2008 National Conference on Urban Ecosystems

Conference Program Detail

Pre-Conference Day 1 of 1: Wednesday, May 28, 2008

8:00 - 2:00

American Forests Board of Directors Meeting. (Lunch 12:00 – 1:00)

Location: TBD

8:30 - 5:00

Community Tree Leadership Forum (Optional Activity), Presented by the Alliance for Community Trees

6:00 - 9:00

Registration Opens Location: TBD

6:00 - 10:00

Board and VIP Dinner

Location: TBD

Program Day 1 of 2: Thursday, May 29, 2008

7:30 - 5:30

Registration Open Location: TBD

7:30 - 8:15

Continental Breakfast

Location: TBD

8:30 - 10:00

Opening General Session

Location: TBD

Welcome: Deborah Gangloff

Conference Overview: Cheryl Kollin

Nature and Network Animation (short video): Theresa Flaxman

Description: TBD

Topic: Nature and the Network - A New Conceptual Framework

Understanding the Natural and Human Systems and How They Interact

The Piedmont Crescent Example

Speaker(s):

The Human Network: Michael Gallis, MGA
The Natural World: Gary Moll, American Forests

The Interaction: Michael Flaxman, MIT Summary: TBD – Gary to provide

10:00 - 10:30

Break

10:30 - 12:00

Keynote Session

Location: TBD

(10:30 - 11:00)

Topic: Investments in Transportation are Investments in the Environment

Speaker: Emil Frankel

Summary: (3/31) To be supplied in three or four weeks – Gary to contact

Topic: Connecting Nature and the Network for Regional Development

Speaker: Win Hallett, Mobile Area Chamber of Commerce

Summary: Recent economic development in Mobile Bay Area, and how it is viewed by Chamber members and the community. How the growth will impact the Mobile Bay environment and what the

Chamber is doing to manage that growth.

12:00 - 12:15

Break

12:15 - 1:30

Lunch with Presentation

Location: TBD

Topic: Natural Systems (Florida's Waterways) TBD

Speaker: Jeff Danter, Nature Conservancy, Florida Chapter

Summary: TBD

Out until Wednesday, Gary will contact

1:30 - 2:00

Break

2:00 - 3:00

General Session Location: TBD

Topic: The MyRegion Experience

Speaker: Shelley Lauten

Summary: TBD – Gary to Contact

3:00 - 3:30

Break

3:30 - 5:00

Concurrent Sessions

Session 1

Topic: The Digital Description and Conceptual Model for the Piedmont Crescent

Speaker(s): Dr. Michael Flaxman, MIT Systems Modeling; Michael Gallis, MGA; Gary Moll, AF

Summary: TBD - Gary

Location: TBD

Session 2

Topic: A Model for Easier Access to Mapping Data Useful for Urban Forestry & Planning – Reword this Speaker(s) Ian Hanou, NCDC; Bill Peel, RFP Mapping

Summary: High-resolution green & gray infrastructure mapping data has many uses for urban forestry and green planning. Until now, it has never been available on-the-shelf. A recent program in Chicago, IL will change how the industry obtains high value GIS data.

Location: TBD

Session 3

Topic: Planning the Urban Forest: Ecology, Economy and Community Development – Reword this Speaker(s): Cheryl Kollin, American Forests; Jim Schwab, American Planning Association; Phillip Rodbell, USFS, Moderator

Summary: The focus of this session is on a forthcoming report from the American Planning Association, based on a project that partnered APA with American Forests, the International Society of Arboriculture, and the USDA Forest Service. Moderator Phillip Rodbell will introduce the role of the Forest Service in supporting and fostering planning for urban forestry through this research project and explain why the role of urban planning is so vital to the future of the urban forest. Jim Schwab, APA's project manager for the

report, will provide an overview of the project's aims and describe how planning makes a difference in advancing the urban forest as a solution to a variety of community and regional environmental, social, economic, and development challenges. He will also delineate the essential principles the partners identified for this field of practice and the process of selecting 13 case studies that highlight the best practices around the nation. Cheryl Kollin contributed three case studies--from North Carolina, Florida, and Texas. In addition, she prepared parts of two other chapters discussing the benefits of the urban forest and a framework for understanding the issues involved. She will summarize the findings of those case studies, as well as some of the major issues facing both planners and foresters. - Shorten this. Location: TBD

