

Michigan Urban and Community Forestry Council



An advisory committee to the Michigan Department of Natural Resources

Meeting Minutes – October 30, 2018

Michigan State University – Department of Forestry

Present

In-Person: Marshall Baeckeroot, Asia Downtin, Bill Drews, Kerry Gray, Geoff, Dean Hay, Scott Jones, Kempter, Annie Kruike, Lee Mueller, Kevin Sayers, Doug Shultz

Conference Call: Joan Chadde, Drew Decker, Ada Takacs, Tyler Kliffman

Approval of Agenda

- Motion by A. Kruike
- Supported by D. Hay
- Approved unanimously

Approval of May 18, 2018 Meeting Minutes

- Motion by G. Kempter
- Supported by K. Gray
- Approved unanimously

Public Comment

- Introduction of Asia Downtin (host) as new MSU Forestry Faculty for Urban and Community Forestry Program.

Old Business

DNR Forest Action Plan (FAP)

- S. Jones updated group on the status of the DNR's FAP progress to date.
- Statewide forest resources assessment phase in progress. Expected completion in spring 2019. Somewhat dependent on data availability.
- Prioritization and strategies phase to come after with much input from stakeholder groups (public meetings).

Action items

1. K. Sayers will keep group updated on status of FAP progress & stakeholder meeting schedule.
2. MUCFC needs to form a FAP subcommittee

3. Possible day-long FAP planning/strategy meeting for UCF to be scheduled in summer 2019

Visiting Urban Forester Program

- K. Sayers and A. Kruse reported no activity from this subcommittee since last meeting.

Action items

1. K. Sayers and A. Kruse to meet and discuss program forms revisions and establishing grant.

Oak Wilt Coalition

- A. Kruse – Targeting oak wilt outreach/message towards deer hunters regarding hinge cutting and oak wilt this fall.
- Awaiting announcement on oak wilt proposal through the Michigan Invasive Species Grant Program.
- Next meeting of coalition is November 6th in Lansing.

Action items

1. Action item(s): Kruse noted next meeting will be in August.

Tree City USA Banquet

- K. Sayers announced that annual Tree USA application period is open
- L. Mueller announced Tree USA awards luncheon and conference will be held on April 10th in East Lansing (Kellogg Center).
- Agenda is being put together. Sponsorship opportunities available.

Action items

1. Action item(s): Mueller will convene committee meetings for event planning as needed.

Advocacy

- G. Kempter submitted Advocacy committee report (attached)
- MUCFC needs to gain greater visibility via web and social media as well as different audiences at conferences, workshops etc.

Action items

1. Action item(s): Committee (Kempter) will work to create a calendar of appropriate events, conferences for MUCFC members to target for presenting

New Business

Member Terms/Appointments

- Member term limit schedule reviewed and annual election of chair/vice-chair
- B. Drews is retiring and resigning position on MUCFC effective at end of this meeting.
- Expiring term members (Baeckeroot, Chadde, Dowtin) all renewed for additional 3-yr. term to end after fall meeting 2021.
- D. Hay nominated for Chair. Motion to approve: Mueller; Support: Gray; Approved unanimously
- L. Mueller nominated for V. Chair. Motion: Gray; Support: Kempter; Approved unanimously

Action item(s):

1. *D. Hay to contact expiring term members (Miller, Kruse, Hay, Kliffman) prior to fall 2019 meeting about possible renewal for 3-yr term.*
2. *Sayers to discuss membership interest with Hannah Reynolds (Michigan Arbor Day Alliance)*

FY18 DNR UCF Program Accomplishments

- Sayers provided program accomplishment summary report (attached)
- Annual program accomplishment report/data submitted to USFS.
- Federal Cooperative Forest Management Program review with USDA Forest Service scheduled for early December.

