

CA ad hoc Forest Biomass Working Group – eNewsletter 40/2019

Bioenergy Day 2019 is on Wednesday, October 23. The [7th Annual Bioenergy Day](#) will take place on October 23rd during [National Forest Products Week](#) (October 20-26, 2019). Bioenergy Day is a great way to educate the public about the importance and benefits of biomass power. In previous years participants have invited local schools, elected officials, and media outlets to share how bioenergy positively impacts the community.

To celebrate the occasion we are planning a tour of Sierra Pacific Industries in Lincoln, CA on October 23rd. SPI Lincoln is the company's largest facility in California with 2 sawmills on site and a biomass power plant. More information will be forthcoming. Space is limited, and you can [sign-up here](#).

2019/2020 CAL FIRE Urban and Community Forestry Grant Workshops: CAL FIRE will hold [eight workshops and a webinar to provide information about the 2019-2020 Urban and Community Forestry Grant Programs](#) funded by California Climate Investments (CCI). Each workshop will cover grant opportunities for the following Urban and Community Forestry project types: Urban Forest Expansion and Improvement; Urban Forest Management Activities; Urban Wood and Biomass Utilization. It is strongly suggested that attendees familiarize themselves with the Grant Guidelines prior to the workshops so that the question and answer portion of the workshops will be of maximum value to all of those attending. For more information about the grant program and access to the Grant Guidelines please visit: <https://www.fire.ca.gov/grants/urban-and-community-forestry-grant-programs/>

Innovative Finance for National Forests Grant Program. The [Innovative Finance for National Forests \(IFNF\)](#) is a grant program for local communities and stakeholders looking for new ways of funding healthy forests, project developers who can help connect investment capital to forested landscapes, and Forest Service managers and collaborators with projects that are ripe for private investment capital. Grants are anticipated to range from \$100,000 to \$500,000. Total funding available - at least \$2.5 million; Match: A minimum of 20% non-federal match of cash or in-kind services is required. [Pre-proposals - due Monday October 21st, 2019](#).

White House seeks information on US bio-economy. The White House Office of Science and Technology Policy is seeking input from the public on the U.S. bio-economy in an effort to inform notable gaps and vulnerabilities and to identify areas in which the bio-economy could benefit from government attention. A [notice published in the Federal Register Sept. 10](#) notes the bio-economy represents the infrastructure, innovation, products, technology and data derived from biologically-related processes and science that drive economic growth, promote health and increase public benefit. Comments can be filed through Oct. 22. Additional information is available on the Federal Register [website](#).

There will be Wood: The construction business accounts for an estimated 23 percent of the world's carbon-dioxide emissions - 5.7 billion tons, according to the most recent estimates. [If only there was a sturdy and renewable building material](#) - one that could actually help curb climate change while giving us more calming and aesthetically pleasing spaces in which to live, work, and play. Believers in Mass Timber say smaller trees are the ultimate renewable construction material, but only if we learn to be smarter farmers and builders.

DID YOU KNOW? Families and individuals collectively care for the largest portion of forests in the U.S., more than the government or corporations. [These forest owners are stewards of some of America's](#)

[most important resources](#) - clean water, wildlife habitat, carbon sequestration, a sustainable wood supply, and good-paying jobs in our small communities.