MFC News

Caring for the Trees and Forests of Mississippi Since 1926

660 North Street, Suite 300
Jackson, Mississippi 39202
Phone: 601-359-1386
Fax: 601-359-1349
www.mfc.ms.gov

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2010 BMP Implementation Survey

Mississippi has nearly 20 million acres of forestland, covering two-thirds of the state's total land area. Forests make an important contribution to Mississippians' quality of life by providing jobs, forest products, livestock forage areas, wildlife habitat, scenic areas, recreational experiences, and many other social and economic benefits. It is estimated that some type of forestry activity occurs on nearly 800,000 forested acres each year in Mississippi. Mississippi's forestland also plays a vital role in protecting the state's water resources and maintaining water quality.

Why conduct a BMP Survey? The Clean Water Act of 1987 requires that proper steps be taken to prevent water pollution. Mississippi's Silvicultural Best Management Practices (BMPs) were established as a result of the Clean Water Act of 1987. Best management practices are non-regulated, voluntary guidelines for silvicultural activities that, when properly applied, will protect water quality from nonpoint source pollutants while maintaining site productivity.

Survey Procedures

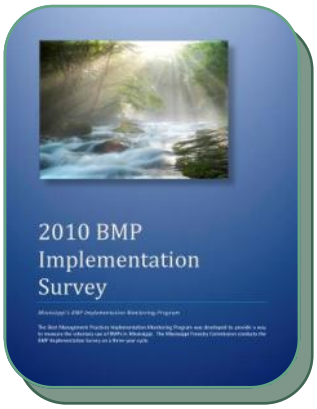
In 2010, the Mississippi Forestry Commission conducted a field survey of best management practices (BMPs) voluntarily implemented on forestland in Mississippi. This report presents the results of that survey.

A total of 237 sites in 80 counties located in 10 watersheds in Mississippi having recent silvicultural activity were randomly selected to evaluate the voluntary implementation of best management practices. The Mississippi Forestry Commission utilized its own personnel to conduct the survey.

The following criteria were applied in selecting sites to be included in the survey:

- Forest harvesting activities occurring within 24 months.
- Sites must be at least 10 acres in size.
- Sites were selected without regard to ownership.

The 2010 BMP Implementation Survey results for Mississippi revealed that 93 percent of best management practices applicable to the survey sites were implemented in accordance with the guidelines published in the handbook *Mississippi's BMP – Best Management Practices for Forestry in Mississippi.*



Survey Site Evaluation

For each site surveyed by a Commission forester 73 values were collected on each of the 8 BMP categories. The BMP categories are as follows:

- Streamside Management Zone (SMZ)
- Stream Crossings
- Permanent Roads
- Skid Trails/Temporary (Secondary) roads
- Site Preparation Activities
- Landings
- Wetlands
- Fireline Construction

If a value within a category did not apply to the survey site, it was recorded as Not Applicable (N/A). All other practices were considered applicable to the site and were evaluated on whether or not they were implement-

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This institution is an equal opportunity provider

TWC

The Teachers Conservation Workshop, affectionately call "TWC" will once again hold two workshops. The first workshop will be held June 12-17 at Jones County Junior College in Ellisville, MS and the second workshop will be held on June 19-24 at Northeast Community College in Booneville, MS.

For more information, go to the Mississippi Forestry Association website (http://www.msforestry.net/) and click on Teachers Conservation Workshop.

