



The Michigan Forester

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Winter/Spring 2005 (Number 56)

From the Chair

Time for a new State Chair!

Having not quite two months in as your state chair, I am just "learning the ropes." Nonetheless, I cannot help but conclude that Michigan SAF is a society with a loyal and energetic core of members who believe in the organization and in their work. I see no dimming of the *esprit de corps* that for me is one of the hallmarks of the forestry profession and has always made me proud to be a forester. I hope that during this year I can play some small part in fostering that *esprit*.



Looking ahead to 2005 events, I want to mention in particular the upcoming state SAF meeting "Forests and Whitetails—Striving for Balance," to be held in St. Ignace June 9-10. This one will be a humdinger. Bill Cook has worked exceptionally hard to put together a national slate of knowledgeable speakers to address an issue that is—to put it mildly—controversial. Although at this writing the program is not yet cast in stone, Bill is getting close. So put these dates on your calendar and talk up this conference, not only among foresters but also with wildlife biologists, conservationists, and any other natural resource professionals with a stake in the interaction of trees and deer.

On a different note, I feel that I should call your attention to the recently issued

What's inside?

Chair's Message	1
A Letter from the Editor	2
Excerpts from the 2004 Michigan Forest Health Highlights	3
Master Logger Certification Arrives in Michigan	4
Information on the Certified Forester Program in Michigan	6
Michigan's Forestry Consultants Ad	8
MSAF 2005 Spring Meeting Info	10
MSAF Financial Summary & Officer List	11

report to the SAF Council by the Volunteer Organizational Structure Task Force, a.k.a. the VOS report (available on line at www.safnet.org/who/VOS1204.pdf). The Forward, in particular, makes for interesting, if sobering, reading. It begins with this provocative statement: "...the forestry profession and the scope and complexity of forest resource management are undergoing the most profound changes in scope in its history." Perhaps not words we want to hear but certainly words we need to

(Continued on page 9)

A Letter from the Editor

My husband and I live in a house adjacent to an elementary school playground in a nice modest East Lansing neighborhood. Occasionally I eat lunch at home, and when the windows are open, I can hear the youngsters as they're allowed outside for recess. They run headlong towards the playground with full screaming voices. They very often spend their time just running in circles with their arms flailing, sometimes literally running over each other in the process. For awhile, a small cluster of girls would stand together and conduct what seemed to be screaming contests. They would take turns trying to beat her competitors in volume and pitch (this would seriously worry our dog and send the cats in terror to the dark corners of the house). Lately I'm reminded of these scenes when I witness DNR staff pursuing state forest certification.

For the Michigan DNR, the clock is ticking. The certification audits are scheduled for late September of this year, and they're required to be awarded certification by both the FSC and SFI systems by January 1, 2006. Such a huge undertaking causes some staff to feel rather frantic, evoking that same screaming and arm waving that I see in our neighbors' recess interludes.

States do it. Loggers do it. Foresters do it. Let's do it...let's get certified.

A lot of money and time is being expended on certification to assure consumers that the forest products they buy are coming from land that is being used and cared for in a sustainable manner. My

general impression is that folks in our profession—public or private—are relatively confident about our state's forest resource and how it is being maintained. To be sure, there are ongoing disagreements about the amounts and proportions of fiber being harvested and grown, but at the same time I hear a tone of pride in being connected with such a fantastic resource.

So with a little enthusiasm, confusion and chaos, it would seem we're well on our way toward that certification playground. We're on our way to proving to our little corner of the world that we know how to conduct ourselves properly out there in the woods—with a minimum amount of screaming.

