

## New Hampshire

### Program Overview

Natural resources are a vital part of New Hampshire's cultural, economic, and community structure. The State has long been famous for its great natural beauty and abundant resources, which have attracted tourists and immigrants from metropolitan areas. Four decades of rapid growth have drawn heavily on New Hampshire's resources. Some communities have experienced displacement of wildlife, loss of recreational corridors and scenic vistas, contamination of surface water and groundwater, and increased erosion and flooding. Many New Hampshire residents link these consequences of growth to a general degradation of community character. The future of New Hampshire's natural resource base depends on land use decisions made at the local level.

The New Hampshire U&CF Program is a partnership between the State Division of Forests and Lands and the University of New Hampshire Cooperative Extension, which provides community forestry assistance to people and communities throughout the State. The Urban Forestry Center in Portsmouth offers educational programs on forestry and horticulture to the general public. The Community Tree Steward Program trains volunteers to assist communities with public awareness, inventories and evaluations, tree planting and maintenance, fundraising, the development of ordinances, and the formation of concerned citizens committees. In every city and town the New Hampshire U&CF Program works to teach New Hampshire residents about today's critical issues.

### Program Accomplishments

The Division of Forests and Lands continues to expand its capacity through the effective use of volunteers. In FY 2002, 157 New Hampshire Community Tree Stewards volunteered more than 4,270 hours assisting 69 communities. They served on tree committees, worked on landscape projects, completed tree evaluations and inventories, and helped with fundraising efforts. These activities are concentrated in the Manchester/Nashua area of the State, and in seacoast communities. In FY 2002, 60 volunteers completed a 10-week training program to become community tree stewards. Training was provided at two locations: the University of New Hampshire in Manchester and the Urban Forestry Center in Portsmouth. The training, provided by many resource professionals, includes such urban forestry topics as tree anatomy, tree physiology, tree identification, insects and diseases, proper pruning techniques,



A.J. Dupere, Urban Forestry Coordinator for New Hampshire, discusses the Hemlock Wolly Adelgid with Associate Chief Sally Collins, during a tour of New Hampshire's urban forestry center.

proper planting techniques, and soil/water relationships. It also includes training on fundraising, public speaking, presentation techniques, and field trips.

The Concord Tree Volunteers completed a street inventory of downtown Concord using Americorps volunteers and New England College students. All street trees in the downtown business district were tallied, including vacant planting sites. All the street tree locations were geo-located and maps were prepared using a geographic information system to highlight and overlay key datasets for analysis. A preliminary report on the inventory and condition of the street trees was presented to the Concord City Council.

### Statistical Highlights

Number of participating communities: 144  
Number of communities assisted: 137  
Number of days of volunteer assistance to program: 2,196  
Number of trees planted: 1,506  
Number of Tree City USA communities: 11

### Contact

J.B. Cullen  
Division of Forests and Lands  
P.O. Box 1856  
Concord, NH 03301-1856  
603-271-3457 (phone)  
603-271-2629 (fax)  
e-mail: [jbcullen@dred.state.nh.us](mailto:jbcullen@dred.state.nh.us)  
<http://www.nhdf.org>