

Community Forest News

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

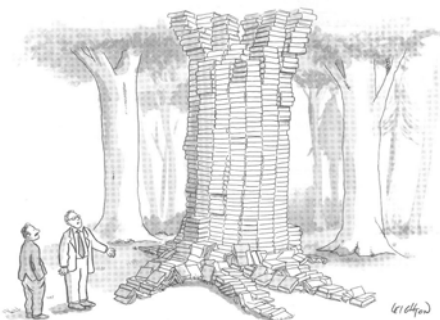
Summer 2007 Edition

Sponsored by the
Maine Forest Service
Project Canopy



Bath's Arbor Week A Success!

During the week of May 21st through May 25th, when Maine celebrated Arbor Week, Bath hosted numerous activities which placed Bath's community forest in center stage. Ribbons and name placards adorned specimens planted as either Memorial or Honorary trees, throughout the downtown area. A 'Sunset' Red Maple (*Acer rubrum*) was planted in memory of former Morse High School Principal Ray Farnum, by the Morse Class of '65 on school grounds. Ms. Donna Smith's First Grade class and Gym teacher Jason Carter planted two 'Princeton' American Elm (*Ulmus americana*) trees near the playground area of Dike-Newell Elementary School as part of their SunWise Program. For the tenth year in a row, Bath was recognized as a National Arbor Day Foundation Tree City USA. We also received the Growth Award for the sixth year, as well as receiving a 2-inch caliper 'Messels' Magnolia tree from Project Canopy, donated by the Maine Department of Transportation. This tree was planted in Waterfront Park to honor Professor Tom Wessels who gave a talk entitled "Interpreting the Forested Landscape" at the Winter Street Center. On Thursday, May 24th, 280 Colorado Blue Spruce seedlings, donated by Central Maine Power, were potted up by the Fifth Grade classes of Fisher-Mitchell School and installed in the City's tree nursery. The "City of Ships" is also proud to be the "City of Trees"!



"We used your unsold copies to build a tree,
but it's not the same."

Emerald Ash Borer Alert

BATH—Why are the ash trees "dressed up" in Oak Grove Cemetery? It's part of a project involving the Maine Department of Agriculture and the City of Bath Forestry Division to demonstrate a method of surveying for the emerald ash borer (EAB), *Agrilus planipennis*. This brilliant emerald-green beetle has already been responsible for the death of more than 20 million ash trees (*Fraxinus spp.*) in the Midwest states of Michigan, Ohio, Indiana, and Illinois since it was officially identified in 2002.

According to Maine State Horticulturist Ann Gibbs, "We have not yet found this pest in Maine, but we want to be prepared in the event that it does appear in the state". Human behavior is a major factor in the spread of EAB, and one of the major pathways in the dispersal of this insect is through the movement of firewood. "Visitors from the Midwest come to Maine to camp and often bring firewood with them. This project provides an opportunity to work with municipal arborists to help detect the presence of this beetle, should it make its way into Maine", says Gibbs.

Trunks of selected Ash (*Fraxinus* species) trees in Oak Grove Cemetery were girdled (bark removed) to stress the trees. Then a band of sticky substance was applied above the girdled area to trap flying beetles. Symptoms of EAB damage include dead and dying branches, vertical splits in the bark, excessive branching at the base of the trunk and D-shaped exit holes in the bark. Native to China, these beetles feed exclusively on ash trees and were probably brought into the US on solid wood packing material carried in cargo ships or airplanes.

"Arborists are on the front line working with trees and they will probably be the first to observe EAB if it attacks ash trees in Maine", states Bath City Arborist and Tree Warden Tom Hoerth. These trap trees will be monitored throughout the season, and then in the fall the trees will be removed and dissected to look for evidence of this beetle. Maine arborists will be invited to observe at that time and learn about the survey technique and beetle identification.

For more information on the emerald ash borer please go to <http://www.emeraldashborer.info/>.

