



THE CROSSCUT

Maryland Forests Association, Inc.

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MFA website <http://mdforests.org>

news alerts and updates at <http://mdforests.blogspot.com/>

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Karin E. Miller, Editor

Inside this Edition

Page 2

- Nominations sought for 2010 MFA Logger of the Year

Page 3

- MFA's 34th Annual Conference Update

Page 4

- ACM graduates 11 new Forest Techs
- Sustainable Energy Expo report
- Online—Forest Stewardship resources

Page 5

- Buy It where You Burn It ~ EAB update

Page 6

- Sustainable Forestry Council seated
- Foster new forestry rep to MD AG Commission
- Forestry Webinar Portal

Page 7

- AgTEC Update
- From MFA ExD

Page 8

- Dates to Remember
- Hunting Insurance Program notice

Words to Ponder.....

"The one principle that surrounds everything else is that of stewardship; that we are the managers of everything that God has given us."
Larry Burkett
(1939-2003)

From the President's Pen

Bob Eaton



Why are you a member of the MFA? It's a simple enough question. So, why are you a member of the MFA? You have a reason, hopefully several, for joining with other advocates of sound forest conservation, but have you given thought to how you would answer, if asked?

Most sales training programs will include "the elevator speech" – preparation for a quick delivery of why your product or service is worth buying - concise enough to deliver convincingly between floors on an elevator. A good presentation represents your personal reason for joining and the value you receive for your membership. Of course, that will be different for everyone, especially in an organization as diverse as the MFA. All of this is leading up encouraging you to invite your friends, neighbors, and associates to join MFA. We have asked some MFA members for their "elevator speeches" for examples that you may use when speaking to others about membership. These are simply ideas to get your own thoughts going:

A landowner and forest product producer said "... MFA provides me with an invaluable network of other professionals and likeminded part-timers. The information and feedback that I get from them would be difficult to obtain anywhere else."

Wow. Ten seconds to say that MFA is a great networking group and source of useful, user-tested information.

A forester who has to keep abreast of the political environment as it affects his business said "... MFA is the only organization in Maryland tracking the legislative and policy issues which affect my business. ... by identifying the issues, I can take the necessary actions." A landowner had a similar sentiment when he said "As an individual landowner I cannot afford to hire a lobbyist to represent me in Annapolis, but for \$50/yr I can have an entire team at MFA monitor legislation and call to my attention items that might affect me, my family, or my land."

MFA gives you a 'heads up' of proposals that might affect you.

A professional ecologist shared "I am ... interested in conservation of forests primarily for habitat and ecosystem benefits. I joined MFA because I wanted to understand the perspective of folks who share my commitment to forest conservation -- but for different reasons. MFA pulls together a diverse membership of forest landowners, forest industry, and forestry professionals, so it is a great one-stop shop for engaging with the forestry community."

This person recognizes that you can't understand a subject until you understand other people's perspective on the subject.

A self-described "neophyte private forest landowner" told us that MFA helps him "... be informed and to get involved in Maryland forestry.... I find specific benefit in learning ... new forest management alternatives ... tax issues that every forest landowner faces, and issues that look to the future of forestry in Maryland...."

One more and this is really short and sweet:

"MFA is the only organization that promotes long term health and productivity of Maryland's forests."

So I will ask you again – why are you a member of MFA? Once you have thought through your own "elevator speech" please practice it on everyone you know who will likewise benefit from joining us. By the way, membership applications are available at MFA's website, <http://mdforests.org> or call the MFA office.

