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# Urban Projects

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

## MARYLAND'S INNOVATIVE APPROACH TO URBAN TREE CANOPY ASSESSMENT GOALS

In a recent workshop held in historic Annapolis, MD, discussion focused on setting urban tree canopy (UTC) goals and considerations for institutionalizing UTC goals by working with elected officials, local governing bodies, nonprofit organizations, community groups, and other entities. The workshop opened with an overview of the Chesapeake Bay urban canopy goals adopted as part of the 2003 Expanded Riparian Forest Buffer Goals, and then moved through a process for UTC assessment and data collection developed by the Maryland Department of Natural Resources Forest Service. Mike Galvin of the Maryland Forest Service highlighted some key considerations for carrying out a successful UTC plan, including identification of priority sites, regular evaluation, target identification, incorporation into local plans, and educational and outreach activities. Annapolis and Baltimore case studies were presented.

Because the need to integrate social and ecological data in UTC goal setting is so great, Morgan Grove, USDA Forest Service, shared how the Forest Opportunity Spectrum (FOS) framework can be used to

achieve goals that are ecologically possible, economically feasible, and socially preferable. Morgan led the group through a process to identify and characterize forest canopy enhancement opportunities using the FOS skiing symbols "green circles, blue squares, and black diamonds" that help users be mindful of the questions asked and level of data needed for more indepth analysis of this kind.

The development and application of the FOS to Baltimore has made it clear that a set of GIS tools are needed for decisionmaking analysis. FOS products and tools can be used for making policy, management, and assessment decisions in a community. The tools, which can be found at <http://www.unri.org/fos>, are the first in a series of easy-to-use, fully functional products that the FOS initiative will be providing to the public in upcoming months. Development and testing of additional products are currently underway and will be made available as soon as feasible. If you would like to provide feedback or suggest a new tool for inclusion in the FOS toolbox, please take the time to contact the FOS development team using the "Contact Us" link at the bottom of the FOS tools Web site page.

*(Continued on page 4)*

## NEWS FROM THE USDA FOREST SERVICE

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### NORTHEASTERN AREA DIRECTOR PRESENTS AWARDS

Kathryn Maloney, director of the USDA Forest Service State and Private Forestry Northeastern Area (NA), established a series of special awards to recognize outstanding work by NA employees that demonstrates dedication in support of the Area’s goals. Each award is based on substantiated and documented accomplishment.

The award categories include the Individual Performance Award, the Team Achievement Award, the Special Achievement in Civil Rights or Recruitment Award, and the Outstanding Unit Award. Nominations may be made by anyone, but each must be reviewed and submitted through the individual’s supervisor. An Awards Recommendation Committee reviews the nominations and documents how the accomplishments of the nominee(s) met the goals of the Agency and the Northeastern Area.

The Director’s Team Achievement Award recognizes outstanding achievement by a team on a key project(s) that was completed and met one or more goals identified by the Northeastern Area, the USDA Forest Service, and its customers. After assessing the nominations for the Team Achievement Award, reviewers provided similar feedback—“I was most impressed with the teamwork and accomplishments,” “Accomplishments were clearly linked to [NA] goals,” and “Nominees had good supporting documentation.”

Maloney selected the Ohio Emerald Ash Borer Project Team to receive the Director’s Award this year. This interagency team includes Dan Twardus–FHP, Karen Sykes–FRM, Anne Cumming–FRM, Al Steele–FH&Econ, Ann Steketee–IMA, and Bob Acciavatti–FHP, all from the Morgantown Field Office; and State Forester John Dorka, Deputy State Forester Andy Ware, Drew Todd, Andy Sabula, Rich Cappell, and Dan Balsar of the Ohio Department of Natural Resources. This interdisciplinary team began a program to plan, develop, implement, and monitor efforts to address the emerald ash borer infestation in Ohio. The team combined resources and shared ideas to effectively address forest management and protection issues.

### COMMUNITY TREE INVENTORY WORKSHOPS HELD THROUGHOUT THE NORTHEAST

Last fall, the States of Vermont, Maine, and Rhode Island partnered with the USDA Forest Service Durham Field

Office to host a series of workshops on using new tools to inventory and manage urban tree populations. The workshops provided a basic introduction on how to conduct community tree inventories with emphasis on using some of the new tools, software, and technology that is now available. The training focused on using personal digital assistants (PDAs) and software called MCTI (Mobile Community Tree Inventory) developed by Dr. David Bloniarz, USDA Forest Service. MCTI allows users to conduct a tree inventory in the field using a small handheld PDA, and then transfer this information to a personal computer. Attendees received hands-on instruction in using a PDA and other inventory tools. Citizen tree stewards, tree wardens, Parks and Public Works staff, arborists, and foresters attended the workshops. John Parry developed and delivered training for all workshops; Jill Johnson assisted with workshop delivery in Vermont and Maine, and Donna Murphy assisted in Rhode Island. Training sessions in New York and New Hampshire are planned for June 2006. For more information, contact John Parry via e-mail at [jparry@fs.fed.us](mailto:jparry@fs.fed.us).

### LIVING MEMORIALS PROJECT DESIGN COLLABORATIVE PUBLICATION RELEASED

In late 2001, Congress authorized the USDA Forest Service to create the Living Memorials Project to utilize the resonant power of trees and green space to create lasting, living memorials to the victims of terrorism, their communities, and the Nation. To date, 50 living memorials projects throughout the Northeast and Mid-Atlantic region have been created.

The Living Memorials Project Design Collaborative was initiated to increase citizen involvement in the design process. It applied site analysis in a post-September 11 environment and used the design skills of students while providing them with hands-on experience in a professional, public setting. The publication documents the successes, failures, and lessons learned from that process.

“I hope the synopsis of the successes, failures, and lessons learned from the design collaborative project serves to pique the curiosity of others interested in urban design, architecture, and renewal to seek further information about how they might initiate and participate in similar projects,” said Matt Arnn, Northeastern Area Landscape Architect, who oversaw the process. The document is available at [www.livingmemorialsproject.net](http://www.livingmemorialsproject.net). Questions should be directed to Matt Arnn at [marnn@fs.fed.us](mailto:marnn@fs.fed.us). 🌲

## NEWS FROM THE MID-ATLANTIC STATES

### DELAWARE:

#### USDA FOREST SERVICE FOREST HEALTH PROTECTION INVASIVE SPECIES PROGRAM SUPPORTS DELAWARE’S FIGHT AGAINST INVASIVE PLANTS

Exotic and introduced invasive species continue to degrade public and private natural lands throughout the country. Unfortunately, many growers and garden centers continue to promote the use of these plants as viable, attractive garden selections with disregard to the negative environmental impacts they have on natural systems. In a continued effort to increase awareness of this issue, the USDA Forest Service Forest Health Protection Invasive Plants Program is supporting the development of a third Livable Delaware publication titled “Livable Plants in the Home Landscape.” The publication follows two well-received publications by the Delaware Center for Horticulture (DCH) and University of Delaware Cooperative Extension Service—”Plants for a Livable Delaware” and “Controlling Backyard Invasives.”

In addition to developing the new publication, partners will initiate an outreach campaign that supports the Nature Conservancy’s Code of Conduct program that recognizes nurseries, garden centers, green industry, and professionals who embrace a higher standard of professional conduct by agreeing not to grow, promote, use, or sell invasive plants. Funding was made available through efforts of the Delaware Forest Service Urban Forestry Program and the USDA Forest Service Mid-Atlantic Center for Urban and Community Forestry. For more information, please contact Gary Schwetz, DCH, at [schwetz@dehort.org](mailto:schwetz@dehort.org).

### DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA:

#### DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA ESTABLISHES DEPARTMENT OF THE ENVIRONMENT

District of Columbia Mayor Anthony A. Williams praised members of the DC Council for unanimously passing legislation that established the District Department of the Environment (DDOE). The new DDOE will enhance the city’s efforts to protect and improve the environment by consolidating environmental functions that were scattered among several city agencies. Having a department that will focus solely on the environment will enable DC to operate

more efficiently to improve the city’s air quality, clean local rivers and streams, and enhance trees, parks, and open spaces.

