



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

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. You can attend the trade show for free, or register for excellent educational sessions.

September 8, 2006
Oregon Community Trees Board of Directors Meeting, Medford. For information contact Katie Lompa at 541-447-5658 or klompa@odf.state.or.us

September 28 – October 1, 2006
Annual PNW-ISA Training Conference, Redmond, WA
Mark your calendars now for this annual event. Conference registration forms are now available online at <http://www.pnwisa.org>

October 31 - December 12, 2006
Willamette Valley Green Industry Seminar Series, Aurora
Every Tuesday afternoon, informative half-day seminars are being presented at the OSU North Willamette Research Center. A brochure and registration form will be available in September at www.pnwisa.org

November 1, 2006
CTMI Application Deadline
Contact the ODF staff for an application form for the 2007 Community Tree Management Institute.

From The Editors

The Urban and Community Forestry Program wishes a fond farewell to Outreach Coordinator Sarah Kresse, who came to ODF in October through the AmeriCorps program. Sarah accomplished a lot during her short stay with ODF, completing five tree planting projects in various cities around the state - including Prineville, where she helped plant an arboretum, and Florence, where she worked with middle school and high school kids to plant trees at the local skate park. She also completed tree inventory projects in the cities of Brownsville, Echo, and Mt Angel and will soon be engaged in tree inventories in Durham and Lakeview and a hazard tree assessment in Estacada. Sarah departs ODF in August, and will be entering the IslandWood Graduate Residency in Education, Environment and Community on Bainbridge Island in partnership with the University of Washington. Thank you, Sarah, and Happy Trails to you from the UCF staff.

Bud Breaking News

New Tree Selection Publication Available Online

“Trees for Oregon Cities: About Conifers” is now available as a download from the Oregon Department of Forestry’s website. The color 4-page handout has information to help urban decision makers in Oregon cities determine optimum conifer tree selection for parks, roadways, housing and new development. This is the first of what we hope to be an entire series of similar publications that will help Oregon cities make tree selection decisions. It is available to download from http://www.oregon.gov/ODF/URBAN_FORESTS/ucf_publications.shtml

New Tree Care Standards

The International Society of Arboriculture (ISA), Secretariat for the American National Standards Institute's Accredited Standards Committee (Z133), announced that the 2006 revision of the national safety standard for arboricultural operations has been approved by the committee and is expected to be available for purchase by late summer. The Z133.1 safety standard undergoes review and revision on a five-year cycle. For the 2006 standard, all sections were completely rewritten and updated, and a new section was added to address safe use of equipment-mounted winches. In addition, safety requirements for ropes and climbing equipment, cabling, rigging, and pesticide application have been included. Copies of the new standard may be purchased from ISA (1-888-ISA-TREE, www.isa-arbor.com) later this summer.

Oregon Community Trees Bids Farewell to Gail Gredler

After nearly three years of great leadership, Oregon Community Trees (OCT) Executive Director Gail Gredler is moving on. Gredler has accepted a teaching position in horticulture with Chemeketa Community College in Salem. Gredler says she has thoroughly enjoyed her time with OCT, working with “the great group of people” who are so dedicated to growing and maintaining healthy forests in our communities. “The challenge now is to secure the financial and human resources to ensure that our community forests in Oregon remain well cared for,” says Gredler. “I know OCT will remain at the forefront of that effort.” Gail indicates that she intends to remain involved with OCT as a member and a volunteer. Thank you, Gail, and we wish you continued success in future endeavors.

Quotable Quotes

"The planting of trees is the least self-centered of all that we can do "

-- Thornton Wilder

Urban Forestry by the Numbers:

0.7%

The percentage of traffic accidents, nationwide, that involved collisions with trees in urban areas.

From: Wolf, K. L. and N. J. Bratton. 2006. *Urban Trees and Traffic Safety: Considering U.S. Roadside Policy and Crash Data*. *Arbiculture and Urban Forestry* 32 (4), pp. 170-179

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.



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State Urban Forestry Conference Recap

In June, the state's annual urban forestry conference was held in Salem and was attended by nearly 90 people representing 25 cities and many other agencies and companies. The theme focused on management plans and inventories. Speakers included Scott Maco with Davey Resource Group, who spoke about tree inventory procedures and i-Tree software tools, urban forestry consultant Elizabeth Walker who spoke about how to effectively involve consultants in the process, and speakers from the city of Corvallis who addressed the challenge of balancing the community's interest in resource protection with the goal of providing for efficient urbanization. If you missed this year's conference, watch for it again next June. If you have topics you would like to see covered at this annual event, contact the ODF UCF staff.

Resources You Can Use

2007 Community Tree Management Institute

The Community Tree Management Institute (CTMI) is an innovative training opportunity for any city employee who has tree responsibilities. Four sessions over the course of the year (March to November, 2007) 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. Cities of every size will benefit from CTMI.

Oregon Homeowners Guide to Tree Care

Oregon Homeowners Guide to Tree Care, one of ODF's most popular publications, is now available for downloading on the Oregon Community Trees website at: <http://www.oregoncommunitytrees.org>

The Latest Update on Sudden Oak Death

The publication "Sudden Oak Death and Phytophthora ramorum: A Guide for Forest Managers, Christmas Tree Growers, and Forest Tree Nursery Operators in Oregon and Washington" is now available as a free downloadable file from OSU Extension: <http://extension.oregonstate.edu/catalog/pdf/em/em8877.pdf>

Did You Know....?

Recent Study Focuses on Urban Trees and Traffic Safety

According to a recent study by University of Washington researcher Dr. Kathy Wolf, collisions with trees accounted for only 1.9% of all traffic accidents during 2002. Less than 1% of accidents involved trees in urban areas. While it is important that street trees be situated with traffic safety in mind, these results make it clear that trees along streets in general, do not create safety problems. This study can be shared with transportation officials who may not recognize that the benefits of trees in cities far outweigh safety concerns.

Developer Recognized with Urban Forestry Award

Costa Pacific Communities, a construction company based out of Wilsonville, has been recognized for its foresight and work with tree preservation at its new Villebois community, the site of the old Dammasch State Hospital. The company was recognized with a State Urban Forestry award ("development" category) for its work in development and planning; particularly, for saving large, mature, healthy trees, and creating a system of parks and trails within the 500-acre development.

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.