



MICHIGAN URBAN AND COMMUNITY FORESTRY COUNCIL

An advisory committee to the Michigan Department of Natural Resources

Meeting Minutes May 18, 2018

MEMBERS

Marshall Baeckeroot
Joan Chadde
Bill Drews
Ryan Edwards
Fai Foen
Kerry Gray
Dean Hay
Geoff Kempster
Rich Kobe
Tyler Kliffman
Annie Kruike
Lee Mueller - Chair
Margaret Miller
Douglas Schultz

USFS Liaisons

Jill Johnson
Lisa Perez

Staff Liaisons

Kevin Sayers
(517) 284-5898
Ada Takacs
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State of Michigan
DEPARTMENT OF
NATURAL RESOURCES
PO Box 30452
Lansing, MI 48909
www.mi.gov/ucf



Present:

In-Person: Kevin Sayers, Rich Kobe, Annie Kruike, Kerry Gray, Dean Hay, Fai Foen, Sarah Bauer

Conference Call: Lee Mueller*, Geoff Kempster, Jill Johnson, Joan Chadde, Ada Takacs, Tyler Kliffman, Margaret Miller

**Designated Vice-Chair Hay as acting Chair for purpose of running meeting*

Approval of Agenda:

- Motion by Kobe
- Supported by Hay
- Approved unanimously

Approval of Minutes of November 1, 2017 meeting:

- Motion by Kruike
- Supported by Kobe
- Approved unanimously

Public Comment:

- Sarah Bauer introduced herself as graduate of Michigan State University in Fisheries and Wildlife and the new Michigan Arbor Day Alliance Coordinator with the Eaton Conservation District. She is responsible for administering the DNR UCF annual grant to the district to coordinate the statewide Arbor Day event in Lansing and other Arbor Day activities around the state. She looks forward to staying engaged with the MUCFC and will consider requesting addition as a member.

Old Business:

DNR Forest Action Plan (FAP)

- Sayers reported that statewide forest assessment phase (data gathering/analysis) of the process is in progress by DNR Resource Assessment Unit. Deliverable product is intended to be a brief State of the Forest document.
- One item of note for the UCF program is that the work of MDEQ interns for i-Tree Canopy assessments of Michigan communities will be helpful for identifying priority areas through this process.
- Communication and Marketing staff within DNR is working to identify stakeholders and building a website modeled after USA Forests site (<https://usaforests.org>)
- Fall 2018 is being looked at as the target timeframe for starting stakeholder engagement on review of the State of the Forest document and overall priority issue identification and discussion.
- Chadde noted possible relevance of trees/forests for biomass energy (e.g. <https://burnedthemovie.com/>) and raised question of how this issue is being considered in the FAP process.

Action item(s):

Sayers will keep council informed as to status of the FAP process and invite DNR Forest Planning staff to present assessment findings to group at future meeting.

Visiting Urban Forester Program

- Sayers reported no activity from this subcommittee since last meeting

Action item(s):

1. *Sayers to share program files with Takacs to see about converting them to a usable format to more easily update.*
2. *Pending updated forms, DNR to award subgrant to ASM to facilitate renewing the program in either FY18 or FY19*

Oak Wilt Coalition

- Kruse provided verbal report of coalition's recent activities
- Coalition meetings are being streamlined to 4 per year, with fewer members and shortened to address member concerns and make best use of time.
- Public Oak Wilt awareness press release went out from coalition this spring and website updates being regularly made
- Coordinated oak wilt qualified training this fall in west Michigan with much success. Canada is very interested in having ASM provide this training/qualification to their staff this summer.
- Waiting on outcome of ongoing oak wilt research at MSU Forestry (Dr. Sakalidis)
- Fruitland Township disc golf course/oak wilt concern issue is ongoing

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

Tree City USA Banquet

- Mueller provided brief committee report noting that Tree City USA banquet was not held this year but will be planned for next spring
- Sayers provided 2017 Tree City/Campus/Line USA report (attached). Highlights - 117 communities, 5 universities (MSU new) and 2 utilities.

- Dr. Andrew Storer is now the Chair of Forestry dept. at Michigan Tech University in Houghton. They might be interested in pursuing Tree Campus USA certification with his leadership.

Action item(s): Mueller will reconvene committee for planning discussion this summer.

Advocacy

- Kempter reported that this committee has not held a meeting yet

Action item(s): Kempter will initiate committee meeting/call this summer.

New Business:

Member Terms/Appointments

- Member term limit schedule reviewed.
- Hay moved to approve new member nomination of Fai Foen to council*
- Supported by Kobe
- Approved unanimously

*Appointment to a 3-year term ending at end of Fall 2021 meeting.

