

Connecticut's Forests: Blending Science & Policy as We Move Forward



Connecticut's Statewide Forest Resource Plan

University of Connecticut
Cooperative Extension System
U.S. Department of Agriculture
139 Wolf Den Road
Brooklyn, CT 06234

Connecticut is one of the most heavily forested states, but it also is among the states with the most intense rural development pressures. This situation was described in the first Connecticut Forest Conservation Forum as "Forests in Harms Way". Last year the Forum described its path as "Working towards Solutions: How to Sustain Connecticut's Woodlands". Last year also saw the first Forest Research Forum, "From Laboratory to Field".

This year we combine the two forums into one to examine the relationships between science and policy. The morning begins with DEP Commissioner Gina McCarthy, who will speak about her evolving vision of conservation policy for Connecticut. Dr. Al Todd will present the fascinating case study of Chesapeake Bay and how forested watersheds play a critical role in the bay environment. Mary Tyrell and Jon Mead will present cases study of the Highlands Project, which covers Connecticut, New York, New Jersey and Pennsylvania. These are followed by scientific reviews by David Skelly and Robert Askins that have policy implications.

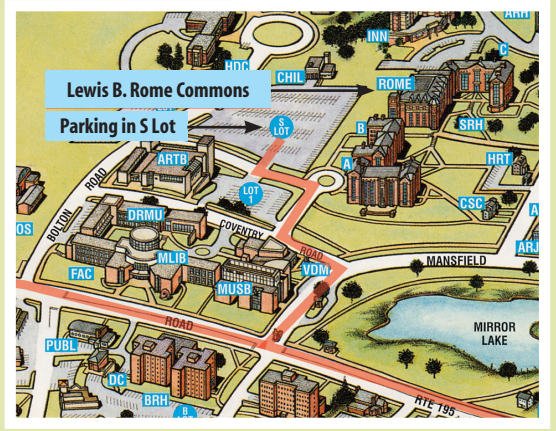
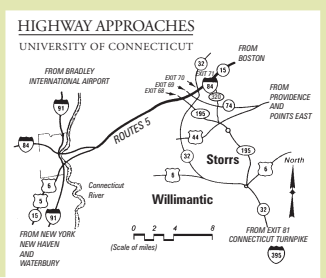
The afternoon sessions will include three choices. One focuses on social policy, especially the results to date from work by the Connecticut Forestlands Council. Another centers on research applied to forest management problems, and the third covers new developments in invasive species and other threats to our forests.

Directions:

Rome Ballroom, the University of Connecticut, Storrs CT

From Route 84: Take Exit 68 and travel south on Route 195. Make a right onto Mansfield Road. Mansfield Road is about 2 miles south of the intersection of Route 195 and Route 44. Follow signs to park in S Lot.

From Route 6 and points south: Take Route 195 traveling north. Soon after passing E.O. Smith High School, turn left at the third light onto Mansfield Road. Mansfield Road is approximately 6 miles north of the intersection of Route 195 and Route 6. Proceed to S Lot.



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The Goodwin Forest Education Collaborative:

- University of Connecticut Cooperative Extension System
- Connecticut Department of Environmental Protection
- Connecticut Forest & Park Association
- Connecticut Chapter, Society of American Foresters

November 20 **07**

Co-Sponsors

- Connecticut Chapter, American Society of Landscape Architects
- Connecticut Chapter, American Planning Association
- Connecticut Council on Environmental Quality

November 20 **07**
Tuesday, 8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.



FORUM AGENDA

8:00	Registration begins, coffee
8:50	Welcome and Introductions
9:00	A Vision for Connecticut Conservation Policy <i>Gina McCarthy, Commissioner, CT Department of Environmental Protection, Policy and science interacting: two case studies</i>
9:20	Protecting the forests of the Chesapeake Bay watershed: initiatives with application to Connecticut and Long Island Sound – <i>Al Todd, USDA Forest Service</i>
10:05	Science for Conservation: The Highlands Case Study <i>Mary Tyrell, Yale University and Jon Meade, Executive Director, Highlands Coalition</i>
10:50	Break/poster sessions
11:15	Science and wildlife in the forest <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Vernal pools</u> – <i>David Skelly, Yale University</i> • <u>Forest birds</u> – <i>Robert Askins, Connecticut College</i>
12:15 – 1:30	Lunch/poster sessions
1:30 – 4:00	The afternoon sessions will be structured in three concurrent sessions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Conservation policy</u> – the dialogue in progress, <i>Bill Bentley, moderator</i> • <u>Forest Management and the Landscape</u> <i>Steve Broderick, moderator</i> • <u>Threats to forests and their mitigation</u> <i>Patrick Comins, moderator</i>
4:00	Adjourn

Conservation policy	– the dialogue in progress: <i>Bill Bentley, moderator</i>
1:30	Implementing Connecticut’s State Forest Resources Plan: How we’re doing so far – <i>Curtis Rand, Chair, Connecticut Forest Council</i>
2:05	Understanding and reaching family forest owners – <i>Brett Butler, USDA Forest Service Inventory & Analysis Program – Family Forestry Research Center, Amherst MA</i>
2:45	Break

continued

3:00	Forest certification as a tool to bring science and unification to small forest landowners – <i>Mike Ferrucci, Interforest LLC</i>
3:30	Connecticut’s Forest Practices Act: regulations at last? – <i>Joan Nichols and Adam Moore, Members, CT Forest Practice Advisory Committee</i>

