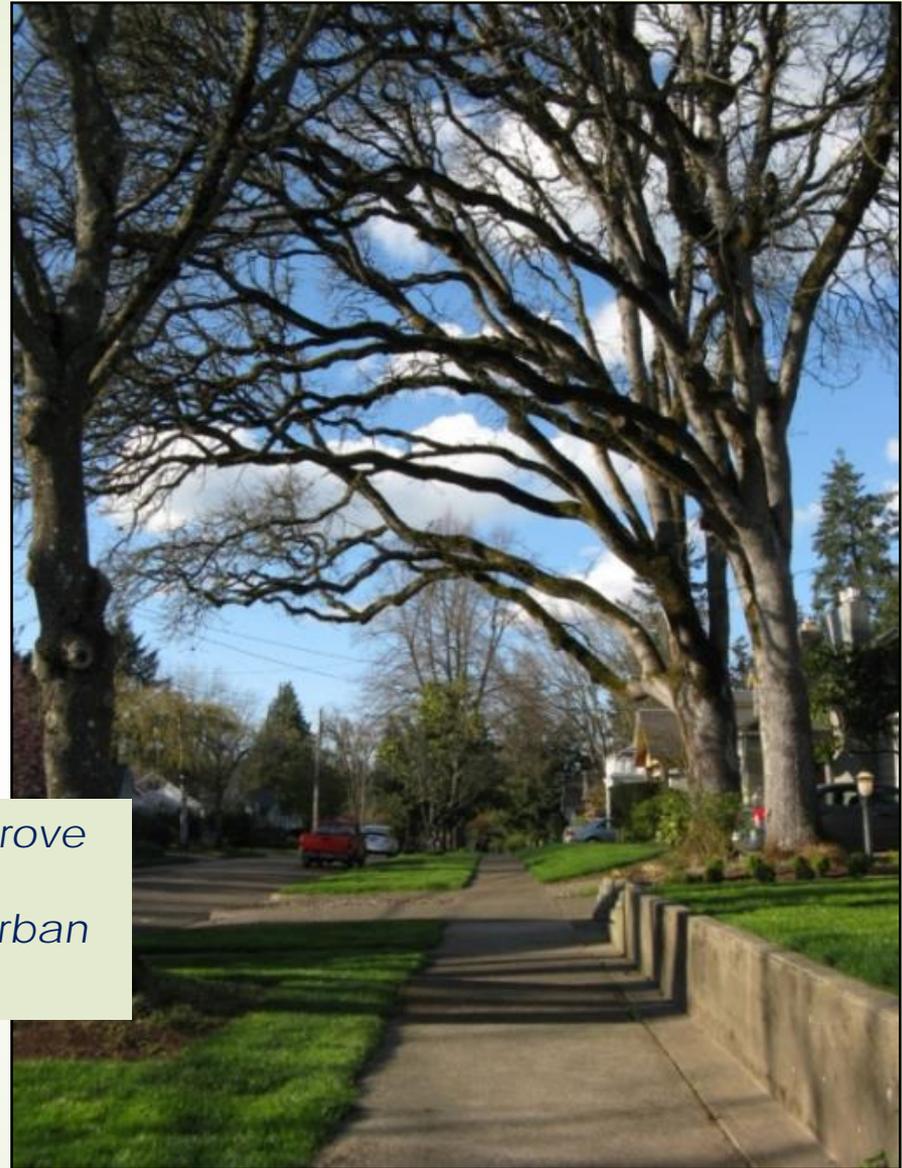


November 2017
Board of Forestry Meeting



ODF's Urban and Community Forestry Assistance Program

Mission: To help Oregonians improve their quality of life by promoting community investment in their urban forests



