



Volume 10, Number 4

Winter 2000

Look for *CitizenTreeActions!* The newsletter of the Oregon Community Trees on page 9

Manager's Message

Scott Plamondon, Oregon Department of Forestry

Well the last year of the millennium has just about passed—or was it the first year? The second year—or is it the first year—of the new millennium is just about to start. Urban and community forestry is on the move in Oregon.

There is an American Forests' City Green Regional Analysis project slated for completion in 2001 that includes Oregon and Washington and stretches from Longview, Washington to Eugene, Oregon. This effort promises to increase the awareness of community forestry and help Oregon communities understand the need for additional resources in their efforts to plan and manage community forests within their community. This project will help move urban and community forestry into the next millennium by utilizing space age technology as a tool in understanding the significance and effects of change in our natural environment. As we look back over the past and see the change in tree canopy, we can better understand the effects of development and better plan for the future. If a picture is worth 1000 words, a pixel is worth a million. Look for the City Green article in this issue and

find out more about this fascinating project.

Community Tree Management Institute 2000 was a tremendous success. This issue has an article describing the unique course. Look it over and think about planning to attend a future class in 2001 or 2002. It is the only comprehensive class in urban and community forestry offered in the Northwest. It is well worth your time and effort to attend. If you do not believe me, just talk to any of the CTMI graduates.

Looking for an environmentally friendly gift for you or someone special? Consider a 2001 membership with Oregon Community Trees, also known as Oregon Urban and Community Forestry Council, for only \$30/individual and \$100/organiza-

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Community Profile

Monmouth Legacy Forest

By Forrest Peck and Jeannette Miller, Monmouth Legacy Forest

In 1999 several community members envisioned Monmouth Legacy Forest. With the encouragement and vision of Mayor Paul Evans, a grass roots effort was begun by volunteers Charlyn Eschette, Karen Evans and Rena Hoover that built a partnership between community members and the City of



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Bud Breaking News

National Champion Elm Diagnosed with Dutch Elm Disease

The national champion American elm, the largest of this nearly vanished species in the United States, was recently diagnosed with Dutch Elm Disease. Virginia Tech plant pathologist R. Jay Stipes, Ph.D., says the tree has about a year to live. It is 112 feet tall and has a crown spread of 115 feet. The tree, located in Michigan, is listed on the National Register of Big Trees. The search is on for a new champion for the 2002 Register, should the tree fall victim to the disease that has ravaged the nation's population of stately elms. You can find interesting facts about trees listed on the year 2000 Register at www.americanforests.org/garden/big_trees/new_fallen_orig.html. To nominate a tree for the 2002 Register, email program coordinator Jen Pietruski at jpietruski@amfor.org.

Oregon Downtown Development Association's Achievement Awards

It is not too early to begin thinking about nominations for next year's Oregon Downtown Development Association's Downtown Achievement Awards. Last year, the City of Monmouth and the Legacy Tree Project received the Community Partnerships Award.

This award honored the community for coming together into a

Oregonians Asked to Help Keep Out Sudden Oak Death

A fungus-caused disease that is killing oak trees in Northern California has prompted Oregon officials to take measures in an attempt to keep it from spreading northward. The Oregon Department of Agriculture (ODA) and the Oregon Department of Forestry (ODF) are asking Oregonians to take part in preventing the introduction of the disease to the state.

Sudden Oak Death (SOD) is a new disease of several oak species and has only been found in and around the San Francisco Bay Area with most damage being done in Marin, Monterey, Napa, Santa Cruz, and Sonoma Counties. It is believed to be caused by a new species of the fungus *Phytophthora*, which invades susceptible trees through the bark, killing portions of the tree and weakening it so that insects and other fungi can invade.

Since tanoaks, black oaks, and

coastal live oaks—the three species of oak most susceptible to SOD—are found in Oregon, ODA and ODF are asking Oregonians to help keep the disease out of the state by following some simple guidelines:

1) Do not transport oak firewood or other potentially infected plant materials (such as seedlings, logs, bark products, and acorns) from diseased areas to Oregon.

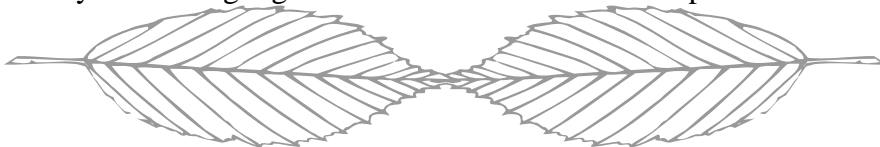
2) If you visit diseased areas in California, wash mud or soil from your vehicle and shoes before traveling to disease-free areas. This includes mountain bikes ridden in areas with the disease.

