

~~~~~  
<http://www.americanforests.org>  
AMERICAN FORESTS  
People Caring for Trees and Forests Since 1875

To subscribe to ForestBytes:  
Visit <http://www.americanforests.org/>

If you find this information valuable, please pass it on to  
friends and colleagues.

~~~~~  
TABLE OF CONTENTS

- I. What's Happening?
 - * Unveiling New Study at Conference
 - * Meryl Streep Supports Global ReLeaf
 - * Closing in on New Champs
 - * Updating www.americanforests.org
 - * Magazine, Documentary Honored for Excellence

- II. Check It Out!
 - * Public Comment Period on Roadless Rule
 - * Helping the wood thrush
 - * Register Soon for Chestnut Meeting

- III. GLOBAL RELEAF Spotlight
 - * Roy E. Larsen Sandyland Sanctuary, Texas

- IV. Environmental News from ENN.com
 - * "National Park Service grants millions for city parks"
 - * "California fires heat up, Northwest rains on way"

== What's Happening? =====

Unveiling New Study at Conference

AMERICAN FORESTS will unveil a dramatic new study, called "Gray to Green: Reversing the National Tree Deficit," to kick-off the 2001 National Urban Forest Conference. At a September 5th news conference the organization's Urban Forest Center will release its latest analysis of the tree canopy of Washington, DC, using high-resolution satellite imagery, which provides the best view yet that the nation's capital is changing from a city of trees to a city of sidewalks and parking lots. Also at the news conference, GIS analysts will reveal the estimated number of trees currently missing from America's urban areas, hence the "national tree deficit."

Held biennially, AMERICAN FORESTS' National Urban Forest Conference brings together a broad range of people to examine the latest trends, public policy, technology, and action programs to engage communities in rebuilding the urban environment, especially its trees and forests. The theme of this year's Conference, held at the Omni Shoreham Hotel in

Washington, DC, September 5-8, is "Investing in Natural Capital." USDA Forest Service, Eddie Bauer, The Davey Tree Expert Company, O'Doul's, and ESRI are sponsoring the Conference.

Sessions cover an array of issues including: trees and urban infrastructure; air quality, energy, and the urban heat island; protecting wildlife habitat; and trees and stormwater management. In-depth workshops and ten tours showcasing the rich urban environment and initiatives in the area will be offered. The closing session of the Conference will be a "journalists' roundtable" featuring Ray Suarez, senior correspondent with PBS's The NewsHour with Jim Lehrer. Suarez and other journalists will discuss how urban foresters, citizen activists, and others can get their stories featured on local and national media sources.

The Autumn 2001 issue of American Forests magazine, which has just been mailed, has a number of stories relating to urban forestry.

Conference updates will be posted daily at www.americanforests.org.

For more information on the 2001 National Urban Forest Conference, visit http://www.americanforests.org/trees_cities_sprawl/conference/.

Meryl Streep Supports Global ReLeaf

Academy award-winning actress Meryl Streep will soon be heard narrating AMERICAN FORESTS' Global ReLeaf public service announcements on television channels across the United States. Streep recently voiced the announcements in New York City. Tapes are being edited and will be distributed to ABC, CBS, Animal Planet, HGTV, and many other television channels and local cable companies across America that are already broadcasting AMERICAN FORESTS' public service announcements.

"AMERICAN FORESTS has one of the best reputations in the conservation world," said Streep. "The nation's oldest nonprofit conservation organization, AMERICAN FORESTS has been planting and protecting trees and forests for more than 125 years. I'm honored to help this historic organization's Global ReLeaf tree-planting efforts to improve the environment and make the world a better place to live."

For more than 20 years Meryl Streep has captured the hearts and minds of film fanatics and theatergoers alike. She won her first Oscar in 1979 for Kramer vs. Kramer. She has also starred in The Deer Hunter, Sophie's Choice, and many other notable films and has been nominated for numerous Emmy and Tony Awards. Most recently she appeared in the film Music of the Heart, based on the true story of a violin teacher who began an inner-city children's music program that became known worldwide. This summer, Streep has been performing on stage in "The Seagull" as part of a theater series in New York City's Central Park.

There are a lot of websites with information on Meryl Streep. <http://movies.yahoo.com/shop?d=hc&cf=bios&id=1800018835> provides a detailed summary of Streep's acting career.

