

**Newsletter of the
ESA Urban Ecosystem Ecology Section
February 2008**

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Section News

ESA 2008 Annual Meeting - The 2008 ESA annual meeting will be held in Milwaukee on 3-8 August 2008 at the Midwest Airlines Center in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. Meeting home page: <http://www.esa.org/milwaukee/>

Urban Ecosystem Ecology Section Meeting – (tentatively) Tuesday, August 5, 11:30-1:15. This will be a brown bag, no-frills meeting intended to conserve more section \$ for useful stuff like travel awards (see below)

Travel Awards – UEE will award three student travel awards of \$300 each to assist with expenses at the annual meeting in Milwaukee. Please submit your meeting abstract, statement of need (<300 words), and a letter of recommendation to Wayne Zipperer, UEE section Chair (wzipperer@fs.fed.us) by April 1. Recipients will be notified by May 1.

Reviewers needed - UEE section officers seek reviewers to rank travel award applications (see above). Please reply to Wayne Zipperer, UEE section Chair (wzipperer@fs.fed.us) for details.

Urban Ecosystem Ecology 2008 Field Trip at Milwaukee - Snakes, Canoeing and Citizen Science at the Urban Ecology Center, Sunday, August 3rd 9:00am - 3:00pm led by Tim Vargo. The Urban Ecology Center (UEC, www.urbanecologycenter.org) is a not-for-profit environmental education center that grew out of a grassroots neighborhood effort to save historic Riverside Park (Frederick Law Olmsted) from crime. Located in the most densely populated area of Wisconsin, UEC grew from its humble beginnings in a double-wide trailer to an award-winning green building that boasts energy-efficient design, recycled materials, and a gray-water system as well as a classroom camouflaged into the wall, an entry-way that is a slide and a 40-foot observation tower with a rock-climbing wall. This trip will start with a building tour and discussion of two of UEC's nationally-recognized programs, the Neighborhood Environmental Education Project

(NEEP) and the Citizen Science project. After lunch we will venture on to the floodplains of the Milwaukee River with UEC's researchers and citizen scientists to assist them in their monitoring of the state-threatened Butler's Garter Snake, which is found only in the Milwaukee area and is facing the threat of habitat loss due to development. The trip will conclude with a lazy canoe trip down the Milwaukee River and back to the Convention Center. Please wear comfortable clothes for canoeing and a short hike through grassland.

Nominations for UEE Section Officers needed –Terms for the current section officers Wayne Zipperer (Chair), Paige Warren (Vice-Chair), and Paul Mayer (Secretary/Treasurer) end after the annual meeting in Milwaukee in August. Please submit names and contact information of nominees to Wayne Zipperer (wzipperer@fs.fed.us) by April 1. Nominees and voting details will be featured in the June newsletter. Please submit names and contact information of nominees to Wayne Zipperer (wzipperer@fs.fed.us) by April 1. Nominees and voting details will be featured in the June newsletter. Duties of the officers are described in the bylaws available at <http://www.esa.org/urbanecosystem/>

Symposium Proposal Accepted! - A proposal submitted by Myla Aronson and Kristen Ross, Rutgers University, for the symposium “Using Urban Ecological Research as a Tool for Enhancing Ecological Literacy” has been accepted for the annual meeting.

(If you have pertinent information (e.g., projects, experiences, methodologies, ongoing research, etc.) that you want to share with members, please send them to mayer.paul@epa.gov for the next newsletter)

Meetings and calls for abstracts

ESA Annual Meeting – “Enhancing Ecological Thought by Linking Research and Education” – Deadline for contributed oral and poster abstracts is 28 Feb 2008
http://www.esa.org/milwaukee/abstract_call2008.php

Conference ‘Forest Recreation and Tourism serving Urbanized Societies’ (also the 11th European Forum on Urban Forestry (EFUF), 28-31 May 2008, Hämeenlinna, Finland. A call for paper for this event is now open. Please visit: <http://www.metla.fi/tapahtumat/2008/recreation-tourism/call-for-papers.htm>
All abstracts should be received before 28 February 2008.

International conference ‘Urban Design and Ecology: International perspectives’ 1-4 June 2008, St Petersburg, Russia. The aim of this conference is information exchange and learning experiences from the around the world for the development of sustainable urban design. Please email your abstracts to Maria Ignatieva ignatiem@lincoln.ac.nz or ignat.m@gmail.com by 31 Jan 2008.

