

2005 Northeastern Teachers' Tour Comments

Saranac Lake, New York

Forests provide a tremendous natural resource that, when used wisely, improves the quality of life not only for people, but for other living things. I didn't realize how much forestry could actually improve forests. I now realize that foresters plan for the future so this natural resource will continue to flourish and even expand. I feel I have broadened my horizons greatly from this tour. **GINA KARP**, 7th and 8th grade teacher from Howitt Middle School, Farmingdale, NY, Northeastern Teachers' Tour Graduate, Sponsored by Sirianni Hardwoods.

I now see the passion foresters have for conservation and sustainability. As a teacher and passionate learner, I plan to bring what I've learned into the classroom. I've already begun a list of classroom activities that will pass on my newfound knowledge to my students. I really enjoyed the program, and I can't believe in two days I was able to learn this much! **PIWAI DAKWA**, 6th-8th grade teacher from Edward F. Parthum, Lawrence, MA, Northeastern Teachers' Tour Graduate, Sponsored by Jackson Lumber and Millwork.

I was impressed with the emphasis for good management practices and the long term planning associated with harvesting wood. I will use this as part of our plant/tree units with ecology students. **DEBBIE GROVEMAN**, 7th and 8th grade teacher from Lebanon Junior High, Lebanon, NH, Northeastern Teachers' Tour Graduate, Sponsored by NH Retail Lumber Association.

I enjoyed getting the chance to increase my knowledge base, and it was great being treated as a teaching professional. I have new perceptions about the ecological balance in the forest, and I saw there really is an effort from the industry to develop stewardship partnerships. This tour gave us a great chance to witness the actual forest sites, rather than just learn about it through videos and lectures. **HAROLD TUTTLE**, 6th grade teacher from Rundlett Middle School, Concord, NH,

Northeastern Teachers' Tour Graduate, Sponsored by NH Retail Lumber Association.

I really enjoyed getting an inside look at many forest products careers, and it was great to see the responsibility of the forest products industry to ecology, the environment, sustainability, and conservation. I absolutely recommend this tour; this is the most beneficial program I have ever attended that ties industry to the classroom. I already use forestry practices in my classroom, but this will give me the opportunity to expand my lesson plans, incorporate vocabulary, and add careers! **JOHN RUDOLPH**, 7th grade life science teacher, Lincoln Park K-8 School, Duluth, MN, Northeastern Teachers' Tour Graduate, Sponsored by Owens Forest Products.

I enjoyed the diversity of visits and experiences on this tour, and I felt like a VIP. We were treated with respect, like professionals, and it was ensured we felt special. I gained new perceptions about what managing a forest is really all about, how the industry is adjusting to global competition, what the difference is between conservation and preservation, and I never realized before the magnitude of a paper mill. I want to learn more about forest management in my own state. Thanks! **SCOTT AHRENS**, 6th-8th grade teacher from Saint Paul, Eugene, OR, Northeastern Teachers' Tour Graduate, Sponsored by Random Lengths.

What I enjoyed most was everyone's willingness to share ideas and concepts. It was great to experience the hands-on activities, and to discuss the global impact of U.S. forestry. Prior to the experience, I didn't have an overly positive perspective of the forest industry. I now feel very positive and enlightened and encouraged. I've shifted from a preservation view to a conservation view, and for that I'm truly thankful. There are two sides to every story, thank you for the opportunity to learn about the other side. **RHONA SCHUBEL**, 6th, 9th-12th grade teacher from Rice Lake Area School District, Rice Lake, WI, Northeastern

Teachers' Tour Graduate, Sponsored by Northeastern Loggers Association.

I have new realizations about how forestlands are improving, not being degraded. This tour develops mutual respect for all involved, and the greatest benefit will be to our future generations. It was a great opportunity for educators who care about the environment and about the students they teach to interact with forest professionals who are equally passionate about environmental issues and future generations. **DOUG CHAPMEN, Jr. and Sr. High Science teacher from Odessa-Montour Central School, Odessa, NY, Northeastern Teachers' Tour Graduate, Sponsored by Cotton Hanlon, Inc.**

One of the new perceptions I gained from this tour is that you should use wood products, because they are not disappearing but actually increasing. I've gained new insights and information that I will bring to the classroom when discussing environmental issues. This experience has changed how I will approach my teaching. **JANE GRINSTEAD**, 3rd, 4th, 6th-8th grade teacher from Keswick Valley Memorial School, Keswick Valley, New Brunswick, Northeastern Teachers' Tour Graduate, Sponsored by North Pacific.

