



MOUNTAIN LAKE

VEGETATION MANAGEMENT COUNCIL, INCORPORATED

SPRING 2015 NEWSLETTER

2015 MOUNTAIN LAKE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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Todd Hagenbuch
thagenbuch@arborchem.com

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sstandish@firstenergycorp.com

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ecunnin@eci-consulting.com

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jerry.lewis@cpsagu.com

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sidahl@pplweb.com

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Davekrause@arborchem.com

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Mark.rice@bayer.com

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fforrest@aep.com

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phipkins@vt.edu

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Lgrayson@aerialsolutionsinc.com

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ptross@aep.com

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swirs@firstenergycorp.com

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Charles.Smyth@cpsagu.com

Jack Thompson-New Brd Member

jackthompson@asplundh.com

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Sam.vaughan@dom.com

Matt Glinecki-New Brd Member

mglincecki@firstenergycorp.com



61st ANNUAL MOUNTAIN LAKE CONFERENCE

SEPTEMBER 14th-16th, 2015

Sheraton Pittsburgh Hotel

Dinner Cruise aboard "Empress" & Captain's Choice Golf

(See page 2 for details)

PRESIDENT'S LETTER

I am writing this presidential address as the 2015 bareground herbicide season gets under way. Although we have had another record winter in the Northeast and Mid-Atlantic region of the United States, the weeds are growing once again. I'm sure everyone is busy now that spring has arrived, but it isn't too early to begin thinking about the Mountain Lake Annual Meeting this fall. This year's meeting will be held at the Sheraton Pittsburgh Hotel at Station Square. We are nearing our completion of the agenda for this year's meeting which will include a field tour of Duquesne Power's right-of-ways and PennDOT's roadside vegetation management program. On a fun note, the meeting will include a golf tournament (pay on your own) on Monday morning and a dinner cruise (included in registration) on the Gateway Clipper (Empress) on Tuesday evening. We are excited about the venue (Go Steelers) this year and we believe we should have a large turnout considering the location and accommodations. Feel free to bring the spouse along as there will be plenty to do nearby to the hotel including the dinner cruise on Tuesday evening.

An interesting email was sent to me recently which announced the 70th anniversary of 2,4-D. It's amazing to think that this herbicide that revolutionized agriculture and vegetation management has been around this long. In fact, it is still widely used in many vegetation management programs today. Even with all the misinformed people and anti-pesticide groups that exist today, just think where modern agriculture would be without the invention of 2,4-D. We might not have had enough food to feed some of those people. Just kidding, but there is some truth to the matter. As usual, we all stand strong in support of our industry and our goals. So often we spend time defending what we do, but in reality so often what we do is unseen or unappreciated because the power doesn't go out and/or accidents don't occur on highways due to proper vegetation management. So often we quietly go about our business of proper vegetation management practices only to reduce cost, save lives, and even create beneficial ecosystems without our efforts being recognized. Here's to all you folks out there that use herbicides properly for the benefit of society. Killing weeds and brush is not our goal, creating a safe and low maintenance right-of-way has been and will continue to be our goal. We use herbicides as a tool to accomplish the task and nothing more. It doesn't hurt that most of the herbicides today are in the low toxicity group and only require ounces per acre to accomplish our vegetation management goals. I look forward to working with all of you in the future as I feel our industry is stronger than ever. Please pencil in the dates above as we look forward to seeing you in September.

PRESIDENT'S LETTER CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

PRESIDENT'S LETTER CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

2015 MEETING ANNOUNCEMENT

The 61st Annual MLVMC Meeting will be held September 14th-16th in Pittsburgh, PA. PLEASE SAVE THESE DATES ON YOUR CALENDAR!

