



# Northeastern Area News Notes



June 27, 2005



## DIRECTOR'S NOTES

### Coming Soon—White House Conference on Cooperative Conservation

Public and private partnerships for managing and protecting natural resources have reached the national agenda. For just the third time in our Nation's history, the White House Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) is sponsoring a national environmental conference. Called the White House Conference on Cooperative Conservation (WHCCC), this invitation-only event will be held in St Louis, Missouri, August 29–31. The Departments of Agriculture, Commerce, Defense, the Interior, and the Environmental Protection Agency are cosponsoring and hosting the event.

The WHCCC attendees, expected to number at least 1,000, will be primarily from the private sector. The agenda is built around case studies of cooperative conservation projects from all over the country. Each agency, plus a variety of private groups ranging from Ducks Unlimited to local nonprofits, submitted projects for consideration. The best will be discussed and studied at the conference and will be published in a hardcover book available at the session. All of the submitted studies, which currently number about 300, will be included on a CD to be released this fall. We have an employee on detail to the Washington Office who is writing and editing case study submissions from all of the agencies and organizations.

The purpose of the gathering is to “strengthen shared governance and citizen stewardship.” The stated goals are as follows:

- Broaden cooperative conservation with State, tribal, and local governments, communities, private for-profit and nonprofit organizations, and private citizens.
- Enhance and integrate public and private land stewardship.
- Bring together key stakeholders and decisionmakers who can advance cooperative conservation.
- Identify ideas for future conservation and environmental policies and initiatives.
- Facilitate the exchange of information and advice for successful partnerships.
- Institutionalize cooperative conservation to enhance on-the-ground conservation results and progress.

This set of goals could stand as a remarkably good summary of our own working relationships and goals here in the Northeast and Midwest. The central premise is familiar: that citizen-based initiatives are effective ways to manage and protect natural resources, and that government's role can often be supportive, rather than regulatory, with equally good results. The very nature of our Federal-State partnership, laid out in the *Cooperative Forestry Assistance Act* (emphasis mine), is



based on that idea. And our working partnerships—with our collective successes—demonstrate the validity of that concept, year in and year out. The examples are numerous; I'd like to mention two:

- *The development and application of a Best Management Practices (BMPs) monitoring protocol.* Working with other agencies, both Federal and State, as well as nongovernment partners, a science-based protocol for monitoring the effects of logging activities on water quality helps loggers meet water quality standards through voluntary compliance. This approach to protecting water quality is effective and efficient, and a clear demonstration of the values of public-private partnerships providing both public and private benefits.
- *Growing Native.* The Potomac Watershed Partnership's "Growing Native" initiative inspired more than 6,000 volunteers to collect 18,000 pounds of seed (native tree species) in 2004. Through this dynamic partnership of local people, nongovernment organizations, and State and Federal agencies, streamside restoration projects will utilize native species of trees grown from these seeds to protect the waters of the Potomac River and the Chesapeake Bay.

The Northeastern Area has been involved in two projects that are likely to be featured case studies at the conference: the New York City Watershed and Chicago Wilderness. Both are outstanding examples of successful conservation of natural resources through cooperative partnerships.

With its focus on the future, the White House Conference will go beyond past successes and set out challenges for the future. The Northeastern Area has proposed for consideration two challenges that lie ahead of us: the restoration of the Mississippi River and the establishment of markets for environmental services. Each of these is a challenge that goes beyond forestry. While the outcomes of the White House Conference may or may not include our proposals in some form, the upper reaches of the Mississippi River watershed and the emergence of markets for environmental services are challenges in the Northeastern Area's future. We will continue to work with the States and other partners to address these and other challenges.

Associated with the upcoming conference, a continuing Web site is in the works. The site will be a place where people can enter information about their collaborative project for others to learn from, and where people interested in cooperative conservation can find helpful tools and links. This site will probably be taken over and managed by the private sector. I suggest we think about how we might use the site, and perhaps contribute to it.

Although the actual conference is invitation-only, an exhibition area will feature products or services helpful to citizen-based conservation groups. For more information, visit the conference Web site at <http://www.conservation.ceq.gov/index.html>. And stay tuned for information about conference outcomes, which we will report on in September.

— Kathryn Maloney



## Fire and Aviation Management Welcomes Summer Intern

The Northeastern Area Fire and Aviation Management (F&AM) has welcomed a summer intern to the staff. From the Philadelphia area, **Tayiba Malik** is a senior engineering student at Penn State University in State College. She brings a wealth of skills to the job to the delight of the staff. Already, Tayiba has provided invaluable assistance with training. Tayiba will be assisting the staff on projects throughout the summer.



