



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

October 15, 2005 Application deadline for Municipal Forester Institute.

See story at right for more details about this new training. To register, visit www.urban-forestry.com

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, with-standing windstorm damage, and others. More information will be available soon at www.pnwnisa.org.

November 1 - December 13, 2005 Willamette Valley Green Industry Seminars, Silverton, OR

This Tuesday afternoon series is brought to you by OSU, OAN, ODF/USFS, and PNW-ISA. Topics include Diagnosing Plant Problems & the PNW Handbook, Landscaping and Gardening Near Streams, Diagnosing Arthropod Pest Damage on Landscape Plants, Invasive Species, Post-Construction Soils, Sudden Oak Death Update, and Pines for the Willamette Valley. A registration form is available at www.pnwnisa.org.

December 9, 2005 Oregon Community Trees Annual Meeting, Portland.

For more information on this event, contact OCT's Gail Gredler at gail@oregoncommunitytrees.org

December 15, 2005 Tree City USA Applications Due.

Is your city planning to submit an application this year? If you need an form, contact the ODF U&CF program.

From The Editors

Are your city's elected officials planning to attend the League of Oregon Cities annual conference coming up this November at the Eugene Hilton? If so, please suggest that they stop by the ODF Urban Forestry booth and visit with the staff. We will be there with an informative display and handouts to help your city manage its urban and community forest resource. This is a great opportunity to connect with ODF staff and have urban forestry questions answered. Also, this fall color season seems to be shaping up nicely. If there isn't enough fall color in your city, call your Community Assistance Forester and ask about what species you can plant this winter to put more color into your town next fall.

Bud Breaking News

Hurricane Katrina's Impact on the Urban Forest

Amid the evacuations, displacements, and destruction in the wake of Hurricane Katrina, the event's impact on the urban forest is yet to be measured. Initial reports out of the Gulf region, and in particular Mississippi, indicate that tree damage is extensive and it will take generations to restore the canopy in many communities. After immediate human survival needs and recovery efforts are complete, the rebuilding effort will begin and will need to include the restoration of the tree canopy. As the picture and plan for rebuilding becomes more clear, the Mississippi Urban Forest Council will be posting updates on their website at <http://www.msurbanforest.com/>. In the wake of this event, many communities are looking at their own disaster planning efforts. If you would like help with the urban forest component of that planning, contact your Community Assistance Forester.

New Municipal Forester Institute to Help Train City UCF Staff

The Municipal Forester Institute (or MFI) is a new learning experience specifically tailored to the needs of municipal urban foresters and arborists. This is not just another conference full of endless PowerPoint presentations – it is an interactive learning experience featuring present and former city foresters from cities across North America, and other urban forestry professionals. The goals of the Municipal Forester Institute are to 1) train future urban forestry leaders, 2) stimulate interest in individual certification, and 3) promote municipal urban forestry program improvement and accreditation, all in an effort to foster more sustainable local urban forestry programs. The first ever course is scheduled for February 12-17, 2006 at Lake Arrowhead, California. Thanks to a grant from the USDA Forest Service, the fee for the MFI has been reduced from \$1000 to \$800. This fee covers food, lodging, and course materials. Apply online at www.urban-forestry.com before **October 15, 2005**.

New Tree Planting Techniques to be Presented

The City of Lake Oswego is presenting a workshop on new tree planting techniques. The event is scheduled for Wednesday October 19, 2005 at the Lake-wood Center for the Arts, 368 S. State Street in Lake Oswego. Featured speaker is Jim Flott of Community Forestry Consultants and formerly Spokane's City Forester. The workshop will cover new techniques for planting trees, in-depth lectures and field demonstrations, and help you learn to recognize and treat root related problems. Pre-registration is required, limited seating. Contact Pam Peterson at 503-534-5686 or PPeterson@ci.oswego.or.us to register.

Quotable Quotes

"As trustees, we ought to bequeath to posterity as many forests and orchards as we have exhausted and consumed."

- J. Sterling Morton

Urban Forestry by the Numbers:

\$7.8 million

The amount invested in planting and managing city trees in Oregon communities during 2003.

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

Resources You Can Use

City Parks Briefing Papers Available

The City Parks Forum is dedicated to providing information on how healthy parks are fundamental to many aspects of community prosperity. These include improving economic health and vitality, reducing crime, improving public physical and mental health, creating a strong sense of community, supporting overall quality of life ... the list is quite long. While these benefits are understood broadly, they have not been compiled and presented in a way that explicitly shows these relationships. The City Parks Forum has produced a series of briefing papers on "How Cities Use Parks For *" to meet this specific need. This series helps to support mayors, their parks advisors, private sector parks advocates, planners, and others in promoting parks and ensuring an urban parks legacy across the country. <http://www.planning.org/cpf/briefingpapers.htm>

Landscape Tree Fact Sheets

The CD version of *Landscape Tree Factsheets* is now available. The popular resource guide for street trees has been developed into a CD version by Henry Gerhold, Professor, Penn State School of Forest Resources, with funding provided by the USDA Forest Service. The new version only takes a few moments to learn and navigation is faster than turning pages back and forth in the book from which the CD ROM originated. Copies are available at a cost of \$25. To purchase a CD, contact hdg@psu.edu.

TreeLink Has Storm Resources for Trees

The Internet's number one urban forestry website, www.treelink.org, has been developing resources to help cities deal with storm issues for over 10 years. Information on the TreeLink website covers topics such as FEMA, Floods, Hazard Trees, Ice Storms, Injury, Lightening and Fire, Disaster Management, Storm Damage, Tree Value, Weather Monitoring, and Wood Utilization. These resources can help your city prepare for the next Northwest weather event.

Did You Know....?

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 for a membership form, or to purchase one of OCT's "The Forest Where We Live" T-shirts.

Sherwood May Have Oregon's Earliest Tree Ordinance

The City of Sherwood in Washington County may well win the award for having the oldest tree ordinance in the state. The city council passed an ordinance on August 7, 1893 that reads: "In order that the town in later years may have shade trees, it is hereby ordained that all property owners shall set out maple trees in the parking along their property". As far as the urban forestry staff knows, this is the earliest record of an Oregon city having passed a tree ordinance. If your city has a tree ordinance older than that, please send us a copy and we will note it in the next newsletter.

If you have a success story or an interesting historical tidbit like Sherwood'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.