The climate is changing, and the time to act is now! Observations and predictions point to impacts on water resources due to greater climate extremes. Learn about the emerging strategies, tools and policies for local governments aimed at managing natural resource vulnerabilities and risks associated with climate change.

For more information, including a detailed conference agenda, see www.minnehahacreek.org or call the Minnesota Landscape Arboretum Education Office at 952-443-1422.

ADAPTING COMMUNITY INFRASTRUCTURE TO CLIMATE CHANGE

Solutions for stormwater management and community forests

MACMILLAN AUDITORIUM, MINNESOTA LANDSCAPE ARBORETUM
THURSDAY, MARCH 13, 2008  8:30 A.M. – 4:00 P.M.

DON’T MISS
This informative conference combining the best of offerings from experts in stormwater management, forestry, urban planning and environmental leadership.

WHO SHOULD ATTEND?
Local elected and appointed officials, public works, engineering, planning and design professionals, community foresters, and natural resource professionals.

OVERVIEW — CONFERENCE TOPICS
Minnesota Perspective
• Local historical data, trends, and predictions: Mark Seeley, University of Minnesota

Keynote Presentations
• Climate change science: what we know and what we don’t know
• Climate change impacts on water resources
• Adapting civil infrastructure to climate change

CONCURRENT SESSION TOPICS
• Vulnerability assessment for local communities
• Urban forest management policies and ordinances
• Trees as stormwater management tools
• Low Impact Development as an adaptation tool for climate change
• Planning in an uncertain future: sizing culverts and other infrastructure
• Resources for action: budgeting and community leadership for adaptation

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ABOUT THE KEYNOTE SPEAKERS

Joel B. Smith, vice president of Status Consulting provides technical advice, guidance, and training on assessing vulnerability to climate change impacts and adaptation for clients around the world, such as the World Bank and the United Nations, states and municipalities throughout the U.S. He has written extensively in books and peer-reviewed journals on the topic of climate change impact and adaptation, as well as, lead author for the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) Third and Fourth Assessment Report. Mr. Smith was the former deputy director of Climate Change Division for the U.S. EPA from 1984 to 1992 and special assistant to the assistant administrator for the Office of Policy, Planning and Evaluation.

Latham Stack is CEO and Managing Scientist of Syntectic International, a consulting firm helping communities prepare for climate change. His involvement with climate change impacts and adaptation issues dates to 1998. Syntectic applies a state-of-the-art model to adapting community-scale infrastructures to climate change. Latham’s message that preparation for climate change is both feasible and overdue has been well-received at a number of conferences.

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