14th Annual Missouri Community Forestry Council Conference

“It’s All About Trees” in Springfield, MO on January 24 - 25, 2007. This year’s conference is not only close but has a wide range of tree topics. Information to be presented includes “The Art of Selling Trees;” “I-Tree;” “What’s New With Tree Cultivars;” “What is Effluent Water;” “Sudden Oak Death and Minerals;” “Tree Appraisals;” “Critical Pest Update;” “Watering Products;” “Legal Guidance:” Using Injection Systems;” and a field tour of the Japanese Stroll Garden and a Tree Climbing Demonstration. Up to 11 ISA CEU’s and SAF CFE’s are available.

The conference will be held in the Hawthorn Park Hotel in Springfield, MO. Hotel rooms are $65 per night, if identified with MCFC and reserved by January 5, 2007. The Conference itself has an $100 early bird registration postmarked by January 5, 2007. Late, On-site, One Day, and Student registrations are also available. Conference information and registration forms can be found at: www.mocommunitytrees.com/whatsgoingon.html or from Jon Skinner (jon.skinner@mdc.mo.gov) at 417-623-3423.

Midwestern Chapter of ISA Conference

The annual conference of MWISA will be February 28 - March 2, 2007 at the Holiday Inn in Topeka, KS. These few days are filled with education sessions (CEU’s), equipment displays, and networking. Conference information is to be directly mailed to Midwestern Chapter members and posted at: www.mwisa.org/mc/page.do?sitePageId=37767.

Apple Tree Pruning Workshop

Pruning apple trees for fruit production is very different from normal directional pruning. The process encourages new growth where flowers and fruit develop. Gaylord Moore, Horticultural Specialist, MU Outreach and Extension, will demonstrate how to prune both young and older, neglected trees.

The workshop will be held on Shank Farms, Corner of Hwy 59 and Aspen Road, Diamond, MO (3 miles south of I-44 on Hwy 59) at 3:00 P.M. on February 7, 2007. One ISA CEU and one SAF CFE is available for this workshop. Call the Missouri Department of Conservation at 417-623-3423 to register or ask questions.

Tree City USA Applications Due

Tree City USA is a great way to recognize your community’s efforts with trees. Communities that qualify have met four criteria during the previous year consisting of: having a tree board; a community tree ordinance; a community tree program with a $2 per capita budget; and held an Arbor Day celebration and a proclamation.

All Tree City USA applications are due by December 31, 2006. Send them to Justine Gartner, Forestry Field Programs Supervisor, Missouri Department of Conservation, P.O. Box 180, Jefferson City, MO 65102-0180. Get an application for certification or re-certification at: www.arborday.org/programs/treeCityApplication.cfm.

Maintenance Pruning

Winter is a great time to do maintenance pruning. This involves the removal of dead, broken, defective limbs and crown raising. The reason for this being a great time of the year is the pathogens that attack trees are dormant. This allows the fresh wounds to dry out and be less attractive to an attacking pathogen.

Keep in mind a few simple rules: 1) use proper pruning cuts using the three cut method to prevent torn bark; 2) use appropriate safety equipment for your protection; 3) never remove more than one-quarter of the live crown in one year - doing so may stress the tree by removing too many leaves; 4) try to keep two-thirds of the tree covered with live branches. The more leaves the tree has, the more energy it can convert from the sun to add to its growth and use in defense against pathogens. These simple rules will allow you to prune and not stress the tree beyond what it can take.

MAKE A DIFFERENCE, PLANT A SEED
Book Review

Diseases of Trees and Shrubs, 2nd Edition is an excellent guide to determining many of our tree diseases. It is one of the most complete references of diseases affecting trees and shrubs in the north America. Disorders caused by more than 470 pathogens and 50 chemical, physical, or unknown agents to plants of more than 300 specie are portrayed, and hundreds of other diseases and pathogens related to those shown are noted. This reference does not cover insect and mite pests of woody plants. Organized by type of pathogen, this book provides descriptions of the signs and symptoms of hundreds of diseases. There are 2200 images showing the symptoms of various diseases. The book also comes with an CD-ROM containing the bibliographical references of the authors.

A GROVE OF TREES

Why is it that a grove of tall trees makes a person stop and look up in wonder? Perhaps it’s that...

A grove of trees is many things, it’s all in the eye of the beholder; A resting place for those with wings, A warming den as nights get colder. Perhaps it’s that...

A grove of trees has many ages Of plants and animals in it; The years pass by as turning pages, Yet we are here for only a minute. Perhaps it’s that...

We fear the enemies of a grove of trees That change with each passing day; Bugs, so tiny, come with the breeze, While disease and fire have their say.

- James P. Rocca
Ellisville, Missouri

(Editors Note: Jim is retired from MDC. He served as the State Community Forestry Coordinator as one of his positions. He now operates his own consulting business and is the Executive Director of the Midwestern Chapter of the International Society of Arboriculture.)

December 4
Tree Pruning Workshop, Community Building in City Park, Greenfield, MO, 6:30 PM Contact Jon Skinner (Jon.Skinner@mdc.mo.gov), 417-629-3423

December 5

December 7
Branching Out Workshop, Walter Woods Conservation Area, Joplin, MO Contact Jon Skinner (Jon.Skinner@mdc.mo.gov), 417-629-3423

December 14
State MCFC Meeting, USGS Environmental Research Lab, Columbia, MO 10 AM Contact Justine Gartner (Justine.Gartner@mdc.mo.gov), 573-751-4115 extn. 3116

January 7 - 9
2007 WESTERN, Western Nursery and Landscape Association Annual Meeting, Overland Park, KS Registration and Information at www.wnla.org, info@wnla.org, 816-233-1481

January 24 - 25

February 4

February 7
Apple Tree Pruning Workshop, Shank Farms, Diamond, MO, 3:00 PM Registration Required Contact Jon Skinner (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

A tree is our most intimate contact with nature.
- George Nakashima, woodworker

“A tree is our most intimate contact with nature.”

“The Stump” web site: www.geocities.com/rocksandtrees/thestump/

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Forestry Division
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