Every stop on the tour put together a beautiful picture of the people and places of New York State. I'm so proud to be a part of it! I enjoyed seeing how the process from forest to industry is interested in maintaining balance and sustainability, and learning how the forests are managed for the future by the expertise of foresters. **LOLITA ABRIGO**, 9th and 12th grade teacher from Washington Irving High School, New York, NY, Northeastern Teachers' Tour Graduate, Sponsored by Lumac Company.

We saw so many different facets of the forestry industry- economic, technological, ecological, etc. I was impressed with the thoughtful approach foresters take to sustain and conserve the 'balance of nature'. In the classroom, I will be able to clarify misinformation and misconceptions the

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students have about conservation and preservation. I will encourage my students to enter the profession. **MARIANNE O'LOAN**, 8th grade teacher from McKelvie Middle School, Bedford, NH, Northeastern Teachers' Tour Graduate, Sponsored by P.J. Currier Lumber Co., Inc.

I enjoyed the opportunity to see the process from land management to final product. The International Paper Mill was very impressive! I now see the difference between conservation and preservation, and will use this information in my classroom. I realize that students are a great place to begin changing public mindsets. **GARRETT PHELPS**, 7th-12th grade science teacher from Newcomb Central School, Newcomb, NY, Northeastern Teachers' Tour Graduate, Sponsored by Empire State Forest Products Association and Wagner Forest Management.

It was thrilling to see harvesting first hand in the woods. I originally thought clear cutting was the only form of lumbering. I was excited to learn about sustainable forestry. I also gained a better appreciation for conservation. I plan on using all the information I've acquired to create a tree and forest unit in my elementary level class. **KYLE RICCIUTI**, 2nd and 3rd grade teacher from Northwest Elementary, Tampa, FL, Northeastern Teachers' Tour Graduate, Sponsored by West Coast Truss.

This was a truly valuable experience. This tour opened my eyes to forestry and forest products. Before, I was under the impression that logging was harmful to the environment. Now I realize that forest management is important to the health of the forest. I would definitely recommend that others attend this tour. I've had some once-in-a-lifetime opportunities here. **SAUNDRA RAITHBURN**, 9th-12th grade teacher from Academy of Inkster, Inkster, NY, Northeastern Teachers' Tour Graduate, Sponsored by the Detroit Hoo Hoo Club.

I enjoyed seeing that all the presenters were so knowledgeable and willing to share with us. It was great to see how many forest products can be

produced while simultaneously being very aware of managing the land for the future. I was amazed by the concern the businesses, loggers, and industry have for the land, wildlife, water quality, etc. as well as the best management practices they put into place. **JUDY PLATZ**, 4th grade teacher from St. Anastasia Catholic School, Hutchinson, MN, Northeastern Teachers' Tour Graduate, Sponsored by Northeastern Loggers Association.

I enjoyed the program immensely. I appreciated hearing the men and women of the industry discuss forestry. Both the harvest site and the mill were really fascinating. I thought the industry would leave more scars on the land; I'd never before thought about how foresters manage the forest and take into account all the intricate details. This tour was wonderful. I enjoyed every aspect. **JENNY HUBBARD**, 2nd and 5th grade teacher from Northwest Elementary, Tampa, FL, Northeastern Teachers' Tour Graduate, Sponsored by West Coast Truss.

Forest management entails so much more than I ever knew. I plan to design lessons that will allow kids to understand the importance of forests and perhaps motivate them to help in forest conservation by getting them interested in forestry and related fields. I can't thank you enough for this wonderful experience. Thank you to my sponsor and all those people behind this program. **EDNA D. ALCANTARA**, 9th-12th grade teacher from Washington Irving High School, New York, NY, Northeastern Teachers' Tour Graduate, Sponsored by Norbord Industries, Inc.

My greatest new understanding centers around that fact that sustainable forestry means keeping big healthy trees standing so they can 'parent' seedlings. The fact that sustainable forestry sustains wildlife and ecosystem health was a new perception, as well as the fact that the forestry profession is all about preserving our woodlands through sustainable best management practices. The hosts and sponsors are so caring and

knowledgeable- and passionate! **ROBYNN ORR**, 8th grade teacher from Merrimack Valley Middle School, Penacook, NH, Northeastern Teachers' Tour Graduate, Sponsored by NH Retail Lumber Association.

I'm an urban dweller, so I loved being out in the forest and watching first hand how a forest is harvested and how lumber and paper are processed. I learned that forestry can be done without damage to the environment, and I understand what is really meant by sustainable forestry. I learned that there are positive effects from harvesting a forest when it is done with a long-term management plan. I feel better qualified to teach about conservation after participating in this program. **MARYA MALKOVICH**, 6th grade teacher from Kennedy Middle School, St. Clair Shores, MI, Northeastern Teachers' Tour Graduate, Sponsored by the Detroit Hoo Hoo Club.

