



The Michigan Forester

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Summer 2006 (Number 60)

Comments from the State Chair

(Our dedicated state chair is on fire duty. The following is an encore report of current position statements being addressed.)



Dear Michigan SAF member,

Recently many Michigan SAF members have expressed a strong interest in the state society taking a more active role on issues of interest to the forestry community. In my discussions with members of the state society executive team, they agreed that we should become more pro-active in this arena.

The basis for any position that we take as a society is the position statement. The process for developing position statements is detailed on the national SAF website (www.safnet.org/policyandpress/policyprocess.cfm). I encourage you to visit the website and review this information.

The spring issue of *The Michigan Forester* contained an article calling for input on developing a position statement about forest impacts of deer in Michigan. Members are encouraged to let myself or Bill Rockwell (State Policy Chair) know your views on this issue. I would like to begin the position statement development on this issue this summer, so please share your views, and let Bill or I know if you are willing to assist in developing this position statement.

Additionally, two state position statements on fire management and on non-industrial private forests are either expired or will expire soon. These statements can be viewed on our state society website (www.michigansaf.org/Business/PosStates/1-MainPosStat.htm). Again, please let Bill Rockwell or me know your views on the two statements, and if you are willing to be on a team to work on them, as needed.

Finally, please let Bill, myself, or any member of the executive team know if you feel there are other issues that warrant development of a position statement. Of

course, as an organization of volunteers, we will be looking to you to help develop our position on these issues.

Thank you.

Donald E. Howlett

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From the Chair

A Letter from the Editor

Michigan's citizens love Michigan. I can't imagine that this would be a surprise to anyone. That underwhelming revelation was shared in a recent Detroit Free Press article (July 17, 2006) describing a telephone poll conducted among 800 state residents. According to the poll, nearly nine out of ten respondents said they love the state they live in. Of course, residents are also worried about the current problems with employment, especially when it comes to their children finding successful careers in the near future. According to the Free Press poll, approximately 40% of those respondents with children are concerned that their offspring will fly the Michigan coop once they graduate from school.

Despite that sad statistic, the "We Love Michigan" statement really caught my eye. After all, I'm originally from Indiana and have only lived in this state for about 10 years. Apologies to all my fellow Hoosiers, but I can't imagine a bumper sticker that says "I ♥ Indiana!" I'll "say ya to da UP, eh" and even "I ♥ fudge" though. The paper's poll did some followup phone calls to get a better understanding of why Michiganders (Michiganians?) love their home state. Again, no surprises. The quotes mentioned in the paper's article most often contained some reference to the forests and other natural resources that are such an important part of our everyday lives here. Despite its current economic challenges, Michigan really is easy to love.

Members of SAF can take advantage of this love for the state's natural resources by demonstrating how we are important defenders of the health

and well-being of Michigan's forests, as well as an important source of economic sustainability. One way we might do this is to closely examine the position statements our current state chair, Don Howlett, has asked us to review. And please consider joining us for the policy workshop that will be held the day before the fall meeting in Cadillac. Take a peek at page 9 for more information on both of these events.

—Georgia Peterson



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

Issue

**Summer/Fall
Year in Review**

Submission Deadline

**October 31
December 31**

Michigan SAF Spring Meeting: Feathers in the Forest

The spring MSAF meeting was held at Lake Superior State University on May 10-11, 2006. This conference was a great combination of speakers and field experiences talking about the interaction between forest management and bird habitats.



Our speaker panel included (L to R): Jerry Edde, Ottawa National Forest; Katherine Brashear, University of Wisconsin—Stevens Point; and Dave Ewert, The Nature Conservancy; Kim Hall, Michigan State University; Karen Cleveland, MDNR/MI Bird Conservation Initiative

Mac Smith is finally able to officially receive his SAF Fellow award.



Participants in the Michigan Bird Conservation Initiative signing ceremony. MSAF is now an organizational member of this initiative. See their website, www.mibci.org, for more information.

