

UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA

Twin Cities Campus

*Sustainable Forests Education Cooperative
College of Food, Agricultural and
Natural Resource Sciences*

*Cloquet Forestry Center
175 University Road
Cloquet, MN 55720
218-726-6404
Fax: 218-879-0855
E-mail: llevy@umn.edu
<http://sfec.cfans.umn.edu/>*

**Sustainable Forests
Education Cooperative
Member Organizations:**

Association of County Land Commissioners

Blandin Foundation

Boise Cascade

County Land Departments

Aitkin
Beltrami
Carlton
Cass
Clearwater
Crow Wing
Hubbard
Koochiching
Lake
St. Louis

MN Center for Environmental Advocacy

MN Chippewa Tribes

Fond du Lac
Grand Portage
Leech Lake
White Earth

MN DNR

Division of Forestry
Wildlife Mgmt Section

MN Forest Resources Council

MN Forest Stewardship Program

The Nature Conservancy, Minnesota Chapter

Potlatch

Red Lake Tribal DNR

Sappi Fine Paper

Soil and Water Conservation Districts

Aitkin County
Carlton County
Crow Wing County
Itasca County
Koochiching County
Wadena County
South St Louis County
(CCLNS Joint Powers Board #3)

St. John's University Arboretum

University of Minnesota
Natural Resources Research Institute

UPM – Blandin Paper Mill

USFS National Forests

Superior
Chippewa

SFEC June Newsletter #37 30 June, 2009

Dear SFEC members and supporters,

Greetings from your new SFEC Coordinator! The month of June seems like it's flown by while I've been transitioning into my new position!

I'm impressed by those of you I've already met and the commitment I've seen by the individuals who have created the Sustainable Forests Education Cooperative and are helping to fulfill the vision and values that have made it what it has become today!

Thanks to Greg Bernu-Chair of the Transition Team and to Louise Levy and the Selection Committee for putting your trust in me as the new SFEC Coordinator. Thanks to Ron Severs, UM Cloquet Forestry Center Director for all your guidance and support. Thanks to Al Ek for introducing me to the UM faculty on the St. Paul Campus and to Dave Zumeta from the Minnesota Forest Resources Council and Dave Schipper from the Minnesota DNR who have already shared with me introductions and insights into working successfully the individuals they work with and serve.

I want to personally thank each and every one of you who has contributed to the success of the SFEC! I value the knowledge and insights each of you has brought to the cooperative. I realize that it is only through your help and support that the cooperative will continue to grow and meet the expanded educational needs of the resource professionals we are serving.

It's exciting for me to think about the potential of the SFEC for future programs and learning! There are so many educational possibilities to work and learn from! Yet your input and guidance is so important to making sure that the SFEC is on track now and into the future.

I am spending some of my time right now on logistics with trying to get up and going: Ordering new computer and software and

transferring files, learning accounting and programmatic functions, following through with programs already on the schedule. I'm working on hiring a part-time administrative assistant in partnership with the UM-Extension. Louise continues to provide me with help during this transition time.

On a longer-view, I plan on completing a **comprehensive educational needs assessment** soon to update educational priorities and to hear how the SFEC can best meet your needs and continue to fulfill the vision created within the 1994 'Implementation Strategy Roundtable-Report of the Generic Environmental Impact Statement (GEIS)', and the more recent 'Audit Report'. The feedback and the time you spend providing me your thoughts and wishes for future educational programs will help me to prioritize a work plan and help set the course for future SFEC programs.

For the immediate future I hope to meet many of you and get to know you personally. I hope you will feel free to stop over at the Cloquet Forestry Center at any time or to call or e-mail me for introductions and to help answer any of your questions or concerns. I hope to meet many of you at your work site and get a better understanding of your work and how I can best assist you. Feel free to contact me at mkroenke@umn.edu, 218-726-6404 office, 907-242-0011 cell. SFEC web page: (<http://sfec.cfans.umn.edu>).

In closing, I think about Aldo Leopold's vision regarding the 'larger community' associated with the 'land'. I consider all of you a part of this larger community and I consider it a privilege to work with you!

SFEC is now the Society of American Foresters Continuing Forestry Education Coordinator for Minnesota. This new service will streamline the process of getting forestry-related workshops graded for CEU's and facilitate CEU reporting for Forest Stewardship Plan writers.

Sincerely,

Mike Kroenke

Mike Kroenke