



# THE CITIZEN FORESTER

Urban & Community Forestry Program

MARCH 2020 | No. 266

## From the Woods—Tap into Your Forest

By Tom Ryan *This month, we're introducing a new section called "From the Woods," written by DCR Service Foresters. This section will cover a variety of topics that come straight to you, 'from the woods.' Have a forest question or topic you'd like to see explored? [Let us know!](#)*

The southwest corner of Massachusetts is where I live and work as a DCR Service Forester. During the month of March, I see buckets and tap lines as a telltale sign of spring, as this is normally when maple sap production is in full swing. Each year during maple sugaring season, I tap about a dozen trees on my property and make roughly three gallons of syrup; depending on the season, I can count on roughly one quart of syrup (or 10 gallons of sap) per tap. Throughout my district, there are a number of farms and families that also proactively manage their land and take advantage of this annual forest harvest (Side note: maple syrup production is a great way to qualify for your land being classified in one of the [Ch. 61 current use tax savings programs](#)). Historically, the month of March is prime sugaring, but with the realities of climate change affecting our weather patterns, it is proving more difficult to predict the season of this forest product.

Recently, I came across a publication from the University of Massachusetts by Joshua Rapp, titled "[Finding the sweet spot: Shifting optimal climate for maple syrup production in North America.](#)" His research projects the effects of climate change on the maple products industry. For Massachusetts, Rapp's research predicts that our local maple season will start progressively earlier in the year and result in shorter and less productive seasons. This is concerning as tapping trees provides us with a tactile connection to the forest and I've pondered how to maintain this literal lifeline to our forest as we bear witness to the effects of climate change. I found some hope at a recent staff meeting, where I was made aware of alternatives to sugar maple for tree sap collection. Michael Downey, DCR Forest Stewardship Program Coordinator, relayed his experience sampling several other syrups from trees at a Cornell University agroforestry event. Up to this point I was only aware of birch and maple syrups, but was shocked to hear that Mike had tried walnut, basswood, and beech. Mike shared his surprising favorite: beech syrup!

This really sparked my interest and I started looking into the question, "What other trees can be tapped for their sap?" So far, from my limited research, it seems that nearly all hardwood trees, in theory, can be tapped. Some of the more common occurrences I found besides sugar maple included other maples (red, silver, boxelder, black, Norway (non-native)), birches (paper, yellow, black, gray), black walnut, sycamore, and beech. If you're inspired to try and tap some other hardwood trees, just know that these trees will likely not perform the same as sugar maple in the taste, production, and processing of their sap. Birch sap, for instance, tends to



Randy Noble Taps a black birch tree ([massbrewersguild.org](http://massbrewersguild.org))

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# From the Woods—Tap into Your Forest

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Tapped maple trees. ([Mass Audubon](#))

flow later than sugar maple and has a shorter season. It also has much less sugar content and takes about 100 gallons of sap to make one gallon of syrup. (For comparison, it takes about 40 gallons of sugar maple sap to make one gallon of syrup.) The types of sugar found in birch sap are also different from maple by having a much higher percent of fructose. Experienced syrup producers are reporting that birch sap needs to be processed more carefully as a prolonged boil will burn the fructose, resulting in a very dark, molasses-like syrup. If available, use reverse osmosis when processing birch sap into syrup for a less caramelized (burnt) flavor.

You could also not bother trying to concentrate the tree sap and enjoy it as a seasonal drink by using it as the liquid base for your next batch of beer or wine. See the link below for an article titled “Sap on Tap” where a local brewery, Rapsallion out of Sturbridge, MA, annually produces their “Noble Birch” a high octane beer made from tapping black birch trees. I hope they make it again this year, as I would definitely consider a pilgrimage to try a sample of this brew. If you'd like to try brewing with sap, I'll share with you a recipe for a partial mash batch of home-brew I concocted back in 2003, where I used maple sap as the base liquid. This batch was good, but in my opinion would be better if

## Smokey the Beer

In a large stainless steel kettle (recommend 12Qt or larger) boil the following ingredients (collectively called “wort”) outside over open fire for at least 1 hour (longer if you have lots of extra sap and want a stronger beer) stirring frequently:

- 2 quarts dark maple syrup
- 6 pounds light dried malt extract
- 1 pound crystal malt (partial mash)
- 1/2 pound chocolate malt (partial mash)
- 1 tsp gypsum
- 1.5 ounce Fuggles boiling hops (pelletized)
- 1 teaspoon of Irish Moss (optional to add at end of boil to clarify beer)
- maple sap (top off kettle and add more as needed while the wort boils)

After boil add to 7 gallon primary fermenter:

- the above wort (strained)
- top off wort with extra maple sap to be at least 5 gallons total volume
- 0.5 Oz Saaz aroma hops (whole cone flowers)
- pitch 1 packet standard ale yeast when cooled to room temp (below 80 degrees Fahrenheit)

Keep in primary fermenter at room temperature until active fermentation is complete (about 1 week), transfer to 5 gallon secondary fermenter to complete fermentation and hold until ready to bottle (at least 1 more week).