Newsletter Deadlines

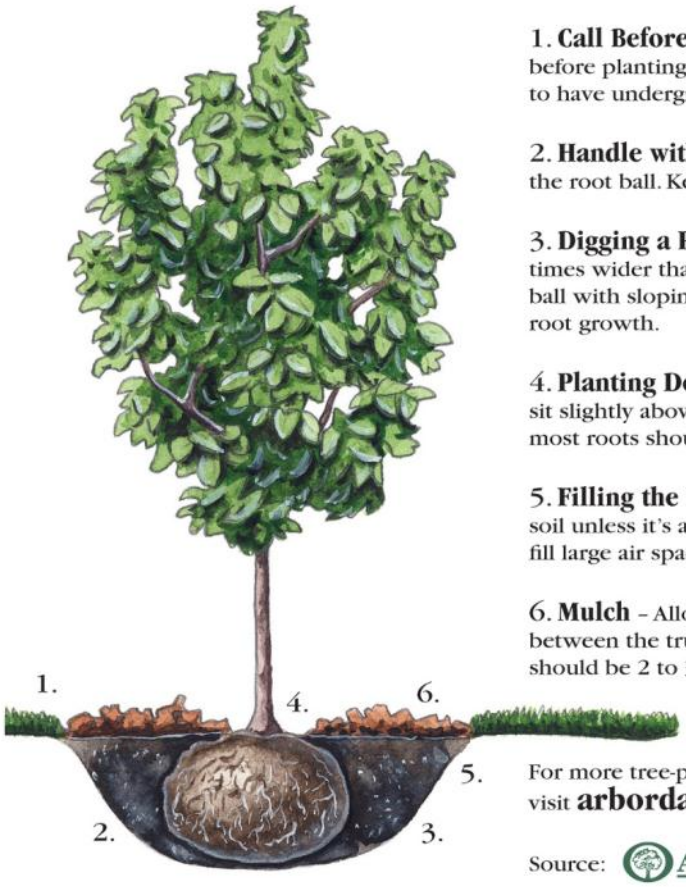
All submissions are welcome. Photographs are encouraged (although space limitations may curtail inclusion). Items must be received by the ***10th of the month*** to be included in the next month's issue. E-mail submissions *(in Microsoft Word)* and photos to

lharris@mfc.state.ms.us

or mail to:

Lisa A. Harris
Mississippi Forestry Commission
660 North Street, Suite 300
Jackson, MS 39202

Six Things You Should Know When Planting A Tree



1. **Call Before You Dig** – Several days before planting, call the national 811 hotline to have underground utilities located.

2. **Handle with Care** – Always lift tree by the root ball. Keep roots moist until planting.

3. **Digging a Proper Hole** – Dig 2 to 5 times wider than the diameter of the root ball with sloping sides to allow for proper root growth.

4. **Planting Depth** – The trunk flare should sit slightly above ground level and the topmost roots should be buried 1 to 2 inches.

5. **Filling the Hole** – Backfill with native soil unless it's all clay. Tamp in soil gently to fill large air spaces.

6. **Mulch** – Allow 1 to 2 inch clearance between the trunk and the mulch. Mulch should be 2 to 3 inches deep.

For more tree-planting tips and information, visit **arborday.org.**

Source: Arbor Day Foundation™
90075201

2011 Celebration of Trees

The 2011 Celebration of Trees, Annual Urban Forestry, Tree City USA and Green Infrastructure Award Ceremony will be held on Thursday, June 16, 2011 at the Cock of the Walk Restaurant on the Reservoir.

Each year the Mississippi Urban Forest Council, in partnership with the Mississippi Forestry Commission and the USDA Forest Service recognizes and honors cities, businesses, civic groups, schools and others that have demonstrated success with community forestry and green infrastructure. We invite you to submit a nomination for the upcoming 2011 awards ceremony. This is a great way to promote locally driven work in your community. **Nomination deadline is April 15, 2011 and should be submitted via email.** Winners will be announced May 1, 2011.

MISSISSIPPI URBAN FOREST COUNCIL

Registration deadline is June 2, 2011.

For more information, contact Donna Yowell at dyowell@aol.com or call her at (601) 672-0755.

