



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 18-19, 2006

PNW Community Trees Conference, Anchorage, AK

This year's featured speaker is noted landscape architect James Urban. Registration materials are now at <http://www.dnr.state.ak.us/forestry>

June 1, 2006

Annual Oregon Urban Forestry Conference, Salem

This year, the state's annual urban forestry conference moves from March to June. The theme will be **Essential Tools for Growing Your City: Urban Forestry Management Plans and Inventories**. A registration form is now available at <http://www.oregoncommunitytrees.org>

June 19-21, 2006

Community Forestry At Its Best Conference: Nebraska City, NE

Download a registration from at <http://www.arborday.org>

July 28 – August 1, 2006

"Hooked on Trees"; ISA Annual Conference, Minneapolis, MN

Download a registration from at <http://www.isa-arbor.com>

August 24-26, 2006

Farwest Show, Portland.

One of the largest nursery trade shows in the US, this event also includes educational programs for green industry professionals. Visit <http://www.farwestshow.com> for a registration form and more details.

September 28 – October 1, 2006

Annual PNW-ISA Training Conference, Redmond, WA

Mark your calendars now for this annual event. Registration forms will be available later this summer at <http://www.pnwisa.org>

From The Editors

Remember that old song with the line "you don't know what you've got 'til its gone"? Do you know what you've got when it comes to the trees in your city? You probably know how many road miles or street lights you have, but how many street trees do you have? And if a tree falls and damage results, do you have a policy and a plan that can protect your city? If your city doesn't have a tree inventory and management plan, come to the June 1 state urban forestry conference in Salem and find out how these tools can make your city better. Details are available at left in our Calendar of Events. Hope to see you there.

Bud Breaking News

Record Number of Oregon Communities Earn "Tree City USA" Status

The cities of Redmond, Sandy, Sherwood, and Willamina received awards during April as first-time additions to Oregon's growing list of Tree City USA Communities. Tree City USA, a program of the National Arbor Day Foundation and sponsored by the Oregon Department of Forestry, recognizes cities that develop programs to plant and care for trees. In addition to these four new cities, the city of Monmouth regained its Tree City status this year, bringing the total number of Oregon cities receiving the award to a record high 43 communities. Oregon communities being recertified as a Tree City USA for 2005 include: Albany, Ashland, Baker City, Beaverton, Bend, Coburg, Coos Bay, Corvallis, Cottage Grove, Eagle Point, Echo, Eugene, Forest Grove, Grants Pass, Klamath Falls, La Grande, Lake Oswego, Lebanon, Madras, McMinnville, Medford, Philomath, Portland, Reedsport, Rogue River, Salem, Scio, Seaside, Sunriver, Sweet Home, Talent, Tigard, Tillamook, Toledo, Troutdale, Tualatin, West Linn, and Wilsonville. Congratulations to all these cities. "These cities deserve to be recognized for taking the necessary steps to make their communities more livable through planting and caring for trees," said State Forester Marvin Brown. "Cities that take an active role in managing forestry issues recognize that trees improve the quality of life in our cities." If your city wants to learn more about becoming a Tree City, contact your Community Assistance Forester for details.

2007 Community Tree Management Institute Announced

The Oregon Dept. of Forestry and the Washington Dept. of Natural Resources are announcing another session of the innovative Community Tree Management Institute (CTMI) from March to November of 2007. The CTMI is an innovative training opportunity for any city employee who has tree responsibilities. Four sessions over the course of the year provide participants with a variety of tools that can improve how their city manages trees and tree issues. To obtain an application form for the 2007 CTMI, send an email to pries@odf.state.or.us.

Resources You Can Use

Trees Pay Us Back

Unlike most parts of your city infrastructure, the trees you plant don't depreciate and are actually worth more as time goes by. To help spread this message, the USDA Forest Service has compiled a number of resource materials that can be used to communicate the benefits of urban trees. If you are looking for data that tells a compelling story about why trees are a good investment in our cities, check out: <http://na.fs.fed.us/urban/treespayusback/vol2/index.html>

Quotable Quotes

"Other holidays repose on the past. Arbor Day proposes the future."

