

THE STUMP

INFORMATION BY THE BOARD FOOT

APRIL 2022

KNOT THE HOLE NEWS

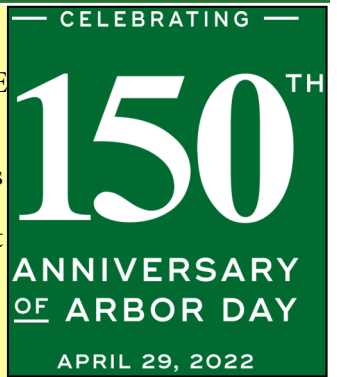
Arbor Day Celebrates Sesquicentennial

Nebraska newspaper editor — and resident of Nebraska City, NE — J. Sterling Morton had an enthusiasm for trees and advocated strongly for individuals and civic groups to plant them. Once he became secretary of the Nebraska Territory, he further spread his message of the value of trees. And on January 4, 1872, Morton first proposed a tree planting holiday to be called “Arbor Day” at a meeting of the State Board of Agriculture.



The celebration date was set for April 10, 1872. Prizes were offered to counties and individuals for the largest number of properly planted trees on that day. It was estimated that more than 1 million trees were planted in Nebraska on the first Arbor Day.

Today, Arbor Day is celebrated all around the globe. If you haven't already, share your celebration plans at: www.arborday.org/celebrate.



Tree City USA Ordinance Audit

Beginning this year, the Arbor Day Foundation will be conducting an audit of tree ordinances submitted to the Tree City USA portal to make sure that they meet the current standard for a public tree care ordinance.

Why Is This Happening?

Many approved ordinances in the past do not meet the current, updated federal, state, and Arbor Day Foundation definition for a qualifying public tree care ordinance. Due to discrepancies in the past between the definitions, some community tree ordinances were grandfathered in. This audit is underway in order to ensure that Tree City USA communities have adopted the minimal required policies necessary to manage the urban forest.



TREE CITY USA®

What Does This Mean for My Tree City?

You will receive notice by June 2022 or sooner if your 2021 application ordinance does not meet the current standard. This will not impact your 2021 Tree City USA recognition.

What Can I Do Now?

You can review what you uploaded to your Tree City USA application for 2021. See if your ordinance checks the following boxes:

- ☐ My community's ordinance assigns/delegates authority over public trees.
 - ☐ My community's ordinance provides clear guidance for planting, maintaining and/or removing public trees.
 - ☐ My community's ordinance is in effect 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, and 365 days a year (not temporary).
 - ☐ Missouri requires your ordinance have a no topping clause of publicly owned trees.
- Keep in mind, your community may have MORE information in your code to protect trees, which is great! But the three criteria above are the bare minimum to protect public trees and will be required for your Tree City USA application in the future.

If it checks all four boxes, you're good to go. If it does not, you will need to update your ordinance. Don't worry – Arbor Day Foundation and I are here to support you. If you update your ordinance by December 31, 2023, you'll be automatically eligible for a Growth Award for Activities C1: Ordinance Clauses and C6: Policy or Plan Update, which are equivalent to the 10 points required to earn a Growth Award.

What's A Name? Meet The Spongy Moth.

Since *Lymantria dispar* was first released from a lab in Massachusetts in the 1800s, it's been called the "gypsy moth." Magda Matache, a Romani scholar and director of the Roma Program at Harvard University, says the moth's name had dehumanizing effects on Romani people. "It equated our people to insects," she says. "Way too often, Romani people have been dehumanized through the means of language and associated with insects, animals, criminality, opulence, violence and so on." Beyond that: "Gypsy is considered a racial slur by many Romani people," Matache said. "It carries a very painful history, and it is offensive."



With this in mind the Entomological Society of America started the process of renaming *Lymantria dispar* and other insects to names that are not inadvertently insulting. *Lymantria dispar* is one of the first to be renamed and will now be known as "spongy moth". The new name is closely tied to the moth's characteristics: the egg masses of these moths are kind of spongy-looking as they overwinter on trees. Plus that name is basically how the moth is referred to in other languages. Like in France and French-speaking Canada, it's called la spongieuse, meaning "the sponginess." And in Turkey and Germany, the name translates to sponge-knitter moth and sponge-spinner moth, respectively.