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2010 MFA Officers

Officer	Phone
Bob Eaton, President	301-705-5843
John Jastrzembki 1st VP	301-784-5309
Dick Stanfield, Treasurer	410-922-5959
John Foster, Past President	302-378-9893

Board of Governors

Central Region

Chris Holmgren	Montgomery	Secondary FPI	2012
Mel Noland	Baltimore	Forest Landowner	2011
Tim Smith	Harford	Forest Industry	2011
Dick Stanfield	Baltimore	Forest Industry	2010

Eastern Region

Robert Hess	Somerset	Forest Landowner	2012
Kirk Rodgers	Dorchester	Forest Landowner	2011
Bob Tjaden	Queen Anne's	Forester - U of MD	2010
Tom Wieland	Wicomico	Forest Industry	2012

Southern Region

Joan Hill Bearden	Charles	Forest Landowner	2011
John Colton	St. Mary's	Forest Landowner	2012
Bob Eaton	Charles	Forest Landowner	2011
Chris Holmes	Anne Arundel	Retired USFS	2010
Brian Knox	Anne Arundel	Consultant Forester	2010
Gene McCandless	Charles	Business Community	2011
Steve McHenry	Anne Arundel	MARBIDCO	2012

Western Region

John Jastrzembki	Allegany	ACM Forestry	2011
Donnelle Keech	Allegany	Ecologist —TNC	2010
Pete Miller	Garrett	Forest Industry	2012
Bob Shives	Washington	Forest Landowner	2010

Staff: *Karin E. Miller, Executive Director*

Founded in 1976, MFA is a nonprofit [501(c)(3)] citizens' organization of forest landowners, foresters, loggers, wood-using industries and resource-based interests.

The mission of Maryland Forests Association is to conserve and enhance forests in Maryland by:

- increasing awareness of the diverse, public benefits of forests;
- supporting the sustainable use of forest resources;
- promoting economic opportunity for forest landowners; and
- maintaining a viable local forest products industry.

Membership benefits include subscriptions to *The Crosscut*, *Legislative Updates*, *MFA E-news*, and for qualified members, participation in the *Safety Group Insurance*, *Timberland Liability* and *Hunting Lease Liability Insurance* programs. For more information on membership call or write us.

Looking for MFA's Next Logger of the Year nominations needed by July 1, 2010

Eligibility:

Since it began in 1987, the award program seeks to recognize excellence in forestry and is open to all independent wood fiber harvesting or logging contractors. Preference will be given to those actively participating in the MD/DE Master Logger Program.

Judging:

The nominations will be judge by members of the MD/DE Master Logger Steering Committee on behalf of the MFA Board of Governors. Finalists judged by on-the-ground inspection visit by a 2 or 3 member team appointed by the Board.

Prizes:

Laser engraved wooden plaque, complimentary registration and guest package for finalist (and spouse) at the MFA Annual Conference in November. The recipient will be nominated to the Forest Resources Association's (FRA's) Outstanding Logger Award Program.

Who can submit a nomination?

Anyone! Forest Landowners, foresters, forest products companies and fellow loggers are all encouraged to submit a letter of nomination for any logger they feel exemplifies the best in logging contractors. You do not need to be an MFA member to nominate someone for this award.

Deadline:

Nomination must be received by the MFA Office in Grantsville by July 1, 2009.

MFA Logger of the Year ~ Past Recipients

- 2009 - Furman Forest Services, LLC, Frostburg, MD
- 2008 - Norm Nicol, Tree Family Logging, LLC, Frostburg, MD
- 2007 - R&S Logging, Millington, MD
- 2006 - Sines Logging, Friendsville, MD
- 2005 - Cessna Brothers Logging, Clearville, PA **
- 2004 - Curtis E. Clark & Sons Logging, Everett, PA
- 2003 - Paul Egolf, Low Country Timber Company, Stockton, MD
- 2002 - Beckman Lumber, Mt. Lake Park, MD
- 2001 - Steve Brown, Longridge, LLC, Fruitland, MD
- 2000 - Clyde "Stevie" Stevenson, Ota Stevenson, Inc., Salisbury, MD**
- 1999 - Calvin Dolan, Jr., Dolan Logging, Oldtown, MD
- 1998 - Phil MacDonald, Timber Harvest, Inc., Cordova, MD
- 1997 - David Earl Opel, Double D Logging, Frostburg, MD
- 1996 - Payne's Logging, Inc., Delmar, MD
- 1995 - Arthur Egolf, Egolf Forest Harvesting, Delmar, DE
- 1994 - Jim Lynch, L&W Harvesting, Inc., Mardella Springs, MD
- 1993 - Fred Glasglow, Glasglow Logging, Salisbury, MD
- 1992 - Richard R. Brown, Salisbury, MD
- 1991 - Greg VanMeter, VanMeter pulpwood Company, Bushwood, MD
- 1990 - Eddie Moore, Willards, MD
- 1989 - D&J Timber, Swanton, MD
- 1988 - C.W. Matthews & Sons, Laurel, DE
- 1987 - Wallace Johnson, Mechanicsville, MD**