Action item(s):

1. *Mueller to contact expiring term members about interest in being reappointed or not.*
2. *Sayers to discuss possible membership interest with Sarah Bauer (Michigan Arbor Day Alliance)*

FY18 DNR UCF Program Funding

- Sayers reported that federal financial advice for FY18 has not been received yet.
- Congressionally approved FY18 budget for federal UCF program showed a slight increase in funding to \$28.5M for FY18, up from \$28M in FY17
- Best estimate of FY18 state UCF program funding might be \$335-\$350K based on performance numbers and given the approved federal program funding levels.

Action item(s): Sayers will share federal financial advice with council as soon as it is received from USFS.

UCF Program Highlights for upcoming Natural Resources Commission (NRC) presentation

- Sayers and Mueller will be presenting the Michigan NRC at an upcoming meeting this summer
- The presentation was originally scheduled for June but has been pushed back to August.
- The presentation will need to be brief (10 min) and highlight some important work, issues and highlights of the program to introduce the program to commissioners who are not familiar with it.
- Focus on how the UCF program facilitates and leverages partnerships in our work is key (e.g. work with universities, nonprofits, governmental agencies, private sector etc..).
- Need to put together 3-5 concise slides that depict this along with key program impacts (population, Tree City USA, grants, economic impacts, etc.)

Action item(s): Sayers and Mueller will draft slides and share with group in advance of presentation.

Staff Communications

- Sayers submitted written updates (attached)
- Takacs discussed ongoing development of Michigan School Forest guide and new Project Learning Tree - Teaching with i-Tree guide <https://www.plt.org/curriculum/teaching-with-itree/>

Member Communications

- Miller and Kobe submitted written updates (attached)
- Hay – Established Detroit neighborhood nursery network and coordinating ongoing training
- Kruse – Michigan Invasive Species Grant for oak wilt is complete. Provided newly developed oak wilt brochures and bookmarks. Oak wilt workshops planned for this summer
- Kempter – Discussed model municipal ordinances and Grand Rapids example
- Foen – Finishing up spring plantings with the Greening including 1,500 trees at Meijer Nursery
- Gray – Working towards completion of 2nd year of municipal routine pruning cycle in Ann Arbor

Next Meeting(s):

- In-person regular meeting: *Tuesday, October 30, 2018 - TBD*

Adjourn: 12:21 PM

Respectfully submitted: Kevin Sayers

***MUCFC Meeting Attendance and Terms**

Michigan Urban and Community Forestry Council														
Name	Term Expires	2015			2016			2017			2018			TOTAL
		Spring	Summer	Fall	Spring	Summer	Fall	Spring	Summer	Fall	Spring	Summer	Fall	ABSENT
Doug Shultz	2020	N/A				x						x		2
Margaret Miller	2019				x			x						2
Bill Drews	2018			x	x	x			x		x			5
Annie Kruse	2019					x								1
Rich Kobe	2018													
Geoff Kempter	2020	x			x	x			x					4
Dean Hay	2019					x	x		x	x				4
Lee Mueller	2020													
Marshall Baeckeroot	2018						x	x	x	x	x			5
Bruce Morrison	--	N/A	N/A	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x			8
Jerry Jondreau	--	N/A	N/A	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x			8
Gary Williamson	--	N/A	N/A	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x			8
Joan Chadde	2018	N/A	N/A			x	x	x	x	x				5
Tyler Kliffman	2019	N/A	N/A	N/A										
Ryan Edwards	2020					x					x			2
Kerry Gray	2020					x			x					2
Fai Foen	2021	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A			
		X	Absent											

MI Tree City/Line USA Summary (2015-2017)

Tree City USA, sponsored by The Arbor Day Foundation (ADF) in cooperation with the USDA Forest Service (USFS) and the National Association of State Foresters (NASF), provides direction, technical assistance, public attention, and national recognition for urban and community forestry programs in thousands of towns and cities that more than 93 million Americans call home. These are communities that have made the commitment to invest in their trees. They are fulfilling the four standards set forth by the Tree City USA program and are reaping the benefits.

In Michigan, Tree City USA has become an increasingly important annual goal for communities of all sizes. The Tree City, Tree Line and Tree Campus USA programs are administered by the DNR's Urban and Community Forestry (UCF) program. To ensure continued participation, and encourage new involvement, regular mailings are sent to municipalities throughout the state as a reminder of upcoming deadlines or changes to the program. Even in times of shrinking municipal budgets, many Michigan communities have repeatedly found a way to maintain, and even expand, their Tree City status.

Like the Tree City USA certification, ADF recognizes the efforts of universities and utility companies who are committed to proper management of trees within their campuses and rights-of-way.

The following table summarizes some statistics about Michigan's Tree Cities, Tree Lines and Tree Campuses for the period 2015 through 2017.