Second Day of the Spring 2006 MSAF meeting: Field experiences



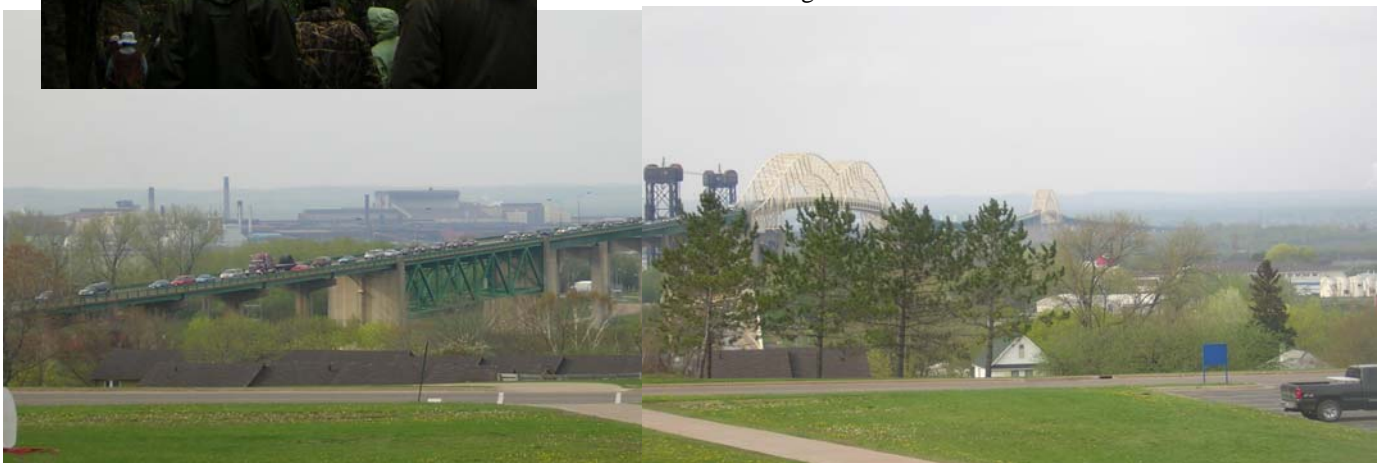
White pine—an excellent supercanopy species