** These loggers received FRA's Regional Outstanding Logger Award
 Wallace Johnson for the Appalachian Technical Division in 1988
 "Stevie" Stevenson for the Southeastern Technical Division in 2001
 Cessna Brothers Logging for the Appalachian Technical Division in 2006.

MFA'S 34TH ANNUAL CONFERENCE ~ NOV 5TH & 6TH

Gaylord National Conference Center in National Harbor, MD

"Maryland's Working Woodlands"

From backyards to State Forests, managing your woodland makes a difference

The 34th Annual Conference of the Maryland Forests Association will be held Friday and Saturday, November 5 and 6, 2010 at the Gaylord National Conference Center in the spectacular National Harbor just outside Washington, DC. MFA's Annual Conference is the place for forest landowners, natural resource professionals, and forestry advocates to gather for **networking, learning, and fellowship**. This year's conference will once again include outstanding educational sessions, an exciting field trip to nearby Myrtle Gove Wildlife Management Area, and a unique and inspiring Keynote presentation on the Living Memorials of 9/11.

The 2010 Keynote address, **Healing Landscapes: The Living Memorials of 9/11**, will be presented by Erika Svendsen of the US Forest Service Northern Research Station and the New York City Urban Field Station. On September 11, 2001 the world's attention was riveted on the scenes of destruction and death that occurred in Washington, DC, New York, and rural Pennsylvania. In the aftermath were countless individuals, families, and communities struggling to survive terrible loss and make sense of what they had experienced. With the 10th anniversary of 9/11 just a year away, MFA Keynote speaker Erika Svendsen will share the extraordinary stories behind a few of the thousands of "Living Memorials" that were created to commemorate the tragic events of 9/11.

The educational sessions at the 2010 Annual Conference will **focus on Maryland's working woodlands**. Managing even a few acres of woodland is good for people, wildlife and waterways from the mountains of Western Maryland to the Chesapeake Bay. Participants will learn about the benefits managed woodlands provide, how to keep your woodland healthy and productive, and what programs are available to help landowners.

In addition, state and national leaders in forest and natural resource management will present updates on issues of concern and take questions from the audience. Panelists include Maryland State Forester Steve Koehn, Maryland State Conservationist Jon Hall, and Michael T. Goergen Jr. of the Society of American Foresters.

For participants who would like to get out in the woods, a guided field trip to Myrtle Gove Wildlife Management Area in nearby Charles County is offered. Located in the forested bottomlands of Mattawoman Creek, Myrtle Gove WMA was once home to the Piscataway Indians. The 1,723-acre tract contains hardwood forests, wildlife plantings, natural and man-made wetlands, and early succession habitats that provide critical habitat for all types of wildlife from the ever-popular white-tailed deer and the majestic barred owl, to fish, turtles, upland game, forest game, waterfowl and migratory birds. Transportation from the Gaylord National Conference Center is provided.

Networking is always a big part of the MFA Annual Conference experience, as landowners and forestry professionals mingle to meet old friends, make new acquaintances, and share information and ideas. As always, the 2010 program will include plenty of time for networking, plus a variety of exhibits to provide additional inspiration and education. Exhibitors in past years have included The American Chestnut Foundation, the Harry R. Hughes Center for Agro-Ecology, and The Nature Conservancy. A social hour and awards banquet kicks off the meeting, and everyone is invited to bid early and often on the always-excellent items presented for silent auction throughout the conference.

