

Fall / Winter 2007

Volume 10, Issue 2

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Urban Projects

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

TREE CITY USA ACCOMPLISHMENTS IN 2007

Since 1976, The Arbor Day Foundation's Tree City USA program has helped America's communities expand and improve the health of their urban forests. The foundation's partnership with the U.S. Forest Service and the National Association of State Foresters has enabled the program to develop a nationwide network of communities that plan and maintain urban forests. Today, 98.6 percent of Tree City USA cities recertify. There are currently 3,270 Tree City USA cities across the country that collectively have 120,496,878 residents and spend \$883 million on urban forestry efforts.

A key goal of the Tree City USA program is to increase public awareness about the many social, economic, and environmental benefits that urban forests provide.

The Arbor Day Foundation worked to promote mainstream media coverage of urban forestry, and specifically the Tree City USA program. This resulted in television public service announcements that reached an estimated 7.6 million people through advertising, newspaper stories, and articles. More than 137,000 people also visited the Tree City USA program Web site. Online reports that highlight the impact of Arbor Day Foundation programs in each State as well as a listing of State urban and community forestry contacts are available. To view an example, go to <http://www.arborday.org/states/statepages/Florida.pdf>.



STATE COORDINATORS: PLEASE RESPOND TO THE NATIONAL UCF FUNDING SURVEY

In 2006, California ReLeaf was awarded a grant from NUCFAC to contact all State urban and community forestry coordinators to inquire about how their programs are funded with the ultimate goal of identifying a handful of permanent, long-term funding sources. Preliminary findings were recently released but showed very poor response from the Northeastern Area with only five States responding. If you have not responded, please do so by contacting California ReLeaf at 530-757-7333 for the link to the survey.

NEWS FROM THE USDA FOREST SERVICE

U.S. FOREST SERVICE NORTHEASTERN AREA REDESIGN UPDATE

The Forest Service is working with the National Association of State Foresters and its redesign committee to enact changes in how its cooperative programs are delivered. The redesign will shift programs from a landowner assistance model to addressing critical issues at a landscape level. The three key issues that State and Private Forestry is addressing are 1) conserving working landscapes, 2) protecting forests from harm, and 3) enhancing the benefits received from trees and forests. State agencies will be challenged to compete for funding with a predetermined total percentage of funding set aside for competitive regional-scale projects. In the past, Forest Service funds were allocated individually to programs such as Urban and Community Forestry, Forest Stewardship, and Economic Action Programs. Under the redesign, funds will be linked to landscape-level outcomes and integrated with programs.

MANAGEMENT WORKSHOPS PLANNED IN MID-ATLANTIC, NORTHEAST, AND MIDWEST IN FY08

Two years ago, State urban and community forestry (UCF) coordinators identified a need for training to be developed for municipalities, organizations, and State agencies in the Northeastern Area related to developing and implementing urban forestry management plans. Developing a management plan is considered an important step in fostering a sustained urban forestry program, and is also a consideration in tracking statewide performance through the Forest Service’s CARS performance system. However, little formal training was available to help practitioners develop and write management plans.

As a result of this need, the U.S. Forest Service Northeastern Area entered into a Cooperative Agreement with the National Arbor Day Foundation (NADF) to provide three 1-day workshops in the three NA service areas. A team of State UCF professionals and the UCF Forest Service staff have been working with the NADF since early spring to develop the training. Because one management plan type will not fit all the management needs of communities due to differences in resources and past management practices, the agenda is being developed to provide an array of approaches to management planning, which includes:

- The broad components of management plans
- Municipal requirements for management plans
- Putting your management plan to work
- Challenges for implementing management plans
- Scales of analysis for integrating management plans into comprehensive planning

In addition, a Web cast of the training will be made available to participants prior to the training. Training is expected to be delivered in the Mid-Atlantic region in August 2008 at the Delaware Center for Horticulture, Wilmington, DE, and in the Northeast and Midwest in September 2008. For more information, contact Donna Murphy (Mid-Atlantic) at dmmurphy@fs.fed.us, John Parry (Northeast) at jparry@fs.fed.us, or Jill Johnson (Midwest) at jjohnson@fs.fed.us.

NEW YORK CITY PLANTS FIRST TREE OF MILLION TREES NYC

On October 9, Mayor Michael R. Bloomberg and New York Restoration Project (NYRP) Founder Bette Midler launched the Million Trees NYC initiative to plant and care for an unprecedented 1 million new trees across the city’s five boroughs over the next decade. The very first tree was planted to mark the first of 1 million trees that will grace the city by 2017.

Million Trees NYC is one of the most extensive plans to strengthen New York City’s urban environment ever undertaken by an American city. Unveiled by Mayor Bloomberg on Earth Day, and part of PlaNYC, the 127-goal plan is designed to create the first environmentally sustainable 21st century city. Million Trees NYC—launched by the NYC Recreation and Parks Department and the New York Restoration Project—is a collaboration of many partners, including community-based and nonprofit groups; city, State, and Federal agencies; corporations and small businesses; private property owners; and all 8.5 million New Yorkers.

The beauty of the Million Trees initiative is that every New Yorker is invited to participate through citywide planting and stewardship programs, including volunteer days, educational training and workshops, public service announcement campaigns, and Arbor Day events. For more information, please visit www.milliontreesnyc.org.



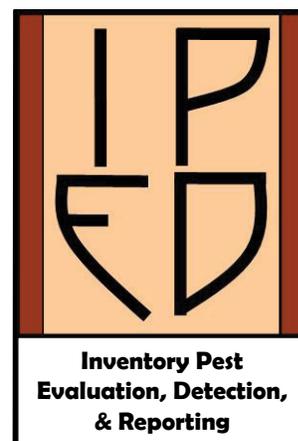
Chief Abigail Kimbell and Phillip Rodbell, Urban Forester, joined in the launching of the Million Trees NYC initiative.

NEW PEST DETECTION TOOL (I-PED) BEING DEVELOPED AND PILOT TESTED

The U.S. Forest Service and Davey Tree Expert Company are developing I-PED, a pest detection protocol that integrates pest detection with tree inventory efforts. This new tool is expected to provide a standardized method for integrating pest detection into urban forestry management, broaden efforts to detect exotic pests, and provide a field tool that communities can use to detect pest populations across broad areas. The tool is needed because exotic pests are first introduced into urban areas and remain undetected until populations are well established and have had

harmful impacts on the health of host trees.

A project planning and development team is working to move this effort forward. The team includes staff from the U.S. Forest Service, USDA Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, Davey Tree Expert Company, Ohio Department of Natural Resources, the University of Georgia, and the Bugwood Network. The Society for Municipal Arborists has taken the lead in supporting beta testing of the I-PED desktop and field program. Four pilot communities and Cornell University’s Student Weekend Arborist Team (SWAT) have completed training and collection of data for analysis. Beta teams include urban forestry professionals from Ithaca, NY; Chattanooga, TN; Wilmette, IL; and Dublin, OH.



When completed, I-PED will provide a standardized method of observing trees for insect or disease problems. The assessment tool will include a user manual that identifies signs and symptoms of pests having significant urban forestry impacts; a Web site with online resources, user instructions, and diagnostic contacts; and a national database that will enable pest specialists to access regional pest data to search for pest detection anomalies and trends. For more information, contact Dan Twardus, Forest Health Management, U.S. Forest Service, at dtwardus@fs.fed.us.



NEWS FROM THE MID-ATLANTIC STATES

DELAWARE

WILMINGTON – NORTHERN DELAWARE UFORE STUDY COMPLETED

By Vikram Krishnamurthy, Research Associate, Center for Energy & Environmental Policy, University of Delaware

The Delaware Center for Horticulture and the U.S. Forest Service are pleased to announce the completion of the Wilmington area Urban Forest Effects (UFORE) study and an accompanying Forest Service Resource Bulletin, “Urban Forest Assessment in Northern Delaware,” which will be released soon. The Delaware Forest Service, city of Wilmington Department of Public Works, and the Carolyn Foundation provided initial support for data collection and analysis. The study is unique because it used a tiered

approach to create three separate but complementary study areas across the region:

1. The largest area includes Wilmington, Newark, New Castle, Elsmere, and Newport, and encompasses a metropolitan corridor of northern New Castle County between Interstate 95 and Delaware Route 2, Kirkwood Highway.
2. The second set of data was collected within the city limits of Wilmington to compare the intensely developed urban core with the surrounding suburban region. Results of this comparison include only a slight difference in tree canopy cover (19.3 percent for the metro corridor vs. 17.9 percent for Wilmington) and

marked differences in dominant species (red maple, sweetgum, and black cherry for the metro corridor vs. Norway maple, northern white cedar, and tree-of-heaven for Wilmington).

3. The third set of field data was collected in Rattlesnake Run, one of the storm-sewer drainage areas that contribute to the Wilmington combined sewer system.

A U.S. Forest Service Northern Research Station work unit adjusted the new UFORE hydrology module to simulate how increasing tree cover may reduce runoff and combined sewer overflows in a closed and combined system such as the one used in Wilmington. In addition to the standard reporting of urban forest structure, air quality, and energy usage in buildings, the Northern Delaware UFORE study found that increasing tree cover over impervious surfaces from 5 to 45 percent would reduce sewer flow by about 10 percent. In terms of local water quality, the UFORE results form the basis of urban forest canopy recommendations that will be presented to the Delaware Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Control through the Christina River Tributary Action Team’s proposed Pollution Control Strategy.

