INTRODUCED

The USDA Forest Service Washington Office is pleased to announce new urban and community forestry high-resolution theme art. To download the new logo, please go to <http://www.fs.fed.us/ucf/>. 🌳



NEW TOOL FOR ASSESSING TREE HEALTH BEING DEVELOPED

The TRU (Tree Radar Unit) is a field instrument that uses ground-penetrating radar in a novel way. The patented TRU instrument is a portable, battery-powered unit that can be operated by a single individual.

The TRU consists of three modules: (1) a data acquisition computer – a rugged, pen-tablet type of computer that controls the radar antenna, digitizes and stores the radar waveforms, and presents a real-time graphical representation on a display capable of being viewed in bright sunlight; (2) radar antenna – a 5-pound, hand-held rectangular box that houses the radar electronics, which is held and moved along the bark and automatically pulsed for every 0.2 inches of movement around the tree's periphery; and (3) TreeWin – the offline data analysis software that reads the digitized radar waveforms from the field computer and processes the data to create cross-sectional images of the trunk's internal condition for each elevation scanned.

The entire TRU package is transportable in two carrying cases by a single individual or backpack and small carrying case. The rechargeable batteries provide 6 hours of continuous use. Setup requires 15 minutes. A peripheral scan around the trunk (at a given elevation) can be done in less than 1 minute. No trunk preparation is required. If trunk decay is detected, the trunk is typically scanned at multiple elevations (in addition to dbh) to accurately map a decay column's advance from the ground. Subsurface root scans can be done in 1 to 2 hours to map the root biomass structure.

The TreeWin software module produces high-resolution, cross-sectional images of the trunk showing the shape and extent of any decay and/or cracks present at that elevation. Additionally, a table that gives the value of the remaining solid wood for every 0.2 inches along the periphery is also presented in an Excel spreadsheet format. A plot of the subsurface root biomass, showing the root structure, is presently under development. These graphical and quantitative results are then used by certified arborists, in conjunction with other standard diagnostic techniques, to assess a tree's health and structural integrity.

The TRU produces very high-resolution, cross-sectional images, all in a completely non-invasive way that does no harm to the tree. Dr. Anthony Mucciardi, TreeRadar, Inc.'s founder, has 30 years of experience in the Non-Destructive Examination (NDE) field, which comprises the collection of non-invasive inspection and testing methods used to examine either living or inanimate objects for internal defects and flaws. Dr. Mucciardi is also a Visiting Professor in the Mechanical Engineering Department of the U.S. Naval Academy in Annapolis,

Maryland. He will be demonstrating the TRU at the Risk Assessment Training session at the University of Maryland on May 25th. For more information, e-mail tony@TreeRadar.com. ♣♣

HEAT ISLAND RESEARCH INTENSIFIES DEBATE ON CLIMATE FORCING FACTORS

There are a tiny but growing number of atmospheric scientists taking a hard look at parking lots. Most scientists today have concluded that CO₂ is the single biggest cause of climate change and that cutting the output is the best way to slow global warming. Research by Dr. Eugenia Kalnay, University of Maryland Researcher and past Director of the National Weather Service, on the impact of land-use changes on global temperature is getting attention from other scientists.

According to Dr. Kalnay's study, published in the journal *Nature* last spring, urbanization, agriculture, and other human changes to landscapes account for as much as 40 percent of the temperature rise over the past 40 years. To find out more about this research, link to <http://www.csmonitor.com/2004/0205/p21s01-sten.html>.

♣♣

Adapted from an article by Mark Clayton, Staff Writer for The Christian Science Monitor

MID-ATLANTIC REPRESENTATIVE APPOINTED TO NUCFAC ADVISORY COUNCIL

Alice Ewen Walker, Executive Director of the National Alliance for Community Trees, Riverdale Park, Maryland, is one of four new members appointed by Agriculture Secretary Anne M. Veneman to the USDA's National Urban and Community Forestry Advisory Council (NUCFAC). Her term will begin immediately and continue until December 31, 2006. Additional appointments to the 15-member council include Maribel De La Torre, mayor pro tempore, City of San Fernando, California; Melanie Kirk, urban and community forestry program specialist, Texas Cooperative Extension, Bryan, Texas; and Robert L. Tate, owner, Robert L. Tate Associates, Inc., Cohasset, California. In addition, Joseph Wilson, executive director of Greening Milwaukee, Milwaukee, Wisconsin, has been appointed to serve as chair of NUCFAC.