—Georgia Peterson



Society of American Foresters
Growing better all the time

HOW TO SUBMIT ARTICLES TO THE MICHIGAN FORESTER NEWSLETTER

Everyone is welcome to submit articles, photos, ideas or suggestions! E-mail submissions are preferable, but other delivery systems are accepted. Articles should be MS Word documents or compatible format. **All materials for publication should be submitted to:**

Editor: Georgia Peterson
c/o MDNR FMFMD
PO Box 30452
Lansing, MI 48909
Phone: (517) 335-7383
Fax: (517) 373-2443

<u>Issue</u>	<u>Deadline</u>	<u>Publish Date</u>
Summer 2005	June 30	July 2005
Fall 2005	Oct 31	Nov 2005
Year		
In Review	Jan 15, 2006	Feb 2006

Excerpts from the 2004 Michigan Forest Health Highlights (MDNR Forest, Mineral & Fire Management Division)

The **Emerald Ash Borer** quarantine has been extended to 20 counties in the southeast corner of Michigan's Lower Peninsula. EAB has been detected in 44 of 68 Lower Peninsula counties including three northern most counties. Plans for 2005 include a repeat of a statewide detection survey using trap trees, with higher densities of trap trees near the tip of the Lower Peninsula, along the Indiana/Ohio border, and in the St. Clair region bordering Ontario. Beginning in 2005, ash firewood is banned from state lands, parks, and campgrounds. Other ash problems:

- Black ash decline and mortality was common in many parts of the state. This is related to past drought conditions.
- An unidentified white ash root rot is causing extension wind throw of mature ash in high quality northern hardwood stands in Northern Lower Michigan.

A **Hemlock Woolly Adelgid** quarantine continues to restrict movement of eastern hemlock into Michigan from infested counties of other states. Rapid early detection surveys for the adelgid were conducted statewide for the third straight year in hemlock stands and in areas adjacent to nurseries. No hemlock woolly adelgids were found in 2004.

Beech Bark Disease (BBD) threatens Michigan's 7.2 million acres of Maple-Beech-Birch type. BBD is presently killing beech trees in areas infested with beech scale for 10 year or more. Several thousand acres of beech forests have been salvaged in forests and recreation areas in the eastern Upper Peninsula. The USDA Forest Service Research Facility in Delaware, Ohio is using tress from Ludington State Park, Ludington, Michigan and Michigan's Upper Peninsula to study Beech Bark Disease Resistance. Preliminary data provide the first genetic evidence that resistance is a heritable trait.

Incidence of the vascular disease **oak wilt** continues to increase from 2003 levels in several areas around the Upper Peninsula and the northern Lower Peninsula of Michigan. Harvesting activities in forests where red oak trees are being left cannot be cut between April 15 and July 15. Fifty-six thousand feet of root-graft barrier were placed using a vibratory plow in Menominee and Dickinson counties. Oak removals will occur within epicenters prior to the end of April, 2005 to remove threat of overland disease spread and to protect in integrity of the root-graft barriers.

Michigan State University and the Michigan DNR cooperated with USDA Forest Service to survey thirty nine oak sites for **Sudden Oak Death** (*Phytophthora ramorum* [SOD]). Additionally, the Michigan Department of Agriculture conducted the nursery surveys. No SOD was detected in Michigan nurseries or oak resources.

Gypsy moth (*Lymantria dispar*) populations continue on an upward trend statewide...defoliation was locally heavy in some northern Lower Peninsula and Upper Peninsula (Central) counties. A total of 45,244 acres were defoliated statewide in 2004, up from 38,119 acres in 2003.

The **Jack Pine Budworm** (*Choristoneura pinus pinus*) is considered the most significant pest of jack pine. The jack pine budworm epidemic has spread to most jack pine areas of the Upper Peninsula (UP) in 2004. 141,646 acres of jack pine were moderately to heavily defoliated. Heavily defoliated areas in the central UP included young

(Continued on page 9)

Master Logger Certification Arrives in Michigan

By Warren Suchovsky

In the fall of 2004 the Logger Committee of the Michigan Association of Timbermen submitted its template for a Master Logger Certification program to the American Loggers Council for approval. ALC approved this template at its annual meeting in Maine. Michigan now joins Maine and Wisconsin with an active program. Minnesota also has an approved template but has not implemented it yet. ALC also recognizes a few states in the northwest United States due to very stringent forest practices acts which loggers must adhere to in those states.

