



CommuniTreeLink

Connecting people with resources to help them improve their Community Forests



The newsletter of the Oregon Department of Forestry
Urban and Community Forestry Assistance Program

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CALENDAR OF EVENTS

January 15, 2004.

Deadline for 2003 Oregon Urban and Community Forestry Awards These awards recognize individuals in three categories (Citizen, Lifetime Achievement, and Professional), groups (Business, Oregon's Tree City of the year), and projects (Civic Organization, Development, Government, Partnerships, Student/School). Nomination forms are available online at www.oregoncommunitytrees.org.

February 27, 2004

PLT Arbor Week Workshop, Portland. Teachers from around the state are invited to a special Project Learning Tree workshop focusing on Arbor Week. It will be held in Portland at the Oregon Convention Center as part of the OAN Yard Garden and Patio Show. For more info, contact Rick Zenn at 503-488-2103

April 5-11, 2004. Oregon Arbor Week, Statewide. Start planning now for your community's 2004 Arbor Week events. For ideas on celebrating Arbor Week, or to list your local events, visit the 2004 Oregon Arbor Week website at www.arborday.org/oregon

June 4-5, 2004

PNW Community Trees Conference, Portland. "Developing Community Canopy: Visions of Greener Cities" is the theme for the 7th PNW Community Trees Conference. This two day event will include dynamic speakers, educational tours, and an idea center/exhibit hall. Look for registration materials in early spring.

June 28 - 30, 2004

Community Forestry At Its Best National Conference, Nebraska City, NE. Managing community trees can be complicated in the face of budget cuts, development, and other challenges. This conference addresses new techniques, ideas, and trends in urban forestry geared specifically toward community size, budget, and human resources. Visit www.arborday.org for more details.

From The Editors

By the time you read this you will probably be a week or more into your New Year's resolutions...hope they're still going well. Does your city have any tree related resolutions this year? Maybe obtaining Tree City USA status? Now is the time to start planning to win that award for your city this year. Start with planning an Arbor Day or Arbor Week event - one of the four criteria for receiving the Tree City Award. National Arbor Day is April 30 and Oregon Arbor Week is April 5-11. Some cities wait until the fall to begin thinking about Tree City USA, but by then it is too late to have held an Arbor Week observance. We also have sample tree ordinances, ideas for creative ways to fund urban forestry programs, organizational development advice, and much more! So plan now and make 2004 the year your city becomes a Tree City. Call your Community Assistance Forester for help with your plans to win this award this year.

Bud Breaking News

Oregon Heritage Tree Artwork Now Available

Share the beauty and grandeur of Oregon's Heritage Trees through an exclusive set of note cards and prints created by artist Kristen Lassen Hunt. The Heritage Tree Committee commissioned this artwork, and proceeds support the Oregon Heritage Tree program. The 4x5 cards come in sets of 8 with envelopes and there are four different designs in each packet. Each card bears original artwork of a single Heritage Tree. The inside of the card is blank, while the history of the tree is on the back. The cards are \$14.95 per set. Large matted prints suitable for framing are \$90 each. To order, visit the Oregon Travel Information Council website at www.oregontic.com or call 1-800-574-9397. Additional information about all of Oregon's Heritage Trees is found on this website or in a brochure available from the ODF urban forestry program.

New ODF Staff

Merrill Jensen has joined the ODF Urban Forestry staff in a temporary part time position for the next several months. He will be working with Kristin Ramstad providing assistance to western and southern Oregon communities. Merrill has worked for the Oregon Garden, the Idaho Botanical Garden, and in the nursery industry. He can be reached at mjensen@odf.state.or.us

Assessing Trees For Winter Damage

The cold, snowy weather that has greeted the New Year in Oregon has been responsible for isolated severe damage to landscape plants, and while this is unusual for some parts of the state, the results are quite common. Wind and cold temperatures can bleach and desiccate evergreen foliage, damage bark, and injure or kill branches, buds, and roots. Snow and ice can break branches and topple entire trees. If the trees in your city have been impacted by the recent storms, it is important that damaged trees be assessed by a Certified Arborist. Broken branches should be cut off cleanly in order to help speed the process of sealing off the wound. Heavy snow and ice storms cause damage by bending and breaking branches. Multiple leader, upright evergreens, such as arborvitae and juniper, and multiple leader or clump trees, such as birch or vine maple are most prone to snow and ice damage. Some damage may remain hidden until the trees leaf out in the spring. If you have questions about dealing with storm damaged trees, give your Community Assistance Forester a call.

