



Wisconsin Urban & Community Forests

A Quarterly Newsletter of the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources, Forestry Division

Tree Planting Partners

by Laura Wyatt, Urban Forestry Partnership Specialist
DNR Division of Forestry

Tree planting has long been a popular activity to celebrate and commemorate events. A recent surge in large-scale tree planting initiatives has swept the United States, with communities of all sizes planting trees as a way to respond to assorted issues including climate change. Even the United Nations has launched the [Plant for the Planet—Billion Tree Planting Campaign](#) which has so far resulted in over 11.8 million trees planted worldwide.

Closer to home, three recent planting initiatives in Wisconsin include the [Green Bay Packer's First Down for Trees](#), [Oshkosh's Taking Root](#) and [Polar Bear International/DNR Tree Planting for Climate Change](#). One characteristic these initiatives share is **partnership** between public and private sectors, with significant financial support coming from private sources. As municipal funds become tighter, communities and organizations are reaching out and engaging an increasing number of partners and private funds to move tree-planting projects forward.

In the [Wisconsin Urban Forestry Council's 2007 Advisory Report](#), a statewide tree planting initiative called *20 Million by 2020* was proposed to increase Wisconsin's urban and community forest canopy from a reported 14% to a more desirable 40% level. The initiative was introduced not only as a way to get more trees planted but more importantly as a tool to develop tree planting and care partnerships with the intention of building a strong foundation of private support for sustained management of a growing community forest canopy. Many believe that when individuals invest their time and/or dollars planting a tree, they are more apt to support and advocate for its continued care. Private support and investment are key to growing and nurturing community tree canopy. Even though the *20 Million by 2020* tree planting initiative was not acted upon, several of the advisory report's recommendations have been recognized and/or put in motion.

Today, as municipal budgets remain anemic, cultivating private support for tree planting is even more critical, especially with the potential loss of at least 20% of Wisconsin's urban forest to emerald ash borer.



Photo: WDNR

City of Sparta residents of all ages participated in the Tree Planting for Climate Change initiative in partnership with Polar Bears International. The city received a \$22,400 grant from Polar Bears International to purchase and plant 700 landscape trees to help restore the lost ash tree canopy and increase carbon sequestration.

Securing private funds for planting projects can sometimes be as easy as connecting with a local civic group or business organization. However, obtaining sources of significant or long-term sustainable funding requires a more sophisticated approach, including research of area grant-making individuals and organizations.

Recognizing the importance of private donations, many municipalities have created special fund accounts within municipal government to accept these donations, which generally support environmental, recreational or cultural initiatives. However, special fund accounts sometimes are not attractive to larger, more significant donors who worry about possible redirection of funds away from the donor's original intent to what current elected officials may deem "more critical needs." To better ensure donated funds are utilized as the donor intended, an increasing number of charitable foundations have developed over the last thirty years.

The Donors Forum of Wisconsin is a professional membership association of grant makers, i.e., the people and organizations that give grants. The forum is also an excellent source of information for grant seekers. In their Wisconsin State of Philanthropy Report, published in May 2009, Donors Forum indicated that in 2007 there were nearly 1300 foundations in Wisconsin, with combined assets of over \$7.25

Continued on page 12



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Inside this issue:

Community Profile: City of Plymouth.....	2
Tree City USA Communities.....	3
Arbor Day Around Wisconsin.....	4
Village of Howard's Carbon Footprint.....	5
Tree Profile: Peking Lilac.....	6
Meet New DNR Staff.....	7
What Damaged This Tree?.....	7
Urban Tree Health Matters.....	8
Coming Events.....	8
Urban Forest Insect Pests.....	9
Announcing—2nd Community Tree Management Institute.....	10
Certification Profile.....	11
Idea Exchange.....	14
UF Resources.....	15
DNR UF Contacts.....	16

2



Community Profile:

City of Plymouth

by Bill Immich, Director of Public Works and Tanya Williamson, DPW Assistant

The city of Plymouth, Wisconsin, is located fifteen miles inland from Lake Michigan on the eastern edge of the Northern Kettle Moraine district. Situated amid rolling, forested hills, the buildings of Plymouth seem mere extensions of their natural surroundings. Incorporated in 1877, Plymouth is a vibrant community once known as the “cheese capital” of Wisconsin. This moniker is evident in the abundance of cheese plants still in operation throughout the town.

Long before it reigned in cheese production, Plymouth’s industry was based in lumber. The city’s current nickname, Hub City, references the wooden hubs manufactured here during the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. Early settlers arrived in 1846 and were quick to utilize the area’s abundant trees. The first sawmill was built in 1848, and by 1849 residents were constructing furniture. There are first-hand accounts of how fields of stumps grew ever outward from the city center and clearings became more and more numerous as trees were felled.

Conservation was not as important an issue 150 years ago as it is today. Today the City of Plymouth strives to nurture and protect its trees. An inventory of the city’s street trees was conducted by a consultant in 2003 with an Urban Forestry Grant from the



An Arbor Day celebration at St. John’s Lutheran Church elementary school. (left to right) Ms. Kellerman; Bill Immich; Tanya Williamson, DPW Assistant; Mayor Donald Pohlman; Tim Beyer, DNR Forester; Brian Yerges, Director of City Services; and the second-grade class from St. John’s Lutheran Church elementary school.

The Plymouth Review

Community Profile:

- Street Trees: 1790
- Park Trees: 825
- Number of Parks: 16
- Total Parks Acreage: 125
- Total Cemetery Acreage: 26
- Miles of Streets: 44.56

Program Profile:

- Equipment:
 - 6 chain saws
 - 1 chipper
 - 1 front-end loader
- Staff:
 - Public Works Director
 - Public Works Assistant
 - 1 Public Works crew
- Budgets:
 - 2010 Tree Control Budget: \$30,000
 - 2010 Parks Budget: \$90,000
 - 2010 Natural Resources Budget: \$1,000
 - 2010 Cemetery Budget: \$37,000

Wisconsin DNR. At that time nearly 1800 trees were inventoried and mapped. This data is updated annually in a GIS format maintained by the public works staff. In 2010 park and cemetery trees were added to the inventory as part of a countywide effort to create an emerald ash borer response plan. The number of trees in the parks and cemeteries totaled 825. Including plantings since 2003 the city has 2615 trees in its urban forest inventory.

A significant part of the public works department’s workload is in the upkeep and maintenance of these trees. During the winter, staff prune trees to insure the health of stressed trees as well as to maintain clearance for both vehicles and pedestrians on streets and sidewalks. It is also during the winter that trees are removed. In the spring, stumps are ground and grass is planted. In addition the city has added trees to the downtown streetscape that need additional attention

Continued on page 15



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Articles, news items, photos and ideas are welcome.