The MI MLC program consists of eight goals having about 30 responsibilities that are measured through approximately 70 standards of performance. These goals are:

1. Follow and Document a Management Plan that is Site-Specific and Agreed Upon by the Landowner
2. Protect Water Quality and Soil Productivity
3. Comply with Acceptable Silvicultural and Utilization Standards
4. Maintain an Aesthetically Pleasing Site
5. Maintain a Safe Work Site
6. Comply with Government Regulations Applicable to Logging
7. Provide and Participate in a Continuing Education Program
8. Employ Sound Business Practices

Certification is a voluntary program. Upon submitting a completed application form, a \$500 fee and five timber sales the logger has worked on within the past year; water, silvicultural, aesthetical issues and at least one active sale must be present in the submitted sample, an interview and field audits are conducted. The program coordinator selects three of the five sales for auditing and assigns an audit team consisting of two persons to inspect each of the three sales. While the auditors visit the site as a team, they each make an independent assessment of how well the standards have been met on each of the sales. One of the auditors is a forester or other appropriate resource professional and the other one is a logger.

To give creditability to the certification process it is important that auditor evaluations pass the scrutiny of an independent third party. In this early stage of the program a 10 person certifying board was created to provide this oversight. The certifying board consisted of:

- Logger
- Forester
- Wildlife biologist
- Forest landowner
- MI DNR FMFM
- University
- Wood and paper industry
- Environmental organization
- Forest recreational user organization
- The Governor's Office

What are the benefits of certification to the logger? Perhaps the main benefit is the knowledge that their operation has been measured against a set of standards and was found to have substantially met them. Another benefit might be increased job opportunities as landowners and managers become aware of the existence of loggers who hold themselves to high standards of professionalism.

The Maine and Wisconsin programs have been endorsed by Time-Warner as sources of forest products from sustainably managed forests. This endorsement applies only to smaller ownerships. Since it is unlikely that very many family forest owners will seek land certification through SFI or FSC. This endorsement provides a mechanism for mills to increase the amount of sustainably produced fiber used in their manufacturing processes. Work is under way for Michigan to also receive this endorsement.

What is the status of the Michigan program? Last fall generous contributions from Mead-Westvaco and International Paper made it possible to assess a pilot group of loggers. A selected group of 10 loggers were invited to make application.

(Continued on page 5)

(Continued from page 4)

Seven applied and audits were completed on four before snow halted field inspections. When the certifying board met in late February, all four were certified. Based upon experience with the pilot group and input from the auditors, loggers, the Certifying Board and Time-Warner some modifications will be made to the program.

An entity called Sustainable Resources Institute was created to administer the program. Don Peterson served as the program coordinator. Tentatively, a meeting is being set for early April with the Wisconsin program leaders to discuss the possibility of operating a regional certifying program.

Efforts to securing funding are underway. The certification process is relatively expensive. The cost per applicant is in excess of \$2000.

Potential auditor candidates are being identified. They will be trained.

