

First Call for Papers

A Southern Region Conference on Technology Transfer and Extension in Natural Resources

August 2-4, 2006
The Historic Arlington Hotel
Hot Springs, Arkansas



The natural resources of the Southern United States are immeasurable in value. The appropriate management and use of these natural resources depends on a continuous research and education effort to develop technologies and respond to social, economic and ecological issues. Research is conducted by colleges and universities, state and federal agencies, environmental organizations, private companies, and others. This research is largely ineffective unless it is implemented across the landscape. Extension workers, natural resources specialists, teachers and professors, technology transfer specialists, and many others work tirelessly to put new science and technology to work to better manage our natural resources. This conference is designed to review these efforts so that we can better understand and improve our efforts in technology transfer, Extension, and science delivery and application. What are we doing now, what traditional programs are still relevant and working, and what opportunities has the age of information technology provided, are just a few of the questions we plan to answer at this conference.

The program provides for four types of contributions:

- **Syntheses of the art and science of getting knowledge to users including research on technology transfer**, as presentations with submitted papers;
- **Experience-based knowledge**, as presentations by technology transfer and Extension specialists;
- **Case studies** showing the application of various Extension and technology transfer approaches, as presentations with submitted papers; and
- **Other topics** related to technology transfer/science delivery and Extension, given as posters

The organizing committee intends for all accepted **scientific synthesis and case study contributions** to be peer reviewed and published jointly by the Southern Regional Extension Forestry Office and the USDA Forest Service's Southern Research Station in a single volume book. Selected experience-based knowledge presentations may be invited for inclusion in the book depending on their merit and other circumstances. Poster presentations will be published in the book in the form of non-peer reviewed extended abstracts in an Appendix.

This call solicits abstracts for any of the four types of contributions. The abstract should clearly describe the paper's contribution to the art and science of technology transfer/science delivery. Abstracts are limited to 300

words. Include with the abstract the paper title, authors, affiliations, corresponding author, and contribution type (scientific synthesis, experience-based knowledge, case study, poster). For scientific synthesis papers, each submission should strive to *synthesize a significant portion of the current art and science of technology transfer/science delivery* in one of the topics mentioned above. It should also provide example(s) of its application or indicate how the knowledge could be used by practitioners. Papers summarizing experience-based knowledge should strive to compare and contrast different strategies that have worked well (or poorly) and provide a “lessons learned” perspective on the chosen topic. The Poster section is not restricted to syntheses. Specific research studies are encouraged in any of the topics listed above, or on other related topics. **Conference sponsors are particularly interested in scientific syntheses and case studies on the following topics:**

- The history of natural resources Extension, technology transfer and science delivery in the South.
- Profiling the user communities; who they are; what are their needs, and how can they be reached.
- Evaluation research.
- Methodology syntheses such as comparisons of person-to-person, train-the trainer, paper or other methods.
- Media-based products and their impact.
- Studies/papers relating to sub-regional differences and the impacts they may have on technology transfer.
- Strategic, south-wide technology transfer/science delivery approaches such as distance learning.
- Innovative partnerships and what makes them effective.
- How hard-to-reach audiences are being reached (traditionally underserved, minority and other audiences for example).
- Modern techniques for linking research and knowledge transfer.

Timeline

- ✓ **April 7, 2006:** Conference abstracts due. They should be submitted electronically to Bill Hubbard at whubbard@uga.edu
- ✓ **April 14, 2006:** Authors to be notified regarding acceptance. Conference organizers will work closely with authors of accepted presentations to determine appropriate publication plans for written contributions.
- ✓ **August 2, 2006:** Papers are due at the conference ready for peer review. Late papers will only be accepted by special arrangement with Bill Hubbard.
- ✓ **December 15, 2006:** Peer reviews completed and results returned to authors for revision.
- ✓ **February 15, 2007:** Author revisions completed and submitted by authors.
- ✓ **June, 2007:** Book published.

For questions and additional information contact:

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A special conference hotel sleeping room rate of \$79 has been arranged for this event in the newly renovated Arlington Hotel, Hot Springs, AR. More conference details including hotel, registration and logistics information will be circulated shortly and will also be posted at www.sref.info/2006/techtransfer.

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