Massachusetts Urban & Community Forestry Program

The Citizen Forester

AUGUST 2018
NO. 217

Ten Years with the Asian Longhorned Beetle Program in Massachusetts

By **Felicia Andre**

"It's infested," exclaims my colleague. We have been called out into the field to look at suspicious damage in a maple tree. As I walk up to the tree, I immediately see the exit hole and gallery. Looking around at the other maples, I quickly find a second tree with similar damage. "Looks like we have another one here," I reply. After additional survey, four trees in total were found with the classic signs of Asian Longhorned Beetle (ALB) in that small woodlot in Worcester. This occurred in November 2017 and is the last time we have found ALB-infested trees.

The Asian Longhorned Beetle is a one to one-and-a-half-inch-long, shiny, black insect with white spots, powder blue feet, and very long antennae. The adults emerge from inside the woody tissue of host trees starting around the beginning of July and will continue to emerge throughout the summer. Once out of the tree, the adults will do a little feeding in the canopy before mating. The females then seek out a host tree, usually a maple, and she begins chewing a small pit to lay a single egg under the bark. She will repeat this process many times, laying up to 90 eggs in her lifetime—a relatively low number in the insect world. The larvae hatch a couple of weeks later and begin feeding on the nutrient-rich cambium layer. After several weeks, the larvae start their journey, tunneling deeper into the woody tissue where they will feed until pupation. During pupation, the larvae transforms into the adult beetle. The pupal stage lasts approximately 13 to 24 days to adulthood, at which time the adult beetle chews straight out of the tree at a 90 degree angle, leaving a perfectly round 3/8 -inch hole. The beetle is an exotic invasive insect, native to China and the Korean Peninsula and is capable of killing trees. It has a wide host range and can complete its lifecycle in 12 different genera, though it favors maples—particularly tricky for us here in the Northeast. For this reason, among others, wherever ALB is detected in the United States, the United State Department of Agriculture, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service establishes an eradication program, like the cooperative eradication program in Massachusetts. Here, the Asian Longhorned Beetle Cooperative Eradication Program is a partnership between the USDA, the Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR), and the affected municipalities. Part of the process is establishing a regulated area, in effect a quarantine area, in an effort to contain the spread of the insect. Currently, the regulated area in Worcester County is 110 square miles and has not expanded since 2011.

Adult Asian Longhorned Beetle (Photo: UMass Extension)

It's been 10 years since the ALB was first reported in Worcester, Massachusetts, and since then 24,179 ALB-infested trees have been found and removed, including the four trees mentioned. Thus changing the character of the heaviest hit Worcester neighborhoods, Greendale and Burncoat, leading the way for a massive reforestation effort. Those neighborhoods were the center of the infestation and nearly every single host tree, including street trees, were removed in the effort to eradicate this pest. The DCR

USDA tree climbers inspect a tree for signs of Asian Longhorned Beetle.

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Ten Years with the Asian Longhorned Beetle Program in Massachusetts

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ALB Reforestation program, Worcester Tree Initiative, the city of Worcester, and the other five municipalities in the regulated area quarantine zone have replanted thousands of trees. Today, those young trees have become established and have started to provide much needed shade and wind breaks.

USDA and DCR staff volunteering for Arbor Day, April 28, 2017 with staff and volunteers from the Worcester Tree Initiative, Davey Resource Group, and the DCR replanting program. (Photo courtesy of Derek Lirange, Worcester Tree Initiative)

The discovery of ALB and the dramatic efforts needed for eradication drew attention to how much our trees mean to us and to how trees benefit us in so many ways. Imagine for a second what your neighborhood would look like if every maple tree had to be removed. It is a heart-breaking thing to see and it is this thought that motivates and keeps the program going, so that no other neighborhoods will have to suffer.

How is the Asian Longhorned Beetle Cooperative Eradication Program going about eradicating this pest? To start with, the program does a lot of 'looking' for the beetle. Every workday, several four-person ground teams head out to their assigned units and locate, measure, and view, through binoculars, all ALB host trees from top to bottom. There are also several climbing teams that climb trees with suspicious-looking damage and also climb host trees in a buffer around infested trees. Not much has changed with this system since those early days in 2008. One thing that has changed is how the program progresses with survey and prioritizes survey units within the affected communities.

ALB exit hole. (Photo: Massnrc.org.)

USDA and DCR Staff examine a Norway maple for damage by Asian Longhorned Beetle.

The ALB program has surveyed every host tree in the regulated area and has maintained a database of information from previous surveys. The program uses current as well as previously collected data to create risk modeling maps. Factors in the risk model include the distances from infested tree(s), firewood operations, wood storage or disposal sites, and the distance from major highways. Other factors include the level of infestation within the infested trees, wind direction, density of infested trees, host density, and the time since last survey. The goal of the risk modeling is not to guess where the beetle could go next, but to tell us the likelihood of where we might find ALB. This allows us to utilize limited resources more efficiently, to be more proactive verses reactive, and to reduce the amount of time in an area from one survey to the next. The less time an infestation has to grow, the fewer trees that are ultimately infested and removed. A great example of this is the Boston infestation. On July 3, 2010, ALB was reported at Faulkner Hospital in Boston, across from the Arnold Arboretum. The initial surveys found just six infested trees next to a parking lot and after four years of survey, no additional signs of ALB were found. The infestation was caught early, before it could grow and spread. Boston was declared eradicated in May 2014 with just the original six trees removed. Whereas, in Worcester, the infestation was established for at least 10 years prior to its detection, allowing the beetle population to grow before it was reported.

