

2013 CONFERENCE PROGRAM

APRIL 24-26, 2013



Wednesday, April 24, 2013

8:00 AM **Optional *Pre-Conference Tour* (separate \$50 registration fee applies)**

Tour 1 (Wisconsin)

Great Lakes Renewable Energy, Hayward, WI (wood pellet producer)

Midwest Forest Products, Hayward, WI (biomass boiler for building heat)

Xcel Energy, Ashland, WI (biomass processing for electrical)

Ashland Memorial Medical Center, Ashland, WI (biomass heating system)

Tour 2 (Minnesota)

Fond du Lac Waste Transfer Center, Cloquet, MN (biomass boiler)

Silver Bay Eco-Industrial Park, Silver Bay, MN (biomass boiler)

Wolf Ridge Environmental Learning Center, Finland, MN (biomass heating district)

Duluth Steam Cooperative (city district energy facility - currently coal, potential biomass)

Return to Black Bear Casino, Carlton, MN by 5:00 PM

5:00 PM **Registration Opens in Expo Lobby**

6:00 PM **Vendor's Reception**

A vendor's reception will be held for all sponsors, exhibitors, conference registrants and invited guests in the Expo Hall.

Concludes at 8:00 PM

Thursday, April 25, 2013

7:30 AM **Registration opens** with continental breakfast in Expo hall

8:45 AM **Opening Plenary Session**

Introduction and Welcome:

Brian Brashaw, Chair, Heating the Midwest with Renewable Biomass and Program Director, University of Minnesota Duluth, Natural Resources Research Institute

Karen Diver, Chairwoman, Fond du Lac Band of Lake Superior Chippewa, Cloquet, MN

- 9:15 AM** **Opening Remarks:**
Forrest Boe, Minnesota State Forester, Minnesota Department of Natural Resources
Teresa Spaeth, Executive Director, Agricultural Utilization Research Institute
- 9:35 AM** **Keynote Address:**
Heating the Midwest with Renewable Biomass: A Midwest Vision
T.J. Morice, Co-Chair Heating the Midwest and VP Marketing and Operations, Marth Wood Supply, Marathon, WI and William Strauss, President, FutureMetrics, Bethel, ME
- 10:20 AM** **Refreshment and Networking Break**
- 10:50 AM** **Biomass Energy: Economic Impact, Environmental Benefits:**
The Northeast Biomass Thermal Vision: Accomplishments and Strategy!
Adam Sherman, Consultant, Biomass Energy Resource Center and Northeast Biomass Thermal Working Group
- Green Energy, Green Jobs!
Christiane Egger, Deputy Manager, O.O. Energiesparverband (Upper Austrian Renewable Energy Agency)
- 11:40 AM** **Plenary Session Panel Discussion (Morice, Strauss, Sherman, and Egger)**
- 12:00 PM** **Lunch in Open Expo Hall**
- 1:00 PM** **Break Out Sessions 1 and 2 (Concurrent)**
- Session 1 - Biomass Resources and Demographics (105 minutes) Moderator - Fred Iutzi**
- Biomass Procurement and Processing Strategies
Urban Wood Biomass: *Jeff Guillemette, Biomass Fuel Procurement Supervisor, Environmental Wood Supply, LLC*
Forest Biomass: *Eric Maki, President, Midwest Forest Products, Hayward, WI*
Agricultural Biomass: *Jay Van Roekel, Biomass Business Unit Manager, Vermeer Corporation*
- Development of Sustainable Biomass Standards
Brendan Jordan, Program Director, Great Plains Institute (invited)
- Household Fuel Use Study
David Ripplinger, North Dakota State University, and Fred Iutzi and Xiaolan Liu, Western Illinois University
- Session 2 - Community/Institutional Real World Projects - Success Stories (105 minutes) Moderator - Gregg Mast, President, Earthtech Energy, Inc. St. Louis Park, MN**
- Deep Portage Environmental Learning Center
Norm Moody, Vice President, Hackensack, MN

