



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

Number 24
November 2005

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

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 is available at www.pnwisa.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.pnwisa.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? Recertification packages were mailed in late October. If you need a form, or assistance completing your application, contact the ODF U&CF program.

February 15-16, 2006

High Desert Green Industry Conference, Redmond.

For more information on this annual training opportunity, contact Katie Kause at kkause@odf.state.or.us

From The Editors

Fall color is in full swing as I write these words. Take a moment to look around your community. Those fall colors aren't just pretty to look at; they are also a reminder of the many ways trees bring your city economic, environmental, and social benefits. Fall color can even bring tourist dollars to your city. If you'd like more fall color in your community this time next year, consider organizing a volunteer tree planting project with our new UCF Outreach Coordinator, Sarah Kresse. Sarah can work with you to organize volunteers, obtain trees, and plan the logistics of a community tree planting project. You can read more about Sarah's work below. In the meantime, enjoy the show put on by the beautiful fall colors across our communities.

Bud Breaking News

Meet ODF's new UCF Outreach Coordinator – Sarah Kresse

Hi fellow tree enthusiasts. My name is Sarah Kresse and I am a recent graduate of the University of Washington's College of Forest Resources. This year I am taking part in an AmeriCorps program through the Northwest Service Academy. I will be working with the UCF program as the outreach coordinator. I will be serving the smaller cities throughout the state to help communities organize and conduct volunteer tree planting and tree inventory projects. I will also be conducting education activities, such as visiting local schools to talk with youth about the benefits of our urban forests. I am looking forward to traveling throughout Oregon and working with cities to promote urban and community forestry. If you would like me to work with your city please feel free to contact me: *Sarah Kresse, UCF Outreach Coordinator, Oregon Department of Forestry, 2600 State Street BLDG D, Salem OR 97310, Phone: (503)945-7398, email: skresse@odf.state.or.us*

ODF Staff Exhibiting at League of Oregon Cities Conference

The ODF Urban Forestry staff will be at the annual League of Oregon Cities conference on November 10-11 at the Eugene Conference Center. Please stop by and visit our exhibit booth, chat with a staff member, and pick up some brochures or publications that can help you manage your urban forest better. If you would like to meet with staff during the conference, please feel free to give us a call in advance and set up a time to meet. ODF staff will be at the conference on Thursday from 4 - 8 pm and Friday from 8 am - 4 pm.

ISA Certified Arborist Scholarships Still 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 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. This would be a great opportunity for smaller cities to get the training they need to help them improve the health of their community forest. Contact your Community Assistance Forester for additional details and an application form.

Quotable Quotes

"Look deep, deep, deep into nature, and then you will understand everything."

- Albert Einstein

Urban Forestry by the Numbers:

52%

The percentage of cities who report that an elected official's interest is a key factor in a successful local urban and community forestry program.

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.



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2005 Oregon Urban and Community Forestry Awards

Each year, Oregon Community Trees (OCT), Oregon's non-profit urban forestry organization, joins with ODF in recognizing the accomplishments of individuals and groups whose efforts are enhancing and maintaining Oregon's community forests. The Oregon Urban and Community Forestry Awards recognize individuals in three categories (Citizen, Lifetime Achievement, and Professional), groups (Business, Oregon's Tree City of the year), and projects (Civic Organization, Development, Government, Partnerships, Student/School). This is your chance to see the individuals or groups in your community recognized for their efforts. Nomination forms will soon be available on OCT's website at www.oregoncommunitytrees.org, and the deadline for nominations is **January 13, 2006**.

Resources You Can Use

State Provides Grant Funds For Invasives Control

The Oregon State Weed Board (OSWB) has approximately \$ 1 million that will become available during the 2005-2007 biennium for funding noxious weed control projects. It is a priority of the OSWB to fund projects that restore, enhance or protect fish and wildlife habitat, watershed function, and native salmonid or water quality. Any person, tribe, watershed council, soil and water conservation district, community college, state institution of higher education, independent not-for-profit institution of higher education or political subdivision of this state that is not a state agency may submit a request for funding. English Ivy and Himalayan blackberry are among the urban forest problems that may be eligible for this grant program. The grants run in two cycles each year, with the next deadline scheduled for January 9, 2006. More information on this program is available at http://oregon.gov/ODA/PLANT/weed_grant.shtml.

Tales From Urban Forests

Looking for help explaining the benefits of trees in your community? A new radio series on how trees impact cities is the latest resource in efforts to help persuade people about the importance of urban forests. The website contains the audio files of 10 tree stories ranging from the impact of trees on watershed health to central business districts. Visit <http://trees.soundprint.org/> to listen.

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.

Tigard City Forester Matt Stine Profiled in *The Oregonian*

Visit http://www.oregonlive.com/metrosouthwest/oregonian/index.ssf?base/metro_southwest_news/112514081358121.xml&coll=7&thispage=1 to read a profile of Tigard's City Forester Matt Stine. Congratulations Matt, on the great publicity for your program.

If you have a success story or an interesting historical tidbit about 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 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.