

# THE STUMP

INFORMATION BY THE BOARD FOOT

DECEMBER 2023

KNOT THE HOLE NEWS

## Meet Justin Holmes

Justin Holmes is your new MDC Community Forester serving out of the Southwest Regional Office in Springfield. Justin will primarily serve communities in Greene, Hickory, Polk, Christian, Dallas, Stone, Taney, Webster, and Laclede counties but will also help with projects in the rest of SW Missouri.

Justin is originally from the upper peninsula of Michigan. His Father enjoyed spending his time off outside enjoying nature. This passion is what inspired Justin into the career of forestry. He received a bachelor's degree in forest management and urban forestry from the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point.

However, he also received a two-year degree from Ozarks Technical Community College in Springfield and enjoyed his urban forestry classes. Justin has worked as an arborist, Procurement Forester for a paper mill, and most recently as a Forester with the Douglas County Forestry Department in Solon Springs, Wisconsin managing 65,000 acres of forest often by snowshoe and snowmobile.

"I am excited to be back in the Ozarks," he said. "I look forward to getting reacquainted with all the local communities and working with them to promote healthy, resilient, community forests."

You may contact Justin and welcome him to SW Missouri at [Justin.Holmes@mdc.mo.gov](mailto:Justin.Holmes@mdc.mo.gov), 417-895-6880.



## 3-30-300 Rule - A Concept to Get Trees to Everyone

Prof. Cecil Konijnendijk van den Bosch, Director of the Nature Based Solutions Institute and Program Director (Master of Urban Forestry Leadership) at the University of British Columbia, has come up with the 3-30-300 rule to provide a guideline for communities to work towards to improve the health and wellbeing of its citizens.

Urban forests provide a wide range of essential benefits. Among them mental relief, physical health benefits, cooling, and more. A paper on research done in Barcelona, Spain, indicated when the 3-30-300 rule was met, people responded well. When it was not met, people did not receive any measurable benefits from trees. This suggests there is a minimum threshold for trees being in a community to benefit people.

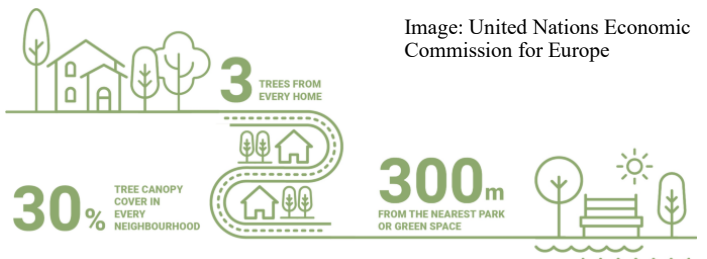


Image: United Nations Economic Commission for Europe

### 3 Trees From Every Home

The first rule is that every citizen should be able to see at least three trees of a decent size from their home. Recent research demonstrates the importance of nearby, especially visible, green for mental health and wellbeing. Not every person has this benefit. Tree planting, even in difficult sites, is important.

### 30 Percent Tree Canopy Cover in Every Neighborhood

Studies have shown an association between urban forest canopy and, for example, cooling, better microclimates, mental and physical health, and possibly also reducing air pollution and noise. By creating more leafy neighborhoods, we also encourage people to spend more time outdoors and to interact with their neighbors which in turn promotes social health. Many communities around the world are setting minimum canopy coverage targets, but not necessarily neighborhood targets. At the neighborhood level, 30 percent should be a minimum. In SW Missouri, we are blessed with the environment to grow trees. A minimum canopy coverage of 30 percent should only be in the harshest portions in our communities such as industrial and highly paved areas.

### 300 Meters (948 feet) From the Nearest Park or Green Space

Many studies have highlighted the importance of proximity and easy access to high-quality green space that can be used for recreation. A safe 5-minute walk or 10-minute stroll is often mentioned. The European Regional Office of the World Health Organization recommends a maximum distance of 300 meters to the nearest green space of at least 1 hectare (2.5 acres). This encourages the recreational use of green space with impacts on both physical and mental health. Of course it will be important to work with local context, as the needs in e.g., lower-density suburban areas will be different from those in denser urban areas. But also here efforts need to be made to provide access to high-quality urban green space, e.g., in the form of linear green spaces that double as cycle corridors and walking paths.

Applying the 3-30-300 rule will improve and expand the local urban forest in many cities, and with that promote health and wellbeing.



Norway spruce  
*Picea abies*

Norway spruce is a large tree with a mature height of 60 to 100 feet and a spread of 25 to 60 feet. Appropriate for a large yard, and park plantings this tree has a medium to fast growth rate. Care must be given in tree placement. All too often it is planted too close to buildings or placed where it dominates the landscape instead of adding to it. It performs best in moderately moist, sandy, acid, well-drained soil but can tolerate most average soils provided adequate moisture is available. It needs full sun to help maintain full needle cover. Needles are singular, dark green on drooping branches. It is resistant to Rhizosphaera needle cast which wreaks havoc on other spruces in our region. Several cultivars exist ranging from very small and short to tall and thin crowns. It is native to northern and central Europe.

