

The Citizen Forester

SEPTEMBER 2017
NO. 206

The Station Tree

By **Sutana Downey**

*“If oak is the king of trees,
as tradition has it, then the
white oak, throughout its range,
is the king of kings.”*

—Donald Peattie,
Naturalist

The station tree is a white oak. It is a famous landmark. It was used as a “survey tree” to create and map one of the boundary lines on the Livermore Survey Map in 1749. The Station Tree on the Livermore map [next page] showed the Northeast Corner of the Needham Leg, (which is now Natick/Weston). The surveyors used oaks (especially white oak) as landmarks and line trees, because they expected the trees to last. Today, it marks the boundary of Natick and Weston.

Historians think this white oak is about 500 years old. (In my research, I found this tree was called a black oak and red oak.)



among them are squirrels, blue jays, crows, woodpeckers, deer, turkey, quail, mice, chipmunks, ducks, raccoons, and many different types of insects.

Uses

Native Americans used white oak to treat a wide variety of ailments including diarrhea, mouth sores, chapped skin, asthma, and coughs. Derivatives from white oak trees were also used as antiseptics, emetics, and fever-reducing washes. The white oak has the nickname stave oak, since its wood is used in making barrels. Shipbuilders in colonial times valued the wood as well. Today, white oak goes into products such as flooring, furniture, and beams.

Station Tree

(Measured on June 1, 2017 with my dad [DCR Service Forester Michael Downey]!)

Diameter at Breast Height (D.B.H): 4.8 feet (57.8 inches)

Circumference: 15.1 feet (181.5 inches)

Height: 75 feet

Tree Crown Spread: 99 feet 9 inches

Latitude: N 42.32098

Longitude: W 71.32753

Altitude: 196 feet above sea level

Up Ahead:

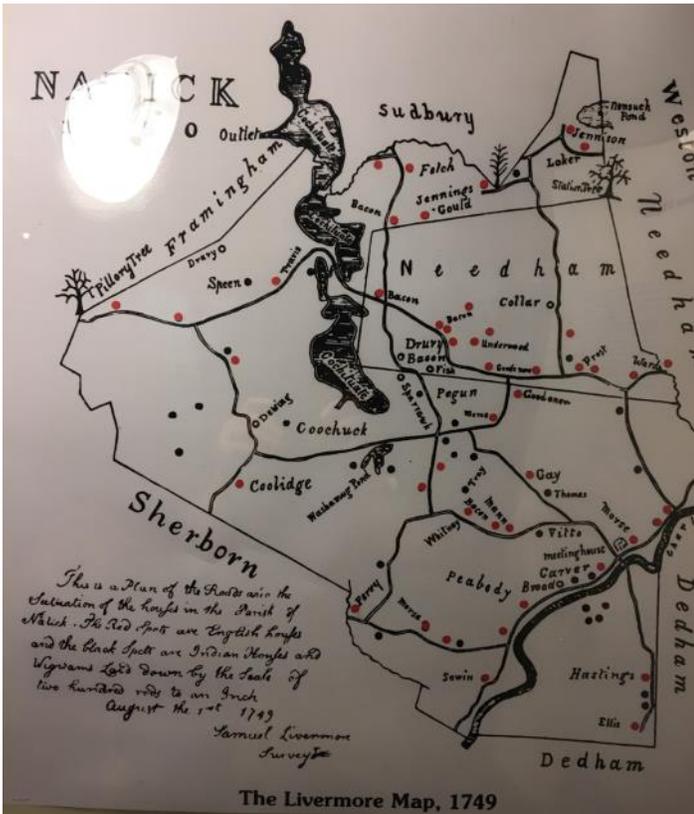
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White oak is a large tree that grows to a height of 100 ft. The trunk is typically two to four feet in diameter. The Station Tree is a wide-spreading oak and round-topped. White oak grows in moist soils, as well as dry soils. Fully matured trees occur in full sun to shade, while young white oaks thrive only in full sun. Its range extends from Maine, across Minnesota, south to eastern Texas, and east to northern Florida.