Another aspect of our program is regulatory. Companies that work with or around host material within the regulated area have to hold a compliance agreement with the ALB program. These companies include firewood processors, arborist, landscaping, and waste companies, and businesses that run disposal sites, among others. The companies allow program staff to survey trees on their properties, whether inside or outside of the regulated area. The regulatory staff surveys these locations to

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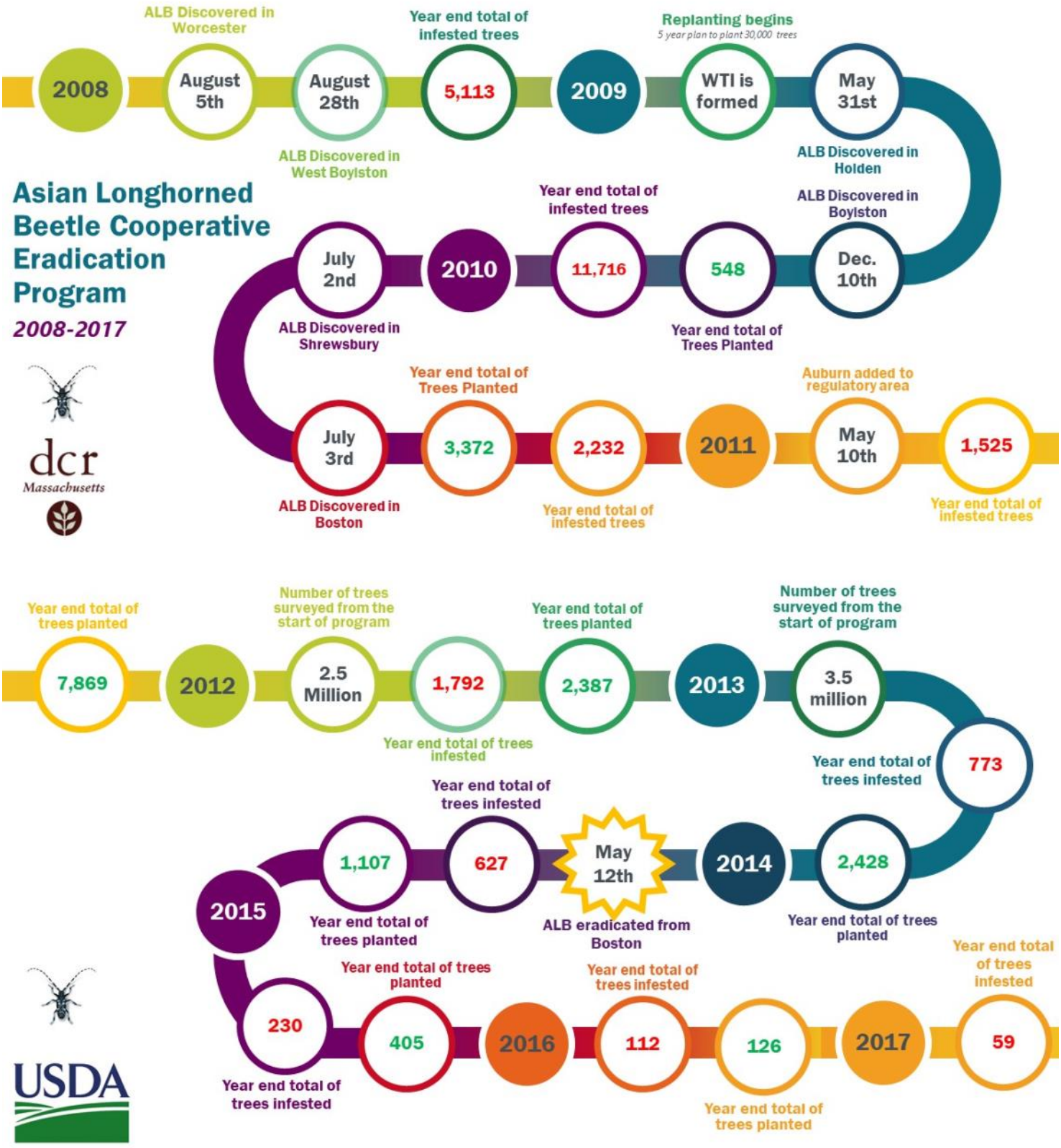
Ten Years with the Asian Longhorned Beetle Program in Massachusetts



Ten Years with the Asian Longhorned Beetle Program in Massachusetts

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determine whether beetles and/or infested wood might have been moved outside of the quarantine. The regulatory staff answers and replies to all calls about possible ALB sightings or detections from the general public. Every effort is made to visit each location and offer additional outreach information. From July 2017 to the beginning of July 2018, almost 600 service calls were answered and recorded. Regulatory staff also do a lot of public outreach, stopping and talking to folks working around host material while out on patrol on a daily basis.

Finally, an important portion of the program is outreach. The ALB program staffs informational tables at many popular events like the Big E, camping and fishing shows, Massachusetts Envirothon, and MA Tree Warden Conference, just to name a few. Other times, staff give presentations on ALB at different events and at schools. Oftentimes, people will ask staff questions on the street or while they are surveying a property. Staff are always happy to talk about ALB. The entire program believes it is extremely important to get Asian Longhorned Beetle information to as many people as possible and spreading the most important message: Find it. Report it! There can never be too many eyes looking for the beetle especially since many of the ALB infestations have been found thanks in part to reports by citizens.

So how are we doing in the battle? The answer is not a simple one. Currently the program has consistently found fewer and fewer infestations through the years. A live beetle has not been seen or turned in via ALB traps, regulatory service calls, ALB survey personnel, or private citizens since 2015. We are still finding small pockets of infested trees and while all the data looks promising, we will not stop or even slow down our efforts. The goal is eradication and that's what we aim to do. As the summer progresses, please take some time to look around you. Whether at a friend's cook out, taking a hike, or just hanging out in the backyard, remember that there are people working hard every day to ensure the future of our neighborhood trees and our great New England forests.

Find out more about ALB: https://www.mass.gov/guides/asian-longhorned-beetle-in-massachusetts

Check your trees for ALB.

Felicia Andre is the ALB Ground Operations Supervisor for the Department of Conservation Recreation.

Growing Greener—in Framingham

The City of Framingham was recently awarded a DCR Urban and Community Forestry Challenge Grant for $16,000 to complete an inventory and management plan for the Environmental Justice neighborhood of South Framingham. Environmental Justice areas meet one or more criteria: A census block group whose annual median household income is equal to or less than 65 percent of the statewide median ($62,072 in 2010), 25% or more of the residents identify as a race other than white, or 25% or more of households have no one over the age of 14 who speaks English only or very well.

