

Senator Lugar Talks Trees on Arbor Day

Indiana Senator Richard G. Lugar spent his Arbor Day in Indiana, talking to school children, helping them plant a tree at the State Museum, and later having lunch with a group of leaders from the state's forest products industry.

"Trees provide us with essential elements to live our lives," Lugar told the attentive students. "They provide us with air to breathe and take in the toxins that are harmful to us. By planting more trees, we ensure that future children will be able to breathe fresh, clean air, too."

During lunch, Lugar thanked the Indiana Hardwood Lumbermen's Association for their early endorsement of his 2012 Senate re-election campaign, and discussed issues affecting the forest products industry. Those issues included the Lacey Act and log exports; timber harvesting on national forests; the Farm Bill, and easing of credit to stimulate new home construction.

Those attending the lunch were IHLA President Jeff Manges of Cole Hardwood; past presidents Jim Steen (Pike Lumber) and Richard Wertz (Wertz Timber and Veneer); Tree Farm Chairman Bob Burke; State Forester Jack Seifert; Tom Kohlmeier of SEEMAC, Inc.; David Carter of Carter-Lee Lumber, and IHLA Executive Director Ray Moistner.

Throughout the state, several IHLA members put on Arbor Day presentations at elementary schools in their local communities. Watch for pictures in our photo gallery in the coming days.