

IDaho COMMUNITY TREES

A NEWSLETTER FROM THE IDAHO DEPARTMENT OF LANDS - COMMUNITY FORESTRY PROGRAM AND IDAHO LANDS RESOURCE COORDINATING COUNCIL

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Coordinator's Column

Idaho Arborists Selected for Municipal Forestry Institute

I am pleased to report that three arborists from southern Idaho were selected by the Idaho Department of Lands – Urban Forestry program to attend this year’s Municipal Forestry Institute in Gulf Shores, Alabama. The institute is a leadership and career development program organized by the Society of Municipal Arborists. The program helps participants learn about strategic planning for their community forestry program and how to effectively work with local boards, coalitions, and governments.

Attendees from Idaho were Adam Mancini, Ed Hieder, and Jose Paz. (See photo on page 3.) Adam has been a city forester with Nampa since 2015 and partners with the Idaho Department of Lands and Northwest Nazarene University to provide community forestry outreach. Ed serves as the City of McCall parks superintendent and is on the McCall community tree committee. Jose works as the City of Heyburn parks and recreation superintendent and received a diversity scholarship from the Society of Municipal Arborists to attend the institute.

This year’s institute program highlighted diversity and leadership in arboriculture. The program was developed with Southern University and featured national diversity leadership for arborists. Idaho’s participants all come from diverse social-economic and cultural backgrounds and the tools they learned about at this year’s institute will be useful for them and their municipalities.

We anticipate being able to offer 1-2 scholarships for the 2021 institute program. The location and dates for 2021 have not been announced yet and will be posted on our website once we receive them. If you would like more information, please feel free to contact me at mbeaudoin@idl.idaho.gov.

-- Michael S. Beaudoin
Community Forestry Program Manager

With COVID-19 around, when to celebrate Arbor Day?

See page 2.

‘Legacy of Leaves’ Goes to Samaria



Photo by Karalee Waldron

Luke Waldron (right) and his Boy Scout helpers plant trees to make Samaria an even better place to live.

Most people don’t know that just before they cross the Idaho/Utah border heading south on I-15, they are just a few miles away from the beautiful pioneer town of Samaria. When the settlers arrived in 1869, one of the first

things they did was plant trees. These early pioneers understood the importance of trees to themselves and future generations – and left a lasting legacy to the community.

This same spirit still exists as the community continues the legacy of planting and caring for its trees to beautify the town and benefit its citizens. Today, the population of Samaria is around 175 people. With not much of a budget for trees, Samaria is always searching for ways to acquire more trees. The result: close to 100 trees have been added to the community over the past decade.

Luke Waldron, a middle school teacher who also serves as the volunteer community forester, gives much of the credit to local students. Involving students is a benefit to the community and the students. The students get a sense of purpose, a sense of ownership, and they are doing something for themselves and others.

This year, the Idaho Nursery and Landscape Association, in partnership with the Idaho Department of Lands, awarded the annual “Legacy of Leaves” award to Samaria. As Idaho’s smallest Tree City USA, Samaria leveraged the most dollars in trees and volunteer time in the state with the Arbor Day grant they received. Luke and Marie Waldron received this prestigious award at the 2020 Idaho Horticulture Expo in Boise.

Let me introduce myself...



My name is Garth Davis. I am the new community forestry assistant (CFA) for Boundary, Bonner, Kootenai, Benewah and Shoshone Counties. If my name sounds familiar it is because I contracted with the Panhandle Lakes and Clearwater Resource Conservation and Development Councils from 2004 to 2006, performing CFA services in North Idaho.

Since I left the North Idaho CFA position I have been working for the Spokane Conservation District as the forestry program manager, and continue part-time in that capacity. As a part of my job at the Conservation District I have provided community forestry assistance to communities in Spokane County and Eastern Washington through an agreement with the Washington Department of Natural Resources, much like the agreement the Spokane Conservation District now has with the Idaho Department of Lands. I will be working with municipalities to begin or expand their community forestry programs, create or update tree inventories, complete or update community forest management plans, create invasive pest response plans, and help coordinate Arbor Day activities.

I am a Society of American Foresters Certified Forester, an International Society of Arboriculture Certified Arborist and a Qualified Tree Risk Assessor. I can help your community select the right tree for the right place, help you create the right places to plant trees that will thrive, determine if you have a tree that is at risk of causing damage to people or property, help manage forest stands on city property, and provide arboricultural training for city employees.

I am looking forward to reconnecting with old acquaintances and meeting new people as I work with communities in North Idaho to expand their urban forestry programs and realize the social and ecosystem benefits of their tree resource. I can be contacted at garth-davis@sccd.org or 509-535-7274 ext. 212.

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Permission is hereby given to duplicate and distribute this newsletter for educational purposes.

Don't Let COVID-19 Derail Arbor Day

As we go to press, many cities are deciding to cancel public gatherings, close facilities, and ask people to stay home due to the COVID-19 outbreak.

If you are planning to cancel your Arbor Day celebration, please remember that it does not have to be celebrated on the traditional date, which is the last Friday of April. Officials or the tree board in each city can decide what day is suitable for them, have the mayor proclaim the holiday, and hold a celebration. In the spring, many Tree Cities work with local schools to celebrate the holiday, but this also can work in the fall.

Fall is actually a prime time for planting and transplanting trees. Fall's warm soil encourages root growth, while shorter cooler days decrease transpiration. Up to 80% of root growth takes place in the fall. Even after the tree has gone dormant, roots keep expanding until the ground freezes over.