Contact:

Ann Gibbs, at 207-287-3891 or ann.gibbs@maine.gov, or Tom Hoerth, at 207-443-8345 or thoerth@cityofbath.com



Ash trees at Oak Grove Cemetery in Bath have been girdled,
with Tangle foot® applied above the girdled area to trap flying beetles.

JOIN US AT OUR NEXT MEETING!

The Bath Community Forestry Committee meets the first Wednesday of every month, September to June from 7:00 - 9:00 P.M. in the Bath City Hall. The public is always invited to join us. Our meetings in the basement conference room. Go directly down the stairs from the side door of City Hall, and take a left. For more information call Letha Bennett at 443-8345.

The Committee Welcomes Two New Members

The Committee is pleased to announce the addition of two new members, Keith Emery and Suzanne Preisler.

Keith A. Emery, 30 years old, is the restaurant manager at Beale Street Barbeque in Bath. He loves to get his hands dirty in the flower garden and walk or run away stress in the great outdoors. This year he is marrying the love of his life and they're going to try their hand at home improvement of their first house here in the city. He is excited about this opportunity to serve the public and learn more about the city's forests.

A second-generation florist, Suzanne was the floral designer at New York City's well-known *La Cote Basque* restaurant. Since coming to Maine she has taken over the office and research duties for her husband, who is a New York Times best-selling author. Suzanne enjoys tending her plants and garden, looks forward to her committee work around town and hopes you will stop and say hello.

The Committee looks forward to working with Keith and Suzanne and appreciate their energy, efforts and support in helping to manage Bath's community forest. Welcome Keith & Suzanne!

Pre-Storm Tree Assessment Protocol Conducted by Students

Between May 23rd and June 12th the City of Bath continued a community-wide, pre-storm tree survey. The Bath Forestry Division and students from Ms. Carol Nichols Honors Biology class at Morse High School conducted an "Initial Storm Damage Assessment Protocol for Urban & Community Forests", following guidelines developed by the USDA Forest Service and the Davey Resource Group. At the beginning of the school year, the students were trained by the Bath City Arborist in how to evaluate Bath's street-side and adjacent trees, and how to estimate the amount of clean-up that might be needed after a severe storm. During this planning stage, sample plots, representing at least 2% of the City's total street mileage were randomly chosen, a survey performed by the students and cost and time estimates made. Trees greater than 6 inches in diameter within the City right-of-way (R.O.W.) and within 50 feet of the City R.O.W. were measured and tallied. If ever a federal disaster is declared in the State, Sagadahoc County or the City of Bath, this survey will hasten Bath's ability to receive aid necessary for hazard tree reductions and debris removal. As of this writing, roughly half of the necessary 2% of the total street mileage has been surveyed. The survey will be continued next Fall with a new class of students.

If you have any questions or want more information about this project, please contact the Bath Forestry Division by phone at 443-8347 or 751-7677, or by e-mail at thoerth@cityofbath.com

- Thomas C. Hoerth

Habitat Stewards™ Program in Fall 2007

The University of Maine Cooperative Extension is offering the Habitat Stewards™ Program this fall. This program provides the knowledge and skills to coach people in your community to create and enhance wildlife habitat in yards and other parts of the settled landscape. In exchange for the 30-hour training program, Habitat Stewards commit 30 hours to share information and knowledge with others in their communities. Subjects include wildlife survival needs, habitat components, landscaping for wildlife, native plants and more. The six classes are on alternate Saturdays, September 9, 22, October 6, 20, and November 3, 17 at the Androscoggin-Sagadahoc Counties Extension office in Lisbon Falls or nearby locations. The program fee is \$75.