Standing dead timber—makes woodpeckers happy



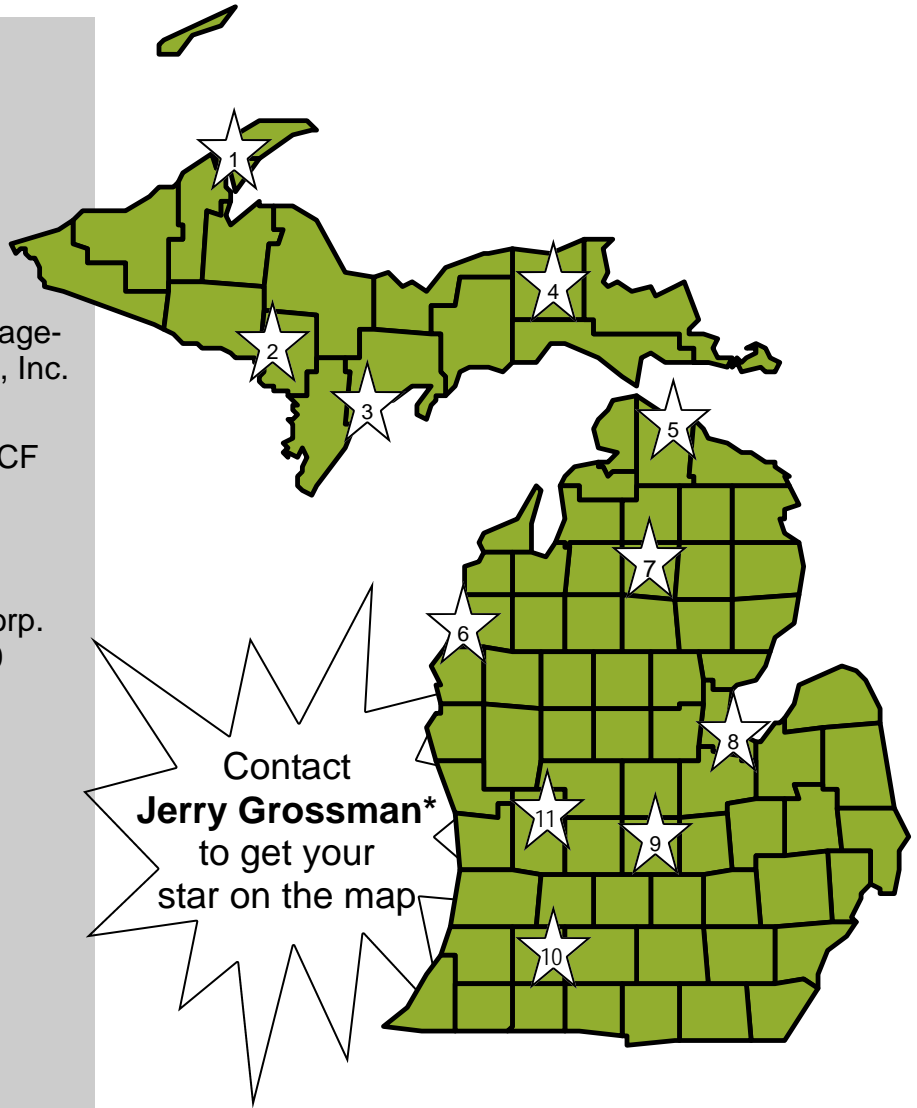
Heavy understory regeneration—great black-throated blue warbler nesting habitat



Enjoying the view of the International Bridge to the other Soo.

Michigan's Forestry Consultants... The Stars of Michigan's forests!

- 1** Glen Tolksdorf, CF
Tolksdorf Forestry
Calumet, 906-482-9366
- 2** Kevin Burns, CF
Northwoods Consulting
Sagola, 906-396-3024
- 3** Dean Francis
Upper Michigan Land Management and Wildlife Services, Inc.
Escanaba, 906-786-3488
- 4** Gerald Grossman, ACF & CF
Grossman Forestry Co.
Newberry, 906-293-8707
- 5** Donald Tracey
Donald Tracey Forestry Corp.
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- 6** Scott Erickson
MichiTree, Inc.
Manistee, 231-723-9946
- 7** Jerry Lambert
Forest Resource Services
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- 8** Doug Lee, CF
Lee Forestry Services
Auburn, 989-662-0139
- 9** Bill Rockwell, CF
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St. Johns, 989-224-4600
- 10** Tom Stadt, CF
Tree Tech Forestry Consultants
Augusta, 269-760-3565
- 11** Steve Ruddell, CF
Forecon Inc.
Rockford, 616-874-9934



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to get your
star on the map

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Michigan SAF partners with MFA to host Annual Legislative Event for 2006: A Tour of Private Forest Land in Eaton County

"One is not born into the world to do everything but to do something..." -- *Henry David Thoreau, poet, writer, philosopher*

Michigan SAF stepped forward and did something for Michigan Forestry and the Michigan Legislature on May 15, 2006, in Lansing Michigan. MI SAF partnered with the Michigan Forest Association to offer a Forestry Tour to Legislators and their staff. The enthusiastic team of Bill Botti, Don Dickmann, Deb Huff, Georgia Peterson, Karen Potter-Witter, and Mac Smith pulled together an exciting program to offer to Michigan Legislators and their staff to learn about Michigan Forestry. A bus was rented, gourmet box lunches provided, and a tour of a local private forest was arranged.



Karen Potter-Witter and Cara Boucher help haul goodies to the tour bus at the capitol.

