

# Community Forest News

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

## ❄️ Winter 2007 ❄️ Edition

Sponsored by the  
Maine Forest Service  
Project Canopy



To keep you informed about the latest publications and other informational resources as they become available, USDA Forest Service Midwest Center for Urban & Community Forestry provide the following information.

### Plant Information Website

Use Plant Information Online to discover sources in 930 North American nurseries for over 100,000 plants. Find citations to plants in science and garden literature, link to selected websites for images and regional information, and access information on nearly 2300 North American seed and nursery firms. Plant Information Online is a free service of the University of Minnesota Libraries.

<https://plantinfo.umn.edu>

### City Trees Sustainability Guidelines and Best Practices

City Trees describes how to mitigate global warming by planting trees to sequester and store carbon and integrate trees for storm-water management and water quality. The 41-page guide introduces sustainable, green building design practices applicable to many different types of communities--from ultra urban environments to rural townships. City Trees provides guidance on locating, planting, and caring for trees within the urban and suburban infrastructure to maximize trees' long-term viability and benefits.

<http://www.bonestroo.com/citytrees.asp>

### Deep Roots of Landscape Trees (website)

This website provides the most up-to-date information about the issues related to structural roots located beneath too much soil. Targeted to the green industry, it contains information on production in the nursery, recognizing symptoms in the landscape, and treating established trees. It also includes the conference proceedings from the "Getting the Roots Right" summit, a complete literature review, and a list of root depth researchers, contact information, and projects.

<http://www.mortonarb.org/deeptreeroots/>

## Trees: Don't 'leaf' it to chance

Wednesday, November 28, 2007  
BY SHANNON BUCKLEY

New Jersey, the most densely populated state in the nation, is battling an increase in impervious surfaces, a decrease in our green spaces, and a decline in our community forests. Nationwide, urban areas cover 69 million acres and are increasing at a rate of 1.3 million acres per year. As our country continues to grow and build, the benefits of our community trees become increasingly critical. Over the years, groups of volunteers and organizations have planted our forests to improve the canopy for future generations. Today, we need to focus on replanting in our urban neighborhoods. We must promote a continuous investment in our trees by supporting tree care and planting programs. Each one of us has the potential to create change, socially and environmentally, by simply planting a tree.

Here are some things you can do to assure that your city or town will continue to plant trees and care for them:

Contact your local tree department to learn more about tree planting and hazardous-tree removal programs available.

Visit [treelink.org](http://treelink.org) or [arborday.org](http://arborday.org) to learn about which tree is the right one for your site.

Avoid planting large trees close to your home and beneath power lines. To ensure public safety and prevent poor pruning, select a smaller tree.

Encourage the community to develop tree ordinances that will protect its trees and increase safety, and direct funds to municipal tree-planting programs.

Work with the city's administration to adopt a resident-based shade tree committee to connect and educate the community.

Volunteer to plant trees with other organizations. By volunteering, you will network with other organizations, learn about bringing trees to your community, and gain an appreciation for the difference one tree makes.

Contact Maine Forest Service's Project Canopy at (207) 623-2371 or visit [www.state.me.us/doc/mfs/projectcanopy/](http://www.state.me.us/doc/mfs/projectcanopy/) to learn about opportunities available for you and your community.

Our trees are vital to making towns more livable and economically viable for residents and businesses. We have the opportunity to leave a positive legacy and enhance the environment for future generations. Don't let the opportunity pass you by.

*Shannon Buckley is project coordinator of the New Jersey Tree Foundation.*

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*Hui Tzu said to Chuang Tzu: "I have a big Stinktree in my garden. The trunk is so bent and knotty that nobody can get a good straight plank out of it. The branches are so crooked you can't cut them up in any way that makes sense. There it stands beside the road and no carpenter will even look at it. Such is your teaching, Chuang - big and useless?"*

*Chuang Tzu replied: "Have you ever watched the wildcat crouching, watching its prey? This way it leaps, and that way, high and low, and at last - it lands in the trap. Have you ever seen the yak? It is great as a thundercloud, standing in his might. Big? Sure. But, he can't catch mice! So, for your big tree. No use? Then plant it in the wasteland - in emptiness. Walk idly around it and rest under its shadow. No axe or saw prepares its end. No one will ever cut it down. Useless? You should worry!"*

- Chuang Tzu, *The Useless Tree*, circa 200 B.C.