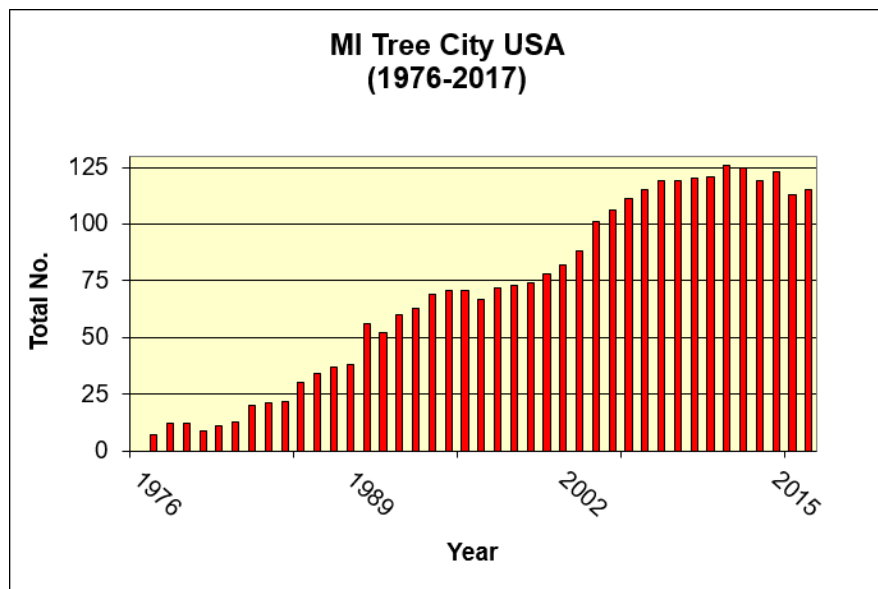
Summary: MI Tree City USA / Growth Award / Tree Line USA (2015-2017)			
	2015	2016	2017
Tree City USA	121	113	115
Trees Planted	14,419	12,795	14,826
Trees Removed	16,710	17,911	18,575
Trees Pruned	53,888	64,876	67,108
Tree City – Growth Award	5	7	5
Tree Line USA	2	2	2
Tree Campus USA	4	4	5

Other facts about 2017 Michigan's Tree City USA and Tree Line USA communities:

Oldest Tree Cities: 41 years (tie: Adrian and Royal Oak)
 New Tree Cities: 2 (North Muskegon, Grandville)
 Largest Tree City: Detroit (627,701)
 Smallest Tree City: Richland (785)
 Avg. Per Capita \$ Exp: \$9.39
 Percent applying online: 85%



2017 Tree City, Tree Line and Tree Campus USA			
City Name	City Name	City Name	Utility
City of Adrian	City of Grand Rapids**	City of Roseville	International Transmission Company (ITC)
City of Albion	City of Grandville*	City of Royal Oak	Lansing Board of Water and Light (BWL)
City of Allegan	City of Grosse Pointe**	City of Saginaw	
City of Alma	City of Grosse Pointe Park	City of Saugatuck	
City of Alpena	City of Grosse Pointe Woods	City of Sault Sainte Marie	Campuses
City of Ann Arbor	City of Hillsdale	City of South Lyon	UM
City of Auburn Hills	City of Holland	City of Southfield	WMU
City of Battle Creek	City of Howell	City of Southgate	Washtenaw Community College
City of Bay City	City of Huntington Woods	City of St. Clair	Calvin College
City of Belding	City of Imlay City	City of St. Clair Shores	Michigan State University
City of Berkley	City of Ionia	City of Sterling Heights	
City of Big Rapids	City of Kalamazoo	City of Sturgis	Total: 117
City of Birmingham	City of Lansing	City of Taylor	*New: 2
City of Boyne City	City of Lapeer	City of Tecumseh	**Growth Awards: 5
City of Brighton	City of Lincoln Park	City of Traverse City	Largest: Detroit
City of Cadillac	City of Livonia**	City of Trenton	Smallest: Richland
City of Charlevoix	City of Lowell	City of Troy	Oldest: Royal Oak, Adrian (41yrs)
City of Charlotte	City of Marquette	City of Wayne	Avg. \$ Per Capita: \$9.39
City of Clawson	City of Marshall	City of Whitehall	
City of Clio	City of Marysville	City of Wyoming	
City of Coldwater	City of Mason	City of Ypsilanti	
City of Davison	City of Midland	City of Zeeland	
City of Dearborn	City of Monroe	Charter Township of Chesterfield	
City of Dearborn Heights	City of Montague	Charter Township of Shelby	
City of Detroit	City of Morenci	Village of Breckenridge	
City of Dewitt	City of Mount Clemens	Village of Caledonia	
City of Dowagiac	City of Muskegon	Village of Dexter	
City of East Lansing	City of North Muskegon*	Village of Dundee	
City of Escanaba	City of Norway	Village of Franklin	
City of Ewart	City of Novi	Village of Grosse Pointe Shores	
City of Ferndale	City of Oak Park**	Village of Holly	
City of Flint	City of Petersburg	Village of Howard City	
City of Frankenmuth	City of Plainwell*	Village of Lake Odessa	
City of Franfort**	City of Plymouth	Village of Lexington	
City of Fraser	City of Port Huron	Village of Mackinaw City	
City of Fremont	City of Portage	Village of Milford	
City of Gaylord	City of Riverview	Village of Richland	
City of Gladstone	City of Rochester	Village of Spring Lake	
City of Grand Haven	City of Rochester Hills	Village of Three Oaks	



