



# **Annual Report 2002**

**The Northeast Regional Center for Rural Development**



# Preface:

Concerns over land use in the Northeast US are becoming increasingly urgent and complex, and multiple academic disciplines need to be involved if the concerns are to be addressed effectively. During the last year we continued to devote most of our resources to the subject of land use. In particular, we worked with Extension and research faculty to integrate, leverage and expand the Northeast Land Grant system's contributions in the area of land use. A workshop in Orlando, FL produced a comprehensive research agenda on land use. This was followed by a workshop in Camp Hill, PA on Conserving Farm and Forest in a Changing Rural Landscape. Plans are now underway for an Extension Land Use workshop to be held in May 2003, as well as a land use Extension train-the-trainer workshop in 2004.



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## OVERVIEW BY ISSUE AREA

### Balanced Use of Natural Resources: Decisions Today Define Landscapes Tomorrow

With increasing awareness that land use decisions are usually irreversible comes growing concern that land use decisions are made responsibly. The Northeast Center has leveraged and expanded the science base for making balanced land use decisions, working closely with both Extension and research faculty. Two land use research workshops sponsored by The Center generated summary proceedings, portions of which are being formatted for lay audiences. The Center is also adding value to the output of Land Grant Institutions by inventorying and classifying land use publications and programs developed by these institutions.

### Vibrant, Sustainable Communities: Emerging Realities of Rural Employment

Most rural Communities will need to identify new sources of employment if they wish to replace jobs lost in recent decades to globalization and technological change. Nonfarm proprietorships (providing services such as food and lodging, tax advice, hairstyling, childcare and business consulting, or manufactured goods such as local crafts) represent important rural employment opportunities, but little research has been conducted on these firms to date. The Northeast Center studied why proprietorships are expanding more rapidly in some rural counties than in others. The Center also proposed a new county typology, "Proprietor Employment-Dependent Counties," for use as a policy tool and to focus attention on this growing but neglected component of the rural workforce.



### Promising Digital Futures: Build It And They Will Come?

The lack of IT infrastructure in rural areas is notable. However, the mere presence of connectivity does not guarantee that rural communities will take advantage of Web resources. A recent U.S. Commerce Department report confirms that "the factor most likely to accelerate broadband demand is the creation and deployment of easily understood, value-adding business and consumer applications." To address this need, the Northeast Center commissioned a tutorial showing rural and small non-profit organizations how to take advantage of Web-based resources. This e-nfp curriculum complements existing e-business and e-government curricula, and it completes a suite of e-tutorials for rural residents. The Center also published the Webbook of IT Extension Innovations to showcase IT-based Extension programs, and it is organizing a train-the-trainer workshop for 2003.

## HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE YEAR

### Workshops sponsored or organized

Two highlights of the last year were the February 20-22 **Land Use Research Workshop** in Orlando, FL, organized by the Northeast Center, and the June 9-11 **Land Use Policy Workshop** in Camp Hill, PA held in conjunction with the Northeast Agricultural and Resource Economics Association annual meeting. We published two summary proceedings out of these workshops, which were widely distributed both within the region and across the nation. Work is also underway to publish two edited books based on the papers presented at these meetings. In addition, Center staff identified and invited the keynote speaker, presenters and moderators for the **Focused Session on Land Use** at the Joint Annual Meeting of the Northeast Extension and Research Directors (NEED and NERA) in Morgantown, WV, held July 7-10, 2002. More detailed information about each of these workshops is available on our website.

Land use-related publications being prepared for lay audiences include an article entitled *Land Use in the Northeast: Ten Things Members of Every (Rural) Community Need to Know* and *GIS and Your Community*. For Extension educators, we are

preparing *Demographic Dimensions of Diversity Relevant for Extension Educators: What to look for, why, and where to find it on the Web.*

## Other Web/e-Activities and Networking

Another highlight from the last year includes the on-going development of *The Webbook of IT Innovations in Extension* (see below) as well as the *Tutorial for eNonProfits*. Through our web-site, we are adding value to the output of the land grant system by identifying

and categorizing materials on land use.