Summer intern Tayiba Malik works with the Newtown Square Fire staff.

## F&AM Assists FEMA

For the past month, Fire and Aviation Management has been providing training assistance to the Federal Emergency Management Administration (FEMA) in the incident command system (ICS). The Forest Service, along with other Federal and State agencies, has been utilizing the incident command system in firefighting for years. FEMA is adopting the system for use in all risk management and needed the help of experienced individuals to make the transition successful. **Bob Hartlove** has been assisting FEMA Region II (New York) and Region III (Philadelphia) as a coach as they deliver ICS training to Department of Homeland Security personnel.

## Emergency Support Function Training

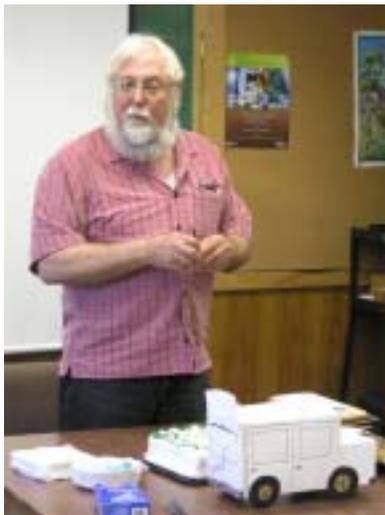
The week of June 7, Fire and Aviation Management hosted two sessions of the training course Emergency Support Function #4 (ESF4) in King of Prussia, Pennsylvania. The training was to prepare Forest Service employees to serve during FEMA events in the support functions in which the Forest Service has primary responsibility. Forty-four Forest Service employees from the Northeastern Area, the Eastern and Southern Regions, and the Washington Office attended the two sessions. **Jan Polasky** served as the course facilitator and was supported by **Alan Zentz** (instructor), **John Grosman** (coordination), and **Tayiba Malik** (materials support).

# DURHAM FIELD OFFICE NOTES

## NA's National Lumber Drying Expert Retires

After 31 years of service to our Nation's forest-based businesses and State cooperators, **Dean Huber** retired from the Forest Service on June 3. Dean's unique Forest Service career has taken him to both coasts as well as several foreign countries. He is nationally recognized as a lumber drying expert by his peers and well known for his ability to boil down wood processing problems to very basic and understandable solutions.





Friends and associates of Dean celebrated his years of service with cake, cookies, and tall tales earlier this month. Dean and his wife Karen will be moving to Palouse, Washington, later this summer to be closer to family. When asked what's next, Dean replied, "*First we need to sell our house in New Hampshire while at the same time have our new house built in Palouse. After that, I may rekindle my contacts with Washington State University at Pullman and the University of Idaho at Moscow.*" Sounds as if Dean will certainly be busy in "retirement" and all of us wish him and Karen our best.

**Dean Huber talks of his plans for the future, including a move west, on the eve of his retirement.**

## **Making New York's State Roadways Safer**

New York Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) staff have been assisting the State Department of Transportation (DOT) in providing DOT staff with training on assessing risk trees on State roadways. Frank Dunstan and Mary Kramarchyk from DEC have coordinated 11 different workshops, training over 500 DOT employees. The training uses a process and manual developed by the Forest Service. **Dennis Souto** and **John Parry** assisted with two of the workshops in May, on Long Island and in Queens. It is hoped that the new information will help DOT staff make critical decisions on the removal of high risk trees on the thousands of miles of roadways for which they are responsible.



**Dennis Souto describes tree defects to DOT staff in Queens.**

## **Durham Hosts Back-to-Back Civil Rights Committee Events**



**Hollie Umphrey served a detail in the Federated States of Micronesia, helping with typhoon recovery.**

Caring for the Land and Serving People

The Durham Civil Rights Committee celebrated **Asian Pacific Heritage Month** in May with a presentation by Hollie Umphrey of the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service. Hollie served a 5-week detail in the Federated States of Micronesia in the South Pacific in 2001 as a member of a team helping local villagers recover from the effects of a typhoon. As a sociologist, Hollie's focus was working within the islanders' culture to help them learn how to rebuild their homes and other structures, and restore their quality of life. Hollie's presentation offered insight into not only the difficulty a born "northerner" had adjusting to the island's climate and cuisine, but also the true nature of a people and culture that many attendees knew little about. Her encounters with what would be considered discrimination in this country (women cannot travel unescorted and are required to wear long skirts) were offset by the islanders' warmth, smiles, and generosity.