NUCFAC, established under the Cooperative Forestry Assistance Act of 1978, advises the Secretary on the care and management of trees, forests, and related natural resources in urban and community settings throughout the Nation. The Council also makes recommendations to the USDA Forest Service Urban and Community Forestry Program on competitive cost-share grants. For more information, visit <http://www.treelink.org/nucfac>. ♣♣

FORESTRY INNOVATIVE GRANTS AWARDED

DC Greenworks Green-Collar Training

DC Greenworks, in partnership with the DC Urban Forestry Administration and inner city neighborhoods, will implement its established Community Tree Planting and Stewardship Program combined with a new Horticultural-Tree Groundsman Training and Job Placement Program for residents. The program builds on a 3-year history of successful programs in the district's socially and environmentally neediest neighborhoods. The program helps give underserved and minority residents a sense of community ownership, provides training, and improves marketable skills for green-collar job placement.

New Jersey Youth Corps U&CF Academy

This project supports the development of an Urban and Community Forestry Academy within the New Jersey Youth Corps. The academy will target 100 minority and at-risk youth and engage them in green industry vocational training and job placement in Paterson, Elizabeth, Newark, Camden, and other cities. The program hopes to improve the minority ratio, meet demands for workers in the urban and community workforce, and address unmet community forestry needs in cities identified by the New Jersey Department of Human Services.

Multi-State Collaborative Addresses Engaging Inner City Residents

The Urban Ecology Collaborative (UEC) will work with Baltimore, Boston, New Haven, New York, Pittsburgh, and DC grassroots partners to identify and share best practices for innovative inner city outreach and urban restoration. The MERGE project (Methods for Engaging Residents and Grassroots in the Environment) seeks to identify activities that link community forestry with local priority concerns. Through a series of forums, UEC will explore grassroots outreach methods, identify effective tools for outreach, work to connect communities, and package findings for use in other cities. ♣♣

MAC ISA IMPROVES PUBLIC VISIBILITY

The Mid-Atlantic Chapter of the International Society of Arboriculture (MAC ISA) has been working to improve public visibility. The MAC ISA Public Education and Public Relations Committee has set up a system of regional representatives to increase the number of arboricultural press releases throughout the Mid-Atlantic region. Currently, there are five regional representatives in Virginia, two in West Virginia, one in the District of Columbia, and four in Maryland. One regional representative is still needed for the Annapolis area. The role of the regional representatives is to keep updated lists of area media contacts and send out press releases. For more information, logon to <http://www.mac.isa>. ♣♣

NEWS FROM THE MID-ATLANTIC STATES

Delaware:

DELAWARE DEMONSTRATES URBAN FORESTRY BENEFITS IN STORMWATER MANAGEMENT

In an effort to reestablish community forest resources in subdivisions while supporting stormwater management, urban and community forestry staff partnered with the Delaware Division of Soil and Water and Kent County to highlight several demonstration projects that show how trees can support better stormwater management. Implementation of the demonstrated practices is now occurring in more than 30 community projects throughout the State.

Activities that occurred at the Fields of Magnolia, a planned subdivision located south of Dover, exemplify benefits of the project. The Delaware Forest Service helped a volunteer tree board develop a management plan to improve the condition of the community's open spaces. Volunteers from the community planted more than 25 trees provided by the State's annual urban and community forestry subgrant program. In FY2004, residents are planning to replant several acres of community open space in and around several stormwater ponds to improve the overall health of the community. Benefits accruing as a result of the plantings will be tracked and promoted statewide. 🌳

District of Columbia:

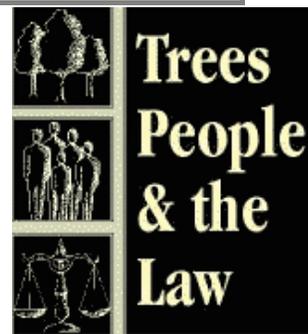
DC'S TREES FOR KIDS PROGRAM SHOWS THAT YOUTH SHARE ENVIRONMENTAL KNOWLEDGE

The DC Urban Forestry Administration reports that children share environmental knowledge with family and friends. This information was gained through "Trees for Kids," a cooperative, hands-on educational program for teachers and students. Teachers are taught how to plant and maintain trees and to incorporate the study of trees in curricula and outdoor activities. Training workshops for *Project Wild*, *Project Wet*, and *Project Learning Tree* help educators teach forestry and related topics. Through *Camp Riverview*, young people camped outdoors overnight and learned about watershed health and invasive species. The students learned to identify five invasive plant species and removed these plants from a forested area. Many of these invasive plants exist in the students' backyards and school grounds. 🌳

Maryland:

NATIONAL ARBOR DAY FOUNDATION OFFERS MARYLAND SEMINARS

The National Arbor Day Foundation is offering two seminars that deal with hazard trees and trees and the law. The two full-day seminars will be hosted at the National Wildlife Visitors Center in Laurel, Maryland, this spring. The *Hazard Trees* workshop is scheduled for April 6, 2004, followed by *Trees, People & the Law* on April 7, 2004. Dr. Bruce Fraedrich, Vice President of Research at Bartlett Research Laboratories, will conduct the first workshop and Victor Merullo, Attorney and former representative of the Ohio Department of Agriculture, will conduct the second.



The National Arbor Day

Foundation is presenting the workshops in cooperation with MAC ISA; the USDA Forest Service, Northeastern Area S&PF; Maryland DNR Forest Service; and Bartlett Tree Research Laboratories. Seminar registration is available at www.arborday.org/tplhzt. 🌳

MARYLAND TREE CARE EXPERT GIVEN 30-DAY LICENSE SUSPENSION

The Office of Administrative Hearings ordered a 30-day license suspension for Licensed Tree Expert James Louis Yirka III of Arborcare Tree Experts, Inc. The suspension was sought by the Maryland DNR Forest Service for wrongful conduct in the practice of tree care.

The order concludes departmental action related to a complaint from a citizen in Timonium regarding an incident in October 2002 and to departmental charges that the licensee violated ethics regulations by falsifying credentials under oath during a previous hearing in January 2003. The judge found that Yirka falsified and misrepresented his professional qualifications and lied under oath at the previous hearing. These are improper practices and considered wrongful conduct in the

practice of tree care by Maryland, which licenses the State's commercial practitioners.

All tree care professionals practicing in Maryland must be licensed. Without a license, advertising services and practicing are prohibited. The Maryland DNR Web site at www.dnr.state.md.us/forests/oflists/lte/treeexpert.html contains a complete list of licensed tree experts. 🌲🌲

New Jersey:

COOL CITY INITIATIVE EXPECTING MORE FUNDING

The New Jersey Board of Public Utilities has committed \$2 million to continue Governor McGreevey's "Cool Cities Initiative," which promotes tree planting as an effective efficiency measure to help lower energy consumption. According to the New Jersey Tree Foundation, studies show that trees in urban environments reduce summer air temperatures an average of 3 degrees and surface temperatures as much as 12 degrees. The tree canopies will help reduce temperatures in New Jersey's largest cities of Paterson, Newark, Trenton, Elizabeth, and Camden. So far, contiguous areas devoid of trees in underserved communities are being targeted. To date, approximately 3,000 trees have been planted. An additional \$3 million is expected to continue tree-planting efforts. Once plantings are established, before and after energy saving projections will be made using City Green Analysis. 🌲🌲

Ohio:

OHIO DEVELOPING EAB STRATEGY

This winter, the Ohio Division of Forestry requested input from its Urban Forestry, Forest Utilization, State Forest Lands, and Service Forestry Programs to assist with the development of a statewide emerald ash borer (EAB) strategy to help guide these programs in dealing with invasions.