- 1 cup maple syrup for priming after fermentation is complete mixed into brew just before bottling

made as an all grain recipe, eliminating the malt extract. (See sidebar.)

Another consideration is that pure cold sap is simply delicious on its own and one of my family's favorite spring drinks, just remember to keep refrigerated as sap will spoil quickly. This spring I'm going to try tapping a few other hardwood trees.

Lately, I've been finding hope in the growing awareness of the realities of climate change and our collective abilities at finding solutions. We all know that we need to increase efforts to reduce, reuse, and recycle as a means to fight climate change but more importantly I'm hoping people in the process of moving beyond our dependency on

# From the Woods—Tap into Your Forest (continued)

(Continued from page 2)

ancient carbon are able to find creative opportunities to tap into greater connections with our trees and local forests.

## More Sap and Tap Information

[Tree Saps and Syrups \(Cornell University\)](#)

[Birch for Breakfast? Meet Maple Syrup's Long-Lost Cousins](#) (NPR)

[Sap on Tap: Father and Son Duo Use Black Birch Sap as Key Ingredient in Noble Birch Beer](#)

[Massachusetts Maple Weekend: March 21-22, 2020](#)

[Massachusetts Maple Producers Association](#)

[UMass Extension Maple Sugaring FAQ](#)

[https://www.homebrewing.org/Partial-Mash-Brewing\\_ep\\_43-1.html](https://www.homebrewing.org/Partial-Mash-Brewing_ep_43-1.html)

**Tom Ryan** is a DCR Service Forester and lives with his family on a small farm in Berkshire County d.b.a Lucky Duck Farm that is currently enrolled in the Ch. 61A tax program. His farm produces eggs, poultry, vegetables, and firewood (and roughly three gallons of maple syrup each spring that his wife and daughters won't let him share with anyone).

## More about Service Forestry

The Service Forestry program is an outreach and regulatory program within the DCR, whose core mission is to encourage sustainable forest management on privately owned forest lands. The Service Forestry program seeks to inform the decisions of woodland owners, through a wide range of statutory and incentive programs, in an effort to protect and conserve forest resources. DCR Service Foresters provide technical assistance and programs to landowners as well as to municipalities. Some programs and initiatives of the Service Forestry program include Forest Stewardship, bird habitat assessment, community stewardship grants, Forest Stewardship Council (FSC) Certification, and conservation planning. Each Service Forester covers a district. Find out more about Service Forestry (including your local forester) at <https://www.mass.gov/service-details/service-forestry>

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## 2020 DCR Arbor Day Poster Contest Deadline: March 15

Fifth grade classes from public and private schools across the Commonwealth are encouraged to participate in the annual Arbor Day Poster Contest by having fifth-grade students create posters highlighting this year's theme, **Trees Please**, and then hosting a school poster contest. The winning poster from each school can be submitted to DCR. Home-schooled or non-participating school students may submit their posters and enter the contest individually.

The Arbor Day Poster Contest is sponsored by the Department of Conservation and Recreation, the U.S. Forest Service, and the Massachusetts Tree Wardens' and Foresters' Association.

For complete rules and guidelines, go to the [Arbor Day Poster Contest page](#) on the DCR website.



## Species Spotlight—Bosnian Pine, *Pinus heldreichii*

By Mollie Freilicher



Foliage (Oregon State)

This month, we're featuring a tree that may be hard (though not impossible) to find in the trade in our area: Bosnian pine *Pinus heldreichii* (syn. *P. leucodermis*). There are many conifers endemic to the Balkan Peninsula and Bosnian pine is one of them.

This long-lived tree is native to Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Greece, Montenegro, North Macedonia, and Serbia. It also is endemic to parts of southern Italy, where the oldest known tree, estimated to be 1,230 years old, is located. Several populations are fragmented and it has been introduced to Croatia. Bosnian pine occurs in mountain and subalpine areas between about 2600 and 8600 ft. The International Union of Concerned Scientists lists its population on the Red List, but notes that populations are stable and assigns it the status of "least concern." (Fire and overgrazing threaten the population in Italy.) Throughout much of its range, it is legally protected.

Bosnian pine is not an important tree for timber, but the wood does have some local applications.



Cones (Oregon State)

In areas where it is endemic, as well as elsewhere, Bosnian pine is most utilized as a landscape tree. While Bosnian pine is the most common name in English, it has several

common names in the Balkans, where it is also known as whitebarked pine, armor pine, *munika/munjika*, or *crna mura*. The specific epithet is named in honor of German botanist Theodor von Heldreich.