An antique tractor pulled us all out to the woods, on a haywagon converted into a people mover, with seats, and a roof! Bill Botti arranged for the site to visit, a very nice hardwood stand that he is the consulting forester for. We were able to show how private forests can be well cared for and discuss the problems that private forest owners face.

It seems that the Forestry story is not well understood by everyone, and it is so much easier to tell when you have a well cared for forest to give examples in. One of the messages that we delivered was that forests are important, not just to the economy of Michigan, but for the values they offer to citizens beyond the timber market. We talked about taxes, markets for both low and high value trees, and about invasive species. We even pointed out the pervasive Garlic Mustard in the woods.



Karen Potter-Witter and Bill Botti talk about Michigan's forestry on the tour wagon.

This effort was truly a team effort. Chair was Deb Huff, who got to know the staff at Senator VanWoerkem's office quite well. Program development was done by Bill Botti, Don Dickmann, Georgia Peterson, Karen Potter-Witter, Mac Smith, Bill Rockwell, Doug Heym, Cara Boucher, Doug Lee, and Deb Huff. Fantastic legislative district handouts were developed and printed by Bill Cook and additional materials were assembled by Georgia Peterson. Speakers at the tour were: Bill Botti, Don Dickmann, Karen Potter-Witter, Mac Smith, Colin Burket, and Dave Wright.

Although attendance was only about



The wagon riders.

The tour group oohs and aahs over an impressive black cherry tree.



15 legislators and staff, it seems that we got the attention of those that were there. We had meaningful conversations with both Senators Van Woerkem and Brater, and they both seemed very engaged.

Previous years have had a Legislative Ice Cream Social, and before that, a Legislative Breakfast. These events are a necessary tool in informing our ever changing Michigan Legislature about the issues facing forestry today. This is a great opportunity for all Michigan SAF members to get involved with a meaningful project that can be very rewarding.

—*Debra Huff*
DNR Forest Stewardship
Program Coordinator



Beautiful forest floor specimens: Jack-in-the-pulpit and mayapple.

The next generation coming to a forest near you

Kids these days. They aren't like us, don't seem to have the same values, sentiments or tastes in entertainment. How many of us have thought or even said that in recent memory? Yet there are many, especially if the Baby Boomer crowd, who are beginning to think about who of the next generation should eventually inherit their earthly possessions. This of course includes physical property, which of course can include forestland. A recent issue of *The Pinchot Letter* addresses this concern with the article entitled, "The New Generation of Private Forest Landowners: Brace for Change (Pinchot Institute for Conservation, Winter 2005; www.pinchot.org)."

Over the past decade, numerous studies of private forest landowners have attempted to understand such factors as their motivations for ownership, trends in management of these lands, and preferences for information and education, among others. Most recently, the National Woodland Owners Study of non-industrial, private forest landowners (NIPFs) by the U.S. Forest Service in 2004 has reinforced the understanding that these landowners are less likely to own forest land for timber production in favor of aesthetic enjoyment, ecological protection, privacy, and outdoor recreational pursuits. Despite their motivations for owning forest land, plenty of landowners have conducted some kind of harvesting over the course of their ownership. According to the Pinchot Institute study, however, few have involved their offspring in any harvesting or other management processes they may have participated in. This is a situation that foresters should be concerned about, since the study's authors cite that "The next two decades of Americans will witness the largest intergenerational transfer of family forest land ownership in the nation's history."

To begin to understand the nature of this land transfer trend, the Pinchot Institute, in conjunction with the U.S. Forest Service and several states, conducted a survey of the *children* of current private forest landowners. They asked about the offspring's involvement in management decisions and discussions about forest land inheritance. It appears that parents have been more likely to talk about things like the "birds and bees" than about the forests and the trees. Researchers found that few have had discussions about what to do with the family forest. Moreover, since offspring have already moved away from home and begun their own livelihoods that are often disconnected from the land, many of the respondents did not know, nor were interested in learning, about activities that promoted good stewardship on the family forest. The Institute rightly expresses concern that this next generation of potential forest landowners may not even be interested in owning these lands once they've been inherited. The authors suggest that managers and policymakers re-examine the incentives commonly used to encourage NIPF landowners to actively manage their land to identify new ways to capture the interests of the next generation.

