



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

August 25-27, 2005 Farwest Show, Portland.

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

September 11-14, 2005 Oregon Recreation & Park Association Conference, Seaside.

Visit <http://www.orpa.org/conference.htm> for details.

September 25-28, 2005 PNW-ISA Annual Training Conference, Victoria, BC.

PNW-ISA's 26th Annual Conference includes many great speakers including Dr. Alex Shigo, Jim Urban, Nelda Matheny, and Jim Clark. Visit www.pnwisa.org for details.

November 7, 2005 PNW Tree Failure Reporting Program Annual Meeting, Portland.

The PNW-TFRP holds its fourth annual meeting, covering a wide range of topics including tree decay, withstanding windstorm damage, and others. More information will be available on the Chapter website at www.pnwisa.org later this summer.

February 12-17, 2006 Municipal Forester Institute, Lake Arrowhead, CA.

The Municipal Forester Institute is a new leadership class for city foresters and arborists. This week-long intensive training covers much of the non-tree aspects of running a municipal urban forestry program. For more details, visit the Society of Municipal Arborists website at www.urban-forestry.com

From The Editors

At any one time, the ODF Urban Forestry staff is engaged in a wide range of activities. This month, we thought we would give you just a glimpse of some of our activities. Kristin has been working on an effort to develop tree inventory protocols for small communities. Katie is working on a focused technical assistance with the City of Redmond that will hopefully result in a new Tree City community. Cynthia is working on a tree selection matrix publication for Oregon cities. Paul is working on developing the curriculum for the Municipal Forester Institute, a new nationwide training opportunity for municipal urban foresters. Though we juggle a lot of projects, we're always available to answer your inquiries about the urban forestry situation in your community. Don't hesitate to give us a call if we can be of assistance. Have a great summer.

Bud Breaking News

2006 CFA Grant Program Will Not Be Funded

ODF is announcing that the Community Forestry Assistance Grant Program will not be funded for 2006. Normally, this program provides \$50,000 - \$100,000 each year in project funds to Oregon communities and non-profit organizations. However, since the federal funds received by ODF were cut significantly for the next year, this program will go unfunded, barring any unexpected developments. It is uncertain as to whether the program will return in 2007. The 2006 UCF Small Projects Fund will still be funded at normal levels. ODF staff will still be available to serve as a technical assistance resource for your grant projects that may be funded from other sources.

ISA Certified Arborist Scholarships Available

The International Society of Arboriculture, in cooperation with the USDA Forest Service, is offering scholarships to help people become Certified Arborists. In Oregon, these scholarships will be targeted to rural areas of the state where there aren't many certified arborists, and to public agencies that don't currently have a certified arborist employed. The scholarship will cover the cost of the exam, ISA and PNW Chapter membership, the study guide and attendance at a regional training workshop. In return, the scholarship recipient will provide 80 volunteer hours in their community, over a two year period, to help educate the public and community leaders on proper tree care practices. Contact your Community Assistance Forester for additional details and an application form.

Resources You Can Use

The Forest Where Ashley Lives

Iowa State University has produced an excellent children's book that helps explain the concept of urban forestry. "The Forest Where Ashley Lives" tells the story of urban forests through the eyes of a child. This publication is useful for elementary level teachers and their classes. The story is also available as an interactive CD-ROM. "The Forest Where Ashley Lives" CD, (PM 1812A) and book (PM 1812) can be ordered by contacting the ISU Extension Distribution Center at (515) 294-5247. The cost is \$5, plus shipping and handling, for the CD and \$3, plus shipping and handling, for the book. An electronic version of the book is available online and can be downloaded from: <http://www.extension.iastate.edu/Publications/PM1812.pdf>.

Quotable Quotes

"The best friend on Earth of man is the tree. When we use the tree respectfully and economically, we have one of the greatest resources of the Earth."

— Frank Lloyd Wright

Urban Forestry by the Numbers:

56%

The percentage of Oregon cities reporting that they have a tree inventory to help them manage their urban forest.

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.



Staff:

Paul D. Ries (pries@odf.state.or.us)
Katie Kause (kkause@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: www.odf.state.or.us/UF

Economic and Environmental Benefits of Urban Forests

The Local Government Environmental Assistance Network (LGEAN), in cooperation with American Forests, hosted a webcast in May 2004 called "Seeing Green with Trees: The Economic and Environmental Benefits of Urban Forests." The webcast demonstrated how trees have been used by local governments to meet environmental regulatory requirements, save money, and improve community quality of life. The webcast also featured case studies of local governments that have met the challenges of reducing air pollution, minimizing stormwater runoff, and improving water quality with urban forests. A FREE multimedia CD-ROM recording of that webcast is now available, containing an audio/video recording of the original webcast, the individual PowerPoint presentations, and several fact sheets on various urban forestry-related topics, and Internet links outlining the benefits of urban forestry. To order a copy of the CD-ROM, contact LGEAN at 877/TO-LGEAN or lgean@icma.org. For more information, follow this link: <http://www.lgean.org/html/whatsnew.cfm?id=853>.

Stress Tolerance of Urban Trees

The Urban Hort Institute at Cornell University has a publication on line (2003) titled *Recommended Urban Trees: Site Assessment and Tree Selection for Stress Tolerance*. The list of trees is for Zones 6 and lower, and focuses on soil moisture, pH, etc. Species information is done on individual pages but you can also look up species on various tables. To view the publication, visit the Cornell website at <http://www.hort.cornell.edu/uhi/outreach/recurbtree/index.html>.

The Conservation Easement Handbook

The Land Trust Alliance and the Trust for Public Land have revised and expanded *The Conservation Easement Handbook*, the definitive resource for land conservation professionals developing a conservation easement program to meet local acquisition needs. Originally published in 1988, this new edition draws on 17 years of experience from more than a thousand American land trusts and offers something for everyone: practical how-to tips and checklists for land trust staff and board members; detailed drafting guidelines for attorneys; and many sample documents on a companion CD-ROM. A significant new addition to the handbook is guidance specifically for public agency program staff working with conservation easements. The handbook costs \$49.95 and is available at: <http://www.lta.org/publications/index.html>.

Did You Know....?

The New World Forestry Center Discovery Museum is Now Open

The World Forestry Center Discovery Museum reopened on June 30 after a \$7 million, 6-month renovation. All new hands-on, interactive exhibits are family friendly and designed to engage visitors to learn about the sustainability of forests and trees of the Pacific Northwest and around the world. The 20,000 square foot museum is located in Portland's Washington Park. Visit www.worldforestrycenter.org for additional details.

St. Paul Removes Hazard Trees In Advance of Rodeo

The city of St. Paul recently hired an arborist to assess the health of trees in its city park, which is heavily used each year during the St. Paul Rodeo. As part of the project, 10-12 damaged or diseased trees were removed in an effort to increase public safety, while 60-70 trees still remain. ODF commends the city for taking a proactive role in reducing tree risk in this high-use area.

If you have a success story like St. Paul's, 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 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.