3) If you see an oak or tanoak tree with symptoms of SOD, report it to the Oregon Department of Agriculture or Oregon Department of Forestry immediately.

Symptoms of sudden oak death on diseased trees include burgundy-red to black sap bleeding onto the bark surface, sunken or flattened cankers beneath the bleeding, and a distinctive dark red canker margin in the bark and wood—all occurring above ground, usually within three to fifteen feet of the soil line. In young tanoaks, the first symptom may be a wilting and drooping of all new growth.

Surveys are underway in Southern Oregon to confirm that the state remains free of sudden oak death.

For more information, contact Nancy Osterbauer, ODA at 503/986-4636 or Alan Kanaskie, ODF at 503/945-7397.



Mark Your Calendar!

December 8

Oregon Community Trees Quarterly Board of Directors Meeting. Magness Memorial Tree Farm (near Wilsonville, OR). Contact Scott Plamondon, ODF at 503/945-7391, splamondon@odf.state.or.us.

December 13 - 14

High Desert Green Industry Conference. Central Oregon Community College, Bend, OR. Contact Ed Bartz at 541/389-5296, ebartz@bendcable.com or visit <http://extension.orst.edu/deschutes/Horticulture/hort> and click on calendar.

December 15

Tree City USA applications due into ODF Salem office. Contact Scott Plamondon at 503/945-7391, Kristin Ramstad at 503/945-7390 or Katie Kause at 541/447-5658.

January 13, 2001

ISA Certified Arborist Exam. Seattle, WA. Contact PNW-ISA at 503/874-8263.

January 15, 2001

2000 Oregon Urban and Community Forestry Awards nominations due into OCT. For nomination packet, contact ODF at 503/945-7386 or www.odf.state.or.us/fa/UF/uf.htm.

January 19, 2001

ISA Certified Arborist Exam. Boise, ID. Contact PNW-ISA at 503/874-8263.

January 31, 2001

Main Street . . . When a Highway Runs Through It Handbook Workshop. Yachats, OR City Hall. Oregon Downtown Development Association. Contact Joy or Ron at 541/547-3565.

February 12, 2001

ISA Certified Arborist Exam. Roseburg, OR. Contact PNW-ISA at 503/874-8263.

February 15 – 17, 2001

10th Annual Yamhill County SWCD Native Plant Sale. McMinnville, OR. To receive a plant description and order form contact Yamhill Soil & Water Conservation District at 503/472-6403, Yamhill-swcd@or.nacdn.net.

March 8, 2001

Oregon Community Trees Quarterly Board of Directors Meeting. Oregon State University, Corvallis, OR. Contact Scott Plamondon, ODF at 503/945-7391, splamondon@odf.state.or.us.

March 9, 2001

Oregon Community Trees' Summit 2001. *Enhancing Livability Through Community Trees: How Urban & Community Forestry Can Meet the Multiple Challenges of Salmon Recovery, Urban Sprawl & Community Livability.* LaSells Stewart Center, Corvallis, OR. Contact Al Kitzman at al.a.kitzman@co.benton.or.us, 541/766-6018, or visit www.odf.state.or.us/fa/uf/oct/index.html.

March 16, 2001

2001 National Arbor Day Poster Contest entries due into World Forestry Center Education Department. Open to 5th Graders. For a free packet of lesson plans, student hand-outs and contest rules, contact WFC at 503/228-1367, ext. 100.

September 5 – 8, 2001

National Urban Forest Conference. Washington, DC. Contact Cheryl Kollin, American Forests at ckollin@amfor.org or by calling 1/800-368-5748 ext. 221.

Manager's Message

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tion. Your dues payment is well spent. It provides you as a member with discounts on OCT workshops and seminars. Look at the Summit 2001 announcement in this issue. OCT Summit 2001, "Enhancing Livability Through Community Trees: How Urban and Community Forestry Can Meet the Multiple Challenges of Salmon Recovery, Urban Sprawl and Community Livability" promises to be an excellent

event. Mark your calendars now and plan to attend this worthwhile event.

These are exciting times. Only in a new millennium and in United States of America can a presidency depend on a chad, a hanging, dimpled, or better yet a pregnant one. In our ever-changing world, every day offers us new knowledge, new challenges, ideas, opportunities, and ways to solve our problems. Let's step out of the old ways and stop "squeezing out the green" in our cities and communities.

