

Hank Stelzer – SAF Fellow - biography

SAF member since 1976

Currently Associate Professor and Department Head Forestry, University of Missouri, Columbia. Previously worked as a Forester for Kraft Paper in Arkansas; as a Forester for the Missouri Department of Conservation; as a Forester for Buckeye Cellulose; for the USDA Forest Service, Southern Research Station in Huntsville Alabama; and as a Forester for Champion/ International Paper Florida

Received BS in Forestry from the University of Missouri, 1976; M.S. Forest Genetics, University of Missouri, 1978; and PhD Forest Genetics, Purdue University 1982-1988

SAF Certified Forester since 2002. Attended three National SAF conventions

Served on a SAF Accreditation Committee as the Accreditation Visiting Team Leader for University of Georgia review (2015)

Member of MOSAF since 2002 where he served as the Newsletter Editor (2011); Missouri Natural Resources Conference Program Chair (2004); Candidate for MOSAF Vice-Chair (2012)

Chapter level activities include: Panhandle Chapter, Florida, Southeast SAF Membership Committee (1998-2001); Mountain Lakes Chapter, Alabama, Southeast SAF (1992-1998) Forestry Awareness Week Now! (FAWN) Committee (1993-98) and Chair 1998; SAF Mountain Lakes Chapter Walk in the Woods (1997). Served as area co-coordinator for this national campaign; Foresters Fund Grant to conduct Project Learning Tree train-the-trainer workshops for Huntsville area teachers (1995-96). Conducted four one-day workshops over two years; Chapter Chair (1996-1998); Big Bend Chapter, Florida, Southeast SAF (1989-1992); Project Learning Tree Coordinator (1990-1992); North Florida 4-H Forestry Contest Co-coordinator (1990-1992); SAF Outstanding Forestry Student award in 1976 at the University of Missouri.

Developed the Missouri Woodland Steward Program, a 20-hour live and online Extension program to introduce Missouri's family forest landowners to basic forest and wildlife management principles and practices. The program utilized coached and peer-to-peer learning techniques to engage participants and encourage life-long learning. The program earned the Gold Award from the Association of Natural Resource Extension Professionals in 2006.

Public policy:

Worked with the University of Missouri, Energy Plant to develop and implement sustainable and verifiable harvesting practices for supplying wood to the University's biomass boiler.

Research:

- Published in peer-reviewed manuscripts Forest Science (1), Canadian Journal of Forest Research (6), Wood and Fiber Science (1), New Forests (1), Plant Disease (1), Silvae Genetica (1), Tree Physiology (1), and Tree Genetics and Genomes (1)
- Co-wrote a chapter on quantitative genetics of poplars and poplar hybrids in Biology of Populus and its Implications for Management and Conservation.

- Directed a small-tree utilization study in Missouri Ozark sawmills to investigate the economic feasibility of utilizing small-diameter trees
- Co-directed woody biomass harvesting studies investigating small-tree harvesting, in-woods processing and transportation to energy facilities

Technology transfer:

- Developed Extension's Missouri Woodland Steward Program to teach landowners the steps involved in developing forest stewardship plans for their property. Since its inception in 2005, the program has reached over 1,000 family forest landowners impacting approximately 160,000 acres. Net Present Value resulting from practices implemented on those acres (compared to no management) is conservatively estimated at \$500 per acre for a total potential economic impact of \$80 million.
- Represents the University as an equal partner in the Missouri Invasive Forest Pest Council
- Responsible for design and maintenance of the Council's TreePests website
<http://www.extension.missouri.edu/treepests>
- Works with the following professional organizations and citizen groups on Missouri Forest Resources Advisory Council
- Missouri Walnut Council
- Forest ReLeaf of Missouri (501c3 urban forestry organization)
- Missouri Community Forest Council
- Forest and Woodland Association of Missouri

Other Relevant Activities:

- Been a Scout for 45 years.
- Scouter for 36 years
- Merit Badge counselor for Forestry Merit Badge, Soil and Water Merit Badge, Fish and Wildlife Merit Badge, Nature Merit Badge
- Received the BSA Great Rivers Council's Earnest Thompson Seaton Conservation Award in recognition of longstanding service to conservation education both in and out of Scouting.
- Attended National Jamborees
- Attended Philmont High adventure camp.