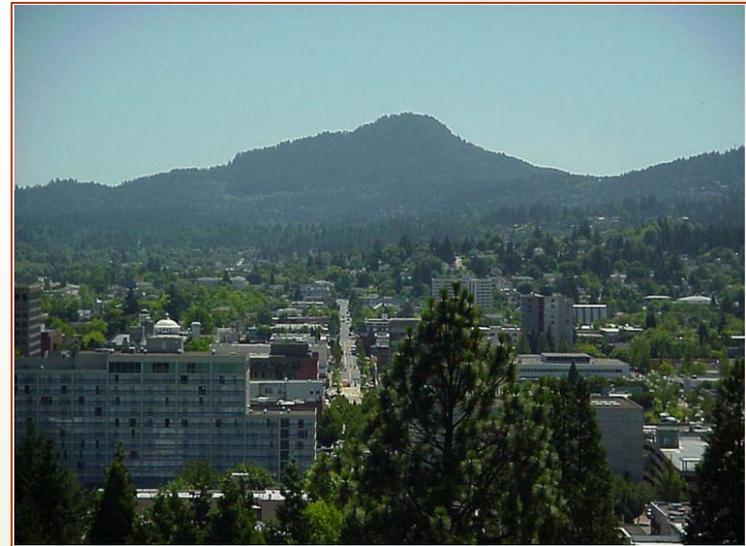
Kristin Ramstad, Manager
Urban & Community Forestry Assistance Program

The field of urban & community forestry is all about “helping trees and people get along.”

