

# *The Wisconsin Urban Forestry Insider*

*An electronic bulletin of breaking news and valuable information for the Urban Forest community in Wisconsin and beyond.*

**February 10, 2012**

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Kim Sebastian, DNR Regional Urban Forestry Coordinator, and sister visit “The Senator,” a 3500-year-old cypress tree in Florida, before its death last month.

### ***Insider Spotlight***

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## Taking Root tree planting project to focus on gateways into Oshkosh

Some major gateways into Oshkosh will be spruced up this year with tree plantings that officials say should give the city a little more eye appeal to visitors. The third and final phase of the Taking Root beautification project includes plans to plant trees in the area of some U.S. Highway 41 entrances/exits. [Read more](#)

## Bethany aims to increase tree canopy density

The Town Council of South Bethany, Delaware has approved a resolution to increase the town's tree canopy density to 18 to 20 percent over the next 20 years. [Read more](#)

## 3,500-year-old tree burns up in Florida

The cause of an early morning fire in Seminole County, Florida that destroyed one of the world's oldest cypress trees is a mystery, but a state forestry investigator is convinced it was not the work of an arsonist. [Read more](#)



## USDA commemorates the “New Year of the Trees”



USDA Natural Resources and Environment Under Secretary Harris Sherman planted a tree next to the USDA's Washington DC headquarters in commemoration of Tu B'Shevat, “The New Year of the Trees.” This event brought together the local Jewish community and government leaders alike

to share their common bond of conserving our natural resources and leaving a healthier world for the next generation. [Read more](#)

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## 2012 Urban Forestry Council awards

The Wisconsin Urban Forestry Council is pleased to announce recipients of the [2012 Urban Forestry awards](#) given in recognition of outstanding efforts by individuals, organizations and communities that further urban forestry in Wisconsin. Award plaques and local recognition will be presented at award ceremonies in the honorees' home communities.

To learn more about Wisconsin Urban Forestry Council and how you can nominate a worthy individual and/or project for recognition go to <http://dnr.wi.gov/topic/UrbanForests/awards.html> or contact Laura Wyatt, Urban Forestry Council Liaison, PO Box 7921, Madison, WI 53707, [Laura.Wyatt@wisconsin.gov](mailto:Laura.Wyatt@wisconsin.gov) or 608-267-0568.

## DNR awards 48 Urban Forestry grants

The DNR Urban Forestry Grant program awarded **\$527,706** to 48 Wisconsin communities, nonprofit organizations, and a county for community urban forestry projects in 2012. Communities were encouraged to apply for grants to bolster their preparedness for emerald ash borer. View the [2012 grant recipients](#).

Grant funds for 2012 will support tree inventories and assessments, management plans, emerald ash borer (EAB) preparedness plans, urban forest restoration projects, staff training, public education and other urban forestry efforts.

Further information about the DNR Urban Forestry Grant program is available at <http://dnr.wi.gov/topic/UrbanForests/grants.html>, or contact Dick Rideout, *State Urban Forestry Coordinator*, at [Richard.Rideout@wisconsin.gov](mailto:Richard.Rideout@wisconsin.gov) or (608) 267-0843.

## 2011 Wisconsin forest health annual report

Read about current forest health conditions in Wisconsin compiled and edited by DNR Forest Health Protection staff.

[2011 annual report](#)



## Changes proposed to Wisconsin's pesticide rule

Two February public hearings are set to gather comments on proposed changes to Wisconsin's pesticide rule. Some proposed revisions include adding pesticide applications in natural areas to the turf and landscape pesticide certification category; regulating urban pesticide misting systems like those used for mosquito control and allowing electronic customer notification for pesticide information.

[Press release](#)

## Fort Wayne, IN forester tells of damage

The emerald ash borer likely will cause as much as \$8 million in damage to Fort Wayne's ash trees by 2015, the city's manager of forestry operations told a Terre Haute audience Tuesday. [Read more](#)

## EAB national news

Robin Usborne, Communications Manager with Michigan State University, shares links to national news coverage regarding emerald ash borer. Be sure to review recent news articles. [EAB University](#) webinars are also available for viewing on demand.



Read these [latest news stories and many more](#):

- City of St. Paul, MN, to remove 500 ash trees
- Kentuckians warned that EAB can be found any time of year
- Vermont updates the EAB purple trap surveys
- Oconto Co., WI, receives funding to prepare for EAB

## New plant hardiness zone map

WASHINGTON, Jan. 25, 2012--The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) released the new version of its Plant Hardiness Zone Map (PHZM), updating a useful tool for gardeners and researchers for the first time since 1990 with greater accuracy and detail.



### [Plant hardiness zone map](#)



## Recipe for Arbor Day

DNR offers "A Recipe for Arbor Day" to help celebrate trees year round. Check out all of the resources available to study and celebrate trees and habitats in your community.

[Recipe for Arbor Day](#)  
[More Arbor Day resources](#)

## Northern Region forest health update

The latest forest health news on insects and diseases in northern Wisconsin are compiled by Brian Schwingle, DNR Forest Health Specialist.

[Forest health report](#) (January 2012)

## Urban forests = cleaner, cooler air

Increasing tree canopy in cities is one way to fight both poor air quality and urban heat islands. Research shows significant short-term improvements in air quality in urban areas with 100 percent tree cover.



Learn more key facts about the benefits of urban trees presented by the American Society of Landscape Architects and watch an animated [video](#) that is designed to be a basic introduction to sustainable landscape design concepts.

[Urban forests = cleaner, cooler air](#)

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## Tree Health Care Workshop

February 23, 2012  
Milwaukee, WI

[More information](#)

## Minnesota Shade Tree Short Course

March 20-21, 2012  
Arden Hills, MN

[More information](#)

## More Conferences & Seminars

For more conferences and seminars check out the DNR Urban Forestry website.

[More conferences and seminars](#)

## Urban Forestry Intern (City of Milwaukee)

The City of Milwaukee is currently recruiting for the position of Urban Forestry Intern. Under the direction of the Urban Forestry Technical Services Manager, the Urban Forestry Intern participates in landscape management and tree maintenance activities through hands-on learning, collecting and analyzing data and performing related research.

[Job announcement](#)

## About the Insider

The *Wisconsin Urban Forestry Insider* is an electronic news bulletin produced by the Urban and Community Forestry program of the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources, in Madison, Wisconsin. The *Insider* is intended as a quick networking tool and information source for all people actively working in the area of urban and community forestry, especially in the state of Wisconsin. Items that cannot wait for our quarterly print/electronic newsletter, [Wisconsin Urban & Community Forests](#), will appear here.

Because the *Insider* connects to numerous outside sources it is typical for links **not** to be maintained for extended periods of time. All URLs are working on the date of distribution.

We are happy to accept your article suggestions and contributions. Send them to the editor, at [Dana.Dentice@Wisconsin.gov](mailto:Dana.Dentice@Wisconsin.gov) or call her at (608) 264-8944.

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