Although the overriding management approach for dealing with the EAB in urban areas is a comprehensive tree care program, other proactive measures

suggested for communities include the identification of high-risk areas, estimation of removal and replanting costs, the development of inspection programs and methodology for wood removal, and the management of fly-by-night arborists. In the event the insect is found in a community with no comprehensive tree care program



Source: David Cappaert, Michigan State University, www.forestryimages.org

in place, the Ohio Urban Forestry Program suggests using it as an opportunity to create a program and increase awareness.

The position of not recommending the planting of ash trees in non-infested areas has been discussed with their Urban Forestry Advisory Committee (UFAC) for incorporation into the proposed strategy. As a member of UFAC, the Ohio Nursery and Landscape Association (ONLA) believes that because of the Ohio Department of Agriculture's eradication efforts, it is reasonable to sell ash stock in non-infested areas. The Urban Forestry EAB strategy will likely reflect the group's input by informing municipalities of the EAB situation and allowing them to decide whether or not to plant more ash trees. Strategy suggestions are still being compiled and will be presented to the Chief later this year. 🌲🌲

Pennsylvania:

PENNSYLVANIA HIRES URBAN & COMMUNITY FORESTRY COORDINATOR

The Pennsylvania DCNR Bureau of Forestry is pleased to announce that Seth Cassel has been hired as the new Pennsylvania Urban and Community Forestry Coordinator. Seth has a B.S. and M.S. in Forest Science from Penn State University and worked as a Service Forester in Cambria County. He is currently a Lt. in the Air Force and is expected to report to his new urban forestry duty this June. Welcome, Seth! 🌲🌲



PENNDOT'S COLLABORATIVE ROADSIDE BEAUTIFICATION UNDERWAY

PennDot has organized a collaborative roadside beautification project. The project team includes various PennDot departments, the Western Pennsylvania Conservancy, and the Pennsylvania Horticultural Society. The focus of the project is to compile two manuals providing technical advice on planting within highway rights-of-way for department personnel, businesses, municipalities, and private groups on topics related to landscaping themes, species selection, site selection, funding opportunities, and partnership planning. Team committees include steering, policy and regulation, roadside design, and marketing and communication. Penn State Extension urban foresters have been invited to participate in the program. 🌲🌲

West Virginia:

INNER CITY FUNDS HAVE POSITIVE RESULTS IN WEST VIRGINIA

The need to invest in lasting improvements in older, disadvantaged neighborhoods is very great. This year's Inner City Funding afforded West Virginia an opportunity to address issues common to older, low-income

[see "Inner City Funds" on page 8]

MID-ATLANTIC CENTER FOR URBAN AND COMMUNITY FORESTRY AT KEYSTONE COLLEGE

Donna Murphy, Center Coordinator, USDA Forest Service

MACUCF COMPLETES STRATEGIC PLAN

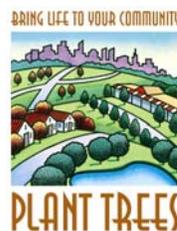
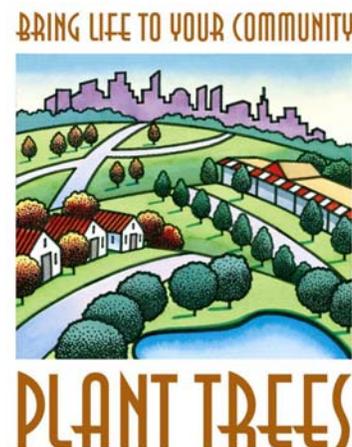
Urban and community forestry strives to improve the quality of life through healthy, functioning urban and community forests. The need for tools, research, and innovative programs and technologies to ensure the long-term viability of our urban forests must be supported as populations continue to expand and our urban forests become more and more valuable. Technology transfer provides the mechanism by which the USDA Forest Service can assist State partners collectively to ensure that the tools required to properly manage the urban forest are available, the diverse needs of professionals and citizens involved in urban and community forestry are met, and benefits are communicated effectively and clearly to targeted audiences. The development of a strategic plan and corresponding action items provides a clear and directed process by which the Mid-Atlantic Center for Urban and Community Forestry (MACUCF) can move forward in addressing these crucial issues.