Personnel Personals

Douglas B. Brown, Forest Ranger, ECD, Lowndes County
Johnathan McKeown, Forest Ranger, SED, Stone County
John C. Howell, Emergency Telecommunicator, SEDO, Stone County
Rodney C. Crimm, FIA Forester, Statewide
Christopher J. Skies, Forest Ranger, NED, Marshall County
Antonio T. Brooks, Forest Ranger, NWD, Holmes County
Clayton M. Henderson, Service Forester, CD, Copiah County
Wesley Howard, Service Forester, NWD, Leflore County
Samuel Dale Blalock, Forest Ranger, SWD, Amite County
Joanna Youngblood, Forest Ranger, NWD, Yalobusha County
Mark Miller, Service Forester, SCD, Newton County
Michael R. Lee, Emergency Telecommunicator, SEDO, Stone County
Susan Cooper, Emergency Telecommunicator, SEDO, Stone County
Carter Mascagni, Service Forester, CD, Hinds County
John Delbert Bradford, Forest Ranger, SED, Stone County

Moving On

Oliver Williamson, Service Forester, NWD, Holmes County
Derinda Albritton, Emergency Telecommunicator, SEDO, Stone County
Wilburn Albert Freeman, Forest Ranger, SWD

Gone Fishin'

John Walker, Forester, Rankin County
Louis D. Pepper, Forestry Technician, NWD, Holmes County

Texas Fire Detail

Adam Vaughn and Keith Parker left Friday morning with a D5G tractor plow headed to east TX. Adam and Keith stage at Kirbyville, TX at a TX Forest Service office and work center.

April's Birthdays

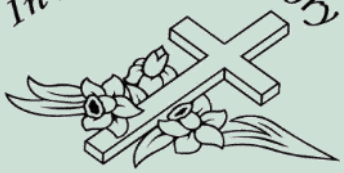
Jeff Ware -1
Nathan Lidia -3
Steve Burgess -5
Terrence Fells -5
John Eakes -6
James Jones -6
Randal Romedy -6
Tommie Scott -7
James Daniel -8
Sebastian Pope -9
Michael Goodwin-10
Sonya Lofton -10
Jerry Peacock -11
Tim Reed -11
Misty Sigler -11
Roger Williamson-11
Robert Gill -13
Rudolph Morgan-13
John Barber -14
Joel Becton -14
Stephen Ables -16
Guy Berry -18
Harold Huhn -18
Norman McLeod -18
Travis Stewart -18
David McVay -19
Brandon Bond -20
Patricia Sykes -20
Kenneth Johnson-21
Travis Vanstory -21
Terry Brown -22
Stacy Simmons -25
Joyce Brumbaugh-27
Duane Courtney-27
Robert McGivney -28
Kevin Crosby -30
Clarence McDaniel-30
Martha Moore -30

Personnel Personals

Stork Report

- ☺ Congratulations to Garron Hicks (Lafayette County Service Forester) and his wife, Janessa on the birth of their baby girl, Kylee-Jo Grace Hicks on February 6, 2011. She weight in a t 5 lbs 8 oz and was 18 3/4" long. Every one is doing great.
- ☺ Congratulations to Allen Stroud, Service Forester for Kemper County and his wife Jessica on the birth of their son, Tate Lofton Stroud. Tate was born on March 8th, weighting at 6 lb. 13 oz and was 19" long. Everyone is doing great.

In Loving Memory



In the last several months, the MFC has lose loved members of its family. List below are the one that I know about.

* Retired Leake County Forestry Crew Chief Berbin L. Roland on 1/25/2011.
* Terrance Alexander, Forestry Technician, SCD, Newton, County.
* Retired Lee County Service Robert Thornton.

Tree Knowledge - Who Am I?

My leaves are simple, alternate, deciduous with cluster terminally on the twig. The range in size from 18.0" to 30" long and 8.0" to 10.0" wide. The margin is entire, the apex is acute to bluntly pointed and the base is wedge-shaped. My leaves are green above and pale below. The surface is glabrous above and pubescent below.

My twigs are stout and reddish in color during the 1st year turning to a brown-gray as they age. Their surface is lustrous.

My terminal bud is 1.0" long and bluntly pointed. The terminal bud is purple in color while my laterals buds are brownish gray in color. Their surface is glabrous with glaucous blooms.

