



# THE STUMP

## INFORMATION BY THE BOARD FOOT

FEBRUARY 2007

KNOT THE HOLE NEWS

### Ice Storm Recovery



The power is on, the streets are passable, the debris is removed, but the trees still look awful! Just because we can go about our daily lives, does not mean recovery from the ice storm is complete. Recovery of the tree resource will take time, planning, coordination, and effort from both the local government and its citizens for years to come.

Trees that have broken branches entailing more than half of their main limbs need to be removed and possibly replaced. Trees with less damage may require corrective pruning. Topping is not an answer to storm damage. It only adds to the problem.

Where does a community start? Do you remove trees here and there, and plant back in the same places? Do you prune here and there and hope the rest can take care of themselves? Neither is a good way to approach the situation, though it has been done in the past. I encourage all communities to take deliberate steps to look at trees in a long term, planned approach, just like planning for community growth. How does a community do this?

I recommend the following steps:

- 1) Organize an advisory group of citizens to the local government. These individuals do not necessarily need to be very knowledgeable in trees, but interested in the community and willing to learn.
- 2) Hold a first meeting to explain the group's role for the community and have the group set goals. Individual goals may be short term and long term. Keep in mind, trees take decades to become large shade trees. An example goal is: Re-establish the tree canopy over residential streets where appropriate and possible.
- 3) Second and third meetings should be utilized to specify how the goals will be achieved. This should include stating which individual is responsible for what steps to accomplish the goal. An example step is: Conduct an inventory of trees along the streets of the community by contract with an ISA Certified Arborist or SAF Certified Forester during the spring / summer of 2007.
- 4) Further meetings will review accomplishments and assign new tasks as previous ones are completed.
- 5) Periodically the goals should be revisited, possibly revised, to make sure they are still relevant and important to the community. I recommend this be done annually.

Your community does not have to do this alone. I am available to provide education and information to local governments, advisory groups, and the general public to deal with this issue. Contact me at: Jon Skinner, Urban Forester, MDC, 705 Illinois Ave., Ste. 6B, Joplin, MO 64801; 417-629-3423; jon.skinner@mdc.mo.gov

### Tree Care After the Storm Workshops

Many homeowners are wondering what to do with damaged trees. Can it be pruned to look good again? Do I remove and replace it? Who do I hire for the tree work? I am holding a series of workshops about tree care after a storm. All of the workshops are free and open to everyone. Please send individuals to these. They can register by calling 417-629-3423.

Locations and dates of these workshops are:

**February 6, 2007, 6:30 PM**

New-Mac Electric Cooperative Community Room, Anderson

**February 8, 2007, 6:30 PM**

Neosho City Auditorium

**February 10, 2007, 2 PM**

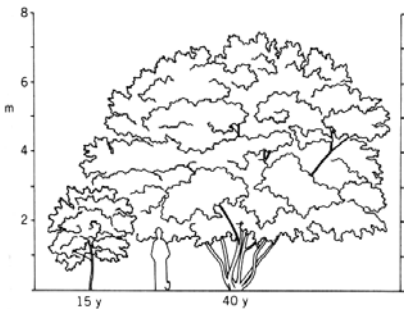
Mount Vernon City Hall

**February 17, 2007, 2 PM**

Monett Community Building on the corner of County Rd. and Maple St.

**February 20, 2007, 6:30 PM**

Greenfield Community Building in City Park



#### amur maple

*Acer tataricum* spp. *ginnala*

Amur maple is a small tree - large shrub with a mature height of 20 to 30 feet with spread equal to wider. This tree is appropriate for all yards, parks. It can be allowed to form multi-stem shrubs or trained to a single stem. The species does best on moist, well-drained soil but adapts well to a wide range of conditions. The leaves are doubly serrate and 3 lobed with the middle lobe much longer than the others. The fruit or samaras can persist until spring. There are various cultivars for leaf and fruit color and size of the plant. Some to look for are 'Compactum', 'Embers', and 'Red Rhapsody.' The species *Acer ginnala*, as many know this plant, has been demoted to a subspecies of *Acer tataricum* as listed above. It is a native of Asia.

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

Web Site Review

“Training Young Trees for Structure and Form/Wildland Fire: How Can We Live With It?” is a web video. This instructional program provides a 5-step approach to training young landscape trees. A neat video on this topic, it does require a high speed connection to work. You can view it via Google Video at: <http://video.google.com/videoplay?docid=-5516859053813831183&q=pruning+trees&pr=goog-sl&hl=en>.

Ice Storm 2006

*The soft rustling of ice rain swept over us.  
Diamond garlands enveloped the trees  
In shimmering laminates of crystal.*

Branches bowed down  
Breaching the limit of bending.  
A sudden sharp crack  
And another electric artery  
Fell to the earth.  
A brief flickering - then the dark  
As fingers of frigid air sucked the warmth  
From a half million heartland homes.  
Beneath layers of blankets,  
We heard the cracking of falling limbs  
Shattering the cold stillness like artillery fire.

