

# EAB & Beyond: Finding Value in Urban Trees

*A conference to showcase opportunities for  
communities and industries in recycling  
urban forest residues*

May 23-24, 2007

Weber's Inn

3050 Jackson Road ♦ Ann Arbor, MI



THIS PROGRAM IS HOSTED BY:



FUNDED BY:



WOOD EDUCATION &  
RESOURCE CENTER

SUPPORTED BY:





# EAB & BEYOND: FINDING VALUE IN URBAN TREES

*A conference to showcase opportunities for communities and industries in recycling urban forest residues*

**May 23-24, 2007**

Weber's Inn ♦ 3050 Jackson Road ♦ Ann Arbor, MI

## WEDNESDAY, MAY 23, 2007 - MORNING GENERAL SESSION - ATRIUM ROOM

8:00 - 8:15      **Welcome**  
Morse Brown, SE Michigan RC&D Council Chairman, & Donna LaCourt, State Forester for the Michigan DNR

8:15 - 9:00      **Urban Wood Utilization, a National Perspective** - Steve Bratkovich, USDA Forest Service

As the author of "*Utilizing Municipal Trees: Ideas from Across the Country*," Steve Bratkovich will share his experiences and "lessons learned" regarding urban wood utilization. Bratkovich has completed over thirty years of state and federal service as a forester/forest products specialist, working for the last 15 years with State and Private Forestry in St. Paul, MN. He has worked with communities, non-profits, and companies from around the U.S. on urban wood utilization.

9:15 - 10:15    **Opportunities for Industry - Panel Discussion/Q&A**

Ted Barrett, manager of wood waste recovery for Mid-Michigan Recycling, will explain the role that Genesee Power Station has played in creating a market for Southeast Michigan's wood residues.

Todd Burtscher, owner of Pallet and Container Corp. of America, will discuss his operation's efforts to provide portable sawmill services to communities in Ohio and Michigan and to use urban wood in pallet manufacturing.

Judd Hart, owner of J.H. Hart Urban Forestry, will describe the role that a large full service urban forestry company can play in utilizing urban wood. Hart's Wood Recycling Division produces a variety of custom mulch products.

Dan LaMont, owner of LaMont Brothers Tree Service, will discuss his company's urban wood recovery facility and sawmill operation, where they produce lumber, railroad ties, firewood, mulch, compost, and fuel.

10:15 - 10:45    **Break with Exhibitors**

10:45 - 11:45    **Opportunities for Communities - Panel Discussion/Q&A**

Brian Colter, City Forester for the City of Grosse Pointe Park, will describe his community's efforts to reuse removed trees within their city. Grosse Pointe Park has used removed ash trees to create flooring and furniture for city buildings and extensively uses their wood residues as mulch for local landscaping.

John Giarmo, City Forester for the City of Monroe, will outline his city's innovative wood use strategies. Monroe regularly mills city trees and uses the lumber for a wide variety of projects. They are also currently considering installing a wood-fueled boiler in one city building to recover more value in their wood waste.

Mike Hommel, Superintendent of the University of Michigan's Nichols Arboretum & Matthaei Botanical Gardens, will explain how ash trees removed from two popular educational and recreational areas will be reused within the properties.

Cory Lavigne, an architect with Van-Tine/Guthrie Studio, will discuss the plans to use reclaimed ash wood as flooring and other decorative features within the new Ann Arbor District Library facility.

11:45 - 1:15      **Lunch & Showcase of Artist Perspectives on Ash/Urban Wood**

John Pigeon, of the Pokagon Band of Potawatomi Indians, is a nationally recognized black ash basket maker. He will discuss the methods of working with black ash and discuss the importance of preserving basket making.

Dave Gendler, a woodworker from Ypsilanti, MI, was the organizer and featured artist in the recent "*It Grows on Trees*" exhibit. This exhibit presented the works of Michigan artists using only reclaimed or salvaged wood.



# EAB & BEYOND: FINDING VALUE IN URBAN TREES

*A conference to showcase opportunities for communities and industries in recycling urban forest residues*

