



# Community Tree Connections

Connecting people with resources to help improve their Community Forests

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



Number 32 [www.odf.state.or.us/UF](http://www.odf.state.or.us/UF)

March 2007

## CALENDAR OF COMMUNITY FORESTRY EVENTS

**March 31, 2007**

**Deadline for the Oregon Urban Forestry Awards nominations.**

Download a nomination form at [www.oregoncommunitytrees.org](http://www.oregoncommunitytrees.org)

**April 1-7, 2007**

**Arbor Week in Oregon**

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

**April 13-14, 2007**

**Student Arboriculture Expo, Troutdale**

The PNW-ISA will host a Student Arboriculture Expo aimed at attracting college students to careers in arboriculture and making connections with college instructors. The event will feature a variety of activities and presentations. Visit [www.pnwisa.org/calendar.html](http://www.pnwisa.org/calendar.html)

**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](http://www.arborday.org/tpl)

**June 7, 2007**

**How Trees Create Community: Annual Oregon Urban Forestry Conference, Salem**

Dr. Kathy Wolf and Wilsonville Mayor Charlotte Lehan headline the annual state UCF conference. Details and a registration form will be posted soon at [www.oregoncommunitytrees.org](http://www.oregoncommunitytrees.org)

## Two New Cities Join Ranks of Oregon's Tree Cities

The Tree City USA award, a national recognition program administered by ODF, recognizes cities for having comprehensive urban forestry programs. For 2006, 45 Oregon cities were awarded Tree City USA status, including first-time winners Brownsville and Metolius. Congratulations to the following cities:

Albany	Eugene	Philomath	Talent
Ashland	Forest Grove	Portland	Tigard
Baker City	Grants Pass	Redmond	Tillamook
Beaverton	Klamath Falls	Reedsport	Toledo
Bend	La Grande	Rogue River	Troutdale
Brownsville	Lake Oswego	Salem	Tualatin
Coburg	Lebanon	Sandy	West Linn
Coos Bay	Madras	Scio	Willamina
Corvallis	McMinnville	Seaside	Wilsonville
Cottage Grove	Medford	Sherwood	 TREE CITY USA
Eagle Point	Metolius	Sunriver	
Echo	Monmouth	Sweet Home	

These Oregon communities and others are gearing up to celebrate Arbor Week (officially, April 1-7), but activities are happening all month long. Follow the calendar link at [www.arborday.org/oregon](http://www.arborday.org/oregon) for activities in your area. If you would like to receive an Arbor Day promotional poster or stickers, contact David Rand at [drand@odf.state.or.us](mailto:drand@odf.state.or.us). Or, contact any of the ODF urban forestry staff for ideas on how to celebrate Arbor Week or Arbor Day (April 27).

## FREE Trees Available to Public Agencies and Non-Profit Groups

A world-wide effort is underway to plant one billion trees during 2007, inspired by Professor Wangari Maathai, the 2004 Nobel Peace Prize laureate from Kenya. The United Nations Environmental Programme is tallying the tree planting totals from governments, individuals, corporations, and communities. Visit [www.unep.org/billiontreecampaign/index.asp](http://www.unep.org/billiontreecampaign/index.asp) for information on registering your existing tree planting projects.

Related to this effort, the ODF Urban Forestry program will be helping distribute as many as 4000 - 5000 **FREE** trees to Oregon communities and non-profit groups. Species and size available include Douglas-fir, Grand Fir, and Scotch Pine (in 7 gallon containers) and Engelmann Spruce (in 1 gallon containers). The trees must be picked up by the receiving city/agency/group at a northern Willamette Valley nursery. Some other species may be available depending on interest. To reserve a quantity for your local project, or for more details, contact David Rand at [drand@odf.state.or.us](mailto:drand@odf.state.or.us).

## COMMUNITY FORESTRY AROUND OREGON

**Albany** City Forester Craig Carnegey reports that the city is experimenting with the new RubberSidewalks technology. The first set was installed earlier this winter (photo below).



Congratulations to **Portland**, which is receiving its 30th consecutive Tree City USA award and is the host city of one of 10 national Arbor Day observances with the Home Depot Foundation and the National Arbor Day Foundation.

**Friends of Trees** Executive Director Scott Fogarty has been elected to the Board of Directors of the Alliance For Community Trees, a national non-profit urban forestry advocacy group.

## COMMUNITY TREE CONNECTIONS

Published bimonthly by the Oregon Department of Forestry Urban & Community Forestry Assistance Program. Our mission is to help Oregonians improve their quality of life by promoting community investment in our urban forests. Subscriptions are free and available by contacting ODF. Published in cooperation with the USDA Forest Service. USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.



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## Historic Tree Hit by Severe December Storm

When a tree makes the front page of the *Oregonian* newspaper three times in a one month stretch – well, that's more than the normal 15 minutes of fame. When the same tree gets a story in the *Los Angeles Times*, one on the CBS Radio Network, and in Associated Press stories carried as far away as New York and Florida, that tree has hit the big time. Clatsop County is home to this newsworthy specimen, the nation's National Co-Champion Sitka Spruce tree, a towering 200 feet of natural history that is believed to be as much as 750 years old. Designated in 1996 as Oregon's first state Heritage Tree, it suffered severe damage in a wind-storm in December, 2006 and is in danger of falling. High winds tore loose a scab of rotted wood that had formed decades ago over a lightning strike, and revealed a deep gash 20 feet long and a foot wide. The area of Klotchy Creek Park that is home to the tree has been fenced off to keep visitors out of the danger zone should the tree give way. Experts are discussing the future of the tree and are forming a plan that encompasses the safety of the public and the best interests of the tree, while sharing the educational benefits of telling the tree's life story. A special fund has been set-up to help tell the tree – visit [www.oregontic.com](http://www.oregontic.com).



## Updated Contact Information For Oregon's Big Tree Register

The Oregon Department of Forestry recently transferred responsibility for the Oregon Big Tree Register (the largest tree of each species in the state) to the National Center for Conservation Science & Policy in Ashland. Cindy Deacon Williams is the coordinator for the program, and she can be reached at 541-482-4459 ext 303, or by email at [cindy@nccsp.org](mailto:cindy@nccsp.org). Williams reports that the program is also recruiting volunteers across the state to help with nomination verification.

## Parks & Recreation: A Community's Economic Engine?

This half-day workshop will be focused on the role of Parks and Recreation as a community's economic engine. It will be held on Thursday, May 3, 2007, from 9:30 am - 1:30 pm at the Glenn & Viola Walters Cultural Arts Center in Hillsboro. Cost is \$75, including continental breakfast & lunch. Dr. Crompton is a well-respected leader in the field of researching the economic benefits that parks and recreation can provide to your community. Click [Park & Recreation Economic Workshop](#) to download information and registration form.

## The Forests Where Oregonians Live

The Department of Forestry is pleased to announce a new publication, *The Forests Where Oregonians Live*, which describes the nature and extent of urban forestry in Oregon, and sets forth a strategy for urban forestry in the state. This new document contains an explanation of the benefits of urban forestry, and provides examples of how ODF assists cities in improving their quality of life through urban forestry. The publication can be used at the state or local level by anyone involved in urban forestry. Download a copy at [www.odf.state.or.us/UF](http://www.odf.state.or.us/UF). For more ideas on how to use this document, contact the ODF U&CF staff.