The study report also includes Priority Planting Index measures across the study areas, which supplement other Delaware data in the first update of State urban forest resources being produced by the Northern Research

Station. These analyses create a foundation on which the Delaware Center for Horticulture will continue to build local support for research, including the development of a Wilmington tree canopy goal. The results of the completed UFORE study will also help expand the Trees for Wilmington Coalition, resulting in greater statewide and regional support for urban forestry. The Delaware Center for Horticulture will produce UFORE materials that provide local context and policy recommendations for action based on study results. 🌳📍

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

USING AND UNDERSTANDING WASHINGTON DC’S URBAN FOREST INVENTORY

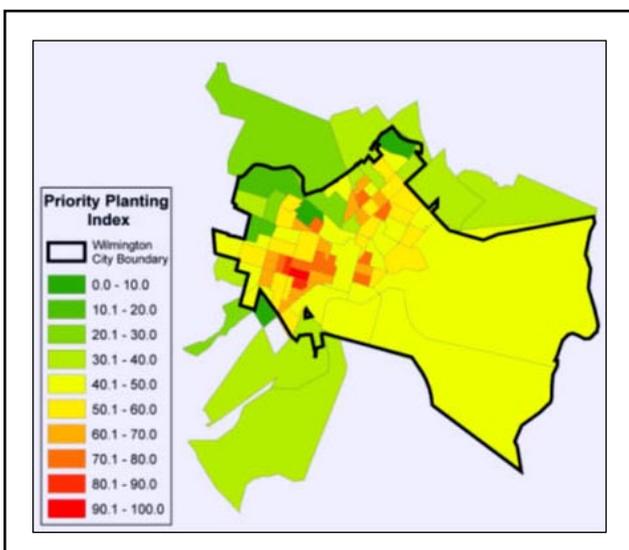
In 2001, the street tree inventory used by the District’s Urban Forestry Administration (UFA) was DOS based, over 20 years old, and very difficult to use and update. To assist the District and motivate residents to understand and appreciate their street trees, Casey Trees conducted an all-volunteer districtwide census of the entire street tree population in 2001 with 500 trained “citizen foresters.” The UFA has taken this data and converted it to fit its own state-of-the-art GIS developed by Azteca Systems. This new data set forms the basis for UFA’s street tree inventory and allows them to maintain and monitor the health of the District’s street trees. Other analysis tools, such as i-Tree, can be used with this data set to monitor mortality trends, survival rates, benefits provided, and other information by simply plugging the new data into the i-Tree model.

Based on data obtained from the 2002 inventory, DC’s street trees:

- Are in relatively good condition—72 percent were rated as good, 22 percent were rated as fair, and 6 percent were rated as poor, dead, or dying.
- Provide annual ecological and economic benefits worth \$10.7 million. This number is significantly higher than annual maintenance costs.
- Provide esthetic and other values (mostly property value increases) worth \$5.1 million annually, and stormwater benefits worth \$3.7 million annually.

Based on the 2002 inventory findings, the city set a planting objective to fill 23,000 empty tree spaces in 10 years. There are essential, but strict, guidelines for planting street trees in DC based on safety, tree health, and civic character. Historically, trees were planted by species for each block or avenue. Having a GIS inventory of tree box locations and attributes, including tree species,

Wilmington



This graphic displays priority planting areas for Wilmington. The higher the index value, the higher the priority. (Image courtesy of the U.S. Forest Service Northern Research Station; reprinted with permission).

overhead wires, and tree box size, helps identify planting opportunities and reduces time and effort spent in the field. Currently, D.C. is well on its way to fulfilling its street tree planting goal ahead of schedule. With the UFA focusing on street trees; Casey Trees focusing its efforts on District schools and parks, private partnerships, and community greening efforts; and both partners using street tree data for research and analysis, a greener future is possible. 🌳

MARYLAND

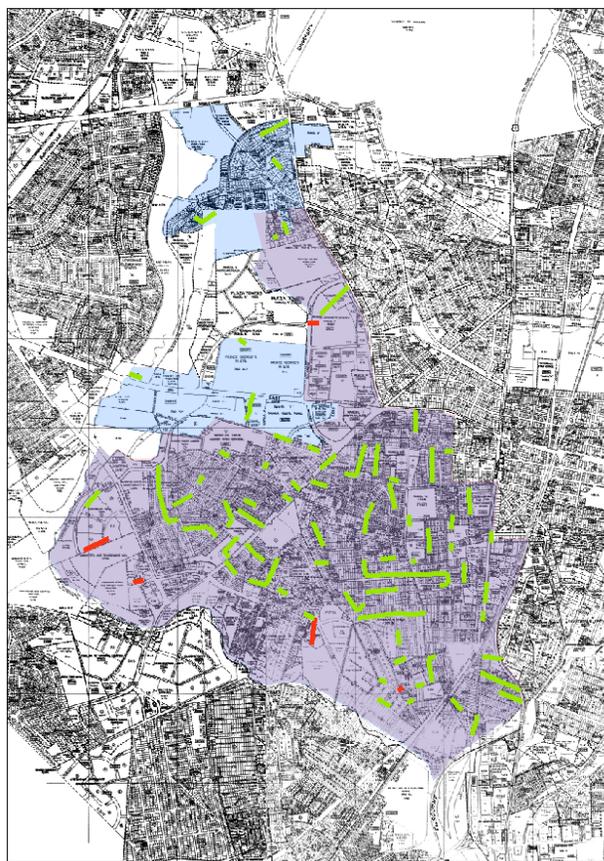
BALTIMORE GROUND-LEVEL OZONE STATE IMPLEMENTATION PLAN

A State Implementation Plan is a detailed document required for States or regions that do not meet air quality levels set by the Federal government. The plan identifies how that State will attain and/or maintain the primary and secondary National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS) set forth in section 109 of the Clean Air Act and Code 40 of Federal Regulations 50.4 through 50.12, which includes federally enforceable requirements.

Ground-level ozone is considered a significant health-based pollutant. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency has set a specific national ambient air quality standard for ozone to best protect public health. Areas of the country that have air pollution levels above the Federal standard are designated as ‘nonattainment’ areas and are therefore required to develop and implement air quality plans called State Implementation Plans. The Baltimore Nonattainment Area 8-Hour Ground-Level Ozone State Implementation Plan presents the Maryland Department of the Environment’s progress in adopting and implementing air pollution control programs needed to attain the 8-hour ozone standard by June 15, 2010 in the Baltimore metropolitan area. Based on the control measures being implemented, the related air quality modeling results, and the significant weight of evidence prepared, there is significant evidence that the Baltimore Nonattainment Area will meet its ground-level ozone standard goal. To learn more, go to <http://www.mwcog.org/uploads/committee-documents/oVddXlw20070314084804.pdf>. This document explains the process by which the region will reduce pollution and meet the Federal ozone standard in the Baltimore region.

HYATTSVILLE’S TREE BENEFITS QUANTIFIED BY MARYLAND FOREST SERVICE USING I-TREE

(Press release by Mike Galvin, Maryland Department of Natural Resources Forest Service)



Map showing locations of trees in Hyattsville study.

The Maryland Department of Natural Resources (DNR) Forest Service recently completed a study of Hyattsville’s 2,900 roadside trees. While the 2.5-square-mile city has the potential for approximately 7,700 street trees, 4,800 potential planting sites currently remain empty. “Trees not only mitigate greenhouse gases, improve stormwater quality, lower emissions by reducing energy use, and improve air quality, but they do all of these things at the same time,” said Michael F. Galvin, DNR Urban Forestry Supervisor. “No other environmental mitigation device provides these multiple benefits, in addition to others like aesthetics and wildlife habitat. Improving the condition and extent of tree canopy in urban areas is vital to community livability as our cities grow.”

The total annual value of benefits provided by trees in Hyattsville is \$281,389. Each individual tree contributes \$96.30 in annual benefits and \$18.53 in annual benefits per capita. The study found that Hyattsville’s roadside trees provide many valuable ecosystem services to city residents, including:

- Stormwater management control by intercepting 10.5 million gallons of rainfall annually at a value of \$104,818;

- Energy savings by reducing heating and cooling needs by 310 MWh of electricity and 10,625 therms of natural gas annually at a value of \$44,944;
- Annual sequestration and reduction of more than 1.1 million pounds of carbon at a value of \$8,428; and
- Air quality improvement with an annual reduction of more than 500 pounds of smog (ozone) and 500 pounds of soot (particulate matter) at a value of \$2,706.

The study is intended to help Hyattsville plan future tree plantings and develop its [Urban Tree Canopy Plan](#). The Maryland DNR utilized the U.S. Forest Service [iTREE software](#) to complete the study. To view the report, go to <http://www.dnr.state.md.us/forests/programs/urban/HyattsvilleiTREEREport07.pdf>.