For a change, let's "squeeze out the gray" and give a tad more room for the living, green infrastructure that makes our communities livable. In our history, we remember a conflict between the blue and the gray. In the present, there is an opportunity to have a compliment instead of a conflict between the green and the gray. After all, we are moving into a new, more enlightened millennium and 21st century. Remember the green as your community moves into building the infrastructure of tomorrow.

Urban Forestry Briefs

2000 Arbor Day Tree Planting Grant Program Highly Successful

Due to a generous contribution from the J. Frank Schmidt Family Charitable Foundation, the 2000 Arbor Day Tree Planting Grant Program was available to communities for use in conducting a public Arbor Day Tree Planting Celebration and Proclamation.

The grant requests were from \$100 to \$150 each and were used by the communities for acquiring the tree to be planted including purchase, transportation and related materials, and/or promoting the event including public announcements, advertisements and flyers, and/or educating the public including educational materials, and literature. Communities that had not met the requirements of Tree City USA status were especially encouraged to apply.

Communities were required to have an official Arbor Day/Week/Month Proclamation, a public tree

planting ceremony, and provide three-year maintenance for the new tree. For communities meeting the requirements, grants were selected upon first come first served bases. Ten Oregon communities participated in the 2000 Arbor Day Tree Planting Grant Program, with a total of \$1,462 being awarded.

The communities include: Ashland, Coburg, Friends of Mt. Pisgah Arboretum, La Grande, Lakeview, Medford, Myrtle Creek, Rockaway, Seneca, and Toledo. This was an excellent way to promote Arbor Day, the planting of trees, and support for community forestry programs.

Five-Year Plan Available

The Oregon Department of Forestry and Oregon Community Trees announce that the Urban and Community Forestry Strategic Plan for 1998 – 2003 will be available in early 2001. The five-year strategic plan, "Managing Sustainable Community Forests," carries Oregon's Urban and Community Forestry program into 2003. It builds upon the foundation of the first Oregon Urban and Community Forestry plan for more livable cities, "Seeing the Forest for the Trees". It will be available on line and in print. Contact Scott Plamondon, 503/945-7391, for further information.

Community Trees Management Institute 2000

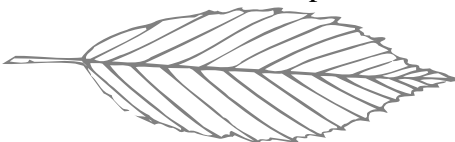
Community Trees Management Institute 2000 was a tremendous success. All of the participants and instructors gained new insights and understanding of urban and community forestry.

This unique course brought together 23 professionals as instructors covering over 30 topic areas in urban and community forestry. A special thanks to all of them! It was their willingness to volunteer

Clinehens, Mike Cloughesy, Terrill Collier, Rob Crouch, Mark Duntemann, Steve Elder, Diana Enright, Terrence Flanagan, Gail Gredler, Sean Hogan, Alan Kanaskie, Katie Kause, Gary Marshall, Randy Miller, Chris Neamtzu, Greg Paulson, Scott Plamondon, Kristin Ramstad, Scott Reed, Paul Ries, Al Shay, and Mark Snyder.

The students, representing 15 communities throughout the state, accomplished course projects that included a La Grande tree walking tour, a Southern Oregon tree board coalition (Grants Pass to Ashland), tree preservation standards for Eugene, and an Oregon oak preservation plan in Wilsonville, just to

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Graduates of CTMI 2000 and ODF Urban Forestry Staff

their time to the Institute that made this years course a success. The instructors were: Jim Boling, Tuck

Management Institute

Continued from page 4

name a few.

Congratulations to all of the 2000 Community Trees Management Institute Graduates! They join the ranks of those who have preceded them in forming the foundation of and a nucleus for urban and community forestry development in Oregon. You are encouraged to contact them for further information about this unique 40-hour course.

Kelly Walker, Sunriver,
541/593-1522

Farrien Jensen, Talent,
541/535-3828

Doug Grafe, Albany,
541/917-7673

Richard Currier, Springfield,
541/726-3761

Thomas Hartzell, Pendleton,
541/276-2584

Robbin Pearce, Ashland,
541/552-2062

Floyd Peoples, Wilsonville,
503/570-1584

Brian Kelly, La Grande,
541/962-1307

Mike Bellmore, Eugene,
541/682-4819

Patrick Hoff, Beaverton,
503/526-2206

Sol Jacobson, Beaverton,
503/526-2206

Dave Foster, Salem,
503/378-4286

Jack Lowers, Scio,
503/394-2179

Mike Fontenot, Tualatin Hills
Parks & Rec District,
503/645-3539

Plan to participate in the 2001 or 2002 Community Tree Management Institute. Contact Scott Plamondon at 503/945-7391 to reserve your place in becoming a future CTMI graduate. Enrollment is limited to 15 students each year, so call right away!

