

THE STUMP

INFORMATION BY THE BOARD FOOT

FEBRUARY 2017

KNOT THE HOLE NEWS

Missouri Community Forestry Council Annual Conference

The Missouri Community Forestry Council Annual Conference theme this year is “The Dollars & Sense of Trees.” Registration for the Conference is open. The Early Bird Deadline is February 9 for a rate of \$185. On February 10, the rate will go up. The conference agenda offers diverse list of topics including Trees and Human Health; Community Engagement; Educational Tree Climbing; Bees and Trees; Energy Saving Trees; Tours of Stephens Lake Park and the MKT Trail; and more. This years’ conference will be held in Columbia at the Courtyard by Marriot on March 13 - 15, 2018. CALL THE HOTEL (573-443-8000) to make a reservation to get the conference rate which is much less than the online rate. Visit the MCFC website for full agenda and registration at www.mocommunitytrees.com/mcfcannualconference.html.



Tree Appraisal Workshop

The workshop gives an overview of the tree appraisal process and provides an opportunity to practice in the field.

Participants will review common mistakes and refine their craft as appraising arborists. The first portion of the course is a lecture that discusses the four primary components of the formula: trunk area, species rating, location rating, and

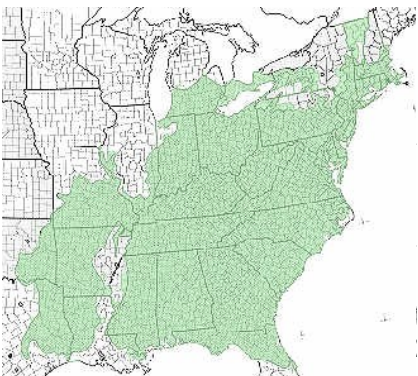


condition rating. The second half of the course is a field application of the concepts discussed in the lecture. Participants will divide into groups and appraise several trees. The class will reconvene and discuss the results. Visit the MCFC website for full description and registration at www.mocommunitytrees.com/mcfcannualconference.html. ISA BCMA and ASCA Registered Consulting Arborist James Komen will be the instructor for this course.



Flowering dogwood
Cornus florida

Flowering dogwood, Missouri’s official state tree, is a small, deciduous tree with a mature height of 20 to 40 feet and 20 to 50 feet wide. Prized for the showy bracts of the flowers, which can be white, pink, or red, this tree also has year round beauty. The leaves provide interest in the spring and commonly turn red to purple in the fall. The fruit is a red drupe that may persist into December. Proper placement of this tree is a must. Prefers partial shade and will do better on north and east sides of buildings or larger trees.



Images: MO Dept of Conservation

Range map modified from Silvics of North America: Volume 2. Hardwoods - <https://www.srs.fs.usda.gov/pubs/1548>

Help Your Trees, Kill The Grass!

Research from K-State’s John C. Pair Horticultural Center has quantified the effect of controlling grasses around newly planted trees. The researchers conducted a study to investigate the inhibition of growth of transplanted, seedling trees when lawn grasses were allowed to grow up to the trunk. There were five treatments, including three with different species of grass:

1. Bare soil maintained with herbicides.
2. Area under tree mulched 3 inches deep.
3. Tall fescue allowed to grow under tree.
4. Bermudagrass allowed to grow under tree.
5. Kentucky bluegrass allowed to grow under tree.

All treatments were applied to eastern redbud and pecan seedlings. All trees were fertilized according to recommendations and watered during the growing season with up to 1 inch of water if rainfall was deficient. At the end of two years, trees were measured and harvested. Data was taken on caliper (diameter 6 inches above the ground), weight of aboveground portions of the tree, leaf area, and leaf weight. There were no differences in any measure between the mulched treatment and the bare soil treatment for either tree species. All measures showed significant growth increases if lawn grasses were controlled around the tree.

Results include the following:

1. Caliper: Caliper measures 6 inches above the soil surface were twice as large for plots without grass than for those with either fescue or bluegrass, but only 50% larger when compared to the bermudagrass plots.
2. Top growth weight: Redbuds showed a 300% weight advantage for plots with grasses controlled than those without. Pecans showed a significant 200% increase.
3. Leaf area and leaf weight: Leaf areas were 200% larger in plots without grass competition and leaf weight showed a 300% increase.



The obvious conclusion from this study is that grasses must be controlled under a tree to get the best possible growth. Though there were no differences in growth whether mulch was used or not, you may still wish to mulch for aesthetic reasons or to help control weed growth. How far from the trunk should the grasses be controlled? Try a minimum of 3 feet.