-- J. Sterling Morton,
Founder of Arbor Day

Urban Forestry by the Numbers:

58%

The reduction in repaving costs from residential street pavement shaded by large street trees versus un-shaded streets

From: "Effects Of Street Tree Shade On Asphalt Concrete Pavement Performance", by E. Gregory Mcpherson and Jules Muchnick, published in the Journal Of Arboriculture 31(6): Nov. 2005

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 currently available only in an electronic 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 Lompa - klompa@odf.state.or.us
Kristin Ramstad - kramstad@odf.state.or.us
Cynthia Orlando - caorlando@odf.state.or.us
Oregon Department of Forestry
2600 State St., Salem, OR 97310
Phone: 503/945-7391, Fax: 503/945-7416
webpage: <http://www.odf.state.or.us/UF>

Help For Cities Managing Oregon White Oak Groves

Here are two sources of information for cities concerned about Oregon white oak management. The first is a video that is a companion to the landowner's guide to oak management produced by the Bureau of Land Management in concert with many cooperators, including ODF. The book can be viewed at <http://www.oregonoaks.org/landguide.shtml>. The second source is a new booklet produced the U.S. Forest Service on how to release oak trees from competition from nearby trees. The guide is intended as a practical guide for individual landowners, but the information is also useful for cities with parks or natural areas that are dominated by Oregon white oak. You can view the booklet at http://www.fs.fed.us/pnw/pubs/pnw_gtr666.pdf.

UCF Article of the Month

With this newsletter, we are test-driving a new feature: "The UCF Article of the Month". In each of the next several newsletters, the ODF Urban Forestry staff will briefly describe what we consider a thought-provoking article, and then offer to send it to any of you that express an interest. Our first article is "Brave New Ecology" by Peter Del Tredici, who has taught at the Harvard Graduate School of Design for 13 years. In this article he reflects on the Native vs. Exotics debate in designed landscapes, and issues surrounding invasive non-natives. He discusses the need for plant choice based on sustainability in the future, rather than the native ecology of the past. If you would like to receive a copy of this article, email us at urbanforestry@odf.state.or.us and we will send you a copy. We are also open to suggestions for future articles to spotlight.

City Trees Magazine

The Society of Municipal Arborists (SMA) produces an excellent bimonthly magazine called City Trees. Recent articles in this magazine have included profiles of municipal forestry programs from around the country, a discussion of new tree cultivars worth trying, and the value of trees in urban watersheds. If you would like to borrow a sample copy of City Trees, contact the urban forestry staff at urbanforestry@odf.state.or.us and we will loan you a copy.

Did You Know....?

Oregon Arborists Awarded ISA Scholarships

Four arborists from Oregon have been awarded scholarships to pursue the ISA Certified Arborist credential. Michael Teisl of Woodburn, David Wood of Ashland, R. Wade Blanchard of Gilliam County, and Russell Robinson of Sunriver are the recipients of scholarships that will help pay for materials and testing fees relating to becoming ISA Certified Arborists. After they are certified, each will donate 80 hours of time to train and educate volunteers, schools, and government officials on proper tree care. The scholarship program is a joint effort between the International Society of Arboriculture and the USDA Forest Service. For more information, contact your Community Assistance Forester.

Medford City Arborist Completes Municipal Forester Institute

Congratulations to Medford City Arborist Bill Harrington, who recently attended the first-ever Municipal Forester Institute (MFI) at Lake Arrowhead CA. This intensive leadership course was attended by over 75 municipal arborists and urban foresters from the US and Canada. The event was such a success that another course will be offered in 2007, probably in the Southern US. Look for more information on the MFI later this year.

Do You Have Something To Share?

If you have a success story or an interesting piece of tree news in your city, send it in to the ODF Urban Forestry staff. We are always looking to highlight successful urban and community stories or projects. We are often asked for success stories and feedback for regional and national reports, so sending something in might result in your city's 15 seconds of tree fame.