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Urban Projects

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

URBAN FOREST HEALTH MONITORING REPORT COMPLETE

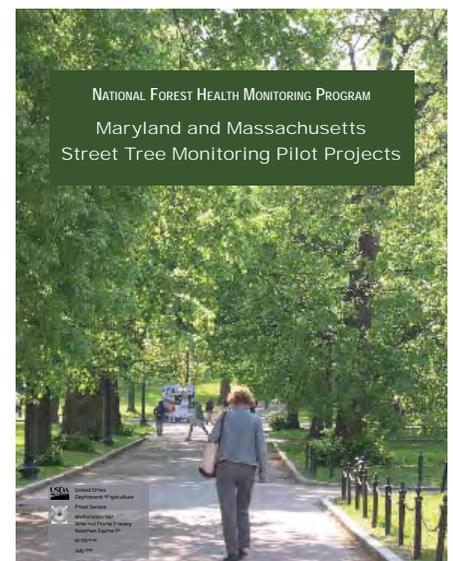
The Urban Forest Health Monitoring pilot studies began in 1999 as a National Forest Health Monitoring (FHM) initiative. The development and implementation of the pilots have involved a combined effort and partnership of many agencies and programs. The FHM program; the Urban and Community Forestry (UCF) program; Forest Inventory and Analysis (FIA); and the Northeastern, North Central, and Southern Research Stations have worked cooperatively with State forestry and agriculture agencies. As of September 2006, seven States have participated in the pilot studies.

The purpose of the pilots was to test the feasibility and logistics of implementing statewide data collection from 1) FIA plots located within urban areas (UFIA), and 2) newly established statewide street tree plots within urban areas (UST). Both stages of the pilot help fill State, regional, and national data gaps in basic inventory and monitoring information for urban areas.

The State Foresters' response to the Urban Forest Health Monitoring pilots was positive. The Northeastern Area Association of State Foresters (NAASF) initiated the original resolution to begin looking at the feasibility of a national urban forest monitoring system. Each group agreed that forest resources within

urban areas are not sampled with a standard method that would allow management at the State, regional, and national scale. Declining budgets and lowered priorities to gather inventory data for forest and timber lands, however, were obstacles to endorsing additional States being sampled. NAASF voiced its continued support for this type of monitoring.

Pilot projects have been completed in Indiana UFIA, Wisconsin UFIA & UST, Maryland UST, Massachusetts UST, and New Jersey UFIA – partial. Pilot projects are continuing in Tennessee UFIA and Colorado UFIA. The first report from the urban street tree monitoring pilots in Maryland and Massachusetts has been completed and is available from the Morgantown Field Office and is soon to be available online. 🌳



NEWS FROM THE USDA FOREST SERVICE

DR. ALEX L. SHIGO (1930-2006)

Dr. Alex Shigo, former research Project Leader in Durham, NH, died October 6 at his summer home in Barrington, NH. Alex was a “Super Scientist” who led a pioneering research unit and retired from government service in 1985, then continued his own publishing and education business until his death. He earned a number of other titles within the Forest Service, including Chief Scientist and Chief Mycologist, as well as many awards from the tree care industry. Alex also received the Century of Service Award from the Northeastern Research Station during Forest Service Centennial observances. He was a fellow of the American Phytopathological Society and the Mycological Society of America.

Beyond this, he inspired many of us to help people and society through the questioning of established understanding and practices. Many believe he has had a greater effect on the day-to-day work and understanding of more people than any other employee in Forest Service research.

After completing an undergraduate degree in biology from Waynesburg College, Alex received both of his graduate degrees from West Virginia University—an M.S. in biology and a Ph.D in pathology. World renowned mycologist Dr. Horace L. Barnett served as his major professor for both degrees. His M.S. thesis involved oak wilt and his PhD. dissertation dealt with mycoparasitism. Dr. Shigo contributed more to our understanding of tree growth and decay than any other scientist of his day. He will be greatly missed and applauded for his contributions for centuries to come.

To read more about Dr. Shigo, go to www.legacy.com/Obituaries.asp?Page=LifeStory&PersonId=19520875.

MONTHLY WEBCASTS: NEW TOOL FOR RESEARCH AND TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER

We all know how difficult it is to stay up to date. Recognizing this, the USDA Forest Service Northern Research Station is committed to hosting monthly Webcasts through its new Urban Natural Resources Institute (UNRI), which serves as a point of contact for focused research, development, and information exchange on urban natural resource management in the region. From the convenience of your own office or home computer, you can simply log onto the Webcast Internet site to see the presentation, and dial-in via your telephone to hear the corresponding audio.

The Institute consists of Forest Service scientists who are conducting science-based research on urban natural resource issues throughout the region. The resources of the Institute are located in various units of the Northern Research Station, and include State, university, municipal, and commercial partners. Visit www.unri.org to access resources and sign up for Webcast announcements. The Webcasts have been very popular and well attended. Plan to participate in these informational Webcasts, which last approximately 1 hour. For more information and login details, please visit www.unri.org/webcast.

NUCFAC RECEIVES 104 PRE-PROPOSALS FOR 2007 CHALLENGE GRANTS

The National Urban and Community Forestry Advisory Council (NUCFAC) received 104 pre-proposals in response to the 2007 Challenge Cost-Share Grant Program. The total request for Federal funding is \$7,999,321 that is matched with \$9,135,840 by the applicant organizations for a total of \$17,135,161 in urban and community forestry project funds.

Applications were received from 36 States, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, and Saipan, Mariana Islands. NUCFAC will recommend that \$1 million Federal dollars be directed to projects through the USDA Forest Service Urban and Community Forestry Program that will subsequently be awarded as Federal Financial Assistance Grants. For more information, go to the NUCFAC home page at www.treelink.org/nucfac.

FOREST SERVICE LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE AND RESEARCH COLLABORATIVE HONORED

The Forest Service Landscape Architecture and Research Collaborative received the American Society of Landscape Architects (ASLA) “Research Award of Honor” this year. Landscape architects teamed with researchers to develop important work highlighting the causes and effects of natural landscapes being transformed into developed areas. This work asks and answers many questions aimed at reducing open space fragmentation. This is an excellent example of how collaboration between research and planning-design professionals resulted in applicable and implementable findings for the conservation of public and private lands. It encourages the expansion of Forest Service commitment to social science research and opportunities to work with research to identify and help resolve critical issues.

LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE STUDENT SUPPORTS UC GREEN THROUGH THE FOREST SERVICE

Joshua Williams, a student of Landscape Architecture at Temple University, was hired and completed a Forest Service Student Term Employment Program (STEP) position this summer. Joshua worked part time for the Forest Service throughout the summer primarily to support the work of UC Green, a cooperative community greening program in University City, Philadelphia (www.ucgreen.org/). In this assignment, he oversaw and led the work of inner-city youth and underemployed adults in a new project called “UC Green Corps.” Their goal was to provide critical maintenance to more than 400 newly planted trees in University City neighborhoods and public spaces. Josh worked to engage Green Corps members and residents in urban forestry greening efforts. Josh wrote a wonderful article describing his experiences that is available by contacting UC Green Director, Amanda Brenner at abenner@ucgreen.org.

KATIE ARMSTRONG TAKES NEW FOREST SERVICE POSITION

Katie Armstrong has accepted a new position within the USDA Forest Service. She is now working with the National Forest System Urban Connections program in Detroit, an urban outreach program that works with community organizations to involve urban constituents in conservation education, community greening efforts, and visiting national forests. www.fs.fed.us/r9/urban_connections/.

Katie left the emerald ash borer program in mid-October. We wish her luck and thank her for keeping us all updated on the borer. For those of you who were not on Katie’s extensive mailing list, the following is a sample of her work.