Tools of the Trade

An Uncommon Field Guide on Commonly Found Trees

Three Rivers Press/Random House has published *The Urban Tree Book: An Uncommon Field Guide for City and Town*, written by Arthur Plotnik in consultation with The Morton Arboretum. The first such guide for both general

readers and professionals, *The Urban Tree Book* profiles the trees commonly found in North America's urban and suburban settings.

This "uncommon" field guide identifies some 200 species to be discovered and enjoyed in urban walks and explorations. Tree features, varieties, quirks, natural history, lore, literary and historical aspects, medicinals, liabilities, urban interactions, and more is covered. The guide features essay-like profiles, resource sections (including websites), a primer on trees, and an appendix on "Tree Wellness". It is available on Internet bookstores and in retail stores.

Urban Stream Restoration

This video tour of six urban stream restoration sites is led by Ann Riley, a nationally recognized hydrologist, stream restoration professional and executive director of the Waterways Restoration Institute in Berkeley, Ca. Provides information on principles of stream restoration, community involvement, and how the projects were funded. It is recommended for anyone interested in ecological urban stream and neighborhood restoration.

For information visit: <http://www.urbanstreamrestoration.com/index2.html>

New Pest Notes

The Oregon Department of Forestry, Forest Health Program has pest information on-line! The newest publication is on the Mountain Pine Beetle. Visit <http://www.odf.state.or.us/fa/FH/FHN/fhn.htm>

"Livability and Affordability: Open Space Preservation and Land Supply"

This report prepared by the Solimar Institute and Growth Management Institute for the Fannie Mae Foundation scans eight state open space programs. The report concludes that even

with high projected demands for housing, there is ample vacant land for development.

For more information see: <http://www.cp-dr.com/pdfs/lehopenspace.pdf>.

Visit our web page at

<http://odf.state.or.us/fa/UF/uf/htm>

OCT web page: <http://www.odf.state.or.us/fa/UF/OCT/index.html>

Monmouth

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Monmouth. The new organization engaged in a hands-on community based stewardship through planting and tending trees. Since its conception, Monmouth Legacy Forest (MLF) has grown to 150 trees and all are doing well.

After coordinating locations for new trees on public lands with City Planner, Martha Wiebe, the first planting occurred on October 9, 1999. An estimated 200 volunteers came to plant the beginning stages of our Legacy Forest. What a great time we had! Volunteers representing churches, Cub Scouts, the Monmouth Senior Center, J. Frank Schmidt's Independence Farm and students from the Residence Halls at Western Oregon University were part of the large cross section of those who participated.

Encouraged by the community support that was shown during the first tree planting, the MLF requested that a proclamation be made designating the last Saturday of April as the City of Monmouth's official Arbor Day. A Mayoral Proclamation was signed on March 14, 2000, and shortly thereafter, the MLF was planting again, this time on Monmouth's Arbor Day! Working with the City of Monmouth Parks and Recreation Department Director, Jim Protiva we planted an additional 29 trees at the soon-to-become Madrona Street Park. We had an estimated 150 volunteers. Following this planting, volunteers stayed to do some maintenance to the original planting and then gathered for great food, fun, and fellowship.

In response to the commu-

nity's support of this project, the MLF has received three awards. The Oregon Downtown Development Association recognized the outstanding Community Partner-



Members of Monmouth Legacy Forest.

ship exhibited by the project. The Oregon Department of Forestry and Oregon Urban and Community Forest Council recognized MLF for outstanding achievements and contributions to urban forestry, and MLF received recognition from the Monmouth/Independence Community Arts Association. We acknowledge that these awards were only possible because of the volunteers and businesses support and their care and concern for our community.

Community members have adopted each tree in the forest. Adopters have responsibilities for the care and maintenance of the trees, including watering through the summer months, weed control (by hand), and reporting any unusual insect infestations or tree damage to the MLF Board of Directors. Watering the trees through this past summer proved to be challenging due the extensive dry weather. Volunteers from the Polk County Fire District assisted us in keeping the trees watered, and so far, all trees are doing well. Recently the MLF acquired a watering wagon from the Independence Downtown Association (IDA).