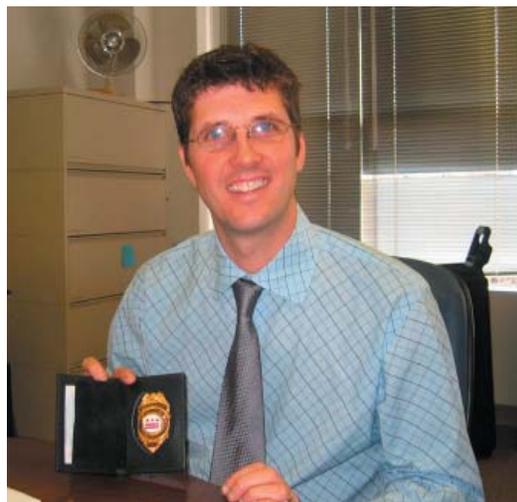
Highlights of the bill’s provisions include transfer of the following bureaus to the new DDOE:

- Bureau of Environmental Quality, which is responsible for air and water quality, watershed protection, and fisheries and wildlife
- Bureau of Hazardous Materials and Toxic Substances, which enforces laws relating to hazardous waste
- DC Water and Sewer Authority
- Office of Energy from the Department of Public Works

The DDOE will establish policy-making responsibility for tree management policies that will be transferred from the District Department of Transportation (DDOT).

#### DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA URBAN FORESTERS GIVEN BADGES

Congratulations to the DC Urban Forestry Administration. All DC arborists were given badges to help enforce the city’s new Tree Bill. The badge allows arborists to go onto private property and issue citations and stop-work orders, which is unprecedented in the Nation. Washington, DC, has many newly planted trees, urban forestry staff morale is high, and there are now 1.5 certified arborists for each of 8 wards in the city.



John Thomas displays badges DC urban foresters now have to help enforce higher tree care standards in DC.

## UPDATE ON CASEY TREES ACTIVITIES

Adapted from Casey Trees News Fall 2005; for more info see [www.caseytrees.org](http://www.caseytrees.org).

Casey Trees recently released “Planting Trees, Growing Communities,” a report to the DC community on the programs and work of Casey Trees during the first 4 years of its existence. The 24-page color publication highlights partnerships that have helped to restore, enhance, and protect the tree canopy of the Nation’s capital. The report is posted on the Casey Trees Web site.

Casey Trees has been awarded a grant from the EPA to develop a “Green Build-Out Model for the District of Columbia.” The model will quantify the cumulative storm-water benefits of trees and green roofs. The findings will demonstrate the value of including green infrastructure in the city’s long-term water management plans.

Preliminary findings from a summer 2005 survey of the effects of Dutch elm disease (DED) on the District’s elms indicate that nearly 5 percent of the city’s elms are infected. The DED survey was conducted in collaboration with the National Park Service, USDA Forest Service, and the District’s Urban Forestry Administration. The DED data were collected over a 4-week period by trained summer volunteers. A National Park Service survey of 2,700 American elms on the Mall conducted at the same time found an infection rate of just over 1 percent. 🌳🍂

## MARYLAND:

*(Continued from page 1)*

### MARYLAND’S INNOVATIVE APPROACH TO URBAN TREE CANOPY ASSESSMENT GOALS CONT.

For more information:

UCF Tree Canopy Enhancement Manual: The Chesapeake Bay Program is currently developing a UCF Tree Canopy Enhancement Manual that will build on workshop findings and hydrological, physical, and social science. It is due for completion in the summer of 2006. Contact Sally Claggett ([sclaggett@fs.fed.us](mailto:sclaggett@fs.fed.us)).

Report on Baltimore’s Present and Potential UTC: contact Mike Galvin ([mgalvin@dnr.state.md.us](mailto:mgalvin@dnr.state.md.us)).

Forest Opportunity Spectrum: contact Morgan Grove ([mgrove@fs.fed.us](mailto:mgrove@fs.fed.us)).

## MARYLAND TAKES THE LEAD IN TREE RISK EVALUATION TRAINING

The Maryland Department of Natural Resources Forest Service Urban and Community Forestry program hosted a daylong training session on tree risk assessment for Maryland Park Service staff on December 14 in the Greenbriar State Park Auditorium. The training was attended by 32 participants. The training used the urban tree risk assessment methodology developed by the USDA Forest Service and included presentations on defining risk, detecting and assessing risk trees, correcting tree defects, preventing tree defects, and prioritizing risk. Afternoon sessions focused on field evaluations. The training was delivered by Becky Wilson, Mike Kay, John Leaf, and Kevin Moore, Maryland Forest Service instructors and ISA Certified Arborists.

To date, the Maryland Forest Service has taken the lead in tree risk training with the delivery of two regional training sessions attended by 140 people and one local training session attended by approximately 100 participants.

## STATE OF MARYLAND PARTNERS PLEDGE TO INCREASE CANOPY COVER

On January 23, 2006, a memorandum of understanding was signed by the USDA Beltsville Agriculture Research Center (BARC), State of Maryland, U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service Patuxent Research Refuge, NASA Goddard Space Flight Center, and U.S. Army Fort George G. Meade. Collectively, these organizations own and manage over 40 square miles of land, 64 percent of which is either forested or wetland. The partnership seeks to expand tree canopy cover, conserve and improve wildlife habitat, reduce nutrient and sediment pollution to the Chesapeake Bay, promote coordinated land management and collaborative scientific research at these facilities, and offer environmental education opportunities to the public.

## MIKE GALVIN REPORTS FINDINGS FOLLOWING TROPICAL STORM ISABEL

In a recent article titled “Trees and Their Impact on Electric Reliability During and Following Tropical Storm Isabel,” Mike Galvin noted several interesting findings:

- A majority of dead or damaged roadside trees in the Baltimore-Washington corridor occurred in the same area as the majority of utility outages.
- Adherence to proper tree care practice has been demonstrated to improve electric reliability.

- A new treatment paradigm that addresses trees that are not traditionally treated and focuses on amelioration of mechanical defects and storm forces on tree crowns using tree pruning, removal, and replacement may reduce the severity of tree-related utility outages during storms.

The findings were shared in a conference sponsored by the Integration and Application Network, a faculty initiative of the University of Maryland Center for Environmental Science. The proceedings are available at <http://www.chesapeake.org/pubs/Isabel/isabel.htm>. The noted paper is located in the Management, Preparedness, and Response: Isabel and Future Storms section.

### **GROWING HOME CAMPAIGN ENCOURAGES TREE PLANTING ON PRIVATE PROPERTY**

On Monday, April 3, 2006, the Growing Home Campaign will be publicly announced at a kickoff event in Baltimore, MD. The Growing Home Campaign is Baltimore County’s pilot program to encourage citizens to collectively plant 10,000 trees in their yards this spring by providing education and incentives. In addition to providing information about the benefits of planting trees in urban areas, recommendations for species selection, and guidance on planting and caring for young trees, the county will join local garden centers and nurseries to give a \$10 coupon to citizens toward the purchase of a tree valued at more than \$25. The event will also announce the financial contribution of the first sponsor, the Baltimore Gas and Electric Company. This 1-year program is supported by USDA Forest Service funding via the Chesapeake Bay Small Watershed Grants Program administered through the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation. For more information about the Growing Home Campaign, contact Donald C. Outen at 410.887.4488, ext. 238, or by e-mail at [douten@co.ba.md.us](mailto:douten@co.ba.md.us).

