

An Evaluation of the Connecticut Tax Incentive Program for Forestland Preservation

Agenda

April 28-29, 2008
Yale University
Bowers Hall
205 Prospect Street
New Haven, CT

APRIL 28 PUBLIC FORUM

- 1:00 pm **Welcome Remarks and Program Review**
*Dr. Chadwick Oliver, Pinchot Professor of Forestry and Environmental Studies
and Director of Yale's Global Institute of Sustainable Forestry*
- 1:15 pm **Review of current trends in CT forestland ownership**
Deborah Spalding, Yale School Forests
- 1:30 pm **A View from the Legislature: Priorities, Mechanisms and Challenges**
CT State Representative
- 2:00 pm **Panel Discussion: Stakeholder Perspectives on Tax Incentive Program**
- *William Bentley, Principal, Salmon Brook Associates*
 - *Frank Chiaramonte, First Selectman, Town of Harwinton, CT*
 - *Melissa Spear, State Director, The Trust for Public Land*
 - *How has the program worked for you?*
 - *Does it meet its intended objectives?*
 - *What are the biggest challenges you face under the program?*
 - *What improvements are needed?*
- 3:00 pm Break

- 3:15 pm **Views from Outside Connecticut**
An examination of programs in other states that have been successful, with a goal to establish some best practices for CT.
- *William Horvath*, Wisconsin Council on Forestry
 - *Robert O'Connor*, Director of Land and Conservation Services, Executive Office of Environmental Affairs, Commonwealth of Massachusetts
 - *Donald Van Hassent*, Associate Director, Maryland DNR - Forest Service
- 4:15 pm **Are Tax Incentives the Only Answer?**
A review of other mechanisms for preserving forestland and encouraging sustainable management
- **Community Forest Bonds:** *Tom Tuchmann*, President, US Forest Capital LLC
 - **Biomass Energy Incentives:** *Konstantine Drakonakis, PE*, Manager, New Technology Investments and Infrastructure Development, Connecticut Clean Energy Fund
 - **Ecosystem Services Markets:** *Dan Spethmann*, Manager of Investment Programs, New Forests
- 5:30 pm Concluding Remarks
- 5:45 pm Reception in Sage Hall
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