Please don't forget to celebrate Arbor Day. Remember, in addition to its other benefits, it is a requirement for Tree City USA recertification. If anyone from the Idaho Community Forestry Program can help to plan or implement your Arbor Day celebration, please let us know.

Tree City USA Bulletins Available in New Formats

After 94 numbered, single-color issues of the Tree City USA Bulletin, the bulletin is still topic-focused but now in full color and formatted by months. For example, the May/June issue is on the topic of Trees, Bees and Pollination. An annual report issue will also be issued, usually highlighting the activities of Tree City USA communities around the country.

There are two ways to obtain these bulletins. New ones can be downloaded free of charge at the Arbor Day Foundation website. They can also be delivered by mail if you join Friends of Tree City USA. Older issues are available for purchase, with free, one-page summaries available at the website. All issues have additional references shown on an online 'supplemental resources' page.

To access these valuable educational materials, visit: www.arborday.org/trees/bulletins.



Education Never Ends – or Shouldn't



Idaho's three participants in the Society of Municipal Arborists' Municipal Forestry Institute as described in the Coordinator's Column on page 1. From left, Adam Mancini, Eddie Hieder, and Jose Paz. There are many continuing education opportunities for arborists, tree board members and others who care for trees. Gaining and expanding skills and knowledge is one of the best investments we can make to assure quality tree care in Idaho's communities.

Want Back Copies of the Newsletter?

Back copies of most issues of Idaho Community Trees are available from the Idaho Department of Lands – Community Forestry office in Coeur d'Alene. See masthead for contact information. Each issue is 3-hole punched for convenient storage in a loose-leaf notebook.

New City Forester in Meridian

Matt Perkins has been selected to replace Elroy Huff, Meridian's long-time city forester. Matt has worked in the green industry in the Boise area since 1998. He is a graduate of BSU's AAS degree program in Horticulture Technology and is an ISA Certified Arborist and an INLA Certified Nursery Specialist and Advanced Plant Diagnostician. Matt has worked in just about every part of the field of arboriculture from landscape design to pruning and maintenance, plant health care & diagnostics, nursery production, and municipal forestry. Most recently he worked in Boise Community Forestry as an inspector, assuring the good health of Boise's urban forest, supervising contractors, and helping with community education.



Spring/Summer/Fall 2020 Events Calendar

Note: With the outbreak of Covid-19 and the Center for Disease Control's recommendations for social distancing and postponing events with more than 10 people, many of our planned workshops and Arbor Day celebrations have been postponed. If you have any questions regarding upcoming events, feel free to contact us at CommunityTrees@IDL.Idaho.gov.

April 8 and May 13

Urban Forest Connections Webinar Series

Webinars are 1 1/4 hours long and start at 10:00 a.m. Pacific Time, 11:00 a.m. Mountain Time. You can view previous webinars at this same website and International Society of Arboriculture (ISA) Certified Arborists are able to earn 1.25 CEU per webinar toward recertification. For information, visit: <https://www.fs.fed.us/research/urban-webinars>.

April 22

Earth Day

April 24

Arbor Day

May 11-13

ISA Tree Risk Assessment Qualification Workshop (TRAQ) and Exam, Boise. Register at: www.pnwisa.org.

May 14

ISA Tree Disorders Diagnosis, Boise. Register at: www.pnwisa.org.

May 14

ISA Why Trees Fail, Boise. Register at: www.pnwisa.org.

May 15

TRAQ Renewal (Exam Only), Boise. Register at: www.pnwisa.org.

July 24

Green Industry Golf Tournament, Falcon Crest. For information, visit: www.inlagrow.org.

July 28-30

Western States Urban and Community Forestry Annual Network Conference, Boise. Meeting of Urban and Community Forestry coordinators from 19 western states. More information available from Michael Beaudoin, IDL (See masthead).

October 4-7

Pacific Northwest ISA Annual Training Conference, Coeur d'Alene. More information available at: <https://pnwisa.org/classes-events/annual-training-conference>.

November 18 – 19

Partners in Community Forestry Conference, Louisville, KY. For information, contact the Arbor Day Foundation at www.arborday.org/programspcf

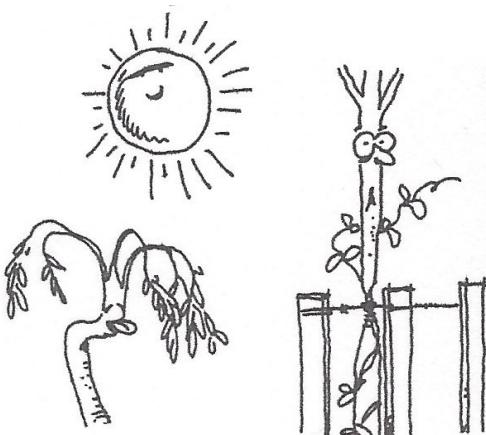


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Tree tip



Tree stress, like human stress, is preventable

Trees Reduce Our Stress, so Help Relieve Theirs

Researchers have linked trees to human health benefits ranging from faster recovery from operations to safer pregnancies. The key factor may be that they reduce stress and therefore problems like high blood pressure.

Urban trees are under stress, too, for two primary reasons: (1) They are planted outside the natural environment in which they evolved, and (2) Tough growing conditions make them more vulnerable to insects and diseases. You can help by:

- watering correctly
- preventing compaction
- carefully selecting the right trees to plant
- planting at the correct depth
- mulching
- providing adequate growing space for roots
- ... and other good arboricultural practices