Annual Letter to State Forester

- Discussion of need for continuing annual council letter to state forester was held
- Motion to approve 2018 letter: D. Hay; Support: B. Drews; Approved

Action item(s):

1. *Mueller, Hay, and Sayers will draft letter and circulate to members before finalizing and sending to state forester.*

Staff Communications

- A. Takacs: Submitted written update (attached)
- K. Sayers submitted written updates (attached)

Member Communications

- M. Miller: Submitted written update (attached)
- B. Drews: Semi-retired but still doing consulting work.
- J. Chadde: Working on stewardship project
- L. Perez: USFS reorganizing. Will be working more closely with State/Private Forestry. Ongoing work with Greening of Detroit.
- A. Downtin: Getting ready for spring semester (teaching). Working with ASM on apprenticeship program.
- D. Hay: Working with D. Shultz on I-75/Squirrel Rd. (SE MI) MDOT project for road work and tree planting/landscaping.
- A. Kruse: 24 Oak Wilt specialists Qualified in August. ASM Oak Wilt proposal to MISGP is pending. Gearing up for ArborCon and other events. Established Detroit neighborhood nursery network and coordinating ongoing training

Next Meeting(s)

- In-person regular meeting: Tuesday, March 26th (10:00-Noon). Location - TBD

Adjourn

12:18 PM. Respectfully submitted by Kevin Sayers.

Members

Marshall Baeckeroot, Joan Chadde, Bill Drews, Asia Downtin, Ryan Edwards, Fai Foen, Kerry Gray, Dean Hay (Chair), Geoff Kempter, Tyler Kliffman, Annie Kruse, Lee Mueller, Douglas Schultz, Margaret Miller, Douglas Schultz

USFS Liaisons

Jill Johnson, Lisa Perez

DNR Contact

Staff Liaisons: Kevin Sayers, 517-284-5898; Ada Takacs, 231-534-5569

State of Michigan, Department of Natural Resources

PO Box 30452

Lansing, MI 48909

Michigan.gov/UCF

Terms and attendance

Name	Term Expires
Doug Shultz	2020
Margaret Miller	2019
Annie Kruse	2019
Asia Downtin	2021
Geoff Kempter	2020
Dean Hay	2019
Lee Mueller	2020
Marshall Baeckeroot	2021
Joan Chadde	2021
Tyler Kliffman	2019
Ryan Edwards	2020
Kerry Gray	2020
Fai Foen	2021

Name	Spring 2016	Summer 2016	Fall 2016	Spring 2017	Summer 2017	Fall 2017	Spring 2018	Summer 2018	Fall 2018	Absent
Doug Shultz	√	Ab	√	√	√	√	Ab	N/A	√	2
Margaret Miller	Ab	√	√	Ab	√	√	√	N/A	√	2
Annie Kruiise	√	Ab	√	√	√	√	√	N/A	√	1
Asia Downtin								N/A	√	
Geoff Kempter	Ab	Ab	√	√	Ab	√	√	N/A	√	3
Dean Hay	√	Ab	Ab	√	Ab	Ab	√	N/A	√	4
Lee Mueller	√	√	√	√	√	√	√	N/A	√	
Marshall Baeckeroot	√	√	Ab	Ab	Ab	Ab	Ab	N/A	√	5
Joan Chadde	√	Ab	Ab	Ab	Ab	Ab	Ab	N/A	√	5
Tyler Kliffman	√	√	√	√	x	√	√	N/A	√	
Ryan Edwards	√	Ab	√	√	x	√	Ab	N/A	Ab	3
Kerry Gray	√	Ab	√	√	Ab	√	√	N/A	√	2
Fai Foen							√	N/A	Ab	1

Advocacy and outreach report (Kempter)

Overview

MUCFC promotes an important resource; however, we can further enhance understanding of what we do, who we are, and what we can provide.