Important to Wildlife

More than 180 different kinds of birds and mammals use oak acorns as food;

The Station Tree



On June 1, 2017 my dad and I went to The Station Tree and we found a tag nailed to the side of the tree!



The tag seems very old. How old might it be?

What do those numbers mean?

Why would a person put it there?

What do you think?

Just for a notice when I went to the tree I noticed that there is poison ivy around the tree. So be careful and wear boots or sneakers if you want to go.

Thank You!

REFERENCES:

Wikipedia

My Dad – Michael Downey, MA Licensed Forester

The Natick Public Library

Historic Natick Massachusetts Compiled By: H. Sheridan, Natick Historical Commission

Trees Of North America By: Angela Royston

Natick: A Town With Character By: F.L. Macewen

MATERIALS:

Diameter Tape

Clinometer

100 foot tape measure

iPhone (Topo Map+ App for Latitude, Longitude and Elevation)

Camera

Sutana Downey is 9 years old and going into 4th grade at Bennett-Hemenway Elementary School in Natick. She enjoys ballet and gymnastics as well as horseback riding and reading. She also loves to climb trees and go for walks in the woods with her Dad. Her favorite tree is the beech in the backyard that she can sit in and survey the neighborhood from. Her Dad helped with the measurements of the Station Tree.

Massachusetts Big Tree Registry

The Department of Conservation and Recreation Forest Health Program formally recognizes the largest known tree of each species growing in the state with the Massachusetts Big Tree Registry.

[Massachusetts Champion Tree List](#)

This database tracks the current Big Trees (champion trees) in our state using a point system. The circumference is taken as well as the height and average spread of the crown to come up with the big tree points. Within each species, the tree with the highest number of big tree points is considered the champion.

Participation is strongly encouraged. Simply download a [nomination form](#).

Species Spotlight—Red oak, *Quercus rubra*

By **Mollie Freilicher**
Community Action Forester

We heard about white oak from Sutana Downey in this issue, so we'll focus our Species Spotlight on another important oak, northern red oak, *Quercus rubra*. (Another species *Quercus falcata* has the common name "southern red oak.") For our purposes, we will call *Q. rubra* "red oak" for short. The most northern of our eastern oaks, red oak occurs in the eastern United States and southern Canada, rang-

ing from western Ontario to Nova Scotia, south to Georgia along the Appalachians, and west to Oklahoma. It is hardy in zones 3 to 8. A large, fast-growing tree, red oak can reach heights of 75 feet, with a similar spread. It grows in a variety of soils from sand to clay. G.B. Emerson, writing in 1846, notes that "[l]ike the elm, it comes to its greatest perfection in Massachusetts, perceptibly diminishing in vigor and luxuriance of growth, farther towards the north, and not increasing in either towards the south." He writes that the common name "red oak" comes from the red color of the midrib and veins on leaves as well as the dark red fall color.

greenish brown in color. The bark of young trees is gray and smooth. With age, it becomes dark gray, furrowed and ridged, and can be quite distinctive. The fruit is an acorn that occurs singly or in pairs. They are 5/8 to 1-1/8-inch long and about 1/3 of the length is enclosed by a broad cap.

Wood from red oak is close-grained and hard. It is commonly used for furniture, veneer, finishing, cabinets, agricultural tools, posts, and other items. It is a very popular wood today.

Red oak is relatively easy to transplant and generally free of insect and disease problems, though we have a disease new to Massachusetts on the horizon, [oak wilt](#) (*Ceratocystis fagacearum*), which will impact how we manage and care for our oak trees in Massachusetts.

Red oak is a common tree of our urban and suburban parks, golf courses, and streets.

References

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

Emerson, G.B. 1846. A Report on the Trees and Shrubs Growing Naturally in Massachusetts. Boston: Dutton and Wentworth.

Little, E.L. 1995. National Audubon Society Field Guide to North American Trees, Eastern Region. New York: Alfred A. Knopf.

