Community Canopy

Spring/Summer 2008

Here We Grow Again

Forestry Facts

- A study found that planting shade trees could reduce the need for power plants. Data from California shows that 50 million shade trees planted in strategic, energy-saving locations could eliminate the need for seven 100-megawatt power plants.
source: McPherson and Simpson, 2001

- Trees in Davis, California parking lots reduced surface asphalt temperatures by as much as 36^{0}F, vehicle cabin temperatures by over 47^{0}F and fuel-tank temperatures by nearly 7^{0}F.
source: Scott, et al, 1999

- University of Washington's Center of Urban Horticulture conducted a study in 1998 that concluded consumers are willing to pay up to 12 percent more for products from stores in tree-lined districts and more for shaded parking.

115 Michigan Communities Certified as Tree City USA

Five new communities joined the growing ranks of Michigan's Tree City USA program in 2007.

This year, 115 communities were certified out of approximately 3,100 nationally.

New communities included: Dowagiac, Dundee, Gladstone, Lowell, and River Rouge.

Additionally, four utilities were recertified as part of the National Arbor Day Foundation's Tree Line USA program in 2007. These programs recognize communities and utility companies who have demonstrated a commitment to tree care and training on an annual basis.

To see a complete list of certified communities and utilities or to find out how to get your community involved, visit: www.michigan.gov/dnrtcusa

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Urban and Community Forestry Council Members:

Michigan Dept of Natural Resources
USDA Forest Service
R. Gentry, **City of Adrian**
J. Adams, **City of Cadillac**
J. Dunmire**, City of Warren**
T. Abramson**, Delta County ISD**
B. Van Liere, **Frederik Meijer Gardens**
M. Baeckeroot**, Oakland Comm. College**
R. Salminen-Witt**, Greening of Detroit**
B. Lawrence, **Lawrence Arbor Care**
N. Carpenter**, Arboriculture Society of MI**
B. Cregg**, Michigan State University**
B. Bricault**, MSU Extension**
K. Fischer, **Non-profit Representative**
Vacant - Landscape Architect
T. Kennedy**, Great Lakes Energy**
V. Foerster**, West MI Tree Service**

Questions? Contact:

Kevin Sayers, Urban Forester
Forest, Mineral and Fire Mgt Division
PO Box 30452
Lansing, MI 48909
sayersk@michigan.gov
517.241.4632
On the web at:
www.mi.gov/dnrucf

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Michigan DNR and USDA Forest Service, State & Private Forestry

COMING SOON!

The US Forest Service has created a Tree Owner's Manual. This manual includes a parts list, instructions for installation, tips for troubleshooting common issues, recommended service, and more. As a small black-and-white booklet, the Tree Owner's Manual will be inexpensive to reproduce. To be notified when the electronic copy is available, please sign up at http://tinyurl.com/39u7mg

ISA Certified Arborist/Municipal Specialist Scholarship

The International Society of Arboriculture (ISA) is pleased to offer an ISA Certified Arborist/Municipal Specialist scholarship for those willing to share their knowledge with the public. In cooperation with the Society of Municipal Arborists, and with funding provided by the U.S. Forest Service Urban and Community Forestry Program, scholarships will be awarded to cover fees involved in earning the Certified Arborist/Municipal Specialist credential.

ISA will cover the cost of the exam, membership to either ISA and local chapter or ISA and SMA, and the Municipal Specialist study guide. In exchange, once the individual has passed the exam, the newly certified arborist/municipal specialist will work with the State Urban Forestry Coordinators to provide a project to the community and educate volunteers, schools and government officials on proper tree care. This grant program is targeted to communities without enough resources to obtain a municipal arborist or urban forester, or where this is not already an ISA Certified Arborist/Municipal Specialist working with the local community.

Any ISA Certified Arborist working for a municipality is eligible. Candidates must meet the necessary experience requirement to become a certified arborist/municipal specialist in order to apply and can review ISA's Certified Arborist/Municipal Specialist application online at www.isa-arbor.com or by contacting the ISA certification department at cert@isa-arbor.com or (217) 355-9411.

