

FEBRUARY 2008

Marks of Good Tree Management: Tree City USA / Tree Line USA

Communities wish to be attractive and utilities want to be a good neighbor. Both can occur. It comes down to a combination of proper tree care by both. Communities that manage their trees proactively by properly selecting, planting and pruning create communities their citizens are proud of. Utilities must have clear areas around utility lines to provide safe, reliable electrical service. This necessitates line clearance activities. By properly pruning trees, utilities can achieve the needed clear zones and maintain healthy trees. Working together communities and utilities can develop planting plans that beautify the area and reduce conflicts with utility wires.

When communities and utilities do this and meet a few other criteria, they can qualify for either Tree City USA or Tree Line USA recognition. I encourage all communities and utilities to contact me about these recognition programs. Everyone benefits!

Missouri Community Forestry Council 15th Annual Conference

The conference is being held in St. Joseph on March 5 & 6, 2008 with a theme of "Trees in Your Neighborhood." This is a great opportunity to meet others managing trees while learning from regional and national speakers.

Early registration is \$110 and must be postmarked by February 8. After this date, registration goes to \$125 and after February 16 all registration must be done on site for \$150. Single day registration and extra Awards Luncheon tickets are available.

MCFC promotes tree education and has arranged for up to 12 ISA CEU's and SAF CFE's to be available at the conference.

Get the registration form by visiting www.mocommunitytrees.com/whatsgoingon.html.

Topics

National Policy That Affects Your Neighborhood's Trees

How Trees Fit into Planning for your Neighborhood

Trees & Sidewalks, Conflicts in Your Neighborhood

Tour of St. Joseph/Savannah, MO Neighborhoods

The Basics of Storm Mitigation: Good Urban Forest Management

Lessons Learned (storm damage)

The Power of Positive Pruning: Preparing, Repairing, and Restoring Urban Trees by ANSI Standards

How to Get Help for Trees in Your City and Neighborhood

Energizing Your Tree Board Workshop

Is your tree board working efficiently? Are the same people doing all the work? How is your relationship with city or community leaders? This workshop will help you learn new strategies and make new contacts. Being held on March 4 in St. Joseph, the day before the MCFC Conference, the workshop is convenient to attend. Registration is \$30 and due February 20. I have the registration form and agenda for those interested. Contact me at Jon.Skinner@mdc.mo.gov or 417-629-3423 for a copy.

English oak Quercus robur

Native to Europe, west Asia, and north Africa, English oak is a large tree with a mature height of 40 to 100 feet and similar spread. This tree is appropriate for large yards, and parks. Naturally the specie has a short trunk, but proper pruning can raise the crown to acceptable height. Grows best on well drained, acid soil. The leaves are multi-lobed oak leaves. The lobes vary from pronounced to medium sized bumps. Twigs are reddish brown, often purplish and angled. The bark is deeply furrowed and grayish black on the trunk. The acorn is about 1 inch long with the cap covering the top one-third of the acorn. Fall color is generally non-existent. Several cultivars exist, but only a few may be available. One of interest is 'Attention' for its tight upright form and mildew resistance.

Plant illustration by Jenny M. Lyverse, from Landscape Plants for Eastern North America, 2nd Edition, Harrison L. Flint Author

More than Pretty: Trees Work for You

	Dollars / tree	
Air Quality	\$8.53	
Storm Water	\$11.29	
Energy Savings	\$40.66	
Avoided and Sequestered CO2	\$1.20	
Aesthetic, Social, Property Value	\$19.33	
Total	\$81.01	

Science is allowing us to determine exactly what trees do for us and how much we benefit from them. The City of Pittsburgh, PA recently completed an inventory of its street trees and ran the data with other local information through a program called STRATUM. The program takes the known research and utilizes it to compile benefits in dollar value.

They came up with some interesting data for Air Quality improvements; Storm Water runoff reduction; Energy Savings; Avoided

and Sequestered CO2; and Aesthetic, Social, and Property Values. The table shows how the benefits totaled for each element. A total of \$81 per tree annual benefit is realized in Pittsburgh, PA.

Trees in your community may provide more or less benefit depending on local information. Regardless of the dollar amount, trees are providing more than most realize. The bigger the tree, the more benefit it provides. With this in mind, proactively caring for your community trees will extend the life of an individual tree allowing your community to receive the greatest benefit possible.