EMERALD ASH BORER ARTICLES:

Scientists work to reconstruct ash borer’s spread (MSU today – East Lansing, MI)
<http://msutoday.msu.edu/index.php3?article=11Aug2006-6>

State firewood ban enacted to fight ash borer (CBS2Chicago – Chicago, IL)
http://cbs2chicago.com/topstories/local_story_209084226.html

Lucky those ash borers are so picky (Ann Arbor News – Ann Arbor, MI)
www.mlive.com/columns/aanews/talk_about_town/index.ssf?/base/news-0/1159368125255000.xml&coll=2

GR weighs costs of fighting ash borer (Grand Rapids Press – Grand Rapids, MI)
www.mlive.com/news/grpress/index.ssf?/base/news-32/1159973213141310.xml&coll=6

Md. commission members hear of emerald ash, cover crop issue (Mid Atlantic Farm Publications – Annapolis, MD)
www.americanfarm.com/TopStory9.19.06b.html

DuPage County foresters look to minimize pest’s tree damage (Daily Tribune – Suburban Chicago)
www.dailyherald.com/search/searchstory.asp?id=224040

Ash borer moves closer to area (Cincinnati Enquirer – Cincinnati, OH)
<http://news.enquirer.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20060903/NEWS01/609030361>

Sandusky removing ash trees before ash borer arrives (Sandusky Register – Sandusky, OH)
<http://cleveland.live.advance.net/newsflash/cleveland/index.ssf?/base/news-26/1157136856149960.xml&storylist=cleveland> 🌲🌳

NEWS FROM ACROSS THE NORTHEASTERN AREA

MIDWESTERN I-TREE TRAINING PLANNED

After two decades of development by USDA Forest Service Research and Development and its collaborators, the applications included with i-Tree are now available to the public within a fully developed support framework. The i-Tree suite of software tools was developed to

help users—regardless of community size or technical capacity—identify, understand, and manage urban tree populations. Increased awareness of the benefits and services provided by urban forest resources leads to increased attention to stewardship, appreciation of operations, and investment in maintenance. Training sessions were hosted at Clemson University and in

Denver, CO, this summer. The University of Minnesota Twin Cities Campus will be hosting a training session November 15-17. Two regional training sessions are planned in the Northeast and Mid-Atlantic in 2007. More information will be available in the winter Urban Projects newsletter.

To get a copy of the installation CD-ROM, go to www.itreetools.org. Feedback is critical to i-Tree's success.

EUROPEAN URBAN FORESTRY

Urban and Community Forestry Program Manager Phillip Rodbell was invited to present a paper at the 9th European Forum on Urban Forestry held in Florence, Italy, May 22-26. The experience taught him that we have a great deal to share with and learn from our European colleagues. This event brought together more than 80 participants, including academic researchers, nonprofit organization leaders, government program managers, and consultants working in the United Kingdom, Sweden, Germany, Norway, Finland, Holland, Denmark, France, Italy, Belgium, Canada, U.S., and Israel. The Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) was represented by forester Michelle Gauthier, bridging the values of the forum to the world community on poverty alleviation and urban and peri-urban forestry issues.

Some key points included:

- The Northeastern Area is the size of France, Germany, Spain, and Italy combined.
- Europe has little or no data on the status of community forestry activities or municipal forestry programs
- The fact that we have performance data on 3,700 communities was astounding to our European colleagues
- Nation states provide little or no technical assistance or support to municipal tree care programs; extension universities do not exist
- Education is universally free in Europe and forestry is a respected science and profession; urban forestry is advancing quickly
- Public investment in parks and greenspace is down, universally; historic gardens have proven difficult to sustain and private fundraising is weak
- Participants were particularly interested in our approach to program marketing and technical assistance, cultural outreach, and investment

- Assessment protocols for urban forest structure and function are in high demand (i-Tree software suite will be used heavily in Europe)
- We can learn from European best practices in post-industrial landscape design and restoration, stormwater mitigation, and roof garden techniques
- Brownfield and landfill redevelopment in Germany, Italy, and Sweden, as well as the United Kingdom, is an important potential area for technology transfer to the U.S.

Next year's forum will be held outside Stuttgart and feature the theme **New Forests from Old Industry**. This will be especially important for landscape architects and city foresters trying to establish viable forests on industrial wasteland. The group's Web site can be found at www.efuf.org.

FOLLOWUP TO INFESTED MULCH WARNING

In early March of 2006, many people received e-mails warning them not to purchase cheap wood mulch at national retail stores because it might be infested with Formosan termites. As of May, these claims seemed to be false. Kyle Lombard, Forest Health Program Coordinator for the New Hampshire Division of Forests and Lands, pointed out that this event provided an "opportunity for us to educate ourselves and the public about the risk of moving firewood and mulch." An excellent factsheet on proper mulching can be accessed at <http://extension.unh.edu/Pubs/HGPubs/gardmulc.pdf>.

CHICAGO USING HEAT INFRARED IMAGERY TO TARGET PLANTING PRIORITIES

The city of Chicago recently used a USDA Forest Service grant to plant 254 trees around 47 public schools, 270 trees in neighborhoods surrounding two coal-fired power plants, and 251 trees in areas of the city with little or no tree cover. Heat infrared imagery was used to detect neighborhood "hot spots" to help determine where tree planting would be most useful over a several-year period. For further information, contact Lubka Benak at lbenak@cityofchicago.org.

HEMLOCK WOOLLY ADELGID FOUND IN MICHIGAN

In August 2006, insect samples collected by Bob Patterson from a hemlock in Emmet County were identified as hemlock woolly adelgid (HWA). In at least 20 years

of HWA survey activities in Michigan, this is the third time the pest has been detected. However, the previous two findings were restricted to nursery stock and quickly destroyed onsite. This is the only time HWA has been found on naturally occurring hemlock in Michigan. This detection underscores the critical need for vigilance when inspecting hemlock and determining the origins of material arriving from out-of-State.

The ecological importance of hemlock is matched by few other tree species. Feeding by HWA typically results in tree mortality in 4 to 10 years. Because of the critical ecological role played by hemlock in northern forests,

the extremely destructive nature of the adelgid, and the fragility of Michigan's hemlock forests, the HWA is among the most serious exotic forest insect pests to have ever entered the State. Michigan Department of Agriculture staff members, in cooperation with Michigan State University and the Michigan Department of Natural Resources, have initiated an intensive, rapid response to this detection. Due to the early detection of this pest, it is hoped that this population can be eradicated. For more information, contact Robin R. Rosenbaum, Plant Industry Section Manager, Michigan Department of Agriculture, at (517) 335-6542. 🌲🍷

RESEARCH FINDINGS

SOUTHERN CENTER FOR WILDLAND-URBAN INTERFACE RESEARCH AND INFORMATION

Flammability of Natural Vegetation and Home Landscapes

This study is comprised of three research projects that were designed to address the issues of wildfire hazard in the wildland-urban interface and investigate different facets of natural vegetation and home landscape flammability.

Post-fire Assessment of Interface Landscapes - This study looked at how building materials and the arrangement and composition of landscape plants influence structural vulnerability during wildfires. Full reports can be found at www.interfacesouth.org/products/research.html.

CLIMATE CHANGE RESEARCH

In a recent study on climate change in the Northeastern U.S., Dr. Cameron Wake, University of New Hampshire, reviewed critical changes from 1899 to 2000. These changes included temperature, growing season length, ice-in and ice-out dates of lakes, bloom dates, precipitation, and snow on the ground—all of which indicated warming, especially over the past 30 years. The strongest pattern of change related to warmer winters (2.8 degrees Fahrenheit warmer), earlier ice-out dates (9-16 days earlier, depending on latitude and elevation), earlier spring blooming dates (lilacs 4 days, apples and grapes 8 days), decreased snow (20-60" less), and fewer days of ground snow cover (16 days less). Adapted from "Indicators of Climate Change in the Northeast over the Past 100 years," by Cameron Wake. For more information, see www.cleanair-coolplanet.org.

POISON IVY—MORE ABUNDANT AND MORE TOXIC

A recent study lead by Duke University found that poison ivy is expanding its growth and toxicity due to increased CO2 levels. About 80 percent of the human population develops rashes from exposure to the plant's allergenic agent, uroshiol. Plants generally respond to greater carbon dioxide levels with increased growth and growth rate, and poison ivy is no exception. Increased CO2 was found to increase the toxicity level of uroshiol, resulting in more severe rashes.