STATE WEB SITE PROVIDES COMPREHENSIVE PLANNING DATA FOR ALL MARYLAND TOWNS

Following Democratic Governor Martin O’Malley’s pledge to ensure openness of the State government and the public process, Maryland Department of Planning Secretary Richard Eberhart Hall unveiled his department’s new online service. This service explains the comprehensive plan concept and adoption procedures, tracks current and prospective local plans by jurisdictions, and provides State comments in the context of State laws related to Smart Growth. For more information, go to <http://www.smartgrowth.org/news/article.asp?art=6354> 🌳🗳️

NEW JERSEY

NEW JERSEY GROVE OF REMEMBRANCE

(Adapted from an article by James Ahearn, Special to the New Jersey Record)



Tree care and planting in the grove is primarily done by volunteers.

The Grove of Remembrance, a fitting tribute to New Jerseyans who died on September 11, has been constructed on a restored brownfield. It was built with a Forest Service grant and \$220,000 in cash and in-kind donations. The memorial features 691 mature trees—one for each New Jerseyan who died in Lower Manhattan on that terrible day—and mulch, soil, shrubs, and a bronze plaque engraved with the names of those lost. The grove is a living memorial maintained by volunteers and Jersey City schoolchildren who grow flowers and plants in classroom conservatories and take them to the grove each spring for planting while learning about gardening and the responsibilities of citizenship. During an annual Arbor Day contest, children also write a poem or a short prose piece. The winners read their compositions aloud in a ceremony in the grove and plant a tree. To learn more about the grove, see the New Jersey Tree Foundation Web site at <http://www.newjerseytreefoundation.org/GroveofRemembrance.asp>.



The bronze plaque engraved with victims’ names is a moving experience for visitors.

ASIAN LONGHORNED BEETLE UPDATE IN NEW JERSEY

Since 2004, the Asian longhorned beetle has been detected in 616 trees located in Middlesex and Union Counties in New Jersey. A 25-mile quarantine area was established that includes parts of the cities of Carteret, Clark, Elizabeth, Rahway, and Roselle; Woodbridge Township; and the entire city of Linden. The New Jersey Forest Service’s Community Forestry program is the primary agency administering reforestation projects to ensure proper tree selection, proper planting, and maintenance of replacement trees in all affected communities. To date, 4,968 replacement trees have been planted on public and private properties. *(Adapted from an Update on New Jersey’s Community Forestry program of the NJDEP Division of Parks & Forestry, State Forest Service, Newsletter Fall 2007)*

Treasure Our Trees

Support Shade Tree Planting and Care on the Streets of New Jersey

Call 1-888-486-3339

Visit www.njmvc.gov

New Jersey now has a new commercial license plate in addition to its very popular vehicular "Treasure our Trees" license plate. The sale of the license plates supports the care and planting of community trees in New Jersey.

NEW JERSEY SHADE TREE FEDERATION 2008 AWARDS HIGHLIGHTS

The New Jersey Shade Tree Federation presented winners of the 2007 Green Communities Achievement Awards during its 82nd Annual Meeting held October 26-28 in Cherry Hill, NJ.

This year, State Senator Martha Bark received an award for her efforts to assure the long-term health of community forests in New Jersey. In 2000, Senator Bark began to ask about sick trees that she noticed in her neighborhood. She had the insight to realize that something was terribly wrong and needed to be addressed. She also did not hesitate to tackle the technical aspects and ask the tough questions. It was her drive and determination that led to the New Jersey Oak Tree Disease Act of 2001. The Act appropriated \$95,000 for the New Jersey Forest Service to use aerial photography and other methods to conduct a thorough statewide survey and to initiate research on bacterial leaf scorch. This comprehensive data collection resulted in a report delineating the ongoing spread of the disease and proposing avenues of research to stop it.

In 2007, Senator Bark demonstrated her special dedication to protecting New Jersey's environment and the precious natural resources entrusted to the State's care by championing legislation that led to the establishment of the Forest Health Advisory Council. This select team of nine volunteer experts advises the DEP and studies, tracks, evaluates, and makes recommendations on the control of critical threats to forest health while conducting research and public outreach on these issues.

This year's Green Community Achievement Awards were framed, limited edition prints featuring the New Jersey State Champion dawn redwood, *Metasequoia glyptostroboides*. Each year, Green Community Achievement Award prints are custom designed for the program with coast redwood frames on each print. To learn more about the awards program and others who received awards this year, please contact the New Jersey Shade Tree Federation at njshadetreefederation@worldnet.att.net. 🌲

OHIO

Dr. John Ball, Professor of Forestry at South Dakota State University, will present the keynote address at the upcoming 2008 Ohio Tree Care Conference (OTCC) from February 10–12, 2008, in Columbus. Dr. Ball will also conduct a workshop on tree worker safety. Dr. Ball has worked in various positions in the arboricultural field and brings a wealth of knowledge to share with conference attendees. Dr. Ball has a split appointment in teaching and forestry extension at South Dakota State. He earned a Ph.D. in urban forestry from Michigan State University, an M.S. in forest entomology from Michigan State University, and a B.S. in forest management from Michigan Technological University. In addition to Dr. Ball, the 2008 OTCC Planning Committee is scheduling other topnotch speakers to share their knowledge and the latest trends in arboriculture. For more information, contact the Ohio Chapter ISA office at 614-771-7494. Look for more details about the 2008 OTCC in upcoming issues of the *Buckeye Arborist*.

ISA CELEBRATES 20,000 MEMBERS WITH NEW OHIP CHAPTER MEMBER

On July 27, 2007, the International Society of Arboriculture (ISA) processed an order for its 20,000th member. Never before has the organization had this many members in a single year. The lucky individual, Steve Walsh, works for an architectural firm in Cincinnati, OH. This milestone is especially appropriate because this recordbreaking membership came from the Ohio Chapter, ISA's first. The Ohio Chapter joined ISA in 1942 along with the Southern and Western Chapters. ISA has enjoyed 24 consecutive years of membership growth and has processed more than 43,000 memberships. At this rate, ISA enters a membership every 12 minutes and 15 seconds, and prints almost 3 cards every hour. This would not be possible without the other 19,999 members from 47 countries from around the world who made the same commitment. ISA is truly moving to fill its role as an international organization, and every single member

benefits from this far-reaching and still-growing network. (Adapted from an article in the *Buckeye Arborist*, Ohio ISA Chapter September/October 2007)

OHIO STATE DEVELOPING SPANISH TRAINING MATERIALS FOR EAB

The U.S. Forest Service is supporting The Ohio State University's efforts to improve Hispanic student recruitment and opportunities in the arboriculture, plant nursery, and retail gardening industries by funding two grants for the translation of training materials into Spanish. The materials will be used to help Hispanic workers more effectively identify emerald ash borer infestation of trees.



PENNSYLVANIA

EMERALD ASH BORER FOUND IN PENNSYLVANIA

An adult emerald ash borer (EAB) was found on a green ash tree in a commercial landscape in Butler County, Cranberry Township, PA, this summer. On June 27, the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture issued a quarantine for Allegheny, Beaver, Butler, and Lawrence Counties in western Pennsylvania. Ground surveys were conducted throughout the area by the Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, U.S. Forest Service, APHIS, and Penn State University Cooperative Extension staff immediately. Within 2 days, emerald ash borer was confirmed in Allegheny County, Marshall Township.

Pennsylvania has been expecting EAB and preparation has been underway. The Pennsylvania Emerald Ash Borer Action Plan of March 2006 addresses government actions and the authority for taking action related to EAB control. The plan includes the following specifics:



- 1) it delineates responsibility for surveys and protocols, and outlines the roles of various agencies;
- 2) it covers potential control operations, procedures for treating EAB with insecticides, and ash management as a mitigating strategy once the beetle has been discovered;
- 3) it addresses public relations and outreach,

Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources—Forestry Archive, Bugwood.org

both before and after the beetle has been found; and 4) it looks at restoration and funding options. All of these are presented in considerable detail to minimize lag time due to decisionmaking. To learn more about EAB status in Pennsylvania and to assess the complete action plan, go to <http://www.ento.psu.edu/extension/Ornamentals/emeraldAshBorerInfo/emeraldashBorer.html>.

Alert: *Sirex noctilio* has also been confirmed in a third county in Pennsylvania—McKean County. The U.S. Forest Service found the specimen in a trap placed in a Scotch pine.



Natasha Wright, Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, Bugwood.org

FRIENDS OF THE PITTSBURGH URBAN FOREST HIRES EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR AND FORESTER

The Friends of the Pittsburgh Urban Forest (FPUF) is a new 501(c) (3) nonprofit organization whose mission is to enhance the city's vitality by restoring and protecting the urban forest through community maintenance, planting, education, and advocacy. FPUF has hired a new executive director to provide leadership for developing and maintaining the organization's services and initiatives. The group's vision is to become a leader in creating a healthy, attractive, and safe urban forest. FPUF's immediate goals include increasing the number of neighborhoods in which members work on Tree Tender projects and generating additional funding for the city's ongoing tree pruning, planting, and removal costs as put forth in Pittsburgh's 7-Year Urban Forestry Management Program: Street Trees. The plan resulted from the city's 2005 comprehensive street tree inventory and recommended formal management plan. This summer, FPUF hired Danielle Crumrine, former executive director of the Pennsylvania Cleanways program. Danielle hired Forester Mathew Erb to assist with on-the-ground efforts. We welcome both Danielle and Mathew and wish them the best. To learn more about the work of the Friends of the Pittsburgh Urban Forest, please call 412-362-6360 or go to www.pittsburghforest.org.