Photos: Form, bark, acorn, leaf: Mollie Freilicher; buds: John Seiler, [Virginia Tech](#)



ing from western Ontario to Nova Scotia, south to Georgia along the Appalachians, and west to Oklahoma. It is hardy in zones 3 to 8. A large, fast-growing tree, red oak can reach heights of 75 feet, with a similar spread. It grows in a variety of soils from sand to clay. G.B. Emerson, writing in 1846, notes that "[l]ike the elm, it comes to its greatest perfection in Massachusetts, perceptibly diminishing in vigor and luxuriance of growth, farther towards the north, and not increasing in either towards the south." He writes that the common name "red oak" comes from the red color of the midrib and veins on leaves as well as the dark red fall color.

Red oak is alternate and leaves are simple, four to nine inches long, with 7-11 shallow lobes with pointed tips that end in a bristle. During the growing season, leaves are a shiny dark green. Buds of red oak are imbricate and 1/4 to 1/3 inch long and come to a point. Twigs are smooth and red to



Growing on Trees

Registration Now Open for Tree Stewards

October 13-14, 2017, Harvard Forest, Petersham, MA

Each fall, the Massachusetts Urban and Community Forestry Program, the Massachusetts Tree Wardens' and Foresters' Association, and the USDA Forest Service host a training for Tree Board members, tree activists, interested citizens, Tree Wardens, and other green professionals. This Tree Steward Training provides foundation instruction in tree physiology, tree care, and other urban and community forestry issues with the aim of developing better tree stewardship in Massachusetts communities of all sizes.



[Registration Form](#)  [Sponsorship Letter](#) 

For more information contact Mollie Freilicher mollie.freilicher@state.ma.us 413-577-2966.

Western Mass. Tree Wardens Dinner Meeting

Tuesday, September 26, 2017 | 5:00 - 7:30 p.m. | Northampton

Get ready to welcome fall! Meet and network with tree wardens, tree companies, and utility arborists from around the region at the quarterly gathering of the Western Mass. chapter. This month's speakers:

Forest Health Update, Ken Gooch, Director, DCR Forest Health

The Road to Northampton's Tree Inventory

Richard Parasiliti, Tree Warden, and Lilly Lombard, Chair, Public Shade Tree Commission

For more information and to register, go to: www.masstreewardens.org

Online Course: Urban Forest Adaptation Planning and Practices

The Northern Institute of Applied Climate Science (NIACS) and USDA Northern Forests Climate Hub are offering the Forest Adaptation Planning and Practices training as an online course for urban foresters and natural resource managers (7, 1.5-hour sessions). Sessions will be biweekly from November 7, 2017 to January 30, 2018.

GEOGRAPHIC FOCUS: Information will focus on urban areas in the Midwest and Northeast, but applicants from other regions are welcome to apply.

REGISTER ONLINE: www.forestadaptation.org/UrbanFAPP-online

CEUS: This course is eligible for ISA and SAF continuing education credits.

There is no registration fee thanks to support from the US Forest Service and USDA Northern Forests Climate Hub.

New England Chapter ISA Annual Conference

October 1-3, 2017 | Southbridge, MA

Please join us for the New England Chapter International Society of Arboriculture Annual Conference & Tradeshow in Southbridge, MA. Dr. Ed Gilman will be this year's keynote speaker. Hear the latest in arboriculture in New England and network with the region's arborists. Earn CEUs and pesticide credits. For information on registration, go to the New England ISA [website](#).



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.

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

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.

Funding for strategic tree planting grants is now tiered:

Grant Funding Request for Tree Planting	Eligibility
\$1,000 - \$7,000	All communities may apply
\$7,001 - \$20,000	Community must be a Tree City USA
\$20,001 - \$30,000	Contact DCR Urban and Community Forestry to discuss

Download our recently-revised grant application at:

<http://www.mass.gov/eea/agencies/dcr/conservation/forestry-and-fire-control/urban-and-community-forestry-challenge-grants.html>

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 is Seeking Applications

The Massachusetts Forest Legacy Program is now accepting project proposals for consideration in the Federal Fiscal Year 2019 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 2019 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 11, 2017.