In the landscape, Bosnian pine can reach heights of 50 feet or greater, with a 15 to 20-

foot spread. Its form is pyramidal and upright. It is hardy in USDA zones five to eight. Needles of Bosnian pine are two to four inches long, in bundles of two, and are a shiny dark green color. They are sharp and stiff and remain on the tree for five or six years.

Cones are two to three-and-a-half inches long, about an inch wide, and ovoid in shape. When young, the cones are purplish and can be ornamental. The bark is thick, gray, and forms small hexagonal plates (which led to the common name of "armor pine" in the Balkans, for its resemblance to medieval armor).

Michael Dirr and Keith Warren describe Bosnian pine as a "reliable landscape plant" and as a favorite of theirs. They recommend its use as an accent plant or as screen and note that it is tolerant of salt. It also can tolerate pollutants, such as sulphur dioxide, nitrogen dioxide, and ozone. It has shown some resistance to *Diplodia* blight, as well as other pests, but can still be affected by sawflies, moths, beetles, bagworms, and others.

### References

International Union of Concerned Scientists. 2020. Heldreich's Pine. <https://www.iucnredlist.org/species/42368/95725658>

Munika. 2020. Wikipedia. <https://bs.wikipedia.org/wiki/Munika>

*Pinus heldreichii*. 2020. North Carolina State Extension. <https://plants.ces.ncsu.edu/plants/pinus-heldreichii/>

Vendramin G.G., Fineschi S., and Fady B. 2008. [EUFORGEN Technical Guidelines for genetic conservation and use for Bosnian pine \(\*Pinus heldreichii\*\)](#). Bioversity International, Rome, Italy.



Form (Oregon State)

