

Accomplishment Report 2007 – New Hampshire

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State Contact

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Program Summary

The New Hampshire Urban and Community Forestry (UCF) Program works through a long-term partnership between the New Hampshire Division of Forests and Lands (DFL) and the University of New Hampshire Cooperative Extension. Staff members from both organizations work cooperatively to present educational material on a variety of community forestry issues.

An urban forestry coordinator manages the Urban Forestry Center and Shieling Forest, and provides technical assistance and workshops to communities. A community forestry volunteer coordinator is employed by the University of New Hampshire (UNH) Cooperative Extension to implement the statewide Community Tree Steward Volunteer Program. Extension specialists at UNH and extension educators in each county of the state offer both scientific information and technical assistance to communities. The Community Forestry Advisory Council, consisting of 16 members from organizations including Department of Transportation, Public Utilities, and arborists provides leadership and direction for the statewide program. The council members are currently updating our 5-Year UCF Plan.

Urban Forestry Center – The Urban Forestry Center in Portsmouth was a gift to the people of New Hampshire by John Elwyn Stone in 1976. The 186-acre property includes an administrative office, meeting facility, woodland walking trails and several demonstration areas. More than 40 educational programs are presented yearly to enhance the public knowledge of urban and community forestry. The meeting facility is used by dozens of conservation-minded groups free of charge.

Shieling Forest – The Shieling Forest in Peterborough was a gift to the State of New Hampshire by the late Elizabeth Yates McGreal in 1980. The 45-acre property includes a meeting facility, walking trails and a demonstration wildflower garden. Twelve programs relating to UCF topics are presented yearly.

Community Tree Stewards Volunteer Program – The UNH Cooperative Extension and the DFL offer this comprehensive volunteer training program. Upon completion of the nearly 100 hours of training, community tree steward volunteers use their knowledge in local communities to promote the benefits of natural resources. In 2007, more than 80 New Hampshire community tree stewards volunteered more than 6,000 hours assisting New Hampshire communities by serving on land protection boards, working on landscape projects and conducting tree inventories. Mary Tebo, Community Volunteer Coordinator, heads up this very successful program in the Manchester-Nashua area, assisted by A.J. Dupere, Community Forester with the DFL in seacoast communities.

Program Highlights

Manchester Green Roof – UNH Cooperative Extension together with the City of Manchester has constructed a green roof on the Manchester City Hall Connector building. The green roof was constructed by placing 4-inch deep containers filled with perennial plants on the existing roof. The plants require very little maintenance and they can absorb up to 95 percent of an average rainfall. The green roof also improves air quality, provides habitat for pollinators, and saves money by reducing heating and cooling needs and extending the life of the roof. To view an exciting slide show about the green roof construction, go to <http://extension.unh.edu/FHGEC/GreenRoof.htm>.



Nashua Tree Inventory – Nick Caggiano, Superintendent of Parks in Nashua and a member of the New Hampshire Community Forestry Advisory Council, wanted to conduct a street tree inventory. During a Community Forestry Advisory Council meeting Mary Tebo, Community Volunteer Coordinator, and John Parry, Urban Forestry Specialist with the U.S. Forest Service Northeastern Area State and Private Forestry, discussed the logistics of an inventory and agreed to provide technical assistance. New Hampshire community tree steward volunteer Lois Scotto is coordinating the inventory. Working with local citizens, Parks and Recreation staff and other New Hampshire community tree stewards they are currently conducting the inventory. They are using i-Tree Software and equipment provided by the U.S. Forest Service. This is one of many examples of how our program shares resources and works with partners to complete projects for communities.

Hampton - In the Town of Hampton the local beachfront businesses are members of the Hampton Precinct, which oversees the maintenance and beautification of the beach area. Angie Hammond, Community Tree Steward Volunteer, and A.J. Dupere, Community Forester with the DFL, worked with local residents to plant trees along several streets that have not had trees in the past. Local residents Geannina Guzman-Scanlan and Linda Gebhart worked to raise money to purchase trees and organized volunteers to plant the trees. The Urban Forestry Center staff provided equipment, compost and technical assistance to ensure successful planting. A tree advisory group has been established and they are working on plans for more planting in the spring.

MANCHESTER'S FIRST GREEN ROOF

Look up! Manchester's first "green roof" now sits on top of City Hall's Connector building.

THE UNH COOPERATIVE EXTENSION INITIATIVE

INSTALLING THE GREEN ROOF

PLANTS ON THE GREEN ROOF

BENEFITS OF A GREEN ROOF

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