

The 2nd Summit for the Northern Forest

Convening Partners



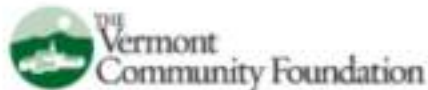
The Northern Forest Center and its convening partners from Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont and New York will host the *2nd Summit for the Northern Forest* on May 4-5, 2011, at the Mountain View Grand Resort in Whitefield, NH. Like the first Summit in November 2008, the event will convene an invited group of practitioners from the public, private and non-profit sectors and all four states to advance collaboration to implement the recommendations of the Northern Forest Sustainable Economy Initiative.

A unique and dynamic aspect of the Summit is the simultaneous gathering of multiple working groups focused on different elements of the Sustainable Economy Initiative strategy. The event will provide each group with time to work on its focused topics as well as the chance to build connections with colleagues working on other important issues in the region.

Through the Summit, participants will:

- Develop and fine-tune action agendas for specific, network-based implementation of the Sustainable Economy Initiative's regional strategies;
- Increase regional collaboration and cooperation among non-profits, public and private entities;
- Focus on future opportunities and innovative ideas that have been successful in regional development;
- Develop strategies to bring new opportunities and resources into the region through advocacy, education and investment.

Sponsoring Organizations



More Information about ^{The 2nd} Summit for the Northern Forest

Anticipated Summit Outcomes

For Working Groups:

- Expanded participation, momentum, and specific action agendas to advance regional projects and initiatives;
- Connections to new opportunities to advance interests via public policy, financing, and higher education;
- Opportunities to find and explore synergies with groups working on other aspects of the forest-based economy.

For Individuals:

- Strengthened connections with practitioners from across the Northern Forest;
- New knowledge and ideas to advance your interests and projects.

For the region:

- A strengthened network of regional advocates working together to give voice to common interests;
- A high-profile opportunity to demonstrate for policymakers and potential funders the value and progress of regional action.

About the Working Groups

The Summit will again be organized around a set of invited working groups, each led by a different convening partner (see page 3). Working group participation will be at the invitation of the work group leader(s) for each session.

The Role of Working Group Participants:

The Summit seeks to gather leaders from across the Northern Forest for each of the work groups. We ask that all participants dedicate enough time to preparation and follow-through to ensure positive impact. In particular, by taking on this work, participants commit to:

- Prepare fully for the Summit, including participation on a pre-Summit conference call in April and review of advance materials;
- Attend the entire Summit;
- Participate fully in the group process, respecting the contributions and perspectives of all participants.
- Respect the confidentiality of any non-public information shared.
- Work to gain the commitment of their home institutions for ongoing participation in the group's work plans.

Date & Location

The 2nd Summit for the Northern Forest May 4-5, **2011 will take place at the Mountain View Grand Resort in Whitefield, NH.** The event will begin in the morning on Wednesday, May 4 and conclude in early afternoon on Thursday, May 5.

The agenda will include:

- A full day devoted to focused collaboration with your working group;
- Integrative sessions to connect the work of your group with other working groups at the Summit and identify opportunities for collaborative efforts, advocacy, and fundraising;
- Time and opportunity to meet and network with colleagues, funders, and elected officials from across the Northern Forest;
- Northern Forest fun and the excellent hospitality of the Mountain View Grand Resort.

Registration & Deadlines

Registration deadline is April 11.

Participation in the Summit is by invitation of work group leaders. To inquire about participating, please contact [Allison Grappone](#), Special Projects Coordinator at the Northern Forest Center.

Registration Fee: \$130. This cost includes registration fee and all meals at the Mountain View Grand Resort (breakfast treats day 1, full breakfast day 2, lunches both days, dinner day 1).

Lodging Fee: If you plan to stay at the Mountain View Grand, you must call them directly to reserve your hotel room, 1-866-484-3843. Mention that you are attending the Northern Forest Summit to receive the discount. Rooms will be on hold until April 1st.

Sponsorship Opportunities

The Northern Forest Center and its convening partners are seeking sponsors for the Summit. If you would like information about sponsorship, or want to suggest a potential sponsor, please contact: Doreen Oliveira, Director of Philanthropy at the Northern Forest Center:

doliveira@northernforest.org
603-229-0679, ext. 102

For More Information

If you have questions about registration or the Summit in general, please contact Allison Grappone, Special Projects Coordinator at the Northern Forest Center:

agrappone@northernforest.org
603-229-0679 ext. 114.

