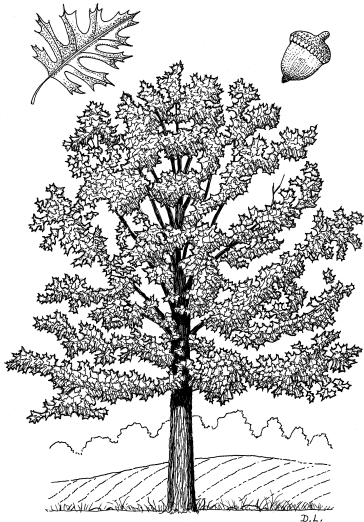


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INFORMATION BY THE BOARD FOOT

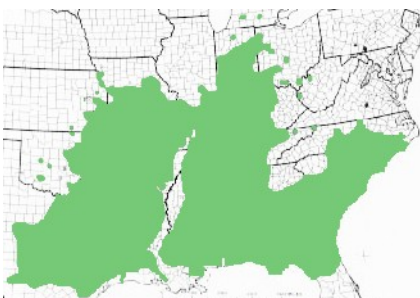
APRIL 2013

KNOT THE HOLE NEWS



**Shumard oak**  
*Quercus shumardii*

A large tree, shumard oak, may reach up to 70 feet in height and width in cultivation and larger on native sites. It has a fast growth rate. A strong pyramidal shape occurs in youth and broadens to spreading with age. The tree is native along streams, near swamps, or bodies of water in well drained soil. Test plots have grown it in 7.8 to 8.0 pH soils. Prefers full sun to partial shade. Leaves are 4 - 6 (8) inches long and 3 - 4 inches wide having 7 to 9 lobes. The leaves are leathery, lustrous dark green above and smooth underneath except for tufts of hairs at vein unions. It is considered drought tolerant and easily transplanted.



Plant images by Dale Larson, Missouri Department of Conservation.  
Range map modified from USDA Forest Service Silvics of North America Web site - [www.na.fs.fed.us/spfo/pubs/silvics\\_manual/Volume\\_2/quercus/shumardii.htm](http://www.na.fs.fed.us/spfo/pubs/silvics_manual/Volume_2/quercus/shumardii.htm)

## Are You Celebrating Arbor Day?

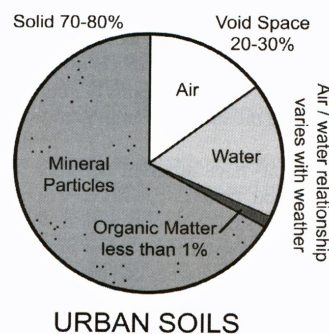
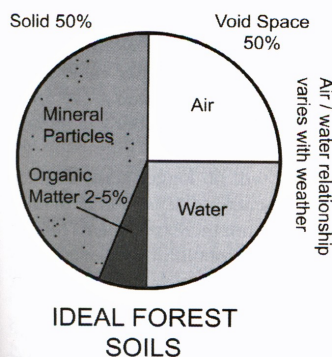
One hundred and forty-one years ago on April 10, 1872 Arbor Day was first celebrated in Nebraska. It is estimated that over one million trees were planted in Nebraska that day. Since that date, Arbor Day has grown into an international celebration.

The first Friday in April is the official Arbor Day in Missouri (April 5, 2013) and National Arbor Day is the last Friday in April (April 26, 2013). This does not mean your community must celebrate Arbor Day then. Your community can set Arbor Day any day you prefer.

There are several ways to celebrate Arbor Day. Of course the traditional way is to plant a tree, but you do not have to stop there. Arbor Day celebrations provides unique opportunities to educate people, get people together in a joint cause, and promote proper tree selection and care. The National Arbor Day Foundation has several suggestions on how to celebrate Arbor Day. See them at <http://www.arborday.org/arborday/>.



## Trees Have An Advantage In Forest Soils.



Trees have a tough time wherever they are. They have to deal with changes in weather, competition from other plants, and people doing things to them. All things being equal, trees growing in forest soils have better growing conditions than soils in our communities.

Undisturbed forest soils are 50 percent void space (25 percent

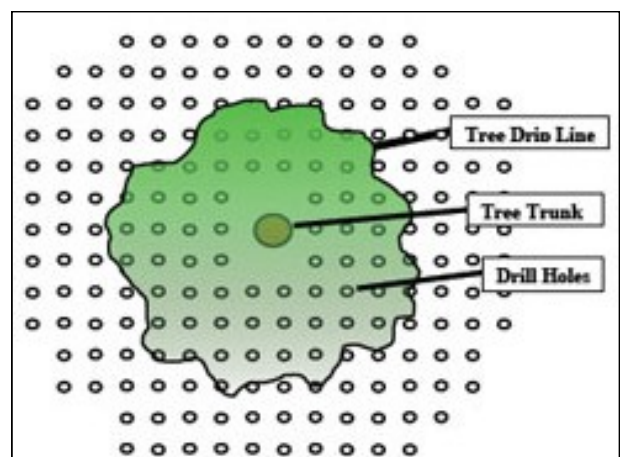
air, 25 percent water), and 50 percent solid particles. Two to five percent of the total is organic matter from decaying plant material (leaves, roots, branches, etc.) Whereas soils in our communities are more like 20 to 30 percent void space (10 to 15 percent air, 10 to 15 percent water), and 70 to 80 percent solid particles with only up to 1 percent of the total being organic matter.

