

Woodland Advisor
Program's Vision:

To be
Minnesota's
leading resource
for citizens
participating in
forestry learning.

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woodland ADVISOR

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Gypsy Moth, on the Move in Minnesota

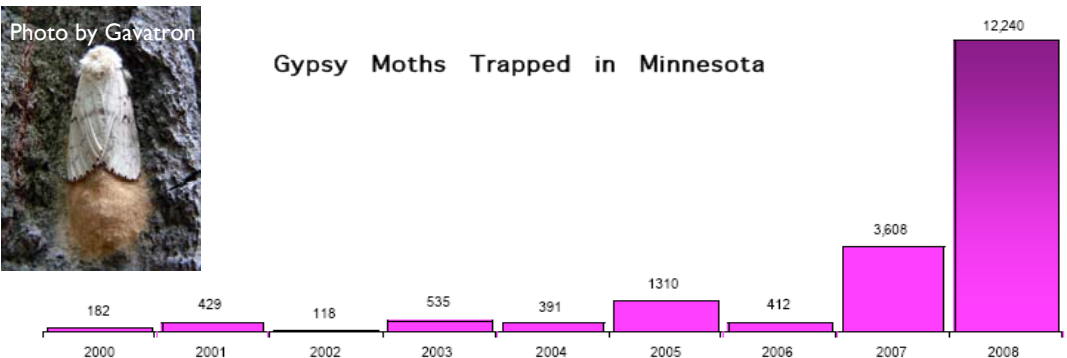
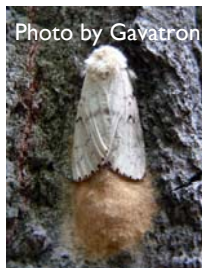
By Angela Gupta

Gypsy moth trapping has been going on in Minnesota since 2000. Minnesota has been a formal member of the Gypsy Moth Slow the Spread (STS) Foundation since 2004 but this year saw the first major influx of Gypsy Moths found in the state.

According to the **Gypsy Moth: 2008 State Summary Executive Report** by the Minnesota Department of Agriculture:

In recent years, moth numbers have been extremely low and the rapid increase seen this year is an indication that the main gypsy moth population is getting closer to Minnesota's borders. Specifically, the shoreline of St. Louis County, south to Carleton and Pine counties experienced an unprecedented number of moths, accounting for a 66-fold increase in some places. Moth numbers were much higher in the southeast part of the state where 3 counties (Houston, Winona, and Wabasha), accounted for a substantial 2,489 moths (20% of the statewide total and 78% of the southern total). Two sites in the metro area were identified as having evidence of reproducing gypsy moth populations. MDA will be working closely with the land stewards within these areas to align management strategies with increased moth populations. Many of the isolated positive traps will be further delimited and treatments will be proposed for these counties in 2009.

Remember one of the best ways to prepare for Gypsy Moth is to maintain a healthy and diverse forest. This may include a stand thinning or under planting. During the first major wave of Gypsy Moth, trees are likely to sustain significant defoliation. But healthy trees in a healthy forest will best be able to survive this initial onslaught. Once Gypsy Moth is established in the state there will be occasional population increases and thus



Students keep in step with Woodland Advisors

A new 4-H-Forestry Club was organized in Grand Rapids, MN. Beginning last September, students of Murphy Elementary have been meeting twice a month for 90 minutes. Twelve sessions will be offered during the course of the school year. As fate would have it, the club consists of all boys that are bursting with enthusiasm and energy.

The goal of the program is to teach students the basics of forestry. Some of the activities include: making a leaf press, collecting leaves, and tree identification. Each session includes games and activities.

One of the recent sessions taught students how to use a compass and the 'art of pacing'. Woodland Advisors, Keith Matson and Jim Columbus volunteered to help with the outdoor activity. Keith Matson reported that it was very fun and challenging to teach the students how to pace. Matson said, "Trying to teach the students to count two steps as a 'pace' was a real hoot. The students all cooperated and showed great concentration for their age." Matson added, "I am really proud of their effort, the amount of energy was only outstripped by their short attention spans".

The 4-H-Forestry Afterschool program is also being offered in Rochester and Winona. Funding for the program has been provided by the Renewable Resources Extension Act (RREA).