### **WATERSHED 263 PROCESS BEING SHARED WITH BOSTON AND DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA**

The Parks & People Foundation in Baltimore, MD, has worked with Revitalizing Baltimore to develop an innovative community-based model for addressing nonpoint source pollution and stormwater runoff in urban watersheds affecting the Chesapeake Bay. The focus is on community stewardship by using innovative urban and community forestry methods such as a “green-infrastructure” inventory and small-scale, nonstructural forest restoration. The process is being implemented in a 930-acre urban stormwater sewer watershed known as “Watershed 263.”

Although assessments of these techniques are still ongoing, they have shown great promise in achieving measurable changes in ultra-urban watershed ecosystem health. The Baltimore Ecosystem Study has committed to long-term monitoring of project outcomes, and the process is being shared through the Urban Ecology Collaborative with the Urban Ecology Institute in Boston and Casey Trees in Washington, DC. Both organizations have chosen a small watershed on which to focus efforts that include conducting green infrastructure surveys, identifying water quality problems, and developing strategies, in partnership with neighborhood community groups, to undertake greening projects that can effectively mitigate stormwater management problems. The work has been funded in part with a USDA Forest Service Forest Innovation Grant. Many of the resources developed for the Watershed 263 project, including a 30-minute radio program, can be found on the Web at: [http://www.parksandpeople.org/programs/watershed\\_263.html](http://www.parksandpeople.org/programs/watershed_263.html). A workshop that focuses on this project is planned for the fall of 2006. For more information, contact Guy Hager at [guy.hager@parksandpeople.org](mailto:guy.hager@parksandpeople.org).

### **WYE OAK BEING USED TO RAISE \$ FOR THE BAY**

A group of Baltimore woodworkers has acquired wood from the Wye Oak to make older style oyster knives that it plans to sell for \$200 each through the Oyster Recovery Partnership to raise money for Chesapeake Bay cleanup efforts and oyster restoration. Wood from the famous tree was immediately tagged for special projects once it fell. The State of Maryland used some of the oak to build a desk for the governor’s office. Other sections were donated to local churches for crosses, set aside for artisans who wanted to carve sculptures, and given to Talbot County



Wood from Wye Oak has been used for many purposes, such as sculptures. (Photo by John Hazel.)

for the carving of an official seal for its courthouse. More than 3 years after it fell, the famed oak tree that stood in Maryland's Eastern Shore for more than four centuries is still providing benefits! 🌳

## NEW JERSEY:

### BREAKTHROUGH IN BACTERIAL LEAF SCORCH RESEARCH AT RUTGERS UNIVERSITY

At the recent Penn Del International Society of Arboriculture 41st Annual Shade Tree Symposium, Dr. Ann Gould, plant pathologist at Rutgers University, Cook College, reported on bacterial leaf scorch (BLS) research currently underway by the BLS working group at Rutgers University. In her update to approximately 400 attendees, she reported that researchers have characterized 18 isolates of the bacterium *Xylella fastidiosa*, which causes BLS of shade trees in the red oak group in New Jersey. Current research focuses on 1) where the oak isolates have come from, 2) how the bacterium is moved from tree to tree, 3) what alternative hosts may serve as a source of the bacterium to oaks, and 4) how these isolates are related to strains of *Xylella* that cause diseases in other crops.

In a significant breakthrough, entomologists have isolated *Xylella* from one species of treehopper and have also detected bacterial DNA from leafhoppers, spittlebugs, and several species of treehoppers collected from oaks in New Jersey. Bacterial isolation and genetic techniques will be used to help identify those insects that serve as vectors for BLS. It is hoped this information will be used to develop new, much-needed control methods that focus on vector life histories, thus reducing dependence on invasive, and often temporary, disease management techniques currently in use.

### GARFIELD, NEW JERSEY, BRANCHING OUT WITH HELP FROM NEW JERSEY TREE FOUNDATION

At the city of Garfield Council meeting in March, Shannon Buckley from the New Jersey Tree Foundation was pleased to announce that the city is on track with its recent plan to improve the number and quality of trees in the city. Most of the city's trees are 70 to 80 years old and in very poor condition. In January, the State approved the city's 5-year management plan, which allows the city to establish a shade tree commission (replacing a shade tree commission that was disbanded in the 1960s) to plant and maintain trees. It also mandates a tree inventory to determine

the location and health of existing trees while helping to determine new planting opportunities. The city has planted 345 trees in the last 3 years with the help of a \$14,000 grant from the New Jersey Tree Foundation, a nonprofit organization. This year, the city plans to plant 200 more trees along city streets and in parks. The city of Garfield was chosen to receive the grant because of lack of canopy coverage, high population density, and low-income areas. 🌳

## OHIO:

### OHIO TAKES THE LEAD IN ISA CERTIFIED ARBORIST SCHOLARSHIP TRAINING

International Society of Arboriculture (ISA) Certified Arborist Scholarship training is intended for communities where there are not enough resources to hire municipal arborists or urban foresters, or where there are few, if any, certified arborists available to work with communities. The scholarships provide opportunities for recipients who are willing to subsequently share their knowledge with the public. Any arborist working for a tree company, a tree company contracting with government entities, or the municipality itself is eligible, although applicants must be able to meet the necessary expertise requirement to become certified.

Since the Certified Arborist Scholarship program was launched in December 2004, it has gained momentum. State urban and community forestry coordinators determine whether or not their State participates. Ohio currently leads the country with 17 applications in 2005-2006. The States of Arizona (13), Idaho (9), and Missouri (8) follow in order of participation. To date, 14 States in the country have participated, and 65 applicants received scholarships. Maryland is the only other State in the Mid-Atlantic region to have participated.

The ISA, in cooperation with the USDA Forest Service Urban and Community Forestry program, covers the cost of the exam, membership, the study guide, and a local or regional training workshop. In return, each scholarship recipient will provide 80 volunteer hours in his or her community over 2 years to educate the public. For more information, please contact Kasi Neukomm, Applications Coordinator, at [kneukomm@isa-arbor.com](mailto:kneukomm@isa-arbor.com), or go to the ISA Web site.

## OHIO BUILDS AWARENESS ABOUT BUYING FIREWOOD

This past December, The Repository newspaper from Canton, OH, released a public information announcement that warned consumers to be aware of the origin of firewood they purchase. Natural resource officials are concerned not only about native insect pests, such as termites and carpenter ants, but about the spread of invasive species such as the emerald ash borer, an insect that has been devastating ash trees in Michigan and has been found in northwestern Indiana. Ohio officials urge those who purchase firewood to buy from local sources and to avoid transporting firewood from State to State. For more information, go to <http://www.cantonrep.com/index.php?ID=259556&Category=8>.

## COURT RULES EMERALD ASH BORER LAW CONSTITUTIONAL

[Ohio Farm Bureau press release, Columbus, Ohio 12/20/2005]

REYNOLDSBURG—The Hancock County Common Pleas Court recently ruled that landowners may not interfere with the Ohio Department of Agriculture’s emerald ash borer eradication project. The ruling granted a permanent injunction against several landowners in Hancock County and allows eradication work to continue in northwestern Ohio.

“The ruling upholds the constitutionality of existing Ohio plant pest law,” said Ohio Agriculture Director Fred Dailey. “Since the start, the eradication program has been based on sound science and our legal obligation to handle invasive pests. While cutting down trees is not an enviable position, it’s a necessity as we try to protect the State’s 3.8 billion ash trees from an invasive species.”

For more information, go to <http://www.ofbf.org/page/AGRS-6K9JXF/?OpenDocument>. 🌳📢

## PENNSYLVANIA:

### BILL ELMENDORF MEMBER OF BLUE RIBBON PANEL FOR U.S. ARMY

The U.S. Army has taken a proactive approach to the management of street and park trees, riparian areas, and open space. Penn State employee Bill Elmendorf is part of the blue ribbon panel overseeing this effort. In recent months, he has traveled to eight military bases around

the country for both interviews and tours and has written a report for the Army about the management of their community forests. The Army is very interested in this issue because of quality of life issues, the healing and restorative value of landscapes, and the positive effect of trees on human productivity and environmental factors, such as energy conservation. The panel presented the report to Army Headquarters at the Pentagon on December 14.

