



NORTHERN FOREST Connections

Save the date: *November 13 - 15*

Second Northern Forest Community Leadership Exchange set for November

The Northern Forest Center invites leaders from across the four-state region and beyond to the second annual Northern Forest Community Leadership Exchange scheduled for November 13-14, 2003, at the Radisson Hotel in Burlington, VT.



Kelly M. Short

Participants work together at last year's Community Leadership Exchange.

The Exchange is being organized this year in conjunction with the first meeting of the Northeastern States Research Cooperative. The joint conference, titled *Partnerships for the Northern Forest*, will bring together business people, community and non-profit leaders, state and federal agency representatives, researchers and others to build partnerships and strategies to ensure the long-term sustainability and prosperity of the Northern Forest.

Information, training, and work sessions during the Exchange will address topics and regional strategies ranging from the creative economy to building markets for low-value wood, leadership development, electronic commerce, funding opportunities, and cre-

ating a network of heritage areas in the Northern Forest.

Special focus on exploring federal support

The Exchange also will include a two-day work session for participants interested in exploring a coordinated regional strategy for guiding long-term federal support for sustainable regional development. Among the models and opportunities to be explored are the Appalachian Regional Commission, the Northwest Economic Development Initiative, and the Chesapeake Bay Gateways Network.

Results from first Exchange

In November 2002, the first Exchange brought more than 100 leaders from the four states to develop a draft Strategic Framework for sustainable regional development. That

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Partnership Awards to highlight spirit of collaboration

Center seeks award nominees

The Northern Forest Center seeks nominations for the first annual Northern Forest Partnership Awards.

As part of the 2003 Northern Forest Community Leadership Exchange in November, the Center will present four Partnership Awards to individuals who exemplify the spirit of collaboration in advancing the well-being of the Northern Forest. In addition to recognition during the Exchange, recipients will receive a cash award of \$1,000 each.

This exciting new initiative builds on the recognition gained for the Northern Forest over the summer when the Center's President, Steve Blackmer, was awarded the national Conservation Partnership Award by International Paper and the Conservation Fund (story on reverse).

Nomination deadline:
Sept. 19, 2003

Award criteria

The Northern Forest Community Partnership Awards will recognize individuals who:

- Work in the Northern Forest region;
- Exemplify the spirit of working through partnerships and collaboration;
- Work at the intersection of environment, culture, community and economy, and across geographic boundaries; and
- Produce tangible results that advance the well-being of the Northern Forest at the local, state or regional scale.

Nomination materials will be available in late August. For more information, contact Heather Cowenhoven. To support the Partnership Awards, contact Doreen Arruda at 603-229-0679, or by email to darruda@northernforest.org.

Nomination Guidelines

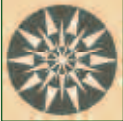
To nominate an individual for a Northern Forest Partnership Award, apply to:

Heather Cowenhoven
Northern Forest Center
PO Box 210
Concord, NH 03301

or by email to:
hcowenhoven@northernforest.org

Send the following information on a single 8.5x11, single-spaced page:

- Contact information for the nominator;
- Contact information for the nominee;
- A description of the nominee's work and accomplishments that deserve recognition.



The Northern Forest Center
P.O. Box 210
Concord, NH 03302-0210

Contact the Northern Forest Center at:
Concord, New Hampshire: 603-229-0679
Bethel, Maine: 207-824-8263
White River Junction, Vermont: 802-291-9800
www.northernforest.org

NORTHERN FOREST Connections

Building
a public consensus
to conserve and
enhance the wealth—
cultural, civic, economic
and ecological—
of the Northern Forest.

Exchange to refine regional strategy

Continued from front page

framework, which has been endorsed by more than 75 organizations, proposes a long-term vision, guiding values and principles, and opportunities for action around eight core strategies. The strategies address:

- Culture & Heritage;
- Place-Based Education & Lifelong Learning;
- Integrity of the Forest Ecosystem;
- Value-Added Forest Products;
- Tourism & Recreation Development & Marketing;
- Small Business Development;
- Telecommunication & Transportation Infrastructure; and
- Health & Healthy Communities.

Work at this year's Exchange will help refine this framework and produce concrete regional strategies for securing the federal and private funding needed for projects that advance the Strategic Framework.

Conference pairs with research cooperative

Partnerships for the Northern Forest also will include the first meeting of the Northeastern States Research Cooperative (NSRC), featuring presentations and discussions by NSRC-supported researchers studying the ecological, economic, social and cultural challenges facing the Northern Forest region. The NSRC is a federally funded Northern Forest research program managed by the University of Vermont School of Natural Resources and the USDA Forest Service Hubbard Brook Project.

Registration deadline October 24

Registration materials for *Partnerships for the Northern Forest* will be available by Sept. 1, 2003 at <http://www.northernforest.org> and <http://www.uvm.edu/snr/nsrc>. For more information, contact Heather Cowenhoven (NFC) at 603-229-0679, or Melody Brown Burkins (NSRC) at 802-649-5732.

In addition to the parallel tracks of the Leadership Exchange and the Research Cooperative, *Partnerships for the Northern Forest* will provide opportunities researchers and community leaders to explore new ideas for addressing local and regional challenges, emerging research needs, and new partnerships.

Save the Date!

Promise of Place conference planned for March 2004

The Northern Forest Center will be co-sponsoring the 2nd Promise of Place education conference early in 2004.

Everyone with an interest in place-based education should plan ahead for the conference, slated for March 25-27, 2004 at the Bethel Inn in Bethel, Maine.

The conference will build on the networking and information offered at last year's inaugural Promise of Place conference, which sold out well before the registration deadline.

Look for conference information early this fall at www.northernforest.org

Center's president wins national award

I am thrilled to share the news that Steve Blackmer, the Center's president and founder, has received the 2003 International Paper Conservation Partnership Award.

The award, sponsored by International Paper and presented by The Conservation Fund, recognizes Steve for his leadership on Northern Forest conservation and—most importantly—for his work to build partnerships and collaboration across the region. It takes many individuals, organizations, businesses and agencies to address the environmental, economic and cultural needs of a vast region. On behalf of the Center's board, we are proud of Steve but equally want to thank you for the part you've played in shaping a sustainable future for the Northern Forest.

Please join us in congratulating Steve, and each other, on this well-deserved recognition of our collective work in the Northern Forest. We look forward to many more years of working together. Thank you so much.

Jacqueline L. Tuxill

Jacqueline L. Tuxill
Board Chair