



# 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

Number 20  
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## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

**April 3-9, 2005**

### Arbor Week in Oregon

Visit the Arbor Day website at [www.arborday.org/oregon](http://www.arborday.org/oregon) for ideas on how to celebrate this great occasion, or contact your Community Assistance Forester.

**April 14, 2005 in Albany**

**April 15, 2005 in Oregon City**

### Roots: Where Tree Planting Begins

This workshop will focus on recognition and treatment of existing planting depth problems, as well as prevention of these problems in future installations. Common planting and root problems that predispose trees to secondary pests and diseases or even whole tree failure will be covered in both the indoor and hands-on outdoor sessions. Visit [www.pnwisa.org](http://www.pnwisa.org) for more details.

**May 10, 2005**

**Seattle, WA**

### Recognizing and Assessing Tree Hazards and Failures

Several ISA Certified Arborists take an in-depth look at specific tree hazard and tree failure topics. Among the items covered in this course will be assessing factors that influence hazard potential and tree failure, prevention of future hazards and failures, tree failure trends, as well as data collection, report writing, and tracking. It is expected that course participants will already have a working knowledge of tree biology and basic tree hazard assessment techniques. This day-long course will incorporate classroom instruction, field demonstrations, and hands-on practice. Visit [www.pnwisa.org](http://www.pnwisa.org) for more details.

## From The Editors

*What is that old saying? Weather - everyone talks about it, but nobody ever does anything about it! The weather certainly has been a topic of conversation this winter in Oregon. Our unseasonably warm weather means spring has sprung early throughout much of the state. But the calendar still says winter, which means those young leaves and buds are susceptible to frost damage. And our limited rainfall and snowmelt could mean significant problems are ahead for new trees that rely on supplemental watering. This would probably be a good time to be planning ahead to make sure your trees survive what could be a stressful summer. And by the way, Happy Arbor Week! Will this be the year that your city becomes a Tree City?*

## Bud Breaking News

### Hazard Tree Management Plan Grants Awarded

The Oregon Department of Forestry is pleased to announce that six Oregon cities have received grants to write Hazard Tree Management Plans as part of the 2004 Hazard Tree Mitigation Grant Programs. Grants will be going to the cities of Canby, Milwaukie, Lake Oswego, Salem, St. Paul, and Eagle Point. Funds for these grants is provided by ODF under a cooperative agreement with Oregon Emergency Management and the Federal Emergency Management Agency. These cities will be developing plans that help reduce their risk and liability from hazard street and park trees. For information on how *your* city can reduce its risk from hazard trees, contact your Community Assistance Forester.

### Arbor Week Kick-off Tree Walks Planned

At 2 p.m. on Sunday April 3, nearly thirty simultaneous "tree walks" are planned in cities, gardens, arboreta, forests, and parks across the state as a kickoff to Arbor Week 2005. The informational tours, which will generally last an hour to an hour and a half, and will involve easy walking, are free and open to the public. Tree walks are scheduled to take place in Albany, Ashland, Beavercreek, Benton County, Cannon Beach, Clackamas County, Cottage Grove, Echo, Eugene, Forest Grove, Klamath Falls, La Grande, Portland, Roseburg, Salem, Silverton, Silver Falls State Park, Shore Acres State Park, Tillamook County, Tillamook State Forest, and Wilsonville. Public agencies, non-profit groups, and local chapters of the Society of American Foresters are among the organizers of the local tree walks. For a complete list of Arbor Week Tree Walks, visit the OCT webpage at [www.oregoncommunitytrees.org](http://www.oregoncommunitytrees.org)

### Urban Forestry Award Winners Recognized

At the annual Oregon Urban Forestry Conference on March 11, five deserving individuals and organizations were recognized for urban forestry excellence at the annual state urban forestry awards luncheon, sponsored by Oregon Community Trees and the Oregon Dept. of Forestry. Tim Shiel of Forest Grove won the Citizen Volunteer Award, Brian McNerney of Portland won the Professional Award, the City of Forest Grove won Tree City of the Year, Pat Breen of the Corvallis Civic Beautification and Urban Forestry Commission won the Civic Organization Project Award, ReTree International and the National Park Service won the Partnership Project Award, and Tom Ralley and the Portland State Natural Science Inquiry Class won the Student/School Project Award. Congratulations to all the award winners.

## Quotable Quotes

Acts of creation are ordinarily reserved for gods and poets. To plant a pine, one need only own a shovel.

— Aldo Leopold

## Urban Forestry by the Numbers:

**73%**

*The percentage of cities responding to the 2004 UCF City Survey that ranked "Hazard Trees" as their number one urban forestry concern.*

From: Urban and Community Forestry in Oregon: Results of the 2004 City Survey, by the Oregon Department of Forestry.

*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.



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## Resources You Can Use

### UtiliTrees - Trees for Under Power Lines

Trees worthy of the UtiliTrees™ designation are those best suited for planting in the restricted zone between street and sidewalk and beneath utility lines. All mature at heights that are unlikely to tangle with overhead lines. Pedestrian-friendly branching is compact or vase-shaped to allow for pruning without destroying the shape of the tree. Disease and pest resistant, these cultivars are tolerant of varied soils, climates and urban growing conditions, and require minimal maintenance. For more information, visit: <http://www.jfschmidt.com/utilist.html>

### Livable Communities and Urban Forests

The Local Government Commission's Center for Livable Communities is offering this free publication. The 4-page fact sheet includes discussions on the economic, environmental, and public health and safety benefits of trees in communities. Benefits for each topic are described succinctly and can be used as talking points for community meetings or civic organization presentations. Tips on how local governments and organizations can improve the tree canopy in their communities are included, as well as resources for further information available online at [http://www.lgc.org/freepub/PDF/Energy/livcomm\\_urban\\_forests.pdf](http://www.lgc.org/freepub/PDF/Energy/livcomm_urban_forests.pdf)

### The Man Who Planted Trees

Chelsea Green is publishing a twentieth anniversary edition of the classic fable, *The Man Who Planted Trees*, by Jean Giono. As a way to help tree planting, nature, and other environmental organizations raise money for their causes, Chelsea Green is offering a substantial pre-publication discount on the book. Chelsea Green will donate a portion of the proceeds from sales of the book to tree planting organizations. For more information, contact Minda Kauffman at [mkauffman@chelseagreen.com](mailto:mkauffman@chelseagreen.com)

### Arbor Week Stickers Available

Oregon Community Trees has an Arbor Week sticker available for use with schoolchildren or other community events. Small quantities of this sticker (Free up to 50) are available from Gail Gredler (email [gail@oregoncommunitytrees.org](mailto:gail@oregoncommunitytrees.org)) The sticker contains the email address for the Oregon Arbor Week website at [www.arborday.org/oregon](http://www.arborday.org/oregon).



## Did You Know....?

### To Apply To Be A New Tree City, You Should Start Today!

If your city is considering applying for Tree City USA status, don't wait until the application deadline in December to begin working on your application. Part of the Tree City USA requirements include holding an Arbor Day Observance and issuing a Mayor's Proclamation of Arbor Day (or Arbor Week). These can be done during Oregon's Arbor Week the first full week of April, or on National Arbor Day, which is Friday April 29. If you need more information about Arbor Day, visit [www.arborday.org](http://www.arborday.org) or contact your Community Assistance Forester.

### 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.