

# Leaves

## Newsletter of the Michigan Forest Association

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### Association News

**Annual Meeting. Register by August 8 (Extended Deadline) to avoid higher fee!**

**Friday, Aug. 19. Registration open all morning in Education Center**

- 8:30 Board meeting in the morning in the Education Center at Fort Custer. All members welcome.  
Noon Lunch in Mess Hall (Building 2716)  
**1:00 – 3:00** Demonstration of Hoelscher "HedgeHog" for pulling out unwanted brush.  
3:30 Welcome and history of Fort Custer.  
4:15 Presentation on the Kalamazoo River watershed with references to the recent oil spill and the significance of the 12,000-acre block of wild land.  
4:45 MFA Business meeting.  
6:00 Barbecue  
7:00 Entertainment

**Saturday, Aug. 20.**

- Morning Tour forests, prairies & wetlands at Fort Custer  
Afternoon Visit Binder Park Zoo;  
See animals in natural setting (children will receive a coupon to acquire food for giraffes)  
Discuss forest management (MFA will assist with ocular screening of woodland for oak wilt.)  
Evening Banquet, auction and raffle drawing.

Registration information is available at the MFA website at [www.michiganforests.com](http://www.michiganforests.com), or call the MFA office.

**MFA Receives Grant for Woodland Owners' Network.** MFA has received word from the U.S. Forest Service that we have been selected to receive a grant for development of a Woodland Owners' Network in the Saginaw Bay watershed. The grant would help bring landowners together with other owners and with technical assistance providers. No money has changed hands yet; we will report to you when it does and what our activities will be. This has been Deb Huff's project since she joined our staff.

**Teacher Workshop is Fully Enrolled!** Our workshop for teachers, "Introduction to Forests and Sustainable Forest Management", will begin on August 8 at the R.A. MacMullan Conference Center at Higgins Lake. Enrollment is at capacity at 25 teachers, with a waiting list in case of any cancellations. Participants will learn about the history of our forests and the development of professional forest management. They will visit sites of historic interest as well as modern wood-using plants and timber harvest operations. We have received several generous donations, but we are well short of covering the entire cost of the workshop. Donations can still be sent to Michigan Forest Foundation at 6120 S. Clinton Trail, Eaton Rapids, MI 48827. The workshop is being organized and conducted for MFA by Trees for Tomorrow, of Eagle River, Wisconsin.

### WILDLIFE NEWS

**Kirtland's Warbler benefits from Arbor Day Foundation Grant.** The Department of Natural Resources has planted 500,000 trees in the Roscommon area this spring with funds provided by the Arbor Day Foundation. The trees will form habitat for the federally endangered Kirtland's Warbler, which nests in young jack pine stands. The planting project covered about 850 acres.

DNR listserve

**DNR sets new date for Wild Pigs.** The DNR has drafted a new order that lists sporting swine as invasive species effective Oct. 8 of this year. The date was moved back from July 8 to allow the Legislature to regulate sporting swine facilities and hunting. Sporting swine are considered a threat to Michigan's forests and native wildlife as well as to domestic swine.

DNR listserve

**Hands Off the Wildlife.** The Michigan Departments of Agriculture and Rural Development (MDARD), Community Health (MDCH) and Natural Resources (DNR) urge residents not to handle wildlife – especially animals that appear sick, lost or disoriented. Any mammal can be infected with rabies, and summer is when most cases occur. Rabies is always fatal if untreated. The following precautions are urged: 1) Seek medical care if you are bitten by a wild animal. If possible, collect the animal and consult with local health authorities to determine whether rabies testing is necessary. 2) If you awaken to a bat in a room where you have been sleeping, seek medical attention. Secure the bat and consult with local public health officials about the need for rabies testing. If the animal tests negative, then rabies post exposure treatment can be avoided. 3) Have your pets and livestock vaccinated against rabies.

MDA listserve

## Forest Health

**Emerald Ash Borer now in New York.** The emerald ash borer has been found in Rochester and Buffalo, New York recently. Toronto's ash trees, across Lake Ontario from Rochester, are also infested.

The e-forester

**Asian Longhorn Beetle Found in Ohio.** The Asian longhorn beetle has been identified in Bethel, Ohio, near Cincinnati. This beetle infests maples and other trees. It has the potential to cause devastation in Michigan's forests. Officials from the U.S. Department of Agriculture and the Ohio Department of Agriculture are conducting surveys using ground surveyors and specially trained tree climbers.

The e-forester

## Alternative Energy

**Forest Service awards grants for Renewable Energy Projects.** The USDA Forest Service has awarded 17 grants totaling nearly \$3 million to small businesses and community groups to develop wood – to – energy projects. None of the projects is in Michigan, but there is one in Superior, Wisconsin.

The e-forester

**Mascoma gets a FONSI.** The U.S. Dept. of Energy has issued a "Finding Of No Significant Impact (FONSI)" to Mascoma Corporation for the construction and operation of the cellulosic ethanol biorefinery near Kinross in the eastern Upper Peninsula.

Bill Cook

**Biomass Caucus Formed.** A coalition has been formed in Congress that will seek to support development of biomass as an energy source. It is being led by Representatives Charlie Bass (R-NH) and Peter Welch (D-VT). Other congressmen are urged to join this effort.

Biomass Thermal Energy Council

**Hydrogen Injection Cuts Fuel consumption as much as 30%.** MFA's booth at AgExpo was next to GL Powertech, who produce a unit that produces hydrogen by breaking down water. The hydrogen is then injected into an engine's fuel system, cutting consumption significantly. Just add a quart of distilled water every 300 to 600 engine hours. 2424 Burton SE, Grand Rapids, MI 49546. 877-376-1957.

GL Powertech

## Miscellaneous

**Michigan Consultants Recognized.** The Michigan Chapter of the Association of Consulting Foresters (MACF) was recognized as the 2011 Chapter of the year at the National ACF convention in New Orleans. Consultants Jeff Steinkraus, Mark Janke, Justin Miller and Jerry Grossman accepted the award on behalf of the chapter. Membership in the MACF requires technical forestry knowledge and references from other consulting foresters as well as forestry clients. Check 'em out online. If you need to hire a forester, you could hardly go wrong with one of these professionals.

Justin Miller

**Bill Would Streamline Federal Timber Sales.** H.R. 2209, introduced by Congressman Dan Benishek of Iron Mountain would require all public comments and concerns to be raised before a national forest timber sale is set up in the field. "It requires all stakeholders to 'put their cards on the table' to allow the USFS to make a fair and responsible decision."

Michigan Forest Products Council

**New Jersey-Grown wood.** The state of New Jersey has launched a new campaign in an effort to attract people to locally harvested wood products. The "Made with Jersey Grown Wood" stamp will first be put on bird houses and bird feeders. The goal is to promote the state's dwindling sawmills as well as the practice of sustainable tree harvesting through an easily identifiable logo.

Hardwood Matters