

WRENCH & WOOD

Wood, Pulp and Paper Workers News



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Be Prepared— Put Your VOTING Plan into ACTION

If you haven't voted already, it's important to make sure you have a plan in place. All the voting information you may need has been compiled at iam2020.org, the IAM's online U.S. election hub. On the "[Get Out the Vote](#)" section of iam2020.org, find your polling place, find a voting location, see what's on your local ballot or locate a ballot dropbox, if available in your state.

If you have trouble at the polls on or before November 3, remember that you can call 1-866-OUR-VOTE, or go to <http://www.866ourvote.org>, for assistance. This nonpartisan Election Protection coalition, which includes the Alliance for Retired Americans and the AFL-CIO, was formed to ensure that all voters have an equal opportunity to participate in the political process.

You may remember that IAM members [voted to endorse Joe Biden](#) in a first-of-its-kind membership vote this March. [Click here to view the IAM's endorsed U.S. Senate candidates.](#)

READ everything you need to know about [ELECTION 2020: Whats at Stake for IAM Members](#)



MWPPC VIRTUAL BBQ

GREAT WAY TO RAISE MONEY FOR GDA

The Machinists Wood, Pulp and Paper Council (MWPPC) on Saturday, October 3, held its first-ever virtual barbeque competition to help raise money for [Guide Dogs of America / Tender Loving Canines](#) (GDA/TLC). The successful event, which followed all safety protocols, brought in nearly \$20,000.

"We had fun, ate well, and, most importantly, raised a lot of money for a great cause," said MWPPC President Billy Barnwell. "This has been a tough year for everyone, especially for GDA, which relies on donations to operate. Despite some obstacles, we found a way to make this happen and provide some much-needed support for GDA."

WATCH: [Machinists Wood, Pulp and Paper Council announces BBQ competition winners](#)

"Thank you to our many sponsors, donators, cooks, and judges who made our first virtual barbeque so special," added Barnwell. "Without your assistance, this event wouldn't have been possible."

Guide Dogs of America is the IAM's favorite charity. At the beginning of this year, GDA completed a merger, and now provides hardworking service dogs for people who are blind/ visually impaired, veterans, individuals with autism, and facilities to become trusted companions that bring confidence, independence, and mobility. Their services are provided free of charge to residents in the U.S. and Canada.

BUILDING AND WOOD WORKERS' INTERNATIONAL HOLDS ITS 5th NORTH AMERICAN REGIONAL MEETING

The 5th BWI North America (NA) Regional Meeting was held virtually by Mike Rose in his capacity as BWI NA Regional Vice President on October 21, 2020. In attendance were affiliate representatives from North America, Canada, Switzerland, Germany and the UK. They shared Committee Reports on Skanska and IKEA organizing, future affiliation possibilities, international and regional issues for women in the trades, including training apprenticeship programs for women, and on developing an international regional Youth Committee.

Equal time was spent discussing the U.S. election process and the effects of COVID-19. All the affiliates in the U.S., Canada and Europe held special interest in our upcoming election and were hopeful for a good outcome given our record-breaking early voting numbers. European affiliates were especially concerned about reports of social unrest and misinformation in U.S. news. North American representatives remain focused on the election as a first priority.

Coronavirus infections are on the rise in almost every U.S. state and in Europe. The UK is especially hard hit and is experiencing a second round of partial closures. Safety and health are an agenda priority for all affiliate unions and workers.

IAM & Woodworker Members Battle a Historic Season

Not only did the U.S. experience a historic hurricane season along the Louisiana and Gulf coasts, raging wildfires ripped across the entire west coast and inland to Colorado. Up and down the coast families were forced to evacuate their homes and scramble to safety. We have confirmed reports of IAM members losing everything to the fires, leaving behind a path of smoldering ash and char.

Peak wildfire season typically runs from May through October, but across the West it is starting earlier and ending later each year—wildfires can occur at any time. October rains have greatly reduced fire danger across large parts of Oregon after an unprecedented season statewide.

“I want every member affected by these fires to know their IAM family is here for them and we are willing to help in any way we can,” said International President Robert Martinez Jr. On behalf of the IAM Executive Council, I want to thank our members who have left their families during the midst of a pandemic and put themselves in harm’s way to protect others and work to keep these fires from spreading and wreaking even more havoc. I also encourage anyone with the means to donate to assist our Brothers and Sisters in need.”

The [IAM Disaster Relief Fund](#) is available for IAM members whose homes have been affected by the wildfires.

If you can, please consider donating to the IAM Disaster Relief Fund.

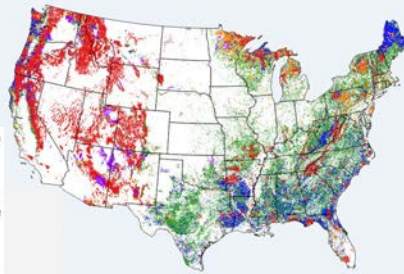
Every dollar you give to the IAM Disaster Relief Fund goes directly to IAM members and their families in need. Donations are tax deductible. IAM Assistance is a registered IRS 501(3) (c) – Tax ID: 46-2575531.