According to Framingham's grant application, "These historic neighborhoods are Framingham's most urban, in an area vulnerable to flooding, and are walkable to downtown, which makes street trees especially important." A consultant will conduct the inventory to assess urban tree cover and identify needs and opportunities for future planting and management, including completing a management plan. In addition to goals related to the management of the urban forest in South Framingham, another goal of the project is to build awareness for the benefits of the urban forest to help cultivate support for future work. To achieve this, the city will work with local non-profit organization Sudbury Valley Trustees to conduct outreach about the project. The total cost for the project is $22,353 ($16,000 grant and $6,353 match – the match is 25%, rather than the usual dollar for dollar match because the project is in an Environmental Justice area). The grant is funded with federal USDA Forest Service funds.

Are you interested in applying for a DCR Urban and Community Forestry Challenge Grant? Check out information on our website or contact Julie Coop, julie.coop@state.ma.us or 617-626-1468 or Mollie Freilicher mollie.freilicher@state.ma.us or 413-577-2966. The next application deadline is November 1, 2018.

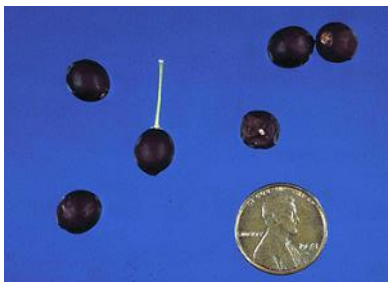
Species Spotlight—Hackberry, *Celtis occidentalis*

By **Mollie Freilicher**

Common hackberry does not, perhaps, have the most-lovely name, but it is one of our native trees – and a tough one to boot. Common hackberry, which we will call 'hackberry' in this piece, is native from southern Ontario to New England, south to northern Georgia, and west to northwest Oklahoma, and north through the Dakotas. It also occurs locally in southern Quebec and in southern Manitoba. The common name hackberry comes from 'Scottish hagberry,' which referred to a different tree with similar-looking fruit, bird cherry (*Prunus avium*). In its native range, hackberry is a tree of river valleys, though it also grows in upland mixed hardwood forests. A medium-to-fast grower, hackberry can reach 40 to 60-feet tall, with a similar spread. At one time, hackberry was classified in the *Ulmaceae*, but is now in the *Cannabaceae* family. Yes *that* family, which also includes hemp and hops. Hackberry is hardy to USDA zones three to nine.

Leaves (Mollie Freilicher)

Hackberry is alternate, with simple, ovate, pointed leaves that are two to five inches long. The leaves are sharply toothed, though teeth disappear closer to the base. The base is uneven, with one side higher than the other, similar to leaves on elm trees. Three veins originate at the base. Leaves are shiny green in color above, and paler on the underside, with glabrous or slightly glabrous veins. Fall color may be yellow or yellow-green.



Fruit (Virginia Tech)

Buds are imbricate, pointy, and small, at one-quarter-inch long or less. They are brown, downy, and appressed to the stem. Lacking a terminal bud, hackberry has a pseudo-terminal bud. That is, it has a bud that seems like a terminal bud, but is actually a lateral bud. Twigs are slender, reddish-brown, hairy, and zig-zag. The pith is white and may be chambered at nodes.

The bark of hackberry is smooth gray when young and develops corky 'warts.' As the tree matures, the warts develop into ridges.

Bark (Mollie Freilicher)

Hackberry flowers are polygamo-monecious; it can have male, female, and perfect flowers on the same tree. Flowers are greenish and not ornamentally important. The fruit, a one-seeded drupe, is orange-red to purple and matures in the fall. It is approximately one-quarter to one-third-inch wide and hangs on a pedicel one to two inches long. The fruit can persist through the winter and is favored by wildlife, including small mammals and birds, such as wild turkey, cedar waxwing, robins, and others. Michael Dirr warns of the teeth-shattering single seed – be careful if sampling! Deer will also browse on leaves of hackberry. Wood from hackberry is not used for timber, but is used as firewood.

Hackberry is susceptible to several insects that primarily affect the appearance of the tree. These include a few gall -makers in the genus *Pachypsylla,* such as the hackberry petiole gall psyllid, the hackberry nipple gall, hackberry bud gall, and hackberry blistergall psyllid. Hackberry nipple gall is so often present on the leaves that it in many cases, it can aid identification. Michael Dirr is troubled by mourning cloak butterfly on hackberry, though for Doug Tallamy, this is an asset. Hackberry is also the main host for the tawny emperor butterfly, which is rare in Massachusetts. Hackberry is also susceptible to witches' brooms and these can disfigure trees severely.

G.B. Emerson writes of hackberry in his book, *A Report on the Trees and Shrubs Growing Naturally in the Forests of Massachusetts*.* In Emerson's time, the tree was known as the nettle tree, for the resemblance of the leaves to leaves of species of nettle. Emerson notes that the tree brings elm to mind and that "careless observers" might mistake a hackberry for an elm. A common name Emerson noted in use in Bristol County was "false elm." According to Emerson, French botanist and explorer of North American flora André Michaux, did not find hackberry growing north of the Connecticut River, but Emerson did find it, in just about every county in

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Species Spotlight—Hackberry, *Celtis occidentalis*

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Massachusetts, though it was never abundant. Perhaps because of its rarity and perhaps because of its resemblance to elm, many of Emerson's nature-curious friends did not know what it was. Emerson writes of some large specimens, including a tree over four feet in diameter near Hampden House (burned 1851) in Springfield that was cut down "before the axe of *improvement*." It is interesting to note Emerson's description of the location of this large tree, "It grew a few rods north of the Hampden House, in the broad county road, in Springfield." Did you catch that? *In* the road, not next to the road. Historic street trees were in the street, growing right there in the dirt.