Habitat Stewards™ is a volunteer program of the National Wildlife Federation® and, in Maine, is a joint effort with the University of Maine Cooperative Extension. Applications must be submitted by August 9. For more information and an application, contact Nancy Coverstone, Extension Educator, UMCE in Androscoggin-Sagadahoc Counties, at 353-5550 or 1-800-287-1458; ncstone@umext.maine.edu



Bath's State Champion Tree Highlight

If you wish to see the whole listing of Maine's Big Trees, visit Project Canopy's web-site at www.state.me.us/doc/mfs/pubs/pdf/projcanopy/bigtrees_2005.pdf, to see them all.

Bath is home to the State's largest European Ash (*Fraxinus excelsior*) located on Bath St. The specimen is half-way between High and Middle Streets, on the north-side of Bath Street. It presently has a height of 70 feet, a crown spread of 42 feet, and a trunk circumference of 115 inches. The tree was first registered by Mr. Tim Lindsay of Bartlett Tree Co. Thanks, Tim!

To learn more about how the trees are measured, or if you think you have a champ, contact the Bath City Arborist, at 443-8345.

- Thomas C. Hoerth

Don't Forget Our Tenth Annual Urban Forest Photography Contest!

During the months of September and October, the Bath Community Forestry Committee and the Bath Forestry Division will be running the **Tenth Annual Urban Forest Photo Contest** in conjunction with Now You're Cooking!, Just Framing, Bull Moose Music, Skillin's Greenhouses, Bart & Greg's DVD Explosion, York's Hardy Rhododendrons and the Patten Free Library. Entries will be judged by a panel of local, professional artisans. The Contest is open to anyone and has awards for both Student and Adult categories of participation. Look for contest entry forms in August at the above locations and on our web-site at www.cityofbath.com/forest/index.htm.

This year, every entrant will receive a postcard collection of twenty past photos, made available through a grant from the Maine Forest Service's Project Canopy. Thank you Project Canopy!

-Tom Hoerth, City Arborist & Tree Warden

Summer Pruning Clinic

On Saturday, July 15, from 9:00 A.M. until Noon, the Committee will be providing a Summer Tree Pruning Workshop. This workshop will focus on summer tree care techniques and tools for the trees in your landscape.

It is free, and the public is welcome to join. The workshop will be held in the basement conference room at Bath City Hall, 55 Front Street. If you have your own hand-pruners, hand saws and loppers, bring them with you. After review and practices, we will walk up Centre Street to practice these techniques on selected public trees. For more information, call Ms. Letha Bennett at the Bath Cemeteries & Parks Department office, 443-8345 or Thomas Hoerth at 751-7677 or via e-mail at thoerth@cityofbath.com.

Farm Woodlot Management and Portable Sawmill Demonstration

This program is to be held on August 28, at 5:00 p.m. at the Sass Woodlot in North Anson. Woodlots are an important part of a diverse farm system, providing fuel, building materials, and other value-added products, such as maple syrup, to supplement income. Join Jerry Sass, woodlot owner and manager, and Consulting Forester Sam Brown for a teaching tour of Jerry's woodlot. They will talk about why and how they manage the woodlot, with particular emphasis on long-term, low-impact forestry techniques using small-scale, multipurpose equipment. Participants will also get a demo of the small portable band-saw mill that Jerry uses to add value to his timber. This gathering is part of MOFGA's Farm Training Project, offering workshops throughout the growing season.

For more information visit www.mofga.org, or call 568-4142.

30 Years of Outdoor Education with Project Learning Tree!

You are invited to join a 30th Anniversary Celebration with Maine Project Learning Tree (PLT) at the Augusta Country Club from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m. on Thursday, October 18. Our guest speaker, Gina McCarthy, Commissioner of the Connecticut Department of Environmental Protection, will talk about The Great Park Pursuit and No Child Left Inside initiative that brought thousands of families into Connecticut Parks to learn, explore, exercise and have fun! For information, visit www.nochildleftinside.org

With PLT's commitment to quality outdoor education, Ms. McCarthy's message will reinforce the importance of the outdoors for good health and recreation while emphasizing the power gained when we connect with nature.