# Growing on Trees

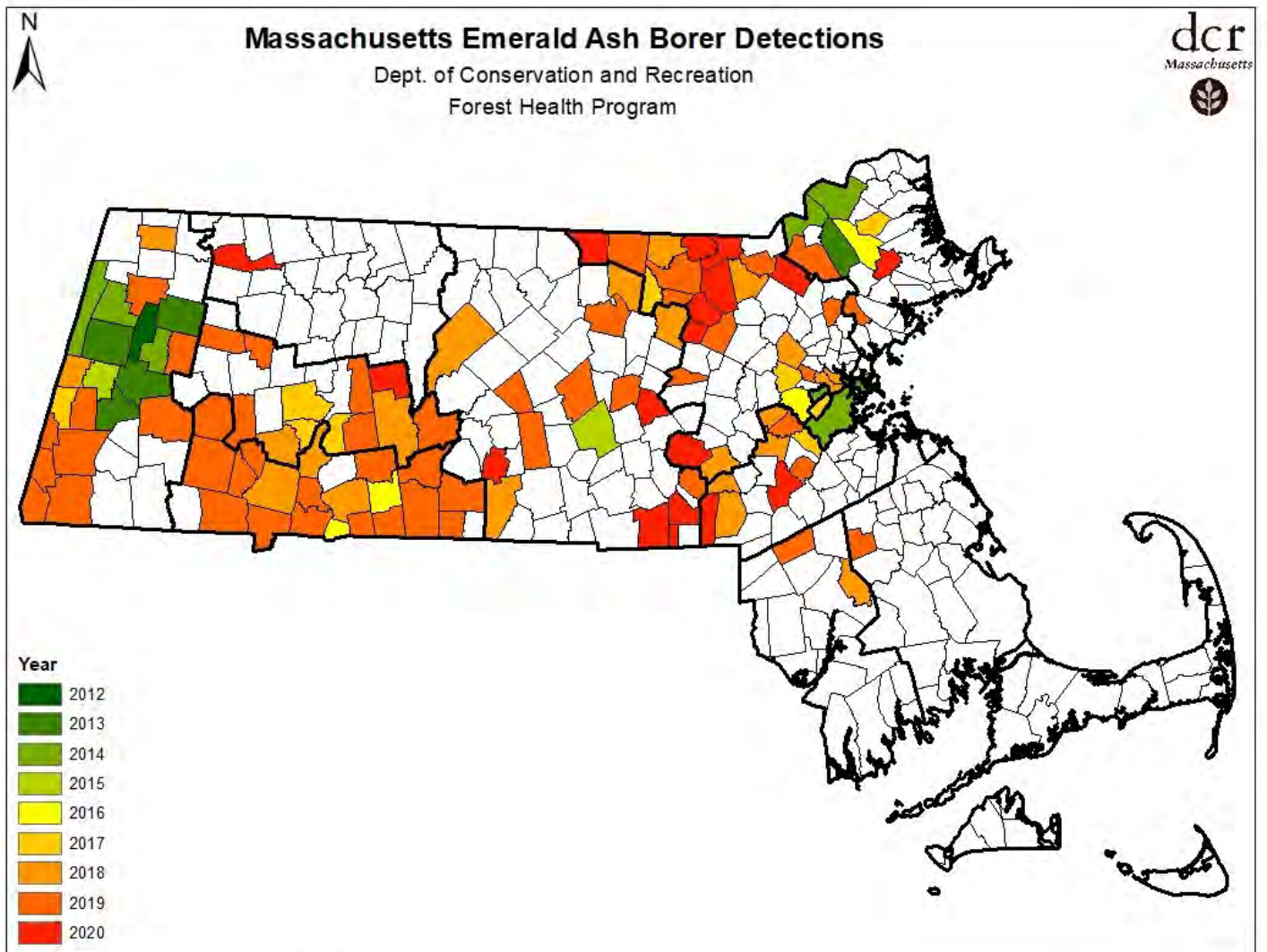
## Emerald Ash Borer Update

As of March 3, 2020, emerald ash borer (EAB) has been detected in 116 communities in Massachusetts (about 1/3 of all communities). Newly-confirmed towns include Hopkinton, Uxbridge, Pelham, Topsfield, Bellingham, Mendon, Millville, Tewksbury, Charlemont, Walpole, and Ashby. The detection in Charlemont is the first time officials have confirmed EAB in Franklin County. EAB has not been detected in Barnstable or Dukes counties.

Emerald ash borer attacks ash trees (*Fraxinus* spp.) and fringetree (*Chionanthus virginicus*). It does not attack mountain ash (*Sorbus* spp.), which is in a different family.

Learn how to identify signs and symptoms of EAB in [this video](#), [field guide](#), or at [MassNRC.org](#). Want even more info? Check out [www.emeraldashborer.info](#), the EAB clearinghouse where you can find information on infested areas, silvicultural recommendations, treatment information, [EAB University](#), and more. Think you've seen EAB? Report it at [massnrc.org](#).

Interested in the latest from MassNRC? Follow MassNRC on Twitter [@MassPests](#)



Map Created by E. Peterson DCR Forest Health Program

Date: 3/3/2020

# Growing on Trees—Webcasts and Events

## EAB University

March 4, 2020 | 11:00 am (EST)

Update on Resistant Ash: Hope for Post-EAB Infestations?

Future EAB University webinars

April 8 - Eastern: Invasive Forest Pest Q & A

May 13 - Integrated Chemical & Bio Control of Hemlock Woolly Adelgid: A Resource Manager's Guide

Find out more:

[www.emeraldashborer.info/eabu.php](http://www.emeraldashborer.info/eabu.php)

## USDA Forest Service Urban Forest Connections

March 11, 2020, 1:00-2:15 p.m. (EDT)

A Call to Action for Ash Tree Conservation and Resistance Breeding

*Kathleen Knight, USDA Forest Service*

*Jennifer Koch, USDA Forest Service*

*Jonathan Rosenthal, Ecological Research Institute*

To view the webinar and watch past archived webinars, go to <https://www.fs.fed.us/research/urban-webinars/>.

## Urban Forestry Today

March 12, 2020 | 12:00-1:00 p.m. (EDT)

What's My Tree Worth? An Introduction to Tree Appraisal

Lindsey Purcell, Purdue University

Go to [www.joinwebinar.com](http://www.joinwebinar.com); code: 531-574-315  
Free ISA and MCA CEUs available.

To view archived webcasts, go to [www.urbanforestrytoday.org/](http://www.urbanforestrytoday.org/)

## TREE Fund Webinar

March 26, 2020 -1:00 p.m. (EDT)

*Why Do Tree Branches Fail?*

Dr. Greg Dahle, West Virginia University

Find out more: [www.treefund.org/webinars](http://www.treefund.org/webinars)

## BayState Roads Workshops

Municipal Budgeting and Finance

Mar. 4 – Greenfield    Mar. 17 – Shrewsbury

April 23 – Great Barrington

Chainsaw Skills & Safety (2-Day)

April 14-15—Halifax

Preparing for an OSHA Inspection

[Free, on-demand webinar](#)

Find out more and see additional offerings:

[www.umasstransportationcenter.org](http://www.umasstransportationcenter.org)

## UMass Community Tree Conference

March 10, 2020 | UMass-Amherst

Topics include: 2017 ANSI Z133 Revision \* Pruning and Volunteers \* Managing Invasives \* i-Tree \* Insect Pests \* Woody Plant Diseases

Find out more and register at [ag.umass.edu](http://ag.umass.edu).

