

Forest Resources Seminar
Inspiring integration and innovation

Wednesday, February 28, 2018

4:00-5:00 p.m.

203 Green Hall

St. Paul Campus

Join the webex by following this link: <http://z.umn.edu/FRsem>

**Indicators of environmental stewardship
volunteer retention**

presented by

Ashley Reichard

As environmental stewardship volunteer programs continue to exist and evolve, indicators of volunteer retention become increasingly important. This understanding allows program coordinators to determine cost-effectiveness, the volunteer base volume one can expect, and the amount of resources necessary to support volunteers throughout the average volunteer experience. Using a survey regarding knowledge, attitudes, practices, personality, and demographics, this research aims to pinpoint indicators of volunteer retention and to take a snapshot of the average volunteer retention length. Participating programs include Forest Pest First Detector, Master Gardener, Master Naturalist, and Minnesota Tree Care Advocate.

BIO: Ashley Reichard is the Volunteer Programs Coordinator in the Department of Forest Resources with research interests focused on the management and retention of volunteers involved in environmental stewardship programs.

**Anticipatory governance for urban public lands: Addressing vegetation
management challenges of today and tomorrow**

presented by

Kristen C. Nelson, Professor

Urban public lands management that addresses current vegetation challenges and anticipates future challenges is ideal, yet less is known about how municipal public lands policies and managers provide anticipatory governance (AG) for vegetation management. Using qualitative analysis of municipal vegetation ordinances and in-depth interviews with city natural resource managers, our studies explore vegetation management challenges and related anticipatory governance capacity in the Minneapolis-St. Paul metropolitan area: 19 randomly selected cities across the urban gradient. Anticipatory governance capacity was defined as foresight, engagement, and integration.

We found that vegetation management challenges were diverse—environmental, economic and sociopolitical. AG attributes in city vegetation ordinances were distributed across the urban gradient with foresight represented in all cities, and engagement in slightly over half of the cities. No clear city capacity patterns (e.g. budget, % parkland, population) were predictors of AG attributes for vegetation management. We discovered that AG is supported and guided by Institutional Entrepreneurship (IE) attributes of the public land manager.

BIO: Kristen C. Nelson is a Professor in the Department of Forest Resources and Department of Fisheries, Wildlife, and Conservation Biology. Dr. Nelson studies socio-ecological systems focused on human behavior, social networks, policy, and change.

Seminars will be the last Wednesday of the month with the next one March 28.