



THE PINCHOT LETTER

News from the Pinchot Institute for Conservation

Vol. 10, No.1 Spring 2005

Forest Policy Capacity-Building Workshop in China

The Pinchot Institute recently partnered with the Auburn University School of Forestry and Wildlife Sciences and the USDA Forest Service Office of International Programs to conduct a week-long forest policy capacity-building workshop for forestry leaders from 35 of China's provinces and state forestry enterprise groups. The workshop was held in Haikou in Hainan Province. China is the largest and fastest growing national economy in the world today, and its rapid transformation from a primarily agrarian to industrialized economy, is placing enormous pressure on forest resources in China, and exacerbating the problem of illegal logging in many neighboring countries. The workshop focused on building an enduring institutional, legal and policy framework to support sustainable forest management, and provide guidance to policymakers in China regarding community-based forest stewardship, establishment of private property rights, management of public forest reserves, watershed protection, biodiversity conservation and self-sufficiency in domestic wood supply.

The end of China's Cultural Revolution in the late 1970s ushered in a period of political and economic reform that has transformed China into one of the most robust market-driven economies in the world. At a time when the U.S. economy strug-

gles to come close to a four percent increase in Gross Domestic Product,¹ China's GDP has hovered near nine percent for the past decade, and reached 9.9 percent in the fourth quarter of 2003.² At the recent World



Minshan Mountain. Photo by Colby Loucks.

Economic Forum in Davos, Switzerland, Vice Premier Huang Ju pledged that China would quadruple its current GDP within the next 15 years (to more than US\$4 trillion). This surge in economic growth has had profound social implications in China. During the past two decades, more than 200 million people have

migrated from rural areas to China's cities, and an additional 300 million people are expected to follow them during the next two decades.³ It is expected that as many as 22,000 new cities will develop in China in the next 20 years, each with a population in excess of 100,000 people.⁴

This rapid economic expansion also has had a profound environmental effect on China. Two-thirds of China's cities have air quality below World Health Organization standards, the highest of any large country in the world. Ten of the most polluted cities in the world are in China. The water in five of China's largest rivers is polluted enough to cause skin diseases from touching it, and water supplies for half the coun-

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Leadership in Forest Conservation Thought, Policy and Action



try's population—600 million people—are contaminated with animal and human waste.

Supplying the raw material for such economic growth has taken its toll on China's natural resources, and those of neighboring countries as well. China is now the second largest consumer of timber in the world. Natural Forest cover has fallen by half in the past two decades.⁵ Forests and grasslands alike have given way to encroaching deserts, which are estimated to be expanding by several hundred thousand square kilometers

each year during the 1980s and 1990s, faster than anywhere in the world including sub-Saharan Africa. This loss of forests and grasslands also had its effects on China's native biodiversity. Fully one-quarter of all the species listed by the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species (CITES) are native to China, and an estimated 15–20 percent of China's native animal and plant species are listed as threatened or endangered.⁷

An important though tragic turning point came in 1998. Massive

floods on the Yangtze River, which stretches across China from the Tibetan Plateau in the west to the China Sea on the east, inundated 52 million acres of farmland and other productive bottomlands, killed more than 3,000 people, and caused an estimated US\$20 billion in economic losses. The single most important cause of this catastrophe was the clearing of much of the forest in the upper reaches of the Yangtze watershed, where forest cover had declined from nearly 40 percent in the 1950s to 10 percent by 1998.⁸ The Chinese government responded quickly, imposing

ABOUT THE PINCHOT INSTITUTE

Recognized as a leader in forest conservation thought, policy and action, the Pinchot Institute for Conservation was dedicated in 1963 by President John F. Kennedy at Grey Towers National Historic Landmark (Milford, PA)—home of conservation leader Gifford Pinchot. The Institute is an independent nonprofit organization that works collaboratively with all Americans nationwide—from federal and state policymakers to citizens in rural communities—to strengthen forest conservation by advancing sustainable forest management, developing conservation leaders, and providing science-based solutions to emerging natural resource issues. Further information about the Pinchot Institute's programs and activities can be found at www.pinchot.org.

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a total ban on logging in the upper watersheds of the Yangtze and Yellow Rivers. A National Forest Protection Program (NFPP) was also enacted in the wake of this disaster, establishing a new forest policy throughout China. Its major purposes are:

- ✿ To restore natural forests in ecologically sensitive areas
- ✿ To plant forests for soil and water protection
- ✿ To increase timber production in forest plantations,
- ✿ To protect existing natural forests from excessive cutting and
- ✿ To maintain the multiple-use policy in natural forests⁹

The effect on timber harvest levels in natural forest areas was immediate. The 1997 harvest level of 32 million cubic meters fell to 14 million cubic meters by 2000 and is expected to continue dropping. On the other hand, timber harvest from forest plantations is expected to rise quickly. More than six million hectares of marginal crop and pasture land is to be reforested within 10 years. Plantations are being established on an additional 39 million hectares of degraded forest land. Under the more decentralized government established during the reform period, much of the responsibility for carrying out these provisions of the NFPP will fall to the provincial governments with the central government, through the State Forestry Administration, providing technical and financial assistance. This includes:

- ✿ Education and technical training in all aspects of forestry, from basic forest regeneration and ecological restoration techniques at the local level, to programs for provincial leaders aimed at strengthening the institutional framework for program delivery.



- ✿ Forest land allocation to either nature preserves or commercial forests, depending on location and characteristics; forest preserves are intended to protect watersheds and native biodiversity; commercial forests are productive areas managed for high-quality timber and other forest products.

- ✿ Resettlement of farmers displaced from marginal crop and pasturelands by conversion to forests, and retraining of forest workers displaced by logging bans in forest preserves.

- ✿ Contracts giving local people the right to manage and use the forest preserves for nontimber forest products such as mushrooms and ferns, thereby providing greater protection from fire and illegal tree cutting.

Under the new forest policy, the area of forest cover is increasing, and timber volume harvested from planta-

tions is projected to increase quickly. But even the most optimistic estimates of forest growth suggest that a continuation of the current high level of economic growth will result in a widening gap between China's demand for wood products and its ability to supply them. This has important implications for timber supply and prices in international trade in the forest sector. It has potentially more serious implications for illegal logging in neighboring countries throughout Asia, where China's insatiable demand for wood creates a powerful incentive for forest exploitation.