MULCH FLAMMABILITY RESEARCH

Research on the flammability of common garden mulches is the focus of a national study on how wildfires impact home safety. Experiments are being conducted at the Katherine Ordway Preserve in a cooperative effort between the USDA Forest Service Southern Center for Wildland-Urban Interface Research and Information in Gainesville, the University of Florida School of Forest Resources and Conservation, and the National Institute of Standards in Gaithersburg, MD.

Four commonly used mulches—pine, shredded cypress, straw, and large and small pine bark chunks—are being tested for their levels of ignition, flammability, combustibility, and sustainability in controlled burn experiments. The testing is part of a larger effort to reduce the risk of fires in situations where homes are surrounded or bordered by vegetation. For more information about the research, contact Wayne Zipperer at wzipperer@fs.fed.us. 🌲🍷

NEWS FROM THE MID-ATLANTIC STATES

DELAWARE:



Representing the large team that worked on the project and received the award, Valann Budischak and Sue Barton are shown above accepting the award at the Delaware Cooperative Extension banquet. Joy Sparks (middle) presented the award. Congratulations on a job well done!

PLANTS FOR A LIVABLE DELAWARE RECEIVES DELAWARE COOPERATIVE EXTENSION OUTSTANDING PROGRAM AWARD

Plants for a Livable Delaware recently received the Delaware Cooperative Extension Outstanding Extension Program Accomplishment Award. Plants for a Livable Delaware is a campaign to identify and promote superior plants that thrive without becoming invasive. A team of horticulturalists and those involved with invasive plants have created a program to educate nursery growers, garden centers, and consumers about noninvasive plant choices for Delaware. This effort includes two color publications (“Plants for a Livable Delaware” and “Controlling Backyard Invaders”); educational workshops and presentations to the Delaware Nursery and Landscape Association, horticultural professionals, and the general public; and a point-of-purchase pilot program featuring posters and information that garden centers can use to educate customers.

This program has reached thousands in both the horticulture industry and the general public, and has spurred an interest in controlling invasive plants and using better-adapted and more native plants. Team members include Susan Barton, Valann Budischak, and Carrie Finnie, University of Delaware; Gary Schwetz, Delaware Center for Horticulture; Rick Darke, private consultant; Jen Gochenaur, Delaware Nature Society; and Faith Kuehn, Delaware Department of Agriculture.

The Outstanding Extension Program Accomplishment Award recognizes noteworthy program direction, excellent publications, and effective outreach to individuals and families.

NEW STATE URBAN AND COMMUNITY FORESTRY COORDINATOR FOR DELAWARE

We would like to welcome to Henry Poole, who has replaced Bryan Hall as the new State Urban and Community Forestry Coordinator for Delaware. Henry is a graduate of Clemson University with a degree in Forest Resource Management. Prior to taking the urban forestry coordinator position, Henry served as the Delaware New Castle County Forester and in 2004 was promoted to the Utilization Marketing Coordinator. We wish Henry the best in his new position and look forward to working with him.

In a recent review of the Delaware Urban and Community Forestry Program, we had the pleasure of meeting some of the primary partners that support urban forestry efforts in Delaware. We commend these partners for their hard work and commitment to our urban forestry mission.



Henry Poole and his wife Victoria

DELAWARE CENTER FOR HORTICULTURE

The Delaware Center for Horticulture (DCH) is a nonprofit partner that provides a variety of services within New Castle County and the city of Wilmington. Over the past 5 years, the center has worked with the city of Wilmington to manage a variety of natural resources and provide educational outreach to a diverse audience. In addition to their efforts within the city, the center supports regional

initiatives, such as the Urban Forestry Assessment Model evaluation for New Castle County and the annual Tree Spree event, both of which focus on the importance of urban forestry resources. The DCH serves as a major partner to reach underserved communities within the city metro area. For more information, see www.dehort.org.

CITY OF WILMINGTON PARKS & RECREATION DEPARTMENT

The city of Wilmington Parks & Recreation Department is responsible for all tree care activities within the city metro area. Within the past several years, the department has continued to meet this goal through expanded partnerships with various State and county agencies. They have supported community participation efforts through their “Trees are Good,” city model urban forestry innovation grant. City staff members also helped the Penn-Del Chapter of the International Society of Arboriculture host its annual Arbor Day event. For 2006, 27 tree care crews assisted with the pruning and removal of hazardous trees along the city’s oldest parkway, Bancroft Parkway.

OFFICE OF STATE PLANNING

The Urban and Community Forestry (U&CF) Program works with the Office of State Planning to review subdivision plans for proposed development projects in New Castle, Kent, and Sussex Counties. This review provides technical recommendations to developers to preserve and mitigate natural resources in these developing counties. The U&CF Program partners with the State Office of Planning and other State agencies to implement the Preliminary Land Use Service (PLUS) Process. This process has streamlined the review of new development projects and resulted in improved working relationships among State, county, and local governments as well as private development and engineering firms. For FY05, the U&CF Program provided over 750 hours of technical service and reviewed 173 projects to support the PLUS Process. We congratulate Bryan Hall on his new position with the Office of State Planning. For more information, contact Connie Holland at Connie.holland@state.de.us. 🌳

MARYLAND:

Did you know that 80 percent of all Marylanders live in communities that support local urban and community forestry programs at more than two times the minimum level for recognition? Quite impressive!

EMERALD ASH BORER FOUND AGAIN IN MARYLAND

In August 2006, Maryland officials confirmed the presence of the emerald ash borer in ash trees located in the Clinton/Brandywine area of southern Prince George’s County. The affected trees were discovered during survey and eradication efforts begun after the detection of the insect in Maryland in 2003, when a Michigan nurseryman shipped infested trees into a Prince George’s County nursery.

Ash, which is the most common tree in Baltimore with approximately 293,000 trees, accounts for approximately 6 million trees in the Baltimore metropolitan area. The U.S. Department of Agriculture has estimated that losses could exceed \$227 million in the Baltimore area alone if the emerald ash borer were to become established.

The Maryland Department of Agriculture (MDA) issued a Quarantine Order that prohibits anyone from moving ash trees or any hardwood firewood into or out of Prince Georges’s County until further notice. During August and September, the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) and MDA will survey the area and determine the necessary course of action and scope of tree destruction and pest surveillance. The accepted protocol used in Maryland and other impacted States is the removal and destruction of all ash trees in defined areas followed by ongoing surveillance.

PRELIMINARY DATA USING I-TREE STRATUM SHARED BY MIKE GALVIN

Mike Galvin, always on the cutting edge of technology, received his i-Tree CD and decided to install it and run recent planting data from Frederick, MD, through STRATUM. Some of the results of the STRATUM analysis of the planting of 224 trees this spring include the following:

- The cost per planted tree was about \$0.84 per capita for Frederick, MD, residents. The planting will provide an estimated \$6,800 in total annual benefits, or \$30.35 per tree.
- The total annual rainfall interception and stormwater management benefit is expected to be approximately 57,865 gallons at a value of \$573.
- Annual CO2 sequestration was estimated at 13,895 lbs and CO2 avoidance was estimated at 3,063 lbs for a total carbon benefit of 16,776 lbs.
- The estimated annual value of energy cost savings via avoidance is \$500.

Mike commented that this was an interesting first run. He expects to get better with experience, particularly with data collected for this use rather than “retrofitted” after the fact.

This June, Baltimore City adopted a new comprehensive plan that includes its urban tree canopy goal. To learn more, see Urban Forest: www.liveearnplaylearn.com/Portals/0/05LIVE.pdf and appendices Item V. (pg. 235, Tree Canopy. Tree Baltimore: Doubling Baltimore’s Tree Cover) at www.liveearnplaylearn.com/Portals/0/test.pdf

NEW JERSEY:

NEW COMMUNITY FORESTRY PROGRAM OFFICE

Please join us in congratulating New Jersey on the relocation of a new field office for the Community Forestry Program. The new address is DEP- Community Forestry & New Jersey Tree Foundation, 625 Canal Road, Somerset, NJ 08873, phone 609-292-2532.