Forest Management and the Landscape: <i>Steve Broderick, moderator</i>	
1:30	State Forest digitization project and web-based user interface – <i>Emily Wilson and Joel Stocker, University of Connecticut</i>
2:20	Watershed forest management information system: Barkhamsted case study – <i>Paul Barten, Associate Professor, University of Massachusetts, Amherst</i>
3:10	Impact of biofuel harvesting on Connecticut’s forest landbase – <i>William Carter, Tamarack Energy</i>

Forest threats and mitigation : <i>Patrick Comins, moderator</i>	
1:30	Forest Service forest health risk assessment – <i>James Steinman, USDA Forest Service-Northeastern Area</i>
2:20	Silvicultural options for managing hemlock forests – <i>David Orwig, The Harvard Forest</i>
3:10	Controlling Japanese barberry – <i>Jeffrey Ward, The Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station, and Thomas Worthley, UConn Cooperative Extension System</i>

ABOUT OUR MORNING SPEAKERS

Gina McCarthy is Commissioner of the Connecticut Department of Environmental Protection. She has 25 years in public service working on environmental issues at the local and state level in Massachusetts. Commissioner McCarthy received her BA in Social Anthropology from the University of Massachusetts, Boston, and a joint Master of Science in Environmental Health Engineering and Planning and Policy from Tufts University.

Al Todd is the Watershed Program Leader for the USDA Forest Service, State and Private Forestry, Northeastern Area. Al manages a variety of cooperative watershed efforts across a 20 state region including partnerships in the Chesapeake Bay Watershed, NYC Watersheds and the Upper Mississippi River. Al works with other agencies and partners to formulate strategies to address emerging watershed issues in the Northeastern Area and provides technical support to a variety of federal and state agencies and private organizations.

Mary Tyrrell is Executive Director of the Global Institute of Sustainable Forestry at the Yale School of Forestry and Environmental Studies. Mary does collaborative research on landscape change in the northeastern US. She holds an MBA from Boston University and Master of Forest Science from Yale.

Jon Meade is the Executive Director of the four-state Highlands Coalition. Jon was a member of the Highlands Coalition when he was V.P. for Planning for the Pennsylvania-based Heritage Conservancy. He served with the National Park Service in Washington and earned his master’s from the Yale School of Forestry and Environmental Studies

David Skelly is Professor of Ecology in both the School of Forestry and Environmental Studies and Department of Ecology and Evolutionary Biology at Yale University. His research is centered on pond-breeding amphibians. He earned his AB in biology at Middlebury College and his Ph.D. in biology from Michigan.

Robert Askins is Professor of Biology and Director of the Goodwin-Niering Center for Conservation Biology and Environmental Studies at Connecticut College. His research focuses on the effects of forest fragmentation and loss of forest openings on songbirds in eastern North America.

ABOUT OUR AFTERNOON SPEAKERS

Curtis Rand is Chair of the Connecticut Forestlands Council, a private consulting (Certified Professional) forester and First Selectman for Salisbury CT

Brett Butler leads the USDA Forest Service Family Forestry Research Center in Amherst MA

Mike Ferrucci is a Certified Professional Forester and president of Interforest LLC. He specializes in certification of sustainable forests.

Joan Nichols manages Nichols Forestry and Logging in Lebanon CT. She is a Certified Professional Forester and a member of the CT Forest Practices Advisory Committee.

Adam Moore is Executive Director of CT Forest & Park Association. He is a Certified Professional Forester and chairs the recent subcommittee that prepared recommendations on the CT Forest Practice Act.

William (Bill) Bentley is principal of Salmon Brook Associates and co-chaired development of this forum.

Emily Wilson is a Geospatial Technology Educator at the Center for Land Use Education and Research at the University of Connecticut.

Joel Stocker is an Assistant Extension Educator with the UConn Cooperative Extension System, specializing in geographic information systems and other computer based tools.

Paul Barten is Associate Professor, University of Massachusetts, Amherst.

Bill Carter is Managing Director, Tamarack Energy Inc. in Essex CT.

Steve Broderick is a Senior Extension Educator in Forestry, University of Connecticut, stationed in Brooklyn and at the Goodwin Forest Conservation Education Center.

James Steinman is silvicultural specialist with the USDA Forest Service Northeastern Area.

David Orwig is a forest ecologist with the Harvard Forest in Petersham MA

Jeffrey Ward is Chief Scientist and Station Forester with The Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station, New Haven

Tom Worthley is an Extension Educator in Forestry, University of Connecticut, stationed at the Middlesex County Extension Center

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

REGISTRATION

The Registration fee is \$40.00. Parking and lunch is included in the registration fee. Parking passes will be distributed at the entrance to the parking lot. We do encourage car pooling to save gas and avoid overcrowding of the parking lot

Space is limited – We recommend getting your registration in the mail by November 10, 2007. Make check payable to: **CFPA with memo “Forest Forum 2007”**. Send registration to:
 CT Forest Conservation and Science Forum
 C/o Ms. Terri Peters
 16 Meriden Road
 Rockfall CT 06481-2961

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NAME _____

PHONE (_____) _____

ORGANIZATION _____

ADDRESS _____

TOWN _____

STATE _____ ZIP _____

EMAIL _____

Would you like to be added to the Goodwin Collaborative list serve? Yes___ No___

2 CEUs awarded at end of Forum if CT Certified Forest Practitioner: Yes___ No___