My fruit is conelike and glabrous. It ranges in size from 2.0" to 3.0" long, conical-cylindrical in shape and rose red in color.

My flower is monoecious, perfect on slender glabrous pedicels. It is cup-shaped, white in color with 6 or 9 petals, 10.0" to 12.0" in diameter with bright purple filaments. They has a disagreeable order.

My bark is gray, thin smooth and shallowly furrowed with age.

I form a single stem and reach 30' at maturely. My growth rate is moderate and I have a short life span of less than 50 years.

I am tolerance to shade, but have low tolerances to fire, drought and no anaerobic tolerance.

I am found on moist, rich bottom lands or near streams along the Coastal Plain and Piedmont Plateau. I prefer a fine to medium soil texture soil with a soil pH of 5.0 to 7.5.

My range is New York and Massachusetts, south to Florida; west through Mississippi, Arkansas, Oklahoma and Missouri, northeast to Indiana.

In Mississippi I am found in counties of Lafayette, Hinds and Jackson. I have been known to occur in other counties.

I have only medium palatability for both browse and graze animals.

I have no economic value as a timber product.

I an not readily available commercially for landscaping and have malodorous flowers. A characteristic specifically associated with this species.

©Ted Bodner. James H. Miller and Karl V. Miller. 2005. Forest plants of the southeast and their wildlife uses. University of Georgia Press., Athens. Courtesy of University of Georgia Press. Image scanned by Forestry Images.

I am endangered in Florida and Indiana, rare in Pennsylvania.

I was first described in the *Natural History of Carolina* published in 1743 by English naturalist Mark Catesby.

The national champion of my species is located in Bucks County, Pennsylvania.

Who Am I?

Tree Knowledge - Who Am I? for December 2010 was the American Holly (*Ilex opaca* Aiton) Check out page 197 in the Mississippi Trees book.

Above, Copyright Steve Baskauf, 2002-2011

2010 BMP Implementation Survey

(Continued from page 1)

ed as specified in Mississippi's BMP handbook. This method of evaluation allowed each BMP category and, ultimately, the overall BMP implementation program, to be evaluated and the results expressed as a percent of applicable BMPs implemented.

The presence of a significant risk to water quality was noted for each best management practice evaluated. The forester evaluating the site used the following standard to determine the presence of a significant risk to water quality: Significant risk to water quality exists, if during a normal rainfall, sediment is likely to be delivered to a permanent water body. The presence of a significant risk did not mean that water quality was impaired on the site.

All information recorded for each BMP was based on observations made at the time of the inspection. The evaluation process did not include any assumptions concerning future activities on the site.

General Tract Information

⇒**Silvicultural Activity.** A regeneration harvest had occurred on 202 of the 237 sites surveyed. The remaining sites involved thinning operations. Of the sites that had received a regeneration harvest, 70 had been artificially regenerated.

⇒ **Ownership Summary.** The survey sites were distributed and selected without regards to ownership in order to ensure an unbiased sample. Ownership was determined after a site was located. The survey sites were in the following four forest ownership groups: Private Nonindustrial ownership accounted for 69 percent of the sites, State/Public ownership accounted for 12 percent of the sites, Federal lands accounted for 2 percent of the sites and Forest Industry accounted for 17 percent of the sites surveyed.

Survey Sites with Applicable BMP by Categories

The BMP categories Landings, Skid Trails/Temp Roads and Permanent Roads were applicable on more survey sites than other categories. The Landing category was applicable on 237 (100%) of the 237 sites. The Skid Trails/Temporary Road category was applicable on 237 (100%) and Permanent Roads on 217 (91.56%) of the survey sites.

The Streamside Management Zones category was applicable on 164 (69.20%) of the 237 sites survey while Steam Crossing applied on 136 (57.38%) sites.

The three remaining categories (Site Preparation, Wetlands and Fireline Construction) applied less frequently than any of the preceding categories. Site Preparation applied on 111 (46.84%) of the 237 survey sites, Wetlands applied on 102 (43.04%) and Fireline Constructions on 58 (24.47%) sites.