The Gaylord National Resort and Convention Center at National Harbor will provide a spectacular setting for the 2010 Annual Conference. **National Harbor offers a wonderful array of shopping, dining and entertainment alternatives; add to that the many options in nearby Washington DC, and there is truly something for everyone.** Spouses and families are welcomed and spouse tickets for the Friday evening Banquet can be purchased with Conference registration.

MFA warmly welcomes woodland owners, forestry professionals, and anyone interested in the future of Maryland's forests and woodlands to join us for our 2010 Annual Conference. Registration materials will be mailed to members later this month and will be online at <http://mdforests.org/AM2010.html>

MFA GROUP RATE ACCOMODATIONS AT THE GAYLORD NATIONAL

Single/Double Occupancy \$149 / night plus tax (Includes resort service fee)

Group rate available 3 days prior to and following the conference

Room reservation deadline is OCTOBER 6th

Help MFA meet its contract obligation and make the most of your meeting experience by booking early.

Call the Gaylord directly at 301-965-2000

Plan to bring the family....

National Harbor has something for EVERYONE!

<http://www.gaylordhotels.com/gaylord-national/>



Allegany College Graduates 11 Forest Technicians

Allegany College of Maryland graduated 11 forest technicians this spring and summer. All graduates have accepted full time positions with national firms or are continuing their education at another institution. Pictured in this photograph of the Forest Management Class of 2010 are :



Kneeling: Carson Wright, Ian Lupy, Shawn Jeffries, Nathan Miller, Scott Cesna. Standing: Jeremy Diehl, Alec Fisher, David Posey, Prof. Steve Resh (Faculty), Zach Braithwait, Brandon Hosselrode, Prof. John Jastrzembki (Faculty) Brian Young, Dr. Jim Howell (Faculty), Shawn Nolan.

Carson Wright is also the MFA Tommy Tyler Memorial Scholarship recipient and will be attending WVU in the fall as a Forest Management student.

Congratulations to ALL on a job well done!

Sustainable Energy Expo at Maier Tree Farm

May 22 was a rainy spring Saturday in Allegany County. But the weather did not keep the public from visiting the Tree Farm of Henry and Nancy Maier in Allegany County. The event focused on Sustainable Energy and Resource Integration for homeowners, tree farmers and agricultural farmers. The event, supported in part by the Maryland Forests Association, was a phenomenal success. Over 250 people, including many Maryland Forests Association Members participated in the educational presentations and had the opportunity to review the environmental sustainability projects, analyze the benefits and costs of the projects, and explore the feasibility of making similar projects work on their land.

Participants included Stiebel Eltron Solar , Bergy Windpower, USDA Rural Development, Alternate Heating Systems, Mahoney Wood Burners, and many other industries. The Maiers are doing their part to make the tree farm energy sustainable. In the past few years they have installed indoors and outdoors wood boilers, a windmill, a geothermal system, solar water system and an electric-free water pumping system utilizing water from the roofs of their barns, outbuildings, and house. **Additionally, they have created a 'ice room' in their basement that works like an old fashion ice block house to keep food in cold storage year round utilizing ice from their nearby pond.**

Thanks to Donnell Keech and John Jastrzembki for staffing the MFA table. It was great to see so many MFA members at the event!

Forest Stewardship Landowner Questionnaire Assists in Planning Efforts

Being a good steward of the land is important for the future of our natural resources in Maryland. The Forest Stewardship Program will provide assistance to you that will assist you to incorporate this land ethic into the management of your property. The primary component of this program is a Forest Stewardship Plan.

Completing the online Forest Stewardship Landowner Questionnaire is a good first step in moving toward successfully managing your forest toward your established goals. It is designed to assist you in thinking through your interests and the level of direct involvement you are able to provide to the stewardship of your forest land.