**Jim Berry brought home the message of Gay and Lesbian Pride Month with history, humor, and personal insight.**

In June, the Civil Rights Committee welcomed Jim Berry of Berry Communications in honor of **Gay and Lesbian Pride Month**.

Jim's talk, "Showing Up, in Time," included a brief history of the gay and lesbian rights movement as well as his own personal story of awareness, recognition, and acceptance. Although the modern gay and lesbian rights movement originated with the Stonewall Rebellion on June 27, 1969, when gays and lesbians fought back against police harassment for the first time during a raid on a gay bar in New York City (see <http://www.nwhp.org/events/gay-lesbian-pride/history-of-pride-month03.html>), the movement's roots can be traced back to a number of pioneers throughout the 20<sup>th</sup> century who risked their livelihood and personal safety to stand up for gay rights. Jim's personal experiences, ranging from being singled out on the elementary school playground and trying to "fit in," to the heartbreak of losing friends and loved ones during the AIDS crisis and his incredibly touching recount of "coming out" to his parents, offered a rare and insightful glimpse into the effects of discrimination and the importance of being honest with others as well as yourself. "*Jim was an exceptional*

*speaker, one of the best who's ever visited Durham. I learned about the historical perspective of the gay rights movement, but more important was Jim's poignant personal connection with everyone in the room. If he can't teach us that we all share emotions and feelings in common, I don't know who else could,"* commented Dennis Souto.

Jim's talk will be available on videotape to other NE/NA offices. Please contact Helen Thompson ([hthompson@fs.fed.us](mailto:hthompson@fs.fed.us) or 603-868-7701) if you would like to borrow a copy.

## **Bosworth Meets and Greets in Massachusetts**

Forest Service Chief **Dale Bosworth** made an informal tour of Massachusetts on May 31 and participated in three separate events as part of a multistate community outreach tour. He delivered a short speech at a Forest Legacy closing ceremony in Pepperell early in the day, attended by about 100 local conservation enthusiasts. Many of the local community members in attendance helped to make the event possible. Commonwealth of Massachusetts Secretary of Environmental Affairs Ellen Roy Herzfelder and U.S. Rep James Olver of Amherst also spoke at the event. Regional Forester **Randy Moore**, Green Mountain Forest Supervisor **Paul Brewster**, and White Mountain Deputy Forest Supervisor **Barney Ghant** represented the Eastern Region. Representing the Durham Field Office were Field Representative **Karen Mollander**, Forest Legacy Program Coordinator **Deirdre Raimo**, and Public Affairs Specialist **Glenn Rosenholm**. Print and radio news media also covered the event for local audiences.

Chief Bosworth's speech discussed the Forest Service's role in protecting certain pristine lands to safeguard open space. Loss of open space is one of the four major national threats facing America's forests. Every day, about 4,000 acres of open space are converted to developed land—about 3 acres per minute. Since its first Federal appropriation in Fiscal Year 1992, the Forest Legacy Program has provided \$208 million in Federal funds to conserve more than 1 million acres of land across 29 States.



The Trust for Public Land (TPL) hosted the ceremony commemorating the successful protection of the 265-acre Pepperell Springs tract. A partnership of local, State, and Federal stakeholders made the land protection deal possible. The ceremony marked the transfer of the property from the TPL, which had purchased it on December 29, 2004, to the town of Pepperell. The Forest Service provided \$1.383 million in Forest Legacy funds for the \$3.2 million land protection project. Other important partners included the Nashoba Conservation Trust, the Nashua River Watershed Association, and the Nissitissit River Land Trust, the town of Pepperell, the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, and countless individuals.

*“The Pepperell Springs property is a signature forest landscape in New England, and this is a great time to show our appreciation for the Federal Forest Legacy Program, which made the Pepperell project possible,”* observed TPL Field Representative Chris Lapointe.

Later in the day, Chief Bosworth stopped by the *Boston Globe* to participate in an editorial board to discuss forestry-related issues with the editorial page editor. Afterwards, the Chief took part in an Eastern Region-sponsored Urban Connections event held at the New England Aquarium. At the end of the day he flew out of Boston en route to Philadelphia for the next leg of his outreach tour.