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This newsletter is available in alternative format upon request and can also be downloaded in PDF format from

our Web site: <http://dnr.wi.gov/forestry/UF/>

For breaking UF news, anecdotes, announcements and networking opportunities, sign up for The Urban Forestry Insider, DNR’s bi-weekly e-bulletin. Archives are at <http://dnr.wi.gov/forestry/UF/resources/InsiderArchive.html>

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Tree City USA Communities, 2010

by Laura Wyatt, Urban Forestry Communication Specialist
DNR Division of Forestry

Congratulations to Wisconsin's newest Tree City USA designees: Clayton, Hudson, Weston and returning Tomahawk! With these additions the number of Tree City USA communities in the state increased to **182!** Twenty-six of the recertifying Tree Cities also received a Growth Award, going above and beyond the Tree City USA program standards. To be recognized as a Tree City USA, a community must meet four requirements. It must have: 1) a designated tree board or forestry department, 2) a tree care ordinance, 3) an annual forestry program expenditure of at least \$2 per capita, and 4) observe and proclaim Arbor Day.

The Tree City USA program, sponsored by the Arbor Day Foundation and administered in Wisconsin by the DNR, provides communities with a tangible goal and national recognition for their community forestry efforts.

The Arbor Day Foundation also sponsors the Tree Line USA program. **Fourteen utilities** with Wisconsin service areas received recognition in 2010 by meeting the following criteria: 1) providing quality tree care that follows national tree care and protection standards, 2) providing annual worker trainings, and 3) sponsoring ongoing tree planting and public outreach.

And congratulations to **UW-Oshkosh** and **UW-Stevens Point** for their recognition as Tree Campus USA recipients! This three-year-old program recognizes college and university campuses that effectively manage their trees, engage their student population in forestry efforts and connect with their community to foster healthy urban forests. 🌿

2010 Tree Cities

Adams	Campbellsport*	Edgar	Kaukauna	New Holstein	Stoughton*
Albany	Cedarburg	Elkhart Lake	Kenosha	New London	Sturgeon Bay
Algoma*	Chenequa	Elkhorn	Kewaunee	North Fond du Lac	Sun Prairie
Allouez	Chilton	Elm Grove	Kimberly	Oak Creek*	Superior
Amherst	Chippewa Falls	Endeavor	La Crosse	Oakfield*	Thorp
Antigo	Clayton	Evansville	Lake Geneva	Oconomowoc	Tomahawk
Appleton*	Clinton	Fitchburg	Lake Mills	Oconto*	Turtle Lake
Ashwaubenon	Clintonville	Fond du Lac	Little Chute*	Onalaska	Two Rivers
Baldwin	Columbus	Fontana	Madison, City	Osceola	Valders
Baraboo	Combined Locks	Fort Atkinson	Madison, Town (Dane)	Oshkosh	Verona
Bayfield	Cottage Grove	Fort McCoy	Manitowoc	Paddock Lake	Viola
Bayside	Cudahy	Fox Lake	Maple Bluff	Phillips	Viroqua
Beaver Dam	De Pere*	Fox Point	Marinette	Platteville*	Washburn
Belgium	DeForest*	Franklin	Marion	Plover	Waterford, Village
Bellevue	Delafield	Fredonia	Marshfield	Plymouth*	Waterloo
Beloit	Delavan	Fremont	McFarland	Port Washington	Watertown
Bloomer	Denmark	Germantown	Medford	Portage	Waukesha
Blue Mounds	Dodgeville	Gilman	Menasha*	Pound	Waunakee*
Brillion	Dresser	Glendale	Menasha, Town (Winnebago)	Princeton	Waupaca
Brookfield	Dunn, Town (Dane)	Grafton	Menomonee Falls*	Racine	Waupun
Brown Deer	Eau Claire*	Grand Chute, Town (Outagamie)	Menomonie	Rice Lake*	Wausau
Cambridge		Green Bay*	Merrill	Richland Center	Wautoma
		Green Lake	Middleton*	Ripon	Wauwatosa
		Greendale	Milwaukee*	River Falls	Wescott, Town (Shawano)
		Greenfield*	Mineral Point	Rosendale	West Allis
		Greenville, Town (Outagamie)	Monona	Rothschild	West Bend
		Hales Corners	Monroe	Saukville	Weston
		Hartford	Monticello	Seymour	Weyauwega
		Hillsboro	Mount Horeb	Shawano*	Whitefish Bay
		Hobart	Muskego	Sheboygan	Whitewater
		Horicon*	Neenah	Sherwood	Whiting
		Howard	New Berlin	Shorewood	Williams Bay
		Hudson	New Glarus	Shorewood Hills	Wisconsin Dells
		Jackson		Spooer	Wisconsin Rapids
		Janesville*		Stevens Point*	
		Jefferson			
		Johnson Creek			



Photo: City of Rice Lake

City of Rice Lake Citizen Tree Board & Park Board Member Dave Swanson and Rice Lake Forester Mike Ashlin display the 20-year TCUSA flag at an Arbor Day observance.

3

To learn how your community can become a Tree City USA, contact your DNR regional urban forestry coordinator (contact information on back cover of newsletter) or visit the DNR website at <http://dnr.wi.gov/forestry/UF/awareness/>.



Tree Line USA 2010 Utilities

Alliant Energy
American Transmission Co.
Central Wisconsin Electric Cooperative
East Central Energy
Madison Gas & Electric
Marshfield Utilities
Pierce Pepin Cooperative
Richland Electric Co-op
Shawano Municipal Utility
Stoughton Utilities
Vernon Electric
WE Energies
WI Public Service Corp.
Xcel Energy

Note: Asterisk (*) indicates Growth Award recipient. **Bold text** indicates new Tree City.

Arbor Day 2011

4



Mayor Tom Barrett (center) and Alderman Michael Murphy (right) celebrate Milwaukee's 32nd Tree City USA with students.



In Monona, Winnequah School 4th graders help finish a tree planting in recognition of Arbor Day.



Packer President & CEO Mark Murphy and Green Bay City Forester Mark Freberg along with help from Red Smith Elementary school students plant trees in Green Bay. The trees were donated by the Packers through the "First Downs for Trees" program.



The City of Fort Atkinson celebrates Arbor Day with the transplanting of a tree to a new location where it will thrive.



Tomahawk Elementary 5th grade students stood beside a Regal elm tree planted to commemorate the city's 25th anniversary as a Tree City.



New Richmond fourth graders had a fun, active day learning about tree anatomy as well as professional tree climbing, pruning and local history. Students also helped replace trees in Cyclone Park, a memorial to the 117 victims of an 1899 tornado.

FOR MORE PHOTOS VISIT:
<http://dnr.wi.gov/forestry/UF/awareness>

Project Profile:

Utilizing Howard's Public Trees to Offset the Village's Carbon Footprint

by Christopher Clark, Park Superintendent/Forester,
Village of Howard

Urban forests have been recognized as important storage sites for greenhouse gases, primarily carbon dioxide (CO₂). This process is known as carbon sequestration, or the removal of carbon from the atmosphere and depositing it into a reservoir. Terrestrial carbon sequestration is the process through which CO₂ from the atmosphere is absorbed by trees, plants and crops through photosynthesis, and stored as carbon in biomass (tree trunks, branches, foliage and roots) and soils.¹

Urban forest vegetation can reduce atmospheric CO₂ in two primary ways: 1) Trees directly sequester carbon dioxide in their stems and leaves while they grow; 2) Trees that grow near buildings can reduce the demand for air conditioning and heating, thereby reducing CO₂ emissions from energy production methods.