There is no fee for completing this online questionnaire. If you submit this completed form, it will be forwarded to our local forester and you will be contacted in how to proceed with the next step. Use the link below to go to the online Forest Stewardship Landowner Questionnaire.

<http://dnrweb.dnr.state.md.us/forests/landowner/landowner.asp>



"Buy It Where You Burn It" *Firewood , that is!*

The introduction and movement of invasive and exotic forest pests is often accelerated and assisted by human activities. Firewood has great potential to introduce highly destructive forest pests into new uninfested susceptible locations. In Maryland, it is illegal to move hardwood firewood out of Prince George's or Charles Counties because those areas are under quarantine for a devastating insect pest, the emerald ash borer. In many places, however, firewood is a pathway that is outside of normal regulatory restrictions and is moved largely by private individuals with little or no knowledge about quarantine or regulatory requirements.

All types of firewood can transport invasive plant pests and diseases. Because of the emerald ash borer, more than 20 million ash trees have died in the Midwest. Long before this beetle was identified as the culprit responsible for killing ash trees in Detroit, Michigan and Windsor, Ontario, Canada, it was carried to uninfested areas on firewood and other ash wood products. Gypsy moths have caused millions of dollars of damage to forests in the eastern U.S. Gypsy moth eggs can be transported on firewood. Oak wilt is one of the most serious tree diseases in the eastern United States, killing thousands of oaks each year in forests, woodlots, and home landscapes. Oak wilt can be spread by insects that transport the fungal spores from infested firewood to healthy trees. Dutch elm disease has devastated our elm populations, and continues to kill more elms every year. It also can be spread by insects carrying fungal spores from infested firewood to healthy trees. The Sirex wood wasp, native to Europe, Asia, and northern Africa, feeds primarily on pines and has been documented as causing up to 80% tree mortality in Southern hemisphere countries where it has been introduced. Sirex larvae can tunnel in logs for over a year, long enough for the infested wood to be cut for firewood. The Asian longhorned beetle, a threat to many hardwood trees including maples, birch, elm and ash, has been detected and quarantined in Illinois, New York, New Jersey, Massachusetts, and Ontario, Canada, where eradication efforts are underway. Firewood that looks normal actually might still be infested with these and other forest pests and diseases.

State and federal agencies have implemented regulations to address a number of known pest pathways in areas where they are known to occur. For example, emerald ash borer quarantines in infested states (Michigan, Illinois, Indiana, Maryland, Missouri, Ohio, Ontario, Pennsylvania, Virginia, West Virginia, and Wisconsin) help to prevent potentially infested ash products from moving out of emerald ash borer-infested areas. But a wide variety of invasive, exotic forest pests and diseases may be transported to new areas on many different species of firewood. Uninfested states that may be impacted by these introductions have limited ability or authority to inform or interact with interstate travelers and tourists. Many states have established quarantines or policies to prevent invasive plant pest introductions on firewood. Kentucky state parks do not allow out-of-state firewood to be brought into campgrounds. Minnesota requires that all firewood sold or distributed across state boundaries or more than 100 miles from

its origin be labeled with point of harvest. New York State has an aggressive emergency regulation restricting the importation and movement of firewood.

Pennsylvania has banned the importation of out-of-state firewood unless it is kiln-dried or USDA certified. In Maryland, the Department of Natural Resources has a policy designed to prevent campers and other visitors from bringing outside firewood onto all DNR owned or managed properties.

You can help prevent the spread of invasive forest pests on firewood! Although regulations are necessary and helpful, the most effective tools are outreach and education. Coordinated activities conducted by the USDA, individual states, environmental groups, extension educators, industry organizations, and many others help to spread the word. But the efforts of individuals through everyday means from casual conversation to the Blogosphere are the best way to reach the most people. Help protect our natural resources by following this simple firewood recommendation and encouraging others to do the same: Buy firewood when you reach your destination, or check with your firewood supplier to make sure your delivered firewood is local, and burn it all on site. **"Buy it Where You Burn It."** In many places it's the law. Everywhere else, it's the right thing to do.