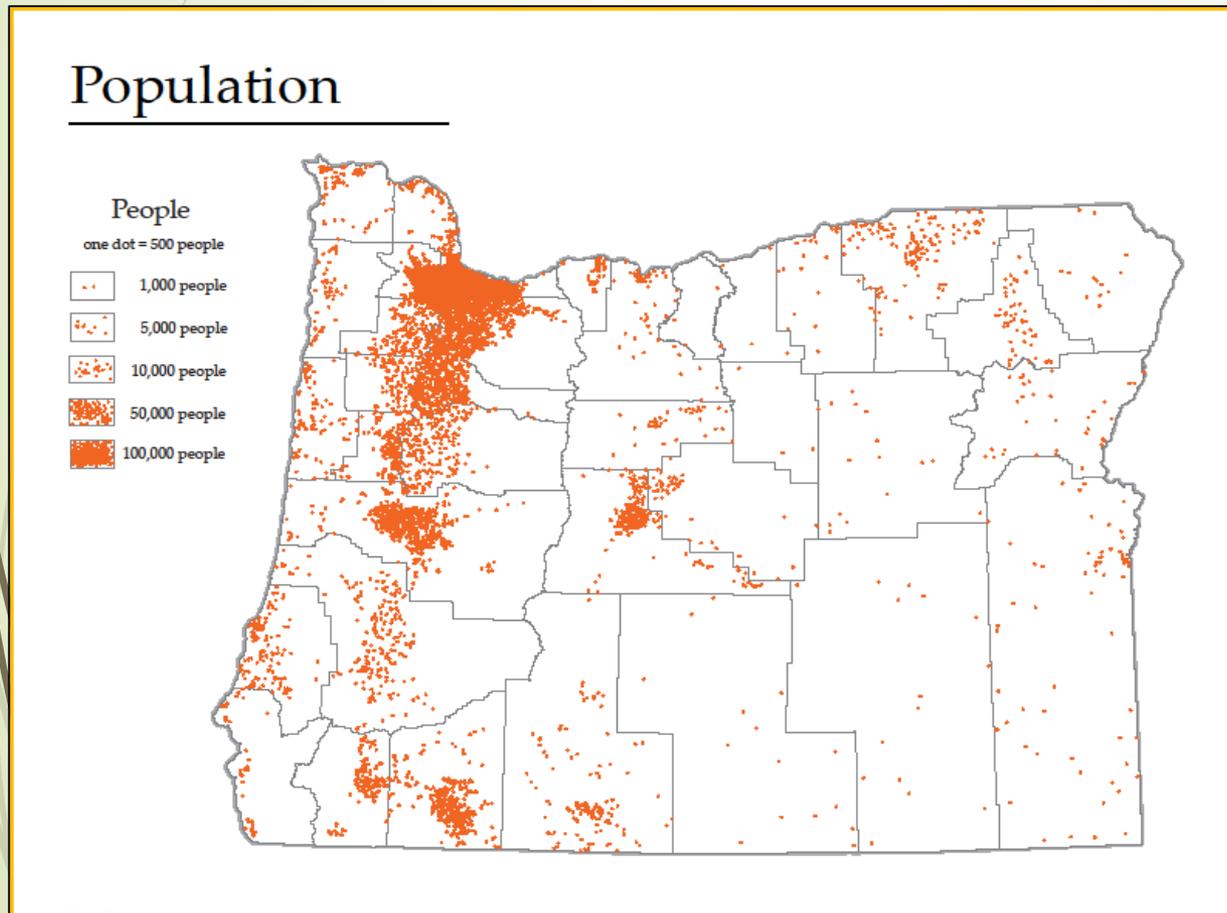
Whether in **small** communities



Or **large** cities



Almost 80% of Oregonians now live in an urban or community* forest



Population Change

1911		2017
46%	Urban	79%
54%	Rural	21%

* In this context, the primary difference between an “urban” and a “community” forest is the size of the city, and/or whether the city residents consider themselves as urban dwellers or community dwellers. “Urban” forests also tend to have more designated city staff time devoted to their management.

Core U&CF focus...



- Connect and partner with city staff and nonprofit organizations on tree-related issues
- Demonstrate and teach city staff and volunteers about aspects of caring for trees and managing urban forests
- Encourage, support, and train cities in using the latest technologies available to monitor, inventory and understand their community forests
- Promote the benefits of community trees through administering the Arbor Day Foundation's Tree City USA, Tree Line USA and Tree Campus USA programs

Our work relies on persuasion, not regulation



Portland – asking the questions and finding answers to social and environmental equity in U&CF

La Grange – over 20 TCUSA “Growth Awards;” participating city in GI grant project.

Pendleton – TCUSA in 2017?

Eugene – a leader in proactive urban tree management

Bend – TCUSA in 2017?

Roseburg – one of our newest TCUSAs; recently hired a new parks director that is an ISA certified arborist

61 Oregon Tree Cities USA 2016

Urban and community forestry trends and challenges

Reduction of wildfire risk in and around all Oregon communities

Early detection and rapid response to invasive species (Emerald Ash Borer, Sudden Oak Death, invasive plants)

Utilization of urban wood



Administration of Forest Practice rules inside of Urban Growth Boundaries

Stormwater mitigation and urban stream restoration through Low Impact Development

Linkage of urban forests to human health and well-being

Western Competitive Grants forge partnerships and support other U&CF projects in urban areas

- Greater Forest Park Ecosystem Restoration Project
- Green Infrastructure – barriers to adopting GI projects
- Oregon Forest Pest Detectors (Forest Health program grant)
- Forest Mobility
- U&CF Regional Project – Metro-area based need assessment and collaboration
- Linking Landscapes





OCT Directors and Guests – June 2017 Board Meeting -- Beaverton

Photo: R Zenn, WFC

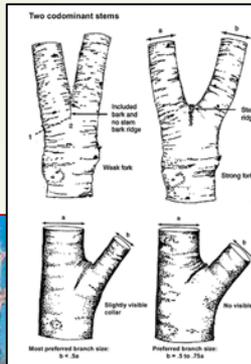
Oregon Community Trees

- Our "Partner in Crime" since 1991

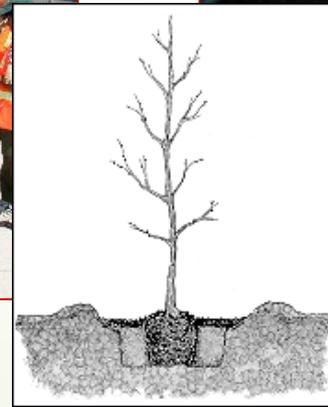


U&CF Return on Investment Focus for Communities

How does good pruning contribute to our bottom line?



Are volunteers worth the effort?



When should we hire a consultant?

How do we prepare for the emerald ash borer (and other invasive species)?

U&CF and Human Health



Madrone in Bloom (Salem)

Ongoing research consistently suggest that being outside and around urban trees may...

- Boost immune system
- Lower blood pressure
- Reduce crime and abuse in housing projects
- Reduce stress
- Improve community relations (e.g. Cherry blossom viewing in Japan)
- Improve mood
- Increase ability to focus, even in children with ADHD
- Accelerate recovery from surgery or illness
- Increase energy level
- Improve sleep

Environmental and Social Equity



Two August scenes from Salem

Challenges:

- How does a city's urban forest reflect the city's social disparities? (and what can be done about it?)
- How can U&CF provide jobs and opportunities for advancement for different groups?



Looking up through the Willamette Falls City Center – Salem, Oregon