Wolf Ridge Environmental Learning Center
Peter Smerud, Executive Director, Finland, MN

Itasca Community College
Bart Johnson, Engineering Instructor and Program Coordinator, Grand Rapids, MN

Pinecrest Health Care Facility
Dave Vandermissen, Powers, MI

2:45 PM Refreshment and Networking Break

3:15 PM Break Out Sessions 3 and 4 (Concurrent) (105 minutes)

Session 3 - Biomass Thermal Market Development

Biomass Heating Feasibility Guide

Becky Philipp, Project Manager and Al Doering, Sr. Associate Scientist Coproducts, Agricultural Resources Research Institute

Biomass Pellet Market Development Strategies

Mike Curci, Indeck Energy (invited)

Positive Life Cycle Inventory of Wood Pellet Production and Utilization

John Katers, Associate Professor, University of Wisconsin Green Bay

Low Income Heating Assistance Program - Biomass Heating Opportunities

Speaker TBD

Sustainable Communities/Energy Efficiency Program Opportunities

Lee Stuart, Program Officer, Local Initiatives Support Corporation (LISC) - Duluth Office

Session 4 - Combined Heat and Power and Commercial Real World Projects - Success Stories (105 minutes)

Marvin Windows, Warroad, Minnesota

Chillicothe VA Medical Center - Chillicothe, Ohio

Providence University College and Theological Seminary, Otterburne, Manitoba, Canada

Gundersen Lutheran Hospital, Lacrosse, Wisconsin *(invited)*

Minnesota Power Paper Co-generation Operations, Duluth, Minnesota

Sessions 3 and 4 conclude at 5:00 PM

6:00 PM Session 5 - Expo Hall Open (Open to General Public and Regional Businesses)

Silver Bay Eco-Industrial Park, Silver Bay, Minnesota

Bruce Carman, Eco-Park Project Coordinator, City of Silver Bay

Michigan YMCA Camp - Efficient Cordwood Thermal Heating

Lew McCreery, USDA Forest Service

Biomass Fuel Delivery Technology
William Strauss, Maine Energy Systems

All Equipment Vendors and Exhibitors 5 minute presentations upon request

Thermal Heating Fair Closes at 8:30 PM

Friday, April 26, 2013

- 7:30 AM** **Expo Hall opens** with continental breakfast in Expo hall
- 8:30 AM** **General Session:**
“Swedish Biomass Study Tour and Opportunities for Minnesota and the Midwest”
Ellen Anderson, Senior Advisor to the Governor on Energy & Environment, Minnesota Department of Agriculture
- 9:00 AM** **Session 6: Advancing Biomass Thermal in the Midwest**
Development of Community Biomass Thermal Projects
Kathryn Fernholtz, Executive Director, Dovetail Partners Inc.

Effective Feasibility and Planning Strategies for Combined Heat and Power Projects
Mark Spurr, President, FVB Energy, Inc.
- 10:00 AM** **Refreshment and Networking Break**
- 10:15 AM** Comprehensive Feasibility Assessments for Biomass Thermal Projects
Dan Wilson, Vice-President, Wilson Engineering Services

Policy Strategies for Advancing Biomass Thermal in the Midwest
Jim Kleinschmit, Rural Communities Program Director, Institute for Agriculture and Trade Policy

The Importance of Education and Advocacy in Advancing Biomass Thermal
Joseph Seymour, Executive Director, Biomass Thermal Energy Council
- 11:45 AM** **Closing Session**
Capitalizing On Heating the Midwest Conference: Conference Charge and Closing
T.J. Morice, Vice-Chair, Heating the Midwest and VP Marketing and Operations, Marth Wood Supply and Brian Brashaw, Chair, Heating the Midwest with Renewable Biomass and Program Director, University of Minnesota Natural Resources Research Institute
- Conference Closes at 12:00 PM**