IT IS ABOUT *FEDERAL* FOREST MANAGEMENT



It is about forest manager
Please remember the words.
forest management.

Donald Trump
US President



In California, Gov. Gavin Newsom had to invoke a state of emergency in late March of this year due to the wildfires. It is important to note that California faces a massive backlog of forest management work. Increased fire risks are present throughout the state and are driven by forest conditions that have been allowed to develop for years. Millions of acres are in need of treatment, and this work—once completed—must be repeated over the years. Treatment generally means either mechanical thinning, by removing trees and brush, or through deliberately-set “prescribed burns.”

Trump has railed about California’s forestry management practices before — at times threatening to withhold federal aid. Trump ignored the fact that the federal government manages much of the forested land in the West. Of the 33 million acres of forest in California, roughly 57% is owned and managed by the U.S. Forest Service or federal Bureau of Land Management, according to a report by the state’s Little Hoover Commission. State and local governments control only 3%, while the rest is private.

There's a similar picture in Oregon, with significant proportions of forest land in federal rather than state hands, as well as under private ownership.

And in Washington state, only 12% of forest land is in the hands of the state authorities, with 43% federally-owned and 36% in private hands.

ASTORIA WATERSHED MANAGEMENT PLAN INCLUDES FSC CERTIFICATION



Forest management for water quality and quantity is of utmost importance

for the Astoria Watershed, a city-owned property spanning 3,700 acres, 12 miles east of Astoria, Oregon. City managers take great pride in protecting the watershed, which provides potable drinking water to their citizens while supporting a diversity of native plants and other species. Many watersheds are privately owned, requiring municipalities to negotiate with forest managers harvesting their own lands with little consideration for the impacts on local water supplies. By contrast, Astoria owns its forested watershed.

The City has never placed a priority on maximizing economic returns from management, instead focusing on smaller harvests, mainly thinning designed to improve water quality standards. Everything they do is centered on protecting the water supply, including restrictions on hunting and other recreational uses.

In 2013, after completing a forest inventory, the City became FSC certified. FSC certification supports their management goals, with the auditing process offering a chance to evaluate current practices. When you enter the forest, the City of Astoria uses signage to remind visitors that it is a carefully managed forest bearing FSC certification, distinguishing it from other forests around it.

Annual harvest volume is approximately 100 MBF, with carbon storage estimated at 238,920 tons. In 2016 and 2017, the City sold approximately \$2 million in carbon credits, with the option to sell more this year.

To learn more, please see the City of Astoria Forest Management Plan and the City of Astoria website: https://www.astoria.or.us/dept/Public_Works.



Tami D. Walls

Recording Secretary, LL W33

BIO-CORNER

Tami D. Jesme has been a long time Shop Steward at Packaging Corporation of America in International Falls, MN. Two years ago she added to her resume Local Lodge W33 Recording Secretary and was recently appointed as a Trustee for District Lodge 5. Sister Walls began her union career February 7, 1990 as a Laborer at then Boise Cascade Paper. Through the years Tami held several production jobs and today is a Trucker, as a Loader, in the Finishing Shipping Department.

Tami and her husband of 30 years, Elroy, have 2 boys—Merle and Marty. She loves hunting, fishing, camping and her favorite thing to do with her husband and boys is to listen to old time music and dance the 2-step!

If her day job, her union work and all the family hobbies don't keep this Sister busy enough, Tami is also a big believer in volunteer work—the embodiment of union values. A few of the many clubs and committees she supports are the Retirees Club, the Building Committee and International Falls Bass Tournament. She is very busy these days volunteering to help make a difference with the Minnesota Democratic-Farmer-Labor Party.

CONTROLLED BURNS & COVID

News Release from **Oregon Dept. of Forestry**

SALEM, Ore. – Oregonians in forested areas may see smoke from a number of controlled burns – known as prescribed burns – this fall and winter. Forest landowners use the burns to eliminate woody fuels that build up on their land from forest thinning and after timber harvests.

This year's fall burning season coincides with a rise in COVID-19 cases in Oregon. Smoke may worsen symptoms for people coping with compromised health or lung function due to COVID-19. The Oregon Department of Forestry's (ODF) current smoke rules minimize smoke from entering certain populated cities and areas known as Smoke Sensitive Receptor Areas (SSRAs).

ODF Smoke Management Program Manager Nick Yonker says, "To protect people with impaired lung function due to COVID-19, we've coordinated with the Oregon Health Authority to ensure that during the pandemic we will govern prescribed burns in counties experiencing higher levels of COVID-19 under older, tighter smoke regulations. Those define any amount of smoke from a prescribed burn into an SSRA as an intrusion. We will forecast to avoid any smoke from prescribed burning from entering an SSRA in those counties."

Find more health and safety information here:

[Oregon Health and Safety Information](#)

WOODWORKERS



ON-THE-JOB

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