The Village of Howard's urban forest produces many benefits to the community, including energy savings, reducing atmospheric CO₂, improving air quality, reducing storm water runoff, and aesthetics as well as other social, economic, and health benefits.²

In a report performed in 2010 for the Forestry Division's Comprehensive Urban Forestry Management Plan, the *i-Tree Streets* urban forestry analysis and benefit computer software program was utilized to quantify the previously described benefits for the village's public trees located along streets, in parks and on other village properties.

i-Tree is a state-of-the-art, peer-reviewed software program developed by the USDA Forest Service and numerous cooperators including Davey Tree Expert Co., Arbor Day Foundation, Society of Municipal Arborists, and the International Society of Arboriculture. More than 4900 communities and organizations throughout the country utilize this program to assess the effects and values of their urban forests. Users include Milwaukee, Wisconsin; Minneapolis, Minnesota; Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania; and the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources.³

In 2009, the Village of Howard's L.E. O'Connor Fellow, Jennifer Pollitt, produced the Carbon Footprint Report for the Go Green Save Green task force. This report summarizes the annual CO₂, Energy and Costs associated with the village's operations for a multi-



Photo: Village of Howard

Brown County champion white oak located on Village of Howard's Village Green municipal golf course (ranked 4th in the state in 2007).

year time period, 2006–2008. This report was generated using ICLEI's Clean Air and Climate Protection 2009 software. The most recent figures available in the report were from 2008.

These figures were compared with the information obtained from the Comprehensive Urban Forestry Management Plan to evaluate the benefits the village's urban forest has with relation to carbon sequestration and energy savings.

Table 1

	Government Operations Output ⁴	Public Tree Benefit ⁵	Net Difference
CO ₂ (tons)	1063	1247	+184
Energy (MMBtu)	18,714	12,635	- 6079
Costs/Benefits	\$665,049	\$194,497	- \$470,552

The costs/benefits in Table 1 compared only energy savings, air quality and CO₂ sequestration as these were the three metrics used to calculate the carbon footprint of village operations. The total annual benefits for the village's urban forest for 2010 are summarized in Table 2.

Table 2

Annual Benefits	Total (\$)	Quantifiable Resource Units
Energy	153,259	12,635 MMBtu
CO ₂	18,707	2,494,235 lbs.
Air Quality	22,531	8,084.7 lbs.
Storm Water	139,668	5,153,458 gal. of rainfall interception
Aesthetics / Other	174,900	tangible & intangible
Total Annual Benefits	509,065	

¹ <http://www.epa.gov/sequestration/faq.html>

² [Midwest Community Tree Guide—Benefits, Costs, and Strategic Planting. USDA.](#)

³ <http://www.itreetools.org/>

⁴ [Carbon Footprint Report—Village of Howard, WI. 2009.](#)

⁵ [Comprehensive Urban Forestry Management Plan—Village of Howard, WI. 2010.](#)

Village of Howard Profile:

Population—17,399

Street trees—6658

Park/other village properties—1792

Staff:

Park Superintendent/
Urban Forester

Up to 11 full time
Street Department
employees; none
dedicated exclusively
to Urban Forestry
Division

3 summer seasonal
employees

Budget:

\$179,700; which is
included within the
Street Department
budget

Community Tree Profile:

6

Peking lilac, Pekin lilac (*Syringa pekinensis*)

by Laura G. Jull, Associate Professor & Extension Specialist
Dept. of Horticulture, University of Wisconsin–Madison



Photo: Edward Hasselkus, Professor Emeritus, UW–Madison

Peking lilac

Native To: Northern China mountains

Mature Height: 20–25'

Spread: 15–20'

Form: Open, loose-spreading to rounded form, often has “wild” look to branches, irregular outline, not as refined as Japanese tree lilac cultivars (*Syringa reticulata*). Straight species of Peking lilac is often multi-stemmed versus cultivars, which are usually single-stemmed trees.

Growth Rate: Moderate to fast

Foliage: Opposite, simple, ovate to ovate-lanceolate, 2–4” long with entire margins and a tip that comes to a fine point (acuminate); glabrous, grayish color on undersides of leaves

Buds and Stems: Stems are rounded at the internodes and flattened at the nodes; raised lenticels on stems feel like salt on a pretzel stick; twigs have same diameter to the tip and are glossy brown in color. Two large flower buds are distinct and borne at the ends of stems; lateral buds are smaller and vegetative.

Fall Color: None to yellowish

Flowers: Showy, single, small, creamy-white flowers produced in large, 6–9” long, loose, lightly fragrant panicles at the ends of stems in early summer (June). Flower panicles

are borne in pairs. Tends to flower abundantly every other year with sporadic flowering on alternate years, similar to Japanese tree lilac. Flowers one week before Japanese tree lilac or at the same time. Flowers smell sweet, but more like privet flowers and not like a typical lilac flower.

Fruit: Dehiscent (splits open), ¾” elongated, beaked capsule, green turning yellowish brown, borne in large clusters (panicles) from late summer to winter. Fruit can look ratty in winter and is quite similar to Japanese tree lilac fruit clusters.

Bark: Distinct, cherry-like, reddish brown to coppery brown, often smooth and shiny with lots of horizontal lenticels and some exfoliation. Some cultivars have distinct, exfoliating bark in thin, curling sheets that can peel off. Older bark on straight species is dark with lots of prominent lenticels.

Site Requirements: Very adaptable to most soils and pH, but requires good drainage. Requires full sun, moist, well-drained soil; sensitive to juglone toxicity. Very intolerant to wet soils and poor drainage (similar to Japanese tree lilac), but is drought, urban, and salt tolerant. Easy to transplant in the landscape and non-invasive.

Hardiness Zone: 4a

Insect & Disease Problems: Resistant to powdery mildew, but susceptible to Verticillium wilt. Can get bacterial blight on ends of stems and lilac borer if very stressed.

Suggested Applications: A small, ornamental tree suitable for lawns, parks and street tree use. Early summer flowers and exfoliating bark on cultivars create multi-season interest. Cultivars can be single stemmed and can be limbed up for vehicular and pedestrian clearance. Often used as a rootstock for grafting smaller shrub lilacs on to it, i.e., Palibin lilac standard (shrub on a “stick”).

Limitations: Abundant flowers every other year can deter use. Very sensitive to poor drainage and wet soils, similar to Japanese tree lilac. Sensitive to juglone so do not plant near a walnut or butternut species (*Juglans* spp.).

Comments: Peking lilac is a beautiful, early summer flowering tree for residential and commercial landscapes. It also is an excellent alternative to flowering crabapples for street tree use due to its high salt and drought tolerance. Peking lilac can be used as a specimen tree or in large containers provided with excellent drainage. The striking, exfoliating, coppery-brown



Photo: Laura G. Jull UW–Madison

Peking lilac
'Morton' China
Snow®

of stems in early summer (June). Flower panicles

Continued on page 7

Peking lilac, continued from page 6

bark on some cultivars resembles the bark on paper-bark maple (*Acer griseum*) trees. Peking lilac is in the same family as ash trees (Oleaceae), however, emerald ash borer does not infest lilacs.