By Julie Miedtke-Extension Educator



Study Reports Lawful Harvesting and Sustainability of US Hardwoods



From the December 8 **E-Forester** by the Society of American Foresters:

The American Hardwood Export Council (AHEC) recently released the findings of its independent research study "Assessment of Lawful Harvesting and Sustainability of US Hardwood Exports." Among the study's findings are:

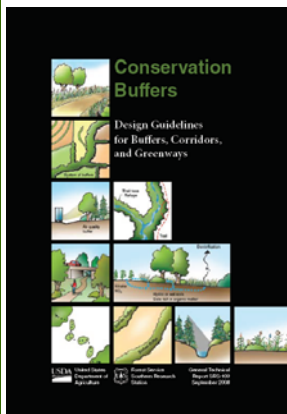
- US hardwoods derive from legal and well-managed forests.
- Hardwood procured from anywhere in the Hardwood States could be considered Low Risk in all five Forest Stewardship Council risk categories.
- US hardwoods are unlikely to be produced from controversial sources as defined in the Chain of Custody standard of the Program for the Endorsement of Forest Certification.
- All states in the US hardwood-producing region can be considered low risk for illegal and non-sustainable hardwood sourcing.
- Given the safety net of national and state regulations and programs that address unlawful conduct and faulty forest practices, the need for traceability, independent chain of custody, and/or controlled wood certification to demonstrate legality should not be a crucial consideration for US sourcing of hardwood products.

The research and report was commissioned by AHEC in response to the increasing global demand for verified legal and sustainable forest products. In certain export markets, most notably in Europe and Japan, government procurement policies and private purchasers are requiring that wood products be shown to be from legal and sustainable sources.

Full report at <http://www.ahec-europe.org/>

New USDA Conservation Buffers guidelines booklet

by Gary Wyatt



A new Conservation Buffers guideline booklet has been developed by the National Agroforestry Center for landowners and agencies working with landowners to improve conservation practices on their land.

Conservation buffers are strips of vegetation placed in the landscape to influence ecological processes and provide a variety of goods and services to us. They are called by many names, including wildlife corridors, greenways, windbreaks, and filter strips to name just a few. Benefits that conservation buffers provide to us include protecting soil resources, improving air and water quality, enhancing fish and wildlife habitat, and beautifying the landscape. In addition, buffers offer landowners an array of economic opportunities including protection and enhancement of existing enterprises.

The purpose of this publication is to provide a synthesis of this diverse scientific knowledge base on buffers into easy-to-understand design guidelines.

Over 80 design guidelines were developed from more than 1,400 research articles. These articles are cited in the online version of this guide.

(Note the buffer web site will be on-line in late January, 2009) www.bufferguidelines.net

National Agroforestry Center www.unl.edu/nac

For a PDF copy or to ask for a copy of the buffers guideline, email Gary Bentrup, gbentrup@fs.fed.us

Volunteer Opportunities

Angela Gupta is the Woodland Advisor Volunteer coordinator. To contact her call (888) 241-4536. To follow up on the opportunities below please contact the person listed. For more detail and additional opportunities please check our website: <http://cfc.cfans.umn.edu/walvolunteer.htm>

*"I always wondered why somebody didn't do something about that.
Then I realized I was somebody."*

- **State Natural Areas Assistance**—The state natural areas program needs volunteers to work on projects at natural areas throughout the state. Projects are typically carried out on Saturdays from 10:00 am-2:00 pm (unless otherwise noted), most weekends spring through fall. Activities include prairie and woodland seed collection, removal of exotic species, pulling buckthorn, and cutting brush such as sumac. These activities are posted under the SNA Program at www.mndnr.gov/volunteering/sna Please join us! We are always looking for volunteers to work, write or photograph.
- **Make "tree cookies" for Project Learning Tree (PLT)**—PLT needs volunteers to create tree cookies as teaching aides for teachers to use with their students. Tree cookies are slices of branches or trunks that show the rings of a tree. Slice the branches or trunk into half-inch thick, wafer-shaped "cookies" that are between three to six inches in diameter. Sand the surfaces until the rings appear. Finish the surfaces with clear varnish. "Interesting" cookies with easily readable rings are preferred (e.g. cookies that show history of disease, disturbance, or other story). Labeling cookie species and location harvested is optional, but appreciated. Contact Laura Duffy, PLT coordinator, MN DNR, for more information or to send cookies, 651-259-5263 or email laura.duffey@dnr.state.mn.us
- **Candlelight Snowshoe & Hike**—Help visitors enjoy the winter season at the 4th annual candlelight snowshoe and hike at Split Rock Lighthouse State Park in Two Harbors on Saturday, February 28, 2009. This event is not possible without the commitment of volunteers. The event enables people to experience the park enhanced by the magic of candles reflecting on snow, followed by music and refreshments next to the fire. For more information or to volunteer, contact Lisa Angelos, Assistant Park Manager, Split Rock Lighthouse State Park, Two Harbors, at 218-226-6377 or email lisa.angelos@dnr.state.mn.us

