

Community Forestry News

City of Bath, Maine

The Newsletter of the Bath Community Forestry Committee ♦ 1 Oak Grove Ave. ♦ Bath, Maine 04530 ♦ 1-(207)-443-8345 ♦

Winter 2012



Forestry Committee Update

E-Newsletter on the Horizon for BCFC

We see them more frequently than ever! They often clutter our e-mail boxes and are read or swiftly put on the spam list or deleted immediately. What are they? E-Newsletters.

Hopefully you will neither delete nor ignore *Community Forestry News* when it arrives next spring or fall in the form of an e-newsletter. BCFC wants to save trees and keep you better informed with more timely news and events of Bath.

To sign up go to lbenett@cityofbath.com. Let us know what your interests are and what you would like to see.

Volunteers Needed

If you don't have time to become heavily involved with the BCFC, we have something to offer you. Volunteer part-time! The BCFC has four sub-committees that need help throughout the year—Finance, Communications, Education, and Tree Care. We welcome anyone who can offer a few hours a month with projects, fundraisers, and summer tree care. Call 443-8345 or send an email to lbenett@cityofbath.com

New England Forestry Conference Draws 150 Tree Professionals and Arborists to Bath Area

It's quite rare to see 150 people descend on Bath for one conference, but that's just what happened in October when the New England Chapter of the International Society of Arboriculture held their 45th conference at the Maine Maritime Museum. Especially significant for Bath was that Tom Hoerth, city arborist, was stepping down as the Chapter's president.

The keynote speaker, Douglas Tallamy of the University of Delaware, spoke on the importance of maintaining biodiversity in home landscaping as well as planting native species. Biodiversity and native species provide for hearty growth as well as shelter and food for native habitat.

"The typical suburban,

alien, ornamental plants and trees provide neither food nor shelter for animals. Our challenge is to redesign our living spaces in ways that provide for both," said Tallamy.

Hoerth applauded Prof. Tallamy by saying that diversity makes for a healthy environment and that cities, towns, and counties can apply the same method of diversity to have healthy urban forests and parks. "It's really a shift in scale, with a greater emphasis on safety," said Hoerth. Most public parks, for example, are "intentional landscapes" and we must take the first step in natural resource management by taking stock of what's there and improving it, he added.

With a diversity of native tree species, invasive insects and

tree diseases are less likely to thrive. Hoerth said he always plans ahead for 100 years when planting Bath's trees. The next 100 years will prove a challenge for all arborists throughout the United States as they try to foresee the impact of global warming on trees, insects, disease, and tolerance.

Hoerth was quick to recognize those individuals who have mentored and supported him over the years including Jan Ames Santerre of the Maine Forest Service; Denny Hebert, a BCFC founder; Mary Ellen Bell-Hoerth, Hoerth's wife; and Geraldine Coombs, BCFC founder and member of the BCFC for 20 years. Each person was presented with a maple bowl made by Thomas Edwards.

Joan Chandler & Calla Barton Win Tree Photography Contest

A record-setting 79 photographs were entered in the 14th annual Bath Community Forestry Photography Contest this year.

"Lonely Birch" by Joan Chandler of Bath caught the eye of the judges for first place in the Adult Category.

Sweeping first and second place in the Student Category was Calla Barton from Arrowsic with her entries, "Allee Beautiful" and "Half a Heart". And to keep it all in the family, her mother, Deidre Barton took the Judges Award with an untitled photo taken at the corner of Washington and South Sts. in Bath depicting an old wrought iron fence, stop sign, and beautiful trees.

Hard work and a keen eye for composition and presentation were evident amongst the
See Photo Contest - Page 3



First Place Winner

"Lonely Birch"

by Joan Chandler

JOIN US AT OUR NEXT MEETING!

The Bath Community Forestry Committee meets the second Wednesday of the month, September-June from 7:00 - 9:00 P.M. in the Bath City Hall. The public is always welcome. We meet in the second floor conference room. For more information, call Letha Bennett at 443-8345. www.cityofbath.com/forest/index.htm

Deadly Ash Borer Reeks Havoc Across New England

The Emerald Ash Borer continues its rampage across New England with devastating effects. An invasive species from Asia, the ash borer feeds on ash trees eventually destroying the tree. Signs of ash borer include squiggly lines on the tree trunk, increased woodpecker population and activity, dead limbs at the top of the tree, and d-shaped holes in the tree.

An arborist or tree expert can tell you how damaged the tree is and the potential of saving it with various treatments. Treatments will depend on the age of the tree, its size, the location, and how badly damaged it is. Treatments vary in cost and can range from injecting the soil with insecticides to injecting the actual tree. Colleen Teerling, an entomologist with the Maine Forest Service, said the ash borer has the potential of "wiping out every ash tree" on the North American continent.