## 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. We will have our meetings in the basement conference room. Go directly down the stairs from the side door of the City Hall, and take a left. For more information, call **Letha Bennett at 443-8345**.

## Winter Pruning Clinic

On Saturday, February 23rd, 2008, from 9:00 A.M. until Noon, the Committee will be providing a Winter Tree Pruning Workshop. This workshop will focus on dormant, winter 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. The workshop will consist of a 2-hour in-door session, followed by a 1-hour out-door practice session. 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. Depending on the weather conditions, please dress for out-door activity.

For more information, call Ms. Letha Bennett at the Bath Cemeteries & Parks office, **443-8345** or Thomas Hoerth at **751-7677** or via e-mail at **thoerth@cityofbath.com**.

## Sign Up Now to Receive the Maine Forest Service, Insect and Disease Lab's Conditions Reports in 2008

The *Forest & Shade Tree - Insect & Disease Conditions for Maine* newsletter provides timely information about insects and diseases affecting Maine's forest and shade trees. The Maine Forest Service Insect and Disease Lab staff compiles several issues each growing season with the first issue usually appearing in mid- to late-April and the last in late- summer.

This is the time to sign up to receive next year's issues. Subscribers to the mailing list will also receive any special alerts and a Summary Report of the year's insect and disease conditions. We now offer the option to receive electronic alerts of the publications. Simply indicate your preference for electronic reports on our sign up sheet. You will receive an e-mail notification when the new issues are posted to our website—you may even be able to read it on-line before it would have reached your desk.

A form to sign up for either hardcopy or electronic reports and all of 2007's issues are found at: <http://www.maine.gov/doc/mfs/ConditionsReportsIndex.htm>. To request a hardcopy of the form, contact the Maine Forest Service Insect and Disease Lab at (207) 287-2431.

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Gary Fish  
Maine Board of Pesticides Control  
Maine YardScaping Partnership  
28 State House Station  
Augusta ME 04333-0028  
207-287-7545 Phone  
207-624-5020 Fax  
<http://www.thinkfirstspraylast.org>  
<http://www.YardScaping.org>

## Spring 2008 Seed Swap & Scion-wood Exchange

On Saturday March 29, from 12 to 4:30, the Maine Tree Crop Alliance, the Maine Seed Saving Network, FEDCO and the Maine Organic Farmers and Gardeners Association (MOFGA) will host the ninth annual combined Seed Swap and Scion-wood Exchange, to be held in MOFGA's Common Ground Exhibition Hall in Unity. For gardeners and orchardists, it's like the most wonderful flea market in the world. Not only that but most of the best stuff is free!

There will be the usual selection of interesting educational workshops with some exciting new additions. Mark Fulford, of course, will be teaching grafting techniques, and Nicholas Lindholm will be teaching the basics of seed saving.

Please bring any seeds, scion-wood, or cuttings you have to share freely with others. Last year, we gave away scion-wood from well over 100 fruit varieties. These contributions are what make the day a success. We'll supply the labels, tape and markers. On sale will be T-shirts, books, grafting supplies and rootstock. There is no admission charge, though donations are always welcome. For more information, call MOFGA at 568-4142 or visit their website at [www.mofga.org](http://www.mofga.org).



## American Forests National Champion Tree Register

Since 1940, AMERICAN FORESTS has documented the largest known specimens of every native and naturalized tree in the United States. The largest tree of its species in the country is the National Champion.

Although most trees can outlive us - 100 to 200 years is not unusual - they succumb to age, disease and insects, wind, rain and drought. And now, all too often, to the chainsaw buzz of development. All trees work hard to improve our environment. It's our responsibility to maintain a healthy environment that allows trees to grow to champion status.

