

News You Can Use!

From the Urban and Community Forestry Division of the Colorado State Forest Service

March-April 2011

Urban and Community Forestry Tidbits

Eastern Colorado Community Forestry Conference-The Eastern Colorado Community Forestry Conference will be held on March 12, 2011 in Windsor. Presentations are scheduled on under-utilized trees, a bug “hit parade” and Tree Board representatives will be on hand to display success stories from eastern Colorado communities. There will also be a community forestry-related panel discussing services offered by a wide range of organizations, and information on the newly unveiled “Tree Board University” program. Click here for more information and to download the registration form http://www.coloradotrees.org/Meetings/ECCFC_Registration_2011.pdf.

Tree City USA/Arbor Day-94 applications were processed for Tree City USA consideration in 2010. Although the list below isn't official until notification from the Arbor Day Foundation is received, we don't expect any problems with the submissions. The electronic application process seemed to go pretty smoothly for its first year with 42 communities (45%) submitting their applications on-line. Thanks everyone for working hard to maintain Tree City status in your communities and to make Arbor Day events fun, unique and educational this year!

Community	Years
Air Force Academy	18
Alamosa	21
Arvada	20
Aspen	19
Aurora	27
Berthoud	28
Boulder	27
Brighton*	25
Broomfield	22
Brush	21
Buckley AFB	7
Buena Vista	22
Campo	7
Canon City	31
Carbondale*	17
Castle Rock	24
Cedaredge	17
Colorado Springs	34
Commerce City	20
Cortez	19
Crested Butte	10
Delta	27
Denver	25
Dillon	13

<i>Durango*</i>	31
Eads	17
Eaton	27
Edgewater	20
<i>Elizabeth*</i>	12
Englewood	26
<i>Erie*</i>	13
Estes Park	14
Evans	27
Florence	27
<i>Fort Carson*</i>	24
Fort Collins	33
Fort Morgan	12
Fruita	18
Glenwood Springs	26
Golden	21
<i>Grand Junction*</i>	28
Grand Lake	21
Greeley	31
Greenwood Village	22
Gunnison	21
Hayden	6
Highlands Ranch	23
Holly	3
Ken-Caryl	21
La Junta	30
La Veta	25
Lafayette	16
Lake City	23
Lakewood	29
Lamar	20
Leadville	15
Limon	20
Littleton	24
Lone Tree	9
Longmont	31
Louisville	30
Loveland	22
Lyons	25
Milliken	8
Montrose	22
Monument	17
New Castle	8
Northglenn	21
Olathe	19
Olney Springs	6
Ordway	8
Palmer Lake	29
Parker	18
<i>Peterson AFB*</i>	17
<i>Platteville*</i>	7
Pleasant View	9

Poncha Springs	2
Pueblo	31
Rocky Ford	19
Saguache	22
Salida	24
Schriever AFB	13
Silt	13
Springfield	20
Steamboat Springs	20
Sterling	23
Superior	8
Swink	13
Thornton	24
Westminster	26
Wheat Ridge	32
Wiggins	29
Windsor*	30
Woodland Park	19

***Growth Award Applicant**

New Online Learning Opportunity for Tree Board Members Now Available-Tree Board University, a new online training program, was unveiled at the recent Partners in Community Forestry National Conference. This unique training was designed specifically for members of local planning commissions, parks boards, beautification committees, urban forestry commissions, or other local advisory committees that deal with tree issues. While Tree Board U is designed specifically for the more than 21,000 citizens currently serving on a tree advisory committee somewhere in the US, it is open to anyone. There are eight courses in the Tree Board University curriculum, which covers partnerships, collaboration, marketing and communications, urban forestry planning, tree board effectiveness, how to manage tree board projects, and much, much more. Upon “graduation”, Tree Board University participants can print off a completion certificate and are invited to join an online community of fellow Tree Board University graduates. This community of like-minded tree enthusiasts is a place where sharing, networking and additional learning can take place. Tree Board University is a free training program, primarily thanks to funding provided through the USDA Forest Service upon the recommendation of the National Urban and Community Forestry Advisory Council (NUCFAC). USDA is an equal opportunity employer and provider. The Tree Board University website is hosted by the Arbor Day Foundation. To sign up for the Tree Board University courses, visit www.treeboardu.org. You are welcome to attend the Eastern Colorado Community Forestry Conference in Windsor on March 12 to learn more about Tree Board University as well.

Trees for Healthy Kids-The Institute for Environmental Solutions (IES) has been awarded a \$15,190 grant from the Xcel Energy Foundation for the “Trees for Healthy Kids and Community Project” designed to use strategic tree selection and planting to improve air quality and reduce noise for school children at Mitchell Elementary School in Golden, Colorado. The completed project will serve as a model for other Colorado communities seeking cost-effective ways to improve environmental quality at elementary schools and other locations. For more information on this project click here <http://www.i4es.org/Press%20releases/Trees%20for%20Healthy%20Kids%201-26-11.pdf>.