The State of Maine received a \$25,000 grant from the U.S. Forest Service to conduct an ash borer surveillance project. Maine is in its third year of a program to detect ash borers through the surveillance of the *Cerceris fumipennis* wasp, a natural predator of the ash borer. Over 60 colonies of the wasp are known to exist in Maine and are usually found in and around baseball fields where they build their nests in the hard-packed sand of the baseball diamonds where there is full sun and little vegetation. The female wasp builds her nest in the sand and then hunts metallic-colored buprestid beetles. She places three to four beetles in five to ten chambers where she lays an egg in each chamber. She then seals the chamber. The wasp larvae feed on the beetles until they emerge as adult wasps. When state scientists examine the wasp nests they will be able to detect if the wasp is returning to its nest with the emerald ash borer.

Ash trees make up about 4% of Maine's tree population and were first planted to replace American elm trees devastated by an imported Asian fungus. The Emerald Green Ash Borer has yet to cause devastation in Maine.

More information on the Project Canopy wasp-watcher network is available online at www.maine.gov/doc/mfs/fhm/pages/CercerisVolunteers.htm.



TREE DAMAGE TOP VIEW BOTTOM VIEW

Kingdom:	Animalia
Phylum:	Arthropoda
Class:	Insecta
Order:	Coleoptera
Family:	Buprestidae
Tribe:	Agrilini
Genus:	Agrilus
Species:	<i>A. planipennis</i>

[Binomial name](#)

Agrilus planipennis

PLAN TREE PLANTINGS NOW TO ATTRACT WILDLIFE NEXT WINTER

What do you recommend that we can plant to help wildlife in Maine's harsh winters?

According to the Arbor Day Foundation, the winter is a good time to start planning a selection of trees for next winter and future winters that will provide food and shelter for our avian and other wildlife friends. Most Americans would agree that the common factor shared by us all is our love of wildlife and the great outdoors.

Whether it's a squirrel in the park, a moose on a country road, or an eagle soaring overhead, wildlife is a valued resource to protect and enjoy. Not surprisingly, trees play an important role in the health and survival of many species in our parks and woodlands. Habitat provides the diversity required for animals to eat and take cover. In order for wildlife to establish homes, they need water, food, and shelter—much the same as the human animal.

Each different tree and shrub species has a different food value that attracts certain animals. Having a wide variety of trees with high food value is the best way to increase wildlife viewing. Cover provides protection for breeding, nesting, sleeping, and hiding from predators. A few principles of planting include: wind protection; unbroken travel lanes (rows of trees or shrubs); and edge areas that provide sun, shade, and security.

From Arbor Day Newsletter-2011

Very Good Shelter

Arborvitae
Broad-leaved Evergreens
Firs
Hemlocks
Pines
Spruces

Food Source

Apples & Crabapples,
Chokecherries, Dogwoods
Eastern redcedar, Hackberry,
Hawthorns, Mountain Ashes,
Sumac, Viburnums

Abundant Seeds or Mast

Alders, Ashes, Birches,
Butternut, Walnut,
Firs, Hemlocks, Spruces,
Hazelnuts, Hickories,
Maples, Oaks

Photography Contest Winners Show Talent for Trees

Photo Contest—Cont'd from Page 1

entries. Other winners in the Adult Category were: 2nd Place "Sentinels on the Kennebec" by Skip Stenson of Bath; 3rd place "Transition" by Tamara Sloan of Brunswick; and 4th place "Pine Bark" by Anna McDougal of Wiscasset. Honorable Mentions went to Katherine Larabee, West Bath; Rory McCarthy, Bath; and Shannon Thorne, Bath.

In the Student Category Sierra Merrill of Phippsburg took 3rd place with "Autumn Gold" and Arielle Leeman of Bath took 4th place with "Colored Friends". Honorable Mention went to Hannah Leeman, Bath.

The generous sponsors for this year's awards included York's Hardy Rhododendrons, Byrnes Irish Pub & Restaurant, Beale St. BBQ, Now You're Cooking, Henry and Marty's Restaurant, Skillin's Greenhouses, Big Top Deli, Bart & Greg's DVD Explosion, Bull Moose Music, Just Framing, and The Maine Arborist Association.

Special thanks for a difficult job of judging go to Ms. Pam Allen of Bath Printing, Mr. Mike Mahan of Mahan Graphics, Mr. Adreas von Huene, a local artist, and Mr. Roger Duncan, photographer.



Calla M.Q. Barton of Arrowsic was awarded 1st and 2nd Prize in the Student Category of the Bath Community Forestry Committee's annual photo contest. (Her photos are to her left on the board.)

Take advantage of all four of the great seasons Maine has to offer. Prepare now for the 2012 photography contest by starting to take your photos of Bath trees. Remember that some of the most unique and dramatic tree pictures are often taken during the winter and spring months.

Pruning Workshop— March 10th

Bath City Arborist, Tom Hoerth, will hold a tree pruning workshop on March 10, 2012 from 9:00 a.m.—noon in the Bath City Hall basement conference room.