We have established specialized listservs, expanded our electronic mailing lists and are creating databases of land use and e-commerce experts in the region. Briefing Rooms we have developed or are developing are shown in the adjacent box.

**Web Briefing Rooms:**

- Land Use/Sprawl**
- E-Commerce/E-Community (CIN)**
- Entrepreneurship, Small Business**
- Community Design/Visitation**
- Community-Supported Ag.**
- Business Retention & Expansion**
- Other**

## Northeast Center Publications

The Northeast Regional Center for Rural Development, *Annual Report 2001*, University Park, PA, January 2002, NE-77, 18pp.

### *Rural Development Paper Series*

Smith, Stephen M. and Miller, Kathleen, October 2002, RDP No. 13, "Successful Adjustment to Economic Restructuring in the Nonmetro Northeast: 1950-1990." A reprint from *The Review of Regional Studies*, 2001.

McDill, Marc et al., October 2002, RDP No. 12, "A Community-Based Forestry Cooperative for Certified Wood." Final Grant Report.

Johnston, Robert, October, 2002, RDP No. 11, "Conserving Farm and Forest in a Changing Rural Landscape: Current and Potential Contributions of Economics." [Workshop Summary Proceedings]

Goetz, S.J. et al., May 2002, RDP no. 10, "Land Use Problems and Conflicts in the U.S.: A Comprehensive Research Agenda for the 21st Century." Workshop endorsed by NASULGC and the Transatlantic Inter-University Consortium. [Workshop Summary Proceedings]

Goetz, S.J., Feb. 2002, RDP no. 9. "Web-Based and Other Resources on Land Use." Prepared for the Land Use Research Workshop, Orlando, FL.

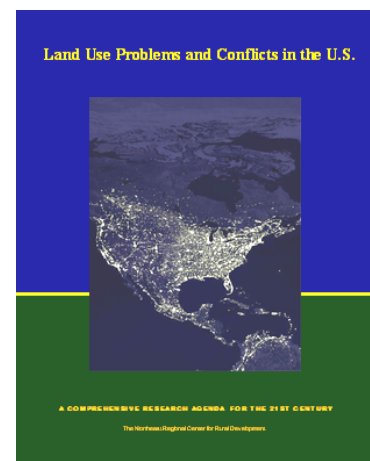
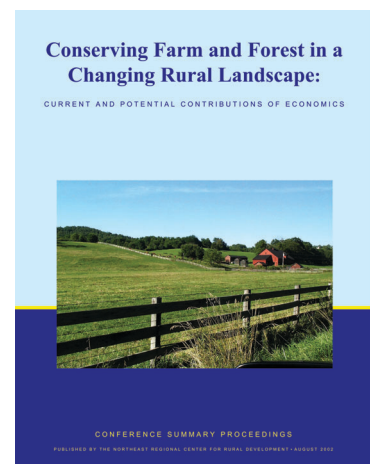
## The IT Webbook

Goetz, S.J. and B. DeYoung, 2002, *The Webbook of IT Innovations in Extension*, The Northeast Regional Center for Rural Development.

*Network02*, vol. 17, Nos. 1-4, A Quarterly Newsletter for Northeast Rural Development. 2002.

From the Director columns:

- o National CRED Conference Features Leading-Edge Extension Programs from the Northeast Region (no. 1)
- o PA, NY Counties Tops in Second Homes (no. 2)
- o Poverty in the Rural Northeast: Some good, some bad news (no. 3)
- o Housing Affordability Rises As Population Density Falls? (no. 4)