I really appreciated getting to hear from people who actually work in the field and are dedicated to their occupation, open to all questions, and cognizant of the wider impact of what they do. I appreciated learning that different aspects of the forest products industry cooperate closely with respect and an interest in each other's welfare, as well as a genuine interest in conserving and improving the environment. **SKIP PENDLETON**, 5th-8th grade teacher from Lyme School, Lyme, NH, Northeastern Teachers' Tour Graduate, Sponsored by NH Retail Lumber Association.

What I enjoyed most is that the tour stops provided first hand views of all areas of forestry, from college research to forest management and harvesting of the resource to manufacturing of the product. I was surprised by the degree to which the industry has changed over time, and the low impact of tree removal in the areas we visited, as well as the clean processes taking place at International Paper. The work IP and the Nature Conservancy do together for mutual benefit is very impressive. **DENNIS BOUCHARD**, teacher from Burnt Hills-Ballston Lake High School, Burnt Hills, NY, Northeastern Teachers' Tour Graduate,

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Sponsored by Eastern New York Lumber Dealer's Association.

I loved the opportunity to visit this beautiful part of America and learn about the forest industry. The tour was outstanding, with so many experts to teach me about many forest related topics. I have been so enlightened about forest management. I came here with some concerns about how our forests are being managed. I know now that this truly is a sustainable resource, the balance between preservation and conservation impacts us all. **RITA JOHNSON, 5th grade teacher from Barnum Elementary School, Barnum, MN, Northeastern Teachers' Tour Graduate, Sponsored by Owens Forest Products.**

It amazes me how much the timber industry is governed by all they do. They face amazing challenges every day. I have a tremendous respect for anyone in the forestry or lumber industries. They are doing what they love because they love the land and have a high regard for it. They are like teachers, because we do what we do because we love working with the kids, not for the financial gain! **KAY SUTTON, 1st grade teacher from Durham Elementary, Durham, NY, Northeastern Teachers' Tour Graduate, Sponsored by GNH Lumber Co.**

The program put a 'human face' on the timber industry. I enjoyed hearing from foresters as well as workers in the mills, and getting a chance to be out in the forest. This program was fun and well organized, thank you for making this happen! **DAWN JOSLIN, 6th, 8th, 9th, and 12th grade teacher from West Canada Valley Central School, Newport, NY, Northeastern Teachers' Tour Graduate, Sponsored by Mew York State Timber Producers.**

I enjoyed everything about this program. As a teacher, an opportunity to be supported with professional development financially and organizationally is very rare. The main concept I will take away is preservation is much different than conservation. And that the industry is challenged in changing the perception of

conservation practices both within and outside the industry. This is one of the best experiences I have had in my teaching career. **KATHLEEN TRAGERT, 6th and 8th grade teacher from Lake Region School District, Naples, ME, Northeastern Teachers' Tour Graduate, Sponsored by Hancock Lumber Company, Inc.**

I have a greater understanding for the forest harvesting process and the importance of maintaining the health of our forests. I also appreciate the plight of our local industry- the economic, political, and social difficulties faced in this area. I plan to share the knowledge I've acquired with my students and, hopefully, foster an appreciation within the students of our local Adirondack environment. **PAT LANG, teacher from West Canada Valley Central School, Newport, NY, Northeastern Teachers' Tour Graduate, Sponsored by New York State Timber Producers.**

There was nothing I didn't enjoy. It was great to meet teachers from all over the country, and to learn about the sustainable forest philosophy. I have new perceptions about how harvesting in the forests actually makes forests better, and doesn't mean cutting down all the trees. I have many stories to relate to my students. **CLARENCE WOODRUFF, 8th, 10th, and 12th grade teacher from Copenhagen Central School, Copenhagen, NY, Northeastern Teachers' Tour Graduate, Sponsored by WJ Cox Associates.**

I really enjoyed seeing the whole process, and being able to see different and diverse aspects of the industry. I have a new perception of forest management. I now understand the complexity. Many factors combine to create a complex situation between landowner, forester, logger, trucker, and even citizens. I will be able to bring more truths to my students regarding the forest industry, as well as be able to explain the paper making process. **GANNON PARIS, 5th grade teacher from Parthum School, Lawrence, MA, Northeastern Teachers' Tour Graduate, Sponsored by Jackson Lumber & Millwork.**

The new perception that I've gained is that sustainable forestry is becoming the industry standard and forests are being managed better than ever before. I will use what I've learned to conduct teacher training in my district, as well as use all the concepts and materials in my classroom. **JANE FRANKLIN, 9th and 12th grade teacher from Kingston High School, Kingston, NY, Northeastern Teachers' Tour Graduate, Sponsored by Mid Hudson Lumber Dealers Association.**