Common Cultivars or Selections:

‘DTR 124’: Summer Charm®, has creamy-white panicles, darker green leaves, more upright form, 25–30’ tall, 15’ wide

‘Morton’: China Snow®, (also known as Water Tower® or ‘Chicago Tower’), has very showy, reddish- to coppery-brown, exfoliating, peeling bark in thin, curling sheets, vigorous grower with irregular, spreading form, original plant at Morton Arboretum is 40’ tall and 25’ wide

‘Pendula’: weeping cultivar with moderately pendulous branches, rarely seen in trade

‘SunDak’: Copper Curls®, very similar to ‘Morton’ with coppery orange, exfoliating bark, rounded form

‘Zhang Zhimming’: Beijing Gold®, produces light yellow instead of creamy-white flowers, vigorous grower with upright to spreading form and arching branches

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Manual of Woody Landscape Plants: Their Identification, Ornamental Characteristics, Culture, Propagation and Uses, 6th ed. 2009, by Michael A. Dirr, Stipes Publishing, Champaign, IL.

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Trees for Urban and Suburban Landscapes, 1997, by Edward F. Gilman, Delmar Publishers, Albany, NY. 🌿

Welcome New Urban Forestry Staff

Please extend a warm welcome to these new members of the WDNR urban forestry working group: Kimberly Miller, Northeast Region Urban Forestry Assistant, and Elizabeth Dierickx, South Central Region Urban Forestry Assistant.

Kimberly Miller

“I am originally from the Oklahoma City metro area. I received a Bachelor of Science in Forestry from Oklahoma State University and a Master of Landscape Architecture from the University of Oklahoma.

“I have been involved in the forestry/landscape profession for the last 15 years and have been an ISA certified arborist for the last 5 years. Throughout my career, I have worked in forest research for the pulp and paper industry, the retail nursery trade, community planning, and as an urban forester. In addition to my love for trees I have a passion for how to integrate the natural and built environment through initiatives such as conservation design and green infrastructure.

“I look forward to working with Tracy in the Northeast Region, meeting new people and helping the region with new and exciting opportunities.” Contact Kim at Kimberly.Miller@wi.gov

Elizabeth Dierickx

“I am from Strawberry Point, Iowa, and have an Associate of Applied Sciences degree in Arboriculture from Northeast Iowa Community College in Calmar, Iowa, and a Bachelor of Science degree in Urban Forestry from Western Illinois University in Macomb, Illinois.

“I have been involved with Illinois Arborist Association’s tree climbing competitions, performed my internship at the Bartlett Research Laboratory in Charlotte, NC, and have always been passionate about my education in urban forestry. I’m excited to meet all of you and look forward to working with Jeff Roe and being part of the Wisconsin urban forestry team.” Contact Elizabeth at Elizabeth.Dierickx@wi.gov 🌿

7



Photo: WDNR

Kimberly Miller



Photo: WDNR

Elizabeth Dierickx

What Damaged This Tree?

Turn to page 15 to find out. . .

2012 Urban Forestry Grants applications due October 3, 2011.

For additional information:

<http://dnr.wi.gov/forestry/UF/grants/>



Photo: ?

Urban Tree Health Matters:

Notes from the Plant Disease Diagnostics Clinic, Tree Diseases 2011—Brown, Brown, Go Away

by Brian D. Hudelson, Director
UW–Madison Extension Plant Disease Diagnostics Clinic

Editor's Note: Look for Brian Hudelson's weekly reports in the *Wisconsin Urban Forestry Insider* for information on what plant problems are showing up at the UW–Madison Extension Plant Disease Diagnostics Clinic.

The 2011 growing season has finally arrived and for the spring of 2011, brown seems to be the (unfortunate) color of the season at the Plant Disease Diagnostics Clinic (PDDC). I have received numerous conifer samples, and needle browning seems to be the universal symptom of concern.

Winter Injury: Several early samples submitted have shown no evidence of disease problems and I have chalked up the browning in these samples to winter injury. Winter injury is basically a water stress-related phenomenon in plants that did not have sufficient water stored internally for use over the winter. Symptoms can occur on any evergreen, but I most commonly see winter injury on yews and junipers. Typically needles farthest from the root system of trees and shrubs (i.e., those on branches near the top of the plant, or at the tips of longer lower branches) show symptoms first. Our relatively dry fall (at least in many parts of Wisconsin), coupled with what seemed like a never-ending winter, likely exacerbated winter

injury issues in many areas. The best way to help prevent winter injury is to make sure evergreens are well watered going into the fall. I typically recommend that established evergreens receive roughly one inch of water per week. If Mother Nature does not cooperate, then I suggest applying water at the drip lines of trees and shrubs (or more extensively if possible) using a soaker or drip hose. Evergreens can be watered into the fall up until the point when either the ground freezes or there is a significant snowfall. I also suggest removing grass from around conifers (out to at least the drip lines of trees and shrubs) to remove a potential source of competition for water. These areas should be mulched with a high-quality mulch. My personal favorite is redcedar mulch, but other conifer mulches, as well as shredded oak bark mulch, are good as well. I typically recommend up to two inches of mulch around trees that are planted in heavier soils (e.g., soils that have a fair amount of clay), and up to four inches of mulch around trees that are planted in lighter soils (e.g., soils that are primarily sand). Be sure to keep mulch approximately four to six inches

Continued on page 10



Photo: PDDC

Figure 1: (left) Winter injury is common on a variety of evergreens but can be particularly severe on yews.

Figure 2: (middle) *Rhizosphaera* needle cast typically leads to browning and loss of internal needles on spruce branches.

Figure 3: (right) Using a hand lens, one can oftentimes see numerous fruiting bodies (reproductive structures) of the Swiss needle cast fungus on the undersurface of Douglas-fir needles.

Coming Events:

July 23–27, 2011—International Society of Arboriculture Annual Conference and Trade Show, Sydney, Australia. Visit www.isa-arbor.com/events/conference/futureSites.aspx.

July 31–August 4, 2011—Wind & Trees Conference, Georgia Center for Continuing Education, Athens, GA. Visit www.iufro.org/science/divisions/division-8/80000/80100/80111/en/.

August 9, 2011—Hazard Trees Workshop, by Ed Hayes of Safe Trees, LLC, Duluth, MN. Visit www.safetrees.com.

August 11, 2011—Wisconsin Nursery Association's 40th Annual Field Day & Trade Show, West Madison Ag Research Station, Verona, WI. Call 414-529-4705.

August 12, 2011—WAA Summer Conference, Klipsantine Park, Ashwaubenon, WI. Visit www.waa-isa.org/.

September 8, 2011—Hazard Trees Workshop, by Ed Hayes of Safe Trees, LLC, St. Paul, MN. Visit www.safetrees.com.

September 12–13, 2011—"Urban Tree Growth" International Meeting and Research Symposium, Morton Arboretum, Lisle, IL. Visit www.masslaboratory.org/urbantreegrowth.htm or call 630-719-2468.



Urban Forest Insect Pests:

Larch Casebearer

by Linda Williams, Forest Health Specialist
DNR Northeast Region

Tamarack, or larch (*Larix* spp.), can bring some diversity to a landscape, being one of the few deciduous conifers that grows in Wisconsin. They turn a beautiful golden-yellow color in the fall before their needles drop, but every so often you will also see needles turning yellow/tan in the spring or early summer; this color is due to the defoliation by larch casebearer.