May 18, 2018 MUCFC Meeting Staff and Member Updates

SAYERS:

- AmeriCorps Member/program future: Placed Angel Squalls (2017 member) with City of Detroit Forestry. 2018 member, Hannah Lunden, took permanent job at end of March. Unknown future arrangement with AmeriCorps and DNR-Lansing positions.
- New MSU Urban Forestry faculty (Asia Downtin) starts July 6. Need to coordinate meeting with council members
- MSU Forestry Dept. student Intern with DNR UCF program (Jalen Vanscott) – Summer position for ~100-140 hrs. Mainly mentoring.
- New Arbor Day Coordinator (Sarah Bauer). Great event this year.
<http://www.miarbordayalliance.org/home.html>
- Completed a successful 500 tree giveaway (May 5) in Detroit as part of Arbor Day Foundation's Community Tree Recovery initiative (2nd yr.) Unknown future due to ADF program direction and sponsorship
- Upcoming Events:
 - o NAASF UCF Committee meeting in Portland, ME (May 21-25)
http://www.northeasternforests.org/content/ucf_page1 (Kevin attending)
 - o Detroit River Days (June 22-24) <http://www.riverdays.com/> (Kevin attending)
 - o Urban Forest Strike Team (UFST) Team Leader and Task Specialist Training in Houston, TX (June 25-29) <https://ufst.org/> (Kevin S. and Kay Lancour – Consumers Energy are attending)
 - o ISA conference/trade show in Columbus, OH (Aug 5-8) <https://www.isa-arbor.com/Events/Annual-Conference/2018-Annual-Conference>
 - o Midwest UCF Council meeting in Winona, MN (Oct. 11-12)
 - o UFST Refresher and Task Specialist Training in Lansing, MI (Oct. 17-18) <https://ufst.org/> (DNR UCF hosting)
 - o 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:
 - o 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.
 - o Waiting to hear on USFS Landscape Scale Restoration (LSR) multi-state urban wood utilization propels submitted last year by WI DNR.
<https://www.fs.usda.gov/naspf/working-with-us/grants/landscape-scale-restoration-grants>
 - o 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>
 - o 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.
www.mi.gov/ucf

Kobe:

Updates from MSU Forestry May 2018

1. Three faculty hires have been completed during spring semester. New faculty hires include:

a. Jim Rivard started as an instructor in March. He will be teaching introductory courses as well as some more advanced courses (Forest Consulting). Jim taught at Michigan Tech for 9 years before moving back to southern MI.

b. Asia Downtin is filling the Urban and Community Forestry position. Asia completed her PhD at the University of Delaware focused on urban forest fragment effects on hydrology. She will be starting on 1 July 2018. This position was created through the PERM (Partnership for Ecosystem Research and Management) agreement between MSU and the MI DNR.

c. Jesse Randall will start as Director of Forestry Research and Extension in the U.P. (based at the Escanaba field station) on 16 August. Jesse currently is an Associate Professor at Iowa State. Jesse completed his PhD at MSU Forestry in 2008. He will direct the field station in Escanaba as well as develop forestry extension.

2. Negotiations continue with a candidate for the forest economist position.

3. Rich Kobe will be attending ISA's Industry Workforce Summit in Charlotte, NC next week. Once Asia Downtin has settled, we will again focus on building an integrated career pathway in arboriculture and urban forestry with certificate, Associate's and Bachelor's options, in collaboration with MSU's Institute for Agricultural Technology and community colleges.

Miller:

Spalted Banjo Consulting (SBC) is working on an array of project in the northern Michigan area and beyond. In particular SBC is working in a leadership capacity along side Jessica Simons, Coordinator with the Sustainable Resources Alliance, to promote the new Michigan Urban Wood Network. Together with the MIDNR, the MI Urban Wood Network hopes to host two 2018 training around Urban Wood Utilization and Urban Wood Drying.

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Margaret Miller, CF
Owner, Consultant
Spalted Banjo Consulting