NATIONAL PARK(ING) DAY – WILKES-BARRE TURNS PARKING SPACE INTO GREEN SPACE

On Friday, September 21, 2007, the Wilkes-Barre Tree Commission temporarily turned a parking space in downtown Wilkes-Barre into a community green space complete with lawn, trees, a park bench, and of course, people. The Wilkes-Barre Tree Commission joined San Francisco, LA, Seattle, St. Paul, Chicago, and New York to take part in the Trust for Public Land's National Park(ing) Day, an opportunity to reclaim a public parking space to illustrate the importance of green spaces in our cities and communities. For more details, contact Vincent Cotrone, Penn State Cooperative Extension Urban Forester, at vjc1@psu.edu. For more information on National Park(ing) Day, see http://www.tpl.org/tier3_cd.cfm?content_item_id=21695&folder_id=985.

PENN STATE TO BUILD ARBORETUM

In late spring 2007, Penn State President Graham B. Spanier announced that Charles H. Smith, a 1948 Penn State alumnus, donated \$10 million to build an arboretum at Penn State University's Main Campus in State College. Many within the School of Forest Resources have long anticipated the construction of an arboretum, which will be located in the 58-acre area formerly known as the Mitchell Tract. The \$10 million donation, together with a contribution of \$3.2 million from the University, will fund construction of Phase I of the H.O. Smith Botanic Gardens, named in honor of Mr. Smith's father. The first phase of the arboretum will feature an overlook pavilion, event lawn, terrace with a water element with private space for smaller events, and many botanical gardens for enjoyment and education. The upcoming year is expected to be a time of unprecedented activity as design and construction begin. Regular updates about construction will be available on the arboretum Web site at www.arboretum.psu.edu. 🌲

WEST VIRGINIA

MOUNTAINEER TREEWAYS PROGRAM BUILDING SUPPORT THROUGH LOCAL FUNDING



The West Virginia Division of Forestry Urban Forestry program has been successful in finding additional resources to support the Mountaineer Treeways program, and the hope is to establish long-term sponsorship of the program through local and regional

funding venues and build an annual budget. However, this will take much work and commitment on the part of the Division of Forestry, West Virginia Urban and Community Forestry Council, and all the communities who have benefited from the program since its inception in 2002.

This year, 20 communities and volunteer organizations participated in the program and successfully planted 3,100 bare-root seedlings throughout West Virginia. Without the support of partners like Appalachian Power, Toyota Motors, and the Dow Chemical Foundation, this year's planting and associated accomplishments would not have been possible. Andy Sheetz, Urban Forestry Partnership Coordinator in the Division of Forestry, has been working to assure continuation of the program and has reached out to other potential partners for assistance.

In 2002, the West Virginia Division of Forestry developed the Mountaineer Treeways program as a companion to the National Tree Trust Community Tree Planting program that encouraged volunteer tree planting along transportation corridors. A new direction for the program envisions its expansion to meet broader municipal planting needs such as planting parking lots, streets, and parks to achieve increased canopy cover in communities. Partnerships with the West Virginia Division of Highways, Natural Resources, and Turnpike Authority help support planting activities. Since 2000, the program has benefited 204 community projects, engaged 2,359 volunteers in events, and planted 13,888 trees. For more information, contact Andy Sheetz at asheetz@wyforestry.com.

WEST VIRGINIA ADOPTS EMERALD ASH BORER ACTION PLAN

According to an emerald ash borer (EAB) risk map developed by the U.S. Forest Service, most of West Virginia is at a lower risk for EAB than many other States. The risk appears to be slightly elevated in and around Kanawha, Logan, Marion, Monongalia, and Raleigh Counties. Although EAB impacts might be considered lower in West Virginia, the State is still taking the matter very seriously.

This past spring, the West Virginia Department of Agriculture prepared an EAB Action Plan, which takes a proactive approach to detection. Detection surveys for the invasive insect will be conducted, and delimiting surveys will be used to define the extent of infestation in the event EAB is found. As the agency in charge of enforcing the West Virginia Plant Pest Act, the West Virginia Department

of Agriculture is charged with incorporating detection survey activities in its annual work plan. In addition, the U.S. Forest Service is conducting surveys at 27 Federal sites in West Virginia and on 42 sites in the Monongahela

National Forest. Public education has been deemed a high priority. Consistent messaging and the establishment of a task force are planned. 🌲🌳

PARTNER HIGHLIGHTS

SOCIETY OF MUNICIPAL ARBORISTS NEW COMMUNITY ACCREDITATION PROGRAM

In 2006, the Society of Municipal Arborists (SMA) Executive Board voted to modify SMA's system for accrediting municipal forestry programs. The new accreditation standards combine technical standards with partnership building, and are reinforced by external measures for safety and work methods. New standards include: 1) at least one ISA-certified Municipal Specialist on staff, 2) a local Forest Master Plan approved by the appropriate local body, 3) current National Arbor Day Foundation (NADF) Tree City USA (or equivalent outside U.S.A.) to be maintained annually, 4) at least one NADF Growth Award (or equivalent outside the U.S.) in the past 5 years, 5) preference for contracted services with at least one Tree Care Industry Association accredited tree care company, 6) adoption and application of ANSI A300 Tree Care Performance Standards, and 7) adoption of and adherence to the SMA Code of Ethics.

To read the full article, which compares the new and old standards and outlines the components of an acceptable Forest Master Plan, see *City Trees*, Journal of the Society of Municipal Arborists Sept/Oct 2007 Issue, p. 24-25, by Chuck Weber, Accreditation Committee Chair, City Forester, Huntsville, AL. To learn more about SMA, go to www.urbanforestry.com.

2008 MUNICIPAL FORESTER INSTITUTE

The Municipal Forester Institute (MFI) is an exciting, new, high-level training opportunity for educating professionals in the leadership and managerial aspects of urban forestry programs. This weeklong intensive educational program delivers a challenging professional growth opportunity to shape a successful community tree care program. Participants learn leadership and management skills for program administration, coalition building, strategic thinking, program planning, and public relations over a 5-day period. The 2008 MFI will be held February 24–29, 2008, in New Braunfels, TX. The curriculum was developed by a team of urban forestry professionals and educators with extensive experience in leading

urban forestry programs at the local, State, Federal, and nonprofit levels. There are four major components of the MFI curriculum: 1) developing a leadership approach to your position, 2) thinking and planning strategically to advance urban forestry programs, 3) working effectively with boards, coalitions, and nonprofit organizations, and 4) managing the relationship between people and trees.

The curriculum is presented in a variety of formats, including lectures, multimedia presentations, panel discussions, group exercises, and real-life scenarios. For more information, contact the Society of Municipal Arborists, the sponsor of the MFI, at 706-769-7412.

PARTNERS IN COMMUNITY FORESTRY CONFERENCE HIGHLIGHTS

The National Arbor Day Foundation and The Home Depot Foundation hosted “Partners in Community Forestry,” a national conference that brought together many of those who impact the health of trees in cities and communities throughout the Nation. The conference focused on a variety of issues related to community forestry, including community tree management, trees and development, and the contribution trees make to the social and physical health of communities. Concurrent sessions related to trees and development, social issues, and managing tree cover were delivered November 14-15. Community forestry tours on November 16 included a tour of the Historic Druid Hill Parks and Cylburn Arboretum, which was constructed in 1863. A green building tour included the Montgomery Ward Catalogue Building renovation, New Shiloh Village “green” senior housing development, and the East Baltimore Development, Inc., 88-acre revitalization. The trees and social issues tour highlighted the work of Parks and People’s Watershed 263 initiative that empowered citizens to help reclaim their neighborhoods through community stewardship. The conference was preceded by a full-day annual meeting of the Alliance for Community Trees (ACT).

This year, ACT was joined by 109 members and friends from 74 organizations and municipalities around the country. The day began with panel presentations and

roundtable discussions about city tree campaigns, and closed with the NeighborWoods Awards Presentation by The Home Depot Foundation. In addition, ACT's board unveiled the new strategic plan and asked members to renew their commitment to advance urban and community forestry in partnership with ACT. As a testament to the strength of its membership, 38 percent of attendees at the Partners in Community Forestry Conference were ACT members, and 41 percent of all presenters were ACT members! There were 11 general and concurrent sessions with 23 presentations. If you would like a copy of the proceedings, it can be downloaded at ACT's Web site http://actrees.org/site/stories/2007_annual_meeting_conference_proceedings.php?tag=news. For membership information, go to <http://actrees.org/site/index.php>.

MAC-ISA LOOKING FOR NEWSLETTER REPORTERS

Do you like to write and network with your arborist colleagues? The MAC-ISA newsletter committee needs several reporters to report on activities, events, and news in your region. If you are interested, please contact Jessie Strother at Jessica.strother@fairfaxcounty.gov or Nancy Herwig at macisa@hughes.net.