Session 4

Topic: USFS Redesign

Speaker(s): Jim Hubbard, USFS

Summary: TBD – Gary

Location: TBD

5:00 - 7:00

Evening Reception Location: TBD

Program Day 2 of 2: Friday, May 30, 2008

7:30 - 5:00

Registration and Information Open

7:30 - 8:15

Continental Breakfast

8:30 - 10:00

Concurrent Sessions

Session 1

Moderators: Ed Macie & Phillip Rodbell, USFS

Topic: Landscape Scale Projects

Speaker(s): Jenny Gulick, Davey Resource Group

Summary: TBD

Topic: A Model for Large Scale Watershed Restoration and Stewardship

Speaker: Heather Montgomery, Potomac Partners

Summary: The Potomac Watershed Partnership (PWP) is a collaborative effort among federal, state, and local partners to restore the health of the land and waters of the Potomac River Basin, thereby enhancing the quality of life and overall health of the Chesapeake Bay.

Heather Montgomery, PWP Coordinator, will provide background to the success of this partnership while focusing on PWP's signature project Growing Native and its role in engaging partners, students, and community volunteers in supporting riparian buffer establishment and school tree canopy increase.

Topic: Albuquerque Openspace / Rio Grande River Riparian Forest Restoration Project

Speaker: Matt Schmader (invited)

Location: TBD

Session 2

Topic: Human Network Moderators: TBD

Speaker(s): Dominique Lueckenhoff, Robb Jolly, EPA Green Highways Program

Summary: TBD - Gary to Contact Robb

Location: TBD

Session 3

Topic: Measuring and Monitoring Green Infrastructure, City of Bellevue

Speaker(s): Andrew Brenner, Sanborn; Kevin LeClair, Bellevue (tentative, Kate coordinating)
Summary: (Brenner) This presentation would cover how to use existing and new resources to create information on green infrastructure. How this information can be combined with other datasets to refine the CITYgreen analysis and how to keep these datasets up to date.

Location: TBD

Session 4

Session Title: Florida's Waterways Session 1 - Defining the Landscape Context for the Northern

Everglades Region

Moderator: Keith Fisher, The Nature Conservancy, Florida Chapter

Topic: Historic vs. Current conditions in the northern Everglades, where we are and where do we need to

be.

Speaker: Paul Gray, Ph. D., Okeechobee Science Coordinator, Audubon of Florida (invited)

Topic: Integrating restoration needs in the northern Everglades with the MyRegion Vision Speakers: Walt Thomson, Central Region Conservation Director, The Nature Conservancy; Jenny Conner, Senior Policy Advisor, The Nature Conservancy; Tom Teets, South Florida Water Management District (invited)

Topic: Greater Ridge Conservation Planning Tool - A tool for evaluating landscape context for growth

planning decisions

Speaker: Tricia Martin, Lake Wales Ridge Program Director, The Nature Conservancy

Location: TBD

10:00 - 10:30

Break

10:30 – 12:00

Concurrent Session

Session 1

Moderators: Ed Macie & Phillip Rodbell, USFS

Topic: Landscape Scale Projects Speaker(s): Jim Fox, UNC;

Summary: TBD

Topic: Landscape Conservation in the Northeast Mega-Region

Speaker: Rob Pirani, Regional Plan Association NY

Summary: Landscape conservation in the Northeast Megaregion can help sustain drinking water and other natural resources as the region adds 19 million people by 2050. Regional approaches developed for the Long Island Pine Barrens, New Jersey Highlands, and Long Island Sound can make a vital contribution to meeting the \$277 billion that EPA estimates is needed to repair and improve our water infrastructure.

Location: TBD

Session 2

Topic: Federal Update: Opportunities and Challenges for Urban National Resources in the Federal

Agenda

Speaker: Alice Ewen Walker, Alliance for Community Trees; Gerry Grey, AF

Summary: The urban and community forestry program has been an important source

of support and innovation for urban natural resources management.

Learn about the Sustainable Urban Forest Coalition's advocacy action this year, and contribute to roundtable discussion about how urban natural resources can be promoted in the national agenda.

