



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

May 19, 2004

Recognizing and Assessing Tree Hazards and Failures, Silverton. This PNW-ISA continuing education course is an intermediate level look at techniques for assessing the hazard potential of trees and learning why trees fail. Details are posted at www.pnwisa.org

June 4-5, 2004

PNW Community Trees Conference, Portland. "Developing Community Canopy: Visions of Greener Cities" is the theme for this event, featuring dynamic speakers, educational tours, and an idea center. Dr. Jim Clark is our keynote speaker. Register by May 15 and save \$\$\$. The conference program is available at www.oregoncommunitytrees.org

August 25-28, 2004

PNW Tree Symposium & Farwest Show, Portland. The Farwest Show is one of the largest nursery trade shows in the US. This year, the show will be preceded by a daylong symposium on tree selection which will include nursery tours. Featured speaker is Dr. Larry Costello of the University of California Extension. Larry will be joined by panels of local and regional green industry professionals to look at the various implications of tree selection. Visit www.farwestshow.com for a registration form and more details.

September 26-29, 2004

PNW-ISA Annual Training Conference, Coeur d'Alene, ID. "Trees: Connecting the Past, Present and Future" will be the theme of PNW-ISA's 25th Annual Conference. More information and a registration form will be posted in June on the Chapter website at www.pnwisa.org

Looking Ahead – Hold these tentative dates and look for more details to follow:
October 19-20: PNW Utility Vegetation Management Conference, Welches
November 1: Plant Health Care Seminar, Portland
November 1: Deadline for CFA 2005 grant applications
November 2: Building With Trees Seminar, Portland

From The Editors

If you are accustomed to attending the annual Oregon urban forestry conference every March and wondering where it went this year, it has been combined with the PNW Community Trees Conference being held June 4-5 in Portland. This regional urban forestry conference is held every two years, and this year is Oregon's turn to play host, so this two-day event will take the place of the normal March conference. Look for the traditional one day statewide event to return in March of 2005, with a theme of dealing with storms and hazard trees. For this year, plan to attend the PNW Community Trees Conference and mingle with like minded people from Washington, Idaho, and Alaska. Details are available online (www.oregoncommunitytrees.org). This is a great opportunity to find out what is happening in other states. Hope to see you there.

Bud Breaking News

ODF Urban Forestry Staff Update

Here is an update on the ODF Urban and Community Forestry program staff. Kristin Ramstad, Community Assistance Forester for western and southern Oregon, will be returning from maternity leave in June. We are also pleased to announce that Cynthia Orlando has joined the UCF staff on a part time basis to handle communications and public education projects. Cynthia is a graduate of Humboldt State University with a degree in Forestry and has worked for the USDA Forest Service as well as in ODF's public affairs section. Cynthia's email is corlando@odf.state.or.us and her phone number is 503-945-7421.

NPS Rivers, Trails, and Conservation Assistance Available

The National Park Service Rivers, Trails, and Conservation Assistance Program, also known as Rivers and Trails or RTCA, works with community groups and local and state governments to conserve rivers, preserve open space, and develop trails and greenways. RTCA works in partnership with urban, rural, and suburban communities to help them achieve conservation, recreation, and nature-based projects. In Oregon, RTCA has worked with the Jacksonville Woodlands Association on preserving a network of trails around the city. Groups and organizations apply to RTCA for assistance, and if awarded, RTCA acts as a catalyst and facilitator to help move their projects forward. New projects begin in October of each year. Applications are due by July 1st. For more information and to download an application for assistance, you can visit our national web site at www.nps.gov/ccso/rtca or call Sue Abbott at 206-220-4116.

Resources You Can Use

Does your City's Business District Attract People?

Dr. Kathy Wolf of the University of Washington has conducted research comparing the attitudes and values of urban residents and business people regarding the urban forest in retail business districts. Research methods included photo-based surveys and interviews. The project was national in scope; surveys were distributed in cities throughout the United States. The results demonstrated public preferences for trees in business districts, and differences in response between business people and nearby residents. Differences in shopping behaviors were also detected for business districts having trees. The report is available at <http://www.cfr.washington.edu/research.envmind/consumer.html>

Quotable Quotes

"There's nothing that keeps its youth, so far as I know, but a tree and truth.

-- Oliver Wendell Holmes, *The Deacon's Masterpiece, 1858*

Urban Forestry By the Numbers:

10 million

The number of gallons of stormwater retained in one year by a community with 10,000 shade trees.

From: *Is All Your Rain Going Down the Drain?* Published by USFS Center for Urban Forest Research, Davis, California.

Visit their website at <http://cufre.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.



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Kodak American Greenways Grants

The Kodak American Greenways Awards Program, a partnership of the Eastman Kodak Company, the Conservation Fund, and the National Geographic Society, provides small grants to stimulate the planning and design of greenways in communities throughout America. Grants may be used for activities such as mapping, ecological assessments, surveying, conferences, and design activities; developing brochures, interpretative displays, audio-visual productions, or public opinion surveys; hiring consultants; incorporating land trusts; and/or building footbridges, planning bike paths, or other creative projects. In general, grants can be used for all appropriate expenses needed to complete a greenway project, including planning, technical assistance, legal, and other costs. Awards will be given primarily to local, regional, or statewide nonprofit organizations. Although public agencies may also apply, community organizations will receive preference. The maximum grant award is \$2,500. Deadline: June 1, 2004. Only online applications will be accepted. See the Conservation Fund Web site for complete guidelines, application forms, and information on previous grant recipients at <http://www.conservationfund.org/?article=2372>

PNW-ISA Has A New Brochure Your City Can Use

"How to Recognize and Prevent Tree Hazards" is the title of a newly published full color brochure available from the Pacific Northwest Chapter ISA. The publication reviews the "Eight Warning Signs Every Homeowner Should Know" and includes pictures and descriptions of tree hazards. This brochure is available in quantity for distribution by your city parks, public works, or planning staffs. By contacting the PNW-ISA (email info@pnwisa.org or phone 503-874-8263).

Tree Selection Ideas Are Available On-line

"Urban Trees and Shrubs: A multimedia guide to the selection of trees and shrubs and their care in urban areas," originally put together by the Chicago Botanic Garden with a grant from the US Forest Service Midwest Center is now available on-line. The entire slide set is on the web and can be viewed at: <http://www.na.fs.fed.us/spfo/pubs/uf/uts/index.htm>

TreeLink Website Updated

The leading site for national urban forestry information, www.treelink.org has been updated and improved. Visit this page for a variety of ideas and information references on the field of urban forestry.

Did You Know....?

Downloadable Urban Forestry Publications Are Available

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 urban forestry. These materials can help you make the case for trees with community decision makers.

Oregon Community Trees Needs You

Oregon has a non-profit organization dedicated to promoting urban and community forestry. Oregon Community Trees (OCT) is a member organization representing all facets of the green industry, community organizations, and interested agencies and individuals. Membership is only \$30 for individuals, and group rates are also available at \$100 for 4 or more people. Visit the OCT website at www.oregoncommunitytrees.org and join today. Make your voice heard!

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.