Emerson opines on the good qualities of the *Celtis* genus: "handsome trees," "strikingly elegant appearance," "remarkable [wood]," "wholesome [fruit]," and "rich and abundant [foliage]," though he does not get too specific in his own praise of hackberry in particular. He does, however, quote Michaux, saying, "The hack berry is certainly one of the most beautiful trees of its genus, and one of the most remarkable for height and for majesty of form." Yet today hackberry seems to fly under the radar.

Hackberry can tolerate a variety of conditions, including dry soils and wind, making it a good choice for urban areas. Because it is likely not prevalent in urban areas, hackberry is also a good choice to diversify the urban forest. Dirr suggests planting hackberry in parks or other large areas. There are cultivars that are more resistant to witches' brooms and the nipple gall, including 'Magnifica,' which is likely a cross between *C. occidentalis* and *C. laevigata*. (*C. laevigata* is native to the southern United States.) *C. occidentalis* 'Prairie Sentinel' is a columnar form of hackberry. Both 'Magnifica' and 'Prairie Sentinel' are commonly available in the trade.

*Emerson writes of two species: *C. occidentalis* and *C. crassifolia*. Today, *C. crassifolia* is considered *a* synonym for *C. occidentalis*, sometimes written as *C. occidentalis* var. *crassifolia.*

Form (Virginia Tech)

References

Dirr. M.A. 1998. *Manual of Woody Landscape Plants*. 5th Edition. Champaign, IL: Stipes.

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NRCS. Common Hackberry. NRCS Plant Guide. https://plants.usda.gov/plantguide/pdf/pg_ceoc.pdf

USDA Forest Service. *Celtis occidentalis*. Fire Effects Information System. https://www.fs.fed.us/database/feis/plants/tree/celocc/all.html

Virginia Tech. *Celtis occidentalis*. Virginia Tech Plant Database. http://dendro.cnre.vt.edu/dendrology/syllabus/factsheet.cfm?ID=26

Growing on Trees

Massachusetts Town Forests Conference

Sunday, September 9, 2018 | Haverhill High School & Tattersall Farm, Haverhill

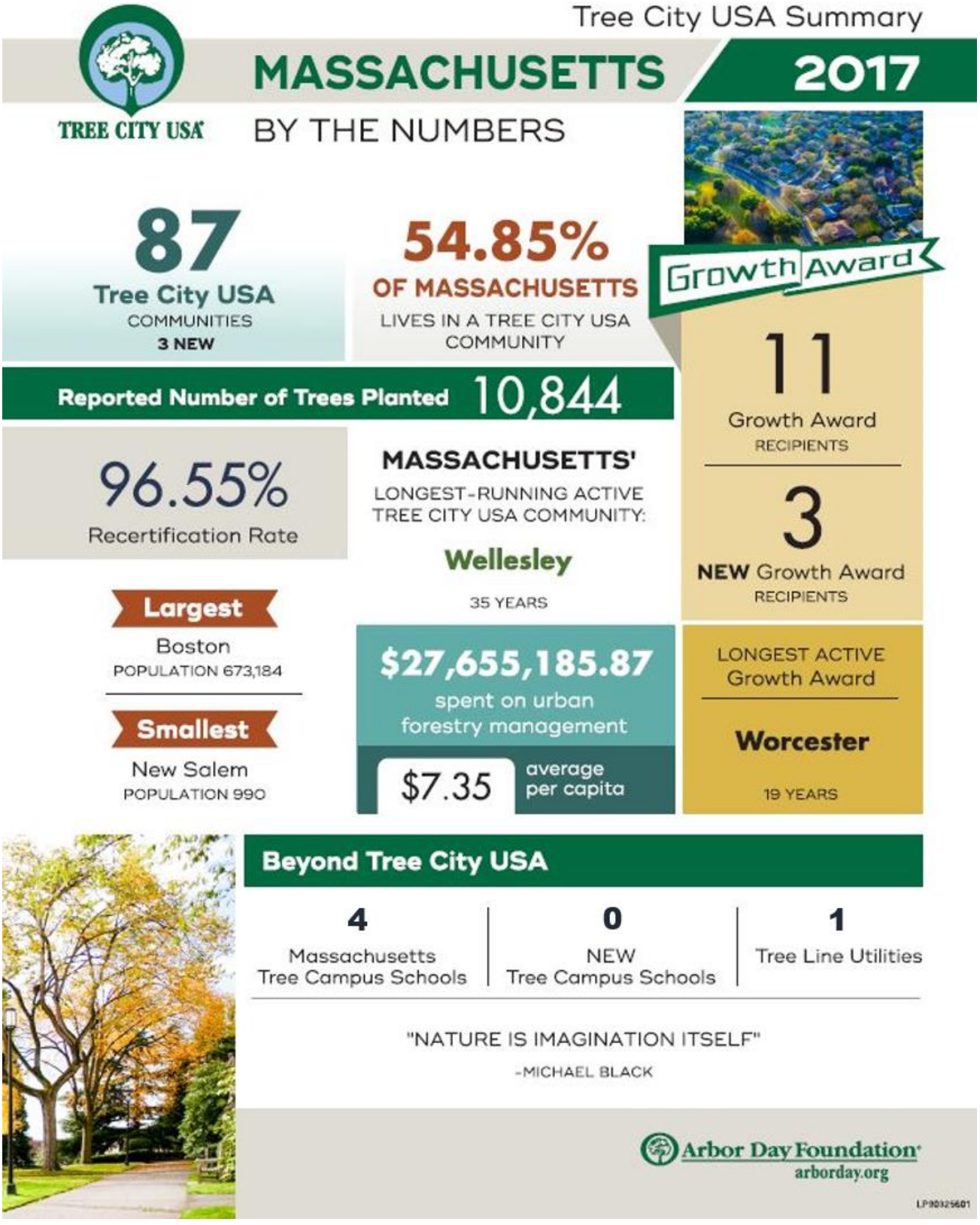
- Morning guided field tours of forestry projects
- Afternoon of farm & forestry demonstrations and activities as part of the Tattersall Farm Day

Co-hosted by the City of Haverhill, Tattersall Farm, New England Forestry Consultants, Inc., MA DCR Service Forestry Program, and USDA Forest Service

Find out more at www.mass.gov/dcr/service-forestry

Register here.