# American Forests: What is Urban Forestry? A Quick 101

American Forests has been known for its rural forestry activities for decades. In the last few years they have welcomed the dark side of community forestry. They have come up with several useful tools and resources for all. This page provides a brief description of urban forestry, but more importantly allows you to access specific program sites through the “Resources For You” menu item. Links to the Tree Equity Score system, Vibrant Cities Lab, and a career clearing house to learn where you can get education about forestry and community forestry with some providing hands-on training. See it all at: [www.americanforests.org/article/what-is-urban-forestry-a-quick-101/](http://www.americanforests.org/article/what-is-urban-forestry-a-quick-101/).

## Fusarium Wilt of Mimosa (*Fusarium oxysporum* f. sp. *perniciosum*)

Mimosa (*Albizia julibrissin*) is loved by many people for its wispy, pinnate leaves and pleasing pink flowers. Unfortunately, this is an invasive species for SW Missouri. Even though not desired as a landscape tree by me, I still will get calls about what may be affecting their mimosa. The most common issue not caused by people is fusarium wilt. This fungus is caused by the specific agent *Fusarium oxysporum* f. sp. *perniciosum*. This specific pathogen also affects *Ailanthus altissima*, another less than desirable species.

The pathogen colonizes and clogs the tree’s vascular (water-conducting) tissue, and interferes with the movement of plant sap. This results in relatively rapid tree death. An early symptom of Fusarium wilt is a brown streaking in the wood that is apparent when the bark of stems or roots is cut away; however, these symptoms typically go unnoticed. The first readily noticeable symptoms of mimosa wilt are yellowed, stunted, and wilted leaves on one or several branches in early to mid-summer. Later in the summer the affected branches may prematurely defoliate. Yellowed and wilted leaves continue to appear on more branches throughout the summer and fall, although in some



Elizabeth A. Bush,  
Virginia Tech Univ.

cases a tree may die within a month of initial symptom appearance. As the disease progresses, cracks begin to appear in the bark. After the aboveground portion of the tree dies, roots may still be alive and shoots may continue to sprout from the base of the trunk for some time. In some cases, gum or a white, frothy liquid with a fermented odor may exude from cracks. Sometimes a tree survives to the next growing season, but the new leaves will be stunted and yellowed and the tree will continue on a relatively rapid

decline toward death. Fusarium wilt is a lethal disease for which there are no controls. However, most tree species are not susceptible to *Fusarium oxysporum* f. sp. *perniciosum*, so replacing diseased mimosa with a non-susceptible host tree (i.e. genera other than *Albizia* and *Ailanthus*) is the best option.



### November 29

MoGIA D.I.G. Conference, St. Charles, MO. For details visit <https://mogia.org>.

### December 3 - 6

2023 ASCA Annual Conference, Renton, WA. For details visit [www.asca-consultants.org/events/EventDetails.aspx?id=1587105](http://www.asca-consultants.org/events/EventDetails.aspx?id=1587105).

### December 3 - 6

Tree & Plant Appraisal Qualification (TPAQ) Post-Conference Workshop, Renton, WA. For details visit [www.asca-consultants.org/events/EventDetails.aspx?id=1772956](http://www.asca-consultants.org/events/EventDetails.aspx?id=1772956).

### December 12 - 13

ISA Virtual Event 2023. For details visit <https://na.eventscloud.com/ereg/index.php?eventid=772929&>.

### December 13

Urban and Community Forestry Society (UCFS) Learning Series: Large Scale Tree Planting Campaigns, For details visit <https://ucfsociety.org/event/ucfs-learning-series-large-scale-tree-planting-campaigns/>.

### January 24 - 26

2024 MWISA Annual Conference, Sheraton Westport Lakeside Chalet - St. Louis, MO. For details visit <https://mwisa.org/annual-conference-and-trade-show>.

### February 6

ISA Certification Exam, Bonner Springs, KS. Registration Deadline: January 19. Information at: [www.isa-arbor.com/Credentials/Exam-Information](http://www.isa-arbor.com/Credentials/Exam-Information).

### February 11 - 15

TCIA Winter Management Conference 2024, Puerto Vallarta, Mexico. For details visit <https://wmc.tcia.org/attendees/attendee-registration/>.

### February 13 - 16

2024 ASCA Consulting Academy, San Antonio, TX. For details visit [www.asca-consultants.org/events/EventDetails.aspx?id=1709426](http://www.asca-consultants.org/events/EventDetails.aspx?id=1709426).

### February 20

ISA Certification Exam, Ames, IA. Registration Deadline: February 2. Information at: [www.isa-arbor.com/Credentials/Exam-Information](http://www.isa-arbor.com/Credentials/Exam-Information).



A tree is known by its fruit;  
a man by his deeds.  
A good deed is never lost;  
he who sows courtesy  
reaps friendship, and he who  
plants kindness gathers love.

- Basil

WHAT'S HAPPENING

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Jon Skinner  
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201 W. Riviera Dr.  
Joplin, MO 64804  
417-629-3434 Ext. 4543  
[Jon.Skinner@mdc.mo.gov](mailto:Jon.Skinner@mdc.mo.gov)



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