

Gleanings

**Notes on papers (some technical and others less so)
that caught the Editor's eye**

Journal articles

Studying the ethics of ecological restoration

Vidra, R.L.

2006

Ecological Restoration 24: 100-101.

The ethical challenges faced by ecological restorationists

Dickinson, W. and 11 others.

2006

Ecological Restoration 24: 102-104.

Developing a code of ethics for restorationists

Carpenter, A. and 12 others.

2006

Ecological Restoration 24: 105-108.

A short introduction and 2 papers written under the direction of Dr. Rebecca Vidra while she was teaching a science writing course to freshmen at Duke University. The papers by Dickinson et al. and Carpenter et al. are based on information obtained from surveys completed by members of the Society for Ecological Restoration International. Seven ethical dilemmas were reported, the most common being: conflicts between a client and what is right; sacrificing nature for financial gain; and withholding and/or falsifying data. The prime concerns for a code of ethics were that it should require sound science and avoid conflicts of interest. Respondents also felt strongly that religion, philosophy, and politics should be excluded from the code.

The allure of meadow gardens
Ottesen, C.
May-June 2006
The American Gardener 85 (3): 31-35.

A short, clear and well-illustrated article that is based on the history of the meadow garden at American Horticultural Society headquarters in Alexandria, VA. The writer provides valuable advice on starting and maintaining a meadow garden and gives a firm reminder to “let it be”.

Understory vegetation dynamics of
North American boreal forests
Hart, S.A. and Chen, H.Y.H.
July 2006
Critical Reviews in Plant Science 25: 381-397.

A review with particular emphasis on recovery after disturbance by fire. The evidence shows that early recovery is characterized by high biodiversity, which decreases with time and is essentially stable after 40+ years. The paper looks at implications for forest management and really does review the situation rather than blinding the reader with gratuitous statistical re-analyses of data.

Identification of potential organisms of relevance
to Canadian boreal forest and northern lands
for testing of contaminated soils
Römbke, J., Jänsch, S., and Scroggins, R.
2006
Environmental Reviews 14 (2): 137-167.

A review article that reminds readers of the importance of invertebrates in the biology of contaminated soils and their ecological restoration. While the details will be of value to invertebrate ecologists, the paper gives useful insight to the methods used in toxic soil restoration and the possibilities of finding, testing and eventually introducing invertebrates that can assist in the remediation processes.