Growing on Trees



Webcasts and Events

Urban Forest Connections

The USDA Forest Service's Urban Forest Connections webinar series brings experts together to discuss the latest science, practice, and policy on urban forestry and the environment. These webinars are open to all. Past webinar presentations and recordings are available here.

A New Road to Funding Urban Forestry Projects through Carbon Credit Generation
August 8, 2018 | 1:00 - 2:15 p.m. (Eastern)
Mark McPherson, City Forest Credits
Anna Mackey & Collin McMicheal, Tree Folks

Upcoming session:
September 12, 2018 | 1:00pm-2:15 p.m. ET
Construction Damage, Severe Storms, and Tree Failure Analysis

To access the webinar, go to https://www.fs.fed.us/research/urban-webinars/.

TREE Fund Webinar

Arboricultural Biomechanics - Brian Kane, Ph.D., University of Massachusetts, Amherst
August 23, 2018 | 1:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m. (Eastern)
https://www.treefund.org/webinars

Urban Forestry Today Webcast

Emerald Ash Borer Update
September 13, 2018 | 12:00 - 1:00 p.m. (Eastern)
Nate Siegert, Ph.D., USDA Forest Service

Attend live and receive Free ISA/MCA CEUs by visiting www.joinwebinar.com and entering the code: 705-880-363.

The Urban Forestry Today Webcast Series is sponsored by the University of Massachusetts Department of Environmental Conservation, in cooperation with the USDA Forest Service, Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation, University of Massachusetts Extension, and Massachusetts Tree Wardens' & Foresters' Association.

Partners in Community Forestry Annual Conference

November 7-8, 2018 | Irvine, CA
Find out More! https://www.arborday.org/programs/pcf/

MCA Exam Overview Course

September 7, 2018, 8:30 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.
Elm Bank Reservation, Wellesley

This course offers an overview of the MCA program including what to expect when you take the MCA exam, helpful study tips, a review of key points, and useful strategies for Tree ID – brought to you by members of the MCA committee and MAA management.

The course is designed to provide a review of key points for each chapter of the Study Guide. The course does NOT attempt to teach the material found in the study guide. It is expected that course candidates have reviewed and/or are familiar with the content of the study guide itself. The presenters will focus on strategies for effective studying and test taking. Course participation does not guarantee improved performance on the MCA exam.

Find out more: www.massarbor.org.

UMASS Green School—Fall 2018

October 17, 2018 – December 17, 2018 | Milford

Specialty Tracks: Arboriculture, Landscape Management, and Turf Management
Registration is open!
The early-bird rate ends September 24.
Find out more: https://ag.umass.edu/landscape/education/umass-extensions-green-school

Soc. of Municipal Arborists Annual Conference

November 5-6, 2018 | Irvine, CA
Find out More! www.arborday.org/programs/pcf/partnering-events

DCR Tree Steward Training

October 12-13, 2018 | Harvard Forest, Petersham

Topics include: Tree Wardens, Tree Stewards, and the Community ● Trees and Pruning ● Tree Identification ● Working with Volunteers ● Site Selection and Proper Tree Planting Techniques ● Funding Urban and Community Forestry ● Diagnosing Insect and Disease Problems ● Soil Health ● Assessing the Urban Forest Roundtable Discussion ● And More!

Registration coming soon! Check www.mass.gov/service-details/urban-and-community-forestry

Grants

DCR Urban and Community Forestry Challenge Grants

October 1 (Intent to Apply) | November 1 (Full Application)

Challenge grants are 50-50 matching grants (75-25 for environmental justice projects) to municipalities and nonprofit groups in Massachusetts communities of all sizes for the purpose of building local capacity for excellent urban and community forestry at the local and regional level.

The USDA Forest Service provides funding for the grant program, and DCR administers the grants with guidance from the Massachusetts Tree Wardens' and Foresters' Association.

The DCR Urban and Community Forestry Program assists communities and nonprofit groups in their efforts to protect and manage community trees and forest ecosystems, with the ultimate aim of improving the environment and enhancing the livability of all of Massachusetts's communities.

Project areas include:

- Building and Strengthening Citizen Advocacy and Action Organizations
- Securing or Training Professional Staff
- Developing and Implementing Systematic Urban Forestry Management through tree inventory and analysis, resource assessment, and development of plans
- Attaining a Tree City USA Award, Growth Award, Tree Campus USA Award, or Tree Line USA Award
- Completing strategic community tree plantings and "heritage" tree care projects
- Other projects

Read the complete guidelines and download the application at:
https://www.mass.gov/guides/urban-and-community-forestry-challenge-grants

For more information on the Challenge Grants, including our Eversource Go Green grants and National Grid Partnership Grants, contact Julie Coop at 617-626-1468 or julie.coop@state.ma.us or Mollie Freilicher at 413-577-2966 or mollie.freilicher@state.ma.us.

Massachusetts Forest Legacy Program Is Seeking Applications

The Massachusetts Forest Legacy Program is now accepting project proposals for consideration in the federal fiscal year 2020 application process. The Forest Legacy Program is a partnership between the Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation and the USDA Forest Service to protect environmentally important forests from conversion to non-forest uses. The federal government may fund up to 75% of project costs, with at least 25% coming from private, state or local sources. The MA Forest Legacy Program FY 2020 Request for Proposals application instructions are posted here. Additional background information on the Forest Legacy Program is available here.

Proposals must be submitted by 5:00 pm on September 10, 2018.

For more information please contact Lindsay Nystrom, MA Forest Legacy Program Coordinator at lindsay.nystrom@state.ma.us or 508-792-7714 x114.