The wagon was last used over 10 years ago to water the hanging baskets in downtown Independence. A local welder, Bill Jones, restored it for MLF use.

In order to raise public awareness of the MLF we participated in Monmouth's Victorian Tea Festival this summer. Many people visited our booth and played the *Tree Challenge*, an opportunity to win a prize for correctly answering questions about trees. It was a lot of fun, and we gained some new members. We hope to be involved in more community events in the future.

One of the goals of the MLF is to see Monmouth recognized as a Tree City USA community. Recently a member of our board, Forrest Peck, attended a national conference sponsored by the National Arbor Day Foundation (NADF) entitled, "Community Forestry at it's Best." The NADF sponsored a "scholarship" to pay for the registration fee for the conference, and ODF provided an additional amount to offset the costs of attending. Besides being invigorated by the enthusiasm generated from being in the company of so many community forest activists, Forrest was also awakened to the possibilities of expanding the educational role that the MLF can fill in our community. He brought back valuable information on conducting tree inventories, writing tree ordinances, and some ideas for developing a tree board. In the near future our focus will be to work with the City of Monmouth to discuss establishment of a tree board, identify those City ordinances cur-

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Monmouth

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rently in existence that address tree issues and support preparation of a city tree inventory.

For only being one year old we have much to be thankful for. We have wonderful community support, 150 new trees in the ground, and an Arbor Day proclamation. Through the cooperative efforts of the City of Monmouth, Western Oregon University and the Monmouth Legacy Forest we are creating a legacy for generations to come.

Editors Note: Visit MLF's web site at <http://www.pigwings.com/legacy/index.html>.

An Assessment of Our Nation's Urban Forests

The Resources Planning Act (RPA) Assessment, prepared by the USDA Forest Service, reports on status and trends in renewable resources for all forests and rangelands in the United States. This technical report details variations in urban tree cover and illustrates local-scale variation, complexity, and connectedness of the urban forest resource.

The report outlines areas of emphasis for urban forest management to improve environmental quality, enhance human health, and connect people with ecosystems in the 21st century.

Connecting people with ecosystems in the 21st century: an assessment of our nation's urban forests. Gen. Tech. Rep. PNW-GTR-490. Portland, OR: U.S.D.A., Forest Service, Pacific Northwest Research Station. 483 p. [View at <http://www.fs.fed.us/pnw/pubs/gtr490/gtr490.pdf>.]

Street Tree Spotlight

Appreciating Trees in Winter

By Kristin Ramstad, ODF

It is early November now, as I write. Everywhere I look, I see most trees are still clinging to their rain tattered leaves. The once bright fluttering leaves of early autumn are slowly fading as the trees prepare to let the wet winter winds take them. By December, when you may be reading this, most of the leaves will have found the ground, and most of the hardwood trees will be officially “asleep,” or dormant. Winter is a time when trees – especially deciduous trees — have a special grace, and a particular sensory interest, to any one who can tune into them. That is what this “Spotlight” is about.

Let us start with the bark of wintertime trees. On larger trees, bark is most often what is at eye- and “touch”-level. On smaller trees, especially those that are very ornamental in warmer months, winter is a time for noticing the lovely colors and textures of their bark. Though I tend to eschew **birches** for their brittle growth and often-unkept appearance, *Betula albo-sinensis*, with its pink-hued satin-smooth bark, always stops me in my tracks. A lovely stand of this uncommon species can be found in Seattle's Washington Arboretum. Similarly, closer to home, *Betula jacquemontii*, is also a showstopper with its bright white bark, especially in its youth. Lovely, cinnamon-colored bark, which peels off in satiny curls, can be appreciated on **paperbark maples**, *Acer griseum*. (Of course you know that the peeling bark on any tree may be touched, but never actively peeled—an activity that could be compared to stripping off a ‘Bandaid’ and tear-

ing-off the top layer of skin along with it! Ouch!) The **satin-barked cherry**, *Prunus serrula*, now being used as an ornamental “interstem” on some **Japanese cherry** cultivars, is also striking in winter sunlight. Flaky bark that leaves stunning, black-tea-with-varying-amounts-of-milk-added-colored splotches on *Stewartia pseudocamellia* is worth a special trip if you know where to find one of these lovely small trees. (I suggest looking in the Garden at Elk Rock near Lake Oswego).

