

Hemlock Hospice — an art installation and exhibition by David Buckley Borden — to open at Harvard Forest on October 7, 2017

On Saturday October 7th, from 12 noon until 4 pm, the Harvard Forest will host an opening reception for Harvard Forest Bullard Fellow David Buckley Borden's *Hemlock Hospice* installation on the Prospect Hill Tract and his parallel exhibition of prints, drawings and sculptures in the Fisher Museum.

David Buckley Borden is an interdisciplinary artist and designer in residence at the Harvard Forest in Petersham, MA, collaborating with world-class ecologists on interdisciplinary art-science-communication projects involving landscape installations and arts-based interpretive trail design.

Hemlock Hospice is an art-science collaboration with Harvard Forest Senior Ecologist Aaron Ellison that features innovative art installed along a new interpretive trail. Eastern hemlock, the foundation tree in our eastern forests, is slowly vanishing from North America as it is weakened and killed by a small insect, the hemlock woolly adelgid. *Hemlock Hospice* blends science, art, and design in respecting hemlock and its ecological role as a foundation forest species; promoting an understanding of the adelgid; and encouraging empathetic conversations among all the sustainers of and caregivers for our forests—ecologists and artists, foresters and journalists, naturalists and citizens—while fostering social cohesion around ecological issues.

Hemlock Hospice is more than an art-science collaboration; it is also an educational initiative. Associated public workshops and print and social media are available to promote reflection, critical thinking, and creativity among scientists, artists, educators, humanists, and the general public. A diverse group of media partners will bring the concepts to a broad range of people in and outside the arts and sciences.



Exchange Tree, one of twelve pieces in David Buckley Borden's Hemlock Hospice installation

About the Harvard Forest

The Harvard Forest is a department of the Faculty of Arts and Sciences (FAS) of Harvard University, located in Petersham, Massachusetts. From a center comprised of 4,000 acres of land, research facilities, and the Fisher Museum, the scientists, students, and collaborators at the Forest explore the interacting physical, biological, and human systems that drive change in the New England landscape.

Learn more about the Harvard Forest at <http://harvardforest.fas.harvard.edu/>.

“As scientists, we envision welcoming artists into the lab and field so that they can help us communicate our scientific findings and their importance to broader audiences of non-scientists. But collaborations between artists and scientists really go both ways. Working with David on Hemlock Hospice is pushing me and the other scientists who work at Harvard Forest to revisit and re-frame the questions we ask and the hypotheses we test about how forests work.”

**-Aaron Ellison, Senior Ecologist
Harvard Forest, Harvard University**

About David Buckley Borden

David Buckley Borden is a Cambridge-based interdisciplinary artist and designer known for his creative practice of making ecological issues culturally relevant to the general public by means of accessible art and design. David is a 2016/2017 Bullard Fellow in Forest Research at Harvard University where he explores the question, “How can art and design foster cultural cohesion around environmental issues and help inform ecology-minded decision making?”

David studied landscape architecture at Harvard University’s Graduate School of Design and worked with Sasaki Associates and Ground, Inc. before focusing his practice at the intersection of landscape, creativity, and cultural event. David’s work now manifests in a variety of forms, ranging from landscape installations in the woods to data-driven cartography in the gallery. David’s place-based projects highlight both pressing environmental issues and everyday phenomena and have recently earned him residencies at the Santa Fe Art Institute, Teton Art Lab, Trifecta Hibernaculum, and MASS MoCA.

Learn more about Borden and his work at www.davidbuckleyborden.com



Examples of David Buckley Borden’s Hemlock Hospice work at the Harvard Forest. Left to right: Fast Forward Futures, Hemlock Data Stick, and Wayfinding Barrier, No. 3