

NA Urban & Community Forestry Centers of Excellence

Technology Transfer to the Northeastern Area

The Challenge

Urban and community forestry is no longer just basic street tree planting. It is an essential and highly valued component of numerous large-scale, long-term environmental and community sustainability projects. Urban and community forests improve environmental quality, enhance individual and community well-being, provide a range of services to communities and produce a healthier environment for the majority of the U.S. population. Our knowledge of the significance of urban and community forest is expanding rapidly as research continues to demonstrate the important role that these forests play in improving the quality of urban life.

The Solution

By sharing more effective information and state-of-the-art technologies, urban and community forestry technology transfer provides a mechanism for continuous improvement of our urban ecosystems. Urban and community forestry technology transfer is the development and dissemination of related research and technical information, products, outputs, concepts and guidelines to organizations and individuals that will be able to use the technology. The USDA Forest Service has established a network of three Centers of U&CF Excellence as the key technology transfer tool of the Northeastern Area State and Private Forestry urban forestry program. The Centers are located in Amherst, MA at the University of Massachusetts, at the St. Paul, MN Field Office and at Keystone College, LaPlume, PA.

- The Centers provide and coordinate technology transfer activities for the region.
- Goals of the Centers include the identification of common information needs, the effective exchange of information, and the facilitation and support of research at various levels.

The Urban & Community Forestry Centers of Excellence are the primary technology transfer tool of the Northeastern Area U&CF program.



Information on the Northeastern Area's U&CF Centers of Excellence can be found at <http://www.na.fs.fed.us/urban/>

- The establishment of partnerships between organizations, agencies and professional interests is a key component of the success of the U&CF Centers of Excellence.
- Encouraging the wise use of innovative, cutting-edge technology and information resource management is critical to the mission of the Centers.

Resulting Benefits

- Provides cost effective distribution of new tools and technology to the Northeast.
- Improves the timely delivery of innovation to the area's urban & community forestry partners.
- Reduces the duplication of staff, services and programming within the Northeastern Area.
- Provides a national model for technology transfer initiatives.

Sharing Success

- Distribution of educational tools including video, printed publications and electronic media to states, partners and industry.
- Web resources provide instant access to tools, products and information via Internet.
- Integrated with National U&CF Technology Transfer Team Initiative.



USDA Forest Service
Northeastern Area
State and Private Forestry

For more information, contact:

Kathryn P. Maloney, Area Director
11 Campus Blvd., Suite 200
Newtown Square, PA 19073
Phone: 610-557-4103
Email: kmaloney@fs.fed.us

David Bloniarz, Project Coordinator
University of Massachusetts
Amherst, MA 01003-4210
Phone: 413-545-3755
Email: dbloniarz@fs.fed.us