To learn more, visit the Register on-line at: [www.americanforests.org/resources/bigtrees/index.php](http://www.americanforests.org/resources/bigtrees/index.php).

## Anne Frank's chestnut wins reprieve: Judge orders city to review health of tree that played role in girl's hideout.

AMSTERDAM, Netherlands - The chestnut tree that gave Anne Frank a link to the outside world while she hid from the Nazis won a reprieve Tuesday when a judge ordered the city to reconsider whether the diseased tree can be saved.

Judge Jurjen Bade adjourned a hearing and took witnesses and court officials with him to inspect the tree, watching as experts tapped its trunk to point out the rotten wood afflicted by fungus.

He listened to experts from both sides, and looked to see what might be crushed if the tree fell, including the nearby Anne Frank House museum, which includes the apartment where the Jewish teenager and her family hid from the Nazis for 25 months during World War II.

Anne Frank referred to the tree several times in her diary. She could see the tree through the attic skylight, the only window that wasn't blacked out.

### City claims tree may topple

The city ruled last year that the tree, estimated to be 150 to 170 years old, was in danger of toppling and causing serious injury or damage. Conservationists argued that it was strong enough to withstand a storm and could be saved. Last week, the city issued the order to fell the tree.

Reconvening in his courtroom after the inspection, Bade ruled that the city had given insufficient consideration to alternative plans, such as anchoring the tree with cables. He said the city had failed to prove the tree was an imminent threat.

Felling the chestnut would be "a last resort," he said, and told the city to meet with conservationists to find a solution.

### 'Symbol of freedom all over the world'

In testimony Tuesday, the Netherlands' Trees Institute argued to save the tree.

"This is a monumental tree of unusual cultural and historical value," institute spokesman Edwin Koot testified. "It's a symbol of freedom all over the world and it summons forth a lot of emotion, as you can see."

The Anne Frank House, which had remained neutral until Tuesday, told the judge it favored cutting the tree, out of concern for the safety of the building and the hundreds of thousands of people who visit it each year.

Museum Director Hans Westra said if the tree remains standing he would take legal action to ensure that Henric Pommès, who owns the property where the tree stands, is held liable in case of injury or damage.

The museum has taken grafts of the tree to try to replace it with a sapling from the original.

"We would rather have a young living tree that will be 10 meters (about 30 feet) tall in 10 years," Westra said.

The Frank family was arrested in August 1944. Anne died in a Nazi concentration camp eight months later at age 15, but her diary was rescued and has been read by millions.

## Celebrating 10 Years of Community Forest Photography

The 10th year of the Community Forest Photography Contest will be celebrated with the publication of a 24-page postcard booklet comprised of a small sample of the wonderful images of greater Bath and its beautiful community forest taken by past contest participants.

This postcard collection is an update of the Bath Community Forestry Committee's first postcard booklet produced in 1992. The 2007 booklet is funded by a Maine Forest Service Project Canopy Grant. Printing is being done by J. S. McCarthy Printers with design and production oversight by Mahan Graphics.

This lovely and unusual collection is now available, at the Bath Cemeteries & Parks Office on 1 Oak Grove Avenue, for a donation of \$15.00 or more to the Bath Community Forestry Trust.

Upon publication, complimentary copies will be sent to those who have contributed to the Forestry Trust within recent months, as well as to all the participants, judges and sponsors involved in the Committee's Photography Contest.

Thank you to all who value our Bath community forest and wish to ensure its future.

- The Bath Community Forestry Committee

## The Maine Tree Club

They attract tourists by the thousands, provide the foundation for the states economy and stir poets to eloquence. Trees are at the root of Maine's identity. Now, Maine citizens and visitors have a chance to learn more about the habits and special needs of trees by joining the Maine Tree Club, an educational project of the University of Maine Cooperative Extension, the Maine Forest Service and the Pine Tree Arboretum.