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—Webcasts and Events

TREE Fund Webinar

Municipal Forestry Baseline, Trends and Dashboard

September 7, 2017 | 1:00 – 2:00 p.m. (Eastern)

Richard Hauer, PhD of the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point

Discover how U.S. communities are managing and funding tree care operations and how that has been changing over time. Dr. Hauer will share his findings on tree risk programs, tree diversity issues, budgets, effects of emerald ash borer on budgets, volunteers in municipal forestry, and much more. You'll also want to hear about his upcoming dashboard project – it will allow you to interactively evaluate your municipal forestry program and define steps to improve it!

Pre-register [HERE](#).

Log in [HERE](#) on the day of the webinar.

1 CEU available from ISA or SAF

Special thanks to Alabama Cooperative Extension System for hosting this webinar.

Climate Webinar

Drought and Invasive Species

Sep 14, 2017 | 2:00 – 3:00 p.m. (Eastern)

Drought creates the potential for invasive plant species to increase in diversity and abundance in a variety of ecosystems, often mediated by the occurrence of disturbances (wildfire, insect outbreaks).

To attend go to: www.climatewebinars.net

Forestry and Natural Resources Webinar

Fall Cankerworm Biology, Ecology, and Management in Urban and Rural Landscapes

October 4, 2017 1:00 – 2:00 p.m. (Eastern)

This webinar will discuss the biology, ecology, and management of the native fall cankerworm. Management strategies in the urban and rural environment will be covered.

For more information, go to www.forestrywebinars.net.

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](#).

Adapting Landscape Plants, Policies, and Management to a Water-Limited Future

September 13, 2017 | 1:00 -2:15 p.m. (Eastern)

Future webinars:

October 11, 2017 | 1:00 - 2:15 p.m. (Eastern)

December 13, 2017 | 1:00 - 2:15 p.m. (Eastern)

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

Urban Forestry Today Webcast

Unmanned Aerial Systems (“Drones”) and Urban Forestry

September 28, 2017 | 12:00 pm - 1:00 pm

Unmanned aerial systems (UAS's) or “drones” are becoming more prominent in a variety of fields, including the urban forestry sector. Join Professor Charlie Schweik, a member of the UMass Department of Environmental Conservation, the School of Public Policy and a new group called “UMass Air,” as he discusses key UAS concepts, components of UAS missions, and data analysis strategies behind UAS applications.

Go to www.joinwebinar.com and using the access code 970-082-427. Arborist credit will be available.

For more information, contact Rick Harper, University of Massachusetts Dept. of Environmental Conservation rharper@eco.umass.edu

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.

Growing on Trees

Annual Town Forest Event – Sheffield

Saturday, September 23, 2017, 9:30 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. | Sheffield Town Park, Sheffield

A family-friendly Celebration of the Town of Sheffield for Berkshire County residents, Community Groups, Natural Resource Professionals, and Environmental Educators. This event aims to highlight and inspire other communities of the values of sustainable community forestry in Massachusetts.

Participants will have the opportunity to partake in Guided Field Tours that will give an overview of Sheffield Town Forests and include visits to local businesses that use wood products.

Find out more on the [DCR website](http://www.mass.gov/dcr).

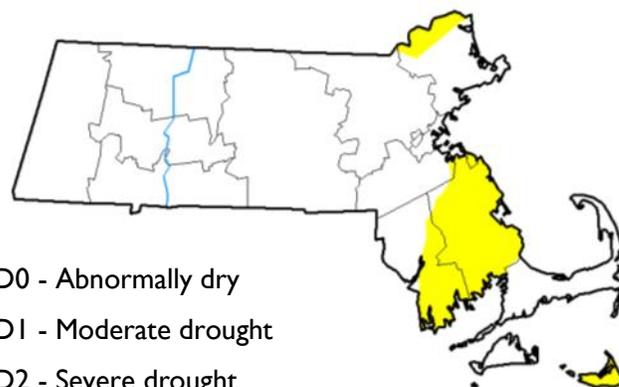


Drought Monitor

Conditions as of August 24, 2017. It was good while it lasted! For the first time in the last several months, we are back to having some dry areas in the Commonwealth. About 14% of the state is categorized as “abnormally dry.”

