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Family Forest Stewardship: Sustaining Our Commitment, Advancing the Agenda

September 12-13, 2007

Saint John's University, Collegeville, Minnesota

A conference of Blandin Foundation's Vital Forests/Vital Communities Initiative

For more information visit BlandinFoundation.org

highlights

Why should you participate?

Building on the strong foundation of the May, 2006 conference, *Getting to the Next Million Acres*, this year's conference is an excellent networking, learning and outcome-focused opportunity.

- 🔥 Learn about progress on the strategic vision to **increase the number of acres of family forest land with Forest Stewardship Management Plans from 1.3 to 2.3 million by 2015.**
- 🔥 Hear about new tools for fostering sustainable forestry practices.
- 🔥 Strengthen our commitment to the vision and strategies of **getting to the next million.**
- 🔥 Develop a 2007-08 action agenda for achieving our vision.

Conference highlights:

- 🔥 Tour of St. John's University Arboretum, which models best practices in sustainable land use.
- 🔥 Socialize with others who work in and care about the woods to the foot tapping old time music of the Eelpout Stringers.
- 🔥 Hear the latest findings of the National Woodland Owner Survey conducted by Family Forest Research Center at the University of Massachusetts.
- 🔥 Hear recent research on *Family Forests: What Will the Next Generation Do?* and discuss implications for Minnesota woodland owners and advocates.
- 🔥 Help create an action agenda for 2007-08 to achieve our shared goal of increasing the numbers of acres under stewardship and third party certification plans.

keynote presentations

Before us lies the largest intergenerational transfer of forest land in our nation's history. Are we ready for it? What challenges and opportunities are at our doorstep? With over 40 percent of Minnesota forests in private ownership, you won't want to miss this year's keynote presentations.



Catherine Mater, Senior Fellow,
Pinchot Institute for Conservation

Catherine Mater is a Senior Fellow at the Pinchot Institute and President of Mater Engineering. Catherine will share the results of a landmark study underway to uncover the attitudes and values of the offspring of Wisconsin private, non-industrial forestland owners.

Brett Butler directs the USFS Family Forest Research Center (FFRC) and coordinates the National Woodland Owner Survey (NWOS). His current research focuses on survey methods for collecting information from private forestland owners, analyzing trends in private forestland owners and the land that they own, and studying the factors that influence decisions made by private landowners.



Brett Butler, Director,
USFS Family Forest Research Center