## Related Publications

- Goetz, S.J. and A. Rupasingha, 2002. "High-Tech Industry Clustering: Implications for Rural Areas," *American Journal of Agricultural Economics*, 84, 5 (December). Based on a Principal Paper session organized with Todd Gabe, University of Maine and David McGranahan, USDA/ERS.
- Rupasingha, A., S.J. Goetz and D. Freshwater, "Social and Institutional Factors as Determinants of Economic Growth: Evidence from the United States Counties," *Papers in Regional Science*, 81, 2002, 139-155.
- Goetz, S.J., et al. 2002. "Food stamp program participation dynamics in US Counties and States," JCPR Working Paper. Chicago: Joint Center for Poverty Research, Northwestern Univ./University of Chicago.
- Beaulieu, L.J., S.J. Goetz and M. Barfield, 2002. "Examining the Digital Divide: Variations in Computer Access and Internet Use Across Nonmetro Regions of the U.S.," poster presented at Rural Sociological Society annual meeting, August, Chicago, IL  
\*\*This poster received a Honorable Mention Poster Presentation award from the RSS
- Rupasingha, A. and S.J. Goetz, 2002. "The Effects of Health and Environmental Factors on Migration Decisions: A Spatial Econometric Analysis," presented at the Northeast Agricultural and Resource Economists annual meeting, Harrisburg, PA, June.

## Papers/Reports in progress

- Land Use in the Northeast: Ten Things Members of Every (Rural) Community Need to Know (one-page handout with supporting web-site containing more details)
- GIS and Your Community: how communities in the Northeast have used GIS to address land use problems.
- Ownership of Seasonal and Recreational Homes in the Northeast US (*Rural County Business Report*)
- Factors Accounting for the Housing Construction Boom in the Northeast (*Rural County Business Report*)
- Ownership of Mobile Homes in the Northeast US (planned)
- Demographic Dimensions of Diversity Relevant for Extension Educators: An Electronic Guide to What to Look for, Why, and Where to Find the Data; prepared for PSU Diversity Committee and CASD (Cornell U).

## Networking Activities: Meetings and Presentations

- Center for Rural PA, quarterly Board meeting, Harrisburg, PA, January 22, 2002
- Northeast Cooperative Extension Directors Meeting, Philadelphia, PA, January 28-29, 2002; provided an update on Center activities
- NERCRD Land Use Workshop, Orlando, FL, February 21-22, 2002, hosted the Workshop and presented two papers; <http://www.cas.nercrd.psu.edu/FLagendaTOC.htm>
- Community Resource and Economic Development (CRED) Conference, Orlando, FL, February 24-27, 2002, served as tract leader and co-organizer; also hosted a regional sub-conference/meeting
- West Virginia Univ. and Regional Research Institute, Morgantown, WV, March 18, 2002
- West Virginia Land Grant meeting at WV State College, Institute, WV, March 19, 2002
- Southern Regional Science Association, 41st annual meeting, Arlington, VA, April 11-13, 2002, presented a paper on regional changes in food stamp program participation
- Joint Center for Poverty Research/USDA Food Assistance Workshop, Northwestern University and Univ. of Chicago, Evanston, IL, April 19, 2002, presented a paper on spatial food stamp program participation dynamics
- Food & Society Conference 2002, Englewood, CO, April 22-24, 2002, invited to attend by the Kellogg Foundation

Conference on Government and Land Use Policy in the New Economy, Washington, DC, May 6, 2002 (USDA/ERS and Andrew Schmitz, University of Florida)

Purdue University, Cooperative Extension, West Lafayette, IN, "A Vision for Extension's Role in the Engaged Land Grant University of the 21st Century," May 2002, invited presentation

Third Meeting of the Association of Natural Resources Extension Professionals (ANREP), Naples, FL, June 2-5, 2002

NAREA (Northeast Agricultural and Resource Economics Association) annual meeting, Camp Hill, PA, June 9-11, 2002; presented a selected paper on environmental quality and migration

Land Use Policy Workshop (post-conference), Camp Hill, PA, June 11-12, 2002; supported by The Northeast Center

Community Economic and Resource Development Conference, Washington, DC, June 12-13, 2002

Regional Rural Development Centers, Directors' meeting, with the National e-Commerce Team, Wash., DC, June 13-14, 2002

NE Research Association/NE Extension Directors Joint Annual Meeting, Morgantown, WV, July 7-9, 2002; presentation on land use issues in the Northeast; also served on conference organizing committee for focused session on land use

American Agricultural Economics Association Annual Meeting (AAEA), Long Beach, CA, July 18-31, 2002; presented a principal (invited) paper and a symposium paper; participated in the Community Economics Network annual meeting

Rural Sociological Society Annual Meeting, Chicago, IL, August 15-16, 2002; presented a paper on Telemedicine prospects for rural areas and a poster on the digital divide (with Bo Beaulieu).