Larch casebearer (*Celeophora laricella*) is a small caterpillar originating from Europe and accidentally introduced to the US in 1886. The larvae live inside a mined-out needle, carrying it around as a makeshift home, and giving them their name “casebearer.” The adult is a moth, present in June and early July, but it’s the caterpillar that does the damage. The adults mate and lay eggs, and the tiny caterpillars emerge about two weeks later. They bore into the needles and feed within the needles until winter. Larch casebearer overwinters as a caterpillar. It is able to continue feeding when needle growth starts in the spring, at which time it utilizes a hollowed out needle as a protective portable home as it completes its feeding and pupates in May. The feeding by young caterpillars within the needles in the late summer and the feeding by more mature caterpillars in early spring can cause the trees to take on a tan cast which is visible from a distance.

Because the adults can fly, tamarack in yards, boulevards, parks and forests can all be defoliated by larch casebearer. Due to their deciduous nature and their habit of having two flushes of needle growth each year, tamarack can survive multiple years of defoliation, although repeated defoliation can weaken the tree making it susceptible to attack by the bark beetle eastern larch beetle. If you combine the stress of

defoliation with other stressors, such as past years of drought, late season flooding, or mechanical damage, it increases the likelihood of attack by eastern larch beetle.

Control of larch casebearer is usually left up to nature. Needle diseases or late-season flooding or drought, which cause the needles to drop prematurely, can be quite effective in controlling populations of larch casebearer. A cool, wet spring or late

frosts can also kill caterpillars and significantly affect the populations, along with natural enemies, including parasites and predators. Two parasitic wasps from Europe were imported in the 1960s to control larch casebearer and have been quite effective in controlling populations.

Insecticides that target the caterpillars can be used for ornamental trees but are not practical in a forest setting. Since larch casebearer is a *Lepidoptera*, the bacterial insecticide *Bacillus thuringiensis* var. *kurstaki* (Btk) is also effective for controlling this pest.

More information can be found at www.na.fs.fed.us/spto/pubs/fidls/larch/larch.htm. 🌿

9



Defoliation caused by larch casebearer

Photo: Linda Williams, WDNR



Larch casebearer caterpillar using needle casing as a shelter. (Head is emerged, feeding on green needle.)

Photo: Linda Williams, WDNR

September 13, 2011—Hazard Trees Workshop, by Ed Hayes of Safe Trees, LLC, Wisconsin Dells, WI. Visit www.safetrees.com.

September 25–28, 2011—Society of Municipal Arborists International Urban Forestry Conference, Hyatt Regency Hotel, Milwaukee, WI. Visit www.urban-forestry.com or call 800-233-1234.

November 1–4, 2011—Wisconsin Park & Recreation Association Annual Conference & Trade Show, KI Convention Center, Green Bay, WI. Visit www.wprweb.org/education.htm.

November 3–5, 2011—TCI Expo, Hartford, CT. Visit www.tcia.org or call 800-733-2622.

November 15–17, 2011—Partners in Community Forestry National Conference, Arbor Day Foundation, Coronado Springs Resort, Lake Buena Vista, FL. Visit www.arborday.org/shopping/conferences/brochures/pcf/2011/.

November 30–December 3, 2011—ASCA Annual Conference, Incline Village, NV. Visit www.asca-consultants.org/edprograms/conference.cfm.

February 21–24, 2012—ASCA Consulting Academy, Crowne Plaza, Philadelphia, PA. Visit www.asca-consultants.org/edprograms/consultingacademy.cfm. 🌿

If there is a meeting, conference, workshop or other event you would like listed here, please contact Cindy Casey. Please see back cover for contact information.

Announcing— 2nd Community Tree Management Institute

by Tracy Salisbury, Urban Forestry Coordinator
DNR Northeast Region

The DNR Urban Forestry program is excited to announce the 2nd Community Tree Management Institute (CTMI), an innovative urban forestry training program in Wisconsin. This advanced training course is for those whose duties include municipal tree program management, but who have little or no academic training in urban forestry and arboriculture. This training program focuses heavily on the management side rather than the technical side of urban forestry.

The goal of CTMI is to deliver a broad, interactive, adult learning experience that:

- builds a basic foundation of community tree management skills
- enhances leadership ability
- increases awareness and use of existing resources

With the success of the first CTMI and input from graduates we have made some slight changes including adding a second field day to session III and expanding curriculum topics.

CTMI now offers over 40 hours of instruction spread over 3 sessions (November 9–10, 2011, February 28–29, 2012 and June 19–20, 2012). The curriculum is delivered in both classroom and field settings.

CTMI will provide you with the tools to manage your community's trees to provide the greatest benefit to your residents. And as a CTMI graduate, you will join a statewide cadre of professionals, giving you a personal network of community forestry resources and experience.

Urban Tree Health Matters, continued from page 8

away from trunks of trees and the crowns of shrubs. Piling mulch next to trunks or in crowns can promote development of crown rots.

Needle blights/casts: In addition to winter injury problems, I have also noted substantial problems with needle blights and casts. I believe our relatively wet summers of 2009 and 2010 provided the perfect environmental conditions for needle blight/cast fungi to infect and eventually lead to needle browning. The most common of the fungal needle blights/casts that have arrived at the PDDC this spring have been *Rhizosphaera* needle cast of spruce (caused by *Rhizosphaera kalkhoffii*) and Swiss needle cast of Douglas-fir (caused by *Phaeocryptopus gaeumannii*). These diseases tend to cause browning of interior needles on lower branches of larger spruces and Douglas-firs (where denser foliage tends to slow down the drying of needles when they get wet). Eventually the brown needles drop from the branches. If one uses a hand lens to look at the brown needles, one oftentimes will

Dates and Locations

There are three CTMI sessions scheduled for 2011–2012. To be accepted into the program, participants must be able to attend **all** three sessions.

Session I

Management and Administration
November 9–10, 2011
Green Lake, WI

Session III

Field Operations—Tour
June 19–20, 2012
Stevens Point, WI

Session II

Technical and Policy Issues
February 28–29, 2012
Green Lake, WI



Program Cost :

\$300 If registered by August 31, 2011.

\$375 If registered after August 31, 2011.

Fees include all course materials, meal and lodging costs for sessions I, II & III. Participants are responsible for their own travel costs.

Please contact your Regional Urban Forestry Coordinator (see back cover) for more information.

CTMI is sponsored by the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources, in cooperation with the UW-Extension and UW-Stevens Point College of Natural Resources. 🌿

see rows of small black dots erupting from stomates on the needles. These are the fruiting bodies (reproductive structures) of the fungal pathogens. While fungicide treatments are available to help manage both *Rhizosphaera* and Swiss needle casts (see the [University of Wisconsin Garden Facts](#) fact sheets on these diseases for details of both chemical and cultural controls), the difficulty in getting adequate, uniform coverage of needles on larger trees with densely packed foliage, as well as the occurrence of extreme environmental conditions (e.g., the frequent rains of 2009 and 2010), can reduce the effectiveness of chemical treatments.