Growing on Trees

Municipal Forestry Institute 2019 – Registration Now Open

Registration is now open for the 2019 session of the Municipal Forestry Institute (MFI), to be held in **Silverton, Oregon, February 24-March 1, 2019**. MFI is an intensive five-day program for urban foresters, hosted by the Society of Municipal Arborists. It is not your typical training for arborists and urban foresters. The focus of the MFI curriculum is leadership and how to move your urban forestry program from good to great.

The four major areas of the MFI program:

- Developing a Leadership Approach to Your Position
- Thinking and Planning Strategically to Advance Urban Forestry Programs
- Working Effectively with Boards, Coalitions, and Non-Profit Organizations
- Managing the Relationship between People and Trees

Who should attend?
People who plan, manage, or advocate for urban forestry efforts and who want to become more effective leaders. Past MFI classes have included City Foresters and City Arborists ● Urban Foresters, Municipal Arborists, City Planners, Tree Wardens ● State Urban Forestry Staff ● Municipal Tree Advocates ● Non-Profit Organization Staff

The all-inclusive registration fee for MFI 2019 covers the following:

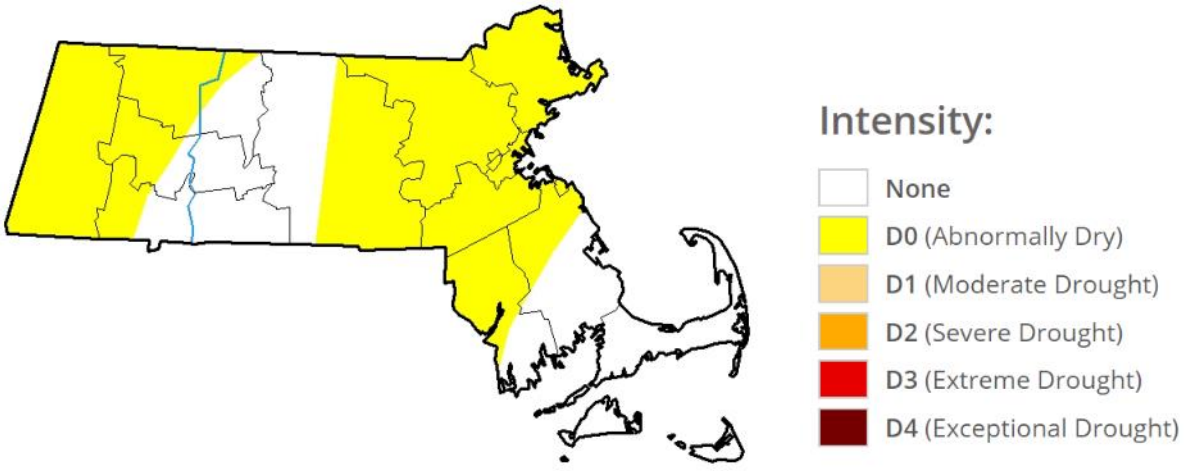
- All course materials
- Five nights hotel lodging (Sunday through Thursday)
- All meals from Sunday supper through Friday breakfast

Registration Investment
$2199 for SMA members ● $2299 UDS non-SMA members

Find out more.
https://www.urban-forestry.com

Drought Monitor

As of July 24, 2018, about 64% of Massachusetts is classified as "abnormally dry," with no areas in a drought status. Find out more at the US National Drought Monitor.



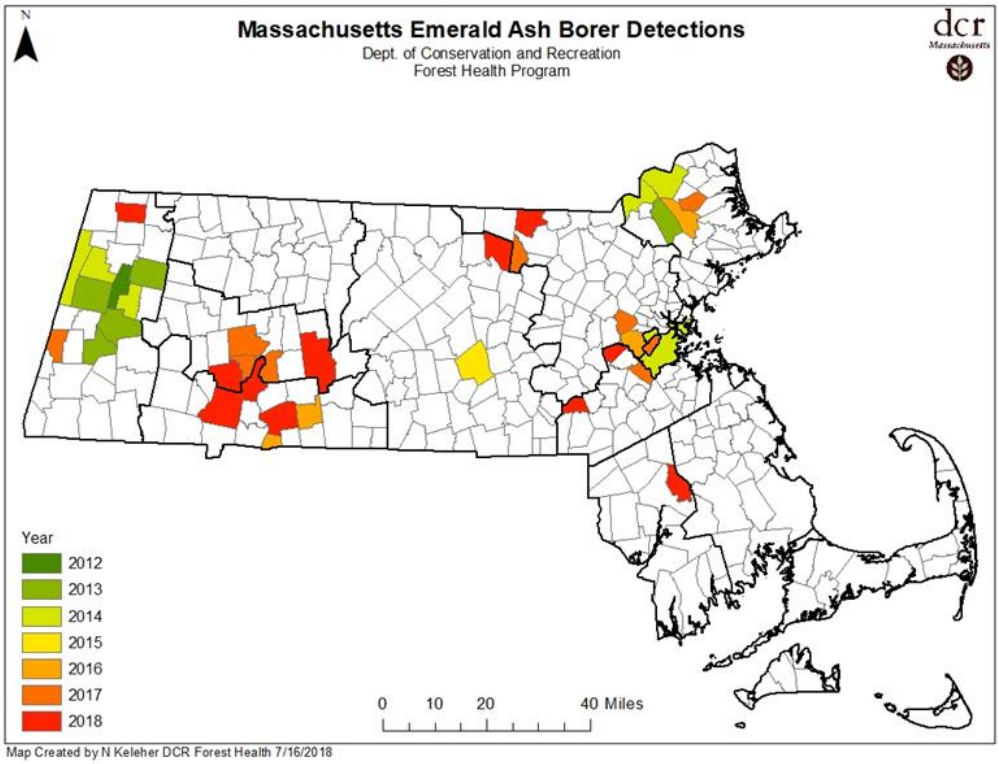
For more information on conditions in Massachusetts, check out UMass Extension Landscape Message:
https://ag.umass.edu/landscape/landscape-message

Growing on Trees

Emerald Ash Borer Update

As of July 16, emerald ash borer has been detected in over 30 municipalities in nine counties in Massachusetts. The latest detection is in Raynham, in Bristol County. Is your community ready for EAB? Contact the DCR Urban and Community Forestry Program for information on how your community can respond.