### **2005 Project Learning Tree Conference—Oregon's Forests: The Place to Be!**



**Susan M. Cox (Northeastern Area) and Susan Cox (Mt. Hood National Forest) with Mt. Hood in back ground.**

This year’s Project Learning Tree (PLT) conference in Welches, Oregon, June 8–12 was a great success, with approximately 150 participants from 45 States and 3 countries! Highlights included the keynote address by Oregon Department of Education Superintendent Susan Castillo at the Outstanding Educator Luncheon, and General Session speakers Hal Salwasser, Dean of the Oregon State University College of Forestry, and Ann Goos, Development Director for the Agriculture and Forestry Education Foundation.

**Susan Cox’s** presentation on teacher professional development was well received by the 20-plus attendees. Other conference events included field trips to the World

Forestry Center, the Wildwood Recreation Site, and Mt. St. Helen’s. A trip to Timberline Lodge with a viewing of an edited version of *The Greatest Good* and a talk by Gary Larsen, Mt. Hood National Forest Supervisor, was topped off by a fantastic sunset on Mt. Hood.

Educators within the Northeastern Area were well represented in the awards categories. Mary Cutler (IN) and Peggy Herbert (NH) were outstanding PLT educators of the year. Peggy learned PLT at the New Hampshire Teachers Institute, a joint project with the Durham Field Office, NH Project WILD, Project WET, GLOBE, and PLT. Esther Cowles, New Hampshire PLT Coordinator, was awarded the Gold Star, acknowledging her support and leadership in the promotion of PLT.

To top off the trip, Susan Cox was able to meet the Forest Service’s “other” Susan Cox, who works on the Mt. Hood-Parkdale Ranger District of the Mt. Hood National Forest. Turns out they have more in common than their name, as that Susan also does conservation education.



## Durham Hosts Northeast Forest Pathologists Workshop

The Durham Field Office hosted the Northeast Forest Pathologists workshop at the Appalachian Mountain Club's Highland Center in the White Mountain National Forest, May 24–26. **Cindy Ash** and **Margaret Miller-Weeks** worked together with **Walter Shortle** and **Kevin Smith** (Northeastern Research Station) and Kyle Lombard from the State of New Hampshire to set up the program. Highlights included a Caliciopsis canker display, a full day in the field looking at tree diseases, and invited presentations on white pine issues and ice storm damage. A late season nor'easter made for a bit of rain on the field tour, but the participants were appreciative of the damper it put on the black fly and mosquito activity!

## Replanting in New York City in the Wake of ALB

Replanting work has continued in New York City to replace trees removed due to Asian longhorned beetle (ALB) infestations. Through a grant provided by APHIS and the Forest Service, 79 trees were planted in Queens, Brooklyn, and Manhattan over the past year by the New York Tree Trust. Megan Shermata has been coordinating the work for the New York DEC and has created GIS maps showing removal and replanting locations. **John Parry** is monitoring the project for the Forest Service and made a site visit in June to review the work to date.



**ALB replacement trees help shade an urban area in Queens.**

## Durham Represented at Legislative Training

**Bob Fitzhenry** and **Glenn Rosenholm** attended the Georgetown University Congressional Operations Seminar in Washington, DC, hosted by the Government Affairs Institute June 6–10. The course is an insider's look at how both the Senate and House are really run in the U.S. Congress. The class of about 30 students attended a variety of legislative-related lectures, toured the U.S. Capitol, attended committee hearings on the Hill, and met with Congressional staffs during the seminar.

## Biodiversity Inventories in Massachusetts

The Massachusetts Association of Conservation Commissions is coordinating biodiversity inventories across the State, and a kick-off event was held in Southborough on June 7. The day's goal was to document as many species as possible, and then to share the thrill of discovery with school groups. **Tom Rawinski** led the botanical inventory, which yielded 225-plus species. The keynote speaker for the event was Dr. Edward O. Wilson.

# GREY TOWERS NOTES

## Grey Towers Goes Global With United Nations Forum on Forests

Many high-level diplomatic and forestry officials, including the Ambassador to the United Nations from France and the Chair of the Bureau of the Forum from Columbia, were among the guests who recently attended a daylong field trip to Grey Towers National Historic Site. In all, 85 delegates





**A total of 85 representatives from 45 countries visited Grey Towers recently during a field trip for the United Nations Forum on Forests.**

from over 45 countries had an opportunity to see Gifford Pinchot's home, enjoy the beautiful gardens, and learn more about different approaches to forest management in America.

Under a large tent on the east lawn, participants heard Gifford's grandson Peter Pinchot speak about his current forestry program in Ecuador and how it relates to forest management in the United States. The Nature Conservancy provided two speakers to share information about its international programs. A regional land conservancy group, the Delaware Highlands Conservancy, illustrated how they assist private landowners in managing their forests. Additional cooperators for the event included the Pennsylvania State Forestry Department, the

American Forest and Paper Association, the Society of American Foresters, the Pinchot Institute for Conservation, and the Department of State.

