



# 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 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 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>

### **November 30, 2006 CTMI Deadline Extended**

The application deadline for the 2007 CTMI has been extended one month. There is still room in this innovative training for a representative from your city. Contact the ODF staff for an application form.

**December 8, 2006  
Annual Meeting of Oregon Community Trees, Tillamook Forest Center.** OCT is holding its annual member meeting, guests and OCT members invited. Contact Katie Lompa for details (541/447-5658).

**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 - recertifying cities will automatically receive one.

## From The Editors

*It is time for you to vote. Yes, we know the election will be over by the time you read this, but you've got one more chance to voice your opinion...this time about this newsletter. After five years and 30 issues, OregonCommuniTreeLink is due for a make-over and some updating, and you can have a say in what the new version looks like. Look for an email later this month, containing a link to an electronic survey where you can register your ideas. In the meantime, enjoy the remnants of fall color and the respite from political commercials!*

## Bud Breaking News

### **Echo's Efforts Bring Recognition**

America in Bloom, a national beautification program, has recognized the eastern Oregon city of Echo with a "special mention" for heritage preservation in its 2006 competition. Echo received a plaque that recognizes the city's heritage preservation efforts. Two judges visited Echo in late May and met with Echo residents, city employees, and elected officials to tour the city. They evaluated the city's accomplishments with floral displays, landscapes, urban forestry, turf and ground cover areas, heritage conservation, environmental awareness, tidiness and community involvement. At just under 700 population, Echo is the smallest Oregon city to receive the Tree City USA award from the Oregon Department of Forestry and the National Arbor Day Foundation. Echo has received the Tree City Award for 16 years. Congratulations, Echo.

### **Municipal Forester Institute Returns for Another Year**

The highly acclaimed Municipal Forester Institute (or MFI for short), will be offered on February 18-23, 2007 at Lake Arrowhead, CA. This intensive training is designed to help community forestry staff members grow and enhance local urban forestry programs. For more information, contact the ODF urban forestry program. Scholarships may be available.

### **What Can ODF Do For You?**

Have you ever wondered what types of activities the ODF Urban Forestry staff is involved with other communities? We thought we'd give you a quick glimpse of just some of what ODF and other cities are up to this fall. Recently, Paul helped the City of Forest Grove with a planning retreat for their Community Forestry Commission. Kristin has been working with the Eugene Tree Foundation, a non-profit tree planting group, on improving their organizational effectiveness. Katie has been helping the City of Prineville heighten their awareness of urban forestry issues while dealing with growth and development pressures. Cynthia is working on a plant selection matrix for our website, and following-up with the City of Mt. Angel and their recent tree inventory project. These are just a few of the many activities that keeps the ODF U&CF staff busy at this time of the year.

## Resources You Can Use

### **High Desert Green Industry Conference Scheduled**

The next High Desert Green Industry Conference will be held on February 14-15, 2007 at the Deschutes County Fair & Expo Center in Redmond. This annual event includes a trade show and multiple educational sessions. A schedule will soon be online at <http://extension.oregonstate.edu/deschutes/index.php>

## Quotable Quotes

"A city that doesn't care for its trees does not care for its citizens."

— Anthony Williams,  
Mayor, Washington DC

## Urban Forestry by the Numbers:

125 million

The number of Americans living in one of the more than 3000 Tree City USA communities in 2005

From: The National Arbor Day Foundation website,  
[www.arborday.org](http://www.arborday.org)

*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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## Making The Case for Trees - Transportation Perspective

Urban forestry researchers across the country continue to produce findings that validates the benefits of trees in cities. Recent research by the US Forest Service Center for Urban Forest Research looked at the value of shaded streets to the transportation system itself. Researchers found that more shade on streets means more time between repaving. For example, 20% shade on a street improved pavement condition by 11%, which means a 60% savings for resurfacing over 30 years. Note that this research was conducted in California, which of course has a different climate than in the Pacific Northwest, so applicability to Oregon may vary, but could be validated if some enterprising public works engineer is interested enough to replicated this study. More information on this study can be found online at: <http://www.fs.fed.us/psw/programs/cufr/>

## Getting to the Root of Tree Problems

Girdling roots is a common cause of tree mortality in urban landscapes. The University of Minnesota Extension Service has published "A Practitioner's Guide to Stem Girdling Roots of Trees" to help arborists and community foresters deal with this problem. This online publication provides research data and practical advice on dealing with girdling roots. The publication is available at <http://www.extension.umn.edu/distribution/naturalresources/DD7501.html>.

## Tree City Application Guidebook Updated

If your city is applying for the Tree City USA award for the first time this year, contact your Community Assistance Forester for a copy of ODF's newly revised Tree City Application Guide. This document will help you with the process of completing the Tree City USA application. Current TCUSA cities recertifying will automatically receive a copy in the mail.

## Did You Know....?

### Corvallis to Host 2007 PNW-ISA Conference

The City of Corvallis will be hosting the 2007 Annual Training Conference of the Pacific Northwest Chapter - International Society of Arboriculture. The event will be held September 16-19, 2007 at Oregon State University. This conference returns to Oregon every four years, and features a field day, educational sessions, a trade show, and great networking opportunities for arborists and urban foresters. Mark your calendars now, and look for details early next year.

## TreeLink Turns Ten

If you've ever searched the internet looking for tree information, chances are you've landed on the [www.treelink.org](http://www.treelink.org) website. TreeLink (no relation to this newsletter) turns ten this year, and it continues to be the leading source of urban forestry information, connecting people with a wide variety of state and national urban forestry resources. If you haven't visited the TreeLink website lately, it is worth a look.

## 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](http://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.*