

5TH ANNUAL CONNECTICUT FOREST CONSERVATION AND RESEARCH FORUM



November 24, 2009

ROME BALLROOM, UNIVERSITY OF CONNECTICUT, STORRS

Connecticut's Forests in a Changing World - from Global to Local

Forum Sponsors

*Connecticut Forest & Park
Association*

*Connecticut Department of
Environmental Protection*

*University of Connecticut
College of Agriculture &
Natural Resources*

Highstead

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Council*

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*Connecticut Chapter,
American Planning
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*Connecticut Chapter,
American Society of
Landscape Architects*

*Forest Guild,
Northeastern Region*

*Tree Wardens' Association
of Connecticut*

Connecticut Forests in a Changing World - from Global to Local

Connecticut is a small, highly urbanized but heavily forested state with a proud history of pioneering forest and natural resource conservation. Our past Forums have highlighted several related forest conservation issues in Connecticut, including forest sustainability in an urbanizing environment, blending science and policy, and valuing ecosystem services in applied and practical ways.

This year, we build on these past programs by looking at Connecticut in the context of critical global and national issues. Bill Bentley and Dave Kittredge start us off with a look at the complex and rapidly changing global forces shaping Connecticut's forests and economy. Doug Zehner reviews national forest policy, including the 2008 Farm Bill and its impacts on Connecticut forest landowners. We then turn to state level policy and learn about the new GIS-based state forest resource assessment. It is in progress in fall 2009, and the results will help us design a strategy to guide future use of state and federal funding. The morning concludes with a fresh look at forest ecosystem services, followed by ample time for questions.

The afternoon offers a choice of three concurrent sessions. The Private Forest Stewardship session delves into key current issues and their potential impacts on Connecticut forest owners, including climate change, carbon sequestration and details of the 2008 Farm Bill programs. Forest Research and Forest Health provide four reports on research underway in the Highlands of western Connecticut. Urban & Community Forestry is examined in the context of the latest Smart Growth initiatives and Connecticut's shifting political environment.

Each Connecticut Forest Forum provides a unique opportunity to gather with conservationists, municipal land use staff and volunteers, land trust leaders, foresters, forest owners and others to share perspectives and learn from one another. Please join us on November 24 for an interesting, provocative and participatory look at contemporary forest conservation issues.

Forum Agenda

8:00 – 8:50 am **Registration;** coffee, pastries and posters

Morning Session in Rome Ballroom

8:50 – 9:00 **Welcome & Housekeeping –**
Eric Hammerling, Executive Director,
Connecticut Forest & Park Association

9:00 – 10:15 **Connecticut's Forests in a Changing World.**
Eric Hammerling, moderator

- **Siberian tigers and Connecticut Oak** – The impacts of a very big world on a very small state. *Bill Bentley & David Kittredge* (45 minutes)
- **The national perspective: the Farm Bill,** national forest policy and their implications for Connecticut. *Doug Zehner* (30 minutes)

10:15 – 10:30 **Coffee Break**

10:30 – 12:00 **Alternative perspectives continued**

- **Charting our own course:** Help us take a fresh look at Connecticut's forests and devise our own strategy for the future. *Helene Hochholzer, Joel Stocker & Tom Worthley* (30 minutes)
- **Integrating Ecology and Economics in the Study of Ecosystem Services:** Some Lessons Learned – *Professor Kathleen Segerson, UConn* (30 minutes)
- **Q&A** – Panel of morning presenters answer questions from the floor (30 minutes)

12:00 – 12:45 pm **Buffet Lunch provided in Rome Ballroom**

12:45 – 1:45 pm **Afternoon Roundtable** – Building a strategy for the future of Connecticut's forests.

- **Help us start the process of developing a new, federally mandated strategy for conserving Connecticut's forest resources.** Each table will examine, discuss and rank the goals and vision statements in our current State Forest Resources Plan, and the full group will discuss the modifications and additions we feel we need. The results will be the starting point for several local roundtables in early 2010.

1:45 – 2:00 pm **BREAK**

2:00 – 4:00 pm **Concurrent sessions:** choose one

Research & Forest Health – Reports on CT Highlands research studies.
Moderator, John Volin

- *Overview of the Highlands area, its importance and the importance of the project.* Mary Tyrrell
- *Vegetation in the Highlands, invasives and wildflowers.* Jeff Ward
- *Wildlife in the Highlands with an emphasis on birds.* Patrick Comins
- *Insect and diseases, including the GIS Hammerhead and possibly Asian Longhorn Beetle or Emerald Ash Borer.* Victoria Smith

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Private Forest Stewardship – Current Issues and Opportunities.