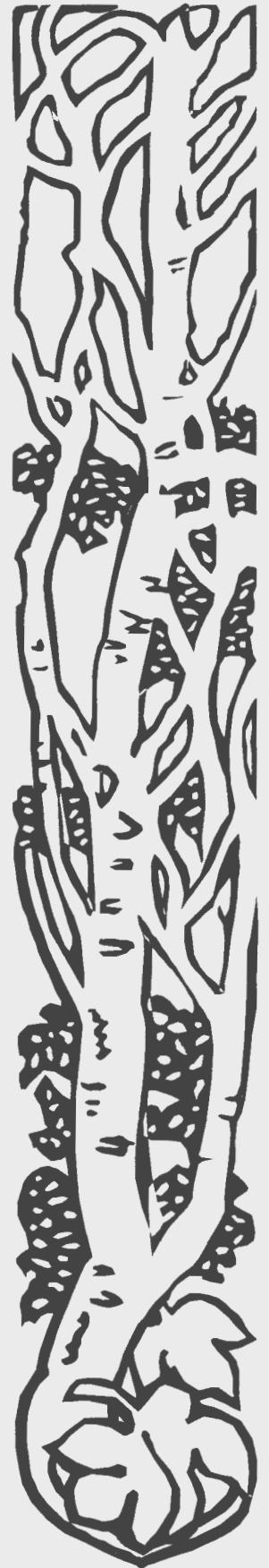
As soon as revisions are made to the program logger applicants will be sought statewide. A goal of 100 logger applicants in the first year has been set. This is a very aggressive goal. 100 represent a critical mass that could have a very profound impact upon Michigan's forest industry and the sustainability of our forest resources.

Early experience with the ML program has identified the importance of the logging operation being a tool that is used to achieve various objectives of a site-specific management plan. Too often a contract for the sale of timber is the sole guiding principle as to how the job is to be done. Other issues related to stand regeneration, wildlife, ecological and other considerations are not addressed. These are some of the key elements of sustainable forest management. Foresters preparing timber sales and loggers who contract directly with landowners must address site-specific issues that might affect the sustainability of the resource. Certified Master Loggers will have to walk away from sale offers if the logger has reservations about sustainability. The downside is that for every sale a Master Logger turns down there will be other loggers more than willing to harvest sub-standard sales. Mills and Master Loggers will need to work together to get sustainably questionable sales modified so that Master Logger Certification Program and SFI standards are met.

We recognize the importance of private property rights and landowner objectives, but professional loggers and resource managers also have an ethical duty to maintain standards of sustainability.

For more information about the Michigan Master Logger Certification Program please contact:

- Don Peterson, Coordinator
Sustainable Resources Institute
Phone: 877-284-3882
Fax: 715-528-5172
E-mail: rrs@netnet.net
- Warren Suchovsky
Phone & Fax: 906-753-6666
E-Mail: warrensuchovsky@fastmail.fm



Information on the Certified Forester Program in Michigan

I would like to encourage all foresters to consider the Certification Program in SAF. It is a high standard, but professional foresters can and should meet this standard. I have reformatted some of the information from the SAF website below. Please visit the site, www.safnet.org for complete information. They even have a practice Certification test you can take there! In addition, the national website allows you to track your own hours of continuing education credit!

Also remember to check our Michigan SAF website at <http://forestry.msu.edu/msaf/> to check out the amount of credits issued to local Michigan training sessions. If a course or workshop is not listed there, feel free to submit the detailed agenda, with times, topics, and instructor details, to Debra Huff, Michigan SAF CFE Coordinator, at huffd@michigan.gov and she will evaluate your course for you. Once this course is evaluated, the credits will be recorded on the State site and the National site.

There are 77 Certified Foresters in Michigan as of January 2005.

Certified Forester Program:

The Certified Forester (CF) program provides a consistent, national credential. It is voluntary, nongovernmental, and open to qualified SAF members and nonmembers. For foresters, the CF designation demonstrates third-party verification of forestry qualifications to peers, employer, clients, and the public while providing membership in a distinctive peer network. The CF exemplifies an individual's commitment to excellent resource stewardship, strengthening your value in the market, enhancing credibility in legal testimony. And the CF benefits all foresters regardless of employer, location, or discipline.

For the public and employers, the CF designation is a simple way to identify foresters who meet the profession's academic and professional experience benchmarks, adhere to professional standards of practice, value continuing education-and can pass a rigorous assessment of professional knowledge and skills. Hiring a CF exhibits to customers and stakeholders a tangible commitment to excellence, perhaps providing a competitive advantage in promoting services to clients.

