

FORESTS, TREES, AND HUMAN HEALTH AND WELL-BEING
International Conference
28th-30th August in Hamar-Elverum, Norway

CALL FOR PAPERS

We are pleased to invite you to a conference on issues related to trees, forests, human health and well-being. This conference is the last and final one within COST Action E39, "Forests, Trees, and Human Health and Well-being." It will provide an excellent opportunity for discussion between practitioners, policy-makers and scientists as well as an opportunity to learn about the final results of four years of European co-operation within COST Action E39.

Major objectives of the Action have been to consolidate and disseminate knowledge about the contribution that forests, trees and natural places make, and might make, to the health and well-being of people in Europe. The Action has aimed specifically to set out the key health priorities identified within European countries and the possibility for forestry to contribute to meeting these priorities; to engage health policy interests in the identification of information gaps in this field, and; to develop a network of researchers and research institutions in forestry, health, environment and the social sciences.

The final conference on "Forests, Trees, and Human Health and Well-being" will be held in the City of Hamar in the heart of South-Norway 28th-30th August 2008. The first conference day will focus on the general politics of human health and forests and "highlights" from COST Action E39. This day will be open for a wide range of interest groups, including politicians, health personnel, forest managers, social and behavioural researchers, and others. The second day will concentrate on specific COST E39 results and further presentations, discussions and recommendations. The third conference day will be an excursion in the surroundings of The

Health City of Elverum followed by a mini “walking conference” and presentations at the Norwegian Forest Museum.

For this final COST E39 conference, we also invite you to submit an abstract on your research and development activities that are of relevance to the theme. The Scientific Committee will make a selection of abstracts for oral presentation during the plenary and parallel sessions. There will also be an opportunity to present posters.

Abstracts for presentations should be submitted by May 20th 2008, by attachment to e-mail (please: doc or .pdf format only). Abstracts should contain no more than 300 words. Please organize the abstract as follows: (1) title of the presentation; (2) author(s) name(s) and affiliations; (3) email address and telephone number for the author to whom correspondence should be addressed; (4) the text of the abstract; (5) whether you would prefer to give an oral or poster presentation (we will try to accommodate this preference, but we reserve the option to ask for some presentations to be given as posters).

You should also mark which of the following Working Group themes that your paper refers to:

- Working Group 1.** Physical and Mental Health, and Well being
- Working Group 2.** Forest Products, Forest Environment and Human Health
- Working Group 3.** Cultural and Therapeutic aspects
- Working Group 4.** Evaluation in terms of Best practice and Economic contribution
- Working Group 5.** Physical activity, Well-being and Prevention of illness

Please send your abstract to: merete@skogselskapet.no

Authors will be notified of the decision of the Scientific Committee by June 20th 2008.

At the same time, the authors of accepted abstracts will receive instructions for the preparation of the final paper and/or poster presentation. Selected papers will be considered for publication according to an agreement with the scientific journal Urban Forestry & Urban Greening. These papers will undergo full peer-review. Papers should present original scientific work not published elsewhere or interesting examples of innovative practice. The papers will also be published on the conference website. Final versions of full papers should be submitted by September 1st

Preliminary program will be available on the COST website:
www.cost.efs.org and www.skogsenskapet.no

Scientific Committee:

Dr. Kjell Nilsson, University of Copenhagen, **Denmark**

Dr. Terry Hartig, Uppsala University, **Sweden**

Dr. Christos Gallis, Forest Research Institute (NAGREF), **Greece**

Dr. Klaus Seeland, Swiss Federal Institute of Technology, **Switzerland**

Dr. Fabio Salbitano, University of Florence, **Italy**

Dr. Sjerp de Vries, Alterra Green World Research, **Netherlands**

Organizing Committee:

Merete Larsmon, COST E39

Olav Kaveldiget, The Norwegian Forestry Society

Tore Molteberg, The Norwegian Forestry Society

Anne Kathrine Fossum, County Governor Office of Hedmark

Merete Furuberg, Hedmark County Forestry Society, IUFRO