3 THINGS YOU CAN DO TODAY

To Protect Trees, Forest & Your Community:

1. **Don't move firewood; buy it where you'll burn it.**
2. Ask your firewood dealer to carry local firewood only.
3. Tell a friend about this website & **the Don't Move Firewood™** message.

Learn more at
<http://dontmovefirewood.org/>



Firewood



EAB galleries under bark.



Sustainable Forestry Council first session held June 3

*Industry and landowners represented by
MFA members Roberts and Rodgers*



Purpose

The purpose of the Council is to advise the Department on all matters related to:

- (i) Sustainable forestry management in the State;
- (ii) The expenditure of funds from the Woodland Incentives

Fund under § 5-307 of this title;

(iii) Existing regulatory and statutory policies that are perceived as economic barriers to a viable forest products industry;

(iv) New markets to enhance forest health, including renewable energy development through biomass energy, to offset fossil fuel consumption and reduce greenhouse gas emissions;

(v) Creative strategies to help privately owned forest lands better compete with real estate market values that are driving forest conversion and fragmentation;

(vi) The means to promote forest-based economies and processing capability that contribute to economic and employment growth; and

(vii) Assigning a nutrient efficiency benefit to forest stewardship plans and other forest conservation management plans that can be measurably tracked and reported by the number of forested acres covered by the plans.

Membership -

The Sustainable Forestry Council shall have 9 members. Members of the Council shall be appointed by the Governor, with the advice of the Secretary, to serve at the pleasure of the Governor. Current membership has been seated and is set to meet for the first time on June 3, 2010:

- Gary G. Allen;
- Kim I. Finch;
- Alberto Goetzl;
- Connie Hoge;
- Donald C. Outen;
- Gregory D. Purnell, Sr.;
- Kenneth Roberts;
- Kirk P. Rodgers;
- Eric Sprague.

DNR CONTACT: Steve Koehn ~ Forest Service/ 410-260-8501
<http://www.dnr.state.md.us/boardsandcommissions/fac.asp>

Forest products Industry is represented on the Council by Ken Roberts who is an MFA member and forester with NewPage Corporation's Luke Mill. ~~Forest Landowners are represented by~~ Kirk Rodgers who is a Board member and past president of MFA.

Created as a result of The Sustainable Forestry Act of 2009 (SB 549), composition of the Council is not specified by statute (NR Art 5-204) or code beyond stating that there will be 9 members .

Maryland Agricultural Commission

*MFA past president John Foster to
begin term as Forestry representative as
Mimi Wright completes term*



The Maryland Agricultural Commission is presently made up of 29 members who represent commodities and organizations across the state and ~~serves as an advisory body to Maryland's Secretary of~~ Agriculture. As a group, the members address legislative and policy issues that affect Maryland agribusiness. John Foster will be assuming the ~~Forestry seat~~ previously held by Mimi Wright.

Statutory Authority: '2-201-205 of the Maryland Annotated Code.

Entity's Vision and Mission: Formulate and make proposals for the advancement of Maryland agriculture by serving as an advisory body to the Secretary on matters pertaining to agriculture.

Primary Function: The Maryland Agriculture Commission is appointed by the Governor of Maryland and serves as an advisory body to the secretary and deputy secretary of agriculture. The commission consists of 24 members representing various commodities across Maryland, and includes both a consumer and a University of Maryland (ex officio) representative.

The commission currently pursues the following priorities and activities

- Following up on policy considerations contained in a study of the economic status of Maryland agriculture and prospects for the 21st Century. The study was commissioned by MDA and the University of Maryland.
- Ensuring that the departmental/agricultural community receives an appropriate share of the state budget for research grants and projects.
- Encouraging that the agricultural community be more proactive on issues affecting agriculture and rural life.
- Evaluating farm/agriculture industry labor and regulations.
- Increasing public awareness of food safety.
- Supporting the department's efforts to promote agriculture.

http://www.mda.state.md.us/about_mda/boards_comms/md_ag_commission.php

Forestry Natural Resources Webinar Portal @

<http://forestrywebinar.net/>

The Southern Forestry & Natural Resources Webinar Portal is a service of and its partners, and other participating land-grant universities in the South. This portal will serve as a launching point for current and archived natural resource webinars. This site will also host information on upcoming webinars and webinars from other organizations that are relevant.