Becoming Certified

Foresters interested in becoming certified must first file an application to see if they are eligible to take the examination. On average, applications are reviewed within two weeks of receipt by SAF. Applicants will receive a written notice as to whether their candidacy was approved or denied. When candidacy is approved, the applicant is issued an eligibility letter allowing them to then register for the exam.

Registering for the Exam

You must have successfully applied for CF candidacy and received a letter of eligibility issued by SAF to register for the exam. When you receive your eligibility letter, you will receive additional instructions on the specific registration steps. Eligibility letters are valid for one year (two administrations of the exam).

(Continued on page 7)

Taking a Practice Test

If you'd like, you can try a practice version of the CF exam, located on the website of our testing consultant, CASTLE Worldwide. The fee for the practice test is \$30; payable by credit card upon registration for the practice test.

NOTE: Each CF candidate is provided access to the practice test as part of their application process; log-in information is included in the eligibility letter.

Maintaining Certification

Forester certification is granted for a three-year period. To maintain certification, a CF must continue to comply with the CF Standards of Professional Practice; accumulate 60 continuing education contact hours; and pay applicable renewal and recertification fees.

Continuing Education Requirements for Recertification

An active program of professional development keeps foresters abreast of the rapidly expanding scientific and technical knowledge and methods associated with forest resources. Prior to recertification every three years, a CF must complete 60 contact hours in continuing education and submit evidence of meeting the requirements.

To meet the recertification requirements, continuing education activities must conform to the following guidelines:

- **Thirty (30) hours, minimum**, per three-year period must be in organized course work or activities in forestry or forestry-related subject matters customarily listed as "Category 1 CFE (Continuing Forestry Education) credit" by SAF. Credit accrues at the rate of one hour for each hour of actual contact.
- **Up to thirty (30) hours, maximum** per three-year period may be distributed among activities customarily listed as Categories 2, 3, 4, and 6 CFE, described below:

Category 2 – Other organized course work or activities not specifically in forestry or forestry-related subject matter, but which are professionally enriching or directly benefit the individual in his or her present position. Credit accrues at the rate of one

hour for each hour of actual contact.

Category 3 – The development, preparation, and presentation of coursework or activities beyond the general scope of the individual's normal duties. Credit accrues at the rate of two contact hours for each hour of presentation. (Not to exceed 10 hours in a three-year period.)

Category 4 – The preparation, writing, and publication of forestry or forestry-related subject matter that requires effort beyond the general scope of the individual's normal duties. Credit varies. (Not to exceed 10 hours in a three-year period.)

Category 6 – Holding elected or appointed office or active committee assignment in the SAF or allied professional organizations. Credit varies. (Not to exceed 5 hours in a three-year period.)

—Debra Huff

CFE Coordinator for Michigan SAF

Michigan's Forestry Consultants... The "stars" of Michigan's forests!



