



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

**September 29 - October 1, 2003
Building for Greener Communities
National Conference, Arbor Day
Farm, Nebraska City, NE.** This conference will focus on preservation, protection, enhancement and management of natural and man-made environments. For more information contact NADF at <http://www.arborday.org> or call 402/474-5655.

**October 6-8, 2003
The PNW-ISA Annual Training
Conference, Sunriver.** The theme of this year's conference is "The Power of Trees", and features many well-known speakers. The event includes a field day, tree academy, and indoor sessions. More information is available online at www.pnwisa.org/conference.html or by calling 503/874-8263.

**November 4 - December 16, 2003
Willamette Valley Green Industry
Seminar Series, Silverton.** This seven week series covers a variety of topics of interest to green industry professionals. Join us every Tuesday afternoon at the Oregon Garden. More information is available online at www.pnwisa.org/calendar.html or by calling 503/874-8263.

**December 9-10, 2003. High Desert
Green Industry Conference, Bend.** Sponsored by ODF, OSU Extension, and OLCA, this conference features educational sessions for the green industry professional and others. Email hdgic@bendcable.com for more information.

**December 12, 2003. Oregon Community
Trees Annual Meeting,
Silverton.** Contact Katie Kause at kkause@odf.state.or.us or 541/447-5658 for more information.

From The Editors

Fall is almost upon us. The change of season that brings vivid color changes in deciduous trees is a good time to get people thinking about the value of trees. Fall color season is one of the times people tend to notice trees more, rather than taking them for granted as they often do. Is your city capitalizing on the public interest in fall color? If not, consider planning now to lead some tree walks, send out a press release highlighting the parts of town with the best fall color, or find some other creative ways to promote trees!

Bud Breaking News

2004 Community Forestry Assistance Grant Applications Available

ODF's Community Forestry Assistance grants are designed to assist local communities, civic groups, and non-profit organizations improve the quality of the state's urban and community forests. For 2004, up to \$50,000 in 50%-50% competitive matching grants will be distributed for projects that establish or expand community forestry programs, develop urban forestry activities such as tree inventories, demonstration tree plantings or volunteer projects, or develop information, education, and training materials that promote an appreciation of urban trees or proper tree care. **Application deadline is December 1, 2003.** Applications are available from the ODF website at www.odf.state.or.us/uf.

Tree City USA Application Deadline Just Around the Corner!

Now is a good time to check your city's progress towards meeting the standards to be a Tree City USA for 2003. **Application deadline is December 15.** Tree City USA is a designation that cities can earn by meeting minimum requirements for having community forestry programs. This national program is sponsored by the National Arbor Day Foundation. To obtain Tree City USA status, a community must adopt a tree ordinance, appoint a board, department or commission to advise the city on tree issues, spend \$2 per capita on community forestry activities, and hold an Arbor Day celebration. Since 1976, more than three dozen Oregon cities have obtained status as Tree City USA communities. Tree Cities receive signs and certificates recognizing their achievements at local ceremonies that take place each April during Oregon Arbor Week or on National Arbor Day. Contact your Community Assistance Forester today to find out how your city can become a Tree City USA for 2003!

Visit the ODF Booth at the League of Oregon Cities Conference and Win!

If you are planning to attend the 78th Annual League of Oregon Cities conference on November 14-15, 2003 in Eugene, stop by the ODF booth and enter to win a free tree for your community! We will also have a variety of urban forestry information, and grant applications available. Stop by and visit with the ODF urban forestry staff in the exhibit hall between sessions.

Oregon Will Host the 2004 PNW Community Trees Conference

Mark your calendars now for June 4-5, 2004, the dates of the 7th Pacific Northwest Community Trees Conference in Portland. A planning committee is hard at work developing a program that will cover some of the latest hot topics in urban forestry. This conference will be of interest to urban foresters, community activists, and anyone interested in improving the quality of life in our cities. More information will be forthcoming in future issues of this newsletter.

Quotable Quotes

"It is no exaggerated praise to call a Tree the grandest, and most beautiful of all productions on earth!"

--William Gilpin

Urban Forestry By the Numbers:

47

The number of degrees F cooler it is inside of a car parked in a tree-shaded parking than in a parking lot without trees

From:

"Where Are All the Cool Parking Lots" - factsheet published by the USFS Center for Urban Forest Research. Visit their site online at <http://wcuFRE.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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Resources You Can Use

Anti-Tree Topping Resources

"Experts Agree Don't Top Your Tree", the anti-tree topping campaign developed by Forest ReLeaf of Missouri, the Missouri Community Forestry Council and 501creative, is now available for use by your organization. All materials can be customized to include your logo and contact information, and can be printed in quantities to fit your needs. The campaign includes a brochure titled "**Think Of It As A Really, Really Bad Haircut...Which Could Kill You,**" an 11x17 poster, a series of ads for local newspapers, and a pocket folder that can be used with the media and other audiences. These materials are available for a nominal fee that will be used to support continued anti-topping efforts. For more information, visit www.501creative.com/topping, or contact (314) 863-0501, ext 28.

Resources for Urban Tree Risk Management

"Urban Tree Risk Management: A Community Guide to Program Design and Implementation" is now on-line at www.na.fs.fed.us/spfo/pubs/uf/utrm/. This fully-illustrated, easy to read, training manual is designed to improve public safety and protect tree health by assisting communities to design, adopt, and implement tree risk management programs; and training field staff to detect, assess, and correct hazardous defects in urban trees.

A Kid's Perspective of Urban Forests

A new interactive CD-ROM titled "The Forest Where Ashley Lives" is now available from Iowa State University Extension. The CD contains a version for teachers and students, including many urban forestry publications and activities. A version of the book can be viewed online at the ISU Extension website: <http://www.extension.iastate.edu/Publications/PM1812.pdf>

Oregon Community Trees Launches Community Forestry Sticker

Oregon Community Trees, Oregon's non-profit community forestry advocacy group, has commissioned a sticker that promotes the concept of urban forestry. "Our Urban Forest - It's Where We Live" is a full color graphic designed to get people thinking about how important the trees around us are. You can get a copy of the sticker from your Community Assistance Forester

Did You Know....?

2004 Arbor Day National Poster Contest Materials Available!

Join over 70,000 fifth grade classrooms and home schools across America in the 2004 Arbor Day National Poster Contest! This year's theme, "Trees are Terrific . . . in Cities and Towns!" is designed to increase knowledge about the importance of trees in a community. Educators can receive a free 2004 Arbor Day National Poster Contest Activity Guide containing lesson plans, student handouts, and contest rules through the World Forestry Center (503) 488-2100, or chenry@worldforestry.org. Prizes are awarded at the state and national levels. The deadline for submitting posters is March 12, 2004. To view the 2003 Oregon winning poster, visit: www.arborday.org/programs/postercontest/postercontest.cfm?state=or.

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.