I have gained a deepened and greater appreciation for the Best Management Practices foresters use to keep our environment clean and managed for future generations. Thank you for everything, I truly will take everything I've learned and impart it on others. **JUDITH RAINFORD, K-5th grade science teacher from PS 55, Bronx, NY, Northeastern Teachers' Tour Graduate, Sponsored by Wagner Forest Management.**

This was a fabulous program providing a hands-on way to learn about forestry and conservation. As teachers, we never get experiences like this, it was a gift of learning and collaboration. Thank you. All that we learned opened my eyes to things I had never thought about, like forest management. The information given to us on forestry, by foresters and those in the industry, has made me see that the forest products industry wants to preserve our natural resources as much as we do and that it is done through conservation. **MEGAN INGALLS, 4th grade teacher from Hunter Elementary, Hunter, NY, Northeastern Teachers' Tour Graduate, Sponsored by Eastern New York Lumber Dealers Association.**

I've gained new perceptions on managed, sustainable forests. I can see how it's critical to maintain each forest's circle of life. It's been an eye-opening experience. I learned an incredible amount about the role forests play in our lives. It was incredible to see how quickly the forests become reestablished with a bit of planning. Thank you so much for this opportunity, it has been enlightening. **LAURIE AHLERS, teacher**

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from Franklin Elementary, Yuba City, CA, Northeastern Teachers' Tour Graduate, Sponsored by Wood Moulding and Millwork.

This is an excellent program. The discussions with Mr. Ward (of Ward Lumber) and the foresters gave great insights. I have new perceptions on the use of natural resources, renewable resources, conservation, and preservation. Thank you.

MARIE McMILLEN, 6th and 7th grade teacher from Bow Memorial School, Bow, NH, Northeastern Teachers' Tour Graduate, Sponsored by Schultz, Snyder & Steele- North Pacific.

The tours were exceptional. The chance to talk to people in the field and on the ground about what they do and their trials and triumphs is a fantastic thing to do. I am impressed by how well forests are managed. I will make sure when I teach about resource issues, my students get a balanced perspective. **MICHAEL McCAULEY**, 7th and 8th grade teacher from Twality Middle School, Tigard, OR, Northeastern Teachers' Tour Graduate, Sponsored by North Pacific.





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Dates Time Blocks	Wednesday August 10	Thursday August 11	Friday August 12	Saturday August 13
Breakfast	Registration All Day	Hotel Breakfast begins at 6:00 am (Sponsor: Holbrook Lumber)	Hotel Breakfast begins at 6:00 am (Sponsor: NAWLA)	Hotel Breakfast begins at 6:30 am (Sponsor: Hancock Lumber)
AM		7:00 am Bus Departs Paul Smith's College <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Library Visit Hands-On Activities Demos 	7:00 am Bus Departs Ward White Pine Plantation Ward Lumber Mill	7:30 am Wrap Up Begins Wrap Up Evaluation Adjourn 10am
Lunch		Sponsored Lunch (Northeastern Loggers Association) Scenic Overlook	Sponsored Lunch (International Paper) Ticonderoga	
PM	Orientation @ 5:00pm Ross Whaley, Chairman of Adirondack Park Agency - Keynote	Finch-Pruyn <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Harvesting operation Adirondack Ecological Center/SUNY-ESF @ Huntington Wildlife Forest	International Paper <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mill Mill Yard Sort Yard IP Special Place 	Transportation sponsored by: Northeastern Lumber Manufacturers Association
Dinner	Sponsored Dinner (Northeastern Retail Lumber Association) Hotel Saranac	Sponsored Dinner (Empire State Forest Products Association) Rich Lake Beach	Sponsored Dinner (Ward Lumber Company) Olympic Ski Jump	

The Hotel Saranac

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Albany International Airport (ALB)

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Teachers' Tours: Key Concepts

Foresters manage large landscapes over long time horizons

Nature is dynamic: everything is connected and constantly changing

Foresters can manage for the reoccurrence of desirable outcomes

Sustainable forestry integrates social, economic, and ecological needs

Regulations exist to protect water, air, soil, fish and wildlife

Incentives are better than regulations

Forestry is capital intensive

Fire has two sides

The highest technology is employed in the woods, mills, and labs

There is complete utilization of the resource

We all need and use wood products

Wood is an environmentally sound building material

We can meet our material needs while protecting forest ecosystems

We all need to make informed choices

Teachers have a special responsibility

The forest products industry is rich in career opportunities