



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



Number 33 [www.odf.state.or.us/UF](http://www.odf.state.or.us/UF)

May 2007

### CALENDAR OF COMMUNITY FORESTRY EVENTS

**June 7, 2007**

#### **Annual Oregon Urban Forestry Conference, Salem**

Dr. Kathy Wolf and Wilsonville Mayor Charlotte Lehan headline the annual state UCF conference. Download a registration form at the OCT website: [www.oregoncommunitytrees.org](http://www.oregoncommunitytrees.org)

**July 28 – August 1, 2007**

#### **ISA Annual Conference, Honolulu, Hawaii.**

Register online at <http://www.isa-arbor.com>

**August 23-25, 2007**

#### **Farwest Show, Portland.**

One of the largest nursery trade shows in the US, this event also includes educational programs for green industry professionals. Visit <http://www.farwestshow.com> for a registration form and more details.

**September 16 – 19, 2007**

#### **Annual PNW-ISA Training Conference, Corvallis**

Mark your calendars now for this annual event. Registration forms will be available later this summer at <http://www.pnwisa.org>

**September 27-29, 2007**

#### **Annual League of Oregon Cities Conference, Bend**

If you or your city elected officials are attending the LOC conference, stop by and see us at the ODF booth in the exhibit hall. If you're from a Tree City community, we'll give you one of our "My City is a Tree City" stickers to add to your nametag.

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

The Oregon Department of Forestry's Urban and Community Forestry Assistance Program still has some **FREE** trees available 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. The trees (see photo at right) are small enough to easily work for volunteer tree planting projects. 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). Call soon, as only a few hundred of the original 5000 trees remain available.



### **Eight Oregon Cities Win Tree City USA Growth Awards**

During April, 45 Oregon cities were awarded the title "Tree City USA", in recognition of their efforts to plant and manage trees in their communities. Eight of these cities - **Corvallis, Eagle Point, Echo, Eugene, La Grande, Lebanon, Madras, and Medford** - also won a Tree City USA Growth Award. Created to recognize significant achievements beyond the norm, the Tree City Growth Award is gained by doing special projects that advance local urban forestry efforts. Congratulations to these cities.

### **Can Trees Create Community?**

Can planting and managing trees really make your city more livable? Do trees really influence whether or not your city attracts new businesses and residents? The answers to both of these questions is a resounding 'yes', and there is research available to back up that claim. These are just some of the topics that will be discussed at the 2007 Oregon Urban and Community Forestry Conference, "How Trees Create Community", being held on June 7, 2007 at the Salem Conference Center. A registration form is available online at [www.oregoncommunitytrees.org](http://www.oregoncommunitytrees.org). Hurry, register by May 21st and save \$\$.

### **Hazard Tree Evaluation Training Available**

A limited number of slots are available for an Introduction to Hazard Tree Evaluation class being taught in Newberg on June 12th. This is an all day course with both classroom and field portions. This course will help you look more critically at the important issue of public safety as it relates to public trees and risk management. If you are a staff person in parks, planning, or public works, and you haven't taken this class, we might be able to get you enrolled in this offering. There will be a small registration fee involved. Contact Paul Ries at 503/945-7391 or [pries@odf.state.or.us](mailto:pries@odf.state.or.us) for details.

## COMMUNITY FORESTRY AROUND OREGON

Congratulations to the **Eugene Tree Foundation**, a non-profit urban forestry organization celebrating its 10th year in existence. Visit [www.eugenetreefoundation.org](http://www.eugenetreefoundation.org) for details about this group.

The **City of Irrigon** celebrated National Arbor Day on April 27 as more than thirty volunteers teamed up with city staff to plant thirteen shade trees around the city's newly dedicated skatepark. The project received assistance from ODF and Oregon Community Trees.

In the **City of Estacada**, Stephen Shibley of Fertile Grounds, Inc. drew plans and coordinated volunteers to plant two-dozen trees outside Estacada Junior High School. The EJHS student council raised over a thousand dollars for the project. The project received assistance from ODF and Oregon Community Trees.

Congratulations to Rick Zenn and the Education program at the **World Forestry Center**, winners of the 2007 Mary Rellergert Forestry Education Award.

## 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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### The Case for Shady Streets

The latest research report out of the Center for Urban Forest Research in Davis, CA, explores an inexpensive way to slow the rate of deterioration of street pavements and extend the time between treatments. The answer...trees! Is the condition of pavement on tree-shaded streets better than on unshaded streets – all other things being equal? The answer is YES. Researchers found that an unshaded street segment required 6 slurry seals over 30 years, while an identical one planted with small-crowning trees required 5 slurry seals, and one with large-crowning trees required only 2.5 slurry seals. So more shade means more time between repaving. 20% shade on a street improves pavement condition by 11%, which is a 60% savings for resurfacing over 30 years. To share these research results with your city public works staff, visit the Center's website by [clicking this link](#) and scroll down to "What's New".

### Dealing With Girdling Roots

Are girdling roots a problem on trees in your community? The University of Minnesota has produced a publication that might help answer some questions about girdling roots on the main stem of trees. Subjects covered include symptoms, impacts, and prevention. "A Practitioner's Guide to Stem Girdling Roots" is available online ([click here](#)).

### Urban Wildlife Management National Conference

The National Arbor Day Foundation is presenting its fourth national conference on Urban Wildlife Management in Portland, Oregon, at The World Forestry Center June 18-20, 2007. As our use of land for non-native and non-agricultural purposes increases, traditional wildlife habitats are lost. This event looks at ways to create and maintain ecologically significant habitats in and around cities. Visit the [National Arbor Day Foundation](#) website for additional details, and click on "Conferences".

### Tree Inventory Assistance Available This Summer

Spring is here! Even the oaks have turned green, and across the state, photosynthesis is finally up to cruising speed. This means it's time to start thinking about tree inventory projects. ODF's Urban Forestry program is offering assistance to cities that would like to conduct inventories this spring and summer. This could be a great way to start if you would like to manage your city trees more proactively and cost-effectively.

Tree inventories typically record and organize information about the number, size and variety of trees along public right-of-ways. Their purpose is to answer questions like: Are some species over or under-planted? Which trees might pose hazards during wind storms next winter? Where should we plant more trees?



Inventories have three stages. First, the parameters of the inventory are set. This is the time to decide what is most important to know about the trees in the survey based on your city's individual needs. Second, city staff or volunteers collect data and put it into a database. The third stage consists of interpreting the results and developing a management plan based on the results.

Whether you would like to update your existing plan or take stock of your trees for the first time, ODF's Urban Forestry program can help. Contact David Rand for more information at [drand@odf.state.or.us](mailto:drand@odf.state.or.us) or phone 503-945-7398.