

APPENDIX 3: TASK FORCE WORKING GROUPS

Public Education: What are the key messages that the public needs to hear about the roadside forest that will help support good policy and appropriate actions?

- What does the public need to know about trees to better understand the necessities of roadside forest management?
- What does the public need to know about the roles and responsibilities of private property owners, municipalities, utilities, and the state (DoT, DEEP Forestry, DEEP PURA, Ag Experiment Station, UConn) to understand the context for road side forest management, tree planting, etc.?
- Can we develop a product such as an informational brochure and/or Public Service Announcement on “Who is Responsible for your Community’s Trees?” or “What Landowners need to know about Trees and Power?”

Regulation, Legislation, and Funding: What regulatory context and resources are required to move beyond current obstacles and effectively manage existing and future roadside forests in Connecticut?

- Is a different regulatory structure needed?
- What local ordinances or statewide legislative proposals should be helpful?
- What funding/personnel are required, or how do you make a proposal for additional resources?

Technical/Standards: What standards for pruning, integrated vegetation management, and risk assessment(s) are necessary to guide the management decisions made for existing and future roadside forests?

- What standards currently exist or are being used in Connecticut?
- What standards (from elsewhere) might be useful in Connecticut?
- How might these standards vary based upon location, road type, different risk assumptions about storm intensities/power outages, etc.?
- How will Right Tree/Right Place guidelines be best utilized?