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National Slow the Spread of the Gypsy Moth Project

"... Using Tomorrow's Technology for Gypsy Moth Management Today"

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Fact Sheet

Discussion Forums : Getting Started with the STS Discussion Forums

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The new STS Discussion Forum is an integrated way to communicate ideas, requests, and data corrections with the groups that manage them. This service is located at <http://forums.gmsts.org> and can also be found on the main menu of the STS Operations Portal (<http://operations.gmsts.org>).



Figure 1. Discussion Forum login screen.

The first place you will want to go upon arriving at this site is the login screen (see Figure 1). The main portions of this site are navigable with the links in the toolbar at the top of the pages. Since accessibility to certain forums is restricted to registered users, a user account will have to be created. If you already have an account you can enter your username and password here.

Use the **Register** link if you do not have a Discussion Forums account. Click on the Register link and a screen will appear that allows you to create your account (Figure 2). Certain fields in this form are marked by an asterisk to indicate that this is required information. A username and password should be chosen that you can remember. Several items should be considered when choosing the email address you provide. This will be used to notify you when things happen on the forum that you have chosen to be notified of. You can

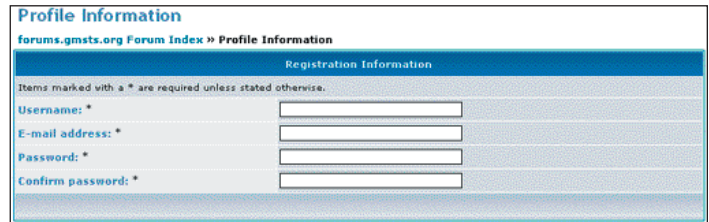


Figure 2. User registration screen.

choose to be notified by email when someone responds to your posting. You can also choose to “watch” entire forums and individual topics you did not post. This feature reduces the need to return to the discussion forum in order to look for new postings. Additionally, if you should ever lose your password, this address will be used to verify who you are by the discussion forum in order to generate a new password. The new password will only be sent to the email given in your profile.

Fill in the appropriate fields on this form with any other information you would like stored in your profile. When done, press the submit button on this page and an email will be sent to the forum administrator requesting activation of your new account. You will be sent an email when your account has been approved.

Upon login, the list of groups will appear with the different forums listed. Error correction forums are intended to provide a line of communication between the database administrators and state

STS Error Correction Forums	
	Illinois Errors Illinois data validation errors. Moderator Amos Ziegler
	Indiana Errors Indiana data validation errors. Moderator Amos Ziegler
	Kentucky Errors Kentucky data validation errors. Moderator Denise
	Michigan Errors Michigan data validation errors. Moderator Amos Ziegler
	Minnesota Errors Minnesota data validation errors. Moderator Amos Ziegler
	North Carolina Errors North Carolina data validation errors. Moderator Denise
	Ohio Errors Ohio data validation errors. Moderator Denise
	Virginia Errors Virginia data validation errors. Moderator Denise
	West Virginia Errors West Virginia data validation errors. Moderator Denise
	Wisconsin Errors Wisconsin data validation errors. Moderator Amos Ziegler

Figure 3. STS error correction forums.

STS Operations Forums			
DPS/Technical Committees Planning, Protocols, Decision Support. Moderator: Moderator Team	0	0	No Posts
STS Regulatory Committee STS Cooperator Regulatory Programs. Moderator: Moderator Team	0	0	No Posts
STS Software & IT Post your suggestions and problems with any of the STS software. Including - TrapView, Trapper Gadget, GPS Uploader, AV Extesions, Mapsver, Database Portal, and Web Sites. Moderator: Moderator Team	1	1	Fri Feb 27, 2004 11:57 am Amos Ziegler

Figure 4. Operations forums.

cooperators involved with error correction. These are broken down by state.

The Operations forums are intended to serve as a message board for operational, technical, and regulatory committees as well as software issues. Figure 5 shows the STS Software & IT forum with a posted “test” message. By clicking this title you would be able to view the posting and post a reply.

Figure 5. Message on Software & IT forum.

As mention previously, instead of repeatedly checking the site for new postings, just select the option to watch this forum for posts. When a message is added to a watched forum you will be sent an email at the address you specified in your profile. Forum moderators are also emailed when postings are made to ensure a timely response to posted messages.

Clicking the new topic button will allow you to make your own posting. This button launches the screen shown in Figure 6. The editor works like an email program and will allow you to specify a Subject, Message, and even attach small files. When done, just use the submit button at the bottom of the

Figure 6. Message posting screen.

page and the message will be posted.

STS cooperators are encouraged to post all messages to the **STS Operations Forums** - with the exception of error correction messages. Messages posted outside this forum group will be moved into the appropriate forum. The STS Operations Forums are private and messages posted here can not be viewed by the general public.

In summary, the STS Discussion Forums provide a logical way to track error corrections and ensure that everyone has the same information. It also provides a good way to learn about software updates, patches and learn from the experiences of others.

Visit the site today and post your opinions, questions, or problems.

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