

1998 USDA URBAN FORESTRY

Urban Forestry Center for the Midwestern States: Chicago, IL

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The mission of the Urban Forestry Center for the Midwestern States (the Center) is to identify urban and community forestry information needs, facilitate and support new and existing research, and coordinate the exchange of information. The Center is a cooperative partnership between the Northeastern Area State & Private Forestry and the North Central Forest Experiment Station which serves Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri and Wisconsin.

Accomplishments in 1998:

Providing technical and financial assistance to congressional initiatives in Illinois including Chicago Wilderness, Mayor Daley's GreenStreets Program and DePaul University's Urban Forestry Program. In addition, Center personnel co-chair the Urban Resources Partnership in Chicago.

Co-editing the State Urban and Community Forestry Coordinators' monthly newsletter distributed to all 50 states, the District of Columbia and the territories. The newsletter includes updates of issues of regional and national concern in urban and community forestry.

Developing a marketing component for the Urban and Community Forestry Program's National Communications Strategy. The Strategy's purpose is to increase awareness of the Urban and Community Forestry program to the media, Congress, key organizations and selected individuals.

Serving as the Urban and Community Forestry Representative on the USDA Forest Service Conservation Education Implementation Task Force to develop a coordinated Conservation Education Program. The Program targets youth, National Forest System visitors, and urban dwellers and informs them about forest sustainability and the interconnectedness of natural resources.

Providing technical and financial assistance to technology transfer projects resulting in one international conference, two regional conferences, two publications, one video set and one slide set in 1998. Topics covered included Dutch Elm Disease, urban ecosystem-based management, environmental service learning, urban-tolerant trees, and tree selection, planting, and care.