With recent rains and now warmer, humid weather, I expect to see plant diseases becoming more prevalent, particularly deciduous tree and shrub leaf spots and blights. As always, if you are having difficulty in diagnosing a plant disease problem, feel free to submit a sample to the PDDC. Contact and sample submission information is available at <http://pddc.wisc.edu>. 🌿

Certification Profile:

An Inside Look at the ISA Municipal Arborist Certification

by Michelle Buckstrup
adapted by Laura Wyatt, Urban Forestry Communication Specialist, DNR Division of Forestry, from an article which first appeared in the July/August 2005 issue of "City Trees," the magazine of the Society for Municipal Arborists.

The Society for Municipal Arborists and International Society of Arboriculture partnered to create a municipal arboriculture credential. The Municipal Specialist certification is for Municipal Arborists (MAs) who are already Certified Arborists (CAs), but who, like their utility arborist colleagues who take the utility arborist exam, wish to add to their credentials. Likewise, CAs who wish to move into MA positions can use the MA certification to increase their knowledge and chances for promotion.

Five Reasons to Become a Certified Municipal Specialist

Hiring and getting hired. A credential specifically for MAs does for MAs what the CA credential has done for arborists generally—it establishes a benchmark that is internationally recognized. According to Alan Siewert, who served as chair of ISA's International Certification Liaison Committee and administers the Municipal Specialist exam in Ohio, where he is an urban forester for Ohio DNR Division of Forestry:

"Something that my colleagues and I here in Ohio are concerned about is that as municipalities suffer budget cuts and as seasoned MAs retire, munies are hiring folks from their tree crews to be their MAs. Because what an MA does is unique and involves a host of communication, public relations and fundraising skills, a perfectly good tree-crew member may not be the right person for the MA position. I've seen municipalities seriously downgrade their programs because they hired the wrong person. If broadly required, the ISA Municipal Specialist certification would ensure certain baseline knowledge of what's involved in urban forestry."

Promotions and lateral moves. MAs or would-be MAs distinguish themselves from the competition when they acquire this credential. According to Lisa W. Grant, who served as the chair of the Municipal Specialist test development committee and is the parks superintendent for the city of Santa Rosa, CA:

"The areas of expertise required by an MA are unique," she says. "Even when you are dealing with personnel, there is a twist when you're in a government position, such as the ways work performance

is documented. In many cases CAs can use their credential both to keep their jobs in this time of budget uncertainty and to get promoted. The Municipal Specialist certification will set these individuals apart even further. In my opinion, better compensation is a realistic long-term outcome."

The value of preparation. For Owen Croy, Manager of Parks for Surrey, BC, the study and review he did prior to the exam was one of the benefits of taking the test. "Even though I'd read or been exposed to most of the books in the reference list, there were areas I could brush up on," he says.

"It occurred to me that preparing for the test would be an excellent thing for all municipal arborists to do, because it exposes you to new ideas. Working in one municipality for many years, you can get narrow in the way your organization does business. The beauty of the exam is that it forces you to think about alternative ways of delivering services and dealing with personnel and the media, ways that could translate if you move to a new job."

Sharing community and building confidence. Lisa W. Grant thinks that the Municipal Specialist certification can help MAs network with and support one another. "When we are continuously fighting to prevent budget cuts and preaching the benefits of urban trees, it's nice to know there are others who shared these battles. The commonality of this certification is a way we can boost our collective morale. Like so many ISA projects I've been involved with, the certification is yet another way to build friendships and broaden our professional knowledge."

Projecting professionalism. An ISA certification is recognized all over the world. Former SMA president Lloyd Burrige explains that his Registered Professional Forester credential in Ontario, Canada, is not recognized by other Canadian provinces or American states. "Because the Municipal Specialist certification is internationally recognized," he says, "you don't have to rewrite exams if you change states, provinces or countries."

Alan Siewert thinks that the professionalism that this exam cultivates and reflects will serve MAs well. "When you get promoted to an MA position, you're dealing with city hall, unions, the press, community groups and other nonprofits. MAs have to be effective in these areas or their programs will fail."

11

Domains on the Municipal Specialist Exam

Public Relations and Education: 20%

Includes customer service, public participation and public education

Policy and Planning: 15%

Includes master plans, risk assessment, laws and ordinances, and storm/disaster emergency response

Communication skills: 10%

Includes oral, written, and interactive

Administration: 20%

Includes budgeting and funding, personnel management, labor unions and contract monitoring, and safety: OSHA compliance and policy development, fleet and equipment safety, and safety programs and education

Tree Risk Management: 10%

Includes tree health, protection and appraisal

Arboricultural practices: 25%

Includes tree inventories, pruning and pruning cycles, planting, natural areas, tree protection and preservation, and soils and drainage

Continued on page 12

<http://dnr.wi.gov/forestry/UF/>

12

Nuts and Bolts

To take the Municipal Specialist exam, individuals must have worked for at least three years in urban forestry and be a certified arborist in good standing. The test has 100 questions and requires 70% correct answers for a passing grade.

For MAs to maintain their certification, they must take 12 continuing education units (CEUs) over the course of three years, at least three of which must come from professional conferences. The 12 CEUs must be in the areas of the Municipal Specialist test domains (see sidebar, page 11). Municipal Specialists must also maintain their ISA Certified Arborist credential, which requires 30 CEUs every three years. The 12 Municipal Specialist CEUs are in addition to the 30 Certified Arborist CEUs.

Getting Ready

Help is available to CAs studying for the Municipal Specialist exam. A handbook and application are available through ISA at www.isa-arbor.com/certification/municipal.aspx.

An Exam Evolves

According to Lisa W. Grant, the Municipal Specialist exam, like the Certified Arborist exam, is “fluid, not stagnant.” She says, “The exam changes to reflect the updated standards, best management practices and new scientific findings.”

A Final Word of Advice

According to Lloyd Burrige, in a bizarre twist, the domain that Municipal Specialist test-takers most often fail is not communication skills or public relations; it’s arboricultural practices! So don’t forget to get reacquainted with your Certified Arborist study guide.

billion. Foundation grants distributed in 2007 totaled \$497 million. Realizing that these figures represent data collected before the major economic downturn of 2008, even a 25% reduction of these values still is impressive. Philanthropy, or charitable giving, represents significant dollars—and it is on the rise.

Religious organizations, hospitals and educational institutions have long been traditional recipients of these charitable gifts. But in the last 20 years, an increasing number of gifts have gone to community and environmental initiatives. So why not a fund for local tree planting and care?

The [Donors Forum website](#) provides a good overview of the various kinds of foundations operating within the state. The most common types include Private Foundations, generally endowed from a single individual or family; Corporate Foundations, whose originating donor is a corporation rather than a family or individual; and Public Foundations, which are publicly supported and receive much of their financial support in the form of contributions from the general public.

Community foundations are a popular type of public foundation made up of a number of individual funds managed by a single administrative body with all funds pooled for greater investment return. As the name implies, community foundations usually have a limited geographical area. Some of the individual funds are general purpose and discretionary; others are quite narrowly focused and may offer funds only for scholarships or for a certain group of organizations. Trustees are chosen from the public for a specific term. The board typically has full discretionary responsibility over some funds, while some funds may be donor-advised and others directed to a particular agency or organization.

Approximately 35 community foundations operate in Wisconsin. To locate a community foundation near you, Google a foundation from the list provided, or visit the Donors Forum website at www.wisconsinives.org/ and select the Foundation Finder tab. Then visit the community foundation website to learn about the services provided. A majority of foundations offer and administer specific grants and also assist in the establishment and management of endowment funds. Grants are generally helpful for short-term or one-time projects, whereas endowed funds are established for sustained project support.