The outing was "*a perfect (and informative!) escape from long meetings in New York City about the world's forests,*" according to Jerilyn Levi, Forest Service International Programs, who helped coordinate the program along with Cathy Karr Colque, International Programs, and Grey Towers staff. "*(We) were extremely proud to present this 'face' of the United States and the Forest Service to our friends from around the world,*" she added.

## **Grey Towers Is Setting for State and Private Forestry National Leadership Meeting**

The State and Private Forestry National Leadership Meeting that recently was held in northeast Pennsylvania included a full day at Grey Towers and educational field trips in the region. The ancestral home of Gifford Pinchot and the surrounding environment was the perfect backdrop for a meeting intended to highlight issues of the Northeastern Area and tristate region, to commemorate the history of State and Private Forestry in our Centennial year, and to engage participants in a dialogue about the past, present, and future of State and Private Forestry programs.

A highlight of the session included a special theatrical performance of Gifford Pinchot's personal reflections of the history of State and Private Forestry and his impressions of the program today. Pinchot was played by Forest Service retiree **Gary Hines**, former deputy director of Grey Towers.

Other programs included a panel of State Foresters and discussion of innovative public-private partnerships. Participants also toured the Grey Towers mansion and gardens and some attended an educational tour of downtown Milford, seeing firsthand the tremendous contributions that the community and the Pinchots made to forestry education. Others participated in a nature field journaling exercise led by **Jim Lockyer**, Creative Specialist, as an introduction to how the arts and observation enhances an understanding of our natural surroundings and instills a stewardship ethic.

In addition, Grey Towers staff facilitated (with National Park Service assistance and cooperation) a watershed forestry tour on the Delaware River, highlighting water quality and exotic invasive species issues, and a forested waterfall hike, focusing on forest health and recreation, and also delivered a program on 9/11 and the Forest Service role in emergency response in New York City.



## 2005 Conservation and the Arts Program Gets Underway



**Terry Leonino and Greg Artzner of the Magpie Duo perform at Grey Towers as part of the Conservation and the Arts Program.**

Music and painting were the first two public programs for what promises to be an exciting and educational Conservation and the Arts season at Grey Towers.

*Twilight at the Towers* featured the Enso String Quartet on Saturday, June 11, and Magpie, a folk music-duo internationally known for their musical work in the environmental movement, on Sunday, June 12. The performances were part of the Milford Music Festival and the 2005 Kindred Spirits Music and Lecture Series at Grey Towers, a program designed to nurture an interest in the environment through the arts.

Participating in the Milford Music Festival is a new endeavor for Grey Towers and the Kindred Spirits series. *“We’re striving to increase our participation in community events and this is a logical and exciting match for both the Forest Service and the community,”* explained Grey Towers Director **Richard Paterson**.

Nancy Pinchot, who directs the Kindred Spirits Arts Series for the Pinchot Institute for Conservation at Grey Towers, feels *“that by collaborating with the Milford Music Festival, more people will be able to hear the Kindred Spirits message, which is that nature and art are intimately connected. Listening to music in a gorgeous natural setting inspires a new receptivity to nature.”*

The popular *Come Paint With Me* series, where regional artists use the grounds of Grey Towers for inspiration, kicked off the 2005 season with an instructional workshop on the history of plein air painting and an introduction to how the Pinchot family supported the arts. During the summer, visitors can watch and speak with artists throughout the Grey Towers landscape who are painting and sketching the fields, flowers, and facades.

For a full calendar of the 2005 Conservation and the Arts programs at Grey Towers, visit the Web site at <http://www.fs.fed.us/gt> or call (570) 296-9630.



### **Grey Towers Staff Lends Momentum in Cancer Fight**

Grey Towers staff and their families helped three community teams raise almost \$3,000 for the American Cancer Society’s recent Relay for Life, a 24-hour walk/run program. Grey Towers Director **Dick Paterson** commemorated the 20-year history of the event by running 20 miles around the high school track. He was accompanied by other relay participants, including **Deb**

**Grey Towers Director Dick Patterson (right) has quite the following for the last lap of the American Cancer Society’s Relay for Life.**



**Croston**, so that he had a running partner for most of the 2 hours and 48 minutes that it took to complete 80 laps. Team members kept him hydrated while on the track and on his final lap he had about 15 runners joined him while many others cheered him on. Participants from the Grey Towers family included **Dick** and **Mary Paterson**; **Lynn, Devin**, and **Mindy Dennis**; **Becky** and **Zach Philpot**; and **Deb Croston**.