The free pruning session will focus on the do's and don'ts of pruning as well as what species should be pruned this spring.



Pruning is necessary to develop strong, healthy trees; to remove dead limbs and branches; and to create an aesthetically pleasing form. Pruning can also help stimulate fruit production and increase the value of timber on woodlots.

All guests are invited to bring their own pruners and loppers so they may practice on public trees, with Mr. Hoerth's guidance, during a car pool around the City.

For more information call Letha Bennett at the Bath Department of Parks and Rec-

TREE GIVEAWAY—2011 Area citizens flocked to the Bath Community Forestry Committee's first open house at the Bath City Nursery last May for a free giveaway of an assortment of evergreen trees.



750 Tree Species in North America



Curious how many of the native North American trees grow in your backyard? Snap a shot of a leaf with your iPhone and go to Leafsnap.com, a new free app at leafsnap.com, to determine the type of tree. Also, check out What Tree is That? Tool on ArborDay.org. After a couple of questions, the site will name from which tree the leaf fell.

Leafsnap is the first in a series of electronic field guides being developed by researchers from Columbia U. & the Smithsonian Institution.

Appointments to the BCFC Board

Kurt Spiridakis comes to the Board with experience in selective tree harvesting, woodworking, and fundraising. Mr. Spiridakis is a boat builder at the Maine Maritime Museum.

Carol Carrigan brings expertise in botany, microbiology, and wetland aquatic plants. Ms. Carrigan works for a biotech company in Scarborough while living in Bath.

Both new members have a great deal of interest in preserving Bath's urban forests.

As a reminder, any citizen may attend the BCFC meetings on the second Wednesday of each month from 7-9:00 p.m. at the City Hall second floor conference room. Fresh ideas and help on various sub-committees are welcome!

News for 2012

-The BCFC is considering another tree giveaway at the city nursery this spring. Watch for announcements in the newspapers and on BCTV in May, 2012.

-Mark your calendars for Arbor Day celebrations during the week of May 15-21. As of this printing, the BCFC is considering the replacement of two significant historical trees at the Customs House.

-Butler Head trails clearing and signage are in the works for future hiking at this hidden treasure in Bath.

-The BCFC is working on a plan to restore Bath cemeteries. This major undertaking will require numerous grants, major manpower, and community involvement if the project comes to fruition and moves forward.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR! Winter 2012 Workshops & Upcoming Events

January 25, 2012 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Maine Landscape & Nursery Association Annual Meeting and Trade Show

The 2012 Annual Trade Show will be held at the Augusta Civic Center, Augusta. More information call 207-623-6430

February 1-3, 2012

New England Grows 2012—The Ultimate Green Industry Experience @ the Boston Convention & Exhibition Center

For more information visit www.NEGrows.org or call (508)-653-3009.

March 2-3, 2012 8:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

75th Maine Arborist Association Annual Meeting

To be held at the Wyndham Hotel, So. Portland. Registration begins at 7:30 a.m. on March 2. More information at www.maine-arborist.org or 207-657-3256

March 3, 2012 9:00 a.m.—4:00 p.m.

UMASS Tree Conference, Stockbridge Hall, University of Mass. at Amherst, MA

This year's conference will cover the new arboricultural safety standard and the insects and diseases that are expected in 2012. For more information contact Ellen Weeks at 413-545-2685 or eweeks@umext.umass.edu

March 7—11, 2012 10:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.

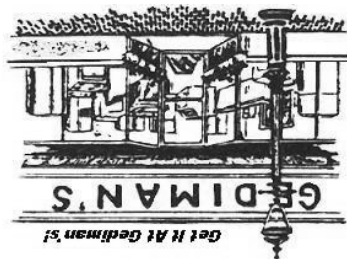
Portland Flower Show—58 Fore Street, Portland, Maine

At the Portland Yacht Company. Call 207-775-4403 for more information or visit their website at www.portlandcompany.com/flower.

March 10, 2012 9:00 a.m.—Noon

Pruning Workshop, Bath City Hall, Basement Conference Room, 55 Front St.

Tom Hoerth, City Arborist, will conduct a pruning workshop for the homeowner and other interested individuals. For more details contact thoerth@cityofbath.com



Generously Sponsored by Gediman's

PREST STD
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
PERMIT No. 45
BATH, ME 04530

2012 Committee Members
Steve Balboni, Ex-Officio
Edmund Benedikt
Thomas Barrington, Chairman
Bruce Brennan
Geraldine Coombs
Carol Carrigan
Elizabeth Hasckell
Thomas C. Hoerth, Ex-Officio
Aaron Park
Mary Earl Rogers, Non-Voting Associate
Margo Smith
Kurt Spiridakis

Bath Community Forestry Committee
1 Oak Grove Avenue
Bath, Maine 04530