### Purpose

The Maine Tree Club is a statewide effort organized by the University of Maine Cooperative Extension for the purpose of educating individuals (youth and adults) to appreciate the value of trees in Maine.

The Maine Tree Club will:

- ⇒ Equip participants with the knowledge and skills to identify trees of Maine.
- ⇒ Create opportunities for people to learn more about trees in Maine through hands-on-experiences (outings in the woods).
- ⇒ Teach participants how to best care for trees on their property and in their community.
- ⇒ Help people to better understand the importance of trees to Maine, their ecosystems and economy.

For a free informational brochure, please call the Cooperative Extension office at 1-800-287-1471 (in Maine only) or 207-780-4207 or email [treeclub@umext.maine.edu](mailto:treeclub@umext.maine.edu).

## "The Tree: A Natural History of What Trees Are, How They Live, and Why They Matter" Reviewed

In an elegant tribute, British biologist Tudge (*The Famine Business*) presents a wealth of intriguing facts about trees. Basing his information on science and writing "in a spirit of reverence," he explains how biologists identify the different kinds of trees; how trees have evolved over millions of years; how they adapt to their habitats, survive and reproduce. Describing a multitude of species, Tudge emphasizes the distinctive characteristics of each. He marvels, for example, at mangroves standing with their roots in the sea, figs in partnership with the minute wasps that pollinate them—"one dedicated species of wasp for each of the 750 species of fig." Tudge concludes with a chapter emphasizing the importance of all types of trees for humankind's well-being—a persuasive call to action for the preservation of the environment so that trees, and humans, can survive.

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## Urban Forestry Web-sites

### Tree Care;

#### Winter is the Time to Prune

[query.nytimes.com/gst/fullpage.html?](http://query.nytimes.com/gst/fullpage.html?res=9C0CE7DA163BF937A25752C0A96695826)

[res=9C0CE7DA163BF937A25752C0A96695826](http://res=9C0CE7DA163BF937A25752C0A96695826)  
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#### How to Care for Trees in Winter

[www.treehelp.com/howto/howto-care-for-trees-in-winter.asp](http://www.treehelp.com/howto/howto-care-for-trees-in-winter.asp)

#### Pruning Trees & Shrubs

[www.extension.umn.edu/distribution/horticulture/DG0628.html](http://www.extension.umn.edu/distribution/horticulture/DG0628.html)

#### Winter Tree Care

[www.youtube.com/watch?v=-4NiQG7G1xE](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-4NiQG7G1xE)

#### Winter Tree Identification

[forestry.about.com/od/treeidentification/a/winter\\_tree\\_id.htm](http://forestry.about.com/od/treeidentification/a/winter_tree_id.htm)

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

[www.cityofbath.com/forest/index.htm](http://www.cityofbath.com/forest/index.htm).

## Community Forest Photography Winners Announced

During the months of September and October, the tenth Annual Community Forest Photography contest took place. This year's contest hosted a generous number of entrants and entries, with a good proportion of entrants from surrounding communities. Twenty adult entrants and three student entrants submitted fifty-one photos to be judged!

The two winners in the Adult category were: First Prize, repeat winner Mr. David Boyle, with "Autumn Comes to Winter Street", and for Second Prize, Ms. Lois Dole, with "Firehouse Catalpa in Snow".

The Student category First Prize went to Mr. David Brann with "Silhouettes on Front Street" and for Second Prize, Mr. Spencer Dyer with "Rushing Water tree."

Hearty congratulations to all our winners and their wonderful efforts which will be on display until the New Year, and also to the rest of this year's adult entrants: Anne Krebsbach, Ruth Hynes, Tom Falter, Eleanor McKinnon, Susan Dyer, Beth Heron, Jean Tegethof, Nancy Greindl, Cindy Royall, George Dole, Erma Berry, Ann Hammond, Nancy Garland, Monica Wright, Amos & Declan Wright, Janice Knight, Beverly Ouelette and the third student entrant: Tommy Royall. Thanks to you all!