<http://droughtmonitor.unl.edu/>

www.mass.gov



- D0 - Abnormally dry
- D1 - Moderate drought
- D2 - Severe drought
- D3 - Extreme drought

Growing Greener—in Massachusetts

We are taking this Growing Greener to highlight the important step the Massachusetts Tree Wardens’ and Foresters’ Association has taken to improve the management of public shade trees in the Commonwealth. This fall, the MTWFA is introducing the new Tree Warden Qualification designed for Tree Wardens in communities large and small, urban and rural, and everything in between.

Many communities in Massachusetts do not have a trained arborist or urban forester serving as tree warden. In some communities, superintendents of highway departments or public works serve as tree wardens, while in others, the tree warden may be a volunteer. In each of these, as well as other instances, the level of arboriculture and urban forestry knowledge and training may be wide-ranging. Some communities do have a trained arborist or urban forester, though that is often more the exception than the norm.

This new qualification is designed to teach tree wardens of all backgrounds and levels of training what they need to know to fulfill their duties and be effective tree wardens.

Tree Wardens who complete the 6-session training will be recognized as Massachusetts Qualified Tree Wardens. They will be required to maintain their qualification by attending workshops, conferences, and other trainings in Massachusetts. The qualification course will be held every other year, alternating with UMass Green School.

For more information on the qualification, go to www.masstreewardens.org.



Become a Tree City USA, Tree Campus USA, or Tree Line USA

We are now (as of 9/1) accepting 2017 applications for Tree City USA (as well as Tree Campus and Tree Line USA).



TREE CITY USA

Tree City USA

Tree City USA is a national program of the Arbor Day Foundation that recognizes communities for urban forest management. It is not just for “cities,” but for communities of all sizes. Currently, in Massachusetts, we

have 88 communities that participate in Tree City USA! Let’s reach 100 and beyond!

It’s not too late if you haven’t held your Arbor Day observance! While typically Arbor Day is observed in spring, a community can proclaim any day to be Arbor Day.

To become a Tree City USA, a community must meet for standards set by the Arbor Day Foundation:

1. **Tree Board or Department:** For many communities in Massachusetts, tree management often falls under public works or another department, and this is perfectly acceptable for Tree City USA. On the application, indicate who is in charge of managing trees in your community.
2. **Community Tree Ordinance:** In Massachusetts, we have a statewide ordinance under Mass. General Laws, Chapter 87 that satisfies this standard, if your community does not have an ordinance of its own. We ask for documentation that your community enforces Chapter 87, such as a newspaper clipping for a tree hearing or documentation that your community has adopted this law. If your community has passed its own ordinance—even better!
3. **Community Forestry Program with a Budget of at Least \$2.00 per capita:** Many types of spending can be included in the budget to reach \$2.00 per capita including, but not limited to:
 - Salaries
 - Tree planting (trees, labor, equipment, planting materials, watering, mulching, etc.)
 - In-house tree maintenance (pruning, insect and disease control, storm response, fertilization, watering, stump removal, equipment, supplies, etc.)
 - Contracted tree work

- Vehicular expenses (fuel, maintenance, depreciation, vehicle purchases, insurance)
- Public outreach and staff training (advertising, public education, professional training, professional memberships, Arbor Day event expenses, etc.)
- Resource Assessment Expenses (survey and inventory expenses, software, consultants, etc.)
- Tree Board/Volunteer time (\$10/hour) Grant Income
- Leaf brush pick-up (up to 20% of cost can be included)
- Biomass recycling (up to 20% of cost can be included)
- Utilities (up to 20% of utility tree work can be included).