Moderator, Steve Broderick, Forester & Program Director, Goodwin Forest Conservation Center

- *The 2008 Farm Bill and CT Forest Owners: what's in it for us?* Nancy Ferlow
- *Lessons learned: One forest owner's experiences with Farm Bill cost share programs.* Jim Poole
- *Climate Change, Carbon, and the Forests of the Northeast: what can we do right now?* Bob Perschel
- *The New American Tree Farm System – It's not your parents' Tree Farm Program!!* Caroline Kuebler

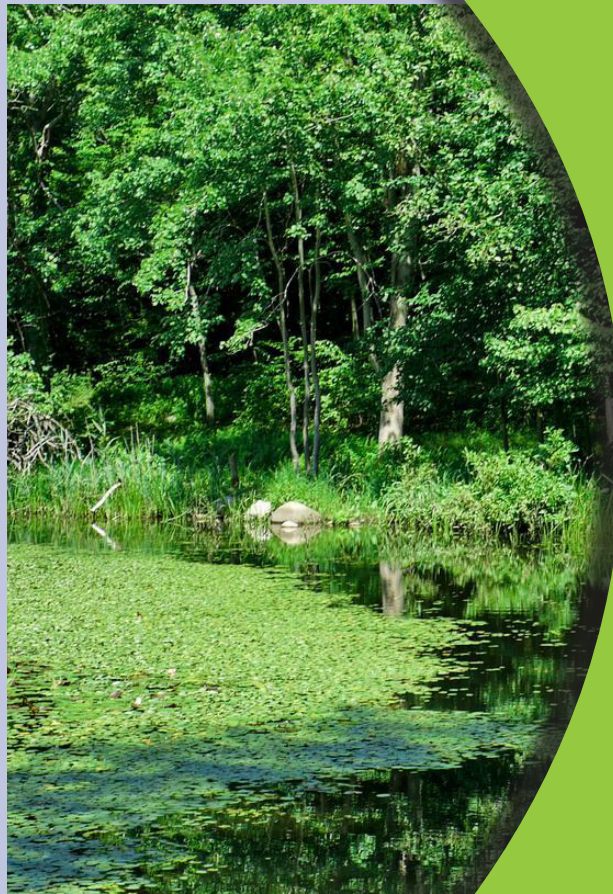
Urban Forestry and Smart Growth –

Connecting, People, Trees and Open Space.
Moderator, Mary Ludwig – Chair, CT Urban Forestry Council

- *Save Forests by Saving Cities.* Heidi Green
- *The Urban Forest's affect on Urban Livability.* Coleen Murphy-Dunning
- *NYC to Wanakena – A look at the Urban Forest of the Northeast and CT.* Dave Nowak
- *Forest Policy in an Urban State.* Bob Ricard

4:00 pm

Adjourn



Several posters will be presented by sponsoring organizations and committees of the Connecticut Forestland Council.

About the morning speakers

Bill Bentley is principal of Salmon Brook Associates, chair of the Forest Forum, and Professor Emeritus of Forest Policy and Management, College of Environmental Science and Forestry, Syracuse. He is a regular contributor to CT Woodlands on topics like forests and carbon sequestration and management of timber investments.

Eric Hammerling is Executive Director of the Connecticut Forest & Park Association. Eric was Executive Director of the Farmington River Watershed Association, where he initiated study of the Lower Farmington River and Salmon Brook as potential Wild & Scenic Rivers. He has significant experience working at the Federal and State levels on environmental issues.

Helene Hochholzer is the Forest Planner for the State of Connecticut, DEP Division of Forestry. She was the lead author for the 2004 Connecticut State-Wide Forest Resource Plan and leads the 2009-10 CT Forest Assessment. Helene earned her forestry degree from Virginia Tech and her Master's from Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute.

David Kittredge is Professor and Extension Forester, the University of Massachusetts, and Forest Policy Analyst at the Harvard Forest. His research interests include timber harvesting as a form of forest disturbance in a privately-owned landscape, landowner attitudes towards ecosystem management, and landowner cooperation programs.

Kathleen Segerson is the Phillip E. Austin Professor of Economics, UConn, where she specializes in Environmental and Natural Resource Economics and relationships of Law and Economics. She is a fellow of the American Agricultural Economics Association and the Association of Environmental and Resource Economists, and was appointed to the Natural Resources Council's Board on Agriculture and Natural Resources.

Joel Stocker is Assistant Extension Educator with the Middlesex County Extension Center. His program areas include virtual natural resources, geographic information systems, computer programming, and forest stewardship. Joel is providing the mapping support to the CT Forests Assessment.