Meryl Streep is passionate about trees and the environment. Learn about the many environmental benefits Global ReLeaf trees provide by visiting http://www.americanforests.org/global_releaf/benefits/index.html.

Closing in on New Champs

AMERICAN FORESTS has received dozens of nominations for the National Register of Big Trees since the Register was last printed in the spring of 2000. The nominations deadline for the 2002 Register was August 1, 2001. State forestry experts are now verifying the contenders' statistics to see which ones will dethrone current record-holders.

Published biennially by AMERICAN FORESTS, the National Register of Big Trees lists the largest specimens of some 826 species that are native or naturalized to the United States. The 2002 Register will be published this spring.

More than 90 hard-to-find species did not have champion trees listed on the 2000 Register. But thanks to the keen eyes of Big Tree Hunters, close to half-a-dozen of those species could now have champs.

Florida and Georgia had the most nominees to the 2002 Register followed by Tennessee and Oregon.

Watch for the National Register of Big Trees, published as part of the Spring issue of American Forests magazine.

You'll receive a free copy of the Register with your AMERICAN FORESTS' membership. Join the nation's oldest nonprofit conservation organization by visiting https://www.americanforests.org/acorn/membership/memberself/memberself.jsp?uid=997726584265&verb=init&searchType=i&tx_type=nc&product=trees.

Updating www.americanforests.org

AMERICAN FORESTS is in the process of updating and improving its website, www.americanforests.org. The work will be performed over the course of several months. Our goal is to make the website as informative, educational, fun, and user-friendly as possible.

If you have ideas on how www.americanforests.org can be improved, let us know. We also want to hear what you like about our website's current layout. Send your thoughts to our new Webmaster, Josh Williams, at josh@amfor.org.

Magazine, Documentary Honored for Excellence

AMERICAN FORESTS recently won awards for both print and television. American Forests magazine's Spring 2001 issue received a pewter award from the Gold Ink Awards, considered the nation's most prestigious print competition.

Find more information on the Gold Ink Awards by clicking to <http://www.goldink.com/>.

"Silent Witnesses: America's Historic Trees," a look at American history

through the stories of trees linked to famous Americans or historic events, has received a 2001 Telly Award. The documentary, produced by AMERICAN FORESTS and WJCT public television, premiered in the spring of 2000 on public TV stations across the United States. The Telly Awards were founded in 1980 to showcase outstanding non-network and cable commercials and was later expanded to include film and video productions. In the past 21 years, winners and finalists have come from a cross-section of agencies, production companies, television stations, and cable operations, as well as corporate video departments.

AMERICAN FORESTS' Historic Tree Nursery grows and sells direct-offspring of the trees featured in "Silent Witnesses." Learn more about the Historic Tree Nursery at www.historictrees.org.

== Check It Out! =====

* The public comment period for the proposed Roadless Rule is rapidly coming to an end. Comments on the plan must be postmarked by September 10.

USDA Forest Service offers 10 optional questions that respondents can answer or reformat the questions to suit your needs. Find the list at <http://www.roadless.fs.fed.us/xcomments.shtml>.

Send your comments:

1) by mail to:

USDA-Forest Service -- CAT

Attention: Roadless ANPR Comments

P.O. Box 221090, Salt Lake City, Utah, 84122

2) via electronic mail to roadless_anpr@fs.fed.us

3) or by fax to 1-801-296-4090, Attention: Roadless ANPR Comments.

All comments, including names and addresses when provided, are placed in the record and are available for public inspection and copying at Salt Lake City, Utah.

The Clinton administration and USDA Forest Service proposed the Roadless Rule, which restricts development on some 60 million acres of inventoried roadless areas in national forests. In May 2001, Agriculture Secretary Ann Veneman and Forest Service Chief Dale Bosworth announced USDA was going forward with the Roadless Rule, but with some possible amendments.

The official response by AMERICAN FORESTS to USDA's decision to uphold the Rule can be found at

http://www.americanforests.org/news_and_pubs/news/roadless.html.

* If you read the Autumn 2000 issue of American Forests magazine, you know many songbird populations are declining.