You can learn about how to utilize this research by contacting Jon Skinner at Jon.Skinner@mdc.mo.gov or visiting www.itreetools.org.

Book Review

Urban Tree Risk Management: A Community Guide to Program Design and Implementation is a fully illustrated, easy to read training manual. It is designed to assist communities design, adopt and implement tree risk management programs, and train field staff to detect, assess, and correct hazardous defects in urban trees. This FREE book is available as a PDF file at www.na.fs.fed.us/spfo/pubs/uf/utrmm/. I also have a supply of paper copies of this book available on a first come, first serve basis. Contact me at Jon.Skinner@mdc.mo.gov or 417-629-3423.

How to Kill a Tree!



When preparing to plant a tree, carry it exposed to the elements at high speed on a hot sunny day then place it in a bright sunny location. It won't dry out. Next dig a narrow hole twice as deep as the root ball - deeper is always better. Drop the tree in the hole, leaving all of the burlap, twine, and wire in place. When you fill the

hole, be sure to get all of that dirt back in there. Pack in tight. The tree needs all of it. Now water it at least 5 gallons a day. Don't want it to dry out.

Of course the above is all incorrect. Protect trees during transportation and in storage from drying out. Dig holes that are no deeper than the top roots in the root ball, scrape off the excess soil. If in doubt, plant slightly high. Fill the hole with soil, and take the excess away. Water appropriately, about an inch and a half per week. Stake only if needed to keep the tree from falling over.





Urban Tree Risk Management:





God is the experience of looking at a tree and saying,

''Ah!''

Joseph Campbell

February 4

Insect and Disease Seminar, Wildcat Park, Joplin, MO, 1:00 PM Contact Jon Skinner (Jon.skinner@mdc.mo.gov), 417-629-3423. 3 ISA CEU's; 3 SAF CFE's

February 8 - 11

ANLA Management Clinic, Louisville, KY Contact ANLA for details and registration at http://managementclinic.org or 202-789-2900.

February 14

ISA Certified Arborist Exam, Springfield, MO, Registration Deadline January 29, 2008, Register at www.isa-arbor.com/certification/tests.aspx.

February 19

ISA Certified Arborist Exam, Eureka Springs, AR, Registration Deadline February 1, 2008, Register at www.isa-arbor.com/certification/tests.aspx.

March 4

Tree Board Workshop, St. Joseph, MO Contact Contact Justine Gartner (Justine.Gartner@mdc.mo.gov), 573-751-4115 extn. 3116.

March 5 - 6

2008 MCFC Conference, St. Joseph, MO Contact MCFC at: www.mocommunitytrees.com/whatsgoingon.html

March 24

Tree Selection and Planting Workshop, Lampo Bldg., 500 E. Spring St., Neosho, MO, 6:30 PM Contact Jon Skinner (Jon.skinner@mdc.mo.gov), 417-629-3423.

March 25

Tree Selection and Planting Workshop, Thiebaud Auditorium, Room A, Lamar, MO, 6:30 PM Contact Jon Skinner (Jon.skinner@mdc.mo.gov), 417-629-3423.

March 27

Tree Selection and Planting Workshop, Wildcat Park, Joplin, MO, 6:30 PM Contact Jon Skinner (Jon.skinner@mdc.mo.gov), 417-629-3423.

March 31

Tree Selection and Planting Workshop, Cedar County Family Clinic, 807 Owens Mill Rd., Stockton, MO, 6:30 PM Contact Jon Skinner (Jon.skinner@mdc.mo.gov), 417-629-3423.

April 7 - 9

2008 Trees & Utilities Conference, Orlando, FL Early Registration due March 17 Contact NADF at: www.arborday.org/TUconference or 888-448-7337

ISA Certified Arborist Exam, Springfield, MO, Registration Deadline April 1, 2008, Register at www.isa-arbor.com/certification/tests.aspx.

July 26 - 30

ISA 2008 Conference & Trade Show, St. Louis, MO Details at www.isa-arbor.com/conference/

"The Stump" web site: ww.geocities.com/rocksandtrees/thestump/

To add or remove your subscription, update your address, change contact information or convert from the paper to the email - web version of "The Stump", contact:

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Use of names of commercial products or organizations does not imply an endorsement or recommendation by the Missouri Department of Conservation.