Often when people think of trees in winter, they think of silhouettes: the vase-shapes of **American elms**, the bell-shapes of **Camperdown elms**, and the twisted – some might say, “tortured” — forms of old **oak** and **black walnut** trees. Imagine one of these trees being able to respond to our interpretations of their appearance, “You think I look tortured? Why, I was just being *opportunistic*.” I have to admit that for years, the leafless red-brown winter form of the deciduous conifer, **Dawn redwood**, (*Metasequoia glyptostroboides*), often made me feel vaguely as if I'd walked in on someone in the middle of changing her clothes. I used to think these trees looked so much better “dressed” in their soft green needles, but now I've come to appreciate their wispy, conical form, soft, peeling bark, and fluted “muscle” trunk.

In the realm of “one person's winter interest is another person's winter eye-sore”, consider the persistent Chinese lantern-like pods of **golden raintree**, *Kolreutaria panniculata*. Green in late summer, dry and brown

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Funding

GIS Support for Non-Profits

Deadline: January 9, 2001

Conservation and environmental non-profit organizations seeking to use computer mapping technology can apply now for Conservation Technology Support Program (CTSP) grants of computers, software and training. Approximately 50 grant packages are available, using computers and printers donated by Hewlett Packard Company, and Geographic Information Systems (GIS) software by Environmental Systems Research Institute, Inc. (ESRI) and Clark Labs. Other vendors may also provide equipment and software. Land trusts, watershed organizations, groups working to save plant and animal habitats, environmental justice and urban open space groups, Indian Tribes, sustainable development groups, and many other types of groups are all of interest to CTSP. Interested groups should obtain the application guidelines at <http://www.ctsp.org>

Arboretum Grant

The Oregon Department of Forestry Urban and Community Forestry Assistance Program is pleased to announce that the J. Frank Schmidt Family Charitable Foundation has generously contributed \$500 towards the 2001 Arboretum Grant Program. The money is available to an Oregon community to develop a local arboretum. If you or your community is interested and would like more information, please contact Scott Plamondon at 503/945-7391.

Tree Spotlight

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by late autumn, from a distance these pods can look like dried flowers remaining on the tree. I like the way they look – and the way they sound when the wind blows. Consider too those “pesky” leaves that dry up but never drop off **oak** trees, and their relatives the **beeches**. You might develop a different perspective about them if you find yourself under them on a winter’s day and allow yourself to listen to them whisper and rustle in the breeze.

If an appreciation of form and the rustling of dried brown leaves are lost on you, go for the tactile. Search out just about any species of *Magnolia* tree and stroke its furry buds. Check out the knobbly spurs of a *Ginkgo* tree. Prick yourself on the tight, pointed buds of a **beech** tree. Discover the horseshoe-shaped leaf scars and large, sticky buds of a **horse-chestnut tree**,

(*Aesculus hippocastanum*), each of which, according to tree enthusiast Hugh Johnson, contain within them the unexpanded tissue of six compound leaves and a 10 inch spike of flowers come spring.

Winter is also a time when a certain subset of “tree people” delight in taking note of abnormalities in trees. With bare or nearly bare branches, balls of mistletoe can be spotted in **oak** trees. The strange clumping habit of “witches brooms” will be visible in **sycamores**. The evidence and effects of poor pruning in trees can be easily noted, and the troublesome aspects of form (e.g. double leaders) are clearly observable.

While in winter most trees do not exhibit the flash and glamour they display in warmer seasons, it is a time when a keen observer can delight in the subtler beauties of the trees. If “short” days and cold weather bring you down, try taking some time to appreciate wintertime trees.

American Forest's City Green Regional Analysis - Longview to Eugene

The Pacific Northwest area has been chosen to receive a City Green Regional Analysis project. Awarded a grant from the USDA Forest Service, American Forests is coordinating the project. This project uses satellite images and aerial photography to determine and show the change in tree canopy over a specific period. The region under consideration stretches from Longview, Washington to Eugene, Oregon. Some of the other areas in the nation that have had a City Green project completed include Atlanta, Georgia, Washington DC, and the Puget Sound. Meetings with American Forests and interested communities were held in Wilsonville and Portland this past November. A number of communities have shown interest in participating in the project. Details are currently being finalized.

This project will be conducted during 2001. If you or your community/organization is interested in participating or you would like further information, please contact in Oregon, Scott Plamondon, ODF, at 503/945-7391 or in Washington, Kevin LeClair, WDNR, at 360/902-1703. You may also contact Barbara Hollenbeck, USDA Forest Service, at 503/808-2351 or check out the American Forests' website, www.americanforests.org.