## Conservation Education Programs Grow at Grey Towers



Forester **Josh Flad** teaches students how to measure a tree during a program at the Milford Experimental Forest, adjacent to Grey Towers. The new program uses the former Yale School of Forestry summer camp. These students were the first to study forestry on the site since 1927.

Nearly 1,000 school children participated in Grey Towers conservation education programs this spring. Conservation Education Specialist **Daniel Banks** has designed programs that use experiential learning with inquiry-based techniques to educate 970 students about the forest ecosystem. Using the wooded areas of Grey Towers, students explored this unique ecosystem and learned the importance of its protection. Educational outreach also included participation in several community-based environmental fairs. New this year is a program for secondary school students offered in partnership with the Milford Experimental Forest, with support from the Pinchot Institute for Conservation. For the first time since 1927, students learned forestry techniques and forest health issues at the historic Yale School of Forestry summer camp site on the adjacent Pinchot family property.

## MORGANTOWN FIELD OFFICE NOTES

### Doctoral Candidate Studies Effects of Imidacloprid on Insects Associated With Eastern Hemlock

During May, **Brad Onken**, **Rick Turcotte**, **Rod Whiteman**, **Karen Felton**, **Matt Seese**, and **Tom Elliott** treated 48 hemlock trees with imidacloprid as part of Turcotte's doctoral study on the effects of imidacloprid on insects associated with hemlock. The study sites chosen are in areas not yet infested with the hemlock woolly adelgid (HWA) so that baseline data can be collected on the effects of imidacloprid on nontarget insects associated with hemlock. The study will track the effects of two treatment methods and a control group with no treatment. The first method involves soil injection within 1 foot of the tree; the second is a trunk injection at the base of the tree.

*"To do the trunk injection, we drill a 3/8-inch hole 5/8 inches deep into the sapwood. Part of the study is to see which of these delivery systems provides the best distribution of imidacloprid through the tree and its effects on nontarget insects. We know what the result of adelgid infestation is, but we do not know what effect the treatment against the adelgid has on other insects associated with hemlock,"* said Turcotte.



The team also treated 129 hemlock trees on the Monongahela National Forest where the hemlock woolly adelgid is known to exist. The imidacloprid treatment is expected to reduce HWA populations on treated trees and provide up to 3 years of protection.

### Tree Farm Day Held in Southern New Jersey



Preparation techniques using a drum chopper were demonstrated at Lenape Farm.

This year's New Jersey Tree Farm Day was held on a rainy Friday, June 3, near Mays Landing in Atlantic County. **Karen Sykes** joined 60 other participants at the 5,000-acre Lenape Farm, which was selected as last year's Outstanding Tree Farm. The farm is owned and operated by a 12-member group who manages the property for hunting and showcases many different large-scale forestry and wildlife management activities. The field day included a tour to demonstrate site prep techniques, such as using the drum chopper, and prescribed

burning. Traditional awards were given for the Outstanding Tree Farmer of the Year and the Forest Stewardship Landowner of the Year, and to the winner of the tree identification contest.

### Employees Team Up for the United Way Day of Caring

Three Morgantown employees teamed up to volunteer for the 15<sup>th</sup> Annual United Way Day of Caring on May 18. This program links volunteers from local organizations and companies with identified needs of local, nonprofit agencies in Monongalia and Preston Counties. **Lisa Cress** (Forest Health Technology Enterprise Team), **Toni Jones** (Northeastern Research Station), and **Sandy Fosbroke** (Northeastern Area) joined more than 325 other volunteers who donated their time and efforts to help local United Way agencies for the day. Following a kickoff lunch, Lisa, Toni, and Sandy traveled to the home of a client of *In Touch and Concerned*, an agency that assists elderly and disabled residents of Monongalia County. Their gracious hostess served them iced tea as they cleaned up a patio and painted an entire bathroom (Ty Pennington, move over!).

### FHP Attends Forest Service Radio Training

On May 31, Bruce Cross, Information Solutions Organization, Service Area Team Leader from Region 8, presented a training session on the use of Forest Service radios. The session was attended by Forest Health Protection and research personnel from Morgantown.