- If you Google search MUCFC, the first two hits are for the Maryland Urban and Community Forestry Committee, then a couple of hits for a football club in Scotland.
- If you Google search Michigan Urban Forestry, you get a PDF of a very nice presentation created by Kevin Sayers in 2016. However, the presentation is out there by itself – there is no context, nor any mention of MUCFC, or any links to MUCFC.
- If there were a link to MUCFC, or if you narrow your search, you land on a page on the DNR site, which provides a brief overview of MUCFC, and links to minutes of past meetings. No photographs of beautiful tree-lined streets, no lists of benefits of urban trees, no testimonials.

We can make MUCFC more relevant by promoting the benefits of our work to potential stakeholders and partners.

Stakeholders and Partners

Stakeholders are those people or organizations who have an interest in what we do. This would include most citizens in Michigan, along with a host of organizations, both public and private.

Partners include those organizations whose missions overlap or otherwise compliment ours, and would be interested in some form of joint venture or sponsorship. Consider large organizations with a national or 5 state-wide footprint, e.g. ASM, MSU Extension, ISA, TCIA, SAF, Arbor Day Foundation, TCIA, Michigan Municipal League, American Public Works Association, Michigan Oak Wilt Coalition and others. Then consider local organizations such as Friends of Grand Rapids Parks, Greening of Detroit, and others.

Who Benefits from the MUCFC?

What value do we bring to stakeholders? There is enormous value in services provided by urban forests. What are these benefits? How can we help stakeholders leverage that value? How do we help our partners in furthering their missions? What can we do to assist those interested in promoting urban forests in their communities? Professional organizations link professionals to one another, to further education and credentialing. Trees need proper care. MUCFC can assist professional and community organizations by promoting the value of the urban forests and the expertise necessary to properly maintain and enhance this critical resource.

Possible Actions for Discussion

- Creating a more complete website, with news, lists of benefits, success stories, links to organizations that can answer questions or provide resources or other assistance and other relevant information.
- Make a list of potential partners, and consider how to partner, e.g.:
- Regional workshops to engage citizens and professionals, and to promote urban forestry

- Booths at county fairs and other public events
- Promotional/branded items, giveaways, free tree seedlings, etc.
- Activities for kids, families, adults
- Others?

CARS

Community Accomplishments Reporting System for Urban & Community Forestry Program



You are here: [National](#) / [Northeastern Area](#) / Michigan

Michigan FY2018 Summary

Category	Measure	Result
OUTCOMES		
1.	Percent of population living in communities managing programs to plant, protect and maintain their urban and community trees and forests.	46.17%
2.	Percent of population living in communities developing programs and/or activities to plant, protect and maintain their urban and community trees and forests.	32.77%
OUTPUTS		
1.	Number of people living in communities provided educational, technical and/or financial assistance .	5,407,420
2.	Number of people living in communities that are developing programs/activities for their urban and community trees and forests.	2,244,487
3.	Number of people living in communities managing their urban and community trees and forests	3,162,933
4.	Number of communities with active urban & community tree and forest management plans developed from professionally-based resource assessments/inventories	136
5.	Number of communities that employ or retain through written agreement the services of professional forestry staff who have at least one of these credentials: (1) degree in forestry or related field and (2) ISA certified arborist or equivalent professional certification	129
6.	Number of communities that have adopted and can present documentation of local/statewide ordinances or policies that focus on planting, protecting, and maintaining their urban and community trees and forests	394
7.	Number of communities with local advocacy/ advisory organizations , such as, active tree boards, commissions, or non-profit organizations that are formalized or chartered to advise and/or advocate for the planting, protection, and maintenance of urban and community trees and forests	261
8.	Number of hours of volunteer service logged. (An agency-wide consistent methodology to be developed to track volunteer hours)	7,142
9.	State offered community grant program in current fiscal year	Yes
10.	Number of communities receiving financial assistance awarded during the Federal FY 2018 through a state managed community grant program	102
11.	Amount of Federal (USFS) funding to States	355,000
13.	Number of communities provided state assistance through the Landscape Scale Restoration Program .	2
DEMANDS		
1.	Number of people living in communities that have the potential to develop management programs for their trees and forests with assistance from UCF technical, financial and/or educational program services.	6,850,141
2.	Number of people living in communities not managing, or developing programs to manage, their urban and community trees and forests.	1,442,721