4. **Arbor Day Event and Proclamation:** Tree plantings, seedling distributions, public presentations, school assemblies, festivals, and other activities can be Arbor Day celebrations. The proclamation is a document signed by your mayor or select board (there are samples on the Arbor Day Foundation website) that declares a day of your choosing to be Arbor Day in your community.

Benefits of Tree City USA

- A community’s status as a Tree City USA is considered for applications to the DCR Challenge Grant Program (and may make your community eligible for other grant opportunities such as TD Bank’s Green Streets), but the biggest benefit to your community may be in public relations for your city or town.
- Residents can feel a sense of community pride as they drive past “Tree City USA” signs as they enter the community, and visitors can take notice, too.
- Annual Arbor Day events also offer an opportunity for publicity highlighting environmental activities, enhancing the public image of the community.
- Communities may also use Tree City USA as an initial step toward systematic urban tree management.
- Whatever the reasons, your community will benefit from joining Tree City USA.

Become a Tree City USA, Tree Campus USA, or Tree Line USA

Tree Line USA

Tree Line USA recognizes public and private utilities for practices that “protect and enhance” the urban forest. There are five core standards that companies meet. The goals of Tree Line USA are to promote a safe, reliable electric service and healthy trees in utility service areas. The annual deadline to apply is December 31. More information on the program can be found at:



<http://www.arboday.org/programs/treelineusa/summary.cfm>

Tree Campus USA

The Tree Campus USA program recognizes college campuses for management of trees and for student and community involvement.



Tree Campus USA has five core standards that schools must meet to be eligible. The annual deadline to apply is December 31. More information on Tree Campus USA can be found at: <http://www.arboday.org/programs/treeCampusUSA/index.cfm>.

For questions about the application process or to find out how your community, utility, college or university can participate, contact Mollie Freilicher, mollie.freilicher@state.ma.us 413-577-2966.

From the New England Wildflower Society

[Find out more](#)

- Native Woody Plant Materials – August 30
- Native New England Shrubs – September 7
- New England Plant Diversity: Session 1 – September 24
- Plant Form and Function – September 28
- Framework Trees of New England – October 3
- Invasive Plants: Identification, Documentation, and Control – October 20
- Betulaceae Family – October 23
- Bare Trees and Naked Shrubs – November 4
- Live Webinar: Choosing Native Trees for Your Landscape – November 8

department of Conservation and Recreation

From the Massachusetts Tree Wardens’ and Foresters’ Association

NEW!

Qualified Tree Warden Training Course

This six-module course is designed to teach tree wardens what they need to know to fulfill their duties.



Upon completion, this course will provide tree wardens with a new qualification.

Topics include, plant ecology, botany, soils, tree identification, tree laws, working with utility arborists, funding your program, budgeting and contracting, ANSI A300, working with the community, storm preparation, Tree City USA, tree inventories, planting and design, plant health care, construction zone management, tree risk evaluation, decay and structural support in trees, and MORE!

Sessions will be held once a month October - December 2017 and March - May 2018 in Westwood (with one session to be held in Acton). Sessions will run from 9:00 a.m. -3:30 p.m. Information will be posted soon on the Mass. Tree Wardens’ and Foresters’ Assoc. website.

www.masstreewardens.org

From the Arnold Arboretum

- Learn to Observe: Tree Spotters Citizen Science – September 9
- Introduction to Botany – Starting September 19 (with New England Wildflower Society)
- Plant Combinations for Beneficial Home Landscapes – September 27

[Find out more](#)



Growing on Trees

Municipal Grant Finder

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts recognizes that municipalities need a streamlined, easy-to-use way to interface with state government when seeking opportunities for state resources to support local services. The Municipal Grant Finder provides a central location to learn about state grant opportunities for cities and towns, regardless of which state agency manages a grant program. Find grants in community development, culture, education, emergency management and planning, energy, environment, historic preservation, housing, libraries, local government innovation, public safety, and public works and transportation.