Citizen TreeActions!

a forum for community forest volunteers

A newsletter published jointly by the Oregon Department of Forestry and Oregon Community Trees

Words from the Council President

By Terry Flanagan



We on the board are now calling for all interested people that would like to serve on the

Board of Directors for Oregon Community Trees to come forward.

The make up of the OCT Board of Directors is constantly in flux as people reach the end of their commitments and new people join the board to take their place. We constantly search for individuals that are interested in serving.

If you are interested, please give me a call at 503/803-0017. We are especially looking for individuals with the following backgrounds: legal, fund raising, grant writing, legislative and administrative.

Moreover, in the interest of having representatives from all the different areas of our state, we would love to have individuals from the Oregon Coast, Southern Oregon and the Central Oregon area.

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The Emerald City . . . Fading to Pastel? Is this Happening in Portland Too?

By Steve Elder, Blue Heron Farm

Information from *Regional Ecosystem Analysis, Puget Sound Metropolitan Area: Calculating the Value of Nature*. Final report. American Forests.

A project completed by American Forests recently showed that vegetation and tree canopy coverage in the Puget Sound area has drastically reduced over the last 24 years. By utilizing three satellite images spanning the period from 1972 to 1996, they were able to calculate the actual loss of vegetation, and also place a value on the natural landscape. The major findings were as follows:

The ecology of the Puget Sound watershed has changed dramatically from 1972 to 1996.

1. Areas of high vegetation and tree canopy coverage (those with 50% tree cover or more) have declined by 37%.

2. Areas with very low tree cover (less than 20%) have more than doubled from 25% of the region to 57%.

A dollar value can be placed on these regional ecological

changes.

1. The loss of tree cover and increase in impervious surfaces increases the cost of stormwater management and the cost of air quality controls.

2. Stormwater flow during a peak storm has increased by an estimated 1.2 billion cubic feet (29%). Replacing this lost stormwater retention capacity with reservoirs and other engineered systems would cost \$2.4 billion (\$2 per cubic foot).

3. Lost tree canopy would have removed about 35 million pounds of pollutants from the atmosphere annually, at a value of approximately \$95 million.

4. Puget Sound's urban forest improves air quality by removing the following pollutants: nitrogen dioxide, sulphur dioxide, carbon monoxide, ozone, and particulate matter 10 microns or less.

The rapid growth in the urban landscape is the biggest single factor affecting the Puget Sound ecosystem. The regional trends in tree cover loss are equally pronounced in the 422,446-acre urban growth area.

1. Heavily vegetated areas (50%

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Emerald City

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or more) have declined from 208,166 acres to 101,166 acres.

2. Areas with very low tree cover (20% or less) have dramatically increased from 85,123 acres to 229,878 acres.

3. The loss of trees has resulted in a 35% increase in stormwater runoff.

4. The location and intensity of urban development has damaged salmon spawning streams.

Tree cover and natural resource information should be officially incorporated into the planning process.

1. Existing landscapes should be recognized for their potential economic value.

2. Increasing the average tree coverage to 40% in the urban areas would significantly improve the environment in stormwater management and air quality.

3. Strategically planting trees will accelerate stream restoration improving wildlife and fisheries habitat.

Summary

1. One aspect of this trend

Board of Directors Meetings in 2001

March 8	Corvallis
June 14/15	Southern Oregon Tour/Meeting
Sept 14	Eastern Oregon
Dec 7	Salem

Meetings are open to the public. Contact Ric Catron, 503/618-2747.

which should be particularly concerning, is that much of the vegetation losses are directly in naturally occurring drainages-right where vegetation is most needed.

2. We, in Oregon, need to learn from this experience and act decisively. It is essential to engage both the public and the political process in this topic. Generate public interest and make our decision makers aware that it is an issue they need to take a positive stand on.

3. Given that American Forests is in the process of doing a City Green Regional Analysis from Longview, Washington to Eugene, Oregon we all need to wholeheartedly embrace and support their goals.

4. The following urban tree canopy goals could be used as a guideline for local and regional vegetation cover:

- 40% tree canopy overall
- 50% tree canopy in suburban residential

25% tree canopy in urban residential

15% tree canopy in the central business district

Perhaps the Emerald City's image developed a "touch of gray." What a shame it would be to have Portland's historic "slang" name, "Stumptown," portray a true-to-name image of more recent times.

