

Leaves

Newsletter of the Michigan Forest Association

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Association News

Greetings

Former executive director **McLain "MAC" Smith** sends greetings from his home in Ann Arbor. Mac's illness forced him to retire last spring, but he is still very much interested in MFA, its members and its activities. He can be reached by phone at 734-665-8279, e-mail at mbsjr77@sbcglobal.net, or at 1558 Barrington, Ann Arbor, MI 48103.

Would you like a name tag?

The board of directors voted to provide laser-engraved, wooden name tags for board members and others who often work in the educational trailer, the "Wanigan". If you would like one and you do not fall in one of the above categories, please send us a check for \$10 to cover the cost of the name tag and shipping & handling. Be sure to give your name as you would like it to appear on the tag. Below is a rough sketch of the name tag.



I. B. Wilde

Michigan Forest Association

Annual Meeting Scheduled for August 15 – 16 at St. Charles

Mark your calendar for the MFA annual meeting at St. Charles. Our host will be the Hartley Outdoor Education Center, a project of the Saginaw Intermediate School District. This facility differs from most nature centers in that it includes resource management as a part of the curriculum. Come and see the one-third scale coal mine shaft house and mine tunnel, the Murphy Farm, where kids can see and pet the farm animals. We will see an area on the property being managed for oak. Field trips will include a visit to a nearby county park, where we will discuss management options with Dr. Don Dickmann, of Michigan State University. We will also visit the Shiawassee National Wildlife Refuge and other attractions. Registration information will be included in the next issue of *Leaves*.

Urban Trees Used for Wood & Paper

"According to Dovetail Partners (DP), the use of urban trees for wood and paper products is still in its infancy; however, the idea is drawing more attention from researchers, community officials, arborists, tree care firms, and wood-using industries, including bio-energy producers. A new report from DP addresses the questions associated with using urban trees to generate forest products.

"To view the report, or to download a copy, visit the Dovetail Partner's website."

The e-forester.

More Forestland Today

The USDA Forest Service program, Forest Inventory and Analysis (FIA), has released new information showing increases of forestland across the country. Visit the FIA program website and click on the "2007 RPA Resource Tables" link.

The e-forester

Possible Benefits from Increased CO2

Scientists at Michigan Tech say the increasing amounts of carbon dioxide in the atmosphere may be to blame for prolonging the growing season of the trees – and that may be good news for forest products industries. Visit the Michigan Tech website for more information.

The e-forester

Scholarships Available

Scholarships are available through the Michigan Forest Foundation. The **McLain B. Smith, Jr.** scholarship is offered to students enrolled in natural resource programs. More information is available at the MFA office.

The **Ben Meadows Company** also offers scholarships to college juniors and seniors enrolled in natural resources programs. Find more information on the Ben Meadows website.

Renewable Energy

MSU's Land Policy Institute has released a fact sheet based on meeting the governor's wind energy goals. The facts are that 1,250 wind turbines would be needed, spread over a land area of a little over 50,000 acres. Only 313 acres of the 50,000 would actually be affected.

Cleveland-Cliffs, Inc. has invested in *Renewafuel*, a Battle Creek energy company that makes high-quality, dense fuel cubes from corn stalks, switch grass, wood and other materials. Cliffs has successfully tested the fuel at its pelletizing furnace near Marquette. Additional production facilities are being considered for Michigan and other states.

Michigan Farm News

Information on home wood gasification boilers is available on line from New Horizon Corporation

(<http://newhorizoncorp.com/>). "Of course, this does not represent an endorsement – simply information". Bill Cook

Interesting Meetings

February 26, Escanaba. Sweden's Remarkable Transition to Renewable Fuels: Can it Happen Here Too? Bay de Noc Community College, 2001 North Lincoln Road, Escanaba, MI. Contact MSU Tree Improvement Center at 906-786-1575 or uptic@msu.edu

March 29, Marcellus, MI. MFA Chapter 13 helps host MAPLEFEST at Fred Russ Research Forest 7 1/2 miles west of Marcellus on Marcellus Highway. Pancake breakfast, wagon rides, hardwood management discussion. Contact Pete Klink 517-238-4048.

May 9, Trout Lake, MI. Michigan Forest Association Trout board of directors meeting. Contact MFA 517-663-3423, or miforest@acd.net.

June 23 -25, Madison, Wis. Crisis or Opportunity? Sustaining and Strengthening Forest-Based Industries in the Great Lakes Region.

For a more thorough list of upcoming events, visit <http://www.miforestpathways.net/1-calendar.htm>.