*Through the night the soft rustling of sleet  
And the sweeping wind whistled outside our windows.*

Emerging from blanket foxholes  
We braced ourselves to face  
Tons of broken timber  
Sheathed in ice across our lawns.

By night we huddled by our fires,  
Gathered at make shift shelters  
Or fled to homes of friends or kin.

*Across the pond a grove of maple chandeliers  
Glistened in the golden dawnlight.*

Repair trucks by the hundreds  
Rumbled on the streets  
Bringing nasal cries of chainsaws.  
Hard hatted linemen scaled the poles  
And house by block by street  
Blackened houses sprang back to light.

We curse your beauty, wretched storm!  
But offer half a blessing as well  
For shoring up our mettle  
And rekindling the fires of community.

- Robert Charles Howard

Editors Note: I thought the poem was timely for us, even though the poem title states 2006

February 4

ISA Certified Arborist Exam, Wagnor, OK, Registration Deadline January 18, 2007, Register at [www.isa-arbor.com/certification/exams.aspx](http://www.isa-arbor.com/certification/exams.aspx) For more information contact Susan Campbell 214-509-4833

February 7

Apple Tree Pruning Workshop, Shank Farms, Diamond, MO, 3:00 PM Registration Required Contact Jon Skinner ([Jon.Skinner@mdc.mo.gov](mailto:Jon.Skinner@mdc.mo.gov)), 417-629-3423

February 9

Insect and Disease Seminar, Walter Woods Conservation Area, Joplin, MO, 9:00 AM Registration Required Contact Jon Skinner ([Jon.Skinner@mdc.mo.gov](mailto:Jon.Skinner@mdc.mo.gov)), 417-629-3423

February 22

Tree, People, and the Law in Missouri, Walter Woods Cons. Area, Joplin, MO, 9:00 AM Registration Required Contact Jon Skinner ([Jon.Skinner@mdc.mo.gov](mailto:Jon.Skinner@mdc.mo.gov)), 417-629-3423

February 28 - March 2

Midwestern Chapter of ISA Annual Conference, Topeka, KS Information at [www.mwisa.org/mc/page.do?sitePageId=37767](http://www.mwisa.org/mc/page.do?sitePageId=37767)

March 5

Tree Selection and Planting Workshop, Walter Woods Conservation Area, Joplin, MO, 6:30 PM Contact Jon Skinner ([Jon.Skinner@mdc.mo.gov](mailto:Jon.Skinner@mdc.mo.gov)), 417-629-3423

March 6

Tree Selection and Planting Workshop, MDC Offices, 1109 S. Main St., El Dorado Springs, MO, 6:30 PM Contact Jon Skinner ([Jon.Skinner@mdc.mo.gov](mailto:Jon.Skinner@mdc.mo.gov)), 417-629-3423

March 8

Tree Selection and Planting Workshop, City Hall Meeting Room, Mount Vernon, MO, 6:30 PM Contact Jon Skinner ([Jon.Skinner@mdc.mo.gov](mailto:Jon.Skinner@mdc.mo.gov)), 417-629-3423

March 19

Tree Selection and Planting Workshop, Community Building in City Park, Greenfield, MO, 6:30 PM Contact Jon Skinner ([Jon.Skinner@mdc.mo.gov](mailto:Jon.Skinner@mdc.mo.gov)), 417-629-3423

March 20

Tree Selection and Planting Workshop, New-Mac Elec. Coop. Meeting Room, Anderson, MO, 6:30 PM Contact Jon Skinner ([Jon.Skinner@mdc.mo.gov](mailto:Jon.Skinner@mdc.mo.gov)), 417-629-3423

March 22

Tree Selection and Planting Workshop, City Hall Council Chambers, Cassville, MO, 6:30 PM Contact Jon Skinner ([Jon.Skinner@mdc.mo.gov](mailto:Jon.Skinner@mdc.mo.gov)), 417-629-3423



**We're very disappointed it didn't go those few extra degrees colder for snow."**

*Marc Unger about the January 2007 Ice Storm*

WHAT'S HAPPENING

“The Stump” web site:  
[www.geocities.com/rocksandtrees/thestump/](http://www.geocities.com/rocksandtrees/thestump/)

To add or remove your subscription, update your address, change contact information or convert from the paper to the email - web version of “The Stump”, contact:

Jon Skinner  
Urban Forester  
Forestry Division  
MO Dept. of Conservation  
705 Illinois Ave., Ste. 6B  
Joplin, MO 64801-5065  
417-629-3423  
[Jon.Skinner@mdc.mo.gov](mailto:Jon.Skinner@mdc.mo.gov)

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