

## **Overview of MnSTAC Standing Committees**

### **From new MnSTAC Constitution – approved November 2008**

#### **Article V. Standing Committees and Task Forces.**

##### **Section 1. Standing Committees.**

1. **Urban Forest Council Committee:** The entire Board shall serve as Minnesota's Urban Forest Council. The President of the Board shall serve as the chairperson of the Urban Forest Council.

**The role** of the Urban Forest Council shall be to provide expert advice to state agencies on urban and community forestry issues, review agency program emphasis and priorities; assist in the development of agency action plans; review effectiveness of agency implementation efforts; assist in the building of partnerships among similar interest groups and promote other activities that advance urban and community forestry.

2. **Information Transfer Committee:** A panel of at least five (5) Directors representing those designated entities and non-designated categories typically involved with information transfer shall oversee the role of the Information Transfer Committee and associated ad hoc committees.

**The role** of the Information Transfer Committee shall be to identify ways to encourage research initiatives; publication and dissemination of educational materials; and availability of technical assistance and educational programs for tree professionals and citizens.

3. **Legislative-Advocacy Committee:** A panel of at least five (5) Directors who represent those designated entities and non-designated categories typically responsible for or involved with administering state programs; tracking legislative proposals and implementing volunteer projects shall oversee the role of the Legislative-Advocacy Committee and associated ad hoc committees.

**The role** of the Legislative-Advocacy Committee shall be to identify ways to promote the Governor's and state Legislature's understanding of urban forestry issues; public funding of urban forestry research, education and management programs; and mobilization of public support for relevant legislative action.

4. **Outreach Committee:** A panel of at least five (5) Directors who represent those designated entities and non-designated categories typically responsible for or involved with local community forestry programs and/or opportunities for voluntary citizen participation shall oversee the role of the Outreach Committee and associated ad hoc committees.

**The role** of the Outreach Committee shall be to identify ways to encourage local units of government to establish comprehensive community forestry programs; opportunities for increased voluntary citizen participation in community forestry projects; expansion of relationships within minority communities; and recognition of local efforts and citizen contributions.

5. **Forest Health Committee:** A panel of at least five (5) Directors who represent those designated entities and non-designated categories typically involved with research, detection, control and management of biotic and abiotic problems that affect tree populations shall oversee the role of the Forest Health Committee and associated ad hoc committees.

**The role** of the Forest Health Committee shall be to review state and local response to biotic and abiotic challenges; identify ways to encourage interaction and collaboration among state agencies; and the timely preparation of tree pest response plans.