How can China accelerate the expansion of its forest resource base? How can China's forest sector develop in new directions that are more efficient and more sustainable over the long run? How can China protect its native biodiversity, water quality and other forest values while meeting a larger share of its own domestic wood demand? The answers to these questions seem to lie less in improving the science and technology of forest management, and more in the develop-

ment of appropriate institutional, legal and policy mechanisms to support sustainable forest management. China is still in transition from its former Soviet-style socialist doctrine of centralized planning, state and collective ownership of forest resources, and state-owned enterprises for wood processing and distribution. There are important opportunities to stimulate private investment in forests through clarifying private property rights, and improving the capabilities of the judicial system for protecting those rights. A more stable institutional and political environment, particularly at the provincial level, will also be key to reducing uncertainty and stimulating foreign investment in Chinese forest enterprises.

China's State Forestry Administration recently conducted a comprehensive review and evaluation of the new forest policy, to learn what is and is not working well, where the barriers lie, and what lessons can be learned. China will also be looking to other countries for models that can be incorporated into the further development of their own institutional, legal and policy framework for sustainable forestry.

In October 2004, Pinchot Institute President Al Sample, Auburn Professor (and Pinchot Institute board member) Daowei Zhang, and Forest Service forest policy specialist Douglas MacCleery were invited to conduct a forest policy workshop in Haikou, Hainan Province. The objective of the workshop was capacity-building for forest policy development primarily at the provincial level. Most of the 49 participants were key forest policymakers and emerging leaders in the State Forestry Administration and at the provincial forestry agencies. The workshop covered various forest policy tools (e.g., taxation, regulation, subsidies, landowner education and technical assistance), and provided a comparative overview of forest policy processes in the United States, Canada

and New Zealand. Various policymaking theories and forest policy cases were presented, and became the focus for vigorous interactive discussions.

Key differences between current forest policies in China and those in the United States served as the basis for several important insights for the participants and the instructors as well. Most of the provincial governments in China have strict limits on the timber volume that can be harvested on "private" lands (which are in most cases lands temporarily allocated to a family or individual by the local collective). Increased state investment in terms of subsidies for tree planting are effective only where forest farmers have property rights that guarantee they will "own the results." Forest farmers in China pay a combination of property taxes and severance taxes that are about double what most U.S. forest landowners pay, and have little or no voice in the development of tax policy relating to forests.¹⁰ Frequent changes in forest policy, particularly at the provincial level, create uncertainty to leads to premature timber cutting and a lack of private investment in tree planting.

State forests in China are managed and used differently from the national forests in the United States. The state has responsibility for conserving and sustainably managing the forests, but they also harvest the timber to supply it to state-owned forestry enterprises—often very large and very inefficient sawmill operations. Goals and quotas create an incentive for the state to harvest as much wood as possible, creating a conflict of interest with their role in ensuring that harvesting does not exceed levels that can be sustained in perpetuity. One of the immediate goals that the workshop participants identified was the need to separate these two functions between two different entities.

China's forests, and its forest policymakers, still face some important

challenges. Policymakers in China are eager to learn from the experiences of other countries, particularly in developing the institutional, legal and policy framework for balancing forest protection with forest use and for meeting China's growing demand for wood products without contributing to illegal logging and unsustainable management of forests outside China. The ideas presented in the workshop certainly challenged the status quo in China, and helped policymakers to "think outside the box" in considering ways for China to achieve sustainable forest management and alleviate pressures on global forests.

For more information please contact Al Sample (alsample@pinchot.org) or Daowei Zhang (zhangdl@auburn.edu).

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Strengthening the Movement at the Grassroots: A Review of Community Forestry across the Globe

Conservation and sustainability are of growing concern to people of every nation and every culture around the world. Efforts to improve living standards, to alleviate poverty, and to open new avenues for economic opportunity have been growing and new policies and practices are beginning to emerge in direct support of sustainable development goals. These emerging policies provide a useful framework for conservation, but it is often the action of local communities and citizens that make significant differences and achieve tangible, long-term results.

As awareness in conservation and sustainability issues rises globally, the importance of linking theoretical trends and solutions to real-life practices is imperative. Recent initiatives at both national and international levels have highlighted the advances of community-led efforts in conservation. However, various challenges remain, particularly in certain regions of the world. Some of these challenges include: increased poverty, environmental degradation, antiquated or improper management practices, cultural insensitivities, and social injustice. As these challenges become apparent, the promotion of a broader learning circle among environmental practitioners becomes self-evident, for it is through the direct



Workshop participants visit an agroforestry site outside Montgomery, AL

application of lessons that innovation emerges.

All around the world, small groups of thoughtful, committed people in communities are experimenting with new ways of addressing environmental and economic challenges, often in partnership with government, industry, and non-governmental organizations (NGOs). The sharing of success stories, obstacles, and innovation can lead to new insights and actions that accelerate our collective progress toward conservation and sustainability goals, in concert with improvements in social infrastructure, governance, and economic well-being.

To directly address the needs outlined above, the Pinchot Institute recently cooperated with the National Network of Forest Practitioners (NNFP) to organize and convene a series of field-based workshops for community forestry practitioners from Africa, Asia, Central and South America, and North America. The goal of these workshops were to:

- ✿ *Strengthen the capacity of practitioners* by tapping into existing knowledge and expertise,
- ✿ Provide opportunities for practitioners to *teach and learn within a peer setting*,
- ✿ *Strengthen communication networks* among practitioners,
- ✿ Lay the groundwork for an *ongoing exchange of information and technical assistance* in support of community-based forest management,
- ✿ Introduce US land management



Workshop participants visit a stewardship contracting pilot project on NFS land managed by a native tribe (Maidu)

agencies and organization to *innovative approaches* tested elsewhere around the world, and

- ✿ *To contribute to the global development of policies and practices* that support community-based approaches to sustainable resource management.

The initial workshop sessions (subsequent events are planned for 2006 and 2008) took place in September 2004, and were held sequentially in Alabama and California. These workshops featured a mix of discussion sessions and field tours for approximately 40 practitioners (including 14 international participants from China, Ghana, Guatemala, India, Indonesia, Jamaica, Kenya, Nepal, the Philippines, and Vietnam). Our goal was to introduce different community-based management scenarios for our visiting guests (e.g., private land management vs. public land management) and showcase specific social issues within a geographic setting (e.g., minority landowner rights, application of indigenous knowledge, etc.).