The reason for this difference is people. Our activities of walking, driving, building, and more compacts the soil reducing the void space. With less void space, less air and water can come into the soil. We also remove most of the organic matter produced by raking up leaves and grass and disposing it off site. Organic matter as it decomposes adds nutrients to the soil, holds more moisture than mineral soil, and can help add void space to soil.

Tree roots need air and water to grow. If the roots cannot grow well, the whole tree will suffer. Trees need your help in the difficult environment of community soils. You can help your communities trees by using organic mulches around the trees, deep aerating (6 to 10 inches) lawn areas, and adding organic material to the soil.

## Vertical Mulching

Vertical mulching is a soil aerating and amending method that is accomplished by creating a series of holes six to ten inches deep. The holes are spaced 18 inches to three feet apart in a grid around the tree. The hole is filled with compost, soil / compost mixture, and/ or fertilizer specified by a soil survey. This should cover as much of the rooting area as possible. This does not loosen the soil outside of the holes directly, but over time as the soil expands and contracts, the holes and amended fill moves differently and may allow the original soil to crack and loosen allowing more void space.



## Web Site Review - Talking2Trees App for iPad

Talking2trees is an app available for your iPad that keeps and manages your tree inventory. This app is intended as a tool for the consulting arborist or municipality. It is the only dedicated inventory app that stores the data directly on your iPad without an internet connection. You can sync with the talking2trees website for better management and organization by creating data summary reports, manage your clients and projects, and export your inventories to Excel, ESRI GIS databases or iTree. Get the app and more information by visiting <http://talking2trees.com>.

## Pest Highlight - flatheaded appletree borer (*Chrysobothris femorata*)



Flatheaded appletree borers are small insects that can leave your new trees with a big problem. Main hosts are deciduous species of trees. It attacks in the spring but can go unnoticed until fall. The female borer disperses her eggs on the outer surface of the bark of stressed trees, like newly planted ones. It prefers to attack on the sunny side of the tree.

The larvae of the flatheaded appletree borer are legless and when full-grown can be greater than 1 inch long. They are usually a whitish/yellow but may appear to be golden or, light green. The mature beetle is about ½ to 1 inch long has a flat head, small antennae, larger eyes, a noticeable tooth on the forelegs with a rounded point at the back end.

Damage first appears as wilting or browning leaves, but the tunneling of the larva in the phloem and sapwood is most important. Trees and branches can be girdled, killing the tree. A healthy, well watered tree is the best defense against this pest. Preventive insecticides like imidicloprid used systemically or permethrin as a bark spray can be used.

### April 4

Tree Resource Improvement and Maintenance Workshop, 9:00 AM - Noon, MDC Southwest Regional Office, 2630 N. Mayfair Ave., Springfield, MO, register by calling 417-895-6880

### April 5

Missouri Arbor Day

### April 16

SWMCFC meeting, 8:30 AM, MDC Southwest Regional Office, 2630 N. Mayfair Ave., Springfield, MO

### April 17

ISA Certified Arborist, Utility Specialist, and Municipal Specialist Exam, Jefferson City, MO, Registration deadline April 1, 2013, Register at [www.isa-arbor.com/certification/becomeCertified/](http://www.isa-arbor.com/certification/becomeCertified/)

### April 25

Joplin MCFC meeting, 7 - 9 AM, Wildcat Glades Conservation & Audubon Center, Joplin

### April 26

National Arbor Day

### May 7 - 9

Community Conservation Workshop, Stoney Creek Inn and Conference Center, Columbia, MO. Information and registration at [www.conservationregistry.org/projects/197634](http://www.conservationregistry.org/projects/197634)

### May 21

SWMCFC meeting, 8:30 AM, MDC Southwest Regional Office, 2630 N. Mayfair Ave., Springfield, MO

### May 23

Joplin MCFC meeting, 7 - 9 AM, Wildcat Glades Conservation & Audubon Center, Joplin

### June 8

Midwestern Chapter of ISA Tree Climbing Championship, St. Louis, MO For information visit [www.mwisa.org](http://www.mwisa.org)

### June 15

ISA Certified Arborist, Utility Specialist, and Municipal Specialist Exam, Oklahoma City, OK, Registration deadline May 30, 2013, Register at [www.isa-arbor.com/certification/becomeCertified/](http://www.isa-arbor.com/certification/becomeCertified/)



Whatever the history,  
whatever the past,

Townpeople will search until  
at last

They find the candidate for  
their special tree,

That one we designate their  
Liberty Tree.

~ James P. Rocca  
Ellisville, MO

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