

2007 Northeast Teacher Forestry Tour Comments

Due to the liberal leanings of the media, we as educators, consumers and citizens have difficulty obtaining balanced information and opinions. It was refreshing to receive unfiltered, frank opinions and facts from the purported "bad guys." They supplied the important counterpoint to the politically correct liberal view. It is vital, valid and valuable. **Michael Tiffany, Newark, New York. Sponsored by Western New York Lumber Dealers Association through the Northeastern Retail Lumber Association (NRLA).**

This has to be the best professional program I have attended. I now have a professional perspective of the forest industry and a tool box of material to bring to my students. **Carol Mulligan, Malone, New York. Sponsored by Seaway Timber Harvesting through Empire State Forest Products Association (ESFPA).**

Everyone was knowledgeable in their field and passionate about how important it is to get the word out about sustainable forestry. It was very inspiring! **Rebecca Veilleux, Lawrence, Massachusetts. Sponsored by Jackson Lumber and Millwork through the NRLA.**

I will add information to my course notebook. I have made contacts with presenters so that I will use their product "materials" as teaching aids. I will add a link to my web page on the topic of forestry management and develop student activities that focus on the various information that I saw. Thank you very much! I learned a lot and had a wonderful time. **Mark Bratje, Rome, New York. Sponsored by Central New York Lumber Dealers Association through the NRLA.**

Before this program, I really didn't have any knowledge of this industry. I feel I have a lot of information and a "spark" to find out more. I really liked that we were introduced to a wide variety of aspects of this industry. I really had a wonderful experience. Thank you for all of the time and effort put into this teacher tour! **Karen Stein, Florham Park, New Jersey. Sponsored by Manufacturers Reserve Supply.**

Career opportunities in wood products, wildlife conservation, forestry and land management are far more than I realized. **Stacey Woldt, Rolling Meadows, Illinois. Sponsored by North American Wholesale Lumber Association (NAWLA).**

I enjoyed the holistic, complete perspective of forestry. The viewpoints that were presented were different and gave us plenty of fuel to energize my teaching. **Christina Lupo, Auburn, New York. Sponsored by Gutches Lumber & Tregaskis Agency through ESFPA.**

This information will help balance the current view presented by the media and curriculum we have. The more people who hear about sustainable forestry and its success, the better. **Kevin Mugridge, Elma, New York. Sponsored by Baille Lumber, Watson, Bennett, Colligan, etc. through ESFPA.**

I would highly recommend this program to others. It has been an awesome couple of days. Thanks for this experience! **Sharon Flichtbeil, Middle Grove, New York. Sponsored by Walter Chandler Forestry Services and W.J. Cox through ESFPA.**

I've always enjoyed the forests, but to see who works there and the planning and respect that is shared between those who have industry interests and those that are conscientious about conservation were well presented. I now understand more about what is considered for cultivating our renewable resources. **Vicki Norris, Casco, Maine. Sponsored by Hancock Lumber Company through the NRLA.**

I will continue to make recruiting efforts for other teachers to attend. There is so much to learn. **Wayne Bass, St. Louis, Missouri. Sponsored by Chic Lumber Company.**

I did not have a full appreciation of the challenges experienced in managing forests. I will use my new knowledge in forestry to teach my students about the process underlying the generation of lumber that we use in buildings. I also have more technical information to back up the argument that wood is in fact a more sustainable product than steel and concrete. I will structure my lectures around discussion topics I have developed during this tour. **Esther Obonyo, Gainesville, Florida. Sponsored by the Florida Wood Council.**

This was a fantastic experience that goes way beyond the typical teacher education experience. **Matt Siranian, Wilmot, New Hampshire. Sponsored by New Hampshire Retail Lumber Association and P.J. Currier Lumber through NRLA.**

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Interesting introduction to ways foresters work with industry to meet challenges of growing and harvesting forests. This becomes part of a knowledge base that, as a teacher, I can use to enrich my presentations. **Pat Raynock, Richlandtown, Pennsylvania. Sponsored by Reeb Millwork Corp. and New Jersey Lumber Dealers Association.**

I realized that when a plot of land is harvested, the aftermath isn't as devastating as it looks. It's actually important in the regeneration of the forest. Also, I realized how much I didn't know about the forest right in my back yard. **David Kruger, Caroga Lake, New York. Sponsored by Lyme Timber Company and W.J. Cox Insurance Co. through ESFPA.**

