ISA Arborist Certification Exam Training

The Missouri Community Forestry Council and MDC are offering a preparatory training series for the ISA Arborist Certification Exam. This course series is open to all interested persons. Classes will be 6 - 8:30 PM every Wednesday, starting Jan. 11 through Feb. 15, 2012. Feb. 22 is being held as an bad weather make up day. All classes will be at the Wildcat Glades Conservation and Audubon Center in Joplin.

Pre-Registration is required. Cost for the series is $20. A check made to “MCFC” must be delivered to the Joplin MDC office with a registration form. The Arborist Certification Study Guide may be purchased through this workshop for an additional $85. It normally costs $114.95. To get an flyer for the workshop with the registration form, contact Jon Skinner (jon.skinner@mdc.mo.gov, 417-629-3423)

Insect and Disease Workshops

Insects and Diseases are constantly looking for a tree to attack. Some are even new and exotic to our area. As tree professionals working as arborists, nurserymen, landscapers, and public servants we must constantly educate ourselves about these challengers to tree health. This workshop is held to help you review and learn new information about harmful insects and diseases that may affect trees you work with. You and your co-workers are encouraged to attend. Two sessions are offered. January 24, 1 - 4 PM in Springfield ( Contact Cindy Garner at 417-895-6880, cindy.garner@mdc.mo.gov to register) and January 25, 9 AM - Noon in Joplin (Contact Jon Skinner at 417-629-3423 or jon.skinner@mdc.mo.gov to register).

ISA Midwestern Chapter Annual Conference in Overland Park, KS

The 2012 theme for the annual conference is Arboriculture - Above and Beyond Just Trees. The conference will begin on Wednesday afternoon with Jeffrey Bruce, of Jeffrey L. Bruce Company, speaking on “The Future of Green” and will explore the concept of living architecture, sustainable design, and how horticulture and ecology come together. Following will be Derek Vannice, of CN Utility Consulting, providing insight to personalized training techniques for improving communications and safety among utility employees, contractors and consultants. The program will be anchored by Dr. Gary Johnson, University of Minnesota, with topics titled “What Do Trees Need? Energy!” and “Diversity is Healthy.”

In addition, Dr. Jason Griffin, Kansas State University, will offer his thoughts on recommended trees and shrubs; Dr. Chris Starbuck, University of Missouri, will speak on the impacts of Imprelis herbicide; Josh Behounek, Davey Resource Group, with the topic of “Tale of 4 Cities”; Mike Marx, Ameren, on utility disasters and emergency preparedness; Ann Koenig, Missouri Department of Conservation, on participating in tree climbing competitions; Michael Sultan, Davey Resource Group, on “Covering your Assets” and “Trees are our Assets.” Bill Spradley, of Trees, Forests, and Landscapes, on preservation of historic trees.

Learn more and Register for this conference at: http://www.mwisa.org.

Urban Wood: A Valuable Resource

Trees are removed from yards, parks, and along streets all the time for various reasons. Unfortunately, most of these are either piled and left to decay or turned into wood chips. While wood chips are a valuable landscaping tool, they rarely are the highest and best use of these trees. Many have usable lumber in them that can be utilized for furniture, flooring, frames, and other wood products. The most common reason this resource is not used is the logs are not harvested in a quantity to justify transportation to traditional sawmills. With small portable mills, quality, specialty lumber can be sawn, marketed, and sold to lumberyards, woodworkers, specialized builders and on the internet. The image on the left is a coffee shop where the floor, doors, tables and chairs utilize lumber from local urban trees. Consider using this valuable resource, it pays!
Web Site Review - Thousands Cankers Disease

Thousand Cankers Disease has the potential to be devastating to Missouri’s eastern black walnut population. Threatening the existence of this important species, and destroying Missouri’s prominence as the largest source of black walnut nut meats and black walnut logs. Currently, the only protection we have is quarantines to reduce the likelihood of this devastating disease from entering our state. We need you to also be on the lookout for this disease. The web site http://www.thousandcankers.com provides up to date information on known locations of the disease, its identification, quarantines, and other information. Visit this site to keep up to date on this important issue.

Pest Highlight - Rhizosphaera needlecast

Spruces in southwest Missouri do not do well. One of the main reasons is Rhizosphaera needlecast (Rhizosphaera kalkhoffii). This effects of this fungus is first noticed in the late summer to fall when infected needles turn purple to brown and fall off during the winter and spring. The fruiting structures of the fungus may be seen poking through the stomata of infected needles as rows of black dots. The fungus spreads in the spring by wind and splashing water. The disease is favored by high humidity and poor air circulation and thus usually starts near the ground where conditions are favorable. Prevention of this fungus is improved by keeping tall plants away from the tree and providing good air circulation. Protective fungicides may be used in the spring when the fungus is spread. Apply fungicides when new growth is about 1/2 to 1 inch long and repeat application three weeks later.

December 14
Root Washing and Bareroot Transplanting Technique Workshop, Wildcat Glades Conservation and Audubon Center, Joplin, MO, 8:30 AM - 4 PM, To Register or information contact Jon Skinner, 417-629-3423, jon.skinner@mdc.mo.gov

December 15
Root Washing and Bareroot Transplanting Technique Workshop, Springfield Nature Center, Springfield, MO, 8:30 AM - 4 PM, To Register or information contact Cindy Garner, 417-895-6880, cindy.garner@mdc.mo.gov

December 17
ISA Certified Arborist, Utility Specialist, and Municipal Specialist Exam, Oklahoma City, OK, Registration deadline December 1, 2011, Register at www.isa-arbor.com/certification/becomeCertified/

December 25
Christmas!

January 8 - 9
National Green Centre, Kansas City, MO, Registration and information at http://www.nationalgreencentre.org/

January 11, 18, 25, February 1, 8, 15
ISA Certification Exam Training, Wildcat Glades Conservation and Audubon Center, Joplin, MO, 6:00 - 8:30 PM, For information and registration flyer contact Jon Skinner, 417-629-3423, jon.skinner@mdc.mo.gov

January 24
Insect and Disease Workshop, Springfield – Greene County Botanical Center, 2400 S. Scenic Ave., Springfield, MO, MO, 1:00 - 4:00 PM, To Register or information contact Cindy Garner, 417-895-6880, cindy.garner@mdc.mo.gov

January 25
Insect and Disease Workshop, Wildcat Glades Conservation and Audubon Center, Joplin, MO, 9:00 AM - Noon, To Register or information contact Jon Skinner, 417-629-3423, jon.skinner@mdc.mo.gov

February 1 - 3
ISA Midwestern Chapter Annual Conference, Overland Park, KS, Registration and information at http://www.mwisa.org/

February 29