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Women's Forest Congress UPDATE

February 2023

Register for March 15 Virtual Gathering

[REGISTER NOW](#) to join the Women's Forest Congress on March 15, 2023, as we celebrate Women's History Month and the Importance of Storytelling. From 2:00-3:30pm ET/1:00-2:30pm CT/12:00-1:30pm MT/11:00am-12:30pm PT, we'll reunite with the amazing Women's Forest Congress community.

Join us as we celebrate the history-making inaugural Women's Forest Congress event and learn about WFC's future with an overview of the strategic plan and key priorities - including actions on our declarations. Then, enjoy a time of connection with other women as we tell our stories and hopes for the future of the Women's Forest Congress.

Gratitude to WFC Leadership

The Women's Forest Congress would like to express tremendous gratitude to the following past members of the Steering Committee and Advisory Council, for lending insight, forward-thinking and guidance to the formation of the Women's Forest Congress. Their collective experience and expertise were critical to the success of the inaugural Congress event in October 2022.

Past Steering Committee members:

- Lauren Cooper, Director, Forest Carbon & Climate Program, Michigan State University
- Alicia Cramer, Senior Vice President, U.S. Endowment for Forestry and Communities
- Asia Dowtin, PhD, Assistant Professor of Urban and Community Forestry, Michigan State University
- Ara Erickson, Corporate Sustainability Director, Weyerhaeuser
- Rita Hite, President & CEO, American Forest Foundation
- Rebecca (Becky) Turner, Esq, Chief Strategy Officer, American Forests

Past Advisory Council members:

- MaryKate Bullen, Director of Sustainability and ESG, Forest Investment Associates

Maine

- Deborah Spalding, Co-Chief Investment Officer, Commonfund
- Andrea Tuttle, Forest Policy and Climate Change Consultant
- Tanya Wick, Associate Vice President, Human Resources, Safety and Environment at University of Alberta

Learn more about the current [Steering Committee](#) and [Advisory Council](#) members. Be on the lookout for more regarding future membership in the coming months.

WFC Blog

This month's [blog](#) features Chandler Van Voorhis, co-founder and managing partner, GreenTrees and one of the (very) few men to attend the inaugural Women's Forest Congress last October. GreenTrees is the largest carbon reforestation project in the United States. Chandler shares his thoughts on the groundbreaking journey of the Women's Forest Congress, the event, and its impact on the forest sector.

To see the full suite of WFC blog entries, head over to our [website](#). And if you're interested in being a guest blogger, please [let us know](#).

Feeling Generous?

We are truly a grassroots effort and currently not under any one organization's umbrella. We were formed together by women in the for-profit, non-profit, public agency, and academic sectors from varying backgrounds and diverse perspectives. And we are committed to continuing.

Your financial support is needed to continue the momentum. We are exploring many different options for the future, and all of the options require some level of resources. If you or your organization is interested in supporting the Congress, especially in this time of transition, [make a donation](#) today or [reach out to us](#).

Your immediate support will ensure we can continue sharing our ongoing communication pieces, plan and host virtual events, support the volunteer-led Steering Committee, Advisory Council, and Working Groups, and more.

Serious (as a Heart Attack!) Facts of the Month

February is a special month, as we celebrate Black History Month and American Heart Month. #DYK "cardiovascular disease kills more women than all forms of cancer combined" according to the [Go Red for Women](#) movement of the American Heart Foundation. Not only that, but "51.9 % of high blood pressure deaths, otherwise known as hypertension... are in women... and out of all women, 57.6% of Black females have hypertension — more than any other race or ethnicity." Get all the [facts about women and heart disease](#). Learn the [warning signs and symptoms](#) of heart attack. It could help save the life of someone you know and love.

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