Be sure to check out this site for all your webinar needs.



Maine Trucker Demonstrates Safety Benefits of Truck Weight Increase



Rockville, MD – H.O. Bouchard Inc., a logging and trucking contractor based in Hampden, Maine, recently took to the road to demonstrate the safety and other advantages of allowing heavier trucks, properly equipped, on the Maine Interstate system. A pilot project Congress passed in December increases the gross vehicle weight limit from 80,000 pounds to 100,000 pounds on Maine's I-95 for a 12-month period, provided trucks are equipped with a sixth axle, to keep braking capacity and road-wear the same.

President and CEO Brian Bouchard loaded two trucks to 99,800 pounds and measured their performance on two routes between Hampden and Houlton, Maine, a distance of about 120 miles. One truck traveled on the section of I-95 that connects the two towns; the other used the best available non-Interstate route. Maine has allowed six-axle 100,000-pound trucks on state roads for over two decades. Bouchard noted that, over the 120-mile route, the truck traveling local roads passed 86 pedestrian crosswalks, 30 street lights, 9 school crossings, 4 hospitals, 4 railroad crossings, and 644 oncoming vehicles. The truck using the Interstate passed zero of each.

The truck on the local roads shifted gears 192 times and applied brakes 68 times. The truck using the Interstate shifted 3 times and applied brakes only once. It also completed the 120-mile trip in 2 hours and 5 minutes on I-95—in 50 minutes less time than the other truck. Apart from the 10-gallon reduction in fuel and corresponding reduction in emissions, says Bouchard, "the avoidance of risk and driver fatigue is huge."

He noted that the federal Department of Transportation and the Maine DOT will both provide measurements of the safety, road wear, and environmental impacts of the 12-month pilot program at the halfway point, in June. "I hope they are looking hard at the benefits of allowing the Interstate system to carry the loads it was designed to carry," he commented. "Weight reform is a winner for trucking efficiency but an even bigger winner for public safety. Maine manufacturing industries need this to be competitive in the global economy. Maine is surrounded by Canadian provinces with even higher weight allowances than Maine—not to mention that New Hampshire, Massachusetts, and Vermont have weight allowance on their Interstates. We sit in the middle of a donut and must be able to compete."

The Agricultural Transportation Efficiency Coalition supports the passage of Rep. Mike Michaud's Safe and Efficient Transportation Act (HR 1799), which would allow any state, at its option, to allow 97,000-pound six-axle trucks on Interstates within its borders, with payment of a special fee dedicated to bridge maintenance.

The Mission of the AgTEC is to improve the efficiency of transporting raw, unprocessed agricultural and forest commodities from farms and forests to processing facilities. For more information on AgTEC, visit www.ag-haul.org.

from MFA Executive Director Karin Miller

Many of you have not heard that our son Mike passed away on April 28th. Some of the details are below. Many of you have met Mike at one time or another over the past 15 years as he and his brother Dan came to various MFA events with me and Pete ~ from regional meetings and the Field Days up until the time Mike came as a ACM student to MFA's Conferences in '05 & '08.

I continue to thank you for your support, cards, calls, visits, prayers and patience as we adjust to our "new normal" of life without Mike. We have a long journey ahead of us. ~ Karin

Following a collapse at work and 11 day coma, on the morning of April 28th, Mike finished the race that he began on Sept. 16, 1986, as he entered the gates of heaven to be united with his Savior. He slipped away peacefully, never having regained consciousness, as Pete and I said our goodbyes, prayed, cried, listened and sang to our favorite songs from his Continental tours.