The Sheraton Pittsburgh Hotel in Station Square will serve as our conference hotel and we are nearing the completion of our informative and valuable agenda. Field tours have always been a trademark of The Mountain Lake meeting and we are planning another half-day field tour this year, which will take place on the afternoon of Tuesday the 15th. The tour will include a visit to some of the local Duquesne Power & Light rights-of-way and PennDOT's rights-of-way. Early on Monday the 14th, there will be a golf tournament for those who want to participate. Our welcome mixer will be on the evening of the 14th and we will have a wide array of presentations during the educational sections on the 15th & 16th. On the evening of the 15th, we have a treat this year, we will be taking a 3 hr. dinner cruise on the Gateway Clipper Cruise Line (Empress is the name of our boat). We will also have our vendor tradeshow with representatives displaying their vegetation management products and services for best management practices in vegetation management. You will not want to miss this opportunity to stay current with industry trends and share ideas with others that manage vegetation from across the region. Please feel free to contact any of the Board Members with any questions or suggestions in regards to our association. The Board and I look forward to seeing you all in Pittsburgh. Let's make this one of our largest turnouts ever.

Sincerely,



Todd Hagenbuch
President - MLVMC
www.Mtn-lake.org

Registration Information

Meeting: <https://www.regonline.com/Register/Checkin.aspx?EventID=1705547>

Hotel: Sheraton Station Square Hotel, 300 West Station Square Drive, Pittsburgh, PA 15219-1122 (412) 261-2000

Reference **Mountain Lake VMC Annual Conference** OR following the link <https://www.starwoodmeeting.com/Book/61stMountainLakeVMC>

Be sure you get the MLVMC Rate (\$159 per night) includes parking voucher

2014 Annual Meeting Recap

The 2014 Mountain Lake Vegetation Management Council (MLVMC) Annual Meeting in Virginia Beach turned out to be a beautiful venue (nice sunrises) with great weather and a solid program/tour. Some of the highlights of the meeting included panel discussions of IVM and Easement Issues on Distribution Lines. The field tour highlights included a tour of Virginia Tech's Hampton Roads Agricultural, Research, and Extension Center...highlighting the proper trees for distribution right-of-ways. The 2nd stop of the tour highlighted Dominion Power Transmission Lines through a wetland ecosystem.

Call for Nominations to the MLVMC Board of Directors

- Term begins at the annual meeting
- 3 year commitment
- 2 meetings per year plus conference calls
- Nominate someone or volunteer yourself

Please send your nominations to Phil Ross, ptross@aep.com, or call 304-746-2795.

Anyone interested in taking over the responsibilities of **Treasurer**, please contact Phil Ross.

MLVMC MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of the Mountain Lake Vegetation Management Council is to bring together individuals with an interest in integrated vegetation management to exchange ideas, opinions and information.

We will provide our members with the tools to make prudent and knowledgeable vegetation management decisions with the principles of excellence, fairness and integrity as the foundation of our profession.

The MLVMC will promote the safe and responsible use of IVM products to enhance quality of life and the environment.

RECERTIFICATION REQUESTS

As always, Mountain Lake will offer CEUs and Recertification Credits for the agenda for the 2015 Annual Meeting in Pittsburgh, PA. This is an important service to our membership and helps fill the educational responsibilities of the association.

The following organizations and states have been solicited for

accreditation:

ISA	NY	TN
SAF	NJ	VA
IN	NH	VT
KY	OH	WV
MA	PA	
MD	RI	
NC	SC	

SILENT AUCTION

In an effort to increase funding for future events, the MLVMC will conduct a silent auction at this year's meeting. We would be most appreciative of any item(s) you would be willing to donate for this event. If willing to participate, please bring your contributing items to the registration booth upon arrival.

Our organization is a "non-profit" organization; your contribution may be tax-deductible.

Thank you for your support!

