



# **Report of the Northeast Area States to the Southern Group of State Foresters**

**Urban Forestry Committee - Winter Meeting  
January 27 to 30, 2014 - Tampa, Florida**

**by Ken Holman, Minnesota DNR**

**Past Chair, NAASF Urban Forestry Committee**

**Northeastern Area Association of State Foresters**

# NAASF URBAN FORESTRY COMMITTEE

- **Bi-monthly phone meetings,  
90 minutes including 30 min “topic talk”  
Leaders Team call about a week before each**
  - **July**
  - **September**
  - **November**
  - **December mid-year work plan check in  
with subcommittee chairs**
  - **January**
  - **March**
  - **May (if needed for Annual Meeting prep)**
- **2014 Annual Meeting:  
May 20-22 - Kansas City, MO**

# 5 ACTIVE Subcommittees

- **UTC (Urban Tree Canopy) – Ian Leahy, D.C.**  
members: DE, OH, PA, VT, and WI
- **State Program Communications - Emma Hanigan, IA**  
members: CT, MO, NY, VT and D.C.
- **Green Infrastructure - Jan Santerre, ME**  
members: DE, MD, MN, PA, RI, VT and WI
- **Building Effective State Councils - Mary Kramarchyk, NY**  
members: DE, IA, MD, NJ, RI and WI
- **New: Storm Readiness, Response & Recovery-Chris Donnelly, CT**  
members: DE, IL, MA, MI, NH, NJ and WV

# Urban Tree Canopy

**“We need the USFS to help states and cities in using current technology to both set UTC goals and to use best strategies to achieve them.”**

- **NAASF Executive Committee approved a USFS investment of \$245,000 to develop a package of UTC tools.**
- **Contracting with Davey to locate third-party geospatial technology creators to develop UTC tools:**
  - **Spatial analysis**
  - **Goal-setting**
  - **State-of-the-art platform compatible with i-Tree Landscape, Design and Forecast.**
- **Sub-committee now exploring use of a universal web portal for UTC information and support.**



# State Programs Communications

**“Develop strategies to more effectively demonstrate the value and impact of our state program work.”**

- **Better use CARS data, 2-page highlights & state forests factsheets via accomplishments blog or forum.**
- **With NASF UCF & Communications Cmts. and Regions, create & deliver messages to impact state and local decision makers.**
- **Better use American Grove to tell local success stories & messages.**



# Green Infrastructure

**“State Foresters need to provide evidence to state and federal regulators of the role urban forests play in managing storm water and improving air quality.”**

- **Develop messages and talking points for state UCF programs to effectively communicate with planning commissions.**
- **Catalogue and post to NAASF/NASF website:**
  - **Model ordinances**
  - **Construction design specifications to include trees in storm water BMP's**
  - **Guidelines for BMP certification and accreditation**
- **Support NUCFAC proposal to promote an understanding of how trees can be utilized to meet water quality standards.**



# Building Effective UCF Councils

**“Help improve the function and effectiveness of State Councils, in their various efforts to advocate for state programs.”**

- **Highlight model Councils with effective structures.**
- **Encourage ACTrees to serve as a convener of Councils.**
- **Share NE Area experiences and learn about how Councils function in other regions.**
- **Collaborate with USFS and ACTrees to survey Councils on specific tasks and activities.**



# **New Sub-Committee: Storm Readiness, Response and Recovery**

**“Determine the potential role of state urban forestry programs in storm readiness, response and recovery.”**

- Review Urban Forest Strike Team approach for application within the NE Area 20 states + D.C..**
- Create state checklists for each of “the 3 Rs.”**
- Coordinate efforts with SGSF and relevant NAASF committees, e.g. Forest Health, Fire Compact.**



# 5 Active Liaisons

- **Forest Health Committee – Tiffany Arp, IN**
- **Arbor Day Foundation - Kevin Sayers, MI**
- **i-Tree Development Team – Mollie Freilicher, MA**
- **SUFC/Vibrant Cities – Emma Hanigan, IA**
- **Urban Forest Inventory & Analysis - Dick Rideout, WI**



# Liaison to Arbor Day Foundation

**“Engage ADF in dialogue to promote state programs and to influence ADF programs”**

- **Represent NA state on the Tree City USA standards work group**
  - **Affirm appropriate core standards**
  - **Determine expansion goals for TC USA and Growth Award programs**
  - **Develop a communications plan for distribution to the broader urban forestry community**
- **Provide input on the revision of the M.O.U. between ADF and NASF.**



# Liaison to i-Tree Development Team

**“Continue collaborating with i-Tree Development Team”**

- **Host webinar to allow i-Tree team to share plans for future development of software tools**
- **Emphasize need for i-Tree team to engage EPA engineers in adopting i-Tree as the best available technology for UCF management**
- **Maintain feedback loop between i-Tree team, UF Coordinators and State Foresters**



# Liaison to SUFC – Vibrant Cities

**“Communicate with SUFC on the Vibrant Cities Initiative and other work groups”**

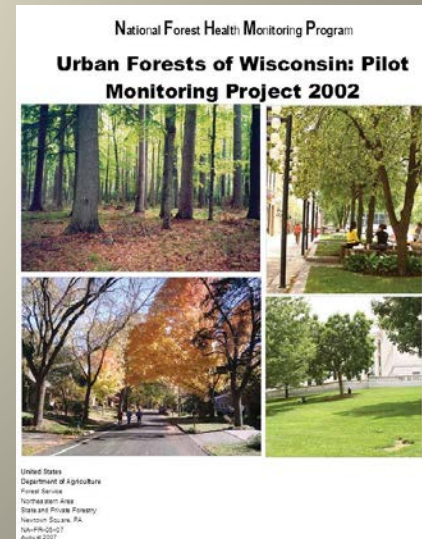


- **Communicate UCF Committee concerns and issues to SUFC**
- **Monitor and report any new developments with Vibrant Cities as SUFC scales back involvement**

# New: Liaison to Urban Forest Inventory and Analysis

**“Develop recommendations on the future of UFIA for USFS and NAASF consideration”**

- **Develop a snapshot and trend analysis of UFIA data in cooperation with USFS research staff.**
- **Share feedback from state UFIA pilot projects to improve federal UFIA methodology and outcome.**



# Liaison to Forest Health Committee

**“Collaborate with the NAASF FHC to improve early detection of invasive forest pests.”**

**Communicate and engage with the FHC and the new Urban Forest Health Information Center (UFORHIC) on issues related to the early detection of pests in the urban environment with special emphasis on:**

- **Early detection procedures**
- **Data collection methods**
- **Aggregation of local tree inventories and pest risk analysis onto a national platform**

**Go to “UFORHIC beta version” handout sheet . . . .**