## Western MA. Tree Wardens Dinner Meeting

March 24, 2020, 5:30-7:00 p.m. | Northampton

Treescape Design—Kristina Bezanson, BCMA

New Tree Introductions—Mandy Bayer, Ph.D.

Register by March 19.

[www.masstreewardens.org](http://www.masstreewardens.org)

## ELA Conference & Eco Marketplace

March 4-5, 2020 | UMass-Amherst

ELA offers two full days of research and field-tested expertise as well as innovative case studies on a wide variety of topics.

Find out more: [www.ecolandscaping.org](http://www.ecolandscaping.org)

## NESAF Annual Meeting

March 25-27, 2020 | Springfield

100th annual meeting of the New England Society of American Foresters. Find out more at

[www.nesaf.org](http://www.nesaf.org).

# Growing on Trees—Webcasts and Events

## Mass. Land Conservation Conference

March 28, 2020 | Worcester

Keynote: Jad Daley, President & CEO, American Forests

Find out more: <http://massland.org/conference>

## Partners in Community Forestry—Call for Proposals

Don't miss this opportunity to share your experience and knowledge with a wide range of urban forestry professional, including city foresters, parks and recreation managers, urban planners, landscape architects, nonprofit directors, environmental consultants, utility arborists, city managers, state foresters, and others who make decisions regarding trees in their communities.

Proposals accepted through March 27, 2020.

Presentation opportunities include general session, concurrent/breakout sessions, and lightning round options.

Find out more: <https://www.arborday.org/programs/pcf/submit/>

## Harvard Forest Seminars

Seminars are **Fridays** at **11:00 a.m.** Attend live or online. Seminars are free and open to the public; no pre-registration is required. For additional information, contact [Josh Plisinski](mailto:Josh.Plisinski@fas.harvard.edu).

**March 13:** Putting bugs into models: Forecasting the ecosystem impacts of insects and pathogens  
**\* March 27:** Trees of Sweden  
**\* April 3:** The hidden biotic and abiotic drivers of leaf litter decomposition in temperate forests  
**\* April 10:** TBD  
**\* April 24:** Brimfield MA Tornado Bird Data  
**\* May 1:** Soil and climate impact on the growth and competitiveness of temperate tree species

Find out More: [harvardforest.fas.harvard.edu/](http://harvardforest.fas.harvard.edu/)

## Massachusetts Town Forest Conference

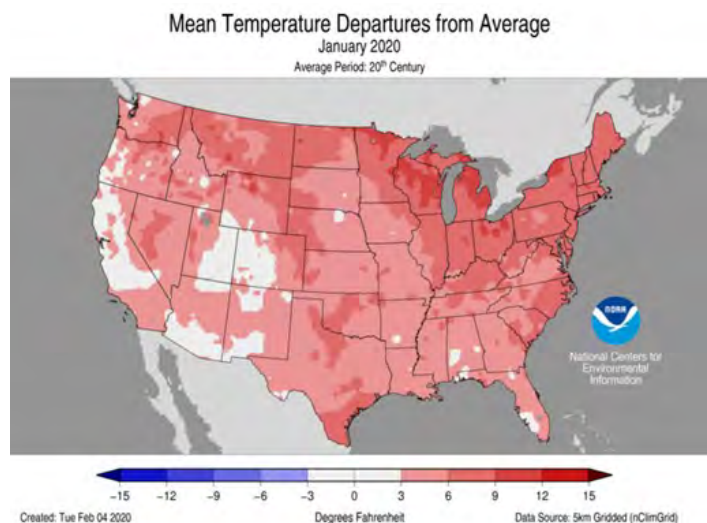
April 19, 2020 | West Springfield

The annual event, now in its eighth year, will showcase the [Tri-City Carbon Project](#). Admission is free with pre-registration and includes lunch. Register today! [www.masswoodlands.org/events](http://www.masswoodlands.org/events)

Contact MA DCR Service Forester Douglas Hutcheson for more information.

[douglas.hutcheson@mass.gov](mailto:douglas.hutcheson@mass.gov) | (413) 545-7020

## Weather and Climate



If you were around Massachusetts in January, you probably thought that it felt warmer than usual. And you'd be right. It was warmer not just in the Northeast, but also in much of the rest of the United States, and even globally. The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration recently announced that January was the warmest on record for global land (and ocean) temperatures.