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906-293-8707



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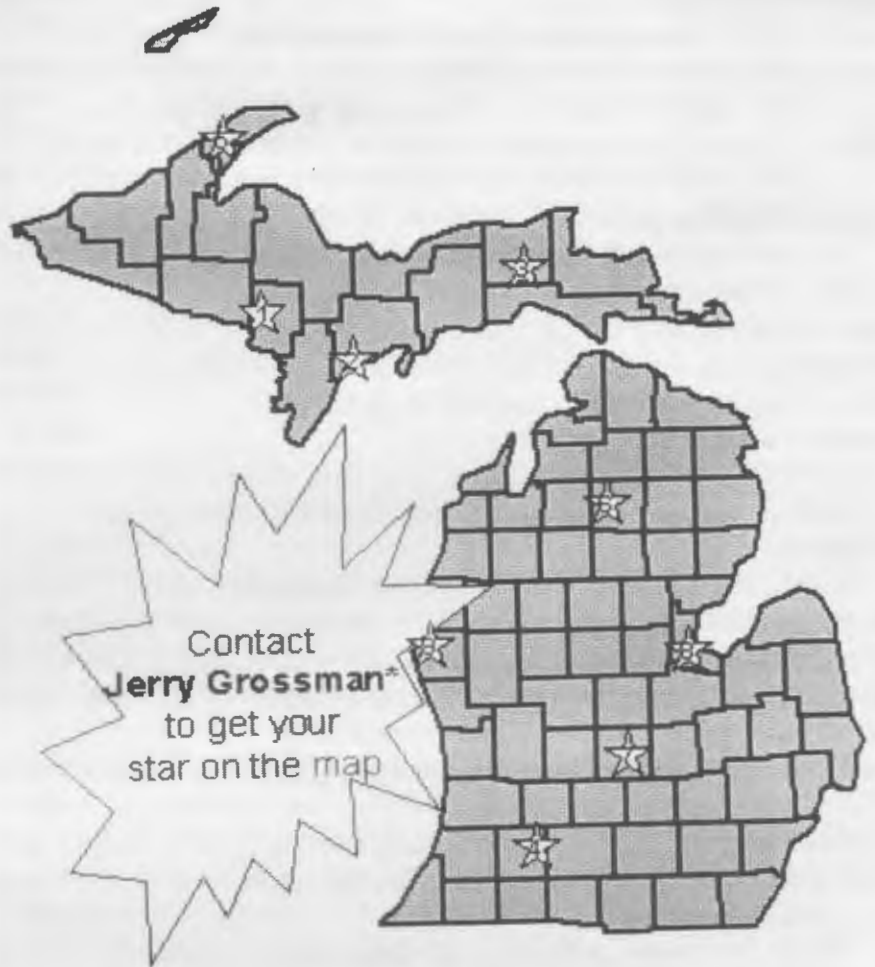
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gfoo@up.net



(Continued from page 1)

hear—and heed. And that heeding will require that we redefine “who we are” and “what we want to be.” We need to redefine ourselves because the field of forestry has broadened significantly, and different resource professions have developed that are competing not only for new turf but also for a lot of the turf that foresters once had staked out. The report states that “SAF has not capitalized on the broadening field of forestry and by not doing so it has, in fact, created its own competition...”

That’s a pretty serious indictment and clearly a call for a significant revision of our *modus operandi*.

The statistics cited in the report support its contention.

- SAF has 6,000 fewer members today than it did in 1979. Over the past five years professional SAF membership has dropped by nearly 10%. Michigan SAF is by no means an exception to this trend.
- Enrollment in undergraduate forestry schools today is less than half what it was in 1980. Some long-standing schools are in danger of going out of business.
- Meanwhile, enrollment in undergraduate programs in wildlife, fisheries, conservation biology, natural resources, environmental science, applied ecology, and related fields has risen substantially, and jobs once taken by foresters—including senior management positions—are going to graduates from these fields.
- Competing professional organizations like the Ecological Society of America, The Society for Ecological Restoration, The Wildlife Society, etc. are active in a wider array of policy arenas than SAF, and they now exert considerable influence on forest policy.

The report likens the current natural resources management situation to a broad-crowned tree with many branches. Once the forestry branch was the dominant branch, but now it has become a codominant, with the branches of other allied fields growing more vigorously and taking over dominance.

So that’s the problem; what is the solution? Oddly, the VOS report—after coldly painting the picture of an organization in decline—proceeds to

deal only with changes in SAF organizational structure. Now many of these changes are well-conceived and would streamline the organization of SAF and promote member involvement, but most of them do not address the crucial problem. It’s as if a committee of officers on a ship that is sinking got together to devise a plan to reorganize the crew instead of marshalling them to plug the leak! Not that I blame the VOS Task Force for skirting the crucial issue; revitalizing SAF will be a formidable task, and the means to that end are not immediately obvious. For my next column I will give some thoughts on the solution; i.e., revitalizing SAF, both nationally and in our own state.