The workshops' aim was to spur dialogue using expertise from different parts of the world, especially where public involvement in forestry



Francisco Hernandez, from Guatemala, explains how his community manages its watershed

(community forestry) has been practiced for a longer time. Specific questions focused on several themes related to policy /governance, including: land tenure, rural poverty, social justice, indigenous peoples, income generation, agro-forestry, non-timber

forest products, and gender sensitivity. Workshop participants were afforded opportunity to make formal presentations on how specific issues are managed/handled within their given country, and encouraged to engage in lengthy break-out discussions to identify tested solutions to on-going challenges. These peer-exchanges proved extremely valuable, as cultural and language barriers began to dissolve and common-ground was achieved—even between developed and less-developed countries.

The workshops helped cast incredible light on the challenges faced globally by communities and families to promote better livelihoods and healthier environments. Despite differences in government, culture, language and religion, the common denominator among participants was care and concern over their natural resources and a recognition that sus-



Entire workshop in Kings Beach, CA

tainability hinges upon a deeper understanding of connections and threats. Participants arrived in the United States as representatives of their host country and left as members of a much larger family dedicated towards the joint-pursuit of innovative solutions for sustainable resource management.

For more information, please contact Andrea Bedell Loucks (andreabedell@pinchot.org) or Ajit Krishnaswamy (ajit@nnfp.org)



Developing Community Forestry in Ecuador: The Ecomadera Project

Eccuador, along with the rest of the tropical Andes, supports the highest levels of plant diversity in the world. Ecuador is also the second poorest country in South America, with over 60% of its rural population living on less than \$2 per day. Most of Ecuador's remaining natural forests are owned by campesino farmers who have no economic alternative to clearing their forests for agriculture. The result is that Ecuador has the highest rate of deforestation in Latin America, having lost 12% of its forest cover from 1990 to 2000.

In this setting, the Pinchot Institute believes there is no viable way to conserve forests without addressing the roots of rural poverty and helping small farmers create profitable businesses through managing their forests. The Institute is working with these farmers on a community forestry project in northern Ecuador to assist these impoverished landowners create a sustainable economy by conserving their native forests.

In 2002, the Pinchot Institute established a partnership between the U.S. Peace Corps, Fundacion Jatun Sacha (Ecuador's leading forest conservation NGO), the USDA Forest



Latest forest management plan finquero Romulo, his wife, and her father, and assistant, Peace Corps forestry volunteer Cory Johnson

Service, USAID, and a group of communities surrounding the village of Cristobol Colon. These communities include some 300 campesino families who together own 100,000 acres of forest and farmland. They have been harvesting about 40,000 board feet of hardwoods each week, yet current markets pay only 10 to 15 cents per board foot for rough sawn boards.

Over the last two years, we have helped the communities establish a forest products company (Ecomadera Verde), develop legal forest management plans, create tree nurseries, and plant agroforestry plantations on abandoned cattle pastures. In addition



New Planer Molder in operation

we have helped them raise the capital to purchase a portable sawmill, build a solar/wood heat kiln, and construct a wood shop with production tools such as a planer molder, jointer, table saw, etc. The project has also trained community members in business management, marketing, wood processing, and forestry.

The central premise of the project is to help the communities turn their wood into high quality products and market them to the final consumer. For instance, installed wood flooring sells for 20 times the price the community is now getting for rough sawn boards. By accessing higher value markets, landowners with legal management plans can be paid at least two or



Solar Kiln, glass collector panels in front, kiln with exhaust fans.

three times the current prices, which creates strong demand for adopting sustainable management. During the last year, a full time marketer has identified profitable niche markets in Ecuador and the United States. The community is now producing hardwood flooring, moldings, furniture, and dried and planed boards. The business is just turning the corner to profitability with more requests for products than they can produce with the number of landowners with management plans growing rapidly.

The Pinchot Institute and Jatun Sacha have recently been requested by USAID to expand this project to two other groups of communities, one on Ecuador's western border with Colombia working with the Awa Federation of indigenous communities, and the other working with 22 Quichuan villages in Ecuador's northern Amazonian forests. This project has been generously supported with funding from Overbrook Foundation and the Ecuadorian USAID mission. These efforts are bringing to Ecuador Gifford Pinchot's original vision of sound forestry, which can be profitable for landowners while at the same time sustaining the forests as a renewable resource.

For more information, please contact Peter Pinchot (peterpin@pinchot.org)

Speth Addresses What America Can Do Now about Climate Change and Forests

As the world is increasingly moving toward globalization, environmental issues are increasingly a burden shared by all. Today's pundits tend to paint a discouraging and bleak view of our environmental surroundings mainly due to the devastation we as humans have caused with our consumptive behaviors. J. Gustave Speth, in the 2005 Pinchot Distinguished Lecture, offers, instead, advice on what we Americans can do now to help the dire situation of climate change and deforestation.

"Today we face a threat to our forest more serious even than the one that motivated Gifford Pinchot. The unfortunate truth is that the American landscape is threatened as never before—not by the usual threats but by something new, unprecedented and potentially devastating," says Speth who is currently a professor and the dean at the Yale School of Forestry & Environmental Studies.

He believes that climate change is putting America's forests at risk and thinks that Americans should no longer doubt that the threat is real and growing fast. Even though much of the destruction humans have already caused is irreparable, Speth believes that it is our responsibility to prevent the situation from deteriorating any further. He offers a ten-point plan in which Americans can use to help the situation. He strongly promotes involvement on the grassroots level as the key to making effective environmental policy and discusses a ten-point action plan that builds on many positive and encouraging initiatives already under way.

The Pinchot Distinguished Lecture series is an annual lecture, which seeks to advance the understanding and current thinking about contemporary issues in natural resources conservation. This year's lecture was generously sponsored by MeadWestvaco Corporation, a leading global producer of packaging,

coated and specialty papers, consumer and office products, and specialty chemicals.

The host committee members included Purnell Choppin, Jackson F. Eno, J. Robert Hicks, Nels C. Johnson, Jonathan Lash, *President of World Resources Institute*, Nicholas H. Niles, *The Blooming Grove Club*, Robin O'Malley, *The H. John III Heinz Center for Science, Economics and the Environment*, Franklin Tugwell, *President of Winrock International*, Carter Wall, Thomas B. Williams, and Daowei Zhang.

The lecture will be published later this year. To reserve your copy, please send your contact information to publications@pinchot.org or call 202-797-6580.