"Twenty years from now you will be more disappointed by the things that you didn't do than by the ones you did do. So, throw off the bowlines. Sail away from the safe harbor. Catch the trade winds in your sails. Explore . . . Dream . . . Discover."
 -Mark Twain

President

Continued from page 9

In filling a board position, you can expect to meet four times a year in different areas of the state. We hold quarterly board meetings around the state, to promote urban forestry throughout Oregon and to bolster local community forestry programs.

The meetings with travel usually take at least a commitment of a full day or more, depending on where the meeting is being held and what area of the state you are coming from. Also, expect to take on a task to help complete our mission. We do not have board mem-

bers just sitting on their hands! We all do at least a small part to build the organization.

It takes a variety of talents to make a board as successful as it can be. While your organization is doing well, there is always room for improvement. Our ability to reach out to all Oregonians, to deliver the message of the importance of urban and community forestry, is a direct reflection of our success.

So, if you are interested, give me a call. You may not have the above skills but don't let that stop you. By the time you're done you may pick up a new skill or two.



2000 Urban and Community Forestry Awards

Oregon Community Trees (OCT) is pleased to announce the **Urban and Community Forestry Awards** for 2000. Join us in recognizing the accomplishments of the individuals, groups and businesses that have led efforts to enhance and maintain Oregon's community forests.

OCT, The Oregon Urban and Community Forestry Council, is a non-profit organization that is dedicated to promoting healthy community forests and citizen awareness of urban and community forestry issues statewide. The annual awards recognize individuals or groups in your community that have been instrumental in helping to keep Oregon communities green during the past year.

We are excited about three new categories of awards for this year. The first, the **Business Award**, seeks to recognize an Oregon business or corporation that has been a leader in urban and community forestry issues or efforts on a local or statewide basis. The second of the new categories is the **Development Project Award**. It recognizes a commercial, industrial or residential development that successfully preserved trees and green spaces during the development process and planned for the long-term management of its community forest. The last is the **Lifetime Achievement Award** which recognizes an Oregonian who has regularly contributed their efforts to the betterment of community forestry.

This is your chance to see those

in your community that have been instrumental in local tree issues recognized for their efforts.

All nominations must be submitted to Oregon Community Trees @ P.O. Box 13074, Salem, OR 97309-1074 to be received no later than **January 15, 2001**. Award winners will be announced at the Summit 2001: Enhancing Livability Through Community Trees on March 9, 2001 in Corvallis. Mark your calendar today!

For information about this awards program, please contact Jay Neil at 541/ 967-4464 or Ric Catron at 503/ 618-2747 or to download a nomination application, visit the OCT web page at www.odf.state.or.us/fa/uf/oct/index.html.

Gift Giving

You became a member of OCT because you feel strongly about the community forests of Oregon. Congratulations! Your dues help OCT with their mission, "to promote healthy urban and community forests through leadership, education, awareness, and advocacy."

Perhaps a friend or family member shares your passion for trees. This season, consider a gift of membership with OCT! Or you may wish to consider giving above your annual membership dues to become an OCT partner. Your contribution will assist us in helping promote the thing that is dear to us all...TREES!

To learn more about OCT membership and becoming a partner, visit www.odf.state.or.us/fa/uf/oct/index.html or contact Katie Kause, ODF at 541/447-5658.

OCT Annual Summit

Discover the multifaceted role urban forests play in improving the quality of our lives. Please join us **March 9, 2001** at the LaSells Stewart Center in **Corvallis, Oregon** for the Oregon Community Trees Annual Summit Conference, **'Enhancing Livability Through Community Trees'**.

The event will feature exciting speakers discussing such livability issues as salmon recovery in Oregon, stream restoration projects, phytoremediation properties of trees, innovative programs to reduce fuel loading as homes move into natural resource land, planning and design models for housing developments that

place an emphasis on ecological values, plus much more.

The Summit will be of interest to planners, designers, arborists, community leaders, ecologists, fire fighters, policy makers, neighborhood housing groups and anyone interested in the role trees play in enhancing livability.

The program is sponsored by the Oregon Urban and Community Forest Council along with the Oregon Department of Forestry. For registration information call Scott Plamondon at 503/945-7391. Additional information is on our web page www.odf.state.or.us/fa/uf/oct/index.html.



Urban and Community Forestry
 Assistance Program
 Oregon Department of Forestry
 2600 State Street
 Salem, Oregon 97310

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 COMMUNITY TREES

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Submission of articles, photographs, or other information is welcome. Submission deadlines are: February 1, May 1, August 1, and November 1. Address submissions to:

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