Quotable Quotes

"When one tugs at a single thing in nature, he finds it attached to the rest of the world."

--John Muir

Urban Forestry By the Numbers:

10 Million

The number of gallons of rainwater per year a typical community forest of 10,000 trees will retain each year.

From:

USFS Center for Urban Forest Research, Davis, California.

Visit their website at

<http://wcufrf.ucdavis.edu/>

Do you have an interesting number to share that reflects the value of trees to our cities? Send it to the editors and you might see it in a future issue.

COMMUNITREELINK

This newsletter is published bimonthly by the Oregon Department of Forestry (ODF) Urban & Community Forestry Assistance Program in cooperation with the USDA Forest Service. The mission of ODF's Urban and Community Forestry Assistance Program is to help Oregonians improve their quality of life by promoting community investment in our urban forests.

This newsletter is available in electronic or printed format. Subscriptions are free and available by contacting any of the ODF staff listed below. USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.



Staff:

Paul D. Ries (pries@odf.state.or.us)
Katie Kause (kkause@odf.state.or.us)
Kristin Ramstad (kramstad@odf.state.or.us)
Oregon Department of Forestry
2600 State St., Salem, OR 97310
Phone: 503/945-7391, Fax: 503/945-7416
webpage: www.odf.state.or.us/UF

Resources You Can Use

Sustainability Guidebook

The National Arbor Day Foundation has a new publication, *Urban and Community Forestry: A Practical Guide to Sustainability* now available on their website for free download in both English and Spanish. You can find it at the following address: www.arborday.org/programs/ucf/

Stormwater Research Summary

"*Is All Your Rain Going Down the Drain?*" is the title of the latest research product from the USFS Center for Urban Forest Research. This publication summarizes the beneficial impact that trees in cities have on retaining or slowing the flow of stormwater. Is your city dealing with stormwater issues? Have you considered tree planting as a part of the solution? Visit the Center's website at <http://wcufrf.ucdavis.edu/> for all the details.

Oregon Community Trees Sticker

Oregon Community Trees, Oregon's non-profit community forestry advocacy group, has commissioned a sticker that promotes the concept of urban forestry. "Our Urban Forest - It's Where We Live" is a full color graphic designed to get people thinking about how important the trees around us are. You can get these stickers in lots of 100 for distribution in your agency or organization. For copies of the sticker, contact your Community Assistance Forester.

Did You Know....?

2004 Arbor Day National Poster Contest Materials Available

Over 70,000 fifth grade classrooms and home schools across America are expected to participate in the 2004 Arbor Day National Poster Contest! Educators can receive a free 2004 Arbor Day National Poster Contest Activity Guide containing lesson plans, student handouts, and contest rules through the World Forestry Center (503) 488-2100, or chenry@worldforestry.org. The deadline for submitting posters is March 12, 2004.

Downloadable Urban Forestry Publications

The ODF urban forestry webpages (www.odf.state.or.us/UF) include a variety of downloadable urban forestry publications suitable for use in educating city councilors, the public, or people new to the concept of urban forestry. If you have questions about these publications, contact the ODF UCF staff.

Human Dimensions of Urban Forestry Website

Dr. Kathleen Wolf at the University of Washington has upgraded her research website. The new site, "The Human Dimensions of Urban Forestry and Urban Greening" provides access to information about research projects and a variety of technology transfer products. Learn more about her important research at www.cfr.washington.edu/research.envmind

Tree Care Information At Your Fingertips

Did you know that ISA's tree care consumer information brochures can be used for preparing newsletter articles, press releases, and presentations? Yes, it's true—you can use the information from these brochures, word for word, as long as you credit the source. There are now 18 different titles and they can be downloaded through ISA publicity website at www.treesaregood.com.

Your Story Is Waiting to Be Told!

The UCF staff is always looking to highlight successful urban and community stories or projects. We are often asked for success stories and feedback about our program for regional and national reports. If you have something interesting to share, send it to one of the staff and we might use it in an upcoming news release, newsletter story, or report.