J. Gustave Speth

Institute Welcomes New Staff

The Pinchot Institute is pleased to welcome Liz Siddle, Manager, Foundation and Corporate Relations, to its staff. Liz will be working to expand and diversity the Institute's funding base.

Liz comes to Pinchot from the fundraising department of the Brookings Institution. Before joining Brookings Liz was Development Associate at CERES, a national coalition of environmental, investor and advocacy groups that works with

businesses to advance corporate environmental accountability. She has also held positions at Canadian Business for Social Responsibility and the Ethics in Action Awards, a Canadian program that promotes socially and environmentally responsible business.

Liz credits her longstanding interest in conservation and sustainable forestry to her upbringing in British Columbia, Canada. She received her BA in English from the University of British Columbia in Vancouver. In

her free time she enjoys yoga, reading and travel.

The Pinchot Institute staff and board of directors all are looking forward to working with Liz.



Liz Siddle

Mortimer Internship Available at Grey Towers

The Elisabeth S. Mortimer Internship was created in 1994 when Elisabeth and Charles Mortimer made a generous donation to the Pinchot Institute for Conservation to set up an internship at Grey Towers, National Historic Site. The focus is on gardening, one of Mrs. Mortimer's greatest passions. Because of the generosity of the Mortimer's the chosen intern will receive a \$2,500.00 stipend for the 10–12 week summer internship.

The 101-acre site consists of formal, landscaped, and wooded grounds. The Elisabeth S. Mortimer Internship will provide a valuable, practical experience for the motivated undergraduate college student or high school graduate. This internship provides the student hands-on experi-

ence to challenge and broaden the student's knowledge of practical applications of horticultural theory learned in the classroom.

The internship is available to students in a variety of fields of study. In the past, students enrolled in the following disciplines have benefited from this intern program: Ornamental Horticulture, Forestry, Landscape Architecture, and Environmental Disciplines

For those interested, further information can be obtained from contacting Elizabeth Hawke, Horticulturist at Grey Towers. 570-296-9661 or ehawke@fs.fed.us



Paul Harris, 2004 Mortimer Intern, by a copper beech tree

101 Conservation Scholarship: Fostering the Next Generation of Natural Resource Professionals

Years ago, active and retired U.S. Forest Service personnel—the Institute's public partner—established the 101 Conservation Scholarship to help educate future natural resource professionals. Overseen by the Pinchot Institute's Board of Directors, this annual, \$1,000 award provides much-needed book or tuition assistance to Forest Service offspring.

With your gift of \$101.00 or more, you can help keep this tradition alive. Please send your gift, noted as a contribution for the \$101 Conserva-



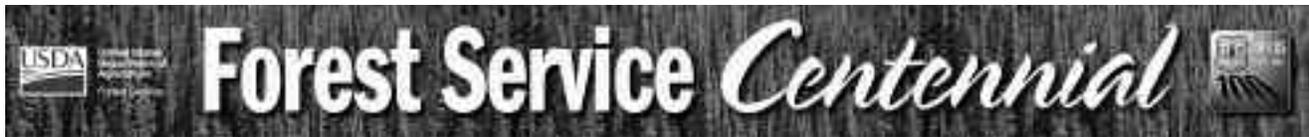
tion Scholarship Fund, in the enclosed envelope or make a credit card donation online.

You can also contact Yenie Tran at (202) 797-6580 or ytran@pinchot.org

for more information on the various ways in which you can make a tax-deductible contribution to this invaluable fund.

For this, and the various other ways in which you ensure the stewardship of our natural resources, we truly thank you.

Note: Please read our scholarship update on page 11 to find out about this year's scholarship recipients and the progress on past recipients.



The USDA Forest Service will celebrate its 100th anniversary on July 1, 2005. The Forest Service was created 100 years ago by President Theodore Roosevelt as an agency to sustain the health, diversity, and productivity of forests and grasslands for present and future generations. The creation of the Forest Service initiated a century of change in managing public forests and grasslands, with introduction of a new conservation ethic and professional workforce to carry it forth. Gifford Pinchot, the first Forest Service chief, was known for his argument that natural resources should provide the “greatest good for the greatest number in the long run.” The Pinchot Institute was dedicated in 1963 by President John F. Kennedy to contin-

ue the Gifford Pinchot’s legacy of conservation leadership as a center for policy development in support of sustainable forest management. As the Forest Service approaches its centennial, the Pinchot Institute is working with the Forest Service to reflect on the organization’s proud history and traditions and exploring ways to move into a new century of “caring for the land and serving people.”

The commemoration will be a combination of nationally promoted “signature events” and locally sponsored opportunities. All planned activities are intended to recognize Forest Service past accomplishments and validate the importance of the agency’s current relationship with partners and collaborators. The New

Century of Service has coordinated centennial events to encourage a dialogue about the challenges presented to the Forest Service in the next century. These challenges include: rapid natural and social changes, changing public desires and new technologies.

Please visit the Forest Service website for a complete calendar of this year’s activities and for some historical photo galleries and video clips at www.fs.fed.us.

The Forest Service staff at Grey Towers National Historic Site is also participating in the festivities. Please see the article about this in Grey Towers News Notes section on page 12.

Reconvergence of European and American Forestry

For the Forest Service’s centennial celebration, a colloquium was organized to reconverge American forestry practices with European practices. This project is being carried out as part of the centennial of the establishment of the USDA Forest Service in 1905, with major support from the Forest Service Office of State and Private Forestry. The Pinchot Institute, in cooperation with the USDA Forest Service, École Nationale du Génie Rural des Eaux et des Forêts (ENGREF), the Swiss Federal Institute of Technology, the University of Freiburg, the Forest History Society and the Pennsylvania Bureau of Forestry, are working together to recognize and acknowledge the important role of ENGREF in educating the first cadre of American forestry professionals. It will also strengthen the basis for future cooperation to address parallel challenges

and opportunities to promote sustainable forest management. The Pinchot Institute has been organizing and convening the second part of this two-part colloquium for policymakers and forestry practitioners. The first part took place in Europe (mid-March) and the second will be in the United States (mid-June).

Forestry as we know it today is a discipline that emerged from European universities in the late 19th and early 20th centuries. It was in Europe that Gifford Pinchot, the first Forest Service chief, and several other early leaders received their professional education in forestry. These forestry professionals adapted and applied the European approaches of sustainable forestry to the unique ecological, economic and social circumstances that prevailed when the United States was, at least in forestry terms, largely a

developing country. During the 20th century, European and American forestry diverged, each following its own path of development. The common global challenges of climate change, biodiversity conservation, and ecological change in the 21st century call for closer cooperation of European and American forestry practitioners and policymakers.