ANNUAL NEW JERSEY SHADE TREE FEDERATION MEETING TOPIC LIST IMPRESSIVE



New Jersey Certified Tree Experts were recognized recently at the 81st Annual New Jersey Shade Tree Federation meeting. The event brings together State, local, academic, and nonprofit partners to celebrate accomplishments, receive training, and network. The New Jersey Certified Tree Experts who received accreditation this year are pictured above. The New Jersey Community Forestry Program is recognized nationally for its excellence.

Congratulations to all! Well-deserved thanks also go to Bill Porter, who oversees the planning and awards ceremony. The partnering, advocacy, and comradery in this field are outstanding.

The 81st meeting of the New Jersey Shade Tree Federation was held October 27-29, 2006, and included a diversity of topics important to community forestry in New Jersey. Dr. Emile DeVito, Manager of Science at the New Jersey Conservation Foundation, discussed the effect of feeding deer on forest lands. New Jersey Forest Service staff discussed Project Learning Tree, which is becoming an educational resource used by Shade Tree Commissions to engage nearby schools in their work. Dr. Edward Gilman from the University of Florida gave two talks—“Root Structures” and “How to Select Nursery Stock.” Dr. James Lashomb, Dr. Jason Grabosky, and Dr. Ann Brooks Gould provided an update on their research and valuable bacteria leaf scorch vector information.

To learn more about the New Jersey Shade Tree Federation, visit its Web site at www.njstf.org/home.html.

NORTHERN TREES WEB SITE DEVELOPMENT

Rutgers University, in partnership with the University of Florida and USDA Forest Service Northeast Region, is pleased to announce the Northern Trees Web site. This site helps guide users through the process of tree selection and provides a list of possible site-specific trees in hardiness zones 2 through 7 in the Northeastern United States. It also provides extensive cultural and maintenance information and photographs. The principal authors of this system include Dr. Ed Gilman and Dr. Howard Beck, professors at the University of Florida, and Dr. Jason Grabosky from Rutgers.

Although several tools are still under development, the Tree Selector is available for use. The Tree Selector allows users to develop a list of trees by choosing soil, site, and plant attributes with the option of marking more than one value of an attribute. Useful site-specific lists can be generated from searches. The Web site has an extensive list of approximately 1,300 trees by scientific and common name, a site analysis tool and form, and a tree expert system for novices that is still under development. For more information, go to <http://orb.at.ufl.edu/TREES/index.html>.

GREEN CITIES ARE COOL CITIES!

The New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) Community Forestry Program is planting thousands of shade trees in residential neighborhoods across New Jersey’s urban centers to help cool off the urban heat island effect and reduce energy costs. The New Jersey Electric Discount and Energy Competition Act established the Societal Benefits Fund (SBF) in 1999. The fund is now

administered by the Clean Energy Program within the New Jersey Board of Public Utilities (BPU). In 2003, an Assistant Commissioner of the DEP arranged for the BPU to fund the Cool Cities Project with the SBF to plant trees and use GIS computer modeling to calculate the energy saved. A recent program analysis rated the Cool Cities Program as an 8.15 on a scale of 1 to 11 and recognized it as the third most efficient program. (New Jersey Council meeting notes, July 2006)

This project promotes energy conservation and lowers energy costs through tree plantings in neighborhoods. Trees mitigate the urban heat island effect, thus reducing air temperatures and the need for electricity to run air conditioners and fans. Trees also lower heating bills by blocking the cold winter wind. The Cool Cities Project has resulted in the planting of more than 10,000 trees since 2003 and will continue to plant thousands of trees in New Jersey. The Cool Cities Project is a joint effort of the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) and the New Jersey Board of Public Utilities (BPU). Using CITYgreen software, New Jersey has successfully run the model to determine cooling energy savings attributable to the trees in newly planted communities for six municipalities. The model projects energy savings for the first year as well as the estimated 31-year lifespan of the trees. It also takes into consideration many variables, including tree species and growth characteristics as well as current tree health, size, and location related to cooling effects and impervious surfaces. Net cooling benefits for 2005 were estimated to be \$4.1 million and savings over 31 years were an estimated \$279.4 million. 🌳

OHIO:

OHIO USING MCTI FOR EAB INVENTORY WORK

The Ohio Department of Natural Resources has contracted with Davey Resource Group to help the agency assist communities with efficiently and effectively inventorying their ash trees as part of the Emerald Ash Borer Management Plan, thus lessening the economic and environmental burden associated with EAB infestation. The result is a modified version of the i-tree MCTI (Mobile Community Tree Inventory) freeware. During a training session September 25 at the Davey Resource Training Institute in Stow, OH, Ohio State urban foresters learned how to download software, setup and configure the MCTI desktop, synchronize handheld computers with desktop computers, collect data, import data, and generate reports for inventory work in communities pertaining to



Ohio urban foresters Lisa Bowers, Ann Bonner, Alan Siewart, Stephanie Miller, Wendi Van Buren, Lola Lewis, Marianne Prue, and State Urban Forestry Coordinator Drew Todd participate in hands-on training for EAB inventory work at the Davey Resource Training Institute in Stow, OH.

ash removal and replanting. The 1-day training session helped urban foresters better understand the i-Tree suite and MCTI program, and will help them provide technical assistance to communities throughout Ohio. For more information, contact Drew Todd at: Drew.Todd@dnr.state.oh.us.

UPPER ARLINGTON, OHIO, ASKED TO REMOVE ASH

Citing the inevitable arrival of the emerald ash borer, Upper Arlington will become one of the first communities in Ohio to begin cutting down ash trees as a pre-emptive strike against the bugs. “Anybody who would have really looked at the problem would agree that we’re taking the right approach, as unpleasant as it might be,” said Steve Cothrel, the city’s forester. The city will begin removing 700 ash trees in the city right-of-way this year, many of them in neighborhoods north of Lane Avenue, Cothrel said. He said it could take years to eliminate all of the ash trees along the city’s curbs. Removal costs range from about \$30 to more than \$1,000, Cothrel said.

In addition, the city council will introduce a change in the law this month that would force homeowners to remove trees that pose a safety hazard. If they refuse, the city would remove the trees and bill homeowners 50 percent more than the cost.

www.columbusdispatch.com/news-story.php?story=dispatch/2006/04/03/20060403-A1-04.html

TWO COORDINATION MEETINGS HELD WITH WAYNE NATIONAL FOREST PERSONNEL

John Hazel and Donna Murphy met twice with Wayne National Forest Supervisor Mary Redden and executive team members Carleen Yocum, Ann Grasso, Phil Sammon, Devela Clark, and Jarel Bartig to discuss potential opportunities for collaboration with the Morgantown Field Office.

Donna Murphy presented an overview of the Northeastern Area, focusing on the importance of efforts because of the high population densities and the high percentage of privately owned forested lands in the States served. In a brief overview of the Urban and Community Forestry Program, Donna shared the following: how the Morgantown Field Office manages more than 80 urban forestry grants with our partners, technical assistance approaches that have been successful, cross programming highlights, and technology transfer efforts that have helped build very active and successful urban forestry programs across the Mid-Atlantic States and Washington, DC. The meetings are part of a continuing effort in strengthening working partnerships with the Wayne National Forest and our Ohio partners.

One idea that came out of the meetings was for the Wayne National Forest, the Northeastern Area, and the Ohio Department of Forestry to jointly develop a project centered on the theme of the Underground Railroad. Historical documentation shows that routes through areas now under management by the Wayne National Forest were heavily used by individuals escaping slavery in the 1800s. 🌳👤

PENNSYLVANIA:

PA BUREAU OF FORESTRY HIRES NEW URBAN FORESTRY COORDINATOR

We are pleased to announce that Ellen Roane was selected to be the new Urban Forestry Coordinator in the Rural & Community Forestry Section of the Pennsylvania Bureau of Forestry in July. Prior to taking this position, Ellen worked as an assistant district forester in the Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources District 18 Office. She has also worked with the Stewardship Program in the Rural & Community Forestry Section. Ellen can be reached at eroane@state.pa.us. We welcome Ellen and look forward to working with her!