Upcoming Events

Activities: Woodland Advisor Program Classes are underlined. For more information please see the web-site cfc.cfans.umn.edu/wal

January 2009

- Tues, Jan 6, Sawmill Tours: Stave Mill and Saw Mill, 1:00-4:00 pm, Meet at Staggemeyer Stave Mill, Caledonia, for info contact Angela Gupta, 507-280-2869; to register contact Mary Jane Stearns, 888-241-4536
- Thurs, Jan 15, Carbon Credits for Forest Landowners, 6:00-8:30 pm, Heintz Center, Rochester, for info contact Angela Gupta, 507-280-2869; to register contact Mary Jane Stearns, 888-241-4536
- Fri, Jan 16, Minnesota's Forests: Ecology, History and People, 6:00-9:00 pm, Boulder Lake Environmental Learning Center, for info & registration contact Boulder Lake Environmental Learning Center, boulder@d.umn.edu or 218-721-3731
- Sat, Jan 17, How Trees Grow & Top Ten Insect & Disease Problems of the Northern Boreal Forest, 9:00 am-noon, Boulder Lake Environmental Learning Center, for info & registration contact Boulder Lake Environmental Learning Center, boulder@d.umn.edu or 218-721-3731
- Sat, Jan 17, Winter Tree and Shrub ID, 12:30-3:30 pm, Boulder Lake Environmental Learning Center, for info & registration contact Boulder Lake Environmental Learning Center, boulder@d.umn.edu or 218-721-3731
- Thurs, Jan 22, Carbon Credit Payment, 2:00-4:00 pm, Stearns County Extension Office, St. Cloud, for info contact Diomy Zamora, 888-241-0720
- Thurs, Jan 29, Forest Health with Mike Albers - DNR Forest Health Specialist, 6:30-8:30 pm, North Central Research and Outreach Center, Grand Rapids, for info & to register contact Julie Miedtke, 218-327-7365



Photo by Sillydog

February 2009

- Tues, Feb 3, Woodland Ownership and Income Taxes, 6:00-9:00 pm, North Central Research and Outreach Center, Grand Rapids, for info & to register contact Julie Miedtke, 218-327-7365
- Wed, Feb 18, Biomass Field Day, 9:00 am-4:00 pm Nite Hawk Supper Club, Roosevelt, for info contact Diomy Zamora, 888-241-0720
- Fri, Feb 20, Financial Aspects of Woodland Ownership, 6:00-9:00 pm, Boulder Lake Environmental Learning Center, for info & registration contact Boulder Lake Environmental Learning Center, boulder@d.umn.edu or 218-721-3731
- Sat, Feb 21, A Brief Intro to Using GPS Receiver, 9:00 am-noon, Cloquet Forestry Center, Cloquet, for info & to register Boulder Lake Environmental Learning Center, for info & registration contact Boulder Lake Environmental Learning Center, boulder@d.umn.edu or 218-721-3731
- Sat, Feb 21, Using Landview for Loggers, Foresters, and Landowners, 12:30-3:30 pm, Cloquet Forestry Center, Cloquet, for info & to register contact Boulder Lake Environmental Learning Center, boulder@d.umn.edu or 218-721-3731