In recent months, broader-scale differences in national policy between the United States and European countries have complicated cooperation in the development of complementary and consistent policies to address the challenges of sustainable forest management in the 21st century. The proposed effort is aimed at bringing together leading practitioners and policymakers from throughout the United States and the European Union to examine com-



mon issues, concerns, and opportunities for coordinated policy development, and strengthen personal and institutional bonds as a basis for continuing future cooperation.

The physical product of this effort will be a book based on approximately

20 professional papers prepared by both European and American forest policy specialists, and published by the Pinchot Institute in cooperation with the Forest History Society. The longer-term objective is to strengthen individual and institutional cooperation among European and American

policymakers and forestry professionals in the development and coordination of policies that address common goals in natural resource conservation and the sustainable management of forests.

Students Awarded the 101 Conservation Scholarship

Each year brings another round of outstanding scholarship applications and the scholarship committee is faced with the difficult decision of selecting one student to receive the 101 Conservation Scholarship. This year, two students will each receive a \$1000 scholarship. This year's recipients are Monique Crumb (undergraduate level) and Alexander Shenkin (graduate level).

Monique Crumb, a high school student in Idaho, has been accepted to the University of Idaho in the College of Natural Resources. Yale student Alexander Shenkin is expecting his Master in Environmental Science in 2006.

Cultivating the next generation of natural resources professionals is crucial and this is the aim of the Pinchot Institute's 101 Conservation Scholarship.

PAST SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS UPDATE

Sara H. Brown received last year's scholarship to attend the Vermont Law School. While attending this school, she quickly discovered that law was not her calling and withdrew so she could be admitted to Washington State University in the Environmental Science program there. Brown expects to receive her master's in

2006 and from there will apply for a PhD candidate position.

Brown, appreciative of the scholarship says, "I want to sincerely thank you for your support. The scholarship you graciously gave me (a second time) has helped so very much."



Sara Brown

Lucas Jones received the 101 Conservation Scholarship in 2003. Jones will be graduating this May with his Bachelor of Science in Forestry-Terrestrial Sciences at the University of Montana. The past two years has been filled with valuable experience as he prepares for graduate school and a career as a scientist. He is currently wrapping up his thesis entitled, "A Cross-dated Fire History of Lubrecht Experimental Forest." His research focus is forest ecology with an emphasis in biometerology and carbon cycling.

"Last summer I enjoyed my fourth field season with the Forest Service and first at the Rocky Mountain Research Station Missoula Fire Sciences Laboratory (www.firelab.org). I worked on the Fire Effects project with Mick

Harrington studying the effects of prescribed burning. Our studies varied from restoring old growth western larch (*Larix occidentalis*) and ponderosa pine (*Pinus ponderosa*) forests to second-growth wildland urban interface fuels reduction. This summer I plan to return to the Fire Lab."

Lucas appreciates the Forest Service employee contributions to the scholarship fund, which assisted in his education financing and says, "Thanks again for the Scholarship, it has been very helpful in meeting tuition costs, but even more I am very familiar with Forest Service employees around me who give 101 percent all the time, and am honored to be the recipient of their generosity." Lucas has already applied to Oregon State University, University of Washington, and the University of Montana for graduate school for next fall.



Lucas Jones

GREY TOWERS NEWS NOTES

NEWS OF PROGRAMS AND INFORMATION AT GIFFORD PINCHOT'S ANCESTRAL HOME, GREY TOWERS NATIONAL HISTORIC LANDMARK (MILFORD, PA)



RICHARD PATERSON IS WELCOMED AS THE NEW DIRECTOR OF GREY TOWERS

As the new director of Grey Towers, Richard Paterson brings a wide scope of knowledge and experience in visitor services and leadership development. Replacing Edgar B. Brannon, Jr. who retired at the end of 2004 after 15 years as director, Paterson spent the last seven years in the Washington Office of the USDA Forest Service as Deputy Director of Recreation, Heritage, and Wilderness. In that position, he served as the primary liaison to the recreation industry, partners, environmental organizations, and other communities of interest. He also took on a special assignment leading the Forest Service leadership development program.

"I plan to incorporate my prior experiences to help lead Grey Towers into the next Century of Service. We realize the importance of sharpening our focus to ensure that our programs carry forward the conservation legacy of Gifford Pinchot. Our plan includes relying on visitors, community, partners, volunteers and others to help us stay on course," Paterson says.

Originally from the Scranton area, Paterson's professional experience spans in a wide breadth of areas, leading the reinvention efforts for the Rocky Mountain Region, directed interpretive programs and facilities on both natural and cultural resources at the Tennessee Valley Authority, managed the Golden Pond Visitors Center at Land Between the Lakes, and teaching at Antioch College in Ohio. He spent most of his career managing programs and facilities that help people enjoy natural and heritage resources. Because of his teaching experience at elementary, secondary, undergraduate, and graduate levels and says he is excited about the many lessons there are to learn at Grey Towers.

"Not only do I feel like I have come to the right place, I feel I have arrived at the right time," Paterson said.

"Those of you who have visited Grey Towers recently know it has not looked better since the Pinchots lived here. The restoration is almost complete, and the new parking/visitor services facility will open later this year. We already are seeing an increased demand as a conference center, as a tourism destination, and as a center for natural resource leadership development. Also, this year the Forest Service marks its 100-year anniversary and Grey Towers plays a prominent role in the history of this agency."

Paterson's wife Mary also works for the Forest Service and is an accomplished portrait artist. They have two daughters, one a junior at James Madison University and one a recent University of Virginia graduate who is now in graduate school. In his

spare time, Paterson runs everyday and competes in 5Ks and 50-milers.

GREY TOWERS PARTICIPATES IN FOREST SERVICE CENTENNIAL YEAR

One hundred years ago, Gifford Pinchot and President Theodore Roosevelt created the USDA Forest Service, a unique public agency designed to manage America's public forests and grasslands "for the greatest good, for the greatest number, for the longest run." Roosevelt named Pinchot as the agency's first chief, and his founding "Greatest Good" principle still drives the agency today.

As the Forest Service enters a new century of progress, Pinchot's ancestral home Grey Towers, plays a prominent role in this national Centennial celebration. With numerous events and programs throughout the year, Grey Towers will celebrate our past and envision how best to conserve America's natural heritage through the next century.