This new "successional" forest trend is something all professionals who work with forest owners should be concerned about. Though it may be awkward to ask a landowner if he or she plans to involve the children in their forest management decisions, questions do need to be framed toward his or her outlook for the future. Authors of the Pinchot Institute article state, "A more comprehensive approach might include considerations of continuity in forest management plans and objectives, particularly where goals include creating conditions or values that take decades to develop." Nobody likes to be reminded that they may be pushing daisies by the time their imagined forest values come to fruition, but appealing to their concerns about the land and their children may be a place to begin.

—Georgia Peterson

MSAF VOLUNTEER REPRESENTATIVE NEEDED

Michigan SAF is in need of a member to serve as MSAF representative to the Michigan Bird Conservation Initiative.

As an organizational member of MiBCI, we are entitled to send one or more representatives of Michigan SAF and to submit a vote on items before the General Assembly and Coordinating Council. MiBCI will be nominating and/or electing members to Coordinating Council positions at the MiBCO Ornithological Congress at the UM Biological Station September 22 - 24.

MiBCI is working on providing a means for individuals to participate in the General Assembly meeting and Coordinating Council meeting if they are unable to attend the meeting in person.

If you are interested in serving as MSAF's rep to MiBCI, please contact Don Howlett, MSAF State Chair, ASAP.

dhowlett@fs.fed.us



MORE INFORMATION ABOUT THE MSAF STATE FALL CONFERENCE

The Michigan Prescribed Fire Council and Society of American Foresters invites you to attend "Perception, Partners and Prescribed Fire" a two-day workshop in Cadillac, Michigan on September 8-9, 2006.

An agenda, brochure and registration form are available on the MSAF website calendar [<http://michigansaf.org>].

Cadillac Woods Resort has a block of rooms reserved until August 15th for \$49.99/night -- mention MPFC/SAF to receive the discount. Evening opportunities: Golf (discount available), happy hour with hors d'oeuvres, cash bar and raffle, indoor heated pool.

Feel free to pass this information on to anyone interested in prescribed fire.

PLUS

Bill Rockwell plans to schedule a policy workshop on Thursday, September 7th (the day before the conference begins). Please stay tuned to the MSAF website and your mailbox for more information on this opportunity to discuss MSAF position statements and other policy-related topics in forestry.



Society of American Foresters National Convention Near Michigan in 2006!

Dr. Wangari Maathai, Keynote Speaker

The Society of American Foresters will hold its annual National Convention – *Our Woods: Wild and Working* – in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania on October 25 – 29, 2006. Whatever your connection to the forest, whether you're a consultant, field forester, urban forester, researcher, landowner, or student – this conference will provide you with the latest scientific research and field applications and a forum to discuss emerging natural resource issues with colleagues from across the country.

Over 240 presenters will discuss forest management, bioenergy, forest business and investing, invasive species, urban and community forestry, fire, forest certification, oak regeneration, and much more. The Convention is designed to allow attendees to maximize their investment by participating in aspects of the program that meet their unique interests and professional needs.

Dr. Wangari Maathai, 2004 Nobel Peace Laureate, will be the convention's keynote speaker. Kenyan-born Maathai was honored for her work in what is called "The Green Belt Movement" in Africa. This grassroots movement began in 1976 as an effort to help women plant trees to improve their quality of life and conserve their environment. The Green Belt Movement has helped women plant more than 30 million trees. In 1986, the work was expanded into the Pan African Green Belt Network, which has taught many people from other African countries ways to conserve their environment while building community.