### Annual Aviation and Aerial Survey Training

On June 1 and 2, **Rod Whiteman** and **Rick Turcotte** joined Pat Jessup from Sterling Airways to present a training session at the Clarion Airport in Pennsylvania. The session covered aviation safety, aerial surveying, and aircraft emergency situations. Topics included the setup and use of the digital aerial sketchmapping system, safety in and around the aircraft, radio use, and flying and landing the aircraft. The training was attended by



**Martin MacKenzie** examines the instrument panel at the annual aerial survey training.



personnel from Forest Health Protection in Morgantown, the Allegheny National Forest, and the Northeastern Area, Newtown Square. Tom DiStefano from the *Clarion News* came to interview Turcotte for a future article.

## Predatory Beetles Released Against HWA on the Monongahela National Forest



Adam Cumpston hooks up an imidacloprid injection system to a hemlock tree on the Monongahela National Forest.

On June 7 and 8, **Rick Turcotte**, **Joe Cook**, and **Adam Cumpston** treated 37 eastern hemlock trees with the systemic insecticide imidacloprid at the Old House Run Picnic Area (OHRPA). The OHRPA is located approximately 5 miles east of Bartow, West Virginia, on U.S. Route 250. This small picnic area, one of the eastern gateways to the Monongahela National Forest, offers travelers a beautiful place to stop as they enter West Virginia. The OHRPA has several family sites with tables and grills, and a group picnic shelter serving groups of 25 or more. The imidacloprid treatments are expected to reduce hemlock woolly adelgid (HWA) populations on treated trees and provide up to 3

years of protection. Trunk injections are one of the control strategies being employed to fight this introduced pest within the Monongahela National Forest. On May 19, approximately 2,500 predatory beetles, *Sasajiscymnus tsugae*, were released on untreated trees near the picnic area to establish natural enemies that will help control adelgids over the long term. The hemlock woolly adelgid is present and represents a serious threat to the hemlock trees at this site.

## Hemlock Woolly Adelgid Presentation and Training Held on the Allegheny

On May 17, **Rick Turcotte** delivered a 2-hour presentation and training session about the hemlock woolly adelgid at the Supervisor's Office of the Allegheny National Forest. The presentation was part of this year's forest-wide survey for the hemlock woolly adelgid and included information on the identification, biology, and potential impacts on the forest. The session was attended by summer interns and forest personnel.

## Chesapeake Bay Forest Working Group Meeting Held in Shepherdstown

The Chesapeake Bay Forestry Working Group met on June 8 in historic Shepherdstown, West Virginia. The meeting was hosted by District Forester Linda Carnell of Romney. Linda provided the group with information about West Virginia's Chesapeake Bay tributaries strategy. Nancy Ailes, representing the Lost and Cacapon River Land Trust, gave a presentation on several innovative ways the land trust is preserving land in the watershed from development. The eastern portion of West Virginia is being developed as large tracts of land are being sold by forest industries. **Sally Claggett** of the Northeastern Area led a discussion on the suite of white papers that the working group is developing on issues surrounding riparian forest buffers. The papers deal with such issues as insufficient technical assistance, the Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program, and lack of adequate funds and incentives. Each of the States is also working on selecting forestry demonstration sites that will showcase outstanding riparian buffer projects to the public. The Morgantown Field Office was represented by **Roxane Palone**. The group will meet again in Annapolis on August 2.



## Campfire Safety Programs Held at Two Boy Scout Activities

Smokey Bear and **Devin Wanner** had a busy weekend May 21–22, when they were invited to give presentations at two Boy Scouts activities held in the Morgantown area. Saturday's event was held at the West Virginia University track, where all the Boy Scout packs from Monongalia, Preston, and Marion Counties were invited to celebrate 75 years of scouting. Wanner talked about campfire safety and the importance of making certain the campfire is completely out before leaving a campsite, while Smokey shook hands and gave high-fives to everyone present. Wanner gave the scouts buttons to remind them of Smokey's message.

Smokey and Devin met with another Boy Scout troop the following night. The kids were a bit young, but very attentive. Since most of these kids were going on their first camping trips this summer, Wanner gave them a special job—the responsibility of reminding the adults to check the campfire before they leave.

## Assistance Provided to Gypsy Moth Programs in Two States

During May, **Joe Cook** assisted the State of Ohio with aerial spraying for gypsy moth in the Waverly area. A fixed-wing aircraft was used to spray *Bacillus thuringiensis* var. *kurstaki* (B.t.k.) for a gypsy moth Slow the Spread project. Cook monitored temperature, wind direction, and humidity within the spray blocks to ensure proper conditions for spray operations and monitored pesticide loading operations. About 12,500 acres were treated. **Amy Onken** provided assistance during the second week of the treatment program while Cook attended a meeting in Newtown Square.