To date, Grey Towers has already hosted a Centennial Forum on Organizational History and Philosophy and participated in the national Centennial Congress. A national committee was formed to have the Milford Valley Quilters Guild assemble the heritage block for a national Centennial Quilt. A national Centennial Road Tour was also organized with historian Char Miller delivering 30 presentations across the nation on the history of forestry in America.

During this Centennial year, Grey Towers looks forward to an exchange program with France, where Gifford Pinchot received his formal forestry training; a National Honor Day



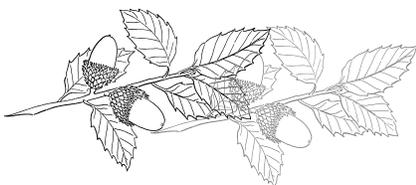
event; participation in the Smithsonian Folklife Festival, focusing on how the Forest Service has affected American culture over the past century; our first annual Festival of Wood; a story about Gifford Pinchot in *Highlights for Children* (August issue); release of a new children's book, *Midnight Forests*, about Gifford Pinchot and the founding of the US Forest Service; and regional viewings of the new documentary, *The Greatest Good*.

FIRST ANNUAL FESTIVAL OF WOOD IS PLANNED AT GREY TOWERS

The first annual Festival of Wood at Grey Towers is planned for August 13-14, 2005. This educational celebration will offer a number of events and activities that will heighten awareness of the importance of wood in our society and how professional and scientific forestry helps meet that continued need.

The two-day event will feature exhibits, demonstrations and the sale of arts made from wood. A "Goods from the Woods" arts program will be coordinated by the Forest Service in partnership with the Monroe County Arts Council. A musical event, showcasing how wood is used in music, will also be offered during the weekend. The Northeast Area, State & Private Forestry, the Society of American Foresters and the Pinchot Institute for Conservation are among the other partners contributing to the educational exhibits and activities.

For more information about participating in or attending the Festival of Wood, please call (570)296-9630 or email greytowers@fs.fed.us.



LEGISLATION DESIGNATES GREY TOWERS A NATIONAL HISTORIC SITE

Legislation to provide the designation of Grey Towers as a federal national historic site has been introduced as a bill in the Senate by Senators Arlen Specter and Rick Santorum recently. The Pinchot Institute worked closely with Congressman Don Sherwood to get the bill passed in the House and subsequently on its way to being introduced in the Senate.

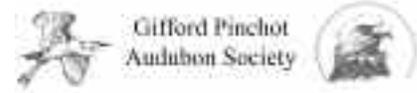
"Making Grey Towers a National Historic Site sets into law the guiding principles that have been in place since its dedication in 1963, when President Kennedy visited to designate the home of Gifford Pinchot as a national center of conservation learning," said Sherwood. "The National Historic Site status gives the Forest Service more flexibility to accomplish its goals, and enhances Grey Towers as a destination for visitors."

When the Pinchot family donated Grey Towers and 102 acres to the USDA Forest Service, Grey Towers was designated as a National Historic Landmark – a federal status that includes historic preservation but does not incorporate any additional mission. Since then, the Forest Service has worked closely with the Pinchot Institute to not only preserve the historic character of Grey Towers but also to maintain it as a center of learning and leadership.

This legislation makes clear that the mission of Grey Towers includes education, research, leadership development, public recreation and enjoyment, as well as the preservation of the buildings, grounds, facilities and archives associated with Gifford Pinchot.

"The designation of Grey Towers as a National Historic Site and the

formal authorization of its mission will increase its status as a national asset, and help us better promote its history and its work," said Sherwood.



GIFFORD PINCHOT AUDUBON SOCIETY

Despite the frustration with dwindling interest, several dedicated members of the Gifford Pinchot chapter of the National Audubon Society have assembled a plan to re-energize and re-focus the group's interests and activities.

The group met recently in one final attempt to attract new leadership and energy. Community members who turned out for this session felt strongly about continuing the chapter, especially its Audubon Adventures program, which distributes environmental education materials to 43 classrooms in eight regional schools, and its programs that carry on the Gifford Pinchot conservation legacy.

The chapter plans to organize bird walks, day hikes on nearby trails, canoe/kayak trips, annual favorites such as the Christmas Tea program at Grey Towers, environmental service projects at Grey Towers and Audubon Adventures. The chapter also plans to participate in national events such as the Great Backyard Bird Count and focus on emerging regional issues, such as the habitat impact of whitetail deer.

NEW YORK-NEW JERSEY HIGHLANDS STUDY INTENSIFIES AT GREY TOWERS

The NY-NJ Highlands Study assists state and private landowners as they take measures to save forestland

and adopt practices to improve the productivity and biodiversity of the region. This study is now operating out of Grey Towers National Historic Site.

The program provides assistance in the development and implementation of forest conservation and management strategies in the 1.5 million acre region that makes up the New York and New Jersey Highlands Region and the surrounding area.

The program was initiated as the outcome of a recent USDA Forest Service New York–New Jersey Highlands regional study that assessed the Highlands’ natural resources for water supply, biodiversity, farming, forestry, and recreation. The study modeled future development in the Highlands and predicted the effects of development on natural resources, analyzing how changes in land-use would alter forest and watershed integrity.

The study determined that development under prevailing conditions would seriously impair the quality of streams and sources of public water, impact forests and farmland, and reduces the extent and quality of wildlife habitat.

Grey Towers was selected as the home of the project because of its location in Milford, Pennsylvania, which is near the edge of the New York–New Jersey Highlands, about equidistant from its northern and southern limits. Housing the program at Grey Towers is within the conservation mission of Grey Towers and the spirit of collaboration and partnership that has prevailed since 1963, when the Pinchot family donated the mansion and grounds to the Forest Service for public use.

For more information about the NY-NJ Highlands Program, please call 570-296-9625.

FOREST HISTORY COMES ALIVE FOR HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS

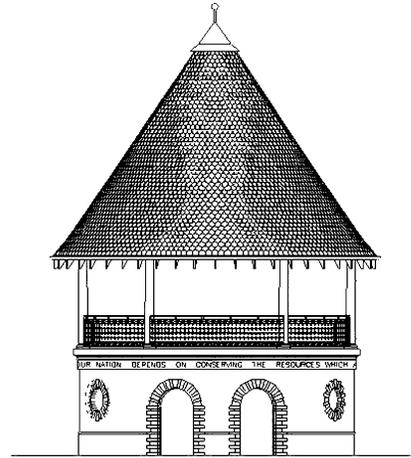
Forest history is now coming alive for area high school students at Grey Towers and the adjoining former Yale School of Forestry camp, thanks to the generosity of Wayne Bank, Dime Bank, the Wayne County Community Foundation and the Pinchot Institute for Conservation. “*A Day in the Life of a Yale School of Forestry Student*,” is a new, innovative program that introduces students to the history of forestry in America and to the important role that this site played in that history. From 1901 to 1926, the Yale



Old Yale forestry camp

School of Forestry held summer school at Grey Towers, providing field experience for many of America’s first professionally trained foresters.