Where is Emerald Ash Borer in Massachusetts?



Emerald Ash Borer adults are currently active!

Check out this ID guide.

Think you've spotted one or seen signs and symptoms of an infestation? Report it here.

Is your community ready for EAB?

Contact the DCR Urban and Community Forestry Program for information on how your community can respond.

Emerald Ash Borer Field Day – UMass Extension

Tuesday, September 11, 2018, 8:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.| Arcadia Wildlife Sanctuary, Easthampton

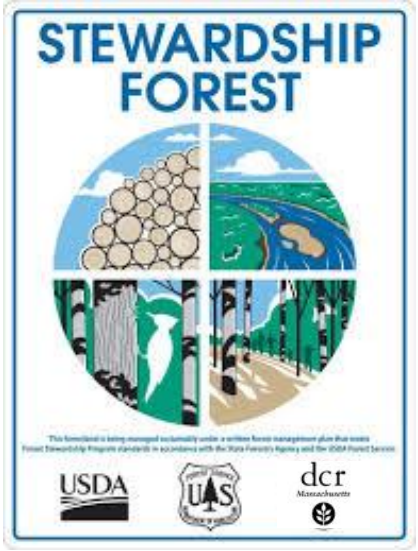
Join Tawny Simisky, UMass Extension Entomologist, Rick Harper, UMass Extension Associate Professor, Ken Gooch and Nicole Keleher, MA Department of Conservation and Recreation Forest Health Program, Phil Lewis, USDA Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service PPQ, and Mollie Freilicher, MA Department of Conservation and Recreation Urban and Community Forestry Program, for a field day devoted to the invasive emerald ash borer. The program will include a classroom-style overview of ash tree and EAB identification and status, as well as insect monitoring and management options, on-site viewing of infested ash trees, trap demonstrations, and tips to carry out community tree inventories to detect and manage ash trees. This training is designed for arborists, tree wardens/urban foresters, municipal officials, landscapers, land managers, landowners, and tree enthusiasts.

Pesticide & Professional Credits
Three pesticide contact hours for categories 35, 36, and Applicators License available, valid for equivalent categories in all New England states. ISA, MCA, MCH, MCLP, and SAF credits requested.

Find out more: https://ag.umass.edu/landscape/events/emerald-ash-borer-field-day

News

Baker-Polito Administration Announces Milestone of 500,000 Acres of Private Forests Under Sustainable Management Plans



Athol – Continuing its commitment to increasing the quality of sustainable management of Commonwealth forests, the Baker-Polito Administration today announced that it has reached the 500,000 acre milestone for private forests enrolled in Energy and Environmental Affairs (EEA) and Department of Conservation and Recreation's (DCR) Forest Stewardship Program. The 500,000 acres represents 25% of all private forests across the state and nearly 800 square miles of land. The program supports and encourages private forest landowners' efforts to manage, their forest using a long-term sustainable approach.

"By partnering with private land owners, the Baker-Polito Administration is able to ensure sustainable forest management practices are implemented within the state's widespread, vital forest land," said Energy and Environmental Affairs Secretary Matthew Beaton. "The benefits of well-managed forestry plans provide both immediate and long-term dividends in safeguarding our environment, and I am so proud of the hard work of the many individuals who have helped reach this incredible 500,000 acre milestone."

The benefits of sustainable forest management practices include better habitat for wildlife, the protection of public drinking water supplies, making forests more resilient to the impacts of climate change, and the creation of sustainable jobs within rural communities. Importantly, each acre of forest removes one to two tons of carbon dioxide each year. Read the full press release at Mass.gov.

Interview with Robert Gibbs: Trees Cause You to Spend More

By **Jared Green**

Robert Gibbs, ASLA, is president of the Gibbs Planning Group, which has advised and planned commercial areas in some 500 town centers and historic cities in the U.S. and abroad. Gibbs is a charter member of the Congress for New Urbanism, a lecturer at the Harvard University Graduate School of Design, author of Principles of Urban Retail Planning and Development*, and co-author of eight books.*

July 10, 2018—**In 2017, retail e-commerce grew 16 percent to $453 billion, and it now accounts for 9 percent of all sales. Furthermore, 2/3 of millennials prefer online shopping to brick and mortar stores. What does this mean for the future of America's retail streets, districts, and malls – for all those physical stores?**

There's going to be hundreds of stores closing. In 2018 already more stores have closed than in 2017. What this means for the industry: a lot of retailers are moving stores into downtowns. Research shows millennials and other shoppers want the experience of being in an urban environment rather than just buying a pair of pants online. So mall closures are good for cities. You're going to see retailers moving back into cities, and many Internet-based companies opening brick and mortar stores. […]

The Grove in Los Angeles and 3rd Street Promenade in Santa Monica offer highly-stylized versions of urban forms – in the case of the Grove, an old European urban downtown, and 3rd Street Promenade, the American main street. Are successful contemporary shopping districts about re-using familiar urban forms in new ways?

Oh, very much so. The traditional grid or traditional straight main street is the best format for the new town centers being developed. There has been a lot of experimentation with curvilinear forms with parallel streets, and those haven't worked too well. It has to be a simple main street. We find the best shopping districts are only about a quarter of a mile long, about 1,200 feet. If you have a longer corridor, then we break it into sections. Where they come together, we anchor it with some form of civic or retail space. So, just the old fashioned street works the best […]
Read the full story on the ASLA blog, *The Dirt.*

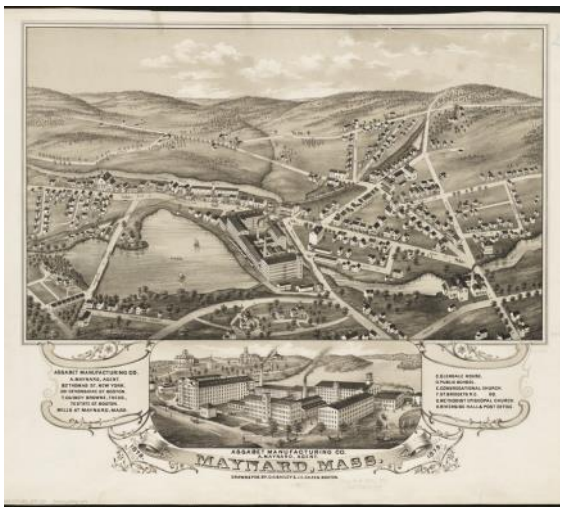
News

Maynard Women Seek to Add More Trees to Maynard's Main Streets

By **Holly Camero**

They call themselves the tree ladies.