ACT'S NEIGHBORWOODS MONTH CELEBRATES THREE YEARS



The Alliance for Community Trees (ACT) NeighborWoods Month is a national event created by ACT that is dedicated to helping communities restore tree canopy. In recent decades, cities have lost more than one-

third of their forest canopy. For the past 3 years, NeighborWoods has helped citizens take action to plant and care for trees in their communities. This year, ACT was able to offer extra support to make NeighborWoods Month events more memorable with support from The Home Depot Foundation, U.S. Forest Service, and the National Tree Trust. NeighborWoods Month Mini-Grants offered professionally designed marketing materials worth \$500, plus up to \$500 in financial assistance. The grants enabled communities to involve the public in tree planting, tree care, education, and other activities that engage people in urban and community forestry. Within the U.S. Forest Service Northeastern Area, more than 90 communities and

neighborhood groups participated. During the month of October, local nonprofit community forestry organizations staged 232 events nationwide. Between 2005 and 2006, NeighborWoods awarded \$660,000 in grants, planted 50,084 canopy trees, and engaged volunteers in more than 59,000 hours of volunteer activities. To view this year's accomplishments and the calendar of events for NeighborWoods, see <http://calendar.neighborwoodsmth.org/>. Be sure to check with the Alliance for Community Trees for funding opportunities next year.

UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND SEEKS PH.D CANDIDATE FOR WATER IN THE URBAN ENVIRONMENT

The University of Maryland, Baltimore County (UMBC), seeks applicants for the National Science Foundation Integrative Graduate Education and Research Training (IGERT) program called Water in the Urban Environment. Solutions to complex problems associated with the effect of urbanization on the water cycle require integrated ecological, economic, and engineering approaches and innovation in policymaking. The program takes advantage of the presence at UMBC of the field headquarters of the Baltimore Ecosystem Study long-term ecological research site, U.S. Forest Service, and the USGS MD-DE-DC Water Science Center as well as partnerships with other public agencies, nonprofits, and private consultants. Awardees accepted to one of UMBC's nine participating Ph.D programs will receive a stipend. Applications are due February 1, 2008. For further information, see <http://www.umbc.edu/cuere/igert>.

GARDEN CLUB OF AMERICA OFFERS URBAN FORESTRY FELLOWSHIP

The Garden Club of America (GCA) has established a national fellowship in urban forestry for qualified U.S. students. The GCA Zone VI Fellowship in Urban Forestry will be awarded in early 2008. With this fellowship, the GCA seeks to forward its goal of advancing our knowledge of urban forests and increasing the number of scientists in the field of urban forestry. Applications are reviewed by a selection committee at Virginia Tech composed of practicing urban forestry scientists and professionals. The fellowship is open to both advanced undergraduate and graduate students pursuing degrees in urban forestry, forestry, horticulture, environmental studies, or a closely related field at any 4-year college or university degree program in the United States. Recipients must be U.S. students. The award is \$4,000, and recipients may apply for one additional year of funding. For more information, online application forms, and a list of past recipients, visit

<http://www.cnr.vt.edu/urbanforestry/scholarships.htm> or contact Susan Day at gcaurbanforestry@vt.edu. The deadline is January 31, 2008.

APA COMPLETING PLANNING FOR URBAN AND COMMUNITY FORESTRY REPORT

The American Planning Association (APA), in close collaboration with the International Society of Arboriculture (ISA) and American Forests (AF), will prepare a state-of-the-art best practices manual about how urban and community forestry can best be integrated into long-range and current municipal planning activities in the United States. This \$240,000 project is made possible by \$120,000 from the U.S. Forest Service and matching funds from the three partnering organizations. The project is scheduled for completion in late winter 2008. The primary audience for the manual will be urban planners working for municipalities or working as consultants to municipalities; planning commissioners and planning board members; city and town managers; city and town public works, engineering, and parks department managers; municipal arborists and urban foresters; and developers and those in the design professions serving them. The manual will take the form of a Planning Advisory Service report, which will be distributed to members of the Sustainable Urban Forests Coalition and more than 1,350 planning agencies and consultants nationwide. Individual copies of the manual will be available from APA's online Planners Book Service and from project sponsors. To learn more, see <http://www.planning.org/forestry/>.

STANDARDS AND GUIDELINES FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT BEING DEVELOPED FOR LEED

The Sustainable Sites Initiative is developing national, voluntary standards and guidelines for sustainable land development and management practices to assess site performance, and rating systems to recognize green achievements in site design. The initiative is a partnership of the American Society of Landscape Architects, Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center, United States Botanic Garden, and a diverse group of national stakeholder organizations. The U.S. Green Building Council, a major stakeholder in the initiative, has committed to incorporating these guidelines and standards into the future evolution of the LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) Green Building Rating System.

The Standards and Guidelines for Sustainable Sites are being developed and will be a compilation of current research, technology, and practices to provide

technical guidance and performance benchmarks. The preliminary report on the Standards and Guidelines www.sustainablesites.org/report.html is now available for comment. It is critical to receive knowledge and input from other professionals and stakeholders to ensure that the products of the Sustainable Sites Initiative are relevant to those who influence land practices. An online feedback form <http://www.sustainablesites.org/questionnaire.html> is available to submit comments on the preliminary report. The public comment period will be open until January 11, 2008. Direct questions to info@sustainablesites.org.

TREE ASSESSMENT INCIDENT COMMAND SYSTEM

In 2005, a national effort was undertaken to provide professional arborist expertise to communities and their urban forests affected by Hurricane Katrina. This effort included partnership response from the International Society of Arboriculture, Society of Municipal Arborists, Davey Resource Group, State forestry agencies, Mississippi State University Extension, and local partners. Following experiences in 10 communities, the U&CF programs in Virginia and North Carolina approached urban forestry South with the idea of preparing for future natural disasters by training agency certified arborists. The training and procedures that are developed are intended to be compatible with and accepted by the respective State Incident Command System. Through this work, qualified arborists will be available to provide local assistance to communities following disasters that affect urban trees. *(Adapted from an article in Centers for Urban and Interface Forestry Newsletter, Summer 2007)*

EMERALD ASH BORER MUNICIPALITY ASSISTANCE ACT OF 2007 (S1717, H.R. 3901)

Senator Dick Durbin, IL, introduced the Emerald Ash Borer Municipality Assistance Act of 2007 in response to requests for support from Illinois municipalities in the path of the emerald ash borer. Senate cosponsors include Senators Barack Obama, IL; Richard Lugar, IN; Carl Levin, MI; Debbie Stabenow, MI; Benjamin Cardin, MD; Sherrod Brown, OH; and Robert Casey, Jr., PA.

Senate bill #S1717 requires the Secretary of Agriculture, acting through the Deputy Chief of State and Private Forestry, to provide loans to eligible units of local government to finance contracts and purchase authorized equipment to monitor, remove, dispose of, and replace infested trees that are located on land under the jurisdiction of the eligible units of local government and within the borders of quarantine areas infested by the emerald ash

borer, and for other purposes. The act would establish the Emerald Ash Borer Revolving Loan Fund in the Treasury.

Status: June 27, 2007—Read twice and referred to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry with sponsor introductory remarks on measure. (CR S8619). On October 18, 2007, Representatives Mark Kirk (R-IL) and Peter Roskam (R-IL) sponsored H.R. 3901, which was referred to the House Committee on Agriculture the same day. To follow progress, see Congress.org, <http://www.congress.org/congressorg/issuesaction/billlist>.

AMERICA'S CLIMATE SECURITY ACT

Legislation currently in the Senate proposes the use of funds generated by a cap and trade system to help fund fire suppression costs. As a result of markup on November 1, America's Climate Security Act includes provisions to provide an additional \$800 million to the Forest Service and \$300 million to the Department of Interior annually for firefighting costs. The Environment and Public Works Committee scheduled two hearings in November. To follow progress, see <http://www.congress.org>. 🌲🌳

NEWS FROM ACROSS THE NORTHEASTERN AREA

ARE RESIDENTS WILLING TO PAY FOR THEIR COMMUNITY FORESTS? RESULTS OF A CONTINGENT VALUATION SURVEY IN MISSOURI

Community officials charged with managing publicly owned trees often underestimate the value that residents place on street trees. A survey of residents in 44 Missouri communities included a contingent valuation method designed to estimate how residents' willingness to pay for improved tree care and maintenance varied with community size and location. Residents in communities

with a population of 50,000 or more in the St. Louis and Kansas City suburbs, and in St. Louis and Kansas City, showed strong support for a ballot issue establishing a tree fund supported by a tax ranging from \$14 to \$16 per household per year. The results of this survey, combined with recent surveys of community forestry officials and street tree inventories, are used to make recommendations to State agencies charged with managing community forests. (*Thomas Treiman and Justine Gartner, Urban Studies. 2006. 43(9): 1537–1548.*)

RESEARCH FINDINGS

FUNGUS EYED FOR CONTROL OF EAB

Agricultural Research Service (ARS) entomologist John Vandenberg and colleagues are investigating how well a commercial strain of *Beauveria bassiana*, a soilborne fungus, stands up to the emerald ash borer after repeated applications. They are also seeing if this strain, called GHA, will work if used with the commercial insecticide imidacloprid. *Beauveria bassiana*, a soilborne fungus used for keeping many insect pests in check, is being eyed as a possible control option for this invasive beetle that has already killed more than 20 million ash trees in Michigan, Ohio, Indiana, and Ontario.