Your area community foundation is your local fund development partner. Expect to pay a small fee for management of endowment funds. The small fee is a great investment in a partner who:

- knows community issues and how your project relates
- knows the people who are interested and able to invest in your project/issue

2011 SMA International Urban Forestry Conference

Make plans now!

September 25–28, 2011

at the Hyatt Regency

333 Kilbourn Ave, Milwaukee, Wisconsin.

Make your Hotel Reservation now online or via telephone by calling 1-888-421-1442.

SMA room rate is \$117 per night.

Registration Information

[View and Download 2011 Conference Agenda](#)



Continued on page 13

- 🌿 assumes fiduciary responsibilities
- 🌿 is a professional fund developer

If your community is not serviced by a community foundation, the [Natural Resources Foundation](#) of Wisconsin may be able to provide similar services. NRF was established in 2005 to provide opportunities for people who care about Wisconsin's lands, waters and wildlife to deepen their understanding and appreciation for these natural resources, to support state and local conservation programs, and to establish conservation endowments. NRF does not provide any tree planting related grants at this time. For additional information contact Camille.zanoni@wisconsin.gov.

In an era of specialization and with everyone managing more with less, it is critical to develop and utilize partnerships. Develop a vision of what you would like your community tree canopy program to become and expand your tent by seeking and cultivating partners who share and will work with you toward making that vision a reality.

Look for additional upcoming articles addressing how to develop a community tree canopy vision, recruiting partners, establishing tree planting and care endowments, seeking corporate grants and other partnership related issues.

More than \$687 billion will move from one Wisconsin generation to the next by 2050. Those are the findings from the Transfer of Wealth in Wisconsin study, commissioned by Wisconsin's Certified Community Foundations. While the study was published in September 2006, before the 2008 economic downturn, reducing this figure 20–30% still represents a huge number. This is considered to be a historic opportunity for charitable giving with many leaders believing that people of all income levels will be looking for ways to make a difference with a charitable gift that will help their community thrive. Tree planting and care endowments can provide people an opportunity to invest in supporting their community shade tree canopy.

Wisconsin Community Foundations

Certified Community Foundations

Community Foundation for the Fox Valley Region
 Community Foundation of Central Wisconsin
 Community Foundation of Chippewa County
 Community Foundation of Greater South Wood County
 Community Foundation of North Central Wisconsin
 Community Foundation of Southern Wisconsin
 Duluth Superior Area Community Foundation
 Eau Claire Community Foundation
 Fond du Lac Area Foundation
 Greater Menomonie Area Community Foundation

Greater Green Bay Community Foundation
 Greater Milwaukee Foundation
 Kenosha Community Foundation
 La Crosse Community Foundation
 M & M Community Foundation
 Madison Community Foundation
 Marshfield Area Community Foundation
 Oshkosh Area Community Foundation
 Racine Community Foundation
 St. Croix Valley Community Foundation
 Stataline Community Foundation
 Waukesha County Community Foundation

Yet to Comply with National Standards

Baldwin–Woodville Community Foundation
 Black River Falls Area Foundation
 Brodhead Community Foundation
 Door County Community Foundation
 Fort Atkinson Community Foundation
 Greater Sauk County Community Foundation
 Lakeshore Community Foundation
 Mount Horeb Community Foundation
 New Richmond Community Foundation
 Watertown Area Community Foundation
 Viroqua Area Foundation
 Rusk County Community Foundation

The DNR Urban Forestry program is pleased to announce that Laura Wyatt has been assigned to the position of Partnership Specialist. In this new position Ms. Wyatt will work with other urban forestry staff in the development of statewide partnerships and protocols for private funding and implementation of public and private urban tree planting and management.

Laura has worked with the DNR urban forestry program since 2006 as the Urban Forestry Council Liaison and Communication Specialist. Before joining the DNR, Laura was founding director of the Klehm Arboretum in Rockford, IL, where she guided the project from vision to reality while raising more than \$5 million. She achieved national recognition for developing University of Illinois Extension programming which she reports was built on a foundation of partnerships. 🌿



Does your community or organization have an idea, project or information that may be beneficial to others? Please let your regional urban forestry coordinator know. We will print as many of these as we can.

The Idea Exchange...

compiled by Olivia Witthun, Urban Forestry Coordinator
DNR East Central Region

UF Program Packets for New Officials

The City of Madison takes a proactive approach to introducing newly elected officials to the city's urban forestry department. Each new city council member receives an urban forestry introduction packet. This packet is meant to familiarize them with urban forestry and their city's urban forestry program. Contained inside the packet are:

- ✔ a welcome letter
- ✔ Madison's annual tree care statistics on pruning, planting and removals
- ✔ a map of forestry districts in relation to aldermanic districts
- ✔ tree pruning and tree replacement door hangers for outreach to residents
- ✔ Madison's Tree Maintenance Policy and priorities
- ✔ annual Arbor Week activities
- ✔ pictures of the forestry crew in action during different seasons of the year
- ✔ state and federal EAB information
- ✔ *The Green Menace* DVD
- ✔ Madison's EAB Task Force's proposed strategies
- ✔ gypsy moth suppression information
- ✔ *The Forest Where We Live*—WI DNR
- ✔ *Trees Pay Us Back*—USDA Forest Service
- ✔ a list of Web resources
- ✔ the city forester's business card

Important concepts stressed in the packet are tree safety, conservation, and the cost effectiveness of proactive vs. reactive tree care. This is a great way to invite community leaders into the realm of professional urban forestry. It identifies a go-to person for tree issues and it leaves a great impression of their city's forestry program. The forester checks in personally with each



Madison new official packet.

official after they have received the information. The city's proactive approach has been instrumental in strengthening support for their urban forestry program. In fact, a Madison alderwoman just won the Wisconsin Urban Forestry Council's Distinguished Service Award for an Elected Official. *Info: Marla Eddy, Madison City Forester, 608-266-4450, MEddy@cityofmadison.com.*

Woodchips Exchanged for Trees

The Village of Thiensville, Wisconsin, has a great partnership with a local nursery. Wood chips produced by the village during tree maintenance and removals are brought to the village recycling yard. When there are enough chips for hauling, the village delivers them by the truckload to the nursery, which uses the wood chips as mulch in their nursery beds. In exchange for the free wood chips, the nursery provides the village with free trees and shrubs during planting season. Thiensville receives approximately 30–50 trees and shrubs per year. Despite the use of wood chips by the nursery, there is still an ample supply. Thiensville residents may pick up chips from the village's fenced-in recycling yard if they've purchased a recycling card. The cost of \$10 every two years is minimal and helps offset some of the administrative costs. *Info: Andy LaFond, Thiensville Director of Public Works, 262-242-3720, alafond@village.thiensville.wi.us.*