GREENPLAN PHILADELPHIA PROJECT MOVING FORWARD

Under the leadership of the Managing Director’s office, city staffs from 13 departments and agencies have been working in committees to move the GreenPlan Philadelphia project forward. Six GreenPlan Philadelphia committees have been working on specific aspects of the plan, collecting information, and planning for the public launch. The Pennsylvania Horticultural Society has facilitated the community engagement process for GreenPlan Philadelphia. The Managing Director’s office is sharing progress and is committed to soliciting input regarding the goals and objectives of the project, as well as the nature of the community engagement strategy being developed. For more information, contact Robert Allen, Managing Director Assistant, city of Philadelphia, at Robert.Allen@phila.gov.

COMBINING TREE PURCHASES AND USING BARE-ROOT TREES SAVE COMMUNITIES IN NORTHEASTERN PENNSYLVANIA MORE THAN \$1 MILLION

Planting trees in communities can be costly and labor intensive due to the tree size required (12-15 ft. tall with a 2” caliper) to assure their survival on a street. The standard transplanting method—using balled and burlapped trees—includes soil and a root ball weighing approximately 300 pounds for each tree, which usually requires heavy equipment to move the tree around and plant at a site. During the digging process for balled and burlapped trees, approximately 95 percent of the tree’s root system is cut off and left in the nursery, putting these trees under stress or “transplant shock” for a few years. With limited funds, community tree programs must make their dollars go further, use volunteers, and show good tree survival if their program is to be sustained by the community and local tax dollars.

Since 1998, communities in northeastern Pennsylvania have planted more than 6,000 bare-root trees with over 25 communities taking part as well as several organizations, including PennDOT, universities, and professional arborists. Communities save considerable sums of money by ordering together. They also save approximately 40 percent on tree costs and have reduced shipping, labor, and installation costs compared to using balled and burlap trees. In addition, the trees can be easily planted by volunteers and are more often planted at the proper depth because roots are more visible.

Communities saved a total of approximately \$1 million (assuming a \$250 cost to install a balled and burlapped tree), which most likely went into the planting or care of more community trees. In the past few years, this program has expanded to southeastern Pennsylvania and is organized by the Pennsylvania Horticultural Society with assistance from Julianne Schieffer, Penn State Extension Urban Forester in southeastern Pennsylvania. To learn more, contact Vinnie Cotrone at vjc1@psu.edu.

STREET TREE INVENTORY SPEARHEADED BY PENN STATE COOPERATIVE EXTENSION

On June 3, 2006, approximately 30 volunteers each spent 5 hours contributing to the Street Tree Inventory for the Borough of Swissvale. Mark Remcheck, Penn State Cooperative Extension Community Forester for southwestern Pennsylvania, trained the volunteers for their task. Mr. Remcheck also supported the planning and continues to support the ongoing effort to improve the community forest in Swissvale. This effort was led by volunteers with valuable support from the Nine Mile Run Watershed Association and local businesses. Next steps include a resolution supporting street trees in Swissvale and staff members and residents caring for existing street trees and planting more trees. There will be a followup survey to investigate trees that have identified public safety and health issues.

HOMETOWN STREETS PROGRAM BENEFITS URBAN FORESTRY IN PA

Governor Rendell announced that 79 Hometown Streets projects totaling \$52.8 million have been recommended for FY 2006 funding. The Hometown Streets program encourages investment and redevelopment of the State's downtown areas, including a variety of streetscape projects. PennDOT, in partnership with the Keep Pennsylvania Beautiful organization, has announced a Community Greening Award recognition program to encourage individual and group participation in community enhancement projects in the State. Visit www.keppabeautiful.org or contact jwhaley@state.pa.us for more information. 🌳

WEST VIRGINIA:

WEST VIRGINIA TECHNICAL TREE PLANTING FOR COMMUNITIES

Jennifer Brashears, Urban Forestry Technical Specialist with the West Virginia Division of Forestry, is developing a list of approximately 100 tree species that will serve as a starting point for tree planting projects and assist with selections that are compatible with planting site restrictions. The technical document covers the benefit of trees, planting tips, and general considerations for tree selection. The document, "Choosing and Planting Trees for Cities and Communities," is expected to be released soon. For more information, contact Jennifer at wvurbantrees@citlink.net.

WEST VIRGINIA LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE BILL PASSED

The West Virginia State Board of Landscape Architects is pleased to announce that House Bill 4276, "Updating the Regulation of the Practice of Landscape Architecture," was signed into law by Governor Joe Manchin this spring. 🌳

"Little Tree"

Little tree, little tree
 Why won't you say something to me?
 Would you want to be in clean soil,
 Or would you rather be burned or boiled?
 So little tree, little tree,
 Please say something to me.
 I know everybody wants the earth to stay clean,
 So some people don't get really mean.
 But does anybody even worry about the air,
 Or does anybody even care?
 So thank you little tree.
 For remembering me.
 And watch me shout out with great glee
 So little tree I know we can be better.
 So I want to grant you this letter.

2006 National Arbor Day Poetry Contest
 Cody Hese, Moorefield MS
 A West Virginia Arbor Day Winner



PARTNER HIGHLIGHTS

WEB ANALYSIS SHOWS THE VALUE OF TREELINK



TreeLink recently shared a report on some of its recent activities and findings. With its new and reinvigorated board of directors and strong oper-

ating and management principles, TreeLink has created a business plan and marketing package, updated its Web site, upgraded its server to accommodate Web trend analysis, and issued its first annual financial report. The report was sent this year to all State Foresters and is now posted on the Web site under the “About US” section, along with testimonials from many site users and partners.

Several independent surveys were conducted over the past year that validated the important contribution this Web site makes in sustaining the network of citizens and professionals dedicated to tree protection and care. Web trend analysis shows that between January and June, there were:

- 2,551 average visits per day (357,153 total)
- 182,427 unique visitors
- 10.38 minutes per visit
- 29,851 average hits per day (4,179,153 hits total)

Please remember to actively visit TreeLink and support the continued and very important work it does in advocating for urban forestry, educating citizens, and serving as a clearinghouse of information (www.treelink.org/). Remember to update your links to TreeLink!

THE ALLIANCE FOR COMMUNITY TREES (ACT)

ACT keeps a great list of grant opportunities. To view the comprehensive list, go to <http://actrees.org/site/resources/funding/>. ACT is the only national organization solely focused on the needs of nonprofit and community organizations engaged in urban forest protection. Their work improves the environment where 86 percent of Americans live—in cities, towns, and villages.

STAND OF SURVIVING AMERICAN CHESTNUTS MAY HOLD KEY TO RECOVERY

(Reported by Elliott Minor, New York Times, May 19, 2006 – adapted from an article from the New Jersey Shade Tree Federation Vol. 79)

A stand of American chestnut trees that somehow escaped a blight that killed off nearly all their kind in the early 1900s has been discovered along a hiking trail near Warm Springs, Georgia.

The find has stirred excitement among those working to restore the American chestnut, and raises hopes that scientists may be able to use the trees’ pollen to breed hardier chestnut trees.

The largest of the half dozen or so trees is about 40 feet tall and 20 to 30 years old, and is believed to be the southernmost American chestnut discovered so far that is capable of flowering and producing nuts. “This is a terrific find,” said David Keehn, president of the Georgia Chapter of the American Chestnut Foundation. “A tree of this size is one in a million.” The foundation may use pollen from the trees in a breeding program intended to restore the American chestnut population with blight-resistant trees. To see more, go to: www.gatacf.org/rare_american_chestnut_trees.htm.

UC GREEN AND PENN STREET TREE MONITORING PROJECT

The UC Green and Penn Street Tree Monitoring Project, a partnership between University City, UC Green, and the University of Pennsylvania, has resulted in a study looking at how long newly planted street trees live, and the major causes of death and disease for street trees. University of Pennsylvania students and faculty are collaborating with UC Green to monitor street trees in West Philadelphia. Students will annually measure and collect data on 244 trees along Welton Avenue and in Kingsessing Park. For information, contact Amanda Benner, UC Green director, at abenner@ucgreen.org.