Dozens of songbirds belong to a select group of birds known as forest interior- dwelling species. These birds require large areas of contiguous forest to forage and breed. But many songbird populations are in trouble because the vast forests that once covered the eastern U.S. are falling prey to roads, shopping centers, and housing developments.

One of the species adversely affected by sprawl and habitat loss is the wood thrush, which is often heard before it is seen. With what one

expert has called "perhaps the most beautiful song of any North American bird," wood thrushes fill the forests of the eastern half of the United States with distinctive trills. The wood thrush is relatively indistinctive except for a dazzling brown and cream splotched belly.

AMERICAN FORESTS' reforestation efforts are increasing habitat for songbirds, like the wood thrush. Working with The Nature Conservancy, AMERICAN FORESTS planted more than 33,000 red and white oak and other seedlings from 1999-2001 at the Milford Neck Preserve in Delaware, an important nesting site for more than 100 species of birds, including the wood thrush. The project also enlarges forests, improves forest corridors, and buffers sensitive coastal wetlands and the Delaware Bay estuary from human-caused nutrient runoff and sedimentation.

Find more information on wood thrushes at <http://birds.cornell.edu/BOW/WOOTHR/>.

Go to http://www.cevl.msu.edu/~sg1410/docs/commonbirds_files/WoodThrush.jpg for another photo.

Check out <http://nature.org/states/delaware/preserves/art1030.html> for information on Milford Neck Preserve.

Help increase habitat for species like the wood thrush via http://www.americanforests.org/global_releaf/env_rest.html

* After attending the 2001 National Urban Forest Conference, consider participating in another exciting tree-related conference. The American Chestnut Foundation will hold its annual meeting October 26-October 28 in Chattanooga, TN. Registration fees are due by September 15. Members pay \$145 and others \$155.

Chestnut enthusiasts, scientists and experts, and many others will participate in an array of workshops ranging from "The Appalachian Forest Ecosystem and the American Chestnut" to "Artificial Regeneration of American Chestnut in Forest Openings."

Visit www.acf.org for more information.

If you have a story idea for ForestBytes, send it to Stevin Westcott, AMERICAN FORESTS' director of communications. His email address is swestcott@amfor.org.

***** ARE YOU A MEMBER??*****

Do your part to help the environment today by joining AMERICAN FORESTS. You'll get 25 trees planted for you in a damaged ecosystem or forest restoration project. You'll also receive:

- A free subscription to our quarterly magazine
- A free Big Trees calendar
- A window decal

Join Today! Visit <http://www.americanforests.org/>

== GLOBAL RELEAF Spotlight =====

Roy E. Larsen Sandyland Sanctuary, Texas

Ten thousand longleaf pine seedlings in the Roy E. Larsen Sandyland Sanctuary will restore the native longleaf pine-little bluestem ecosystem that once dominated the region. The planting project protects unique and ecologically significant areas, including one of the last remaining drought-resistant longleaf pine communities in Texas. Village Creek, a major tributary of the Neches River, meanders through the floodplain forest. Some 800 plant species and numerous animal species reside in the sanctuary, including at least 18 of amphibians, 107 of birds, 27 of reptiles, and 22 of mammals.

Educate a friend about AMERICAN FORESTS' efforts to improve the planet with trees and forests by encouraging her or him to sign up for ForestBytes.

== ENVIRONMENTAL NEWS AND FEATURES FROM ENN.COM =====

* "National Park Service grants millions for city parks"
http://www.enn.com/news/enn-stories/2001/08/08202001/parks_44676.asp

* "California fires heat up, Northwest rains on way"
http://www.enn.com/news/wire-stories/2001/08/08222001/reu_firesrains_44705.asp

_____ ForestBytes _____

Thanks for your support of ForestBytes, AMERICAN FORESTS' monthly email newsletter. Don't forget to forward this information to friends or colleagues.

FEEDBACK OR OTHER ASSISTANCE:
<mailto:forestbytes@amfor.org>

PLANT TREES WITH AMERICAN FORESTS:
http://www.americanforests.org/global_releaf/

BECOME A MEMBER OF AMERICAN FORESTS:
http://www.americanforests.org/membr_bnfts/

- - - - -
<http://www.americanforests.org>

AMERICAN FORESTS
People Caring for Trees and Forests since 1875.