CRISP Organizes Regional Ash Tree Street Inventory

The Catskill Regional Invasive Species Partnership (CRISP) is a voluntary, cooperative partnership of diverse stakeholders from the Catskill Mountain Region of New York, which operates under the umbrella of the Catskill Center for Conservation and Development. CRISP promotes prevention, early detection and rapid response for invasive species. They conduct public outreach and management activities, as well as support research on the impacts and control methods of invasive species. Emerald ash borer is the latest invasive to get their attention. CRISP recognizes tree inventories will provide Catskill's communities with the data necessary for making critical decisions regarding their ash trees. CRISP created the Ash Tree Street Inventory Project 2011. They prioritized 20 communities on the front lines of an EAB infestation and began working with them to increase public awareness, administer workshops and trainings, and to locate all ash trees along public roads. Each community has a separate day scheduled when volunteers will be conducting ash tree inventories. Several days before the inventory collection, each community has a non-mandatory training workshop for volunteers to learn how to identify ash trees, the signs of emerald ash borer, how to use the GPS (Global Positioning System), and how the inventory will be conducted. Training is also available the day of the inventory for volunteers unable to make it to the first session. *Info: www.catskillcenter.org/index.php/component/content/article/125.*

Urban & Community Forestry Program Resources:

Urban Wood Utilization

compiled by Cindy Casey, Urban Forestry Coordinator
DNR West Central Region

Urbanwood.org—<http://urbanwood.org/>

Billed as southeast Michigan's urban wood marketplace, Urbanwood.org developed around efforts to increase the reuse/recycling of dead trees, especially those killed by EAB. Though case studies, resources and contacts are primarily regional, the underlying concepts have broad applicability.

Urban Forest Products Alliance on LinkedIn—
www.linkedin.com/

Join this urban wood-focused membership group on the LinkedIn social networking site to track & participate in discussions on a timely topic!

“Marketing Dead Timber in the Upper Midwest,” by S. Bratkovich, B. McNee & J. Kyhl, 2010—http://na.fs.fed.us/pubs/forest_products/marketing_timber/marketing_dead_timber_web.pdf. An 8-page booklet with helpful guidance for marketing dead & dying trees.

Community Urban Wood Utilization Planning Worksheet—<http://semircd.org/ash/news/UrbanWood-UsePlanningWorksheet.pdf>

An extremely useful checklist and guide for developing a municipal wood utilization plan! 🌿

15



City of Plymouth, continued from page 2

during the hot summer months, with a weekly watering schedule.

Bill Immich, Director of Public Works, also serves as the city forester. He was a participant in the recent Community Tree Management Institute conducted by the Wisconsin DNR. The city is fortunate to have a trained arborist working for the electrical department as an electrical line maintenance worker. This is a resource used to look at problem trees and other tree related issues.

The emerald ash borer is or will be a concern for all communities in Wisconsin. Two years ago the ash borer was found 30 miles south of Plymouth. A group was brought together by Sheboygan County Extension to develop a county emerald ash borer response plan. Mr. Immich, along with public works directors, city foresters, Wisconsin DNR staff and Extension staff, drafted a plan that was adopted by the county board this past year. The final product gives the communities a blueprint to create individual response plans. The group also brought a significant amount of awareness to all public officials on the emerald ash borer issue.

Like most Wisconsin communities, Plymouth has nearly 20% ash in its inventory—a total of 506 ash trees. Plymouth has been proactive in the ash borer planning. This past year 18 ash trees that were planted 8 years ago were removed and replaced with various other species. A letter was sent to homeowners explaining the ash borer issue and explaining that if residents agreed to have a tree removed it would be replaced by the city. If the tree were to become infested with the ash borer the tree might not be replaced because of anticipated budget constraints. The result was that 100% of the residents receiving the letter agreed to have trees removed. On a side note, these trees were all located on a street named Ash Circle. There are

no plans to rename the street! Plymouth's future goal is to diversify the tree inventory by choosing a larger variety of species to plant in parks and along streets.

The mayor and city council have been big supporters of trees for the city of Plymouth, understanding that trees are an important part of our community and recognizing the good they do in cleaning air and ground water as well as increasing property values. These attributes make it all the more desirable to maintain and continue to build upon our urban forest. The goal is to maintain the urban forest so future generations might enjoy trees planted today. 🌿



Downtown Plymouth

Photo: Bill Immich

What Damaged This Tree?

Answer: Brian D. Hudelson, Director of the UW—Madison Plant Disease Diagnostics Clinic, comments, “I see this quite often on birch trees in the spring as the sap begins to run and if there are wounds in the tree trunks that allow the sap to flow externally. The sap appears to serve as a great growth medium for bacteria and fungi (not surprising given that sap is loaded with sugars). Primarily what I find in this mess is miscellaneous bacteria, lots of yeasts and often-times a fair amount of sporulation of the fungus *Fusarium*. I don't get overly worried about this phenomenon, as once wounds close and sap stops flowing, this material tends to dry up. If a client doesn't like the look, hosing the area down will (at least temporarily) get rid of the mess, although it may re-form if the tree continues to bleed.” 🌿



<http://dnr.wi.gov/forestry/UF/>

Village of Howard, continued from page 5

As the urban forest grows, individual trees will continue to sequester more and more carbon throughout their lives. The overall public tree benefits will increase as the “green infrastructure” of the urban forest grows.

It should be noted that village-owned natural areas and wooded parklands were not included in these calculations as quantifiable data on trees located in these areas does not currently exist. However these locations, and trees and other vegetation that grow there, also contribute to the storage of atmospheric CO₂, as well as other benefits listed earlier.

In summary, the Village of Howard’s urban forest has a CO₂ sequestration benefit that currently exceeds the local government’s operational output. As additional public trees are planted and grow, the energy savings will continue to improve, thus reducing the current negative net difference. Future revisions and calculations to the Carbon Footprint Report as well as the Comprehensive Urban Forestry Management Plan will continue to show the benefits of the Village of Howard’s urban forest in relation to the carbon and energy outputs from village operations.

This information will be beneficial in helping the village achieve target goals and milestones outlined in the Carbon Footprint Report as well as exemplify the village’s commitment to the environment and mitigation of its carbon footprint. 🌿



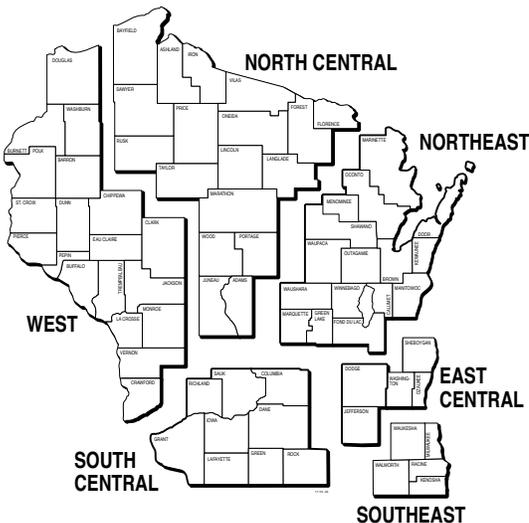
Wisconsin Arborist Association Summer Conference & Tree Climbing Championship

Klipstine Park, Ashwaubenon
August 19, 2011

- 🌿 Tree Diagnostics by the Tree Amigos
- 🌿 A New EAB Survey Method
- 🌿 Tree Climbing Competition
- 🌿 A Lunch-Time Pig Roast

Registration information and online registration at: www.waa-isa.org 🌿

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