This updated plan and corresponding action items provide technology transfer direction in response to identified needs of the Mid-Atlantic State Urban and Community Forestry Coordinators. Action items will be revisited annually and amended to ensure that work efforts support defined goals, focus resources, and address new issues as they are identified. The plan is based upon the established vision of the USDA Forest Service and the strategic-action plans of each participating State and DC. It provides direction for the MACUCF to (1) improve communication and information transfer, (2) build partnerships that strengthen urban and community program delivery, (3) support comprehensive resource management, and (4) maintain and enhance financial resources. For a copy of the strategic plan, contact Donna Murphy, MACUCF Center Coordinator. 🌳

URBAN FORESTRY APPRECIATION OUTREACH MATERIALS TO BE RELEASED SOON

The Mid-Atlantic Center for Urban and Community Forestry is finalizing the deliverables for its Urban Appreciation Campaign. The toolkit uses the national logo "Bring Life to Your Community - Plant Trees" and is directed at partners that work with government officials, State agency directors, and political representatives. Its purpose is to heighten visibility, promote benefits, and increase commitment to urban and community forestry initiatives. Outreach materials promote urban and

community forestry as a crucial component of improved livability in communities and target decision makers as champions for message delivery. Deliverables include a mini poster of urban forestry benefits (below), letter to the editor, case study factsheets, urban and community forestry benefits statistics, and a PowerPoint presentation. 🌳



TOP 10

Reasons We Need Trees

1. **Trees help purify the air we breathe by absorbing pollutants from the air.**
2. **Trees increase property values and improve the tax base in communities.**
3. **Trees improve neighborhood appeal, attracting businesses, shoppers, and homeowners.**
4. **Trees cool our cities and towns by reducing heat generated by buildings and paved surfaces.**
5. **Tree shade, properly placed, can save an average household up to \$250 annually in energy costs.**
6. **Trees reduce the amount of pollutants in sewer systems, saving communities millions of dollars in water treatment costs.**
7. **Trees soften harsh building lines and large expanses of pavement, making urban environments much more pleasant.**
8. **Trees provide habitat for birds and other wildlife, maintaining a balance with nature even in urban areas.**
9. **Trees enhance water quality by interrupting rainfall. This reduces the amount of water-borne pollutants reaching our streams and rivers.**
10. **Trees reduce levels of domestic violence and foster safer, more sociable neighborhood environments.**

NEW MACUCF PROJECTS

Landscape Trees on a Disk - Funding is supporting the conversion of the popular Penn State publication "Landscape Tree Factsheets" to a CD-ROM format, increasing availability and access to this highly used resource. The CD will include photographs, site advantages, limitations, cultural requirements, and critical information on tree selection for approximately 200 species of tree cultivars.

Enhanced Flexibility of Integrated Tools for Urban Forestry Inventory and Analysis - In partnership with the Northeast Center for Urban and Community Forestry, MACUCF is supporting the development of a new software integration package that will accept data from the UFORE, MCTI, and STRATUM programs. Data collection for street tree and plot sampling will be expanded for hand-held data devices, allowing more flexibility in data collection. The new software program and input form will allow the user to initially choose from a list of variable types of specific data they want to collect, increasing the efficiency of data collection for these three important urban forestry tools.

Urban Tree Fire Performance Database - This project will develop an urban forestry fire performance searchable CD that generates factsheets for urban trees with attributes related to design considerations and fire performance. The database will identify fire performance as it relates to growth and cultural characteristics and have links to photographs, tree characteristics, form, and design attributes. Permission had been obtained to use photographs and information from the Ohio Trees Web site and Penn State Street Tree Factsheets. 🌳

MEETINGS OF INTEREST

An urban wood utilization gathering in February in Baltimore, Maryland, brought together NA and WO personnel from wood utilization, urban and community forestry, and rural development programs to discuss urban wood utilization opportunities. Discussion topics included a potential urban wood utilization project funded through the Northeastern Area's Wood Education and Resource Center. Other agenda items included demonstration of a District of Columbia urban sawmill and discussions regarding a National Urban Wood Utilization Summit and National Urban Wood Utilization partnership.