URBAN WATERSHED FORESTRY MANUAL PART 3 (URBAN TREE PLANTING GUIDE) RELEASED

The Center for Watershed Protection, in cooperation with the USDA Forest Service, has completed a three-part manual series on using trees to protect and restore urban watersheds. This series is the result of extensive research compiled over the past year and two design workshops involving more than 40 foresters, stormwater engineers, watershed organizations, landscape architects, and other experts. Part 3 of the Urban Watershed Forestry Manual has just been released and can be downloaded free along with Parts 1 and 2 at www.cwp.org.

CHANGES TO THE UTILITY MANAGEMENT INDUSTRY AS A RESULT OF 2003 BLACKOUT

In a spring article in the *Penn Del Arborist News*, Ward Peterson of the Davey Resource Group highlighted changes to utility vegetation management due to the August 2003 Northeast blackout. He discussed current research on how trees cause outages. The research indicates that factors affecting the likelihood of tree-caused outages include line construction with closely spaced conductors and tree limbs that are big enough to conduct electricity before drying out sufficiently to increase the insulating value of the limb.

The North American Electric Reliability Council (NERC) has been charged with creating standards for transmission line vegetation management. Those standards will likely pass this spring and become effective in 1 year. These include creation of a transmission vegetation management program by transmission operators, minimum clearances for vegetation to the conductor based on specific standards, guides for maintenance methods on energized power lines, employment of trained qualified vegetation management personnel, and annual work plans.

TCIA ACCREDITATION

Established in 1938 as the National Arborist Association, today's Tree Care Industry Association (TCIA) accreditation program provides accreditation and certification services for tree care companies and professional arborists. The TCIA Accreditation "seal of approval" helps consumers find tree care companies that have been inspected and accredited based on adherence to industry standards for quality and safety; maintenance of trained, professional staff; and dedication to ethics and quality in business practices.

This year, SavATree Company, which provides tree services in Connecticut, Massachusetts, Maryland, New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania, Virginia, and Washington, D.C., gained TCIA Accreditation for every one of its 18 branches, a first in the industry. The company feels that accreditation shows employees that it cares about being a professional organization, employee safety, and the quality of work performed. It gives one more reason to push employees to comply with safety and tree care standards. Questions regarding accreditation can be directed to Bob Rouse, Director of Accreditation, Tree Care Industry Association, at rouse@tcia.org.

URBAN PARKS SUMMIT HELD IN CHICAGO

Early this summer, the National Recreation and Park Association hosted a groundbreaking "Urban Parks Summit" in Chicago. The event brought together park and recreation professionals, elected officials, and nonprofit partners from across the country. They looked at park systems and discussed how to build a nationwide city parks movement. Keynote speaker Peter Harnik, Director of the Center for City Park Excellence, commended the city of Baltimore and the Parks & People Foundation for winning the Home Depot Foundation's First Place "Large City Award for Excellence in Community Trees" for the work they have done with the Watershed 263 Project. Additional projects are moving ahead in 2006 and more will come based on the city's Water Quality Management Plan and the community's Green Framework, both endorsed by the Watershed 263 Community Stakeholder Council. Many resources have been developed for the Watershed 263 project, including a 30-minute radio program. These resources can be found at www.parksand-people.org/programs_watershed_263.html. 🌳🗳️

MID-ATLANTIC CENTER FOR URBAN AND COMMUNITY FORESTRY

Throughout 2006, in partnership with the Mid-Atlantic State Urban and Community Forestry Coordinators and their partners, and with the help of the Newtown Square Headquarters Office, Morgantown Field Office, and our technology transfer team specialists from across the Northeastern Area, we were able to identify the following high-priority projects for funding. The projects reflect a broad range of technology transfer approaches that include training, Web and CD ROM resources, and new technologies.

We thank all those who have assisted in the identification of these projects, proposal development, and contract execution. In the next issue of the Urban Projects Newsletter, we will focus on the remainder of the technology transfer projects funded throughout the Northeastern Area.

We look forward to working on these important projects. Our work helps to ensure that our trees continue to provide all the benefits that improve our quality of life, and we, as practitioners, can continue to provide the highest quality of life for our community trees.

If you have questions about the projects, please contact me at dmmurphy@fs.fed.us.

Thank you.

Donna Murphy, Coordinator, Mid-Atlantic Center for Urban and Community Forestry

I-TREE TRAIN-THE-TRAINER WORKSHOP

The i-Tree software suite brings together inventory and assessment tools in a single, supported environment. A train-the-trainer i-Tree session will be the fifth in a series of training sessions delivered by The Davey Tree Expert Company. Participants will be provided with step-by-step instructions for conducting ecosystem analysis using UFORE (Urban Forest Effects Model) and street tree analysis using STRATUM (Street Tree Resource Assessment Tool for Urban forest Managers). They will also receive compatible software utilities training for MCTI (Mobile Community Tree Inventory), Storm Damage Assessment Protocol, Tree Inventory PDA Utility, and Sample Inventory Generators. This training approach will give participants the expertise, familiarity, and tools to use i-Tree in the communities they serve. A tentative date in the first week of June 2007 is planned. The location is not finalized, but is expected to be Bethlehem, PA. Space is limited; participation will be based on ability to transfer the tools to other practitioners through an application process.

URBAN FORESTRY BUSINESS VENTURES FORUM

This project will build public support for harvesting urban trees and develop technical tools for utilizing urban wood, a viable, sustainable, and economically feasible solution to minimizing green waste. The Urban Forestry Business Ventures Wood Utilization forum will be hosted by the Parks & People Foundation. The forum will feature presentations by experts in the forest products and natural resource management fields from the USDA Forest Service, Maryland Department of Natural Resources, and the private business sector, among others. The forum will target representatives from Federal, State, and local natural resource agencies, regional tree removal and landscape installation companies, tree nurseries, and nonprofit community venture organizations. Participants will share resources related to harvesting, sawing, and marketing, while providing strategies to understand and market the benefits of utilizing urban trees.

MANAGING PUBLIC TREES AND LANDSCAPES: INTERACTIVE WEB GUIDE FOR TREE AND OTHER MUNICIPAL COMMISSIONS

This project will develop the resources necessary to build an interactive Web guide for tree and other municipal commissions involved in planning and managing street trees, parks, and other public landscapes. The goal is to provide resources in an interactive Web site that enables users to not only read but learn by communicating with others, asking and answering questions, and using self-paced tutorials. The Web site will include a feedback component for users to test the knowledge they have gained and evaluate the materials. A major component of this work will be adapted from the updating and revision of "A Guide to Municipal Tree Commissions" (2000). Deliverables will include text and resources for the Web site as well as a downloadable copy of the guide from the Web site.

ENVIRONMENTAL PLANNING AND ZONING EDUCATIONAL CD

In July 2005, an Environmental Planning and Zoning Education Program was conducted for the Ohio Division of Forestry. The workshop presented an overview of regulatory tools that communities could use to protect natural resources. Regulatory tools developed will be revised to suit a larger audience. Key issues include prioritizing remaining critical open spaces in communities, the logistics of various conservation initiatives and policies, and an indepth review of sample zoning code language. Resources will be developed to help urban foresters, planners, and other decisionmakers understand how variations in conservation development land use controls contribute to open space protection or, sometimes, degradation. A CD will be created with a searchable function that simplifies its use.

LIVABLE PLANTS SERIES SUPPORTING NATURE CONSERVANCY'S CODE OF CONDUCT INITIATIVE

This project will support the development of a third Livable Delaware publication titled "Livable Plants in the Home Landscape," which will provide suggestions for native plant groupings to replace invasive species. The goal is to increase public awareness of the threat that invasive plants have on nearby natural systems. The project will also increase visibility of The Nature Conservancy Voluntary Codes of Conduct pilot initiative

in the Mid-Atlantic by developing a survey process that rates the overall success of marketing and participation at a larger scale than the Livable Delaware series. This publication will be a complimentary piece to the overall Livable Delaware effort and will be available through the Delaware Center for Horticulture. A downloadable version less specific to Delaware will be posted on USDA Forest Service Web sites.

