

THESTUME

INFORMATION BY THE BOARD FOOT

Hearing Protection Advised

In the summer of 2009, Thea LaBere, Audiology graduate student, at the University of Northern Colorado took noise measurements of 20 tree service workers in Colorado. Her study emphasizes the need for individuals in tree service careers to protect their hearing.

Highlights from her study include:

- The research concluded that urban tree service workers are exposed to noise levels that exceed OSHA standards and NIOSH criteria and workers are at risk for occupational noise induced hearing loss (recommend protection at 85 dBA).
- Research found that 95 percent of workers (19) worked in conditions that exceed either OSHA and/or NIOSH limits for on-the-job noise exposure.
- Using a noise dosimeter to measure exposure in working conditions, research showed that ear protection should be used when operating chainsaws, chippers, stump grinders, leaf blowers, water trucks, rotochoppers, tractors, and brush/weed trimmers.
- Workers ranked chippers (measured at 112-119 dBA) as emitting the loudest noise. Noise exposures above 115 dBA are not permitted by OSHA.
- Eighty percent routinely wore hearing protection of earplugs, earmuffs or combination earplug/earmuff. Recommendation to wear both earplugs and earmuffs when dBA is 100 or greater (operating leaf blowers, chippers, chainsaws.)
- Three of the seven employers had components of hearing loss prevention programs, but only one had a comprehensive hearing conservation program as required by OSHA. It appears that many employers and employees may not be fully aware of the risk of noiseinduced hearing loss in this industry and the best ways to prevent it.

Learn more at these web sites:

OSHA Standards for occupational noise exposure are found at: www.osha.gov/pls/ oshaweb/owadisp.show_document?p_table=STANDARDS&p_id=10625.

NIOSH Noise and Hearing Loss Prevention website is www.cdc.gov/niosh/topics/noise/.

Japanese zelkova Zelkova serrata

A medium to large tree, Japanese zelkova, a native of Japan and eastern Asia, has a mature height of 50 to 80 feet with a upright, vase shaped crown. Appropriate for medium yard, street, and park plantings. This tree has a fast growth rate. It prefers moist, deep soil, but adaptable to higher pH and other soil conditions. The single dark green leaves may bronze with heat stress Fall color ranges from yellow-brown to redpurple depending on conditions and cultivar. Training of young trees is necessary to develop good branch structure. Several cultivars exist with 'Green Vase', 'Spring Grove', and 'Village Green' listed as the better ones.

Plant illustration by Jenny M. Lyverse, from Landscape Plants for Eastern North America, 2nd Edition, Harrison L. Flint Author

Wisconsin Invasive BMP's

Invasive species whether a plant, insect, or disease is not desired anywhere. Over the decades, many invasive species have been introduced to the continent. The effects have ranged from being a nuisance to the near extinction of species. Whole ecosystems have been permanently changed in some cases. When invasive specie affect our urban landscapes, costs of remediation can be high. Careful, thoughtful, continual management practices can lower spread rates of invasives, postpone and hopefully prevent having to deal with them.

The Wisconsin Council on Forestry gathered a group of concerned individuals representing government, and private individuals and businesses. They created Best Management Practices for Preventing the Introduction and Spread of Invasive Species. This BMP set, if followed, will reduce the spread of invasive species.

I encourage all communities and plant businesses to follow these guidelines until local BMP's are created. Get them at: http://council.wisconsinforestry.org/invasives/urban.

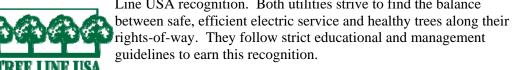
2009 Tree City USA and Tree Line USA Recognition

Tree City USA and Tree Line USA are national recognition programs for communities and electric utilities that have met or exceeded minimum standards established by The National Arbor Day Foundation. You may review the standards at: www.arborday.org/programs/index.cfm.



During the 2009 calendar year, the communities of Carthage, Exeter, and Joplin all earned recognition as Tree City USA's. The communities individual program of activities and accomplishments vary, but all have the same goal of healthy trees in their communities.