The tours gave us a different point of view. Most information we obtain in school is from environmentalist groups or government agencies telling us that cutting down trees is bad for the environment. This tour showed us that if forests are managed properly, logging will not hurt the environment. This new knowledge will change the way I teach environmental science to include this point of view. **Brendan Cetnar, Amsterdam, New York. Sponsored by Cotton-Hanlon through ESFPA.**

I have a new perception and awareness of the careers available in forestry. I now also know of the industry's dedicated interest in sustainable forestry. **Scott Beiter, Albany, New York. Sponsored by NY SFI Implementation Committee through ESFPA.**

The whole program was great. I loved seeing the machinery used in the working forest, the lumber yard and the paper mill. It was also neat to meet people who hold various positions in the forestry industry. I was amazed to learn of the effort that goes into sustainable forestry. **Katie Moyer, Harleysville, Pennsylvania. Sponsored by Lumbermen Associates, Inc.**

The knowledge of forestry education possibilities for students was eye opening. Being in the forests and understanding how a forest is harvested and managed was fabulous information. **Jan Forte, Cambridge, Massachusetts. Sponsored by North Pacific Group, Inc.**

[I enjoyed] seeing wood harvested and the environmental consciousness in bringing trees to timber/lumber and the love of the land by the loggers and lumber companies. **Ben Kellman, Andover, Massachusetts. Sponsored by North Pacific Group, Inc.**

I will share my firsthand experiences of seeing trees used to make lumber, paper and maple syrup, with my students. I will highly recommend it to every teacher I know. Thank you so much. This was the best professional development that I have ever participated in. **Ryan Cain, Long Island City, New York. Sponsored by NYC Watershed Agriculture and NYC Dept. of Environmental Protection through ESFPA.**

Watching these people with such passion in their work gave me a new found respect for the dedication, loyalty and hard work each entity provides to the environment. **DeVette Brown, Redford, Michigan. Sponsored by PA Lumbermens Mutual Insurance Co.**

[There is a] commitment to the love of the land and stewardship of all associated with the industry. **Ann Furze, Skaneateles, New York. Sponsored by Wagner Millworks through ESFPA.**

It is definitely a responsibility of mine as an educator to teach young people the stewardship of our forests as we operate as consumers. The industry is a goldmine for interesting and worthwhile careers for students. **Linda Lindstrom, Rockville, Maryland. Sponsored by National Lumber and Building Materials Association (NLBMDA).**

[I have a] better understanding of the relationship between private land owners and the industry. I will be better versed at explaining forestry management practices. **Ken Scipione, East Hampstead, New York. Sponsored by New Hampshire Retail Lumber Association (NHRLA), through the NRLA.**

Where do I start? It was a top notch tour throughout. In fact, I recommend [it] to anyone. Everyone should see the process of tree to table. A great program all around. Thank you! **John Morgan, Potsdam, New York. Sponsored by Northern New York Lumber Dealers Association through the NRLA.**

I can't wait to get into the web sites and information packets to learn, explore, relate and incorporate all of this information into my work with school kids. Thank you! **Ed Fellona, Tilton, New Hampshire. Sponsored by the NHRLA through the NRLA.**

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I believe that woodlands management is the appropriate way to be wise stewards of our woodlands. All best practices and research findings should be used to understand what procedures should be followed to properly use our wood resources and sustain our forests. I plan to incorporate knowledge of the wood products that are produced and the methods of their products into my high school chemistry curriculum. I want to interest them in the jobs available in the wood/pulp industry. **Sydney Mendez, Manlius, New York. Sponsored by B&B Lumber and NY Lumbermen's Insurance Trust through ESFPA.**





2007 Northeastern Teacher Forestry Tour



Dates Time Blocks	Wednesday August 8	Thursday August 9	Friday August 10	Saturday August 11
Breakfast	Registration All Day The Hotel Saranac 100 Main St. Saranac Lake, NY 12983 (518) 897-3374 www.hotelsaranac.com Albany International Airport (ALB) Saranac Lake Airport (SLK)	Hotel Breakfast begins at 6:00 am	Hotel Breakfast begins at 6:00 am	Hotel Breakfast begins at 6:30 am
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 	
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	

Teacher Forestry 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