B. bassiana spores kill insects by attaching to them, germinating, and penetrating their hosts' bodies. The spores can survive to infect future pest generations. *B. bassiana* is used against a variety of insects, including termites and whiteflies. According to Vandenberg, who works out of the ARS Plant Protection Research Unit (PPRU) in Ithaca, NY, preliminary studies led by U.S. Forest Service scientist Leah Bauer have shown that

the beetle is susceptible to *B. bassiana*. However, the fungus' effectiveness in larger field trials has not yet been proven. At a commercial tree nursery near Jackson, MI, Vandenberg, Bauer, PPRU entomologist Michael Griggs, Cornell University scientist Louela Castrillo, and Michigan State University researcher Houping Liu are studying the performance of the fungus on about 400 ash trees in three planting areas. A possible strategy against the beetle would entail spraying the fungus on trees before the pest's spring mating season.

GEOSPATIAL METHODS PROVIDE TIMELY AND COMPREHENSIVE URBAN FOREST INFORMATION

Geospatial tools, such as geographic information systems, global positioning systems, and remote sensing, work extremely well together for gathering, analyzing, and reporting information related to urban forests. Many urban forest management questions could be quickly and effectively addressed using geospatial methods and tools. Geospatial tools can provide timely and extensive

spatial data from which urban forest attributes can be derived, such as land cover, forest structure, species composition and condition, heat island effects, and carbon storage. Emerging geospatial tools that could be adapted for urban forest applications include data fusion, virtual reality, three-dimensional visualization, Internet delivery, modeling, and emergency response. (Kathleen T. Ward and Gary R. Johnson, *Urban Forestry & Urban Greening*. 2007. 6(1):15–22.)

WHARTON STUDY SUPPORTS THE ECONOMIC VALUE OF COMMUNITY-BASED INVESTMENTS

Dr. Susan Wachter, Professor of Real Estate, Finance, and City and Regional Planning at the Wharton School of Business, University of Pennsylvania, has completed a study offering proof that community-based investments provide significant economic benefits to neighborhoods and citywide gains. The study found that improvements to streetscapes (street tree plantings, container plantings, small pocket parks, parking lot screens, and median plantings) can add more than 25 percent to the value of a nearby home. While proximity to a neglected vacant lot subtracts 20 percent from the base value of an adjacent home, adjacency to a stabilized lot—one that has been improved through cleaning and greening—increases a home’s base value by approximately 15 percent. The research is timely for Philadelphia because the city government is currently leading an effort with several nonprofit partner organizations to create an open space plan for the entire city. To view Public Investment Strategies: How They Matter for Neighborhoods in Philadelphia (2006), visit the Web site of the Penn Institute for Urban Research at <http://www.upenn.edu/penniur/>.

(Susan Wachter and Kevin C. Gillen. 2006. *Public investment strategies: how they matter for neighborhoods in Philadelphia—identification and analysis*. Philadelphia: Wharton School, University of Pennsylvania.)

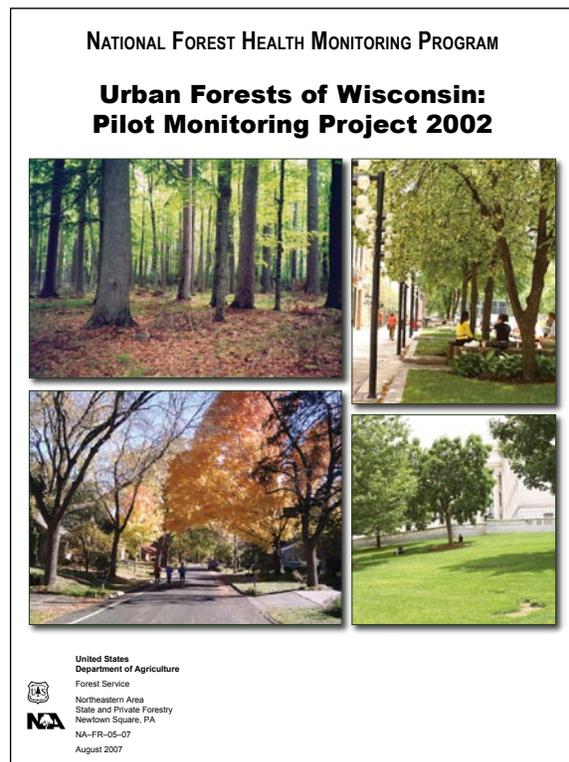
NATIONAL FOREST HEALTH MONITORING PROGRAM, URBAN FORESTS OF WISCONSIN: PILOT 2002

The statewide survey of Wisconsin’s urban forest is one of a series of pilot studies initiated to determine the structure, condition, and function of forests in urban areas at a broad scale, beyond just one city or community. The Wisconsin study is the first pilot to incorporate the full panel of urban plots throughout the State and to integrate those with the corresponding FIA data. This report accomplishes several objectives that include:

- 1) Documentation of the utilization of an established FIA plot system and FIA/FHM data measurement protocols to capture information about urban forests. This fills a previously identified data gap.
- 2) Demonstration of the use of the Urban Forest Effects (UFORE) Model in data analysis to quantify urban forest structure and function.
- 3) Establishment of a protocol for delimiting urban boundaries.
- 4) Quantification, for the first time, of the status and condition of urban forests on a statewide basis.
- 5) Establishment of a pest risk assessment for Wisconsin urban forests.

The Wisconsin pilot study found that there are an estimated 130.6 million trees in urban areas. Of these trees, approximately 103.7 million are found in UFIAF conditions and the remaining 26.9 million are found in other urban land uses (UFIA+). For more information related to crown condition, pest risk, value, and services, please access the full report at http://www.na.fs.fed.us/pubs/fhm/pilot/pilot_study_wisconsin2_02_hr.pdf.

(Anne Buckelew Cumming, David J. Nowak, Daniel B. Twardus, Robert Hoehn, Manfred Mielke, and Richard Rideout)



CATASTROPHIC STORMS AND URBAN FORESTS PUBLIC FORUM, NATIONAL URBAN AND COMMUNITY FORESTRY ADVISORY COUNCIL

Healthy, sustainable trees and forested ecosystems are just as much a vital part of America's urban and community infrastructure today as trees were 40, 50, or even 100 years ago, when tree-lined neighborhoods dominated the landscapes in cities and towns across America. Trees were then, as they are today, an essential element of public health and quality of life. What is often overlooked after a terrible storm, and what is rarely considered beforehand, is the impact of such disasters on the sustainability of the urban forest. Damage and loss of public and private trees during a storm event are equally important to the loss of other critical infrastructure systems such as power, roads, bridges, and communications. Maintaining and restoring this green infrastructure—the trees and forests within and surrounding urban areas—is essential to the overall recovery of communities after a catastrophic event. Because of their environmental, economic, and social importance, the care of trees and urban forest lands must be a priority in both emergency preparedness planning and disaster recovery. It is hoped that the Council can use its authorities and influence to raise the level of importance of pre-storm mitigation and preparation efforts and to cause FEMA to offer pre-disaster financial assistance to States and communities and disaster recovery assistance to restore the urban canopy cover as quickly as possible. (To read the entire testimony, see <http://www.stateforesters.org/testimony/NUCFAC-06-07.htm>.)

(Steve Scott, State Forester of Tennessee, Urban and Community Forestry Committee, National Association of State Foresters, June 6, 2007, Biloxi, MS, Testimony on behalf of the Urban and Community Forestry Committee of the National Association of State Foresters)

SPECIES DIVERSITY IN URBAN PARKS STUDY

A recent study has found that urban parks in the Northeastern United States are significantly impacted by higher population levels that affect both native and nonnative species diversity. Dr. Robert Loeb from Penn State University conducted a study of common urban park flora in Boston, New York, Philadelphia, Baltimore, and Washington. Overall, the 13 species found in all 10 parks included 3 native species—red maple, yellow oxalis, and Virginia creeper—and 10 nonnative species. An additional 20 species were common in 9 of 10 parks. “Increasing human population is significantly related

to decreasing native species and increasing nonnative species,” said Loeb. Higher levels of human disturbances such as trampling, air pollution, or arson have more destructive effects on native species. The list of 1,391 species identified in the study provides evidence that species survival under the stresses of human use of urban parks is a critical factor for the selection of species for vegetation restoration projects. Loeb, Associate Professor of Biology and Forestry, Penn State's DuBois Campus, says this study provides evidence that common urban park flora do not exist and demonstrates that a diverse flora can be maintained in urban parks. To read the study or the complete article entitled “Population Pressure Shapes Urban Parks,” please contact Vicki Fong at vfong@psu.edu.

FOREST FIRES RELEASING MERCURY INTO THE AIR

According to a recent study conducted by the National Center for Atmospheric Research in Boulder, CO, forest fires in the United States may release around 44 tons of mercury into the air each year. Though not immediately harmful to humans, mercury present in wildfire smoke could become concentrated in waterways, where it could be converted into toxic methyl mercury and accumulate at high levels in fish and other aquatic animals. In light of this new research, the Environmental Protection Agency is now revisiting the protocol of the 2005 Clean Air Mercury Rule to include mercury from wildfires. To view the entire article, visit http://www.hcn.org/servlets/hcn.Article?article_id=17361.