Cook and **Dan Twardus** participated in an Invasive Species Management Plan meeting in Newtown Square, Pennsylvania. The purpose was to discuss a draft invasive species management plan. Eleven people from the Forest Health Protection staffs from Morgantown, Durham, St. Paul, and Newtown Square attended. At the conclusion of the meeting, Cook was appointed to draft a second plan dealing with invasive species responses. The team will review both drafts and provide input to Cook.

The following week, Cook assisted with a second Slow the Spread project for gypsy moth on about 1,800 acres in the Chicago area. Cook monitored pesticide loading operations, aircraft flight times, and landing and takeoff times for aircraft.

In early June, Cook and **Bill Oldland** assisted Morgantown Field Office Forest Health Protection staff in collecting data on the Red Spruce Health Project on the Monongahela National Forest. This project involves evaluating blocks that were established 20 years ago when there was a concern about the effects of acid rain deposition on the health of red spruce. The red spruce blocks were relocated and the trees in these blocks are being evaluated for current health conditions.

## ST. PAUL FIELD OFFICE NOTES

### A Star is Born!

**Linda Haugen**, Pathologist, was recently interviewed by the St. Paul *Pioneer Press* as well as WCCO News (the Minneapolis/St. Paul CBS affiliate) regarding the Forest Service project to plant



Dutch elm disease resistant elms in Minnesota, Iowa, and Wisconsin. Linda and **Jim Slavicek** (Northeastern Research Station) planted 21 disease-resistant American elms at 3 locations in the Midwest in the hopes that the trees will naturally regenerate and reintroduce elm to its native habitat. In addition to the Minneapolis/St. Paul media coverage, the story was covered by many local outlets in Iowa and Wisconsin. You can view the WCCO coverage at [http://wcco.com/local/local\\_story\\_167134407.html](http://wcco.com/local/local_story_167134407.html).

## **Northeastern Area Student Intern Returns from Australia**

**Stephanie Berkland**, a C-Step Student working on emerald ash borer, recently returned from her summer work study experience in Australia. While in Australia, Stephanie learned a lot about sustainable ecosystems and contributed to sustainability by planting trees in the rainforest. As a part of her duties with the Northeastern Area, Stephanie will spend the rest of the summer conducting emerald ash borer surveys across the United States.

## **Chief Bosworth Records “Stop Moving Firewood” Public Service Announcement in Michigan**

**Katie Armstrong**, Emerald Ash Borer Liaison, wrote a public service announcement that Forest Service Chief Dale Bosworth recorded in Detroit encouraging campers to “*pack their food, pack their gear . . . but leave their firewood at home.*” The announcement is geared to alert homeowners and campers of the dangers of moving infested firewood to noninfested areas, including the national forests. Just to show the Chief that the Northeastern Area is doing everything we can to help eradicate the emerald ash borer, at a site visit, Katie snatched a flying emerald ash borer out of the air and presented it to the Chief.

## **Chicago Wilderness Gains Even Broader Recognition**

Chicago Wilderness was featured in *Science* magazine’s May 2005 editorial. The editorial, “Nature in Metropolis,” discusses the impacts of global urbanization. It points out that while cities are good for the environment—they concentrate half the world’s population on 2 percent of the land—that also means that most people will have their direct contact with nature in an urban setting. The article promotes the work of Chicago Wilderness, a consortium of 172 public and private organizations working together to protect, restore, and manage Chicago’s natural resources. In addition, in the spring 2005 issue of *Nature Conservancy* magazine, the Presidential Message from Steve McCormick states that “*efforts such as Chicago Wilderness, which the Conservancy helped found more than seven years ago, are mobilizing city dwellers to dispel the notion that nature and environment are incongruous.*” The Northeastern Area was one of the founding members of Chicago Wilderness and continues to provide technical and financial assistance to the effort.



## EDITOR'S NOTES

Thank you to the following contributors to this issue: **Mary Wick**, Newtown Square, **Helen Thompson**, Durham; **Lori McKean**, Grey Towers; **Devin Wanner**, Morgantown; and **Gina Childs**, St. Paul.

For current and past issues of the NA News Notes visit <http://www.na.fs.fed.us/>.

### DEADLINE!

Deadline for the next issue of NA News Notes will be COB **Wednesday, July 20, 2005**. Please e-mail articles to Deborah Muccio at [dmuccio@fs.fed.us](mailto:dmuccio@fs.fed.us). Please send text separate from photos and graphics, and include captions for all images.