Mike Miller

Since being stabilized in the ER at St. Joseph's Hospital in Towson, Mike's heart and breathing had been strong and steady, no matter what else went wrong. But on April 27th his lungs became congested and could not process the O2 and CO2 properly leading to multiple organ failure. His blood pressure and O2 levels continued to fall slowly over the evening and early morning hours.

We had told Mike that we were watching the "heart line" on his monitor...it was his way to speak to us, and that as long as the heart beat was there we would continue to fight for him...but that if he was ready to go and the heart line stopped that we would know without a doubt that he had chosen heaven's gates. We believe that Mike HAS received a perfect healing...a new heavenly body that will NOT need a new liver, kidneys, lungs or even lower front teeth. He IS praising GOD in ways that we can only imagine and we hold to the promise that we WILL see Mike AGAIN.

Born in Altoona, PA, Michael Peter Miller was the son of Pete and Karin (Naslund) Miller. He was newly employed by Bartlett Tree Experts. Also at home are his 21 year old brother, Dan, and Sandy, a 12-year-old Golden Retriever. He was a member of the Springs Mennonite Church and a saxophone player in their Praise Team. Mike attended the Forestry Program at Allegany College, where he had been a student member of SAF and a member of the Woodsmen's Team. A 2004 NHS graduate, he was a member of the award-winning Northern Husky Marching Band. He was a saxophonist for the Continental Singers and Brass tour in 2004 and for the Encore Continental tour in 2009. Mike enjoyed AYSO soccer from 1991-2004 as a player and then later as a referee, was a member of Cub Scout Pack 49 and Boy Scout Troop 53.

Mike always had time to listen to everyone, loved and had faith in Jesus, his family and his friends. Expressions of sympathy may be directed to The Continental Singers and Brass (<http://continentals.com/>) or The American Red Cross (www.redcross.org/).

In reference to Mike's illness and hospitalization refer to <http://www.caringbridge.org/visit/mikepmiller>

on the web at <http://mdforests.org>



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Maryland Forests Association
P.O. Box 599
Grantsville, MD 21536-0599

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DATED MATERIAL
DATED MATERIAL
FIRST CLASS MAIL

MFA..."MD's Voice for Forest, Wildlife, and Natural Resources Management" since 1976.

Dates to Remember

for further information on any of these items, contact the MFA office unless otherwise noted. For updates and alerts between issues of THE CROSSCUT, sign up for MFA E-news by emailing a request to director@mdforests.org

JUNE

16 MFA Executive Committee Conference Call

JULY

- 1 ~~Deadline Nominations for MFA's 2010 Logger of the Year~~— see page 2
- 22 MD Cooperative Extension is hosting a webinar from 12-1pm on **Targeted Grazing** using goats. Presenters include Susan Schoenian University of MD small ruminant specialist and Brian Knox, Supervising Forester for Eco-Goats. Learn about alternative ways to control invasive and problem vegetation. Contact ndawson@umd.edu for details.

AUGUST

18 MFA Executive Committee Conference Call

SEPTEMBER

15 MFA Board of Governors Quarterly Meeting, Edrich Lumber

MFA SUMMER OFFICE HOURS FOR JUNE, JULY & AUGUST are Tuesday and Thursday afternoons as needed. Please leave a voice message at 301-895-5369 or email director@mdforests.org during off hours.

Important Notice to ALL Hunt Clubs and Landowner Members of MFA

We received word at the MFA office during May that some of you have been contacted through the mail by the Davis Garvin Agency with unsolicited renewal notices for your hunting liability insurance. Davis Garvin is not the sponsor for MFA's member-based insurance programs.

The official insurance program for
MFA's Hunting Lease Liability
Insurance and MFA's Timberland
Liability Insurance is through
OUTDOOR UNDERWRITERS.



Outdoor
UNDERWRITERS, INC.

Questions on coverage should be directed to
Julia Schofield at
Outdoor Underwriters at 866-961-4101.