The Library

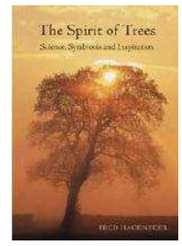
Forestry Related Reading

Suburbia is where the developer bulldozes out the trees then names the streets after them. ~Bill Vaughn

Trees outstrip most people in the extent and depth of their work for the public good.
~Sara Ebenreck, *American Forests*

A tree which has lost its head will never recover it again, and will survive only as a monument of the ignorance and folly of its Tormentor. ~George William Curtis

THE SPIRIT OF TREES
SCIENCE, SYMBIOSIS AND INSPIRATION



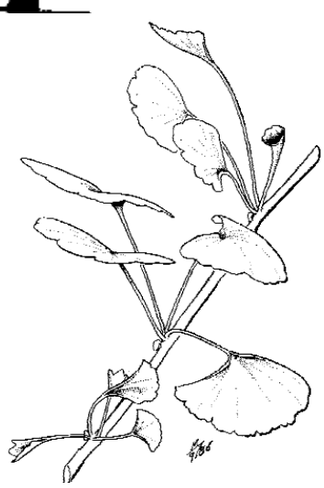
Trees are one of Earth's oldest life forms; silent witnesses to human evolution and the passing of time. Many people today take the presence of trees for granted, unaware of their greater significance in Earth's ecology, their medicinal and nutritional properties, or the veneration bestowed on them by ancient peoples.

The Spirit of Trees captures all these elements in a holistic appraisal of Earth's most influential creation.

Fred Hageneder explores the relationship of humanity and trees, helping us to appreciate the true significance, not only of their biology and physical structure, but also of their healing powers, mystical meaning, and their ability to soothe, sustain and inspire humankind.

The Watering Can

Tips for planting and care



Ginkgo ***(Ginkgo biloba)***
Not native to North America
Mature height: 50 - 75 feet
Spread: 50 to 60 feet
Crown: irregular outline or silhouette; round; pyramidal
Growth rate: slow
Leaf arrangement: alternate
Light: grows in part shade/part sun and full sun
Soil tolerances: clay; loam; sand; acidic; occasionally wet; alkaline; well drained
Drought tolerance: high
Aerosol salt tolerance: moderate

Choosing a Healthy Tree or Shrub

By Don Janssen, University of Nebraska Extension
printed in part

For many people, selecting a healthy tree or shrub is a game of chance. Sometimes you win, occasionally you lose. By following the suggestions listed below, the odds of selecting a healthy tree or shrub can be shifted in your favor.

Look for signs of good health. Avoid plants that appear wilted or have off-color foliage. Desirable trees possess good foliage color and full-sized leaves. Leaves should be pliable yet firm. Select trees with a well developed leader and straight trunk. Branches should be well spaced and evenly distributed on all sides of the leader.

When looking at trees in early spring, most deciduous trees will be dormant. Scraping the bark of a live branch with a fingernail should reveal green tissue beneath. If not, the branch may be dead. Live branches are quite flexible for most plant species. A dead branch will snap and break. Buds should be swollen and plump. The tree's previous growth can be checked by observing the bud scars on the branches. Very little growth between scars (less than 4 inches) is a sign of a tree in trouble. Check the trunk for mechanical injury, environmental injury such as sunscald, or animal damage. Trees with disease and/or insect problems should be avoided as well.

The top of the tree isn't the only area that needs checking prior to purchase. The root system is important as well. Many trees are sold in containers or balled and burlapped (B&B). Avoid trees which appear too large for their container. Often plants will be shifted to a larger container. Check for soils of different consistencies or remnants of a fiber pot as indicators of trees that have been shifted up.

To check for well-rooted plants, grasp the trunk of the tree near the base and try to move the tree in the container. Well-rooted plants should not create a hole in the soil when the stem is shaken. The container and the tree should move as one. Healthy roots are firm and usually lighter in color than the surrounding soil. There should be no offensive odor or mushiness. B&B trees are checked much the same way as a containerized tree. The ball should not have cracks in the soil or large clumps of loose soil. If it does, these are indications of improper handling which could mean trouble later on.

Buy nursery stock from reliable nurseries which are knowledgeable about the plants they sell, offer plant guarantees, and practice proper handling and care of their nursery stock.

To read Mr. Janssen's complete article, visit
http://lancaster.unl.edu/hort/Articles/2004/Healthytree.shtml