Carthage Water and Electric Plant and Empire District Electric Company earned 2009 Tree Line USA recognition. Both utilities strive to find the balance



These communities and utilities should be proud of their accomplishments and applauded for trying to make our community environment better.

Web Site Review

Looking for a quick reference on a specific tree or shrub? Dr. Ed Gilman has compiled fact sheets for 680 trees and 514 shrubs. The tree fact sheets cover descriptions of the trees; what growing conditions and regions they can be utilized; what pests may affect them; and lists several cultivars, if they exist. Some tree fact sheets are on specific cultivars as well. The shrub fact sheets include the same information but also includes several flower species. See these lists at: http://hort.ifas.ufl.edu/trees/ or http://hort.ifas.ufl.edu/shrubs/

How to Kill a Tree!

Driving and parking under or near trees, or storing construction materials or soil fill does not hurt the tree.



Of course the above is incorrect. Tree roots are sensitive to changes in the soil and these changes will lead to root loss and tree decline. Driving over roots or storing construction materials or fill soil underneath and near trees will compact the soil. It only takes one pass



of a piece of equipment to do the damage. Once the soil is compacted it takes decades or even longer for it to loosen to the previous state. Protect trees by placing barriers at least around the drip line, preferably farther. Drive and store outside of these protected areas. All trees outside of the protected areas are to be consider a loss and replaced with well selected and located trees.

April 1

Green Solutions to Stormwater Management Seminar - ACT Webcast, Brown Bag Lunch, Wildcat Glades Conservation and Audubon Center, Joplin, MO, Noon - 1 PM, Registration Required. Contact Jon Skinner (jon.skinner@mdc.mo.gov), 417-629-3423.

April 2

April 5

Arbor Day in Missouri



Tree Selection and Planting Workshop, Wildcat Glades Conservation and Audubon Center, Joplin, MO, 6:30 PM, Contact Jon Skinner (jon.skinner@mdc.mo.gov), 417-629-3423.

April 5

ISA Certified Arborist Exam, Kansas City, MO, Registration Deadline March 17, 2010, Register at www.isa-arbor.com/certification.aspx.

April 12

Tree Resource Improvement and Maintenance (TRIM) Workshop, Wildcat Glades Conservation and Audubon Center, Joplin, MO, 10:00 AM - Noon, Registration Required. Contact Jon Skinner (jon.skinner@mdc.mo.gov), 417-629-3423.

April 12

Tree Selection and Planting Workshop, Fire Department Meeting Room, Aurora, MO, 6:30 PM, Contact Jon Skinner (jon.skinner@mdc.mo.gov), 417-629-3423.

April 21

ISA Certified Arborist Exam, Jefferson City, MO, Registration Deadline April 5, 2010. Register at www.isa-arbor.com/certification.aspx.

April 30

National Arbor Day

May 18

Tree Identification Walk, Lamar Park, Lamar, MO, 6:00 PM, Contact Jon Skinner (jon.skinner@mdc.mo.gov), 417-629-3423.

May 20

Tree Identification Walk, South Park, Monett, MO, 6:00 PM, Contact Jon Skinner (jon.skinner@mdc.mo.gov), 417-629-3423.

June 11

Kansas Arborist Association Summer Field Day, Clinton Corp park east side of Lake, Lawrence, KS, Contact Charles Long (charlesandlindalong@fhrd.net), 785-499-6670.

June 19

ISA Certified Arborist Exam, Oklahoma City, OK, Registration Deadline June 3, 2010, Register at www.isa-arbor.com/certification.aspx.



Scientific Name List

Abies concolor "Violacea" (Pinaceae) Abies firma (Pinaceae) Acacia auriculiformis (Leguminosae)

Acer barbatum var. caddo (Acer

estre (Aceraceae)

It was with awe That I beheld Fresh leaves, green leaves Bright in the sun.

-Basho (1644-1694)



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