



The Newsletter of the Oregon Department of Forestry Urban and Community Forestry Program



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CALENDAR OF COMMUNITY FORESTRY EVENTS

February 5, 2007

Preventing Tree Hazards and Failures - A Day With Ed Gilman, Lacey, WA. Register for this continuing education seminar featuring Dr. Ed Gilman of the University of Florida. A registration form is online at www.pnwisa.org/calendar.html

February 14-15, 2007

High Desert Green Industry Conference, Redmond. Visit the [HDGI conference website](http://HDGI.conference.website) for details on this annual event.

March 31, 2007

Deadline for the Oregon Urban Forestry Awards nominations. Download a nomination form at www.oregoncommunitytrees.org

April 2-9, 2007

Arbor Week in Oregon

Plan now to celebrate Arbor Week in your community. Contact your Community Assistance Forester for ideas.

May 1-2, 2007

Trees, People, and the Law, Seattle, WA. This symposium helps people understand the legal issues around trees. To register, visit NADF at www.arborday.org/tpl

June 7, 2007

Annual Oregon Urban Forestry Conference, Salem

Mark your calendar now for the annual state UCF conference. Details and a registration form will be available later this winter.

Welcome to Community Tree Connections

After five years of publishing the Oregon Department of Forestry Urban Forestry newsletter as "Oregon CommuniTreeLink", the ODF U&CF staff has given the newsletter a new look and name. "Community Tree Connections" aptly describes what this newsletter is designed to do - connect people with resources to help improve their community forests. While the name and look may have changed, we plan to continue the tradition of giving readers quick insights, ideas, and resource links that can help grow municipal urban forestry programs and create or improve community forestry efforts across the state.

The newsletter will continue to be published every other month in this electronic format, but with some additional flexibility to extend to three pages when necessary, and including a photo or two at times. The ODF U&CF staff invites you to submit news of what is happening in your part of the state, or to make suggestions about topics you would like to see in this newsletter.

New ODF Urban and Community Forestry Outreach Intern

The ODF U&CF staff is pleased to welcome David Rand as our new intern. David is a student in the College of Forestry at Oregon State University, and has previously worked for the National Park Service and the USDA Forest Service. David will be picking up where Sarah Kresse left off, working with communities on tree planting and tree inventory projects. If your community would like to schedule a volunteer tree planting project for this winter or spring, or a tree inventory project for spring or summer, contact David at 503/945-7398 or email to drand@odf.state.or.us

Oregon Community Trees Elects New Officers

Oregon Community Trees, Oregon's statewide non-profit urban forestry organization, elected a new set of officers for 2007 at its annual meeting last month. Incoming officers are President Mark Snyder (Eugene Urban Forestry), Vice President Lara Rowles (EF Nursery), Secretary Matt Stine (Ash Creek Forest Management) and Treasurer Al Tocchini (ALTO Forestry Consulting). For more on OCT, visit their site at www.oregoncommunitytrees.org

New Ideas for Tree-Sidewalk Conflicts

Conflicts between sidewalks and street trees are a common problem in many cities. One such solution may be "Rubbersidewalks". A small, woman-owned California business is marketing modular-California tire rubber interlocking sidewalk paving systems. Rubbersidewalks are made from 100 percent recycled crumb rubber from waste tires, mixed with polyurethane resin and colorant and molded under pressure using steam-generated heat to reduce energy demands. Colors include gray, terra cotta, and black. The company's website indicates that 160,000 square feet of the product has been installed in 60 cities in 17 states. Albany City Forester Craig Carnagey hosts the lone Oregon test site so far. For more information, see www.rubbersidewalks.com.

COMMUNITY FORESTRY AROUND OREGON

The city of **Portland** has been selected as the host city of one of 10 national Arbor Day observances in cooperation with the Home Depot Foundation and the National Arbor Day Foundation.

Former **Tigard** City Forester Matt Stine has taken a new position with Ash Creek Forest Management, a consulting firm that specializes in planning and restoration projects.

Urban foresters Becky Merja of the city of **Corvallis** and Kevin Foerstler from the city of **Eugene** have received scholarships from ODF to attend the Municipal Forester Institute next month at the UCLA conference center in Lake Arrowhead, CA.

The city of **La Grande** has hired Teresa Gustafson to serve as their tree care educator, replacing Brian Kelly, who now works for the Hells Canyon Preservation Council.

The city of **Sutherlin** is currently conducting a tree inventory project with the help of ODF staffers Cynthia Orlando and Kristin Ramstad.

COMMUNITY TREE CONNECTIONS

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Did You Miss Us At the LOC?

If you attended the annual League of Oregon Cities (LOC) conference last fall, you perhaps noticed the absence of an ODF exhibit booth. Due to scheduling and some other issues, we took this year off of exhibiting at the LOC event, but we plan to return next October when the LOC meets in Bend.

Looking Ahead

The Pacific Northwest Chapter - International Society of Arboriculture holds an annual training conference of interest to municipal urban foresters, and every four years, that event is held in Oregon. 2007 is Oregon's year, so mark your calendars for September 16-19 at the OSU campus in Corvallis. The event includes a field day, educational sessions, and a trade show. Look for more details later in the year.

Remembering Dr. Alex Shigo

Dr. Alex Shigo, who is generally recognized as the father of modern arboriculture, passed away in early October at his summer home in New Hampshire. Shigo was widely known for his long Forest Service career as a pathologist who discovered the concept of CODIT - or how trees recover from wounding, and his "retirement" career as a speaker and educator. Dr. Shigo will be long remembered for his inspirational speaking style, and for his dedication to students and the profession of arboriculture.

Need A Publication?

January seems to be a time of year when people organize their "stuff" ...so, we're cleaning house too. ODF has a number of excellent publications on a variety of urban forestry topics. If you're looking to add to your library, how about a copy of Urban Forestry: A Guide to Sustainability, or a CD on Hazard Trees & Risk Management? Contact the ODF staff to get your copy of these items.

Recycling the Urban Forest

When trees must be removed from city parks and streets, it isn't necessarily the end of a tree's usefulness or even beauty. Many cities are seeking new and innovative ways for the community to benefit from the wood created by tree removals. In Corvallis, the city forester, local wood workers and specialty log buyers are working together in creating partnerships to better utilize fallen trees. The trunk wood and large limbs can be sold for lumber or pulp, and firewood donated to the Woodshare program, where volunteers collect donated firewood and distribute it to low income residents for home heating. Limbs and brush are chipped and used in landscape beds city wide, and once a year chips are made available free to homeowners.

This past fall, trees removed from Corvallis city streets and parks were being recycled into bowls, vases and boxes as part of a fund-raising partnership between Corvallis Parks and Recreation and local woodworkers. These pieces of walnut, elm, maple, honey locust and other woods were on display and for sale during the recent Christmas season. Proceeds will be used to support local Urban Forestry projects. Recycling wood "waste" is a great way for a city to further its stewardship of the urban forest. To learn more about utilizing the wood from municipal tree removals, click on the titles of these two publications from the USDA Forest Service: [Recycling Municipal Trees](#) and [Utilizing Municipal Trees: Ideas from Across the Country](#).

Interesting Tree Statistics

The 43 Oregon cities that won a 2005 Tree City USA award invested over \$10 million in cash and in-kind contributions to plant, manage, and care for their city trees during that year. These cities planted over 27,000 trees, pruned 54,000 trees, and removed 3100 trees. The value of the donated volunteer time to community forestry statewide was almost \$350,000.