In 2004 Dr. Maathai was awarded the prestigious Nobel Peace Prize for her "contribution to sustainable development, democracy and peace," stemming from her work on community empowerment and environmental conservation. She is the first African woman to receive this prestigious award. Today, Professor Maathai is an elected Member of Parliament and serves as Deputy Minister of Environment in Kenya's government. Dr. Maathai has also been a Visiting Fellow at Yale University's Global Institute for Sustainable Forestry.

For program details on special events, general session speakers, technical field tours, and more, visit the SAF website at www.safnet.org or call toll free at 1-866-897-8720. Registrations will be available for the full Convention or for smaller amounts of time. See you in Pittsburgh!



And now for the fine print...

A brief list of current officers

2006 Chair: Don Howlett
2005 Past Chair: Donald Dickmann
2007 Chair-elect: Doug Heym
Secretary: Jason Middlestadt
Treasurer: Jack Pilon
District V Representative: Bernie Hubbard

Awards: Craig Kasmer
Sustainable Forestry Initiative: Ron Scott
Continuing Forestry Education: Debra Huff
Membership: Amy Douglass
LSSU Liaison: Bernie Hubbard
MSU Liaison: Karen Potter-Witter
MTU Liaison: Margaret Gale

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

Upper Peninsula Chapter Chair: Chris Burnett
Lower Peninsula Chapter Chair: Quentin McNichols
MSU Student Chapter Faculty Advisor: David MacFarlane
MTU Student Chapter Chair: Margaret Gale
U of M Student Chapter Chair: John Witter

Michigan Society of American Foresters

Year 2006 Budget Status Report

Revenue	Expected 2006 Revenue	Revenue Received as of July 21, 2006
Membership Dues	\$ 3,800.00	\$ 3,697.50
Interest	\$ 25.00	\$ 20.67
Spring Meeting Proceeds	\$ 1,500.00	\$ 537.67
Contributions	\$ -	\$ -
Total	\$ 5,325.00	\$ 4,255.84

Expenses	Budgeted for 2006	Funds Disbursed as of July 21, 2006
House of Society Delegates Dues	\$ 235.00	\$ 222.31
UP and LP Chapter Dues	\$ 550.00	\$ -
Michigan Forester Operations	\$ 1,200.00	\$ 1,050.00
General Administration	\$ 50.00	\$ 610.47
State Chair	\$ -	\$ -
MI Forester Editor Honorarium	\$ 200.00	\$ -
MI Forester Bus Mgr Honorarium	\$ 200.00	\$ -
Secretary Honorarium	\$ 200.00	\$ -
Treasurer Honorarium	\$ 200.00	\$ -
Student Chapters	\$ 500.00	\$ -
State Meetings	\$ -	\$ -
UP Auto Tour Brochures	\$ 1,500.00	\$ 1,500.00
National Meetings (second vice-chair)	\$ 1,000.00	\$ -
Leadership Academy - Mike Elenz	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 1,524.17
Awards	\$ 500.00	\$ 359.79
Awards Display (update)	\$ 200.00	\$ -
Policy & Legislative Event	\$ 2,500.00	\$ 1,001.13
Misc (audit)	\$ 500.00	\$ -
	\$ 10,535.00	\$ 6,267.87

Total Michigan SAF cash as of:	July 21, 2006	\$ 3,790.57
Total Michigan SAF Education Fund cash as of:	July 21, 2006	\$ 4,421.03

Michigan Society of American Foresters has cash assets only.

Prepared by: John Pilon, Treasurer

Financial Statement

The table on this page is a summary of all income and expenses incurred by Michigan SAF as of June 2006.

Any questions about MSAF financial status can be directed to John Pilon, MSAF treasurer, at pilonj@michigan.gov.

SEE YOU IN CADILLAC!

Join the LP Chapter as it hosts
the Fall 2006 meeting:
“Perception, Partners and Prescribed Fire”

In partnership with:



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 **October 31st!**



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