



NEWS

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FRA HONORS ADAMS FOR FORESTRY ACTIVISM

Rockville, MD - The Forest Resources Association awarded its 1999 Forestry Activist Award to Mary Adams of Common Sense for Maine Forests, in recognition of her work supporting users of America's forest resource.

Congratulating Mary at FRA's 1999 Awards Dinner, April 12 at Lake Buena Vista, Florida, FRA Chairman Jim Fendig stated, "Mary, you have certainly showed us all the difference a dedicated grassroots push can make in shaping the way our forests are managed. Thanks for leading the way."

Mary Adams became widely recognized throughout the Northeast in 1996, because of her efforts in opposition to Maine Governor Angus King's "Compact for Maine's Forests," a ballot initiative which would have greatly expanded the regulation of private forest land in Maine. Maine voters defeated the referendum, partly because of Mary's leadership.

For the past two years, this grandmother from Garland, Maine has been a strong voice for the forest families who are the backbone of the state's economy. Lacking direct ties to the forest industry, she brings a fresh, objective perspective to the educational task

implicit in ensuring sustainable forestry. Her grassroots organization, "Common Sense for Maine Forests," has a newsletter and a web site (www.adamsreport.com) to help educate the public about modern forest practices and the health of Maine's forests.

Mary told her audience of 400 forestry and logging professionals: "The forest industry is a favorite in American hearts. It is a natural for grassroots support. I want you to know that you do have the little guys with you, if you approach them in the right way."

She concluded by advocating greater use of new technologies, such as the Internet, to maintain active grassroots alliances: "If you holler, I'll answer you."

Candidates for FRA's National Forestry Activist Award, which recognizes exemplary activism in support of America's forest products industry, emerge from regional competitions.

The Forest Resources Association is a nonprofit trade association concerned with the safe, efficient, and sustainable harvest of forest products and their transport from woods to mill. FRA represents wood consumers, independent logging contractors, and wood dealers, as well as businesses providing products and services to the forest resource industries.

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Caption for photo: "FRA's 1999 Outstanding Individual Forestry Activist, Mary Adams, with FRA Chairman Jim Fendig."