### “THINK BEFORE YOU TOP—GET THE FACTS” CAMPAIGN TO REACH MILLIONS IN PENNSYLVANIA THIS SPRING



The Northeast Pennsylvania Community Tree Association, in partnership with Penn State University, Pennsylvania Urban and Community Forestry Council, Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, and the USDA Forest Service Northeast Pennsylvania

Urban and Community Forestry program, has developed a marketing campaign that focuses on stopping the destructive practice of tree topping. The association worked closely with Charlotte King, a marketing consultant who has worked on other urban forestry related projects, to develop a logo, poster, factsheet, and the positive message “Think Before You Top—Get the Facts.” These products explain what topping is, reiterate that topping is not a solution for reducing tree size, and educate the public about the continued cost of tree topping and the physical harm it causes to trees.

This spring, Penn State Urban Forester Vincent Cotrone will be busy spreading the message. Working with many



Think before you top!

partners in the past year, he has garnered support from utility companies throughout Pennsylvania. Pennsylvania Power and Light, Citizens Electric, Wellsboro Electric, UGI, and the Pennsylvania Electric Company have agreed to promote the anti-topping message in their billing this spring, collectively reaching more than 1.4 million residents. A flyer has also been distributed in Penn State Cooperative Extension’s Family Matters, County Conservation District, and the Luzerne County Master Gardener newsletters. Educational programs delivering the “Think Before You Top” message include Home Gardener Workshops, a landscaper clinic, NEPA Home and Garden Show, WNEP Home and Backyard Expo, and Home Gardening Workshops. If you would like to help share the message, please contact Mr. Cotrone at [vjc1@psu.edu](mailto:vjc1@psu.edu) or visit the Web site [www.patrees.org](http://www.patrees.org), which is expected to be completed soon.

### **EARTH FORCE DEVELOPS URBAN FORESTRY EDUCATION PROGRAM**

The Delaware Valley Earth Force (DVEF) has developed an urban forestry education program that provides teachers with training and support on how to use urban tree cover and air quality issues to address academic standards. Teachers learn how to engage their students using a hands-on process that connects academic knowledge of the issues with action to improve the environment in their communities. With ongoing support from Earth Force, teachers will learn how to facilitate student projects that educate the public and increase tree cover in southeastern Pennsylvania through tree planting events. This winter, a 1-day workshop was held for school teachers on the positive impacts of trees and tree cover on urban air quality. The workshop modeled the use of real-world learning experiences to explore urban forestry issues and impacts on air quality. Participating educators are expected to implement an urban tree project with support from DVEF staff and bring students on a class trip to the Earth Force Youth Summit, held at the Philadelphia Zoo April 19 and 20.

### **VO-AG SCHOOLS TO OFFER ARBORIST URBAN FORESTRY PROGRAMS IN PENNSYLVANIA**

Two vocational high schools in Pennsylvania plan to introduce arboriculture and urban forestry into their curriculum for the 2005-2006 school year. Other secondary vocational schools in Pennsylvania have also expressed interest in a tree care program and will likely look to the arboriculture industry for curriculum development. This represents a milestone toward the industry’s community education

efforts in attracting young people to the tree care industry. The Central Westmoreland Career and Technology Center in New Stanton, PA, which serves 10 vocational schools, is working on plans to add the arborist curriculum to complement its existing power line program, the only one offered in Pennsylvania. Similarly, the Erie County Technical School, which services 11 school districts, is adding a natural resource curriculum that includes an arborist/urban forestry curriculum. (Adapted from an article by Ron Rankin, Penn-Del Arborist Magazine)

### **TREEVITALIZE RELEASES FY2006 SPECIAL PROJECTS REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS**

The USDA Forest Service is a partner in TreeVitalize, a partnership created to restore tree cover in southeastern Pennsylvania. This year, approximately \$500,000 will be available through the TreeVitalize program to fund special projects endorsed by Steering Committee members and county governments in the Philadelphia Metro area. Special projects can be either tree planting projects of regional significance or nonplanting projects that build the capacity of counties or organizations that operate in more than one municipality to play an active role in future public tree planting and urban forest management in the region. Proposals will be accepted on a rolling basis through December 1, 2006, or until funding is exhausted. Priority is being given to projects that have county government cash matching, multi-municipal collaboration, or collaboration between the city of Philadelphia and adja-



This ill-fated tree initiated the development of contractor training in Parkersburg, WV.

cent municipalities or counties; unique and substantive partnerships; regional importance; and high visibility that can effectively communicate the benefits of increased tree cover. The TreeVitalize Steering Committee will have primary responsibility for identifying, submitting, and reviewing special project proposals. If you would like to collaborate with the USDA Forest Service to develop a special project proposal for TreeVitalize, please contact Phillip Rodbell at [prodbell@fs.fed.us](mailto:prodbell@fs.fed.us). 🌲📧

## WEST VIRGINIA:

### ILL-FATED TREE MAKES A DIFFERENCE IN WV

In a strange turn of events this year in Parkersburg, WV, a poorly planted, poorly formed crabapple tree made a big difference. The city of Parkersburg contacted the West Virginia Division of Forestry for technical assistance after realizing that their planting effort may have been in vain. As with many municipalities, they selected the lowest bidder on a tree planting contract and were appalled when they realized that a tree did not meet the standards for nursery stock or planting technique. West Virginia Division of Forestry Urban Foresters Bob Hannah and Jennifer Brashears developed and delivered a mandatory training session for contractors interested in bidding on Tree Commission projects. Approximately 25 contractors attended the training held February 23. The city hopes the training will provide consistency, clarify current requirements, and eliminate underbidding from contractors offering substandard trees and planting methods. The contractors were also provided with sample specifications for purchasing nursery stock from growers.

### WVU RESEARCH FOCUSES ON URBAN TREE GROWTH AND GLOBAL CLIMATE CHANGE

The West Virginia University Department of Biology is using dendrochronology to study differential growth of sugar maple in urban and rural areas in response to

stressful climatic conditions. Sugar maple is being used as an indicator species in the research because of its sensitivity to drought, increased temperature, and altered hydrology. Urban tree decline, driven in part by global change, is expected to have significant impacts on society through the loss of human-derived benefits, such as cooling and pollution abatement. If such effects can be documented in sensitive species, it follows that other species may be impacted. This information could be invaluable in better managing urban tree plantings, as well as predicting the long-term response of urban forests to projected climate change.

Although others have studied maple decline in urban areas, most research has focused on single stress factors related to the site of growth. No attempt has been made to relate sugar maple growth dynamics to climate change or the impact of its decline on the urban environment. The 2-year research project is progressing well. One hundred and twenty trees were selected from three land use classes (urban, small urban woodlots, and larger peri-urban woodlots). A subset of 60 trees (20 per land use class) was randomly selected from these; the DBH of each sampled tree was recorded and two cores were extracted from each tree. Ring width increments are being analyzed and results are being cross-dated with marker drought years (1966, 1988, and 1998). The work will, for the first time, bring the concept of global change, urban forest health, and ecosystem services together. Although new to the urban forestry audience, it is expected it will enable urban foresters to begin thinking about how they can begin preparing for management challenges associated with climate change that is predicted to occur during this century.