Location: TBD

Session 3

Topic: Sustainable Tree Ordinances

All information is subject to change. Conference Program Detail Version 1.5

Not for Distribution – Internal Use Only

Speaker: Buck Abbey, LSU

Summary: Authorities on municipal tree laws and other green laws discusses the changing nature of urban tree regulations and how they must be revised to embrace the truly unique natural concept of sustainability. The theoretical concept of urban sustainability is driving the design of modern buildings, cities and landscapes and the tree ordinance and the landscape code are two principal tools that are helping society understand that the urban forest canopy is one of the most important aspects of urban sustainability. People in the tree industry have known that for years, now is the time for our tree ordinances to reflect this knowledge.

Topic: An assessment of Canopy and Impervious surface changes for Metropolitan Areas across the SE US: results of a prototype for a national database system.

Speaker: Liz Kramer, Natural Resource Spatial Analysis Laboratory (NARSAL), University of Georgia Summary: Measurements of tree canopy, impervious surface, for circa 1991 and 2001 have been derived for 11 Metropolitan Statistical Areas (MSA's) in the Southeastern US. 11 MA's will be reported Atlanta, GA Birmingham AL, Charlotte NC, Charleston SC, Raleigh-Durham NC, Jackson MS, Jacksonville FL, Lexington KY, Nashville TN, Washington, DC/Northern VA and Greenville, SC. In addition we will discuss how these changes impact a number of environmental metrics such as water quality, air quality, and carbon sequestration.

Location: TBD

Session 4

Session Title: Florida's Waterways Session 2 - Defining the Process, How to Move From Planning to

Implementation

Moderator: Keith Fisher, The Nature Conservancy, Florida Chapter

Topic: The Disney Wilderness Preserve Story and Targeted Mitigation

Speaker: Keith Fisher, Disney Wilderness Preserve Program Director, The Nature Conservancy

Topic: The Wekiva Basin Task Force - Lesson Learned and Application to the northern Everglades

Issues

Speaker: Keith Schue, Central Florida Conservations Project Coordinator, The Nature Conservancy

Topic: Panel Discussion - Tying It All Together. How do we get where we need to be.

Speakers: Charles Lee; Director of Advocacy; Audubon of Florida (invited)

Representative, South Florida Water Management District (invited)

Representative, US Army Corp of Engineers, Jacksonville District (tentative)

Representative, Everglades Coalition (tentative)

Location: TBD

12:00 - 12:15

Break

Location: TBD

12:15 - 3:00

Closing Lunch with Presentations

Location: TBD

Topic: Video Preview

Louisiana Public Broadcasting - Kate working with Tika

Topic: The Southern Piedmont Crescent: Evolution of an Urban Region

All information is subject to change. Conference Program Detail Version 1.5

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Speaker: David Goldfield, Historian, UNC Charlotte

Summary: The Southern Piedmont Crescent, extending from southern Virginia to the foothills of the Appalachians near Birmingham, Alabama, emerged as the economic engine of the South during the years following the Civil War, as well as the focal point for social change. The acceleration of development since WWII created an interdependent urban region with connections to a national and global networks.

Closing General Session

Topic: A National Systems Framework for the Environment

Speaker: Michael Gallis, MGA

Summary: TBD - Gary

1.30 - 1.45

Break

1:45 - 3:00

3:00 - 3:30

Open

3:30 - 5:00

Small Group Presentations or Meetings

Topic: CITYgreen Presentation

Presenters: Eric Ray and Mike Lehman

Summary: TBD Location: TBD

Topic: Margo's Meeting Presenter: Margo Dawley

Summary: TBD Location: TBD

Topic: TBD

Presenter: Gerry Gray

Summary: TBD Location: TBD

Topic: OPEN Presenter: Summary: Location:

Possible Remaining Pieces

Rick Roti, Mecklenberg County, Catawba River, Mountain Island Lake

Climate Communities

Southern Growth Policies Board - http://www.southern.org

Green Infrastructure Center

Robin Chase, CEO of Zipcar

Program Committee

Michael Gallis Michael Gallis and Assoc

Gary Moll American Forests

Michael Flaxman MIT

Dominique Luekenhoff EPA Green Highways Ed Macie USDA Forest Service

Robb Jolly ReVision