



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 28 – October 1, 2006 Annual PNW-ISA Training Conference, Redmond, WA

Conference registration forms for this annual event 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. Topics this year include soils, water, landscaping trends, and much more. A brochure and registration form is posted at <http://www.pnwisa.org/calendar.html>

November 1, 2006 CTMI Application Deadline

Contact the ODF staff for an application form for the 2007 Community Tree Management Institute. This innovative training starts in March of 2007 and ends in November, 2007.

November 15, 2006 How To Talk Trees Seminar, Portland

This educational seminar will help municipal arborists sharpen their communications skills to help make the case for investment in their urban forests. A registration form for this event is now available online at <http://www.pnwisa.org/calendar.html>

December 15, 2006 Tree City USA Application and Recertification Deadline

Is your city eligible to join 43 other Oregon cities that have won a Tree City USA Award? Contact a Community Assistance Forester for an application packet.

From The Editors

Who is caring for your city trees? Many Oregon cities have someone in their planning, public works, or parks departments who is the go-to person when it comes to trees. The Oregon Dept. of Forestry and the Washington DNR have a joined forces to offer a unique training opportunity just for these people - the community tree managers. The 2007 Community Tree Management Institute is a year-long training opportunity that only happens every two years. Many Oregon cities, as large as Eugene and as small as Scio, have taken advantage of this training - how about your city? The deadline for the next CTMI offering is November 1st. Contact the ODF Urban Forestry program for an application or for additional details. Sending an employee to CTMI will be an investment in the livability of your city, and will generate economic, environmental, and social benefits for many years.

Bud Breaking News

Portland's Friends of Trees Receives Awards

This summer the city of Portland and Friends of Trees received one of four first national Awards of Excellence for Community Trees from the U.S. Conference of Mayors and The Home Depot Foundation. And this month, *Willamette Week* honored Friends of Trees with a Best of Portland 2006 award. This October, *Portland Monthly* and the Oregon Community Foundation will present Friends of Trees with a Light A Fire Award for building community. Congratulations to the Board and staff of Friends of Trees.

Community Assistance Foresters Scheduling Community Visits

Kristin and Katie, ODF's intrepid community assistance foresters, have been conducting regional "circuit rides" this summer, visiting 25-30 communities with a packet of information about the Urban and Community Forestry Assistance Program. Typically, they meet with interested city staff to discuss how their cities can become a Tree City USA; offer technical tree advice or assistance; invite participants to the 2007 Community Tree Management Institute; and focus on community-specific tree concerns. To get on a "circuit ride" list (to be visited along with 3-4 other cities in your area), Westside communities can call or email Kristin, and Eastside communities can call or email Katie. (Contact information is in the sidebar on page 2 of this newsletter.)

Resources You Can Use

Trees Are Good For Business

The PNW-ISA and Washington DNR's urban forestry program have published a brochure that explains the benefits of trees to retail businesses, and offers a step-by-step planning guide for enhancing local business districts through the planting and care of trees. To obtain a copy, contact your ODF Community Assistance Forester.

Trees for Small Spaces

Cornell University has a nice web site listing information on small trees (less than 30' height at maturity) suitable for city environment plantings under low overhead utility wires or in restricted spaces in USDA plant hardiness Zone 6 and colder: <http://www.hort.cornell.edu/uhi/outreach/recurbtrees/smalltrees.html>

Quotable Quotes

"No shade tree? Blame not the sun, but yourself."

— Chinese proverb

Urban Forestry by the Numbers:

5-20%

The reduction rate of traffic accidents after roadside landscaping was installed in a neighborhood.

From: Rosenblatt Naderi, J. , 2003. "Landscape Design In the Clear Zone: Effect of Landscape Variables on Pedestrian Health and Driver Safety. Transportation Research Record 1851: 119-130.

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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Website Upgrade for Sudden Oak Death

The most authoritative Sudden Oak Death website (www.suddenoakdeath.org) has been updated with the intent of making the site more user-friendly. The site includes new short videos of *P. ramorum* releasing zoospores. Other featured postings include: a current host and associated host list, a "What's New" section, updated Best Management Practices, an easy to follow "How to diagnose if your plant has *Phytophthora ramorum*" guide, and a diagnostic key for sample submission. The menu bar has also been revised for easier navigation, and the photo library has been expanded to include new symptomatic host photos.

Noxious Weed Control Grants

The Oregon State Weed Board meets four times each biennium to discuss noxious weed issues, review noxious weed control grant requests, and award the grants (from an annual allocation of about \$1,000,000 in lottery funds). The board and the Oregon Department of Agriculture (ODA) weed staff confer in setting statewide priorities for funding of projects. Cities and organizations are eligible to apply for these grants, which can be for projects that include forestland, agricultural lands, and/or urban lands. Grants have the best chance for success if the applicants work with local ODA weed staff as the project and application are developed. More information on grants and local ODA weed staff is available at <http://oregon.gov/ODA/PLANT/WEEDS/grantindex.shtml>. Upcoming deadlines for grant cycle applications are December 11, 2006, August 2007, January 2008, July 2008, and December 2008.

Did You Know....?

You Could Be Using An Out-of-Date Email?

Did you change your address book to reflect Katie's last name change? Her new email address is klompa@odf.state.or.us. Emails using her previous last name of Kause will no longer be received by her - please make the appropriate changes so she can continue being of assistance to your community.

People Want to Hear Your City's Story

The National Arbor Day Foundation is hosting a national conference on Urban Wildlife Management, JUNE 18-20, 2007 at the World Forestry Center in Portland and it is currently calling for presentation proposals. Among the topics they are looking for: planning for wildlife in the urban environment; community-based solutions to urban wildlife (UW) challenges; funding UW programs; implementing an UW plan through multiple agencies; UW and legal issues; "green" storm-water solutions and UW; minimizing human and UW conflicts; predations and associated issues; addressing problems with nuisance wildlife; corridor preservation/greenways/open space; conservation development; urban forestry for UW; UW and vector-borne disease; and challenges to habitat management: urban soils, vegetation, water quality, exotics. For a presentation proposal form (due Nov 10, 2006) go to: www.arborday.org/urbanwildlifecall.

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.

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.