(Adapted from an article by Kat Leitzell, High Country News, CO, November 2007)

LANDSCAPE AND DEMOGRAPHIC CHANGE

This research focuses on understanding how the movement of people across the landscape changes natural resources and management. Researchers recognize that landscape change results from people's behavior and decisionmaking while at the same time influencing it. Planning and policy strategies address landscape change for elected officials and planners, and provide tools for them to make wise decisions for their constituents. Urban sprawl and housing growth affect not only cities, but also suburban and rural areas confronting development. For more information, go to <http://ncrs.fs.fed.us/4902/focus/change/strategies/>.

(U.S. Forest Service, Northern Research Station, Evanston, IL, Dr. Lynne Westphal)



TOOLS, PUBLICATIONS, AND RESOURCES

WORK ZONE SAFETY: MANUAL ON UNIFORM TRAFFIC CONTROL DEVICES

Work zone safety along streets, utility rights-of-way, and most other areas requires setting up Temporary Traffic Control (TTC) zones. TTC zones begin at the first sign, go through the actual work area, and end at the last sign beyond the work area. The basic components of TTC zones are presented in the 2003 edition of the Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (MUTCD), which can be downloaded free at <http://mutcd.fhwa.dot.gov/kno-2003r1.htm>.

EMERGENCY RESPONSE AND AERIAL RESCUE PROTOCOL

Fire rescue or high-angle rescue teams perform the majority of aerial rescues. It is critical that arborists know the procedures these professionals use when called to perform a rescue, and the roles they may serve in the rescue of another worker. This downloadable brochure illustrates the five most common aerial rescue scenarios and the general process to respond to them. For more information, see www.ArborMaster.com.

HOW TO PLANT A TREE

The Pennsylvania Horticultural Society has produced a CD ROM with video instructions on how to plant a balled and burlapped tree, container tree, or bare-root tree. It also includes a list of tools and resources. This CD is well done and an excellent resource for volunteer activities. For more information, call the Pennsylvania Horticultural Society at 215-988-8800 or see www.pennsylvaniahorticulturalsociety.org.

TREE LAW CASES IN THE USA, 2ND EDITION

This second edition by Lew Bloch adds 39 new cases to the 170 cases published in 2000 in the first edition. Some are precedent setting, some are interesting and amusing, and quite a few involve tree service companies. It also has a revised summary chapter to reflect new cases. This book provides a fascinating look at tree cases both past and present, and is an excellent resource for any urban forestry professional. To buy a copy, see: www.tcia.org.

COMMUNITY TREE PLANS: A GUIDE FOR TREE COMMISSIONS AND ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY COUNCILS

This 11-page primer outlines the planning required to identify successful strategies while encouraging efficiency and rational action when developing community tree plans. The publication covers the planning hierarchy, sets direction for developing and implementing a written plan, and provides strategies for assuring proper long-term management of community trees. Dr. William Elmendorf produced this publication (Penn State College of Agricultural Sciences, Agricultural Research and Cooperative Extension, 2007) with support from the Pennsylvania Urban and Community Forestry Council. Call 814-863-7941 to order a hard copy.

BETTER SITE DESIGN: A HANDBOOK FOR CHANGING DEVELOPMENT RULES IN YOUR COMMUNITY

The Center for Watershed Protection developed this manual for people who design and build new communities. It covers everything from basic engineering principles to actual and perceived barriers as well as implementation of better site designs. The book provides 22 guidelines for better development and examines current practices in local communities, while detailing the economic and environmental benefits of better site design. Case studies are presented from across the country. It includes sample code and ordinance worksheets, and information and resources for individuals interested in advancing water resource management techniques. For more information, see <http://www.planning.org/APAStore/Search/Default.aspx?p=2515>.

WHAT IS THE EMERALD ASH BORER?

Northeastern Area, State and Private Forestry, NA-PR-05-04
(Revised July 2005)

This trifold brochure provides a brief overview of the emerald ash borer—its hosts, biology, commonly mistaken species, signs, and symptoms. This informative publication contains excellent graphics.

WANTED: ASIAN LONGHORNED BEETLE, THE THREAT TO NORTH AMERICAN HARDWOOD FORESTS AND TREES

This CD ROM set was produced by Rutgers Cooperative Extension, the New Jersey Agricultural Experiment Station, and the U.S. Forest Service, Northeastern Area State and Private Forestry. The set contains a 34-minute informative DVD, PowerPoint presentations, images, video clips, and educational materials produced by William Hlubik, James Marko, Richard Weidman, and Nicholas Polanin. For more information, contact William Hlubik at HLUBIK@AESOP.rutgers.edu.

THE LARGE TREE ARGUMENT: THE CASE FOR LARGE-STATURE TREES VS. SMALL-STATURE TREES

This 8-page factsheet promotes the planting of large trees by making the case for better marketing efforts that highlight the benefits that large trees provide. The factsheet presents an overview of the worth of trees and their costs versus benefits, and presents a hypothetical example that substantiates the large-tree argument. The factsheet was developed by two research centers in the U.S. Forest Service: the Center for Urban Forest Research in the Pacific Southwest Research Station located in Davis, CA; and the Southern Center for Urban Forestry Research and Information in the Southern Research Station. To see the factsheet, go to http://www.fs.fed.us/psw/programs/cufr/products/cufr_511_large_tree_arguement_bw.pdf.

SMART GROWTH SHAREWARE

Smart Growth America is offering an electronic library of their resources for anyone interested in creating livable, well-planned communities. Their CD ROM contains road-tested presentations and materials by local and national leaders and organizations, and downloadable publications, factsheets, and Web links to more than 100 additional resources. (Version 2 updated.) To obtain a copy, contact Smart Growth America at www.smartgrowthamerica.org.

PIEDMONT COMMUNITY TREE GUIDE - BENEFITS, COSTS, AND STRATEGIC PLANTING

E. Gregory McPherson; James R. Simpson; Paula J. Peper; Shelley L. Gardner; Kelaine E. Vargas; Scott E. Maco; Qingfu Xiao. November 2006. Gen. Tech. Rep. PSW-GTR-200. U.S. Department of Agriculture, Forest Service, Pacific Southwest Research Station. 99 p. For more information, go to <http://treesearch.fs.fed.us/pubs/25926>.

OHIO TREE APPRAISAL GUIDE

The seventh edition of the Guide to Appraisal of Trees and Other Plants in Ohio is now available. The cost is \$20.00 for Ohio Chapter ISA members and \$30.00 for nonmembers, plus sales tax and shipping. Proceeds from the book sales will benefit the Ohio Chapter ISA. To obtain a copy, contact Lana Ahlum at Ahlum & Arbor Tree Preservation, 614-876-5622, or write to ahlumarbor@sbcglobal.net.

THE WOODS IN YOUR BACKYARD

This self-assessment manual helps landowners with up to 10 acres of land make decisions that affect water, wildlife, recreation, and forest health on their property. The workbook helps landowners learn more about their land and how to implement sound management practices. To purchase the workbook, contact the Natural Resource, Agriculture, and Engineering Service (NRAES) at www.nraes.org; for more information about the program, visit www.naturalresources.umd.edu.

TREES ARE GOOD IMAGE DATABASE

The International Society of Arboriculture (ISA) now has an image database at www.treesaregood.org. There is a large need for images to populate this database. If you have images that help demonstrate proper tree techniques or other tree-related topics, send them to Sonia Garth, ISA public and industry relations manager, at sgarth@isa-arbor.com. These images will be made available to others in the industry and the public for educational purposes as well as to the media for illustrations. Please be sure to include all information so that the images receive the proper photo credit.

WORKING TREES FOR WILDLIFE

This brochure, developed by the USDA National Agroforestry Center, introduces readers to the concept of using agroforestry practices to benefit wildlife. The brochure provides a comprehensive discussion about the benefits of agroforestry and how to begin using agroforestry practices to enhance wildlife habitat in the United States. The series now includes Working Trees for Agriculture, Working Trees for Communities, Working Trees for Livestock, and Working Trees for Water Quality. For more information, see www.unl.edu/nac.

USE PLANT INFORMATION ONLINE to discover sources in 930 North American nurseries for 100,948 kinds of plants, find 348,856 citations to 132,726 plants in science and garden literature, link to selected Web sites for images and regional information about 9,924 plants, and access information about 2,293 North American seed and nursery firms. Plant Information Online is a free service of the University of Minnesota Libraries and can be accessed at <https://plantinfo.umn.edu/arboretum/default.asp>.

PERSONAL EMISSIONS CALCULATOR

This calculator estimates household greenhouse gas emissions resulting from household energy use and waste disposal, and gives users information they can use to identify ways to reduce personal greenhouse gases. The What You Can Do section of the climate change site identifies more than 25 action steps that individuals can take to decrease greenhouse gas emissions, increase the Nation's energy independence, and save money. For more information, see http://epa.gov/climatechange/emissions/ind_calculator.html.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT COMMISSION FACTSHEETS ON SMART GROWTH AND URBAN FORESTRY

The Local Government Commission (LGC) is a nonprofit, nonpartisan, membership organization that provides inspiration, technical assistance, and networking to local elected officials and other dedicated community leaders who are working to create healthy, walkable, and resource-efficient communities. The Livable Communities and Urban Forests factsheet provides an overview of the many benefits of urban trees and forest cover. The factsheet is intended to help local officials, their staff, and other community leaders understand and communicate the value of urban trees. The LGC's Center for Livable Communities has a number of useful Focus on Livable Communities factsheets related to the impact of density on economic development, crime, and traffic safety. The Web site <http://www.lgc.org/about/index.html> has a number of free, downloadable factsheets. A few examples include "Compact Development for More Livable Communities," "Designing Safe Streets and Neighborhoods," and "Poor Planning Results in Dangerous Streets."