They are Lee Caras and Kate Wheeler -- two Maynard women who are passionate about trees and want to increase the tree population in town. They are hoping their passion for trees will branch out to other people who live in Maynard. They started by giving away 150 trees at the town's first Earth Day celebration. Their latest venture is a photo exhibit of trees on display in the Maynard Public Library in July and August.



Maynard in 1879. (Digital Commonwealth)

The trees are both old and new. The collection of photos comes from various sources -- the Maynard Historical Society, local photographer Erik Hansen who in 2014 photographed trees, junior high kids who took pictures of their favorite trees as part of an assignment of the photography club at the library, and Caras herself.

The exhibit focuses on shade trees, on different points in time, that line the main streets of Maynard – primarily Parker, Summer, Main and Nason streets – and how ideas about the importance of trees have changed. […] As early as 1871 efforts were made to beautify the town cemetery by planting trees and flowering shrubs. Later years saw the creation of the position of tree warden, later absorbed by the Department of Public Works, and the planting of different varieties of shade trees. During those years however, more trees were lost than planted, because of storms and disease. Read the full story at Wickedlocal.com.

Gypsy Moth Damage Hits Parts of Massachusetts, What Will Next Year Bring?

By **Melissa Hanson**

Officials from the Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation say the invasive gypsy moth species ate away at foliage in some pockets of the state, but the loss of acreage will not be as large as last year.

While in the caterpillar phase, the gypsy moths made the largest impacts in the city of Worcester, in the Pioneer Valley and on the North Shore, according to Ken Gooch, the forest health program director at DCR.

"Worcester proper, the whole city of Worcester, got hit pretty hard this year," Gooch said.

Damage by the gypsy moths is not drastically different than last year, Gooch said, but the impacts can be seen more in areas that have been defoliated multiple seasons in a row. Read the full story at masslive.com. (And find out the latest disease and insect conditions at the UMass Extension Landscape Message.)

News Headlines in Brief

Emerald Ash Borer Found in Rhode Island

Ever Noticed Chunks of Trees On Utility Pole Wires? What's Up with That? – Mystery solved!

Study: New England's Red Spruce Trees Are Recovering, Thanks To Pollution Laws

What's Making Europe's Trees So Sick? – News about pollution and mycorrhizal fungi

Tree Officers Help Prepare Smart Tree Trail for Cambridge Park – outreach idea from the other Cambridge

Biodegradable Plastic Made from 'Tree Glue' Could Be on Shelves within Five Years

Mass Timber Comes of Age: Code Consideration, Evolving Supply Chain Promise New Options for Tall Wood Buildings

California Is Preparing for Extreme Weather. It's Time to Plant Some Trees.

My preschoolers left a note on a fallen tree. – Find out what the response was!

How the People of Delhi, India, Saved 16,000 Trees from the Axe

On the Horizon

Aug 2-3 Advanced Tree Risk Assessment – Level 3, Northampton, www.newenglandisa.org

Aug 3-5 ISA Annual International Conference and Trade Show, Columbus, OH, www.isa-arbor.com

Aug 9 Landscape and Forest Tree and Shrub Insect Workshop, Amherst, www.umassgreeninfo.org

Aug 23 TREE Fund Webinar, 1:00 p.m. (Eastern), www.treefund.org/webinars

Aug 28 Trees and Utilities Conference, Omaha, NE, https://www.treesandutilities.org/

Sept 7 Mass. Arborist Exam Prep Class, Wellesley, http://www.massarbori.org/

Sept 9 Annual DCR Town Forest Conference, Haverhill

Sept 11 EAB Field Day, UMass Extension, Easthampton, www.umassgreeninfo.org

Sept 12 Urban Forestry Today Webcast, 12:00 p.m. (Eastern), www.urbanforestrytoday.org

Sept 19 Saluting Branches National Day of Service, www.salutingbranches.org

Sept 20 Southeast MA Tree Wardens Field Day, Plympton, www.masstreewardens.org

Sept 21 Structural Tree Support Systems – Cabling and Bracing Workshop, Hopkinton, www.newenglandisa.org

Sept 25 Western Mass. Tree Wardens Fall Meeting, Northampton, www.masstreewardens.org

Oct 2 Establishing Trees in Urban Environments, Florence, www.masstreewardens.org

Oct 3 Mass. Certified Arborist Exam, Wellesley, www.massarbor.org

Oct 5 Stockbridge School of Agriculture Centennial Celebration

Oct 12-13 DCR Tree Steward Training, Petersham

Oct 18 ISA Tree Risk Assessment Qualification Renewal Course, Acton, www.newenglandisa.org

Oct 18 Southeastern MA Tree Wardens Fall Meeting, Middleboro, www.masstreewardens.org

Oct 20 Electrical Hazards Awareness Training, Seymour, CT, www.newenglandisa.org

Oct 29 Green School, UMass Extension, Milford, www.umassgreeninfo.org

Nov 4-6 New England ISA Annual Conference, Mystic, CT, www.newenglandisa.org

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***The Citizen Forester* is made possible through a grant from the USDA Forest Service Urban and Community Forestry Program and the Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation, Bureau of Forestry.**

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If you have a topic you'd like to see covered or want to submit an item to *The Citizen Forester* (article, photo, event listing, etc.), contact Mollie Freilicher or click here.

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