Following the mandated state curriculum criteria, the program introduces students to techniques used by foresters both today and a century ago when Yale forestry students worked, planted, and managed the forests on the Pinchot property. Students will develop an understanding of the need for forest resource management to improve the health of the forest and wildlife habitat. Students will be introduced to such forestry tools as an increment borer, Biltmore stick, flagging, compass, and other equipment. Issues such as deer and timber management will also be explored.



VISITOR SERVICES CONSTRUCTION NEARS COMPLETION

When Phase IV, Visitor Services Project, is completed this year, visitor access will be greatly improved, with a new visitor reception area (pavilion), new restrooms, expanded parking, improved entry drive, lighting and pedestrian walkways.

This project, a cooperative undertaking of the USDA Forest Service, PennDOT, the Commonwealth and the Pinchot Institute for Conservation, will allow Grey Towers to fully serve the public as it was intended, while addressing safety and security issues.



FROM THE PROFESSIONALS

From the Professionals is a tri-annual column of finance and investing tips from different members of the professional services industry. The opinions represented here are authorized by the following firm, and may not reflect those of the Pinchot Institute for Conservation.

Get the Reward You Deserve! A Look at Charitable Lead Trusts

Glen Gravengoed



Glen Gravengoed

Many of you, the supporters of Pinchot Institute, are generous people. Every year you know that a certain amount of your resources will be donated to charitable causes and used to benefit society and the causes you love. While being a person who has a habit of generosity has its own psychic, spiritual and life rewards, it is advantageous that it also often has rewards in the form of charitable tax deductions. This article will help you discover a strategy for maximizing this well deserved reward for your habit of generosity.

Everyone, including Mr. Miser who would never give a dime to a charitable cause, is entitled to take a standard deduction on their individual income tax return. In order for you, our habitually generous friend, to get a larger tax advantage than Mr. Miser you must give more than the standard deduction.¹ Your deduction is only larger than Mr. Miser's to the extent your giving exceeds the standard deduction. That does not seem reasonable and we agree.

TO ILLUSTRATE THIS POINT:

Each year you give \$10,000. You itemize your deductions because it is more than the standard deduction. But your tax advantage is only \$300 more than if you had not given a red cent. You do not get the standard deduction at all if you itemize.

However, there is a way to even the field with Mr. Miser and fully maximize your tax deductions. This strategy will leverage your charitable deductions by allowing you to take advantage of the standard deduction.

THE STRATEGY IS SIMPLE

Get the deduction for all your charitable giving for five or more years in the year the trust is funded through the use of a Charitable Lead Trust. This will take full advantage of the charitable deduction in the year the trust is funded and use the standard deduction in the other years. The good news is you get to use the standard deduction in the four years you would otherwise lose. Even better news is that you can do it without permanently giving up control of your money.

Charitable Lead Trusts have long been a tool used by estate planners to avoid estate taxes on large estates. However, a less known and utilized purpose of these trusts is to use them as a device for income tax planning.

Another way of looking at this strategy is by looking at the source of the money used for charitable giving. If you are earning an average of 5% on your investments, it takes \$200,000 of those investments to fund your \$10,000 per year charita-

ble giving habit. This strategy in essence takes that \$200,000 and sets it aside for your charitable giving purposes. At the end of the term of the trust, the principal returns to you.

To explain further, a Charitable Lead Trust is a trust created for a term of years. It provides a payment to charity during the trust term. The tax deduction is given in the year of funding of the trust. A specified charity is the recipient of the payments. Use of a qualified donor advised fund as the beneficiary of a trust will give flexibility in which charity receives the payment.

LET'S LOOK AT AN EXAMPLE OF HOW POWERFUL THIS TOOL CAN BE.

Phil Anthropist gives \$10,000 a year to his favorite charities. He is in the 33% tax bracket earning \$250,000 a year and generally itemizes his deductions.

Because he is itemizing, he has never been able to use the standard deduction. Phil decides with his tax planner that a Charitable Lead Trust with a five year term would be a good vehicle to help him continue his charitable giving while maximizing his income tax benefits. They decide to use \$200,000 to fund the charitable lead trust. They design the trust to last for five years, at which time the

principal on the trust will revert to Phil. Phil has the \$10,000 annual payment go to a donor-advised fund at a local community foundation from which he will direct the ultimate charities to receive his gift.

The creation of the trust generates a \$44,526 charitable deduction.² This saves Phil \$14,693.58 in taxes in the year of the funding of his trust.

In the five years of the trust, Phil's charitable giving is done through the amounts deposited in his donor-advised fund. His tax deductions look like this for the 5 years of the trust with and without the creation of a charitable lead trust.

Year 1	\$44,526	\$10,000
Year 2	\$ 9,700	\$10,000
Year 3	\$ 9,700	\$10,000
Year 4	\$ 9,700	\$10,000
Year 5	<u>\$ 9,700</u>	<u>\$10,000</u>
Total	\$83,326	\$50,000

Through this technique, Phil has generated an additional \$33,326 in income tax deductions and saved almost \$11,000 in taxes most of which is saved in the first year of the plan. His charitable giving will be adequately funded and Phil has the security knowing that the principal will be returned to him at the end of five years. This is important to Phil who does not need the funds now, but worries that he might if his or his wife's medical situation changes dramatically in the next few years.

For purposes of clarity, we have used a very simple example. Each individual's situation will be slightly different and this technique will not be beneficial in every person's situation. However, for many of you who are already generously sharing their resources and generating charitable deductions, this can be a fantastic way of maximizing the rewards you are entitled to for your generosity.

Lead Trusts are not difficult instruments to create, but it is very important that they are structured correctly in order to achieve the tax goals you desire. It is therefore important that you use professionals familiar with their formation and requirements so that instruments are created that meet your goals and will pass the scrutiny of the IRS.