COMMON ROADSIDE INVASIVES: A ROADSIDE FIELD GUIDE TO SHOWY HERBACEOUS WEEDS

This small, 5-paneled, laminated, foldout guide identifies common and showy roadside invasive grasses and forbs, all of which are on various State noxious weed lists. The guide will help roadside managers and maintenance personnel identify and control invasive plants in their jurisdictions. For more information, subscribe to the Greener Roadsides newsletter at <http://www.fhwa.dot.gov/environment/greenerroadsides/index.htm> or contact Bonnie Harper-Lore (651-291-6104) at the Federal Highway Administration.

UP BY THE ROOTS: HEALTHY SOILS AND TREES IN THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT

Coming soon in 2008 by James Urban, FASLA, ISA

This manual is for landscape architects, architects, and planners who are designing, specifying, installing, and managing trees in the built environment. Part 1 discusses basic soil science, tree biology, and their relationship to healthy trees. Part 2 explains the process of planning and implementing landscape designs to ensure healthy trees that improve the quality of the places where we live. The book contains numerous illustrations and data in graphic form to provide guidance in designing healthy soils and trees. Call 217-531-2856 for more information. 🌳

URBAN AND COMMUNITY FORESTRY

Calendar of Events, Meetings, and Conferences

January 2008 to April 2008

Updated Calendar Available Online at:

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

2008

January 7 - 9

Great Lakes Trade Exposition

The Michigan Nursery and Landscape Association, Michigan Turfgrass Foundation, and the Arboriculture Society of Michigan have combined their trade shows and conferences into one annual event. GLTE 2008 will feature: Trade Show with over 350 exhibiting companies 100 Educational Programs over the course of three days Bio-based Products & Biofuels Fair

Location: Grand Rapids, Michigan
Event Type: Conference Program: UCF
Link: <http://www.glte.org/>

January 9 - 11

Minnesota Green Expo

Exhibitors, educational seminars, and networking opportunities for members of the green industry. Co-sponsored by the Minnesota Nursery and Landscape Association and the Minnesota Turf and Grounds Foundation.

Location: Minneapolis, Minnesota
Event Type: Conference Program: UCF
Email: info@minnesotagreenexpo.com
Link: <http://www.minnesotagreenexpo.com/>

January 10 - 11

NUERON - New Prospects and Tools for Urban Tree Canopy Goals

NEURON is an annual meeting of the Urban Ecology Collaborative and is focused on urban & community forestry issues and associated research, applications, and education.

Location: Boston, Massachusetts
Event Type: Meeting Program: UCF
Link: <http://www.bc.edu/schools/cas/envstudies/>

January 10 - 12

Ohio Tree Care Conference

Dr. John Ball, professor of forestry, South Dakota State University keynote speaker. More to Come!

Location: Columbus, Ohio
Event Type: Conference Program: UCF
Info: 614.771.7494
Link: <http://www.ohiochapterisa.org>

January 12 - 14

Hemlock Woolly Adelgid Symposium

Location: Hartford, Connecticut
Event Type: Conference Program: FHP
Info: Dennis Souto 603.868.7717
Email: dsouto@fs.fed.us

- January 15 - 17 **Indiana Arborist Association Annual Conference**
 Location: Indianapolis, Indiana
 Event Type: Conference Program: UCF
 Info: Rita McKenzie 765.494.3625
 Email: mckenzie@purdue.edu
 Link: <http://www.indiana-arborist.org/pdf/2008-01-17Annual.pdf>
- January 16 - 18 **Mid-Am Horticultural Trade Show**
 Location: Chicago, Illinois
 Event Type: Conference Program: UCF
 Link: <http://www.midam.org/>
- January 24 **Cornell Cooperative Extension Annual Urban Forestry Conference**
 Location: White Plains, New York
 Event Type: Conference Program: UCF
 Info: Stephanie Mallozi 845.677.8223
 Email: sdm10@cornell.edu
- January 27 - 29 **43rd Annual Shade Tree Symposium**
 Penn-Del Chapter ISA
 Certification exams Jan. 27
 Location: Lancaster, PA e. Wertz 215.795.0411
 Link: www.pennidelisa.org/
- February 3 - 5 **Wisconsin Arborist Association and Wisconsin Urban Forestry Annual Conference**
 Location: Middleton, Wisconsin
 Event Type: Conference Program: UCF
 Info: Cory Gritzmacher
 Email: cagritz@netwurx.net
- February 5 - 7 **Caribbean Urban & Community Forestry Meeting**
 Puerto Rico Urban and Community Forestry Council Meeting on Global Warming: Health & Economy
 Location: Centro deBellas Artes Ang,
 Event Type: Meeting Program: UCF
 Info: Jardin Botanico Sur 787.766.5335x11
 Email: mafigueroa@fs.fed.us
- February 6 - 8 **New England Grows**
 Location: Boston Convention and Exhibition Center, Boston, MA
 Event Type: Program:
 Info: Mary 508.653.3009
 Link: www.NEGrows.org
- February 7 - 9 **7th Annual New Partners for Smart Growth**
 Building safe, healthy and livable communities.
 Register online at www.NewPartners.org
 Location: Washington, District of Columbia
 Event Type: Conference Program: UCF
 Info: Noelle Nichols 916.448.1198
 Email: nnichols@lgc.org
- February 8 - 10 **New Jersey Association of Landscape Architects Annual Meeting**
 Annual Chapter Meeting - More to come!
 Location: Taj Mahal, New Jersey
 Event Type: Conference Program: Other
 Link: <http://www.njasla.net>
- February 9 - 12 **2008 Ohio Tree Care Conference**
 Call for Presentations addressing issues and challenges in arboriculture.
 Location: Columbus, Ohio
 Event Type: Conference Program: UCF
 Info: Chris 614.771.7494
 Email: info@ohiochapterisa.org
- February 10 - 14 **Tree Care Industry Association's Winter Management Conference**
 Location: Aruba
 Event Type: Conference Program: UCF
 Info: 800.733.2622
 Link: <http://www.tcia.org>
- February 14 **Trees, People, and the Law - National Arbor Day Foundation**
 Location: Minneapolis, Minnesota
 Event Type: Conference Program: UCF
 Link: http://www.arborday.org/shopping/conferences/brochures/ht_tpl/2007/index.cfm

February 19 - 22 **ASCA Consulting Academy**
Location: San Diego, California
Event Type: Conference Program: UCF
Info: 301.947.0483
Link: <http://www.asca-consultants.org/conferences.html>

February 24 - 29 **2008 Municipal Forester Institute**
The Municipal Forester Institute (or MFI) is an exciting new, high level training opportunity educating professionals in the leadership and managerial aspects of urban forestry programs.
Location: New Braunfels, Texas
Event Type: Conference Program: UCF
Info: Society of Municipal Arborists
706.769.7412
Link: <http://www.urban-forestry.com>

February 26 - 27 **Trees, People, and the Law Symposium - National Arbor Day Foundation**
Municipalities, government agencies, utilities, private contractors, and landowners often find themselves involved in litigation from incidents related to trees. This national symposium is designed to provide a background for understanding, and an opportunity to discuss the issues surrounding trees, people, and the law.
Location: Arlington Heights, Illinois Event Type: Conference Program: UCF
Link: <http://www.arborday.org/shopping/conferences/brochures/tpl/2008/index.cfm>

March 25 - 26 **NJ ISA Garden State Tree Conference**
Featured speakers include James Clark, Jason Grabosky and Wayne Outlaw.
Location: Rutgers Cook College, NJ
Event Type: Conference Program: UCF
Info: NJ ISA 732.574.9100
Link: <http://www.NJArboristISA.com>

March 30 - April 2 **2008 National Main Streets Conference – Enriching Main Street Through Entrepreneurship and Diversity**
The National Main Streets Conference is the only commercial district revitalization educational and networking event that blends economic development, community revitalization, and historic preservation.
Location: Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
Event Type: Conference Program: UCF
Info: National Trust for Historic Preservation
- Smart Growth Online Network Registration
Link: <http://conference.mainstreet.org/>

April 7 - 9 **Trees and Utilities National Conference - National Arbor Day Foundation**
This event provides a forum for utility professionals, community foresters, and concerned citizens to exchange ideas and explore ways to work together to accomplish the dual goal of growing healthy community forests and providing reliable, low-cost utility service.
Location: Orlando, Florida
Event Type: Conference Program: UCF
Link: <http://www.arborday.org/shopping/conferences/brochures/treesandutilities/2008/index.cfm>

The next issue of **Urban Projects** from the Morgantown Field Office will be the end of March.

Please send articles or events to:

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