A summary/perspective article by Dr. Jonathan Cumming, West Virginia University Department of Biology Chair, is in development. Questions can be directed to Dr. Cumming by sending an e-mail to [jcumming@wvu.edu](mailto:jcumming@wvu.edu). 🌲📧

## MID-ATLANTIC CENTER FOR URBAN AND COMMUNITY FORESTRY

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### **TECH TRANSFER RESOURCES UPDATED ON USDA FOREST SERVICE URBAN & COMMUNITY FORESTRY WEB SITE**

The USDA Forest Service Northeastern Area (NA) State and Private Forestry Urban and Community Forestry Web site now has an updated list of resources, most of which are available online. This winter, Forest Service Technology Transfer Specialists Jill Johnson, John Parry, and Donna Murphy, under the direction of NA Urban Forester Phillip Rodbell, selected approximately 100 resources developed by the USDA Forest Service or partner organizations. Topics include tree planting, tree care and protection, urban forest management, outreach and marketing, tree and forest health, and classroom resources, among others. To view the list, go to <http://na.fs.fed.us/urban/index.shtm>, then to the INFORMATION RESOURCES link on the left-hand side. 🌲🌳

### **FIRE PERFORMANCE OF URBAN TREES TO HELP WITH FIREWISE CHOICES**

Are you a homeowner living in a fire-prone area that would like to make sure you are doing everything possible to protect yourself against a wildfire? Are you an urban forester asked to provide assistance to residents, park managers, or fire personnel with plant selection in urban areas? Are you a Firewise professional trying to find resources to better educate the public about what to plant in Firewise zones around structures? With the onslaught of forest fires in recent years, we have seen increased efforts to promote Firewise principles. The Firewise Program encourages actions that minimize home losses to wildfire. The new fire performance database for plants currently being reviewed by members of a technical team selected by the Mid-Atlantic Center for Urban and Community Forestry is expected to answer many of these questions.

Firewise principles indicate that a small flowering tree planted in the wrong location in a landscape could serve as ladder fuel, enabling fire to move into a tree canopy and then onto a roof, possibly igniting it. The new searchable plant database supports Firewise recommendations while also providing information about why a particular plant might increase the likelihood of spreading fire, even in its proper Firewise zone. Perhaps it has fruit, waxy or resinous leaves, many insect problems that cause premature death, or even a very low tolerance to dry conditions that could cause it to become even more flammable.

For more information, contact Donna Murphy at the USDA Forest Service Mid-Atlantic Center for Urban and Community Forestry.

### **TREE OWNER’S MANUAL TO BE RELEASED**

The USDA Forest Service Midwest Center for Urban and Community Forestry will soon be releasing a pocket-sized instruction manual called the “Tree Owner’s Manual” that is patterned after most user manuals that come with products. The authors caution that the entire manual must be read prior to tree planting. The manual includes “model” (species) information, a parts list, important precautions, and installation (planting) directions. Much of the manual will focus on annual tree care requirements; it will also include requirements for the first 3 years, followed by a maintenance schedule and tree pruning and care information. For more information, contact Jill Johnson at the USDA Forest Service Midwest Center for Urban and Community Forestry.

### **NATIONAL TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER MEETING PLANNED FOR APRIL**

The National Technology Transfer Team will meet April 4-7 in Boston. Twenty-five technology transfer professionals from across the country make up the team; they will spend 2 days sharing projects of national significance; discussing the effectiveness of urban forestry technology transfer, coordination, and marketing efforts; and updating the National Strategy for Technology Transfer. The team includes urban forestry professionals, technology transfer specialists, research scientists, university professionals, not-for-profit organizations, and other external partners. The team helps integrate activities that promote research and technology transfer to address regional urban and community forestry issues and provide practical results at the local level. More information will follow in our next newsletter.

### **NORTHEASTERN AREA PERSONNEL ASSIST IN STRATEGIC PLANNING SESSIONS TO REBUILD COMMUNITIES DESTROYED BY HURRICANES**

Hurricanes Katrina and Rita destroyed nearly 217,000 homes and 18,000 businesses, and caused \$25 billion in losses along the Gulf Coast. Louisiana Governor Kathleen Blanco declared Saturday, January 21, 2006, as Louisiana Recovery Planning Day to gather input from residents for strategic planning to rebuild communities destroyed by



flooding and storm surges. Daylong visioning sessions were held in 30 communities both inside and outside Louisiana with the goal of reaching 80 percent of the displaced population.

In response to a national call to Federal agencies to support this effort, landscape architects Donna Murphy, Mid-Atlantic Center for Urban and Community Forestry Coordinator from LaPlume, PA, and Matt Arnn from Newtown Square, PA, assisted with the community-based sessions. They collected input on key recovery issues and planning choices, and compiled the data immediately following the sessions in Houma and St. Tammany. The information will be used by the Louisiana Recovery Authority and FEMA's Long-term Community Recovery operation to ensure that rebuilding plans reflect the priorities, sentiments, and needs of Louisiana residents.

The event gave affected families an opportunity to contribute their ideas as part of the hurricane recovery process, express local needs, and help define a community-

based vision for recovery. Citizens offered ideas on a range of subjects, including the economy, education, and environmental issues. 🌳



Participants offer suggestions as part of Louisiana Recovery Planning Day.

## NEWS FROM ACROSS THE NORTHEASTERN AREA

### CHANGES AT TREES NEW YORK

The Trees New York (TNY) board of directors is pleased to announce the appointment of Susan Goberman as executive director. Susan assumed her new position on July 1, 2005. Many of you know Susan as TNY's education director, a position she has held since 1995. Samuel Bishop II has joined the staff as our new education director. Sam, an environmentalist, tree enthusiast, and graduate of the New England School of Law, joined the team in August and has been developing a curriculum for an advanced Citizen Pruner course.

### EAB SPATIAL VIEWER AVAILABLE FOR MICHIGAN

The USDA APHIS and the Remote Sensing and Geographic Science Research and Outreach Services at Michigan State University emerald ash borer (EAB) Web site now has a GIS system that shows users how close they are to an EAB infestation. Users can go to [www.emeraldashborer.info](http://www.emeraldashborer.info), then click on the "Maps and State Info" link on the left-hand side of the home page to reach the information page that displays the tristate map (the top map). Clicking on the map will take the user to the viewer, which may take time to load.

### OASIS WEB SITE EXPANDED

The New York Public Interest Research Group and its Community Mapping section have expanded the New York City Open Accessible Space Information System (OASIS) Web site to include the entire metropolitan area and support the Living Memorials database. In addition to this work, this group created educational resources, prepared a lessons learned section, and provided support to Washington, DC, Chicago, Detroit, and Baltimore to begin replicating the online support.

Today, more than 60 organizations have joined the OASIS collaborative. They commit resources, time, and ideas to guide the project. The Web site is accessed more than 25,000 times per week, and people use the OASIS GIS tools to make more than 1 million maps each year. Organizations have used OASIS as an educational tool, training hundreds of students in basic mapping and natural resource inventory techniques. The OASIS partnership continues to receive awards for its work, including the USDA Forest Service "2004 Chief's Award for Technology Transfer." Checkout the Web site at [www.OASISNYC.net](http://www.OASISNYC.net).



## PARTNER HIGHLIGHTS

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### ACT MAKES GRANTS AVAILABLE TO MEMBERS



The Alliance for Community Trees (ACT) is a problem-solving center for leaders of community-based urban forestry groups. The vision of this nationwide coalition is to

develop healthy, functioning urban ecosystems nurtured by a broad base of community stewards. ACT members are engaged in urban forest stewardship-related activities that include community greening, public education, policy making, job training, and environmental design projects. ACT members have planted more than 7.8 million trees using the help of 450,000 volunteers.

Thanks to the support of the Home Depot Foundation last year, the ACT has been able to make grants available to its members—16 pilot projects were funded in 2005 with an average award of \$17,500. The RFP for 2006 grants is pending. Please consider joining the ACT. Any 501.C3 organization can join. Memberships are based on a sliding scale fee. Information on the ACT and its members can be found at [www.actrees.org](http://www.actrees.org).