Book Review - Resource Guide For Planning, Designing And Implementing Green Infrastructure In Parks

This resource guide provides a starting point for park and recreation professionals, planners, and designers interested in integrating green stormwater infrastructure concepts and practices into park design, construction, and maintenance. The purpose of this guide is to help professionals and communities design and maintain greener, cleaner, more resilient parks that maximize benefits to their communities. Get it at: www.nrpa.org/contentassets/0e196db99af544bbba4f63f480c1316b/gupc-resource-guide.pdf

Cytospora Canker (*Leucostoma kunzei*)



Cytospora canker has been reclassified at least twice. Former scientific names include *Cytospora kunzei* and *Valsa kunzei* var. *picea*. The fungus is spread during wet weather into wounds on pines and spruce locally. White pine and blue spruce are the most susceptible. It develops cankers in the stem and branches that as they develop result in sap oozing from the wounds. When the wounds are large enough they girdle the infected stem. Weakened trees are more susceptible. If caught before getting into the trunk, individual branches can be pruned out. Often this is not the case and the tree dies of the infection.



Image: Univ. of Illinois Extension

February 4 - 8

TCIA Winter Management Conference, Maui, HI, Registration and information at: <https://tcia.org/TCIA/EVENTS/WMC/TCIA/EVENTS/WMC/WMC.aspx>.

February 13

Sustainable SITES Initiative Deep Dive, Kansas City, MO, Registration and Information at: <http://pgasla.org/meetinginfo.php?id=269&ts=1517004320>.

February 14

Chainsaw Safety Class for Tree Care Workers, 8 AM - Noon, Wildcat Glades Conservation & Audubon Center, Joplin, MO, Registration deadline Feb. 1. Call 417-629-3423.

February 20

SWMCFC meeting, 8:30 - 10 AM, MDC SW Regional Office, Springfield, MO.

February 20

ISA Certified Arborist, Utility Specialist, and Municipal Specialist Exam, Ames, IA, Registration deadline Feb. 2, Register at www.isa-arbor.com/certification/becomeCertified.

February 20 - 23

ASCA Consulting Academy, Philadelphia, PA, Information at: <http://asca-consultants.site-ym.com/?page=CA2018home>.

February 22

JMCFC meeting, 7 - 9 AM, Wildcat Glades Conservation & Audubon Center, Joplin, MO.

March 3

ISA Certified Arborist, Utility Specialist, and Municipal Specialist Exam, Kirkwood, MO, Registration deadline Feb. 15, Register at www.isa-arbor.com/certification/becomeCertified.

March 13 - 15

MCFC Conference: The Dollars & Sense of Trees, Columbia, MO, Registration and information at: www.mocommunitytrees.com/mcfcannualconference.html.

March 20

SWMCFC meeting, 8:30 - 10 AM, MDC SW Regional Office, Springfield, MO.

March 29

JMCFC meeting, 7 - 9 AM, Wildcat Glades Conservation & Audubon Center, Joplin, MO.

April 12 - 14

Tree Risk Assessment Qualification (TRAQ) class, Grinnell, IA, Registration and information at: <http://iowaarboristassociation.org>.

April 17

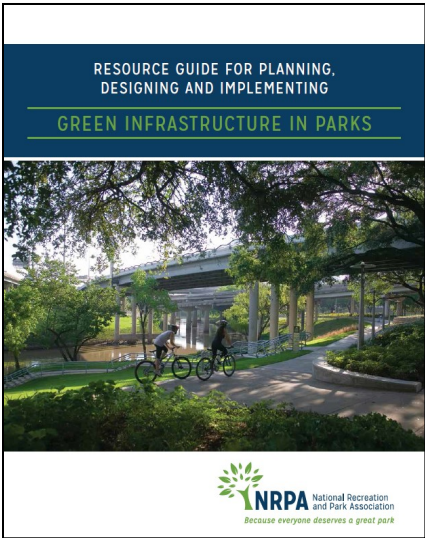
SWMCFC meeting, 8:30 - 10 AM, MDC SW Regional Office, Springfield, MO.

April 26

JMCFC meeting, 7 - 9 AM, Wildcat Glades Conservation & Audubon Center, Joplin, MO.

May 18

ASTI Aerial Rescue Training, Ames, IA, Information at: <http://asca-consultants.site-ym.com/?page=CA2018home>.



.... Stand and look upon the wood: they behold the high tops of the cedar,
The entrance to the wood,
Where Humbaba goes in on lofty tread.
The ways are straight, and the path is wrought fair.
They see the cedar mount, the dwellings of gods, the sanctuary of the Irnim.
- *The Epic of Gilgamesh*

WHAT'S HAPPENING

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