For more information: <http://www.iufro.org/science/divisions/division-6/60000/61400/activities/>

Conference ‘Landscape Ecology and Forest Management: Challenges and Solutions’, 16-18 September 2008 (with subsequent field trip), Chengdu, China. The deadline for submitting abstracts for this event, originally set by the Landscape Ecology working party of IUFRO, has been extended to 15 February 2008. The conference includes a symposium titled ‘Urban forest landscapes in the context of developing countries and rapid urbanization’. For more details about this conference, please visit the conference webpage at: <http://research.eeescience.utoledo.edu/lees/IUFRO/2008MTG/>

Third North American Sea Duck Conference – Québec City, Canada, on 10-14 November 2008. This international conference is open to all researchers, managers and others interested in sea ducks. It will be hosted by the Canadian Wildlife Service (Québec Region), in partnership with the non-profit organization Regroupement QuébecOiseaux. Additional information on the conference is available on the following web site: <<http://www.seaduckconference2008.org>> Michel Robert (Chair of the Organizing committee) michel.robert@ec.gc.ca Phone: 418-649-8071; Jean-Pierre L. Savard (Chair of the Scientific committee) jean-pierre.savard@ec.gc.ca Phone: 418-648-3500

2nd Symposium on Urbanization and Stream Ecology (SUSE), Salt Lake Plaza Hotel, Salt Lake City, Utah, May 23-24, 2008. This two-day symposium will bring together scientists from around the world to discuss recent research advances in the field of urban stream ecology. We will present and refine an urban stream conceptual model that is being developed based on current scientific understanding. Feedback from scientists and local practitioners (engineers, regulators, planners, and developers) during the meeting will help to identify and prioritize future research needs. The format of the meeting will include invited synthesis talks, contributed new research talks, and interactive discussions.

We invite members of the scientific community to submit abstracts for 5-minute, contributed oral presentations. Talks should include novel research results which have broad interest to meeting participants and shed light on the mechanisms and causes of urbanization impacts on stream ecosystems. Presenters will have an opportunity to field questions in a panel discussion following each series of talks. Abstracts (max 200 words) should be emailed to Allison Roy at <roy.allison@epa.gov> by Friday, March 14th.

The symposium will be held in the Salt Lake Plaza Hotel on May 23-24, immediately prior to the Annual Meeting of the North American Benthological Society (NABS), with a welcome mixer on Thursday evening, May 22nd. Registration is free, but advance registration is necessary through the NABS website: <<http://www.benthos.org/Meeting/>>. If you are not attending NABS, please register by emailing Allison Roy <roy.allison@epa.gov> by Friday, April 11th. Discounted rooms (\$90/night) are available at the Salt Lake Plaza Hotel via NABS lodging reservations (<https://resweb.passkey.com/go/nabs>). For those not attending NABS, reservations may be made directly through the hotel at the same rate by calling 800-366-3684 and mentioning the meeting name (Symposium on Urbanization and Stream Ecology).

Additional meeting details, including a preliminary schedule, will be posted on the urban streams website <<http://www.rivercenter.uga.edu/research/urban.htm>>.

Spotlight on Urban Ecology Programs

What follows are some URL's of interesting programs in urban ecology located via a quick Google search. If you want to let others know about your active, productive, and cool ecology program, send your info to mayer.paul@epa.gov for the next newsletter.

CUES: Center for Urban Ecology and Sustainability – University of Minnesota
<http://www.entomology.umn.edu/cues/>

Interdisciplinary Education in Urban Ecology – University of Washington
<http://www.urbanecology.washington.edu/>

Oglethorpe University
http://www.oglethorpe.edu/academics/undergraduate/division_iii/urban_ecology.asp

Arizona State University – Integrative Graduate Education and Research Training (IGERT) in Urban Ecology
<http://sustainability.asu.edu/igert/index.htm>

Jobs and Assistantships

Professor in Green Space Management, University of Copenhagen
The Danish Centre for Forest, Landscape and Planning, University of Copenhagen announces a professorship in Green Space Management. Information on the requirements for the position and on how to apply is available from:
<http://www.life.ku.dk/English/positions.aspx> (scroll down to 'Professor in Green Space Management - 09/01/08).

Post doctoral Fellowship (2 years) for research on birds living in urban environments. Post doc will be based in the Smithsonian Migratory Bird Center at the National Zoo and field research will be largely conducted within the Washington DC – Baltimore corridor. The Post doctoral Fellow will work closely with the PI, graduate students and field assistants on various aspects of the research including questions involving basic population and behavioral ecology and some research related to exposure to household contaminants and its impacts. The incumbent will be expected to develop independent research directions based on the larger project goals. Strong applicants will have published or submitted the majority of their dissertation, have aptitude with a variety of current quantitative techniques, and have experience in the observation, capture and handling of birds. The stipend is \$40,000/year and can begin immediately. For more

information, contact Pete Marra, SMBC, marrap@si.edu, (www.si.edu/smbc) 202-633-1594.