Explore the grant-finder here: <http://www.mass.gov/anf/budget-taxes-and-procurement/grants/>.

Gleanings

What's The Annual Value Of Trees? \$500 Million per Megacity, Study Says

In a recent study published in the online journal *Ecological Modelling*, an international team of researchers reported that in the 10 megacities they studied, tree-based ecosystem benefits had a median annual value of \$505 million, which is equivalent to \$1.2 million per square kilometer of trees. From another perspective, the value was \$35 per capita for the average megacity resident.

The study's lead author, Dr. Theodore Endreny of the College of Environmental Science and Forestry (ESF) in Syracuse, New York, said the value of trees' services could easily be doubled by simply planting more of them.

"Megacities can increase these benefits on average by 85 percent," Endreny said. "If trees were to be established throughout their potential cover area, they would serve to filter air and water pollutants and reduce building energy use, and improve human well-being while providing habitat and resources for other species in the urban area." Read the full story at phys.org.

Trees are Key Podcast



Most Recent Episode: Keys to Fighting Heat Islands

It is reported that heat kills more people than all other natural disasters. This week, we discuss how trees are key to combating heat islands in our cities. Tune in as we explore a new report from Texas Tree Foundation and learn what you can do to help.

Species Spotlight

Listen to this week's podcast to learn more about a potentially invasive tree. Black Locust, *Robinia pseudoacacia*, is loved by bees and is tough, but may not be a great choice for your yard.

Listen to Trees are Key at <http://tfsweb.tamu.edu/treesarekey/>

Cure Yourself of Tree Blindness

By **Gabriel Popkin**

August 26, 2017—For several years, I've led tree walks in Washington, D.C. I start by asking participants who they are and why they want to spend precious hours looking at trees. My students are nearly all highly educated, successful people who work impressive jobs, speak multiple languages and effortlessly command sophisticated computers and phones. Yet most know barely the first thing about the trees around them. They want to change that.

There was a time when knowing your trees was a matter of life and death, because you needed to know which ones were strong enough to support a house and which ones would feed you through the winter. Now most of us walk around, to adapt a term devised by some botanists, tree blind. But here's the good news: Tree blindness can be cured. Read the full story at nytimes.com.

News

Clark Students Share Secrets of Tree Survival after Beetle Scourge

By **Cyrus Moulton**

July 16, 2017— Worcester - Last summer, the group of Clark University students set out across the city to check on 850 trees planted in the wake of the Asian longhorned beetle infestation. They found that thanks to local stewards, the trees were doing pretty well.

This summer, the group took their methods farther afield, traveling to Revere, Chelsea and Holyoke to help an initiative to make the Gateway Cities greener.

After thousands of trees were removed in Worcester in an effort to eradicate the Asian longhorned beetles, “there was a really aggressive replanting effort to compensate for the canopy that was lost, and this was kind of a perfect case study to display to the state that urban forestry at a large citywide scale was not only feasible but could be effective in bringing together residents, government, and local institutions and nonprofits,” said Miles-Philbert Weule Chandler, 21, a rising senior at Clark, in an interview Wednesday. “They saw the success of Worcester and thought that they could bring these benefits to other places in the commonwealth.” Read the full story at telegram.com.

Watertown Teens Grow into Tree Lovers

By **Sophia Eppolito**

August 11, 2017 Watertown — Half a dozen teenagers in matching green T-shirts crowded around a large tree on a residential street. Their coordinator, David Meshoulam, looked up from his notes in excitement.

“Hey guys, this is a hybrid elm! Should we do a health check on it while we’re here?” he asked.

The teens spent seven weeks this summer caring and advocating for the public trees that line Watertown’s streets and sidewalks. The Watertown Teen Tree Stewardship Program aims to not only care for the town’s urban canopy, but to grow a new generation of environmentally conscious citizens. Read the full story at bostonglobe.com.

