

National Capital Region

The NCR's Center for Urban Ecology (CUE) has established several cooperative arrangements to assist in meeting some of region's identified research objectives. The Pest Management Program of CUE, under James L. Sherald has established an Inter-agency Agreement with the USDA Systemic Botany and Mycology Laboratory, Beltsville, MD. to study the basic mycology of the dogwood anthracnose pathogen *Discula* sp.

A Cooperative Agreement has been established with the Forestry Department/Pesticide Research Center, MI/State U to develop a screening and identification procedure for detecting elm cell lines that are resistant to Dutch elm disease. Sherald is the project leader. Mariam Sticklen, MSU the principal investigator.

John Hadidian, Wildlife Biologist, is the CUE coordinator of a Cooperative Agreement between NCR and the NPS CPSU at U/GA. These projects involve white-tailed deer studies and the evaluation of deer impacts on vegetative communities. A comprehensive bibliographic search is currently being conducted. Plans are underway to establish vegetation sampling plots in several NCR parks and to evaluate sampling methodologies simplifying and standardizing data collection. Susan Bratton, CPS Unit Leader at the University, is participating and providing guidance.

The CUE's Pest Management Program will be assisting the USFS in contracting and coordinating gypsy moth suppression for five federal agencies, the District of Columbia, NPS sites at Fredricksburg, VA, and NCR. Approximately 12,000 acres are scheduled for treatment. The bacterially derived pesticide *Bt* will be used on most of the 12,000 acres; nucleopolyhedrosis virus, a gypsy moth-specific virus formulated as Gypchek and supplied by the Forest Service, will be applied to 100 acres in Prince William Forest Park. Christine Haggerty, Forest Pest Management Specialist at the CUE, is contact for the program.

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Water resource management in the NCR is challenged by two reclamation projects: Minnehaha stream as it passes through Glen Echo Park and wetland management in Washington, DC. The original ravine of Minnehaha stream valley had been filled to become a parking lot. A flood following a storm in May of 1989 blew out all the fill, the parking lot collapsed and more than a dozen cars were lost, some of them washed through a culvert beneath the C & O Canal into the Potomac River. Restoration of the stream valley will follow a hydrologic model being developed by Bill Reed of the NPS, Water Resources Division, Fort Collins, that will handle increments up to the 100 year flow.

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Dick Hammerschlag, CUE Chief and regional water resource program coordinator, is assisting the resource management staff of National Capital Parks-East on a program to enhance and reclaim wetlands along the Anacostia River. The NPS is a cooperator with the Washington, DC Council of Governments in an EPA-sponsored program to improve all waters entering the Chesapeake Bay. Kenilworth Marsh, a 44 acre remnant of emergent wetland, adjoins Kenilworth Aquatic Gardens, a NPS site in the Nation's Capital.

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