Tom Worthley is UConn Assistant Extension Professor of Forestry, stationed in Middlesex County, Haddam. Tom has career experience with industry, consulting and education. His program areas include forest stewardship and sustainability, forest management, and silviculture on non-industrial private forest land. He teaches forest management at the University's Storrs campus.

Doug Zehner is the Connecticut State Conservationist with the USDA Natural Resource Conservation Service. He served as state conservationist for New Jersey and as assistant State Conservationist in Ohio. Doug was born and raised in Ashland County, Ohio on a small beef farm, and he is an agronomy graduate from Ohio State University.

About the afternoon speakers

Steve Broderick is Forester and Program Director, the Goodwin Forest Conservation Center, Hampton CT. Steve came to CFFPA after a 30-year career as Extension Forester with UConn.

Patrick Comins is the Director of Bird Conservation for Connecticut Audubon and the Chair of the Connecticut Forestlands Council's Forest Ecosystem Health Committee.

Heidi Green is President of 1000 Friends of Connecticut. Heidi has worked in community development and affordable housing for 18 years in Connecticut.

Nancy Ferlow is State Resource Conservationist with the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service. Her program responsibilities include Environmental Quality Incentives (EQIP), Wildlife Habitat Incentive (WHIP), and Conservation Stewardship Program (CSP).

Mary Ludwig is President of the Connecticut Urban Forest Council, Inc., and chair of the Connecticut Tree Wardens.

Colleen Murphy-Dunning is the Program Director, Urban Resources Initiative, Yale School of Forestry and Environmental Studies.

Caroline Kuebler oversees the outreach and education programs for the American Tree Farm System. She received her MFS from the Yale School of Forestry and Environmental Studies and has forestry experience in New England, Canada and several tropical countries.

Dave Nowak is Research Forester and Project Leader in Urban Forestry for the USDA Forest Service. He and his team are stationed on the ESF campus in Syracuse NY.

Bob Perschel is the Northeast Region Director of the Forest Guild. He has served with the Wilderness Society and began his forestry career in CT with the Rossi Corporation.

Jim Poole is a Forest Landowner in Willington CT. He chairs the Connecticut Forestland Council's committee on Private Forest Stewardship.

Bob Ricard is Senior Extension Educator in Urban and Community Forestry at UConn, where he also teaches social science and policy in the Natural Resources and Environment Department.

Victoria Smith is Deputy State Entomologist with the Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station specializing in forest protection.

Mary Tyrrell is the Executive Director, Global Institute of Sustainable Forestry, Yale School of Forestry & Environmental Studies.

John Volin is Head of the Natural Resource and Environment Department at UConn. He is a forest ecologist and previously was professor of plant ecology at Florida Atlantic University.

Jeff Ward is Chief Scientist and Station Forester with The Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station, New Haven, and Chair of the Connecticut Forestlands Council's Forestry Research Committee.

Registration

The Registration fee is \$50.00. Parking and lunch is included. Car pooling is encouraged!

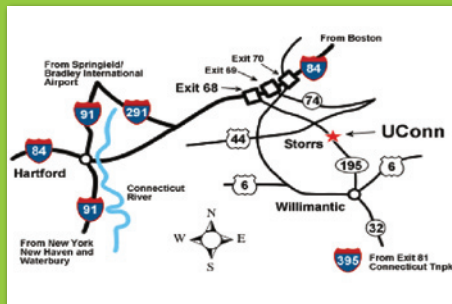
Space is limited – Registration by November 16, 2009 is recommended; walk-in registrations may not be available.

Make check payable to: **CFPA** with memo **“Forest Forum 2009”**. Send registration to:

CT Forest Forum
C/o Ms. Terri Peters
Connecticut Forest and Park Association
16 Meriden Road
Rockfall CT 06481-2961

Directions

to Rome Ballroom, the University of Connecticut, Storrs CT



On campus directions

Turn off Storrs Road - Rte 195 at Bolton Road (next to E.O. Smith High School) and park in the big lot behind the Rome Commons. Attendants will have parking passes to place on your dashboard.

Connecticut Forests in a Changing World - from Global to Local

Name: _____

Phone number: (____) _____

Organization: _____

Mailing address: _____

Town: _____ State: _____ ZIP: _____

Email: _____

Preferences for afternoon sessions (list 1, 2, 3):

Research and Forest Health _____

Private Forest Stewardship _____

Urban Forestry and Smart Growth _____

Would you like to be on the Goodwin Collaborative list serve?

Yes __ No __

2 CEUs awarded at end of Forum if Connecticut Certified

Forest Practitioner: Yes__ No__



Connecticut Forest and Park Association, Inc.
16 Meriden Road
Rockfall, CT 06481