March 2009

Photo by esagor



- Thurs, March 19, Biomass Field Day, 9:00 am-4:00 pm, USDA-Agriculture Research Service conference room, Morris
- Fri, March 27, How & What to Plant in Your Forest, 6:00-9:00 pm, Boulder Lake Environmental Learning Center, for info & registration contact Boulder Lake Environmental Learning Center, boulder@d.umn.edu or 218-721-3731
- Sat, March 28, How to Mark a Stand for Harvest, 9:00 am-noon, Boulder Lake Environmental Learning Center, for info & registration contact Boulder Lake Environmental Learning Center, boulder@d.umn.edu or 218-721-3731
- Sat, March 28, Forest Management Field Tour-Grouse Management Area & Tapping into Maple Resources, 12:30-4:30 pm, Boulder Lake Environmental Learning Center, for info & registration contact Boulder Lake Environmental Learning Center, boulder@d.umn.edu or 218-721-3731

Sustainable Forestry Can Reduce Climate Change Emissions and Poverty



WORLD GROWTH

From the December 8 **E-Forester** by the Society of American Foresters:

World Growth, a non-profit, non-governmental organization, recently published the report "Winners All: How Forestry Can Reduce Both Climate Change Emissions and Poverty-A Pro-Development Program." The report examines the role of sustainable forest management as one of the most effective ways to reduce carbon dioxide emissions.

The study was published as a reaction to a strategy promoted by the World Bank, several industrialized economies, as well as WWF and Greenpeace. Other research cited in the report shows that improving forestry and afforestation may reduce more emissions than reducing deforestation. A detailed executive summary of the report and the full report are both available at <http://www.worldgrowth.org/resources/>

Return Volunteer & Working Logs from 2008

By Angela Gupta

Enclosed in this newsletter are the Volunteer and the Working Logs. If you filled-out the logs mailed last December through the year, please return them between now and January 31. Or if it's easier please fill-out these logs to reflect your activities during 2008 and I'll mail you another form when I receive this.

It is very important that we collect this data for a variety of reasons. We summarize the information and include it on our annual report which we then present to our partners, funding sources, and others that impact and support the Woodland Advisor program. Please take a few minutes and fill out a log for us! Thanks!!!



We're on the web!
<http://www.cnr.umn.edu/cfc/wa/>

Woodland Advisor Program

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Return Service Requested

Suggested Reading

All About Minnesota's Forests and Trees: A Primer from the MN DNR is a great introduction to Minnesota's forests. It includes an introduction to trees and then moves on to Minnesota's forests through the ages. It's a great read for someone new to forestry in Minnesota. Check it out on the

All About Minnesota's Forests and Trees: A Primer



DNR's website or contact your local DNR forestry office for a copy.

New Member of the WA Family



Amani Gupta is the newest member of Angela Gupta's family. Angie is the editor of this newsletter and a member of the Woodland Advisor organizational team. Amani, Angie's second son, was born on September 30 in Rochester. Angie has returned from maternity leave and is getting back into the swing of things at work. Amani is growing like crazy (and he seems to be keeping all that hair).

Eli Sagor, another Woodland Advisor organizational team member, is expecting their second baby in January. The team is growing!

What is the Woodland Advisor Program?

The Woodland Advisor Program is your opportunity to learn about forests and forestry. Classes are generally 3 hours in length. Participants who complete 45 hours of woodland ecology and management classes receive a certificate of completion. Classes also provide foresters and Stewardship Plan preparers with continuing education credit. Participants who are interested in ongoing educational opportunities after completing 45 hours of classes and want to participate as a volunteer can become a Woodland Advisor Volunteer. Woodland Advisor Volunteers are leaders in their communities. They help their neighbors learn more about the options and opportunities that exist for their forestland. This helps all Minnesota's citizens by helping to maintain the health, beauty, and productivity of Minnesota's forest land.

Classes are open to anyone on a pay-as-you-go basis. Costs may vary, but most 3-hour sessions cost \$20. A discount may be available for Minnesota Forestry Association Members on classes where registration is handled through the University of Minnesota Extension. Inquire when you register about a discount.

For class times and locations, registration information, or more about the Woodland Advisor program, contact the Cloquet Forestry Center at 888-241-0724 or visit cfc.cfans.umn.edu/wa/.

*Woodland
Advisor
Program*