We were very fortunate to have had so many supportive community members. The Committee would like to acknowledge and thank Gordy Merrill at Skillin's Greenhouses, Tom York of York's Hardy Rhododendrons, and everyone at Bull Moose Music, Mike Doucette of Just Framing, Bart & Greg's DVD Explosion, Keith Emery of Beale Street Barbeque, and Mike Fear & Vanessa Mayer of Now You're Cooking! for all their generous donations of prizes. Bath City Hall Clerk's Office staff provided help with materials. Darreby Ambler, Connie Panetski and Jacqueline Zimowski they undertook the difficult jobs of serving as judges, and the wonderful staff in the Children's Room at the Patten Free Library, for their continual support for the contest and the space to award and display the winning images. A huge thanks to everyone involved!

The Bath Community Forestry Committee greatly enjoys providing this opportunity to connect people from all over with the beautiful and diverse green-spaces that make up our fair city. Keep enjoying Bath's urban forest!

- Thomas Hoerth

*"Many people, other than the authors, contribute to the making of a book, from the first person who had the bright idea of alphabetic writing, through the inventor of movable type, to the lumberjacks who felled the trees that were pulped for its printing.*

*It is not customary to acknowledge the trees themselves, though their commitment is total."*

- Rada and Forsyth, *Machine Learning*

At M.O.F.G.A.'s Common Ground Fairgrounds in Unity. Call 207-568-4142 for more information or visit their website at [www.mofga.org](http://www.mofga.org).

For more information visit [www.swoam.org](http://www.swoam.org).

**March 29**  
**Seed and Scion Exchange**  
 12:00 – 4:00 p.m.

at [loranger@remstar.com](mailto:loranger@remstar.com). To be held in Portland at Verillo's Conference Center, exit 8, I-95. Registration begins at 7:30 a.m. Call Justin Loranger for more information at 591-3182, or e-mail

**January 15**  
**Small Woodland Owners Association of Maine Annual Tradeshow—Augusta Civic Center**  
 9:30 a.m.—3:00 p.m.

For more information visit [www.getrealmaine.com/visit/tradeshow.html](http://www.getrealmaine.com/visit/tradeshow.html).

**March 1**  
**71st Maine Arborist Association Annual Meeting**  
 8:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

See page 2 for more details.

**January 15-17**  
**Maine Agricultural Exposition – Augusta Civic Center**

at 443-5695.

**February 23**  
**Winter Tree Pruning Clinic**  
 9:00 a.m.—Noon

For more information visit [www.NBEGrows.org](http://www.NBEGrows.org).

Break out your woohles and binoculars, and join us for the 13<sup>th</sup> annual winter bird count at Butler Head. We'll start at 9:00 a.m. on January 7, at Butler Cove, snow or shine, and count until we're cold. For more information, contact Thomas Barrington at 443-5695.

**February 6-8**  
**New England Grows 2008—Boston Convention Center**

Turner, Maine 04282, or [melna@megalink.net](mailto:melna@megalink.net). The 2008 Annual Trade Show will be held at the Augusta Civic Center. Pesticide credits available. Contact Edith E. Ellis at 225-3767 for a reservation form and informational brochure, or you can write her at either MelNA, RR2 Box 1584,

**January 6**  
**9:00 a.m. – "until all the birds are counted"**  
**13th Annual Butler Head Winter Bird Count**

you for recycling. recycled as mulch. For more information, call Paula Adam at 443-8356, and thank tree, and please remove the stand before disposing of it. The trees are chipped and sidewalk, out of the way of snowplows. Leave no plastic bags or decorations on the The City of Bath has arranged for the removal of any Christmas trees put by the

**January 22**  
**Maine Landscape & Nursery Association Annual Trade Show**  
 8:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

**December 31st, January 7th, 14th, and 21st**  
**Sidewalk Christmas Tree Pick-up Dates**

**MARK YOUR CALENDAR!** Winter 2007-2008 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 04530-2236

2008 Committee Members

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

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