Quick Links

[Home](#) | [Update](#) | [Submit](#) | [Reports](#) | [Help](#) | [Logout](#)

Fiscal Year: [2017](#) | 2018

Status

Under National Review

May 18, 2018 MUCFC Meeting

Staff and Member Updates

Takacs:

Please share this link with the UCF committee. It takes a while to download, but we have been getting great feedback so far on the content...

https://drive.google.com/open?id=1G9IsTvwaLdGISKJfe6Sj_yyl2nkrdDTN

If anyone has any concerns or comments, feel free to contact me direct.

SAYERS:

- NRC meeting presentation scheduled for Oct. was bumped again (CWD hot issue). Reschedule
- UFST training in Lansing. 17 trained, total of 21 TS and 2 TL in MI. Good connect with state EM
- Statewide MI Community Tree Ord. info. in progress to be on website: Michigan.gov/UCF
- Michigan Arbor Day Alliance (MADA) hiring new coordinator. Had interviews ~2wks ago.
- Urban Wood Toolkit (defer to Margaret for her comments)
- Joint UCF/FSP AmeriCorps Member in January
- Possible coordination with ADF for CTR tree giveaway in spring. Detroit or elsewhere
- Midwest UCF Council meeting conf. call 2wks ago. Not in-person. Future conf. call and in-person
- Events:
 - ADF Partners in Community Forestry Irvine, CA (Nov 5-9th)
 - ArborCon in February (Lansing); On the agenda

Grants:

- FY19 MI UCF program grant review underway. (24 received, ask \$222K; 16,5,3)
- Multi-state UCF LSR proposal was awarded and work is underway.
- GLRI grant awarded to ReLeaf MI and Davey (small community work in west MI)
- ReLeaf MI, Davey and DNR submitted another LSR proposal for work in west MI
- ReLeaf MI and DNR working on submitting annual funding request to DTE Energy Found.
- UFST Refresher and Task Specialist Training in Lansing, MI (Oct. 17-18) <https://ufst.org/> (DNR UCF hosting)
- Arbor Day Foundation Partners Conference in Irvine, CA (Nov. 7-8) <https://www.arborday.org/programs/pcf/> (Kevin attending, likely will have a few registration scholarships available for this)

Grants:

- Finishing 2016 Great Lakes Restoration Initiative (GLRI) project in upper peninsula w/tree plantings this spring in 3 communities (St. Ignace, Menominee, Ontonagon) with Superior Watershed Partners as lead contractor.
- Waiting to hear on USFS Landscape Scale Restoration (LSR) multi-state urban wood utilization proposal submitted last year by WI DNR. <https://www.fs.usda.gov/naspf/working-withus/grants/landscape-scale-restoration-grants>

- FY18 GLRI grants submitted on May 11. Partner on one with ReLeaf MI and Davey (west MI) modeled after current project in Grand Traverse Bay watershed <https://gtbaycanopy.weebly.com/bellaire-assessment-results.html>
- DNR accepting DTE Foundation Tree Planting Grants taking applications (\$75K total /\$3K individual) **thru June 8** https://www.michigan.gov/dnr/0,4570,7-350-79134_81684_81819_81821---,00.html
- DNR UCF Community Forestry Grants (CFG) anticipated grant RFP announcement in early August (due in late Sept.) Possibly eliminating tree planting category this year. [Michigan.gov/UCF](https://www.michigan.gov/UCF).

Miller:

Spalted Banjo Consulting (SBC) is currently wrapping up some contracted fall tree planting closeout documents, finalizing a CAP 106 forest management plan and more recently working with Verdant Stewardship and the Michigan DNR to develop a municipal toolkit specific to urban wood utilization.