In the meantime, we all can be ambassadors and cheerleaders for SAF. In the words of Teddy Roosevelt, “Do what you can, with what you have, where you are.”

Don Dickmann, CF
MSAF 2005 State Chair

(Continued from page 3)

plantations of 50-80% reduction in total foliage. Most of these younger trees have viable buds on terminal branches, giving hope for survival in 2005. In the Lower Peninsula, jack pine budworm numbers declined slightly in 2004 following an upswing that began in 2001. Approximately 171,798 acres were defoliated, down from 196,000 acres in 2003. High risk jack pine stands—those over 60 years of age that have been recently defoliated—are being evaluated to determine harvest priorities. Chemical treatment of jack pine budworm infestations is rarely cost-effective.

The MDNR on-line pest mapping website is a convenient source of information about pest infestations in Michigan. In addition to the defoliation maps from the annual MDNR forest health aerial surveys, the site depicts the history of gypsy moth defoliation in Michigan since the 1980s. Check it out at: www.mcgi.state.mi.us/foresthealth .

—The “Michigan 2004 Forest Health Highlights” report was written by staff of the MDNR Forest, Mineral & Fire Management Division.

Oh, Deer! Forests and Whitetails—Striving for Balance

SAF Spring Conference scheduled to address the relationship between Michigan's forests and deer populations
9-10 June 2005
St. Ignace's Little Bear Conference Center



Trophy? Pest? Bambi? Dinner? What are YOUR definitions of our resident deer populations? Join your colleagues in beautiful St. Ignace to discuss our forests & deer. What are the current deer population trends? How are they affecting forest diversity and structure? How will they affect management in light of certification? How can they be managed from an ecosystem perspective? What is the role of hunters? Other members of the public?

Our featured speaker is Gary Alt, formerly a member of the Pennsylvania Game Commission and currently a wildlife consultant. For more information, contact Bill Cook, cookwi@msu.edu, 906-786-1575.

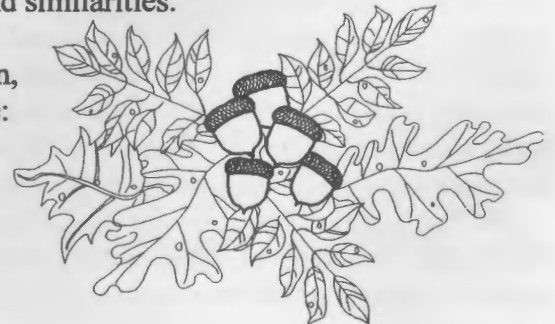
Diameter-limit cutting in Northeastern Forests

May 23-24, University of Massachusetts Amherst
Amherst, Massachusetts.

Diameter-limit cutting is a common approach to timber harvesting in Northeastern North America today. Though long practiced, research has not historically focused on the outcomes of diameter-limit cutting. Effects on long-term yields and sustained values have received little attention until recently. This conference brings together researchers and managers who have explored the longer-term consequences of diameter-limit cutting in northern hardwood and conifer forests. They will present an array of new findings from recent studies, and lead discussions about the implications. Mostly, the presentations will focus on ways that diameter-limit cutting and silviculture affect stand conditions, and on the resultant volumes and values realized from repeated entries to a stand. In addition, the conference will include a discussion about ethical considerations related to diameter-limit cutting, and present current suggestions for rehabilitating cutover stands. A poster session also will provide participants of the conference with an opportunity to share their experiences and findings about other aspects of diameter-limit cutting, including the effects on ecologic and other non-market values in Northeastern forests. A post-conference field trip will visit both cutover and well-managed stands to evaluate the differences and similarities.