Asian Beetle Count is Low; Infested Trees Found in Boylston

By **Cyrus Moulton**

August 1, 2017— Worcester - No adult Asian longhorned beetles have been observed locally this year, but scientists with the U.S. Department of Agriculture’s Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service are advising residents to be on the lookout. “If you love trees, now is the time to take 10 minutes and go outside and look for the signs of this invasive pest,” said Josie Ryan, APHIS national operations manager for the ALB eradication program. Asian longhorned beetles were first detected in the Burncoat neighborhood in 2008, and the infestation has resulted in the loss of more than 35,000 trees and the replanting of another 30,000 trees within a 110-square-mile quarantine zone.

Read the full story at telegram.com.

News Headlines in Brief

[Forests Taking Longer to Recover from Drought Due to Hotter Temperatures, Study Says](#)

[The Whispering Leaves of the Hiroshima Ginkgo Trees](#)

[Going Out On A Limb: Experiencing Competitive Tree Climbing](#)

[Poetry Project an Ode to Winnipeg's Unique Tree Canopy](#)

[Forest Bathing: A Retreat to Nature Can Boost Immunity And Mood—read or listen](#)

[Manhattan Residents Had a Wake for This Doomed Tree](#)

[New Project to Use Drones for Emerald Ash Borer Research in Boulder](#)

[Tree-Of-Heaven's Prolific Seed Production Adds to its Invasive Potential](#)

On the Horizon

- Sept 7** TREE Fund Webinar, 1:00 p.m. (Eastern), www.treefund.org
- Sept 11** Deadline for Forest Legacy Applications (see page 5)
- Sept 14** Webinar: Drought and Invasive Species, <http://www.climatewebinars.net>
- Sept 21** Southeastern Massachusetts Tree Wardens Association Annual Field Day & Equipment Show, Plympton, www.masstreewardens.org
- Sept 23** MA Town Forest Event, Sheffield
- Sept 23** Landscape and Forest Tree and Shrub Disease Workshop, Amherst, www.umassgreeninfo.org
- Sept 26** Western Mass. Tree Wardens Dinner Meeting, Northampton, www.masstreewardens.org
- Sept 26** MAA Dinner Meeting, Framingham, www.massarbor.org
- Sept 26-27** Trees & Utilities Conference, <http://www.treesandutilities.org/>
- Oct 1** **Deadline for [Intent to Apply Form](#) for DCR Urban and Community Forestry Challenge Grant**
- Oct 1** ISA Exam, Southbridge, www.newenglandisa.org (Registration deadline: September 14)
- Oct 34** **Deadline to register for [DCR Tree Steward Training](#)**
- Oct 1-3** New England Chapter ISA 51st Annual Conference and Trade Show, Southbridge, www.newenglandisa.org
- Oct 5** Mass Green Careers Conference, Westborough, <http://www.massgreencareers.org>
- Oct 6** MCA Exam, Wellesley, www.massarbor.org
- Oct 13-14** MA DCR Tree Steward Training, Harvard Forest, Petersham. [More information.](#)
- Oct 15-20** SMA's Municipal Forestry Institute, Cornwall, Ontario, Canada, www.urban-forestry.com
- Oct 19** [Southeastern Mass. Tree Wardens Dinner Meeting](#), Plymouth
- Oct 24** MAA Safety Saves and Dinner Meeting, Wellesley and Framingham, www.massarbor.org
- Nov 1** **Deadline for DCR Urban and Community Forestry Challenge Grant [Application](#)**
- Nov 7 – Jan 30** [Online Course: Urban Forest Adaptation Planning and Practices](#)
- Nov 13-14** Society of Municipal Arborists Annual Conference, Tulsa, OK, www.urban-forestry.com
- Nov 15-16** Partners in Community Forestry Conference, Tulsa, OK, www.arborday.org/programs/pcf/
- Nov 29- Dec 3** New England Grow, Boston, www.newenglandgrows.org
- Dec 31** Deadline for Tree City, Tree Campus, and Tree Line USA Applications, contact [Mollie Freilicher](#) with questions

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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