Grants, Awards, and Fellowships

UEE Travel Awards – see details in section news above

The Pacific Northwest Chapter of the Society of Wetland Scientists – Travel Funds

The next International SWS meeting will be held in Washington, D.C. from 26-30 May 2008. At this time, we would like to announce the availability of funds to assist students with the costs associated with traveling to/from SWS meetings to present results of their research. The PNW Chapter will make one award for the upcoming International meeting. The award includes meeting registration fee and \$1,000 cash stipend to help offset travel and lodging expenses. This competition is open to all currently registered, graduate and undergraduate students within Washington, Oregon and Idaho. Selected students are expected to submit an abstract and make a presentation. To Apply, submit proof of current student status (photo copy of a university ID or letter from academic advisor), a copy of your submitted SWS abstract, and a short (1-2 page) letter describing your studies, your career goals and why you would like to receive this award.

Applications must be received by 18 February 2008 (Abstract Deadline is 29 February 2008). Applications can be mailed or emailed to Dr. Ralph J. Garono (rgarono@earthdesign.com), c/o Earth Design Consultants, Inc., 230 SW Third St., Corvallis, OR 97333, (541.757.7896). Awards will be made by the selection committee on the basis of the merit of each candidate and the quality of their SWS abstract. Decisions of the selection committee are final. The committee reserves the right to withhold the award if suitable candidates are not found or if funds are not available. For more information: <http://www.sws.org/regional/pacificNW/Scholarship>.

EPA STAR Grants

http://es.epa.gov/ncer/guidance/star_faq.html

International Master ‘Urban Forestry and Urban Greening’ (Sweden and Denmark) - People interested in participation in the 2008-2009 edition of this international Master programme are very welcome to do so. Deadline for applications is 1 February 2008. More information can be found at <http://www.nova-university.org/ufug>.

Garden Club of America’s Urban Forestry Fellowship - Zone VI of The Garden Club of America has established a national fellowship in urban forestry for qualified U.S. students. The GCA Zone VI Fellowship in Urban Forestry will be awarded in early 2008. With this fellowship, The Garden Club of America seeks to forward their goal of advancing our knowledge of urban forests and increasing the number of scientists in the field of urban forestry. Applications are reviewed by a selection committee at Virginia Tech composed of practicing urban forestry scientists and professionals in related fields. Final selection is endorsed by The Garden Club of America. The fellowship is open to

both graduate students and *advanced* undergraduate students pursuing degrees in urban forestry, forestry, horticulture, environmental studies or a closely related field at any 4-year college or university degree program in the United States. Recipients must be U.S. students who will be enrolled as juniors or seniors or graduate students during the fellowship period. The award is for \$4,000 and recipients may apply for one additional year of funding. For more information, online application forms, and past recipients, visit <http://www.cnr.vt.edu/urbanforestry/scholarships.htm> or contact Dr. Day at gcaurbanforestry@vt.edu or 540-231-7264. Application deadline: January 31.

Publications and Communications

ESA Blog + ESA News and Views

www.esa.org/esablog

Cities and the Environment (catejournal.org) publishes peer-reviewed scholarship on urban ecology research and urban ecology education. The journal encourages submission of scholarly works of the following types: well-written, relevant articles; multi-media products such as simulations, video streams, audio productions and other visualization tools.

Urban Agriculture Magazine (UAM) is a publication that facilitates the sharing of information on the impacts of urban agriculture. Moreover, it promotes analysis and debate on critical issues for development of the sector, and publishes 'good practices' in urban agriculture. For information on how to subscribe to this magazine, which is published twice a year, visit: <http://www.ruaf.org/>

Cities Farming for the Future – “Urban agriculture for green and productive Cities” - This book, published by the RUAF Foundation, presents the state of art in the development of sustainable urban agriculture, including aspects of urban forestry. For information on how to order this book, visit <http://www.iirr.org/> or send an e-mail to bookstore@iirr.org

The Water Environment of Cities - In a rapidly urbanizing world, better management of urban water environments will be essential to avoid calamities. To address this problem, an interdisciplinary group of scientists, lawyers, ecologists, planners and engineers convened an NSF-funded workshop on January 16-18, 2008 near Minneapolis, to synthesize ideas developed while writing "core" chapters of a book, *The Water Environment of Cities*. This book will be the first to use a holistic, interdisciplinary approach to examine the urban water environment, built around the concept of water as a core element of cities. Each chapter incorporated six themes: sustainability, resilience, water scarcity, multiple uses of water, water management institutions, and a focus on the future. The purpose of the workshop was to integrate these themes into a synthesis chapter and to plan future projects to carry the theme into the future. The book, which should appear in late 2008, is written in a didactic style, intended to be accessible to an

interdisciplinary graduate students with broad science backgrounds, making it useful as a "readings" text for courses in urban ecosystems, water resources management and policy and related courses. For more information, contact Larry Baker, baker127@umn.edu.

ESA Urban Ecosystem Ecology Section Officers

Wayne Zipperer – Chair (wzipperer@fs.fed.us)

Paige Warren - Vice-Chair (pswarren@forwild.umass.edu)

Paul Mayer – Secretary (mayer.paul@epa.gov)

www.esa.org/urbanecosystem/