### ISA LAUNCHES NEW WEB SITE

The International Society of Arboriculture (ISA) recently launched a new Web site to provide tree care information directly to the public: [www.treesaregood.com](http://www.treesaregood.com). In addition to the 18 ISA tree care brochures, there are at least 35 press releases available for the public. These brochures and press releases can be reprinted, word for word, as long as the ISA is credited. Available press releases include “Guide for Plant Appraisals Clears up Post-Storm Debates,” “Preparation is Key to Preventing Storm Damage to Trees,” “The Value of Trees,” and more. These brochures and press releases can be used to prepare local press releases. Regional representatives will be responsible for keeping updated lists of media contacts for their area, sending out press releases, and forwarding information on area events that can be included in the LOG.

### TCIA LAUNCHES NEW CERTIFICATION PROGRAM TO IMPROVE SAFETY IN TREE CARE

The Tree Care Industry Association (TCIA) has launched the industry’s first safety certification program, The

Certified Treecare Safety Professional (CTSP), a Web-based tool for workers and employers in the tree care industry. Users can access information to develop and implement comprehensive safety and health programs, and learn how to recognize and address potential industry hazards, including overhead power lines, falling branches, and faulty safety equipment, to name just a few. The Web page also provides information and links to OSHA standards and compliance directives related to the tree care industry.

### DATABASE EXPEDITES DOCUMENTATION OF SPECIES OF SPECIAL CONCERN

The Pennsylvania Natural Diversity Inventory (PNDI) Environmental Review Tool can help the public identify conflicts between the plant and animal habitats of species of special concern and proposed projects before planning, designing, and applying for environmental permits. In the past, projects were sent to one of four jurisdictional agencies in Pennsylvania for initial environmental review. Using the PNDI tool, project searches in the database that return no potential impacts on species of special concern can be expedited. Projects with potential impacts will require further coordination with the appropriate Federal or State agency listed on the results of the PNDI review. The Pennsylvania Natural Heritage Program Web site ([www.naturalheritage.state.pa.us](http://www.naturalheritage.state.pa.us)) provides information on accessing the database and interpreting results.

### EASTERN REGION PARTNERS WITH THE NATIONAL FOOTBALL LEAGUE (NFL) TO MAKE SUPER BOWL XL “CARBON NEUTRAL”

The Eastern Region Urban Connections program teamed with the NFL and a number of Detroit partners to make Super Bowl XL “Carbon Neutral.” Volunteers planted 2,500 seedlings in and around Detroit in November. A number of “Carbon Neutral Event” projects were planned leading up to and during the Super Bowl on February 5. Among these were the creation of carbon dioxide signs with shared logos (including the USDA Forest Service logo) that were permanently posted around Ford Field, home of the Detroit Lions, and the appearance of Woodsy Owl and Smokey Bear at the Super Bowl Theme Park at Cobo Hall to share environmental messages.

## ECONOMIC IMPACTS OF GREEN INDUSTRY REPORT: URBAN FORESTRY FOCUS

In 1997, the American Nursery & Landscape Association (ANLA) and the USDA Forest Service conducted a landmark study of landscape tree planting in the U.S. Based on the results of this national study, it can be assumed that approximately 26.8 percent of nursery sales involved trees that could be used in urban forestry settings and that 4.5 percent of the trees produced by nurseries were sold to municipalities. Several inferences can be made when this information is coupled with green industry primary and secondary data collected in 2004 for a research report entitled “Economic Impacts of the Green Industry in the United States,” completed by the universities of Tennessee and Florida this year. Funding was provided by the USDA Forest Service National Urban and Community Forestry Advisory Council, ANLA, and the Professional Landscape Network.

Some interesting national figures in the report include:

- The total value of tree production suitable for urban forestry was worth \$4.63 billion.
- The value of tree care services was worth \$9.92 billion.
- The total output of tree production and services was valued at \$14.55 billion.

## RESEARCH FINDINGS

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### URBAN ECOLOGY COLLABORATIVE RELEASES RESEARCH FINDINGS

Research by the Urban Ecology Collaborative resulted in an assessment tool and analysis for six cities—Boston, New Haven, New York, Baltimore, Pittsburgh, and Washington, DC—to better understand the local projects, needs, and capabilities of each city. The assessment of 135 organizations across the six cities revealed a rich social network within cities and extensive social capital that could be better utilized. Resources are scarce and insufficient, with stewards relying upon and competing for individual donations, local foundations, and municipal support, making it a challenge for long-term sustainability and land management planning. These networks are self-contained and do not include business or even legal groups, which may point to a gap between stewardship and environmental justice organizations. The gaps in local networks are particularly important in relation to the wide

This output translates into 259,224 jobs, \$14.12 billion in added value, \$9.93 billion in labor income, and \$516 million in indirect business tax impacts.

California and Florida represented 19 and 18 percent, respectively, of total nursery and greenhouse output. California sales exceeded \$3 billion and Florida sales exceeded \$1.55 billion. The Mid-Atlantic region was represented quite well nationally in a list of eight other States with large value-added impacts on urban forestry—Ohio (\$633 million), Pennsylvania (\$621 million), New Jersey (\$470 million), and Maryland (\$445 million).

In addition, the report includes an excellent overview of other economic benefits provided by the urban forest—indepth summaries, citations, and research histories on topics such as home value, curb appeal, energy use, air quality, and social benefits. It also includes economic multipliers for the green industry by State and service and contains a 2002 table summarizing economic impacts by region, State, and industry group. This publication is valuable for anyone needing sound economic data on urban forestry. The report can be accessed at: [www.utextension.utk.edu/hbin/greenimpact.html](http://www.utextension.utk.edu/hbin/greenimpact.html). Questions should be directed to Charles Hall, University of Tennessee (e-mail [crh@utk.edu](mailto:crh@utk.edu)). 🌳🍷

range of urban ecology site types (street, riparian corridors, vacant land, and parks, among others) and land jurisdictions being targeted.

Followup research was identified that might include second order questions, such as the relationships among ideologies, management type, resources, strategies, and outcomes, as well as a research project that would begin to develop a stewardship map for each city that identifies spheres of influence, stewardship opportunity zones, and overlap in programs and priorities.

A survey instrument and lessons learned document were produced in cooperation with the USDA Forest Service Northeastern Research Station. They can be accessed at <http://www.urbanecologycollaborative.org/>.

*(Continued on page 16)*

## TECH TRANSFER RESOURCES

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The National Urban and Community Forestry Advisory Council has released a brochure and urban forestry national research plan for 2005-2015 that were recently completed by the USDA Forest Service. Both were distributed at the National Conference in Charlotte, NC, in November 2005 and are available on CD ROM. For more information, go to <http://treelink.org/nucfac/>.

### **ECOSYSTEMS AND PEOPLE**

Suburbia may be familiar turf, but it is one of the last frontiers for scientists trying to understand how ecosystems work and how people are changing the natural world.

The full article will be available on the Web for a limited time at <http://www.mercurynews.com/mld/mercurynews/living/health/13367200.htm>

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A DVD titled “[The] Value of Urban Forestry” was premiered at the opening session of the National Urban and Community Forestry conference. The DVD series was targeted for all organizations, especially those working with youth, underserved, and minority populations. For more information, see [www.strivemedia.com](http://www.strivemedia.com).

### **HURRICANE ISABEL IN PERSPECTIVE: PROCEEDINGS AVAILABLE**

A comprehensive overview of critical papers and discussion from this November 2004 conference is now available. It contains 30 peer-reviewed manuscripts and session/panel summaries addressing the forecasts, impacts, and responses to Hurricane Isabel as it impacted the Chesapeake watershed. The volume is available from the Chesapeake Research Consortium (CRC) ([sellnerk@si.edu](mailto:sellnerk@si.edu)) and individual chapters will soon be distributed through the Web site. This volume complements the 1975 CRC volume on Hurricane Agnes and will hopefully provide the same comprehensive overview that the earlier volume has over the past 30 years. For more information, go to <http://www.chesapeake.org/pubs/Isabel/isabel.htm>.