## May 23-24, 2007

Weber's Inn ♦ 3050 Jackson Road ♦ Ann Arbor, MI

### WEDNESDAY, MAY 23, 2007 - AFTERNOON CONCURRENT SESSIONS

<i>Availability, Technology, &amp; Markets - Varsity Room</i>	<i>Developing Wood Use Programs - Atrium Room</i>
<p><b>1:30 - 2:15 Urban Wood Resource Inventory</b></p> <p>Dr. Sam Sherrill, author of <i>Harvesting Urban Timber</i> and a professor at the University of Cincinnati, will present results from his recent inventory of urban wood residues in Southeast Michigan.</p>	<p><b>Technical Issues - Industry</b></p> <p>Anthony Weatherspoon, Forest Products Specialist with the Michigan Department of Natural Resources, will discuss the opportunities, needs, markets, and barriers affecting industries utilizing urban wood residues.</p>
<p><b>2:15 - 3:00 Urban Wood Resource Inventory</b></p> <p>Dr. Dave MacFarlane, Assistant Professor of Forest Measurements and Modeling at Michigan State University, will present the results from his recent study of sawlog content in Southeast Michigan's urban forests.</p>	<p><b>Technical Issues - Communities</b></p> <p>Jessica Simons, Natural Resources Specialist with the Southeast Michigan RC&amp;D Council, will outline the basic elements of developing a community wood utilization plan and will highlight some successful examples in Michigan.</p>
<p><b>3:00 - 3:30 Break with Exhibitors</b></p>	<p><b>Break with Exhibitors</b></p>
<p><b>3:30 - 4:15 Advancements in Research</b></p> <p>Dr. Pascal Nzokou, Assistant Professor of Forestry at Michigan State University, will give an overview of his work on several ash and urban wood use research programs - studies of log treatments for EAB, investigations of ash wood weathering treatments, and analyses of wood disposal yards.</p>	<p><b>Regulatory Issues</b></p> <p>Elizabeth Pentico, Supervisory Officer for USDA APHIS, will discuss the Federal quarantine regulations related to EAB and wood utilization.</p> <p>Stan Kuchta, District Inspector for the Michigan Department of Agriculture, will describe Michigan's specific regulatory structure regarding EAB.</p>
<p><b>4:15 - 5:00 Green Markets</b></p> <p>Jason Bing, Program Coordinator for Recycle Ann Arbor, will provide information about the potential for using urban wood in green building projects, strategies for creatively marketing urban wood products, and recent efforts in Michigan to create a cooperative of small urban wood product manufacturers.</p>	<p><b>Woody Biomass Energy</b></p> <p>Larry Klope, Lead Engineer at Messersmith Manufacturing, Inc., will explain the specifics of institutional-sized wood boiler systems and will describe successful woody biomass energy projects across the country.</p>

THIS PROGRAM IS HOSTED BY:



FUNDING FOR THIS EVENT IS PROVIDED THROUGH A GENEROUS GRANT FROM:



WOOD EDUCATION & RESOURCE CENTER

ADDITIONAL TECHNICAL SUPPORT FOR THIS EVENT IS PROVIDED BY:





# EAB & BEYOND: FINDING VALUE IN URBAN TREES

*A conference to showcase opportunities for communities and industries in recycling urban forest residues*

**May 23-24, 2007**

**Weber's Inn ♦ 3050 Jackson Road ♦ Ann Arbor, MI**

## THURSDAY, MAY 24, 2007 - WOOD UTILIZATION TOUR

8:30 Bus departs from Weber's Inn  
(Meet at the lobby of the hotel entrance)

8:30 - 9:00 Travel

9:00 - 10:00 Tour of Recycle Ann Arbor's ReUse Center and Urban Wood Retail Site

In 1997, Recycle Ann Arbor expanded and opened the doors to the ReUse Center as an alternative to throwing away reusable household items. Used materials are donated, collected and sold at affordable prices, saving tons of useful items from landfills.

A collaboration of Recycle Ann Arbor, the Southeast Michigan RC&D Council, local sawmills, and green building professionals has allowed the ReUse Center to now serve as a bricks and mortar retail storefront for the Urbanwood product line. The site carries a nice selection of standard and furniture-grade lumber in a variety of species, specializing in small quantities of unique "character" products. Many more products will be available soon from the accompanying [urbanwood.org](http://urbanwood.org) website. This site will allow for larger volumes of orders to be placed directly from participating sawmills.

10:00 - 10:30 Travel

10:30 - 11:30 Field Skills Overview at Matthaei Botanical Gardens (*Rain or Shine!*)

- *Utilization-Focused Inventory Methods* - Dave MacFarlane, MSU - This session will include a basic introduction to evaluating trees for utilization, including inventory strategies and general log grading.
- *Tree Evaluation for Marketing* - Anthony Weatherspoon, MDNR - This session will discuss potential markets for typical urban tree species and will review strategies for removing, handling, and sorting material.

11:30 - 12:30 Lunch

12:30 - 1:30 Field Skills Overview at Matthaei Botanical Gardens (*continued*)

1:30 - 2:00 Travel

2:00 - 3:00 Tour of LaMont Brothers Tree Service Wood Disposal Yard

LaMont Brothers Tree Service began as a family-owned tree care company in Whitmore Lake, MI. When the EAB outbreak first occurred in Michigan, they worked with the state to open a wood disposal site. In addition to their own tree work, they now also collect the wood residues of other companies, communities, and homeowners. They sort and process incoming wood to create a wide range of valuable wood products at their yard - lumber, beams, railroad ties, specialty wood for woodworkers, mulch, compost, and fuel. Overall, they estimate that 30% of the wood that enters their yard is in log form, which has allowed them to mill about 2,000 board feet of products each day. LaMont Brothers have since secured another grant that has allowed them to install two dry kilns this year. By adding the mill and kilns to their operation, they hope to create up to ten new jobs for the area.

3:00 - 3:30 Return to Weber's Inn