Since 1977 Maine Project Learning Tree has trained hundreds of teachers and community leaders through workshops that emphasize outdoor education and stewardship by using the "forests as a window on the world". Whether teaching occurs within the natural or built environment, these educators turn to PLT for strategies and techniques to teach about topics such as forests, wildlife, water, community planning, recycling, and energy.

In the book, *Last Child in the Woods*, author Richard Louv coins the phrase "nature-deficit disorder". He discusses how today's children are increasingly disconnected from the natural world and the problems that this might cause. Bolstered by insights from parents, teachers, researchers, and others, Louv argues for a return to an awareness of and appreciation for the natural world. This approach lies at the very core of PLT's curriculum goals.

Louv's book prompted Connecticut and Maine leaders to respond with action. Set October 18 aside to meet and talk with Gina McCarthy and leaders in Maine's environmental community while showing your support for Maine Project Learning Tree. Admission to the event will be \$25 and we'll have a silent auction along with excellent hors d'oeuvres and stimulating company. Watch www.mainetreefoundation.org for updates on the October 18-20, 2007 Maine Project Learning Tree weekend events.

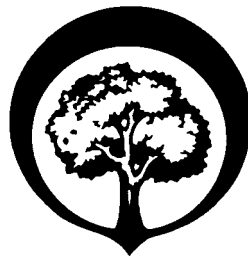
Patricia Maloney, Coordinator
Maine Project Learning Tree
P.O.Box 344
Augusta, Maine 04332
207 626-7990 (phone)
207 621-8245 (fax)
www.mainetreefoundation.org
mft@gwi.net

Children's Tree Climbing Workshop

The Patten Free Library and the Bath Forestry Division are very pleased to announce that on Monday, August 13th, in City Park, a children's tree climbing workshop will be held. It will run from 1:30 to 3:30 in the afternoon. It is open to all children from ages 9-12. All the necessary equipment will be provided.

The instructors for the workshop are Melissa LeVangie and her twin sister Bear. Both are noted and awarded tree climbers and have competed in numerous regional, national and international tree climbing championship competitions. Whether they are climbing professionally or recreationally, their main focus is safety and respect for the trees they work in and explore.

For more information, directions or questions, please contact either Ms. Nyree Thomas at the Patten Free Library at 443-5141 or nthomas@patten.lib.me.us, or Mr. Tom Hoerth at 443-8345 or thoerth@cityofbath.com.



TREE CITY USA®

Urban Forestry Web-sites

How To Water Your Tree

www.phytosphere.com/vtf/treewater.htm

Watering Your Mature Tree

www.canopy.org/howto/maturewatering.html

Tree Watering FAQ

www.sayegrow.com/FAQ.htm

Is Your Tree Thirsty?

fr.cfans.umn.edu/extension/urban_com/Watering.html

Your Young Tree Will Need TLC and Watering This Summer

www.landsteward.org/page.cfm/28415

For a larger selection of sites and related links, please visit our web-site, located at:

www.cityofbath.com/forest/index.htm.

Reading, Writing, & the Poetry of Nature! Teacher Workshop

Join us for 1-4 days of workshops on integrating language arts with natural and cultural heritage in your classroom.

August 13th – 16th, 2007;

- 1-4 days/ 1-3 nights on the beautiful shores of Schoodic Point
- Tailor your stay to just the workshops you are interested in!
- Fully furnished accommodations at the Schoodic Education and Research Center, Winter Harbor, Maine
- Meals, on-site transportation, books, and materials provided
- Variable C.E.U.s arranged through the University of Maine
- Open to all K-12 teachers in New England

Course Highlights Include:

- The opportunity to develop activities to take back to your classroom
- Teacher & Facilitator Training for the **Leopold Project**
- Language arts based **Project Learning Tree workshop**
- Mapping Your World with Poetry & Letting Literature's Light In activities
- Participants can qualify to attend Acadia's 5th-8th grade residential program (optional, see www.nps.gov/acad/eeweb/programs/seaprogram.htm for information on this program)
- Scholarships available
- Costs range from \$40 - \$450.00
- Limited to 25 participants

Interested?