### **EMERALD ASH BORER SYMPOSIUM INFORMATION AVAILABLE ON CD ROM**

*Greening of Detroit* hosted a regional symposium on emerald ash borer (EAB) research, control, and restoration efforts in October 2004. Twenty experts presented state-of-the-art information that was recorded on an interactive CD ROM and distributed broadly to participants and stakeholders nationwide. For copies, contact [rebecca@greeningofdetroit.com](mailto:rebecca@greeningofdetroit.com).

### **EPA ISSUES GUIDANCE TO CONTROL URBAN RUNOFF POLLUTION**

This past December, the EPA released “National Management Measures to Control Nonpoint Source Pollution from Urban Areas.” The 512-page document will help local governments and others protect water resources from polluted runoff that can result from everyday activities and urban development. This publication includes voluntary guidance on 12 management measures that cover topics such as watershed assessment and protection; runoff from new and existing development, road networks, and construction sites; septic system impacts; pollution prevention; and inspection and maintenance of urban runoff management practices. The document is free and available online at <http://www.epa.gov/owow/nps/urbanmm/>.

### **NEW INTERNATIONAL JOURNAL ADDRESSES WILDLAND-URBAN INTERFACE ISSUES**

*Forest Policy and Economics* is a new international journal that covers policy issues, including economics and planning, related to the forest and forest industries sector. The August 2005 issue contains 11 articles that address land development, wildfire risks, urban sprawl, and related economics and policies in the wildland-urban interface. To learn more about the journal and view full-text articles, visit: <http://www.elsevier.com/locate/forpol>.

### **PLANTFACTS UPGRADED TO MULTIMEDIA LEARNING CENTER**

The *PlantFacts* Web site has merged several digital collections developed at Ohio State University to

become a multimedia learning center. Components include:

- A search engine that deals strictly with plants.
- A searchable database of high-quality images featuring ornamental plants, turf, plant diseases, and insects.
- A collection of 200 short gardening how-to videos, ranging from tips on basic landscaping to lessons on deadheading roses, as well as illustrated answers to over 800 commonly asked gardening questions.

For more information, go to <http://plantfacts.osu.edu/>.

### **DESIGNING SMALL PARKS**

With funding provided by the USDA Forest Service through the National Urban and Community Forestry Advisory Council grant program, the Metropolitan Design Center has published “Designing Small Parks: A Manual for Addressing Social and Ecological Concerns.” To see an overview of the book, visit the Metropolitan Design Center’s Web site at <http://www.wiley.com/WileyCDA/WileyTitle/productCd-0471736805.html>.

This book focuses on redesigning neighborhood parks and town squares. Small parks are a key part of most neighborhoods but typically provide mostly recreational benefits. With demographic and cultural changes and an increase in ecological awareness, people involved in designing, redesigning, and maintaining parks need to understand the multiple roles that parks can have as part of the public space and ecological networks in the urban landscape. This manual

strives to help those involved in planning, designing, and managing parks understand where it is easy to serve multiple purposes and where it is more difficult. The core of the manual consists of 13 topics that represent key fundamental issues for small urban parks. The manual was published by Wiley in October 2005.

### **GOING GREEN CD ROM AVAILABLE**

Going Green is an excellent multimedia presentation that illustrates how planting more trees in urban areas pays economic dividends for cities. The presentation combines cutting edge content, creativity, and technology to deliver a compelling message to leaders, planners, architects, arborists, and others. Going Green shows why and how to include community forests in sustainable growth strategies. It is available free for download at: <http://www.going-green.org>. A CD ROM version is also available through the Web site. The narrative text was written by Pepper Provenzano, director of Treelink, a nonprofit Internet-based resource for urban and community forestry nationwide. To learn more about what is happening in urban forestry, go to [www.treelink.org](http://www.treelink.org).

### **TREE SHADE AND ASPHALT**

In a recent study, personnel at the USDA Forest Service Pacific Southwest Research Station found that tree shade over paved residential streets lead to better performance of asphalt concrete pavements. In fact, shaded asphalt pavements outperformed unshaded asphalt pavements by better than 2 to 1. To learn more, go to [http://www.fs.fed.us/psw/programs/cufr/products/psw\\_2005\\_mcperson001\\_joa\\_1105.pdf](http://www.fs.fed.us/psw/programs/cufr/products/psw_2005_mcperson001_joa_1105.pdf). 🌳🔍

## RESEARCH FINDINGS CONT. FROM PAGE 13

### NEWLY FORMED NORTHERN RESEARCH STATION HOSTS ALL SCIENTISTS MEETING

The USDA Forest Service has proposed a new research station that will bring together resources and scientific capacity from two existing stations to serve a 20-State region. The new Northern Research Station (NRS) is a merger of the North Central and Northeastern Research Stations that will be lead by Michael Rains. Formal creation and approval of the NRS will occur in October 2006. The NRS will be the largest USDA Forest Service research station in the Nation with more than 160 researchers who work independently and with a broad range of partners. Station headquarters will be located in Newtown Square, PA, and the existing offices will remain in operation. More information about the NRS can be found at <http://www.ncrs.fs.fed.us>.

The Northern Research Station will focus on four themes:

- 1) protecting forest landscapes from the threat of undesirable disturbances;
- 2) enhancing natural resource stewardship in cities, suburbs, and towns;
- 3) developing management strategies to maintain and enhance forest productivity and benefits; and
- 4) measuring diverse goods, benefits, and services from forests and trees.

An All Scientists meeting this winter brought together 25 scientists from Syracuse, Baltimore, Burlington, Evanston, and Durham to focus on the second theme. Their research interests range from the molecular level to the ecosystem level and include FIA, invasive species, landscape change, and social science research.

### UNRI E-LEARNING INFORMATIONAL WEBCASTS SUCCESSFUL

Scientists at the USDA Forest Service Northern Research Station, Urban Natural Resources Institute (UNRI) are studying urban and community natural resources to enhance the health and value of urban landscapes to residents. An online educational series has been developed in an effort to make tools, products, and research findings more accessible to the public, scientists, and urban resource professionals. The first Webcast in the series, “i-Tree–New Technology for Community Forestry,” was held January 10. A similar Webcast titled “i-Tree Inventory and Modeling Software Suite” was held March 15. If you would like to participate in Webcast presentations, go to <http://www.unri.org/learning/web/>. To sign up to receive timely information about urban natural resource issues, see the lower left-hand corner of the UNRI home page. 🌲

The next issue of **Urban Projects** from the Morgantown Field Office will be Summer 2006.

Please send articles or events to:

Donna Murphy, Center Coordinator  
MACUCF - USDA Forest Service  
Keystone College, PO Box 1466  
La Plume, PA 18440-1099 or  
[dmmurphy@fs.fed.us](mailto:dmmurphy@fs.fed.us)

# URBAN AND COMMUNITY FORESTRY MID-ATLANTIC REGION

## Calendar of Events, Meetings, and Conferences

April 2006 to July 2006

Also Available Online at:

[www.fs.fed.us/na/morgantown/uf/ufcalendar.html](http://www.fs.fed.us/na/morgantown/uf/ufcalendar.html)

April 5

### **Pruning Woody Plants** (This is filled)

Wilson Farm

Location: Tredyferin, Twp., Pennsylvania

Event Type: Conference Program: UCF

Information: Julianne Schieffer (610)489-4315

April 8

### **NJ CTE Preparation Courses**

Location: New Jersey

Event Type: Training Program: UCF

Information: Pam Zipse (609)633-7597

April 8-9

### **Third Annual ESA Mid-Atlantic Ecology Conf.**

NJ School of Conservation

Banquet and a field trip on Sunday to the Delaware Water Gap National Recreation Area.

Location: Branchville, New Jersey

Event Type: Conference Program: UCF

Information:

Link: <http://www.esa.org/midatlantic>

April 8

### **14th Annual NJ Certified Tree Expert Seminar and Exam Prep Course 1**

Course I: Tree Anatomy and Physiology and Insect and Disease Diagnostics.

