



Dead tree turned upside-down into a community artwork in a Portland park



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



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CALENDAR OF COMMUNITY FORESTRY EVENTS

**August 1-2, 2008
Community Tree Leadership Forum, Santa Cruz, CA**

This intensive two-day training program focuses on the needs of non-profits, service groups, volunteer coordinators, and community organizers engaged in urban and community forestry. For details, visit <http://www.californiareleaf.org/CTLF.html>

**August 21-23, 2008
FarWest Show, Portland**

Visit the West Coast's premier nursery trade show, including exhibits and seminars. Registration information is at www.farwestshow.com

**September 22-24, 2008
Pacific Northwest Chapter ISA Annual Conference, Boise, ID**
Visit www.pnwwisa.org for details.

**October 12-15, 2008
The Future of Urban Forestry - It's More Than Trees: Society of Municipal Arborists Annual Conference, San Diego, CA.**
Visit www.urban-forestry.com for details. A registration form will be available later this summer.

**November 1, 2008
Applications due for 2009 CTMI**
Visit www.odf.state.or.us/UF for details.

**December 15, 2008
Applications and Recertifications due for Tree City USA**
Contact an ODF staff member for assistance if needed.

Announcing the 2009 Community Tree Management Institute

The Oregon Department of Forestry and the Washington Department of Natural Resources are pleased to announce another class offering of the innovative Community Tree Management Institute (CTMI) for 2009. CTMI is an advanced continuing educational curriculum specifically tailored to the needs of municipal parks, planning, or public works employees who have tree related responsibilities in their city. This training is appropriate for anyone who coordinates community forestry issues, reviews tree plans, issues permits, or inspects trees in your city. CTMI consists of four educational sessions during the year (March, May, September and November). Participants must attend all four sessions and complete a community project in order to fulfill the requirements of the course. Instructors include experienced urban forestry professionals from both state agencies as well as past CTMI graduates and urban forestry professionals from the public and private sectors.

Upon completing all sessions of the Community Tree Management Institute, each participant will receive a Certificate of Completion, a notebook of resource materials, and an extensive network of professional contacts. ISA Certified Arborists may also obtain up to 20 recertification credits for attending. The application deadline for the 2009 Community Tree Management Institute is November 1, 2008. Contact an ODF staff member for an application.

Think Twice About Planting Ash Trees

If your city already has mature ash trees growing in it, enjoy them! If your town needs to replace ash trees, you may want to consider replacing them with another species. The Emerald Ash Borer (EAB), a non-native beetle from Asia that is highly destructive to all ash trees, has gained a foothold in the US. EAB was first discovered in Michigan in 2002, but evidence suggests that it had been around several years prior, probably arriving from Asia on packing materials. Since 2002, EAB has been found in Indiana, Illinois, Maryland, Michigan, Ohio, Pennsylvania, and West Virginia; however, this is not to say it has spread to these other states from Michigan in that time. It may have existed in some or all of these areas without being detected for some years before surveying methods were improved. In the states where EAB has been found, quarantines are in place to prevent infested ash firewood, logs or nursery trees from being transported and starting new infestations.

So far, EAB has NOT been found outside of the Eastern and Midwest states listed above. However, its ability to destroy ash trees (including potentially our native Oregon ash), and the realities of interstate travel and commerce, have compelled the ODF staff to limit our recommendations to plant ash trees in Oregon cities. While this pest may take another decade to get to our state's borders, in that time cities could be growing other trees that will not succumb to EAB attack, instead of trees that will. For more information on Emerald Ash Borer, including how to identify the pest, symptoms of infested trees, and FAQs, go to: <http://www.emeraldashborer.info>. If you have reason to believe that you have EAB in your ash trees, please contact us and we will help you get in touch with the appropriate resources.

COMMUNITY FORESTRY AROUND OREGON

Congratulations to the winners of the 2008 Oregon Urban Forestry Awards:

Citizen volunteer: Working with the developer and others, Jean Harkin of Portland was instrumental in the relocation of a Camperdown Elm tree in Hillsboro threatened by a new development.