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Sites were evaluated for a significant risk to water quality each time a best management practice was determined to be applicable to the survey site. Of the 7,800 applicable BMPs evaluated, a significant risk to water quality was observed 12 times.

For the complete survey results, view, print or download the 2010 BMP Implementation Survey from our website at http://www.mfc.ms.gov/pdf/Mgt/WQ/2010_BMP_%20Implementation_Survey.pdf.

State Holiday

Confederate Memorial Day

Monday, April 25, 2011

Easter is celebrated this year on April 24, 20111

National Arbor Day is the celebrated the last Friday in April.

April 29, 2011

Safety First . . .

Warm Weather Bring Mosquitoes . . .

Warm weather bring mosquitoes and West Nile Virus to Mississippi. While Mississippi's West Nile virus season won't peak for several months, mosquitoes that can carry West Nile are already emerging. Insect repellent, dressing right and making changes around your home can help protect your form infection.

Types of Mosquito-Borne Diseases

Only certain types of mosquitoes carry viruses of concern to people. A mosquito must first become infected by feeding on a bird that has the virus, then bite a human or animal to pass the disease along. There are five main types of viral illness carried by mosquitoes in the United States.

West Nile virus: WNV has been reported in Mississippi in horses, birds, mosquitoes and humans. In humans, WNV infection can lead to dangerous conditions such as meningitis or encephalitis. Anyone can get WNV, but people over 50 years of age are more severely affected. Approximately 3 percent to 15 percent of people with WNV die. Unlike other mosquito-borne illnesses, certain species of birds (especially crows and blue jays) can also get sick and die from the disease, as can horses.

St. Louis encephalitis: SLE causes illness only in humans. Historically, it has been the most common disease carried by mosquitoes in Mississippi. SLE primarily affects the elderly, occurring in summer and early fall. SLE rarely causes death, although approximately 15 percent of the patients with severe symptoms die.

LaCrosse encephalitis: LAC can cause illness in humans, though it is more common in the midwestern U.S. rather than Mississippi. Cases occur from spring to fall, usually affecting children under 16 years of age. Only about one percent of people who become ill with LAC die.

Eastern Equine encephalitis: EEE causes illness in humans, horses and some birds. Very few human cases of EEE have ever occurred in Mississippi. Most infections occur in horses, from spring to fall. People of all ages can get the disease, but children are more likely to have severe illness or die. Approximately 30 to 60 percent of those who become ill with EEE die.

Protecting Yourself and Your Family

Although many mosquitoes bite at dusk or at night, some bite during the day. All mosquitoes will bite if you enter an area where they are resting, such as high grass or heavy underbrush. While it is not necessary to limit outdoor activity (unless there is evidence of mosquito-borne disease in the area), you can and should reduce your risk of being bitten by mosquitoes.

You can protect your family from biting mosquitoes by reducing the amount of standing water available for mosquito breeding in or near your property:

- Repair failed septic systems
- Keep grass cut short and shrubbery trimmed.
- Dispose of old tires, cans, plastic containers, ceramic pots or other unused containers that can hold water
- Change the water at least once per week in bird baths, wading pools and other water containers on your property
- Cover trash containers to keep out rainwater
- Clean clogged roof gutters, particularly if leaves tend to plug up the drains
- Repair leaky water pipes and outside faucets
- Aerate ornamental pools or stock them with predatory fish
- Clean and chlorinate swimming pool even if they are not being used.
- Keep drains, ditches and culverts free of grass clippings, weeds and trash so water will drain properly.

Insect Repellents

Products containing one of the following two active ingredients typically provide longer-lasting protection than any others registered with the EPA:

- DEET
- Picaridin

Products with these active ingredients may also be effective:

- Oil of lemon eucalyptus
- Permethrin

To protect your self and your family be sure to eliminate place where mosquitoes breed and takie the proper precautions when being outside.