ENHANCEMENTS TO THE ELECTRONIC TREE RISK ASSESSMENT CALCULATOR (ETRAC+) DESKTOP REPORTING APPLICATION

Funding will complete the development of the Electronic Tree Risk Assessment Calculator with the addition of

a desktop reporting application. The final development phase will include an asset manager component of the freeware previously developed by the Northeast Center for Urban and Community Forestry. The Electronic Tree Risk Assessment Calculator (ETRAC+) Desktop Reporting Application will enable users to generate tabular reports and parameter-driven graphics, and use budget analysis tools based on defined risks associated with individual datasets. The final phase includes development of updated desktop utilities, a user manual that provides recommendations for creating customized reports, and management options using local costs. 🌳📊

TECH TRANSFER RESOURCES

FROM SKETCH TO STREET: DESIGN FOR THE URBAN FOREST

This popular 16-minute video and CD-ROM developed and distributed by the USDA Forest Service Northeast Center for Urban and Community Forestry has now been reprinted and is available in limited quantities through the Forest service. The target audience includes landscape planners, architects, arborists, tree wardens, and municipal arborists who work on the planning and planting of trees in streetscape settings. Information on obtaining the CD ROM will be posted on the Northeastern Area's urban forestry Web site at www.na.fs.fed.us/urban/index.shtm.

THE STATE OF CHESAPEAKE FORESTS

Synthesizing more than a decade's worth of data, this report represents a comprehensive picture of the state of these critical forests. It identifies current and future threats, sets large restoration and protection goals, and suggests strategic actions to benefit all. The full report can be found at www.chesapeakebay.net/stateoftheforests.htm.

FROM THE WOODS – COMMUNITY FORESTS

The Penn State College of Agricultural Sciences Cooperative Extension has developed a four-page colorful printed factsheet on community forests. It covers what they are, the benefits they provide, and the increased value they provide to communities (2005 CATUH173). This publication is available from the Cooperative Extension Publications Distribution Center by calling 814-865-6713.

TREES: A PROSPECTUS A SOLID GREEN INVESTMENT

This well-done, colorful 12-page document by the National Tree Trust targets financial decisionmakers in cities and municipalities. It promotes the value of investing in community forests and discusses how investments might grow using a sampling of how investment in healthy urban forests compounds with interest.

RUBBERSIDEWALKS, INC.

A small, woman-owned California business, is marketing modular-California tire rubber interlocking sidewalk paving systems. Rubbersidewalks are made from 100 percent recycled crumb rubber from waste tires, mixed with polyurethane resin and colorant and molded under pressure using steam-generated heat to reduce energy demands. Colors include gray, terra cotta, and black. For more information, see www.rubbersidewalks.com.

THE SMART WATERSHED BENCHMARKING TOOL

Using lessons learned from around the country, a self-assessment tool has been developed that helps local communities integrate and align their urban watershed programs to meet their water resource goals. It is intended that the tool will help program managers make better decisions about watershed restoration priorities. Local watershed groups can also use this tool by determining how their community compares to others and work with their local governments to encourage adoption of practices that would improve scores. To download the guide, go to www.cwp.org.

TREERADAR™: MRI FOR TREES

Radar Imaging for Noninvasive Assessment of Tree and Root Health Structure and Integrity. The Tree Radar Unit (TRU™) radar imaging system creates a high-resolution, noninvasive image of the internal structure of a tree and its root mass. This image fills a critical gap in the quantitative analysis of tree health and structural integrity. Please check out www.treeradar.com's new updated Web site or contact Anthony N. Mucciardi, Ph.D, President, TreeRadar, Inc., 301.589.2265 (voice) with questions.

FROM TRADITIONAL TO REFORMED: A REVIEW OF THE LAND USE REGULATIONS IN THE NATION'S 50 LARGEST METROPOLITAN AREAS

Rolf Pendall, Robert Puentes, and Jonathan Martin, August 2006. See www.brookings.edu/metro/pubs/20060802_Pendall.pdf.

LIVABILITY 101: WHAT MAKES A COMMUNITY LIVABLE?

Richly illustrated with photographs and drawings, the American Institute of Architecture produced this free online publication in December 2005. It shows what works for communities across the country, and abstracts useful principles and rules of thumb for citizens, architects, and other professionals working in cities. In a packed 58 pages, this piece addresses physical design from the level of the park bench to that of a municipal region. Architects present smart, quality design that engenders economically, socially, and environmentally successful places that people care for and love. www.aia.org/liv_liv101/.

USDA NATIONAL AGROFORESTRY CENTER (NAC) just released an updated Web site. Two new features of interest include an agroforestry image gallery and an NAC blog that covers agroforestry related news and issues. To learn more, see www.unl.edu/nac.

BALTIMORE ECOSYSTEM STUDY BULLETIN released - See it online at www.beslter.org/frame2-page_7.html.

WILDLAND-URBAN INTERFACE PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM

The Southern Group of State Foresters, in partnership with the USDA Forest Service Southern Center for Wildland-Urban Interface Research and Information, the University of Florida School of Forest Resources and Conservation, and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, has developed a wildland-urban interface professional development program. The program provides natural resource agencies with a set of flexible resources to conduct their own training programs.

The program includes trainer's guides, factsheets, exercises, case studies, presentations, and much more. See www.interfacesouth.org/products/training/changing_roles.html.

CITY OF MANCHESTER CEMETERY DVD DOCUMENTARY

The city of Manchester recently produced a documentary DVD, which is an excellent resource for cemetery managers and captures well the strategic value of the property and activities that took place in partnership with multiple municipal and educational institutions. Copies of materials are available through the University of New Hampshire Cooperative Extension. For more information and copies of materials, contact mary.tebo@unh.edu.

KNOW THAT LAWN WEED WEB SITE

Michigan State has a well-designed turf weed identification site at www.msuturfweeds.net. Numerous pictures of each weed allow for more ready recognition of key features. There is also information on habitat, alternative common names, management, and a look-alike section, which is especially helpful. The look-alike section notes key features that distinguish the alternative possibilities for the weed to be identified.

GUIDEBOOK FOR PROTECTING FORESTS AND FOREST PRACTICE

through local laws and zoning in New York. Three thousand copies of the publication were printed and distributed to municipal government contacts and State service forestry personnel. More than 10 workshops were conducted to introduce the guide, and an innovative Web site was developed to supplement the workshops and track demand for the content. Visit the site at www.nyforests.org.

'EDENS LOST AND FOUND,' a four-part PBS series on efforts to reclaim nature in American cities. The series begins with "Chicago: City of the Big Shoulders." Mayor Daley's efforts are spotlighted.

The following episode is about Philadelphia. For more information, go to www.edenslostandfound.org/.

DVD ON NEW YORK INVASIVE SPECIES AND THEIR THREAT TO THE NYC WATERSHED

This DVD contains conference materials that dealt with four invasive species: the emerald ash borer, Asian longhorned beetle, hemlock woolly adelgid, and the viburnum leaf beetle, in addition to sudden oak death syndrome. Materials are targeted at residents of watershed communities, foresters, landscapers, and community leaders. For more information, contact Susan Gooberman at treesny@treeny.com.