Urban forest restoration was the focus of a meeting of the Chesapeake Bay Trust Board of Trustees in February. The Trust is in the early stages of exploring a grant program that focuses on urban forest restoration. As an initial step, the Trust wanted to invite experts to present information on the benefits of urban forests to the health of the Chesapeake Bay, how urban

reforestation can be a tool for community involvement, and how an urban forest initiative advances the organization's goals. For additional information, contact David O'Neill, Executive Director, Chesapeake Bay Trust, at (410) 974-2941.

Integration of urban tree cover into ozone management and possible inclusion into a State Implementation Plan (SIP) will be discussed by a team of State Foresters, State air management staff, EPA representatives, and air quality modelers at the John Heinz National Wildlife Refuge near Philadelphia from April 21 to 22. Gary G. Allan, Center for Chesapeake Communities, is planning the meeting in cooperation with the Maryland DNR Forest Service. For additional information, contact Gary at: gallenbay@aol.com. 🌳

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**"Inner City Funds"** [continued from page 6]

neighborhoods. The applications received for Inner City Funding in West Virginia were so impressive that \$14,000 from the Demonstration City Grants Program was shifted to meet the excess funding needs of the program, supporting a total budget of \$36,000. Projects were funded in Charleston, Morgantown, Parkersburg, and Weirton.

**Charleston:** The Charleston Renaissance Corporation has leveraged these grant dollars to substantiate the purchase of two vacant lots in the East End neighborhood, one of the oldest neighborhoods in the State. The lots are being developed into public greenspace.

**Morgantown:** Funds have been invested in hazardous tree removal and new plantings in the Greenmont and First Ward neighborhoods. Removing hazardous trees and replanting better-adapted trees in these older neighborhoods have begun to spark interest in revitalization of Jack Roberts Park, the only major greenspace in the First Ward neighborhood.

**Parkersburg:** This city identified three target areas distinguished by neglected and missing trees. Using their street tree inventory and management plan, the Parkersburg Tree Commission identified the highest priority needs and targeted the planting of 38 trees on Madison Avenue, Camden Avenue, and Lynn Street. The use of the inventory to select areas of highest need gives validity to past efforts of the Shade Tree Commission and improves predominantly low-income, minority neighborhoods.

**Weirton:** In partnership with the Renaissance Weirton Committee and a local garden club, Weirton is building on a plan to establish three greenspaces within Redevelopment Districts along the main city thoroughfare. New plantings in the districts promote a sense of well-being and economic revitalization. 🌳

**URBAN AND COMMUNITY FORESTRY MID-ATLANTIC REGION**  
**Calendar of Events, Meetings, and Conferences**  
**March through Early September 2004**

*Also Available Online at:*  
[www.fs.fed.us/na/morgantown/uf/ufcalendar.html](http://www.fs.fed.us/na/morgantown/uf/ufcalendar.html)

**March 2004**

- 24 **Roadside and Right-of-Way Vegetation Management**  
 Course Code: AL0405CA04  
 Online Fee: \$165. This workshop will provide you with a comprehensive overview of regulatory expectations of ecological risk assessments from both Federal and State perspectives.  
**Location:** New Brunswick, NJ  
**Event Type:** Training **Program:** UCF  
**Information:** (732) 932-9271  
*E-mail:* [ocpe@aesop.rutgers.edu](mailto:ocpe@aesop.rutgers.edu)  
*Link:* <http://www.cookce.rutgers.edu>
- 29-31 **Trees and Utilities National Conference**  
 Sponsored by the National Arbor Day Foundation.  
**Location:** Omaha, NE  
**Event Type:** Conference **Program:** UCF  
**Information:** NADF (402) 474-5655  
*E-mail:* [conferences@aborday.org](mailto:conferences@aborday.org)