Smarter Stormwater Coalition-Professionals who work with the design, manufacturing, and installation of stormwater controls have a unique opportunity to participate in the development of federal regulations that may benefit their industries while protecting America's waters. Rainwater that falls on streets, parking lots, and rooftops runs off of these surfaces, picking up heavy metals and nutrients and ultimately flowing untreated into our streams, rivers, and lakes. The most commonly used approaches to controlling and managing this polluted runoff have proven to be woefully inadequate at reducing the problems it causes, from flooding to combined sewer overflows. In 2009, an expert panel of the National Research Council issued a report calling for significant improvements in stormwater management. In response, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has announced its intention to modernize its stormwater regulations. EPA expects to propose these revisions in September 2011 and finalize them by November 2012. Industries that could benefit include manufacturers and installers of green roofs, permeable pavements, interlocking pavers and cisterns; nurseries; arboriculture; landscape design and bioretention design. For more information click here <http://cfpub.epa.gov/npdes/stormwater/rulemaking.cfm>

Insect and Disease Update

2010 Report on the Health of Colorado's Forests-Although the mountain pine beetle epidemic has largely run its course in north-central Colorado, insect and disease activity continued to stress the state's forests in 2010. "From dying walnut trees in cities along the Front Range to spruce beetles attacking high-elevation forests in southwest Colorado, we continue to have concerns about forests throughout the state," said Jeff Jahnke, state forester and director of the Colorado State Forest Service. Read more here <http://www.today.colostate.edu/story.aspx?id=5295>

Colorado Tree Coalition Tidbits

Colorado Tree Coalition Grants Update-This year 34 grant requests were received by the CTC Grants Committee, requesting over \$168,000! Thanks to additional funding from Xcel Energy and the Mile High Million, 24 statewide projects totaling \$122,675 should receive funding this year.

A Note From Scholarship Recipient Kim Yuan Farrell-I write to express The Park People's appreciation of CTC's scholarship support, which enabled me to attend the 2010 Partners in Community Forestry National Conference in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania November 8-11, 2010. The conference was very relevant to my work managing the urban forestry programs of The Park People. The conference agenda included many interesting and engaging presentations, ranging from big-picture ideas to focused practices and case studies. Again, many thanks for the CTC scholarship that allowed me to take part in the conference and encounter many sources of ideas, insights, and inspiration. Presentations and conference photos can be found at www.arboday.org/PCF.

Bring Back the Blue!-The CTC has a standing \$500 reward for the person who finds a Colorado blue spruce that exceeds the measurements of the current national champion blue spruce. There are two states that claim the blue spruce as their state tree, Colorado and Utah. The reigning champion is in the Ashley National Forest near Duchesne, Utah. It is 127 feet tall and the diameter is five feet across measured at DBH (diameter at breast height). To learn more about measuring trees and the CTC Champion Tree program go to <http://www.coloradotrees.org>.

Front Range Urban Forestry Council-The Front Range Chapter of CTC will be meeting on March 10th in Brighton. An expanded program is planned focusing on hazard tree identification and management. For more information contact Keith Wood at keith.wood@colostate.edu.

2011 Poster Contest-The Arbor Day Foundation has historically sponsored the Arbor Day Poster Contest, but decided to stop hosting the contest following the 2010 event. In 2011, the Colorado Tree Coalition (CTC), working with community partners like the cities of Lone Tree, Denver, and Erie has decided to keep the poster contest going. The theme for this year's contest is "Celebrate Trees in Our Community." The National Project Learning Tree (PLT) program has given permission to the poster contest committee for teachers to use one of their tree activities to promote this year's theme. Fifth grade students who choose to participate should consider why trees are important to our community and ways that trees can be celebrated. The CTC website, www.coloradotrees.org, has all the contest information on eligibility and submission requirements. The deadline for poster submission is April 5, 2011.

The Colorado Tree Coalition is now on Facebook-Come join us on the world's largest social networking site to stay connected with the Colorado Tree Coalition. The page features CTC updates on upcoming events and program information as well as both general and specific discussion topics, a forum for tree board members to exchange ideas, and a volunteer recruitment and placement thread. It is a great way to stay connected to your colleagues and network with them on a daily basis. Share program ideas, pictures, or reconnect with fellow CTC members. Stop by today to check us out and to help spread the word to others whom may share CTC's mission to preserve, renew and enhance community forests in Colorado. To follow the CTC page, simply click the facebook link above, log in to your account at the top of the page, and click the "Like" button. It's that simple! Our updates will automatically start appearing on your facebook wall. Don't yet have a facebook account? Click the facebook link above, followed by the green "Sign Up" button on the top left corner of the page. Fill out the quick and easy submission form and you're on your way to connecting with friends, family, neighbors and colleagues.



Happy Arbor Day April 15th!!