Mountain Lake 2015 Program Agenda

Mon. Sept 14		
TBA		Board Meeting
<u>Time</u>		
3:00 PM		Registration & Exhibitor Set-up
6:00-8:00 PM	<i>SPONSOR: Asplundh</i>	<i>Welcome Mixer-Reception</i>
<u>Time</u>		
<u>Speaker</u>		<u>Topic</u>
Tues. Sept 15		
7:00-7:45 AM		Continental Breakfast (Included)
7:45-8:00 AM	Todd Hagenbuch	President's Address to Membership
8:00-8:15	KEYNOTE ADDRESS	<i>To be determined</i>
8:15-9:15	Mike Maurer-Penn DOT District 12 Roadside Manager	"What It Takes To Have a Successful DOT Roadside Vegetation Management Program"
9:15-10:00	Dave Gustafson-Chief Forester, PA Game Commission	"Competing and Invasive Plant Control on Pennsylvania State Gamelands"
10:00-10:30	<i>SPONSORS: Dominion Power, Wright Tree, Hazlet Tree, Trees Inc.</i>	BREAK WITH VENDORS
10:30-10:45		<i>Industry Minute</i>
10:45-11:45	Tom Lacey, Forester-South Central Rural Electric	Rural Electric Panel-Stephen Dahl Moderator
	Kevin Detwiler, Forester-Valley Rural Electric	"How Do Co-op's Handle Customer Refusals & How Do They Get Funding"
	Keith Forry, Forester-Rappahannock Rural Electric	
11:45-12:15pm	Jenny Arkett, Duquesne Power	Duquesne Vegetation Management and Field Tour Briefing
12:15-1:15	<i>BUSINESS LUNCH SPONSORS: DOW, CWC</i>	Business Meeting Luncheon
1:30-5:00	Duquesne Power R.O.W. Tour	Field Tour
6:00:00 PM	<i>DINNER CRUISE SPONSORS: Penn Line Services , Bayer, Davey Tree</i>	Gateway Clipper Dinner Cruise (Included)
<u>Time</u>		
<u>Speaker</u>		
Wed. Sept 16		
7:00- 7:45		Continental Breakfast (Included)
8:00-8:45	Art Gover, Penn State Wildland Weed Mgmt.	"Invasive Plants That May Escape your R.O.W Program"
8:45-9:15	Karen Reardon, RISE	Rise Update
9:15-9:30	Exhibitors	Industry Minutes
9:30-10:00	<i>SPONSORS: Dominion Power, Wright Tree, Hazlet Tree, Trees Inc.</i>	BREAK WITH VENDORS
10:00-11:00	Carolton Layne	NPDES - Impacts of NPDES on R.O.W.'s Applications Since Inception
11:00-12:00	Lisa Ceoffe, Pittsburgh City Forester	"Vegetation Management in Pittsburgh and EAB Treatment on City Ash Trees"
12:15-1:15 PM		BOARD MEETING - LUNCHEON



MOUNTAIN LAKE

VEGETATION MANAGEMENT COUNCIL, INCORPORATED

Registration 2015 Mt Lake Annual Meeting! September 14 – 16, Pittsburgh, PA

Sponsor Registration

All Sponsors will be recognized in the program agenda, with signs at specific events, and during the meeting as well as a table in display area.

Yes, I would like to be a sponsor. Sponsorship Amount: \$ _____
Your sponsorship donations can be designated for a specific event.

- Taken Steel level**, Reception (Minimum \$5000), only 1 available (4 Registrations are included)
 Platinum level, Dinner Cruise (Minimum \$3000) (3 Registrations are included)
 Gold level, Business Lunch (Minimum \$1000) (2 Registrations are included)
 Silver level, Breaks (Minimum \$500) (1 Registration is Included)
 Sustaining Member (\$440) (1 Registration is Included)

Attendee Only Registration

Attendee: includes all meals, dinner cruise and business lunch. (\$190)

Name: _____ Company: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____ Fax: _____

Email: _____ Do you need a receipt: yes no

Payments: Register on line: www.regonline.com/Register/Checkin.aspx?EventID=1705547

Pay by check: send to Ed Cunningham, make check payable to Mt Lake Vegetation Management Council (MLVMC).

Amount Enclosed: \$ _____

**Mountain Lake is a Non-Profit Organization and we can supply our ID numbers for sponsors.

Treasurer: E.L. Cunningham, 1310 Olivia St., Key West, FL 33040
ecunnin@eci-consulting.com 305-295-7800