**April 2004**

- 6-7 **"Hazard Trees" and "Trees, People & the Law" Seminars**  
 National Arbor Day Foundation  
**Location:** Laurel, MD  
**Information:** National Arbor Day Foundation  
 (402) 474-5655  
*E-mail:* [conferences@arborday.org](mailto:conferences@arborday.org)  
*Link:* [www.arborday.org/tplhzt](http://www.arborday.org/tplhzt)
- 8 **New Jersey Urban and Community Forestry Council Meeting**  
**Location:** Freehold, NJ  
**Information:** Mike D'Errico (609) 984-0816  
*E-mail:* [mderrico@dep.state.nj.us](mailto:mderrico@dep.state.nj.us)
- 15-16 **Safety Training for Tree Care Professionals**  
**Location:** Fairmont Park Hort. Center, Philadelphia, PA  
**Information:** Penn-Del ISA (1-800-551-2656)
- 17 **MAC ISA 2004 Tree Climbing Championship**  
**Location:** Annapolis, MD  
**Information:** (703) 753-0499
- 22-23 **Advanced Tree Evaluation and Appraisal**  
**Location:** State College, PA  
**Information:** Dr. William Elmendorf  
 (814) 863-7941  
*E-mail:* [wfe1@psu.edu](mailto:wfe1@psu.edu)

- 30 **Delaware Center for Horticulture Rare Plant Auction**  
**Location:** Wilmington, DE  
**Information:** The Delaware Center for Horticulture  
 (302) 658-6262

- April  
 TBD **Proper Tree Pruning and Planting**  
**Location:** Allegheny County, PA  
**Information:** Mark Remcheck (724) 228-6940  
*E-mail:* [mar15@psu.edu](mailto:mar15@psu.edu)

**May 2004**

- 3 **A Tree Ordinance for Your Community**  
 How to develop and promote an effective tree ordinance.  
 Audience: Municipal managers, tree commissioners, arborists, environ. advisory board members. Cost: \$25.  
**Location:** Erie, PA  
**Information:** Scott Sjolander (814) 333-7460  
*E-mail:* [sas305@psu.edu](mailto:sas305@psu.edu)  
*Link:* <http://crawford.extension.psu.edu>
- 3-14 **2004 Tree Climbing School**  
**Location:** Jackson, NJ  
**Information:** John Perry (732) 833-0325
- 5 **Pennsylvania Urban and Community Forestry Council Meeting**  
**Location:** State College, PA  
**Information:** Rachel Billingham (717) 783-0385  
*E-mail:* [rbillingha@state.pa.us](mailto:rbillingha@state.pa.us)
- 6-7 **Restoration of Native Woodlands**  
**Location:** New Brunswick, NJ  
**Information:** (732) 932-9271  
*E-mail:* [ocpe@aesop.rutgers.edu](mailto:ocpe@aesop.rutgers.edu)  
*Link:* <http://www.cookce.rutgers.edu>
- 11-14 **Northeastern Area Urban and Community Forestry Coordinator's Annual Meeting**  
**Location:** Boston, MA  
**Information:** Jane Calvin
- 13-14 **A Tree Risk Management Plan for Your Municipality**  
**Locations:** Erie and Dubois, PA  
**Information:** Scott Sjolander (814) 333-7460  
*E-mail:* [sas305@psu.edu](mailto:sas305@psu.edu)  
*Link:* <http://crawford.extension.psu.edu>
- 13 **New Jersey Urban and Community Forestry Council Meeting**  
**Location:** Freehold, NJ  
**Information:** Mike D'Errico (609) 984-0816  
*E-mail:* [mderrico@dep.state.nj.us](mailto:mderrico@dep.state.nj.us)

- 14 **A Tree Ordinance for Your Community**  
**Location:** Dubois, PA  
**Information:** Scott Sjolander (814) 333-7460  
*E-mail:* sas305@psu.edu  
*Link:* <http://crawford.extension.psu.edu>
  
- 19-20 **Community Tree Stewards Training**  
**Location:** Creamery, PA  
**Information:** Julianne Schieffer  
(610) 489-4315  
*E-mail:* jxs51@psu.edu
  
