

# Sustainable Summit

November 18-20 2008



## ENVIRONMENTAL FOOTPRINT STATEMENT

The US Forest Service is committed to minimizing the environmental impact of the 2008 Sustainable Operations Summit. We will accomplish this by:

- **Reducing greenhouse gas emissions attributable to the summit by incorporating video teleconferencing and web-based meeting technologies.**
  1. We will be using video and web based technologies to connect the site of the summit in Madison, WI to all of the designated satellite sites, thereby substantially reducing the need for participant travel.
- **Decreasing the amount of solid waste produced by the event and disposing of it properly by:**
  1. Asking participants to bring a previously used nametag. For participants that don't bring a nametag, re-usable name tags will be used and collected at the end of the Summit to be used at other events.
  2. Providing GOOS paper for note-taking, eliminating the need for notebooks.
  3. Assuring that the food service items used at the meeting site are durable and reuseable. If disposable items are necessary, biobased, compostable and recyclable items will be used.
  4. Making recycling bins available throughout the Forest Products Lab.
  5. Limiting flipcharts use –recording as much as possible on laptops.
- **Reducing energy and water consumption at the event by:**
  1. Carpooling from our offices/homes to the conference is encouraged.
  2. Encouraging public transportation/walking/carpooling. The site was selected because of its proximity to the hotel, public transportation, and walking options in the vicinity.
  3. Asking participants to bring reusable beverage containers for hot and cold beverages.
- **Educate attendees about consumption choices by:**
  1. Providing lunches that contain as much local and/or organic/natural foods as available or is fiscally affordable.
  2. Encouraging the hotel to be as green as possible with cleaning rooms.
  3. Encouraging hotel room sharing.
  4. Ensuring that all "schwag" items given as gifts/rewards at the summit are made from a renewable resource or are recyclable.

*Creating habits today, conserving resources for tomorrow*