Professional: Alby Thomsin of Springfield helped the Eugene Tree Foundation and the City of Eugene's "NeighborWoods program" join forces to create the "Tree Stewards Program."

Tree Board: The Corvallis Civic Beautification and Urban Forestry Commission builds innovative partnerships to accomplish community tree projects in spite of limited funding, such as "Neighborwoods," a community tree planting program, and "Concrete to Trees," a partnership with Public Works to replace downtown concrete areas with trees.

Business: Sperry Tree Care Company of Eugene is noted for its attention to professionalism in the field of tree care, providing public education and promoting ISA Certification in the Eugene/Springfield area.

COMMUNITY TREE CONNECTIONS

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ODF U&CF Program Staff:

Paul D. Ries - pries@odf.state.or.us
 Katie Lompa - klompa@odf.state.or.us
 Kristin Ramstad - kramstad@odf.state.or.us
 Cynthia Orlando - caorlando@odf.state.or.us
 Oregon Department of Forestry
 2600 State St., Salem, OR 97310
 Phone: 503/945-7391, Fax: 503/945-7416
 webpage: <http://www.odf.state.or.us/UF>

Certified Arborist-Municipal Specialist Scholarship Offered

The International Society of Arboriculture (ISA) is offering an ISA Certified Arborist-Municipal Specialist scholarship for those willing to share their knowledge with the public. ISA covers the cost of the exam, membership in either ISA and a local ISA chapter or in ISA and the Society of Municipal Arborists, and the Municipal Specialist Study Guide. In exchange, once an individual has passed the exam, the newly certified arborist-municipal specialist will work with State Urban Forestry Coordinators to provide a community project and educate volunteers, schools, and government officials about proper tree care. This grant program targeted communities that do not have enough resources to obtain a municipal arborist or urban forester, or where there is not already an ISA Certified arborist-municipal specialist working with the local community.

Any ISA Certified Arborist working for a municipality is eligible. Candidates must meet the necessary experience requirement to become a certified arborist-municipal specialist. You can review ISA's Certified Arborist-Municipal Specialist online at www.isa-arbor.com

Resources You Can Use:

The "Next Great City" website is chock full of useful information for helping communities improve both their tree programs and take ten concrete action steps for improving quality of life. For great ideas, visit: <http://www.nextgreatcity.com/actions>

Give Your Trees A Drink - You can find more information about tree care during hot weather at <http://hort.ifas.ufl.edu/woody/drought.html> Remember, deep watering is best. Aim to deeply water all of the soil underneath a tree's crown, and during hot spells, water trees deeply at least twice a week.



Mitigate Your Carbon Footprint—Locally

Going "Green" is a concept that appears here to stay. Recent media headlines seem full of suggestions on what people can do to lessen their impact on the environment. From carbon credits to public transportation to recycling to planting trees, there is no shortage of ideas for folks who are interested in their own contributions to a more sustainable environment. Citizens looking for ways to mitigate their 'carbon footprint', may soon be looking to local governments to help provide opportunities.

Is there a role for local governments in this effort? Recent trends would also suggest that there is. Thirteen Oregon mayors are among the 850 US mayors who have signed on to the Climate Change agenda sponsored by the US Conference of Mayors. At their recent annual meeting in June, the US Conference of Mayors also passed a resolution supporting the national Urban and Community Forestry program, a part of the US Forest Service. Through this effort, every state employs an urban forestry coordinator who provides assistance to cities to help deal with tree issues. Here in Oregon, ODF provides nearly 600 technical assists annually, helping cities deal with hazard trees, tree ordinances, inventories, management plans, economic development, and sustainability.

Tree planting projects are a great option for getting your citizens involved in the local environment. Organizing a volunteer tree planting project for a local city park is a great way to get your citizens involved in service, volunteerism, community, and the environment. Sure, there may be a lot of publicity in being concerned about the Amazon Rainforest or some other far-off locale, but there are plenty of opportunities to do good for the environment right here in Oregon, and in fact, right in your own city.

For more information on the US Conference of Mayor's climate initiatives, visit <http://usmayors.org/climateprotection/>