Working Groups at ^{The 2nd} Summit for the Northern Forest

Groups & Leaders

The following working groups and leaders have committed to participate in the 2nd Summit, and additional groups may be added:

- **Community Forests:**
Marcy Lyman, Community Forest Collaborative; *Julie Renaud Evans*, Sustainable Forest Futures
- **Ecosystem Services:**
David Sleeper, Hubbard Brook Research Foundation;
Laury Saligman, Conservation Collaboratives;
- **Higher education:**
Thad Guldbrandsen, Plymouth State University
- **Public Policy:** *Joe Short*, Northern Forest Center
- **Regional Investment:**
Rob Riley, Northern Forest Center;
Keith Bisson, Coastal Enterprises, Inc.
- **Tourism:** *Kate Williams*, Northern Forest Canoe Trail

Community Forests

The Community Forest Collaborative assists communities that want to create new Community Forests. In addition, the Collaborative has described the potential of its Community Forest Model to provide community benefits and as a strategy for conservation and economic development. The Collaborative is working to build the infrastructure of support for communities that want to create Community Forests as a community asset. **At the Summit**, the Community

Forest Working Group will begin to organize technical assistance providers to help fill resource gaps and coordinate existing capacity to support communities, with specific focus on engaging the community/economic development sector. The group will create a regional working group on long-term infrastructure development to carry on the work after the Summit.

Higher Education

The Northern Forest Higher Education Network formed at the 2008 Summit and has since improved strategic collaboration in community/economic development and place-based education at colleges and universities across the Northern Forest. **At the summit** the working group will advance this strategic collaboration and emphasize cross-sector collaboration between higher education and other groups. The group will focus on advancing place-based education and curriculum and strengthening the network to provide lasting benefit to individuals and the region.

Ecosystem Services

A number of projects and initiatives are under way across the Northern Forest to explore how markets for ecosystem services such as clean water and other water-related ecosystem services and carbon sequestration can encourage forest stewardship. A network of practitioners involved in these projects has begun to work together to exchange information, develop joint project proposals, and discuss relevant public policy. **At the summit** the working group will focus on payments

for ecosystem services with the goals of expanding participation in the emerging Northern Forest Carbon and Ecosystem Services Network; providing valuable information and strengthening relationships among participants; deepening participant understanding of relevant policy opportunities at the federal level; and exploring opportunities for a regional marketplace and/or marketing infrastructure for Northern Forest ecosystem service projects. Post Summit goals are to submit at least one joint funding proposal for creation of a regional marketplace and/or marketing effort and coordinate joint advocacy for shared public policy priorities.

Public Policy

At the summit the Public Policy working group will frame a coordinated state and federal public policy agenda for the Northern Forest region for the 2011-2012 legislative sessions, with particular emphasis on reauthorization of the federal Farm Bill in 2012. Continued economic challenges across the region and the nation and an increased understanding of the need to tie sustainable economic development in rural areas to good stewardship of the land have created opportunities to push for policy improvements and funding of federal programs that will benefit the Northern Forest. The region must be ready to ensure that the Farm Bill, the Northern Border Regional Commission, and other programs deliver assistance that will strengthen our communities, economy and environment.

Regional Investment

Since its first meeting at the 2008 Summit, the Regional Investment Working Group has engaged community and family foundations in shaping a regional Program Related Investment (PRI) strategy, has developed projects for investment through the Northern Forest Investment Zone initiative; and has reached out to Community Development Financing Institutions (CDFIs) about a regional PRI program and potential financing opportunities for projects. **At the Summit**, the working group will engage community foundations to increase collaboration on a PRI strategy; raise awareness about capital investment opportunities in Investment Zone projects; and begin to create a framework for regional investment and initial buy-in by participants.

Tourism

The Northern Forest Tourism Network, which was established at the 2008 Summit, seeks to improve rural tourism outcomes by sharing best practices and building collaborative capacity across the region. **A key Summit objective** is to build network momentum and underscore the network's ability to generate improvements in the tourism industry by sharing results of a mapping project and advancing existing priority action plans.

Registration deadline is April 11. To inquire about participating, contact Allison Grappone.