Location: New Jersey

Event Type: Training Program: UCF

Information: Gary Lovallo

Email: [treeman273@aol.com](mailto:treeman273@aol.com)

April 8

### **MAC-ISA Tree Climbing Championship**

Location: Glen Dale, Maryland

Event Type: Event Program: UCF

Information: (703)753-0499

Link: <http://www.mac-isa.org/>

[2006%20tcc%20registration%20form.htm](http://www.mac-isa.org/2006%20tcc%20registration%20form.htm)

April 9 - 11

### **2006 Northeastern Recreation Research Symposium**

The Northeastern Recreation Research Symposium fosters quality information exchange between recreation and travel resource managers and researchers throughout the Northeast. The forum provides opportunities for managers from different agencies, states, and governmental levels to discuss current issues and problems in the field. Students and those interested in continuing education in recreation and travel resource management are welcome.

Location: Bolton Landing, New York

Event Type: Conference Program: UCF

Information: (315)470-6817

Email: [outreach@esf.edu](mailto:outreach@esf.edu)

Link: <http://www.esf.edu/nerr/2006/basic.htm>

April 10 - 12

### **13th Annual Trees and Utilities National Conference**

Crowne Plaza Chicago O'Hare

Location: Chicago, Illinois

Event Type: Conference Program: UCF

Link: <http://www.arborday.org/TUconference>

April 10

### **Aerial Rescue Training, Grow Worker Safety**

This workshop series is intended to address OSHA 29CFR 1910.269, which requires that employers of persons working within 10 feet of an electric conductors possibly carrying 600V or higher energy document that their employees have received special training in electrical hazards each year.

Location: Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania

Event Type: Training Program: UCF

Information: Scott Sjolander (814)333-7460

Email: [sas305@psu.edu](mailto:sas305@psu.edu)

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

April 11-12

### **Electric Hazard Awareness Training, Grow Worker Safety**

Bidwell Training Center

This workshop series is intended to address OSHA 29CFR 1910.269, which requires that employers of persons working

within 10 feet of an electric conductors possibly carrying 600V or higher energy document that their employees have received special training in electrical hazards each year.

Location: Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania

Event Type: Training Program: UCF

Information: Scott Sjolander (814)333-7460

Email: [sas305@psu.edu](mailto:sas305@psu.edu)

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

April 12

### **Tree Care Workshop**

WV DOF Urban Forestry

Location: Bluefield, West Virginia

Event Type: Training Program: UCF

Information: Jennifer Brashears (304)822-4512

April 13

### **NJ Community Forestry Council Meeting**

Location: Trenton, New Jersey

Event Type: Meeting Program: UCF

Information: Mike D'Errico (609)292-2532

April TBD

### **NJ Community Forestry Shade Tree Act Core Training**

Location: Paramus, New Jersey

Event Type: Training Program: UCF

Information: Pam Zipse (609)633-7597

May 2 - 31

### **Basic Tree Climbing Course**

Forestry Research and Education Center

2 days a week for 5 weeks

Location: Jackson, New Jersey

Event Type: Training Program: UCF

Information: Committee for the Advancement of Arboriculture (732)833-0325

May 10

### **Chainsaw Safety Course**

Forestry Research and Education Center in Jackson, NJ

Location: Jackson, New Jersey

Event Type: Training Program: UCF

Information: Committee for the Advancement of Arboriculture (732)833-0325

May 11

### **Trees, People and the Law**

National Arbor Day Foundation

Location: Norfolk, Virginia

Event Type: Conference Program: UCF

Information: (888)448-7337

Link: <http://www.arborday.org>

May 11

### **NJ Community Forestry Council Meeting**

Location: Trenton, New Jersey

Event Type: Meeting Program: UCF

Information: Mike D'Errico (609)292-2532

May 16 - 17

### **Roadside Tree Care Expert Certification**

Training and exam preparation course for the Roadside Tree Care Expert certification. This course is offered to public agency personnel responsible for the care of trees within public road rights-of-way in Maryland. The certification is a permitting requirement for public agencies under the Roadside Tree Regulations to supervise tree planting and maintenance programs within road rights-of-ways. The certification exam is being offered on June 7th, 2006 at Hagerstown City Park.

Location: Hagerstown, Maryland

Event Type: Training Program: UCF

Information: Becky Wilson (301)777-5591

Email: [bwilson@dnr.state.md.us](mailto:bwilson@dnr.state.md.us)

May 17

### **Electrical Hazard Awareness Course**

Location: Jackson, New Jersey

Event Type: Training Program: UCF

Information: Committee for the Advancement of Arboriculture (732)833-0325

May 17-18

### **Spring i-Tree Training Workshop**

2-day workshop designed for state, regional and volunteer urban and community foresters, extension foresters, or local urban forestry leaders who want to be involved with the dissemination and use of i-Tree.

Location: Golden, Colorado

Event Type: Training Program: UCF

Information: Rocky Mountain Regional Forest Service (303)275-5754

May 18

### **PA Urban and Community Forestry Council Board Meetings**

To be held at Damon's

Location: State College, Pennsylvania

Event Type: Meeting Program: UCF

Information: Rachel Billingham

Email: [rbillingha@state.pa.us](mailto:rbillingha@state.pa.us)

May 18

**14th Annual NJ Certified Tree Expert Seminar and Exam Prep Course II**

Tree identification.

Location: New Jersey

Event Type: Training Program: UCF

Information: Gary Lovallo (732)525-5656

Email: [treeman273@aol.com](mailto:treeman273@aol.com)

May 18

**NJ CTE Preparation Courses**

Location:

Event Type: Training Program: UCF

Information: Pam Zipse (609)633-7597

May 22 - 26

**The 2006 IUFRO/EUFORIC 9th European Forum on Urban Forestry**

Location: Florence, Italy

Event Type: Conference Program: UCF

Information:

Email: [efuf2006@libero.it](mailto:efuf2006@libero.it)Link: <http://www.greenlab.uniba.it/events/efuf2006/>

May 23 - 25

**Licensed Tree Expert Training, MD DNR FS**

Location: Patuxent Wildlife Center, Maryland

Event Type: Training Program: UCF

Information: Romesca Estep (410)260-8521

May 24

**PA Urban and Community Forestry Council Board Meetings**

Will be held at Damon's or at the new Forest Resources Building.

Location: State College, Pennsylvania

Event Type: Meeting Program: UCF

May 24

**First Aid-CPR Course**

Location: Jackson, New Jersey

Event Type: Training Program: UCF

Information: Committe for the Advancement of Arboriculture (732)833-0325

June 2

**NJ Forestry Association Tree Farm Day**

Location: New Jersey

Event Type: Event Program: UCF

Information: (908)832-2400

Link: <http://www.NJForestry.org>

June 3

**14th Annual NJ Certified Tree Expert Seminar and Exam Prep Course III**

Course III. Summary, field and lab diagnostics and identification.

Location: New Jersey

Event Type: Training Program: UCF

Information: Gary Lovallo (732)525-5656

Email: [treeman273@aol.com](mailto:treeman273@aol.com)

June 9

**ISA Certification Exam**

Rutgers Cooperative Research and Extension of Somerset County. Directions on RCRE website.

Location: Brunswick, New Jersey

Event Type: Exam Program: UCF

Information: Matt Simons (609)625-6021

Link: <http://www.somerset.rutgers.edu>

July 12

**PA Urban and Community Forestry Council Board Meetings**

Exact location to be announced.

Location: Clearfield, Pennsylvania

Event Type: Meeting Program: UCF

July 13

**PA Urban and Community Forestry Council Board Meeting**

Location in Southeastern PA TBA

Location: State College, Pennsylvania

Event Type: Meeting Program: UCF

Information: Rachel Billingham

Email: [rbillingha@state.pa.us](mailto:rbillingha@state.pa.us)

July 16

**NJ Certified Tree Expert Examination**

Location: New Jersey

Event Type: Exam Program: UCF

Information: John Perry (732)833-0325