

Wednesday, April 25, 2012

-
- 5:00 PM **Registration Opens in Expo Lobby**
-
- 6:00 PM **Vendor's Reception in Expo Hall**
for all sponsors, exhibitors, conference registrants and invited guests
-
- 8:00 PM Expo Hall closes
-

Thursday, April 26, 2012

-
- 7:30 AM **Registration Opens** with continental breakfast
-
- 9:00 AM **Opening Plenary Session**
- Introduction and Welcome:**
Brian Brashaw, Program Director, Natural Resources Research Institute, University of Minnesota Duluth
Chris Wiberg, Manager – Biomass Energy Services, Timber Products Inspection/Biomass Energy Lab
- Opening Remarks:**
Paul Delong, Wisconsin State Forester, Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources, Division of Forestry
- Keynote Address: "Setting a Big Vision for Regional Biomass Heating Systems at the Industrial, Commercial and Community Scale"**
Kenneth Smith, President and CEO, District Energy St. Paul, MN
- "Federal Opportunities for Assisting the Development of Biomass Thermal Projects"**
Stan Gruszynski, State Director, USDA Rural Development, Stevens Point, WI
-
- 10:30 AM Refreshment and Networking Break
-
- 11:00 AM **"USDA Wood-to-Energy Efforts: Restoring Economies and Ecosystems"**
David Atkins, Woody Biomass Program Manager, US Forest Service
- Plenary Session Panel Discussion**
Moderator: Denis Becker, University of Minnesota
-
- 12:00 PM Lunch
-
- 1:00 PM Break Out Sessions 1 and 2 (Concurrent)
- Session 1: Biomass Resources in the Midwest**
Moderator: Becky Phillip, Agricultural Utilization Research Institute
- "Availability and Location of Agricultural and Woody Feedstocks in the Midwest"
 David Ripplinger, Research Assistant, North Dakota State University
- "Biomass Quality and Combustion: Not all Biomass is Equal"
 Troy Runge, Director, Wisconsin Bioenergy Initiative, University of Wisconsin-Madison

Session 2: Residential/Small Commercial Real World Projects – Success Stories

Moderator: Tony (T.J.) Morice, Marth Wood Shaving Supply, Inc.

“Energy Upgrades in Low Income Housing in Vermont”

Scott Nichols, President, Tarm Biomass USA, Lyme, NH

“Small Commercial and Institutional Installations”

David Dungate, President, ACT Bioenergy, Schenectady, NY

“Wolf Ridge Environmental Learning Center”

Per Carlson, Founder, ABioNova

Grant Gagner, Business Development Commercial Series, WoodMaster

“Biomass Energy in Barron, WI - Savings Analysis”

Monti Hallberg, Superintendent, Barron, Wisconsin

“Ohio: Prison & Other Biomass Installations”

Scott Bagley, Wood for Warmth Renewable Heat Services, Athens, OH

2:45 PM Refreshment and Networking Break

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

Session 3: Biomass Thermal Benefits in the Midwest

Moderator: Chris Wiberg, Timber Products Inspection

“Bio Energy in the Midwest”

William Strauss, President, FutureMetrics, Bethel, ME

“Renewable Energy Benefits from Biomass for a College Campus,”

Joel Tallaksen, Biomass Project Coordinator, University of Minnesota West Central Research & Outreach Center

“Benefits from an Innovative Combined Heat and Power Plant”

Stacy Cook, Vice President of Operations, Koda Energy, Shakopee, MN

“Biomass Opportunities for Enhancing Prairie Habitat”

Paul Charland, Wildland Urban Interface Coordinator, US Fish and Wildlife Service

Session 4: Large Commercial/Institutional Real World Projects – Success Stories

Moderator: Tony (T.J.) Morice, Marth Wood Shaving Supply, Inc.

“Eastern Illinois University: Biomass Gasification, Renewable Energy Center”

Gary Reed, Director of Facilities Planning & Management, Eastern Illinois University

“Ensuring the Sustainable Harvest of Forest-Derived Biomass for the University of Missouri’s CHP Plant”

Hank Stelzer, Associate Professor of Forestry, University of Missouri

“Chippewa Valley Ethanol Co. - Biomass Gasifier”

Andrew Zurn, Engineering Manager, Benson, MN

“Chillicothe, Ohio Veterans Affairs Medical Center”

Lew McCreery, Forest Products Specialist, US Forest Service

“Gundersen Lutheran Hospital”

Amanda Mott, Energy Project Specialist, Wisconsin State Energy Office

5:00 PM Sessions 3 and 4 conclude



- 6:00 PM - **Thermal Heating Fair** – Expo Hall Open
9:00 PM
- “Sweden’s Success in Biomass - An Opportunity for the Midwest”
Bengt- Erik Löfgren
- Marth Fiber Supply Heating Appliance and Fuel Overview
Tony (T.J.) Morice
- “My Family’s Successful Transition from Propane to Wood Pellets”
Tim Hagen
- HeatSmart Plus Heating Appliance Overview
Dave Jacoby
- ABioNova/WoodMaster Heating Appliance Overview
Per Carlsson and Grant Gagner
- Tarm Biomass USA Heating Appliance Overview
Scott Nichols
- Messersmith Manufacturing Heating Appliance Overview
Gerry Guard

Friday, April 27, 2012

- 7:30 AM **Expo Hall Opens** with continental breakfast
-

8:30 AM **General Session**

- “Austria’s Successful Rise in Biomass Heating”
Hans C. Kordik, Counselor for Agriculture & Environment, Austrian Embassy, Washington, DC
- “The Successful Expansion of Biomass Heating in the U.S.: Lessons Learned from the Northeast Experience”
Charlie Niebling, General Manager, New England Wood Pellet LLC, Steering Committee, Northeast Biomass Thermal Working Group
-

- 9:30 AM Refreshment and Networking Break
-

10:00 AM **General Session: Advancing Biomass Thermal in the Midwest**

Moderator: Pamela Porter, Biomass Energy Resource Center

- “Biomass Energy: Community Engagement”
Gloria Erickson, Local Project Coordinator, Ely, MN Alternative Energy Task Force
- “Supporting Community-Driven Sustainable Bioenergy Projects: The Cook County Biomass Energy Feasibility Study - Approach, Execution and Outreach”
Gary Atwood, Local Project Coordinator, Cook County Local Energy Project, Grand Marais, MN
- “Project Feasibility And The Key Financial Variables Along The Way”
John Jackels, Manager, Energy & Utilities, Baker Tilly, Madison, WI
- “Policy Strategies for Supporting Thermal Biomass in the Midwest”
Dennis Becker, Associate Professor, Dept of Forest Resources, University of Minnesota, St. Paul, MN
-

11:30 AM **Closing Session**

- “Capitalizing On Heating the Midwest Conference: Conference Charge and Closing”
Chris Wiberg, Tony (T.J.) Morice, Pamela Porter, Becky Phillip, Michael Curci; Steering Committee Members, Heating the Midwest with Renewable Biomass
-

- 12:00 PM Conference Closes