URBAN AND COMMUNITY FORESTRY

Calendar of Events, Meetings, and Conferences

November 2006 to February 2007

Also Available Online at:

www.fs.fed.us/na/morgantown/uf/ufcalendar.html

2006

November

- 2 **Electrical Hazards Awareness Programs**
Location: Berlin, Connecticut
Event Type: Conf **Program:** UCF
Info: Rita Smith (888) 919-2872
- 3 **Managing Land and Visitors**
Location: Leominster, Massachusetts
Event Type: Conf **Program:** UCF
Info: Trustees of Reservations (978)840-4446
- 3 **Annual NW Ohio Urban Forestry Seminar**
 This event will include many exceptional speakers, a day at Bluffton University, refreshments, and several ISA and SAF CEU's for a fee of \$9.00.
Location: Bluffton University, Ohio
Event Type: Event **Program:** Other
Info: Registration Online
Link: <http://www.ohiodnr.com/forestry/Urban/meetings.htm>
- 9 - 11 **Tree Care Industry Expo 2006**
 Baltimore Convention Center
Location: Baltimore, Maryland
Event Type: Event **Program:** UCF
Info: Register On-line! (800) 733-2622.
Link: <http://128.241.193.252/index.aspx>
- 12 - 16 **The Leading Practices in Smart Growth Symposium**
 An introductory session outlining the principles of smart growth, illustrated with examples from cities and counties across the country; concurrent case study sessions offering leading practices from cities and regions that have successfully integrated smart growth into their growth management practices; a special three-hour skill-building workshop focusing on the public manager's role as catalyst in handling community conflict that may arise around growth and development issues.
Location: Boston, Massachusetts
Event Type: Conf **Program:** UCF
Info: Meghan Sharp (202) 962-3532
Email: msharp@icma.org
Link: <http://www.brownfields2006.org/en/Article.58.aspx>
- 14 **Teleconference Available: Tree Worker Safety, What You Don't Know Can Kill You**
 Arborists work in one of the most high-risk environments and suffer a fatality rate approximately 10 times higher than the all-industry average. The most common accidents are "struck-by", either a limb or the tree, followed by falls. This session will provide an overview of the fatalities and serious injuries occurring in our industry during the past year and, more importantly, cover how you can avoid becoming one of these statistics.
Location: South Dakota State University, SD
Event Type: Training **Program:** UCF
Info: Rita McKenzie (765) 494-3625
Email: mckenzie@purdue.edu
Link: <http://www.agriculture.purdue.edu/fnr/>
- 14 **Starting a Community Tree program**
Location: Penn State Mckeesport Campus, PA
Event Type: Conf **Program:** UCF
Info: Mark Remcheck (724) 228-6940
Email: mar15@psu.edu
- 15 **Horticulture Training for Spanish Speaking Professionals**
 This training event will be held at the Montgomery County 4H Center.
Location: Creamery, Pennsylvania
Event Type: Training **Program:** UCF
Info: Mary Conklin (610) 489-4315
- 15 - 16 **Fall i-Tree Training Workshop**
 A 4-day intensive i-Tree workshop is being scheduled for fall 2006 in coming after the public release of i-Tree this summer. This workshop will provide more in-depth hands on training for users at the local level.
Location: Minneapolis, Minnesota
Event Type: Training **Program:** UCF
Info: Training filled

- 17 - 19 **Chesapeake Watershed Forum**
 Targeted at watershed organizations and local governments. The forum will feature seven tracks over three days, including 41 sessions, three computer labs, eight facilitated discussions and two field trips.
Location: Sheperdstown, West Virginia
Event Type: Conf **Program:** Other
Info: Registration Online
Link: <http://www.AllianceChesBay.org>
- 20 **ISA Certified Arborist Exam**
Location: Collegeville, Pennsylvania
Event Type: Exam **Program:** UCF
Info: Julianne Schieffer (610) 489-4315
Email: jxs51@psu.edu
- 21 **Certified Arborist Exam**
 814.333.7460 (Scott)
Location: Springfield, Pennsylvania
Event Type: Exam **Program:** UCF
Info: Julianne Schieffer/Scott Sjolander (610) 489-431

December

- 2 **ISA Certified Arborist Exam**
Location: Mill Hall, Pennsylvania
Event Type: Exam **Program:** UCF
Info: Scott A. Sjolander (814) 333-7460
Email: sas305@psu.edu
- 3 - 6 **American Society of Consulting Arborists Expect the Best 2006 ASCA Annual Conf.**
 Three-day conference at the Silverado Resort in NAPA California. Includes many seminar's and workshop's.
Location: NAPA, California
Event Type: Conf **Program:** Other
Info: Online Registration
Link: <http://www.asca-consultants.org/conferences.html>
- 12 **PA Urban and Community Forestry Council Board Meeting**
 DCNR Bureau of Topographic and Geologic Services office.
Location: Middletown, Pennsylvania
Event Type: Meeting **Program:** UCF
Info: Ellen Roane
Email: eroane@state.pa.us

- 13 - 15 **Conservation Education : Training Partnership for Non-Formal Environmental Education.**
 This program will provide intense training for nearly 3 days in the content of the guidelines which comprise of a set of recommendations for developing and administering high quality non-formal environmental education programs, presentation techniques, and specifically how to provide training to others on their use.
Location: T.B.D.
Event Type: Training **Program:** Other
Info: Susan Cox; Don Howlett; Barbara McGuiness
Emails: Susan: smcox@fs.fed.us;
 Don: dhowlett@fs.fed.us;
 Barbara: bmcguiness@fs.fed.us

2007

January

- 17 - 18 **Arborist Short Course**
 This course will be held at the Montgomery County 4H Center.
Location: Creamery, Pennsylvania
Event Type: Event **Program:** UCF
Info: Julianne Schieffer (610) 489-4315
Email: jxs51@psu.edu
- 17 - 18 **Estimating and Bidding for Landscape Installation**
 Event will be held at the Lehigh County Agricultural Center.
Location: Allentown, Pennsylvania
Event Type: Event **Program:** Other
Info: Emelie Swackhamer (610) 391-9840
- 21 - 24 **U.S. Composting Council**
 A number of interesting topics related to composting. Fundamentals of composting; Green roofs for healthy cities; Compost uses in agriculture, horticulture, landscaping, etc.
Location:
Event Type: Conf **Program:** UCF
Info: Stuart Buckner
Email: buckstop@vdot.net
Link: <http://www.compostingcouncil.org>

February

4 - 6 **International Society of Arboriculture:
Pennsylvania-Deleware Chapter : 2007
Annual Symposium**

Many guest speakers such as Bonnie Appleton, Bob Benjamin, Bruce Fraedrich, Scott Guiser, Gregg Hoover, Joe Lentz, Chris Luley, Mike Oleykowski, and Andrew Salvatore.

Location: T.B.D.

Event Type: Conf **Program:** Other

4 **ISA Certified Arborist Exam**

Location: Lancaster, Pennsylvania

Event Type: Exam **Program:** UCF

Info: Scott Sjolander (814) 333-7460

Email: sas305@psu.edu

Link: <http://crawford.extension.psu.edu>

5 - 6 **42nd Annual Penn-Del ISA Shade Tree
Symposium**

Lancaster Host Resort

Location: Lancaster, Pennsylvania

Event Type: Conf **Program:** UCF

Info: Betsy Wertz (215) 795-0411

Email: penndelisa05@comcast.net

6 - 8 **2007 Pennsylvania Landscape & Nursery
Conference**

The Conference will be held at The Penn State Conference Center Hotel.

Location: State College, Pennsylvania

Event Type: Conf **Program:** UCF

Info: Linda Weiss (800) 898-3411

Email: lweiss@plna.com

7 - 9 **Conservation Education : Training
Partnership for Non-Formal Environmental
Education.**

This program will provide intense training for nearly 3 days in the content of the guidelines which comprise of a set of recommendations for developing and administering high quality non-formal environmental education programs, presentation techniques, and specifically how to provide training to others on their use.

Location: T.B.D.

Event Type: Training **Program:** Other

Info: Susan Cox; Don Howlett; Barbara McGuiness

Email: Susan: smcox@fs.fed.us

Don: dhowlett@fs.fed.us

Barbara: bm McGuiness@fs.fed.us

11 - 13 **Ohio Chapter ISA : 2007 Ohio Tree Care
Conference**

Location: Columbus, Ohio

Event Type: Conf **Program:** Other

Info: *Link:* <http://www.ohiochapterisa.org/announcements.htm>

11 - 15 **Tree Care Industry Association (TCIA) :
Winter Management Conference**

Held in Cancun, Mexico. There are 10 hours of stimulating educational sessions.

Location:

Event Type: Conf **Program:** Other

Info: *Link:* http://www.treecareindustry.org/Public/meetings_winter_management_conference.htm

The next issue of **Urban Projects** from the Morgantown Field Office will be this Winter.

Please send articles or events to:

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dmmurphy@fs.fed.us