Center for Rural Pennsylvania Board Meeting, Franklin, PA, August 19-20, 2002

ESCOPE Social Science Committee Meeting, Washington, DC, September 9-10, 2002

Northeast Regional Center's Annual Board of Director's Meeting, Baltimore, MD, September 25-26, 2002

Regional Rural Development Center Director's Annual Meeting, Omaha, NE, October 1-2, 2002

Community Development Institute, Charleston, WV, October 3, 2002; invited presentation on land use planning and community development in the Northeast US

Joint Center for Poverty Research/ERS/USDA Small Grants Conference, October 17-18; Washington, DC; presentation on food stamp program participation dynamics at the county- and state-levels (final report)

ERS/USDA Rural Indicators Workshop, November 13-14, Washington, DC; presentation on rural self-employment as a principal indicator of New Economy trends in rural areas

Center for Rural Pennsylvania Board Meeting, Harrisburg, PA, November, 2002

Wageningen University, Ministries of Agriculture (LNV) and Spatial Planning (VROM), "Green Heartland," Province Gelderland and City of Arnhem, The Hague/Netherlands; study tour on land use planning and regional landscape strategies, November 10-16, 2002

Measuring Rural Diversity Conference, November 21-22, 2002, Washington, DC; made a presentation

Consultation with CSREES and other partners, December 17-18, 2002, Washington, DC

### **Center-Funded Projects**

Marc McDill et al., *A Community-Based Forestry Cooperative for Certified Wood*, Penn State University, \$25,000.

Ed Tavernier et al., *The Nexus of Agricultural Land Use Policy and Rural Employment Generation in the Northeast United States*, Rutgers University, \$24,712 (plus \$27,867 leverage); 60% Research, 40% Extension.

Richard Ready, et al., *GIS Analysis of Land Use on the Rural-Urban Fringe*, Penn State University, \$19,504 (plus \$33,151 leverage); 75% Research, 25% Extension. (in progress)

### **Listsers developed**

Community Resource and Economic Development conference participants, and research and extension professionals from the Northeast. 197 subscribers

A listserv to share information about land use.

A listserv of individuals interested in e-commerce. 22 subscribers

### **Regional and National Committee Service Provided (by the Director)**

Change Agent States for Diversity; committee member

Education and the Economy conference, USDA/SRDC, planning committee member

Rural Typologies Advisory Board, USDA/SRDC, member

ECOP E-Commerce Committee, member

Chair, Rural and Urban Community Vitality priority area; appointed by the Northeast Associations of Research and Extension Directors, 2001-present

Chair, Research Taskforce, National Land Grant University E-Commerce Team, 2000-present

*Ad hoc* Member, Experiment Station Committee on Organization and Policy (ESCOP), Social Sciences, sub-committee, 2000-present

Land Use Research Workshop, Orlando, FL, February 21-22, 2002, *Conference organizer* (chair)

Planning Committee for the Joint Summer 2002 Meeting of the Northeast Agricultural Experiment Station and Cooperative Extension Directors. *Conference Organizing Committee* (member),

ECOP, Community Resource and Economic Development; Base Program Team, February 2002; also organized reviews of papers in the Information Technology track. *Conference Organizing Committee* (member)

RUPRI/CPAN Leadership Team; committee member

### **Grant-Seeking Activity**

USDA/NRI Grant on Structural Determinants of Poverty (\$78,800)

RUPRI and the other RRDCs: ASPE Rural Poverty Center (\$1,200,000)

Joint Center for Poverty Research, University of Chicago/Northwestern University (\$40,000)

We plan to develop NSF grant applications during 2003

### **Planned Workshops (2003)**

Northeast Regional Workshop on Extension Land Use Programming,  
<http://www.cas.nercrd.psu.edu/LUW.htm>

Co-sponsor, NAREA Workshop on Farm Policy and Conservation

Information Technology: A Regional Workshop on Bridging the Digital Divide  
<http://www.cas.nercrd.psu.edu/BDD.htm>

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