Find out more at the Northeast Regional Climate Center: <http://www.nrcc.cornell.edu/regional/drought/drought.html>

National Climate Report  
<https://www.ncdc.noaa.gov/sotc/>

# Growing on Trees

## Celebrate Arbor Day April 24, 2020

Looking for ways to celebrate Arbor Day this year? Here are some ideas:

- Planting trees at schools, town commons, along streets, and other locations
- Dedicating a tree
- Giving away seedlings to students and residents
- [Organizing an Arbor Day of Service](#)
- Arranging an assembly at a local school
- Having a tree pruning day
- Holding a tree poetry contest
- Staging a tree climbing and planting demo
- Hosting a tree walk
- Holding an Arbor Day Festival
- Participating in the [CR Arbor Day Poster Contest](#)
- Inviting a speaker to give a public presentation about trees
- Partnering with a local organization to plant trees

Celebrating Arbor Day is one of the requirements to become a Tree City USA. For Tree City USA applicants, any day may be Arbor Day, so long as the community proclaims it. For more info on Tree City USA, contact [Mollie Freilicher](#), 413-577-2966.

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## Seedling Sales

Looking for seedlings to give away for Arbor Day or for a local project? Check out these local sources:

### Mass. Tree Wardens' and Foresters' Association

Each spring, the Massachusetts Tree Wardens' and Foresters' Association (MTWFA) sells seedlings to support the MTWFA Scholarship Fund. Many municipalities and organizations use these seedlings in their Arbor Day or Earth Day celebrations. Arbor Day is a great opportunity to advertise the message of trees—by supplying the gift of seedlings for both children and adults, and by encouraging them to plant and care for trees. To find out more about the program, go to <https://masstreewardens.org/arbor-day-seedling-program/>.

### Conservation District Seedling Sales

Some conservation districts hold seedling sales to support programming.

#### Worcester County Conservation District

Order deadline March 29 | <https://worcesterconservation.org/>

#### Middlesex Conservation District Plant Sale

Order Deadline March 31 | <https://middlesexconservation.org/>

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## NASF Centennial Challenge

Please help support the Massachusetts DCR Bureau of Forest Fire Control and Forestry in our participation in the National Association of State Forester's 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary Centennial Challenge! Our theme for this challenge is “**100 Legacy Trees Across Massachusetts.**” We are asking people to help us reach our 100 legacy tree goal by nominating unique, significant, and otherwise noteworthy trees on public and private land across Massachusetts. A legacy tree can be any tree that is compelling for its age, size, form, history, species, and/or botanical interest.

Please visit <https://www.mass.gov/guides/massachusetts-legacy-tree-program> to learn more about the legacy tree program and to fill out an online nomination form or print a pdf of the form.



European beech,  
Yarmouth



# Growing on Trees

## Scholarships

Do you know a student pursuing a degree in arboriculture, urban forestry, or a related field? There are several scholarships available and deadlines are fast-approaching.

[TREE Fund](#) | Deadline: March 15

[New England ISA](#) | Deadline: April 1

[Cape Cod Landscape Association](#)

Deadline: April 25

[Mass. Arborist Association](#) | Deadline: May 31

## Arbor Day Grant

The New England Chapter ISA grants up to \$1,000 to a municipality, non-profit organization, or institution that demonstrates the need to promote and support their Arbor Day celebration. Apply by March 31. Find out more at: <https://newenglandisa.org/grants-scholarships>

## Scenes from the last Western Mass. Tree Wardens Dinner Meeting



Sign up for the March 24 meeting by March 19.



# Gleanings

## Using Buds to ID Trees in Winter (and surviving on sap)

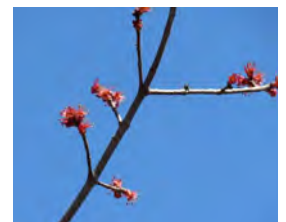
By Paul Hetzler

February 29, 2020— Every year I teach several winter-tree identification classes. Even though they are always held outdoors no matter how cold it is, student evaluations indicate such classes are generally fun. Showing participants how to tell one leaf-bereft hardwood tree from another is one thing, but explaining why one should bother is trickier. One answer might be, “It’s on the test.” But there are many practical reasons – and a few offbeat and interesting incentives – to know one tree species from another in winter.

From a survival point of view, anyone who finds themselves lost or stranded (or who is hardy enough to go camping) in late winter can get safely hydrated by drinking sap. When temperatures rise above freezing during the day and below at night, sap is available from sugar, soft (red), and silver maples. Maple sap will also flow in autumn during freeze-thaw daily oscillations.

In early spring before the leaves come out, maple sap-flow ends, but birches – white (paper), yellow, black, grey, and river – yield copious sap from mid-April through May. Wild grape vines will give you loads of pathogen-free beverage as well. In fall and early winter, knowing shrub dogwoods and viburnums from honeysuckle may score you some tasty, energy-filled berries rather than noxious ones.

Read the full post at [northcountrypublicradio.org](http://northcountrypublicradio.org) for the author’s tips on buds, bark, arrangement, and smell and check out the guide [Know Your Trees](#), which includes non-technical keys for both summer and winter.