Contact Kate Petrie for more details and an application, at kate-petrie@nps.gov or call (207) 288-8823.

Summer Watering

For trees planted this summer or within the last three growing seasons, the best start they can get is by providing them with proper watering. Each tree should receive, either naturally or by irrigation, the equivalent of 1inch (1") of rainfall per week from April through the end of October. When there is no rainfall during a weekly period, this can also be achieved by supplying twenty gallons (20 gals.) of water slowly delivered over a thirty minute (30 min.) time frame. Even though the last three Springs have been some of the wettest on record, the available water in the soil is well used up come mid-summer. Slow, timely irrigation can get a tree through the dry spells during the Summer and Fall months.

can get more involved. Call Al Smith at 443-8372 for additional info.

Learn more about the groups that contribute so much to Bath and how you
9th Annual Citizens Involvement Day - Riverfront Park
October 10
10:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

directions at 568-4142, e-mail at mofga@mofga.org.
citizens with one assistant. Contact MOFGA for more information or
weekend for MOFGA members, children 12 and under, and handicapped
13 and over) and \$6.00 for elders (ages 65 and over). Admission is free all
closes at 5:00 p.m. on Sunday only. Ticket prices are \$8.00 for adults (ages
Evening entertainment on the 22nd and 23rd starts at 7:00 p.m. The Fair

31st Annual Common Ground Country Fair - Unity, Maine
September 22, 23, & 24
9:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.

advertising and directions, contact Jon Hamisko at 797-7294 for more details.
of the International Society of Arboriculture. For more information,
Sponsored by the Maine Arborist Association and the New England Chapter
City/Library Park, Bath

6th Annual Maine State Tree Climbing Championship
September 16 (September 23 rain date)
All Day

See page 3 for more details.
Children's Tree Climbing Workshop
August 13
1:30-2:30 p.m.

For more information visit www.kelcomaine.com

Bangor, Maine
National Christmas Tree Association Convention
August 15-18

at <http://www.maine-gardens.org/>.
nation and directions contact the MCBG at 633-4333 or visit on-line
subjects. Parents often listen in just for the fun of it. For more infor-
children with tales of nature and animals and other entertaining
In this Gardens tradition, enthusiastic readers and storytellers enthral
Storytime in the Forest—Maine Coastal Botanical Garden
July—August, every Tuesday
10:30—11:30 a.m.

apprentices).
call MOFGA at 568-4142. Cost: \$50 (30% discount for students and farm
strategies will be examined. Learn about leaf analysis and more. To register,
orchard. All major orchard pests and diseases will be explored. Prevention
Bunker and others at Super Chilly Farm and Orchard, 167 Turner Mill Pond
Summer orchard care and organic commercial orchard tour with John
Maine Organic Farmers and Gardeners Association
Organic Orchardng Workshop Session #4
July 15
10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR! Summer 2007 Workshops & Upcoming Events
Some of the workshops are co-sponsored by the City of Bath Cemeteries & Parks Department and the Bath Community Forestry
Committee. Please note times, locations and dates (including rain dates). Call Letha Bennett at the City of Bath Cemeteries &
Parks Department Office at 443-8345 for more details and any questions.



**Bath Community
Forestry Committee
1 Oak Grove Ave.
Bath, Maine 04530**

2007 Committee Members

- Thomas Barrington, Co-Chairperson
- Edward Benedict
- Bruce Brennan
- Geraldine Coombs
- Nancy Coverstone, UMCE
- Keith Emery
- Denis Hebert, *Ex-Officio*
- Thomas C. Hoerth, *Ex-Officio*
- James Larson, Co-Chairperson
- Margo Oliver
- Aaron Park
- Suzanne Preisler
- Mary Earl Rogers, Associate

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This edition generously
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Project Canopy