

News You Can Use!

From the Community Forestry Division of the Colorado State Forest Service

May-June 2012

Urban and Community Forestry Tidbits

Green Infrastructure Peer Exchange Program-Green Infrastructure Peer Exchanges are an opportunity to create carefully matched partnerships between eligible entities seeking assistance on implementing green infrastructure and those that have achieved green infrastructure success. This program will cover all direct expenses associated with approved exchanges. Applications will be accepted on a rolling basis until program funds have been expended. For more information click on the following link:

http://www.greeninfrastructure.net/sites/greeninfrastructure.net/files/GI_Peer_Exchange_Program_FINAL.pdf.

High-Tech Trees: Online Inventory of Trees at CSU-The Geospatial Centroid, a new entity on campus whose mission is to provide services, training and resources related to GIS (geographic information systems), and Colorado State University Facilities recently participated in an Arbor Day Celebration at the CSU Oval (April 20). At the event, CSU launched the beta version of its new online campus tree inventory. Check it out at: <http://trees.warnercnr.colostate.edu/server/>.

Open Tree Map-OpenTreeMap is open source software for collaborative, geography-enabled urban tree inventory. Why use OpenTreeMap? OpenTreeMap provides an easy-to-use public inventorying platform that enables individuals, organizations, and governments to search and contribute to a collaborative, interactive, and dynamic map of a community's tree population. Urban street trees have many proven environmental, economic, and aesthetic benefits and an accurate and current inventory is essential for effectively and efficiently caring for this vital community resource. OpenTreeMap can be used in a single municipality or cover a broader geographic region, anywhere in the world. For more information <http://opentreemap.github.com/>.

USDA Plant Hardiness Zones Map Updated-The U.S. Department of Agriculture has revised the 1990 official guide for the nation's 80 million gardeners, and much has changed. Nearly entire states, such as Ohio, Nebraska and Texas, are in warmer zones. To view the map click here <http://planthardiness.ars.usda.gov/PHZMWeb/>.

My Neighborhood Forest Photo Contest-The U.S. Forest Service challenges you to get outdoors and take photos of your urban or community forest. You could win \$200 in outdoor gear from the National Forest Foundation! America is home to more than 100 million acres of urban and community forests. These are the forests that line our streets, shade our buildings and burst with color every fall. Did you know that these trees also clean our air and help prevent pollution and flooding? That's one of the reasons we like to call our urban trees 'the hardest working trees in America.' Take a picture of your neighborhood forest and send it to us. You'll have fun outside, and could win cool prizes for your photo! Urban and community forests broadly include urban parks, street trees, landscaped boulevards, public gardens, river and coastal promenades, greenways, river corridors, wetlands, nature preserves, natural areas, shelter belts of trees and working trees at industrial brownfield sites. Don't forget to tell your friends and family to vote for

your submission - there will be one Popular Choice prize winner. Here's how you can Enter <http://urbanforest.challenge.gov>.

Insect and Disease Update

Pest Groups Meeting Dates-Both the Northern Colorado and Denver Metro Pest Groups have set meeting dates for 2012. Dates for the Northern Colorado group are May 23, June 20, July 18, August 15, and September 19 at the Gardens on Spring Creek in Fort Collins at Noon. The Denver Metro group meets one week after each of these (except in May and August) so mark your calendars for May 23, June 27, July 25, August 29 and September 26 at Harvard Gulch Recreation Center in Denver (550 E. Illiff Ave.) for 9am start times. Be sure to bring your samples and tell the group what insect, disease and environmental issues you are seeing this growing season.

Colorado Tree Coalition Tidbits

ReForest Colorado Program Gains New Partner-Remember the Cash for Clunkers initiative aimed at taking aged gas-guzzling vehicles off the road in exchange for wads of money? Well, a novel new program underway in Colorado is hoping to do the same thing -- but this time folks are being incentivized to ditch their outdated rides for the promise of a different kind of green altogether. The [Clear the Air Foundation](#) launched a first-of-its-kind program to rid the streets of inefficient, polluting old cars by encouraging people to trade them in for trees. Working with car dealerships across the state, in partnership with the Colorado Tree Coalition, the Trees for Trade-ins initiative hopes to collect and scrap hundreds of donated clunkers, and in exchange, plant an equal number of trees to reforest regions in need of some arboreal cover. For CTC Executive Administrator Keith Wood, the Trees For Trade-ins program could be a great way to clear the air of pollution on two fronts. Not only does kicking older vehicles built with poor emission standards mean less smog, "the program will help plant trees in communities affected by natural disaster through the ReForest Colorado program and will assist in furthering the group's mission to preserve, renew and enhance community forests in Colorado." To read the rest of this article click here

<http://www.treehugger.com/green-investments/first-ever-trees-clunkers-program-debuts-colorado.html>.

Front Range Urban Forestry Council-The Front Range Chapter of CTC will be meeting on May 17 in Golden. A program is planned on uses of structural soil and biochar soil amendment. For more information contact Keith Wood at keith.wood@colostate.edu.

CTC Poster Contest-This year's poster theme was "Celebrate Trees in Our Community". Colorado fifth graders from around the state participated, with schools submitting winning posters for the statewide judging event. The Colorado Tree Coalition selected Remy Biggs' poster of Carson Elementary in Denver as the winner of the 2012 Colorado Arbor Day Poster Contest! The posters of all 41 school winners were displayed on the first floor of the Colorado State Capitol from April 17th through April 23rd and Remy was recognized at an event at the Capitol on April 23rd.

CTC Scholarship Program-The Colorado Tree Coalition (CTC) has a limited amount of funds to assist people with registering to attend conferences and workshops throughout the year. Because of the limited dollars available it is required of all who request assistance to follow these guidelines:

1. Scholarship requests will be limited to a maximum of \$300, and can only be applied to cover registration costs of the event.
2. To request a scholarship please send an electronic request to Keith Wood, at keith.wood@colostate.edu. At a minimum the request should contain the name and location of the conference and what is hoped to be learned at the event, and how it will be applied in your current position. Keith will then submit the request to the CTC Board for their consideration.
3. Requests will also be limited to one person per community/group/organization per workshop or conference. Many workshops and conferences now offer concurrent sessions and there is a value to sending more than one person. However, the CTC will not be able to fund more than one person.
4. Those receiving scholarships will be required to supply an article or notes to be used in *Tree Talk* and/or placed on the CTC web site (www.coloradotrees.org) and/or in another electronic newsletter format so others can benefit from the workshop as well.

The board of CTC is committed to education and is seeking additional funds so the scholarship program can be expanded and more people throughout Colorado can benefit from the various educational opportunities available.

Tour De Poudre-On June 24th the International Society of Arboriculture-Rocky Mountain Chapter (ISA/RMC) and the Colorado Tree Coalition (CTC) will be teaming up to co-host the 13th annual Champion Tree Classic Tour de Poudre, a bike ride to raise money for tree planting and tree research. This year's ride will once again take place in northern Colorado with a short and long route being mapped out between Fort Collins to Greeley along the Poudre River Trail. The New Belgium Brewing Company in Fort Collins will help sponsor the ride again this year with the circuit routes starting and ending at that location. For more information and to register go to www.coloradotrees.org.

Think Wet Spring!!