Red maple in flower. Note the opposite arrangement and that one pair has lost its mate.

# Gleanings

## USDA Forest Service

**Did you know?** Household yards in the U.S. cover [more land area](#) than farmed corn—the nation’s leading agricultural crop. This fact underscores the significant cumulative ecological impacts of household yards.

Forest Service research covers varied topics that address yard care, including the use of [fertilizers and pesticides](#), the [frequency of mowing](#), managing [pollinators](#), promoting [native wildlife](#), and selecting [tree species](#) for planting.

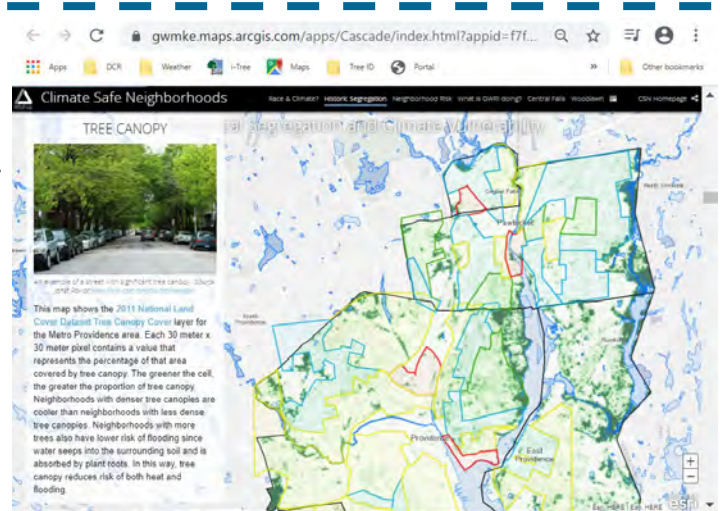
## Climate Safe Neighborhoods

### From Groundwork USA

The climate crisis threatens to make our communities hotter and wetter than they have ever been before, but not all neighborhoods within a city will suffer the social, health, and financial consequences equally. Many neighborhoods subject to government-sanctioned racist housing practices in the 1930s and 1940s are most at risk today for experiencing extreme heat and flooding.

Extensive impermeable pavement and sparse tree canopies increase the risk of flooding and amplify the heat island effect. Our neighborhoods do not look the way they do by accident, and the mitigation measures needed to reduce risk will not appear by accident. The Climate Safe Neighborhoods partnership brings together five Groundwork Trusts to explore the relationship between historical race-based housing segregation and the current and predicted impacts of climate change.

Groundwork Denver; Groundwork Elizabeth, New Jersey; Groundwork Rhode Island; Groundwork Richmond, Virginia and Groundwork Richmond, California are working closely with residents and stakeholders to organize, mobilize, and effect systems change to make communities more resilient to extreme heat and flooding. Find out more: <https://groundworkusa.org/climate-safe-neighborhoods/>



## News

### Baker-Polito Administration Announces Funding to Support the Mohawk Trail Woodland Partnership

*Grant Funding Awarded to Ten Municipalities, One Regional Planning Agency*

Boston – The Baker-Polito Administration today announced \$260,000 in grant funding to support forest stewardship, nature-based tourism and climate education to ten municipalities and the Franklin Regional Council of Governments through the Mohawk Trail Woodland Partnership Grant Program. This funding builds upon the Commonwealth’s recent [Shared Stewardship Agreement](#) with the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Forest Service, which established a framework under which local governments and other stakeholders will work together to advance the goals of the Mohawk Trail Woodlands Partnership (MTWP) to conserve forests and enhance economic development in the region. Read the full [press release](#).

# News

## Speak for the Trees and NOAH Team up for Tree Canopy

by John Lynds

February 10, 2020 – For nearly three years, a group of concerned teens from East Boston’s Neighborhood of Affordable Housing (NOAH) have been trying to rekindle the neighborhood’s grassroots effort to have more trees planted in Eastie. NOAH Youth members have launched the tree canopy project in an effort to bring awareness to Eastie’s lack of street trees and want to double our tree canopy coverage in Eastie.

Recently NOAH has gotten some help from Speak for the Trees, a Boston non-profit committed to supporting the vitality of the urban tree canopy in the Greater Boston area –especially in areas with low canopy coverage.

Speak for the Trees is working in cooperation with a newly formed group, TREE Eastie and NOAH to document open tree pits, care for street trees, and get new trees planted in the neighborhood.