- 19-22 **Neighborhood Tree Steward Workshops**  
**Location:** Wilmington, DE  
**Information:** Vikram Krishnamurthy (302) 658-6262  
*Link:* <http://www.dehort.org>
  
- 20-21 **Ecology and Control of Invasive Plant Species**  
**Location:** New Brunswick, NJ  
**Information:** (732) 932-9271  
*Link:* <http://www.cookce.rutgers.edu>
  
- 21 **A Tree Risk Management Plan for Your Municipality**  
**Location:** Williamsport, PA  
**Information:** Vincent Cotrone (570) 825-1700  
*E-mail:* vjc1@psu.edu
  
- 25-26 **Urban Tree Risk Management Training**  
**Location:** University of Maryland, MD  
**Information:** Tod Ericson (410) 836-4568  
*E-mail:* TERICSON@dnr

**June 2004**

- 5 **Wilmington Historic Tree Walking Tour**  
**Location:** Wilmington, DE  
**Information:** Vikram Krishnamurthy (302) 658-6262  
*E-mail:* vkrishnamurthy@dehort.org  
*Link:* <http://www.dehort.org>
  
- 16-19 **Metropolitan Tree Improvement Alliance (METRIA) 13 Conference**  
**Location:** Lisle, IL  
**Information:** Dr. Bert Cregg  
*E-mail:* cregg@msu.edu *Link:*  
<http://www.ces.ncsu.edu/fletcher/programs/nursery/metria/>
  
- 24-26 **National Urban and Community Forestry Advisory Council Meeting, Detroit, Michigan**  
**Location:** Detroit, Michigan
  
- June TBD **Tree Inventories, Palm Pilots and Desktop Computer Applications**  
Cost: \$35  
**Location:** Creamery, PA  
**Event Type:** Training **Program:** UCF  
**Information:** Julianne Schieffer (610) 489-4315  
*E-mail:* jxs51@psu.edu

**July 2004**

- 14 **Pennsylvania Urban and Community Forestry Council Meeting**  
**Location:** Northeastern PA  
**Event Type:** Meeting **Program:** UCF  
**Information:** Rachel Billingham (717) 783-0385  
*E-mail:* rbillingha@state.pa.us

**August 2004**

- 1 - 6 **Ecological Society of America Annual Meeting Lessons of Lewis and Clark: Ecological Explorations of Inhabited Landscapes**  
**Location:** Portland, OR  
**Event Type:** Meeting **Program:** UCF  
**Information:** Ecological Society of America  
*Link:* <http://www.esa.org/portland/>
  
- 7 - 11 **ISA Annual Conference**  
**Location:** Pittsburgh, PA  
**Event Type:** Conference **Program:** UCF  
**Information:** *Link:* <http://www.isa-arbor.com>
  
- 8 - 11 **80th Annual International Society of Arboriculture Meeting**  
**Location:** Pittsburgh, PA  
**Event Type:** Conference **Program:** UCF  
**Information:** *Link:* <http://www.isa-arbor.org>
  
- August TBD **Diagnosing Insects and Diseases of Trees**  
Fundamentals of detection, identification, and treatment of insects and diseases that affect trees will be covered.  
Cost \$30.  
**Location:** Washington, PA  
**Event Type:** Training **Program:** UCF  
**Information:** Mark Remcheck (724) 228-6940  
*E-mail:* mar15@psu.edu

**September 2004**

- 1 **Tree Autopsy Workshop**  
**Location:** Awbury Arboretum, Philadelphia, PA  
**Information:** Julianne Schieffer (610) 489-4215  
*E-mail:* jxs51@psu.edu
  
- 7 **Pennsylvania Urban and Community Forestry Council Meeting**  
**Location:** Harrisburg, PA  
**Information:** Rachel Billingham (717) 783-0385  
*E-mail:* rbillingha@state.pa.us

The next issue of **Urban Projects** from the Morgantown Field Office will be Summer 2004. Please send articles or events to:  
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USDA Forest Service, 180 Canfield Street  
Morgantown, WV 26505 or  
acumming@fs.fed.us