Image: Haruta Ovidiu, University of Oradea, Bugwood.org



English oak
Quercus robur

Native to Europe, west Asia, and north Africa, English oak is a large tree with a mature height of 40 to 100 feet and similar spread. This tree is appropriate for large yards, and parks. Naturally the species has a short trunk, but proper pruning can raise the crown to acceptable height. Grows best on well drained, acid soil. The leaves are multi-lobed oak leaves. The lobes vary from pronounced to medium sized bumps. Twigs are reddish brown, often purplish and angled. The bark is deeply furrowed and grayish black on the trunk. The acorn is about 1 inch long with the cap covering the top one-third of the acorn. Fall color is generally non-existent. Several cultivars exist, but only a few may be available. One of interest is 'Attention' for its tight upright form and mildew resistance.

Web Review - Arbor Day History

With 150 years of history, Arbor Day has a lot of success as a celebration. You can learn a little about it from the Arbor Day Foundation at: www.arborday.org/celebrate/history.cfm. While there you can find education materials, where celebrations are taking place, and ideas to add to your celebration. The History Channel also provides information on Arbor Day at: www.history.com/topics/holidays/the-history-of-arbor-day.

Sirococcus conigenus

Sirococcus conigenus predominantly affects the current year's growth on pine, spruce, and hemlock.

Damage is most severe on succulent, current year's shoots but may extend to one-year-old twigs. Symptoms appear similar to injury from winter dying or frost damage; however, shoots killed by *Sirococcus* are scattered rather than uniform. Young seedlings may be killed by the disease, but damage to large trees mainly is confined to lower branches and has slight effect on plant health.



The fungus infects needle bases in late spring and early summer. Small purple lesions are formed and a drop of resin is exuded at the point of infection. Infected needles become chlorotic, die, turn reddish-brown, and are shed. Infection may spread into the stem, causing a canker. If infection occurs in the region of shoot elongation, growth in the infected tissue is stopped, causing hook-shaped tip growth.

The fungus overwinters in killed shoots and cone scales. Small, black fruiting bodies form on killed tissue in late summer, early fall, or in the spring following infection. Spores are dispersed from infected tissue to susceptible hosts by rain splash. High humidity, mild temperatures, and low light favor disease development.

Infected shoots should be clipped and destroyed to prevent spore dispersal. Preventative fungicides such as chlorothalonil (Bravo) and Bayleton 25wp may be effective on nursery stock and young trees.

With the COVID-19 situation, all listed events may occur, be postponed, or cancelled depending on the host groups' decisions. Verify before going.

April 18

ISA Certification Exam, Grinnell, IA. Registration Deadline: March 31. Information at: www.isa-arbor.com/Credentials/Exam-Information.

April 19

Enhancing The Performance of Urban Storm Water Management Schemes With Tree Selection, Tree Fund Webinar. Information at: <https://treefund.org/webinars>.

April 19

Tree Risk Assessment Qualification Renewal Course, Grinnell, IA. Registration deadline March 22. Information and registration at: <https://iowaarboristassociation.org/events-1/traq-renewal-course/>

April 19

Tree Risk Assessment Qualification Course, Grinnell, IA. Registration deadline March 22. Info/ registration at: <https://iowaarboristassociation.org/events-1/tree-risk-assessment-qualification-course/>

April 19

Tree Risk Assessment Qualification Course, Grinnell, IA. Registration deadline March 22. Info/ registration at: <https://iowaarboristassociation.org/events-1/tree-risk-assessment-qualification-course/>

April 25

Pesticide Training Virtual Course (Qualifies for MDA Recertification), Information and Registration at: <https://skipkincaid.regfox.com/pesticide-training-april-25-2022>

May 11

ISA Certification Exam, Jefferson City, MO. Registration Deadline: April 25. Information at: www.isa-arbor.com/Credentials/Exam-Information.

May 17—19

2022 System Utility Vegetation Managers Summit, Daytona Beach, Fl, Information and Registration at: <https://member.gotouaa.org/events/EventDetails.aspx?id=1617592&group=>

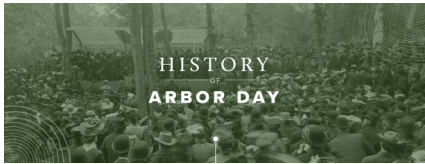
June 21

ISA Certification Exam, Springfield, MO. Registration Deadline: June 3. Information at: www.isa-arbor.com/Credentials/Exam-Information.

June 25—26

2022 MW-ISA Tree Climbing Competition and Training Event, Location to be determined. Check with MWISA for details at: <https://mwisa.org/tree-climbing-championship>.

SWMCFC and Joplin MCFC meetings will be sporadic due the COVID-19 situation. Watch for individual emails announcing meetings as they occur.



The tree is more than first a seed, then a stem, then a living trunk, and then dead timber. The tree is a slow, enduring force straining to win the sky.

~Antoine de Saint-Exupéry, *The Wisdom of the Sands*

WHAT'S HAPPENING

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