“Since Speak for the Trees was founded in 2018, we have turned to NOAH youth to learn about their successes and challenges in tree stewardship and tree advocacy work,” said Speak for the Trees Director David Meshoulam. “The multi-year grassroots efforts that NOAH has undertaken to elevate the importance of trees serves as a model of community organizing that we hope can be replicated in other Environmental Justice neighborhoods throughout the city. This year, we’re thrilled to be able to work together to amplify their efforts by providing them with further resources and tools to engage residents and grow their urban forest, such as software, additional training, and trees for their residents to plant in private yards.” Read the full story at [eastietimes.com](http://eastietimes.com).

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## News Headlines in Brief

[Heat Trapped in Urban Areas Tricks Trees into Thinking Spring Has Arrived Earlier](#) (Six days, on average)

[Mass Audubon works on “Climate-Smart Forestry”](#)

[Longtime Littleton Volunteer Finds Solace Among the Trees](#)

[\(Indoor\) Urban Forest Bathing Debuts at Mandarin Oriental Boston Spa](#)

[Pine for This New Ale from Dancing Gnome and Tree Pittsburgh](#)

[Can You Plant A Tree in Your Denver Yard to Block A 5G Cell Tower?](#)

[Loggers Seek \\$30K Due to Protester Disruptions](#)

[Dates Like Jesus Ate? Scientists Revive Ancient Trees From 2,000-Year-Old Seeds](#)

[Five Years of Women in Wood](#)

[Tree Spa for Urban Forest Healing](#)

[The Rise of Biophilic – Or Nature Friendly – Cities](#)

[A Native Plant Guru’s Radical Vision for The American Yard](#)

[U.S. House of Representatives Panel Battles over Tree-Planting Legislation](#)

[Thousands of City Trees Have Been Lost to Development, When We Need Them More Than Ever](#) (Melbourne, Australia)

[Fairfax, VA, Action Plan Calls for Tree-Canopy Monitoring, Preservation](#)

[Two Northeast Tree Species Can Be Used in New Sustainable Building Material](#)

# On the Horizon

- Mar 4** EAB University Webinar, 11am (EST), [www.emeraldashborer.info/eabu.php](http://www.emeraldashborer.info/eabu.php)
- Mar 4-5** ELA Conference & Eco-Marketplace, Amherst, [www.ecolandscaping.org](http://www.ecolandscaping.org)
- Mar 10** UMass Community Tree Conference, Amherst, [www.umassgreeninfo.org](http://www.umassgreeninfo.org)
- Mar 10** [Cape Cod Professional Education Seminar and Trade Show](#), Hyannis
- Mar 11** [Urban Forest Connections Webinar](#), 1:00 p.m. (EDT)
- Mar 12** [Urban Forestry Today Webcast](#), 12:00 p.m. (EDT)
- Mar 15** [Deadline for DCR Arbor Day Poster Contest](#)
- Mar 24** Western Mass Tree Wardens Dinner Meeting, Northampton, [www.masstreewardens.org](http://www.masstreewardens.org)
- Mar 25-27** New England Society of American Foresters Winter Meeting, Springfield, [www.nesaf.org](http://www.nesaf.org)
- Mar 27** Aerial Rescue Certificate Course, Hanover, NH, [www.newenglandisa.org](http://www.newenglandisa.org)
- Mar 26** Tree Fund Webinar, 1:00 p.m. (EDT), [www.treefund.org/webinars](http://www.treefund.org/webinars)
- Mar 28** Mass Land Conservation Conference, Worcester, [massland.org/conference](http://massland.org/conference)
- April 8** EAB University Webinar, 11am (EDT), [www.emeraldashborer.info/eabu.php](http://www.emeraldashborer.info/eabu.php)
- Apr 10** MCA Arborist Exam, MA Arborists Association, Wellesley, [www.massarbor.org](http://www.massarbor.org)
- Apr 18** ISA Certification Exam, Amherst, [www.newenglandisa.org](http://www.newenglandisa.org)
- Apr 19** [Town Forest Celebration](#), West Springfield
- Apr 24** Arbor Day in Massachusetts
- Apr 25** [DCR ParkServe Day](#), Various Locations around the Commonwealth
- May 13** EAB University Webinar, 11am (EDT), [www.emeraldashborer.info/eabu.php](http://www.emeraldashborer.info/eabu.php)
- Jun 4** Landscape Pests and Problems Walkabout, Acton, [www.umassgreeninfo.org](http://www.umassgreeninfo.org)
- Jun 11** Ornamental Tree and Shrub ID and Insect Walk, Boylston, [www.umassgreeninfo.org](http://www.umassgreeninfo.org)
- Jun 25** Landscape and Forest Tree and Shrub Insect Workshop, Amherst, [www.umassgreeninfo.org](http://www.umassgreeninfo.org)
- Jul 10-12** [Women's Tree Climbing Workshop](#), Newton (Registration opens in March)

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## Bureau of Forestry

### Department of Conservation and Recreation

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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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