Contact the author at glenngre@yahoo.com or Liz Siddle (lsiddle@pinchot.org) at (202) 797-6582 at Pinchot Institute for information on professionals in your area who will be able to help you decide if this instrument is right for you.

1. The standard deduction for the 2004 tax year is \$9,700 for a married couple under age 65 filing jointly.
2. Deduction based on 4.6% CFR rate applicable in September, 2004.

BECOME AN INNOVATOR FOR FOREST STEWARDSHIP

Become an innovator for forest stewardship by becoming a **Pinchot Associate**.

As a Pinchot Associate, you will join others across the nation who invests much-needed resources the Pinchot Institute need to quickly, yet thoughtfully, respond to natural resource issues *before* they become policies that ruin our environment, diminish our livelihood or destroy our quality of life. The flexibility your unrestricted gift provides enables us to collaborate nationwide with all of America's people—from rural landowners to federal policymakers—to sustain natural resources and build economic capacity through our educational programs, research on forest-management policies, and technical assistance for on-the-ground activities.

As a natural resource steward, becoming a Pinchot Associate will enable you to feel good about protecting our environment while helping others. For your gift of \$100 or more, we will:

-  Keep you informed of timely natural resource issues through *The Pinchot Letter*;
-  Send you advanced notification of our workshops, seminars, conferences, and newly released publications;
-  Give you special recognition in our year-end newsletter and annual report;
-  Send you invitations to special events we host in your community, Washington, DC and at Grey Towers so you can see for yourself how you are helping to advance forest conservation.

Your gift can be made to the Pinchot Institute through the Combined Federal Campaign or by returning the enclosed envelope.



Capital News: Defining the Future of the National Forests

Char Miller

What are the purposes of the National Forests? What role should the Forest Service play in public-lands management? These questions were on everyone's minds at the January 2005 Centennial Forest Congress in Washington, D.C., and rightly so: Federal conservationism has long been the source of democratic debate.

So it was when the Forest Service was created in 1905, right after *that* year's Forest Congress, called to lobby for the agency's creation. Gifford Pinchot, who organized the event and would become the first chief, knew he needed to have a galvanizing keynote speaker. Happily, there was one close to hand, the nation's greatest conservationist, President Theodore Roosevelt.

Roosevelt was not shy about giving the 1000 delegates their marching orders. "For the first time the great business and forest interests of the nation have joined together to consider their individual and common interests in the forest." One of which was to denounce those who did not share Roosevelt's conviction that conservation was essential to nation's future. "You all know...the individual whose idea of developing the country is to cut every stick of timber off of it and then leave a barren desert for the homemaker who comes in after him," the president declared. "I ask, with all the intensity that I am capable, that the men of the West remember the sharp distinction that I have just drawn between the man who skins the land and the man who develops the country. I am going to work with, and only with, the man who develops the country. I am against the land skinner every time."

Expecting his listeners to share his

outrage, Roosevelt urged the Forest Congress to adopt resolutions advocating the establishment of the forest service and national forests. Its support would pressure the U.S. Congress to pass the requisite legislation—including transferring the forest reserves from the Department of the Interior to Agriculture. The delegates complied with the president's command, and, within a month, so had Congress.

Because of its impact, the 1905 Forest Congress was a watershed moment in conservation history. The same cannot be said of the 2005 Forest Congress, which marked the centennial of the 1905 gathering. President Bush did not address its 600 delegates, though the Secretaries of Agriculture and Interior did; the convention did not petition Congress to enact vital environmental legislation; and its debates over the National Forests' future (more recreation and fewer fires) were muted compared to Roosevelt's thunderous pledge to stop those despoiling the public's woods.

These differences aside, many speakers at the 2005 congress updated Roosevelt's land-skinning metaphor. Our analog, Dale Bosworth, current USDA Forest Service chief, declared, is the global deforestation that is devastating the Third-World, a result largely due to the United States' accelerating importation of wood products. At home, our National Forests are also under considerable pressure, a consequence of explosive urban sprawl, increased fire damage, riparian deterioration, and off-road vehicles and invasive species that threaten healthy forest ecosystems. What links these international and domestic threats, Bosworth averred, is that "Americans want it

all," cheap wood and unsullied terrain, clean water and no logging, recreation, access, and open space. "If we truly believe in a land ethic," he concluded, "then we must also demonstrate a consumption ethic." The Forest Service could model the way, but only if it practices "the conservation we preach."



Char Miller

The demand for a more innovative conservation leadership also had a southern impetus. Participants at the November 2004 Forest Service Centennial Forum in Asheville, North Carolina, for instance, determined that one of the agency's most pressing needs was to redevelop "trust with the public through a redefined 'social contract.'" At the Forest Congress, many agreed. For some, this new compact could be framed around the Forest Service's unique role in conservation education. Drawing off an earlier speaker's observation that "never before have so many been so removed from nature," former chief Mike Dombeck urged the agency to integrate urban populations with rural landscapes through watershed restoration projects or fire-ecosystem management, issues that directly affect city life and livelihoods.

I've my own modest proposal for reasserting the agency's preeminence in environmental protection: Declare that by 2020 all National Forests will be certified under Forest Stewardship Council and American Forest and Paper Association guidelines. Embracing independent, third-party audits would re-establish public trust,

and do so in a bold, creative manner that will enable the agency to reclaim the moral high ground. Such a dramatic declaration would meet Roosevelt's hearty approval and dovetail with Chief Pinchot's charge to his successors: "Our responsibility to the

Nation is to be more than careful stewards of the land; we must be constant catalysts for positive change."

Char Miller teaches at Trinity University in San Antonio, and is author of *Gifford Pinchot and the*

Making of Modern Environmentalism and co-author of *The Greatest Good: 100 Years of Forestry in America*.

The Pinchot Institute for Conservation gratefully acknowledges the following donors who have made unrestricted gifts of \$100.00 or more in 2004. These supporters contributed as Pinchot Associates. To learn more about this program, please visit our website at www.pinchot.org and click on "donate."

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- ✿ The *101 Conservation Scholarship* and *Mortimer Garden* funds — to offer internships and scholarships to future natural resource professionals.
- ✿ The *Grey Towers Fund* — to offer training workshops, educational conferences, and to assist with other initiatives at Grey Towers, the Institute's home.

OR

- ✿ Become a *Pinchot Associate* and receive advanced notification of our activities and publications; special mention in our printed materials; and invitations to events held in your community, Washington, DC and at Grey Towers.

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