For more information on program, registration, directions, and **poster submission**, please see:

<http://forest.fnr.umass.edu/diameterlimit/>



Michigan Society of American Foresters Budget Worksheet			
	2002 Ending	2003 Ending	2004 Ending
Fund balance from previous year			
Revenue:			
Membership Dues	\$ 3,827.00	\$ 4,118.50	\$ 4,031.00
Interest	\$ 38.70	\$ 23.87	\$ 14.52
Meetings	\$ 1,829.79	\$ 1,437.86	\$ 2,193.20
Contributions	\$ -	\$ 400.00	\$ -
Total	\$ 6,195.49	\$ 5,980.23	\$ 6,738.72
Expenses:			
HSD	\$ 228.37	\$ 232.20	\$ 238.05
Chapter Dues	\$ 574.70	\$ 608.50	\$ 586.00
Michigan Forester	\$ 900.00	\$ 2,150.00	\$ 1,000.00
General Administration	\$ 646.17	\$ 329.52	\$ 338.75
State Chair	\$ -		\$ -
MI Forester Editor Honorarium	\$ 200.00	\$ 200.00	\$ 200.00
MI Forester Bus Mgr Honorarium	\$ 200.00	\$ 200.00	\$ 200.00
Secretary Honorarium	\$ 200.00	\$ 200.00	\$ 200.00
Treasurer Honorarium	\$ 200.00	\$ 200.00	\$ 200.00
Student Chapters	\$ -		\$ -
State Meetings			
UP Auto Tour	\$ -	\$ 500.00	\$ -
National Meetings	\$ 400.00		\$ 1,500.00
Donation to National Raffle	\$ 238.50		\$ -
Leadership Academy	\$ -		\$ 1,000.00
Teams:	\$ -		
CFE	\$ 426.18		\$ -
Awards	\$ -	\$ 318.31	\$ 552.45
Awards Display	\$ -		\$ -
Membership	\$ -		\$ -
Communications (display)			
Cultural Diversity			
Policy & Legislative Event	\$ -	\$ 738.00	
Science & Technology	\$ -		\$ -
Recruit - Reinstate (Image & Outreach)	\$ -		\$ -
Ethics			
Education			
Archives	\$ 500.00		
Misc	\$ 109.00	\$ 73.49	\$ 56.79
Total	\$ 4,822.92	\$ 5,750.02	\$ 6,072.04
Forester's Fund Centennial Grant (carried over)	\$ 500.00	\$ 500.00	\$ 500.00

**And now for the fine print...
A brief list of current officers**

2005 Chair: Donald Dickmann
 2006 Chair-elect: Don Howlett
 2004 Past-chair: Gerald Grossman
 Secretary: Jason Middlestadt
 Treasurer: Jack Pilon
 Council representative: John Kotar

MSAF Webmaster: Bill Cook
 Policy Team Coordinator: Bill Rockwell
 Communications Team Coordinator: Bill Cook
 Science & Tech Team Coordinator: Les Homan
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 Newsletter Editor: Georgia Peterson
 Newsletter Business Manager: Bill Hasse

Awards: Ernie Houghton
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 LSSU Liaison: Bernie Hubbard
 MSU Liaison: Karen Potter-Witter
 MTU Liaison: Glenn Mroz

Upper Peninsula Chapter Chair: Jim Ferris
 Lower Peninsula Chapter Chair: Quentin McNichols
 MSU Student Chapter Faculty Advisor: David McFarlaine
 MTU Student Chapter Chair: Glenn Mroz
 U of M Student Chapter Chair: John Witter

SEE YOU IN ST. IGNACE!

Look inside to get details on the 2005 MSAF Spring Conference!



SAF offers a wide variety of opportunities to volunteer and assist in making this the best professional organization around. Take advantage of the benefits you receive from SAF. One easy avenue is to help with the publication of the Michigan Forester. Become a reporter, a photographer or simply help review the content. Contact Georgia Peterson or any other member of the executive team to learn how you can help SAF today.

Deadline for the next issue is June 30!



**MISAF
MICHIGAN FORESTER
117 WILD RIVER RD.
IRON RIVER, MI 49935**

Bill Cook
Michigan State University
6005 J Road
Escanaba, MI 49829

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