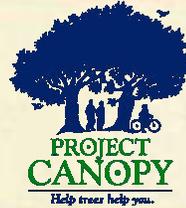


Trees on Maine Street

∞ The Project Canopy Bulletin ∞



May-June 2013

Maine Department of Agriculture, Conservation, and Forestry: Town of Falmouth to Receive Frank Knight Community Service Award during Arbor Week Celebration

The Maine Department of Agriculture, Conservation, and Forestry will recognize the importance of trees in urban settings and the dedication of Maine communities to caring for those trees during its 2013 Maine Arbor Week Celebration.

Held on Monday, May 20th at the Hilton Garden Inn overlooking the Androscoggin River in Auburn, the celebration, sponsored by the Maine Forest Service (MFS), its urban forestry program, Project Canopy, and GrowSmart Maine, will honor the civic devotion of several notable Maine residents.

During the event, participants will recall the memory of the late Frank Knight, former Yarmouth tree warden and guardian of the fabled elm, "Herbie," for whom Project Canopy's "Excellence in Community Forestry" Award was named.

This year's recipient of the award, The Town of Falmouth, will be honored with a unique plaque made from wood from "Herbie." Bob Shafto, Open Space Ombudsman for the community, and architect of the plan that began Falmouth's journey to acquire and manage community woodlands with a strong stewardship ethic will be in attendance to accept the award.

Conifer seedlings donated by Irving Woodlands LLC, CedarWorks of Rockland, and Central Maine Power Co. will be available for participants.

Agriculture, Conservation, and Forestry Commissioner Walter Whitcomb will speak at the event. "Arbor Week is our moment to celebrate our bond with our trees. We plant trees by the thousands this week and remind ourselves of how the lives of Maine forests and people all intertwine. Maine forests, from veneer to paper to timber to energy and fuel oil and maple sugar are inseparable from the Maine way of life."

In addition, the following municipalities will be recognized for their participation in the Tree City USA program, supporting urban and community forests:

Auburn – 10 years & Growth Award

Kennebunkport – 36 years

Augusta – 19 years

Lewiston – 10 years and Growth Award

Bangor – 9 years

Orono – 17 years

Bath – 16 years & Growth Award

Portland – 33 years

Camden – 18 years

Saco – 3 years

Castine – 4 years

South Portland – 33 years

Dover-Foxcroft – 1 year

Waterville - 15 years

Farmington – 36 years

Westbrook – 36 years

Hallowell – 11 years

Yarmouth – 34 years

Hampden – 6 years

For more information about Project Canopy, go to: www.projectcanopy.me

For more information about the Maine Forest Service, go to: www.maineforestservice.gov

PROJECT CANOPY

assists communities and nonprofit, grassroots organizations in building self-sustaining urban and community forestry programs with strong local support.

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"For in the true nature of things, if we rightly consider, every green tree is far more glorious than if it were made of gold and silver."
-Martin Luther

News and Updates

Scientists Map Genome That Causes Dutch Elm Disease

Newswise — TORONTO, ON — Researchers from the University of Toronto and SickKids Research Institute announced today that they have successfully mapped the genes in the fungus that causes Dutch Elm Disease.

The researchers believe this is the first time the 30 million DNA letters for the fungus *Ophiostoma ulmi* have been mapped. The findings, published in this week's online journal BMC Genomics, could help scientists figure out how to prevent the fungus from destroying elm trees in the future.

"Essentially, Dutch Elm Disease is caused by a fungus that prevents the normal distribution of nutrients in the tree by blocking the flow of sap," said Alan Moses, an Assistant Professor with the University of Toronto's department of Cell & Systems Biology, one of the authors of the study. "The tree wilts and eventually dies".

"Relatively little is known about the fungus that causes Dutch Elm Disease, and it's a very distant relative of the fungi that are more often studied by researchers, like bread mold or beer yeast. We hope that the availability of the genome will encourage and speed-up research on this fungus – it's only a matter of time before most the elm trees are gone."

Dutch Elm disease is believed to have originated in the Himalayas, travelling to Europe from the Dutch East Indies in the late 1800s. It emerged in Holland shortly after the First World War, earning the name Dutch Elm Disease. It is the most destructive elm tree disease in North America, and typically kills most trees within two years of infection. Dutch Elm Disease is a problem in many parts of the world, particularly Scotland, Spain, Italy, Western Canada and New Zealand.

The abstract is available online:

<http://www.biomedcentral.com/1471-2164/14/162/abstract> High resolution photos are available for download (Photo credit for both: Martin Hubbes):
<http://www.moseslab.csb.utoronto.ca/alan/DEDleafwilt-MH.tif> <http://www.moseslab.csb.utoronto.ca/alan/large-wilted-tree-MH.bmp>

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NEW! Community Wildfire Safety Through Regulation: A Best Practices Guide for Planners and Regulators

Wildfire hazard is a growing threat to communities around the United States. In 2011, the National Inter-agency Fire Center reported nearly 75,000 wildfires in the U.S., the majority of which were a result of human activities. Preferences for second homes, suburban lifestyles, and the desire to live closer to nature have pushed populations into the "wildland-urban interface" (WUI) — areas with more vegetation, parks, and forests than their city center and older suburb counterparts. Living closer to nature offers many benefits, but all too often the risk of brush, grass, or forest fires gets overlooked. This guide is designed to help planners and local communities considering wildfire regulations to understand their options and implement a successful public process to adopt effective WUI tools that match local needs.

<http://www.nfpa.org/assets/files/wildland/WildfireBestPracticesGuide.pdf> (PDF, 4.2 MB)



Calendar

May

8 Massachusetts DCR EAB Workshop, Shelburne Falls area

10-11 International Maple Grading School - Skowhegan. Kathy Hopkins, Phone 207-474-9622, khopkins@maine.edu

11 Native Shrub ID—Saco. Ken.Canfield@maine.gov

13 Invasive Plant Species Forum - Wilton. Martha Martin, Secretary, Wilton Conservation Commission, at 207-514-6031 or martin.martha@gmail.com

18 Focus on Woodlot Health – Old Town RSVP to redspruce@myfairpoint.net or by phone, 989-6158.

18 Tour of the Duncan Howlett Memorial Forest, Lovell. SWOAM

18 New England Chapter – International Society of Arboriculture Tree Climbing Competition, Goddard Park, Warwick, Rhode Island, www.newenglandisa.org

19-25 Maine Arbor Week. State celebration May 20th

29 Invasive Shrub Workshop— Falmouth.

Ken.Canfield@maine.gov

June

13 Pruning Trees for Timber – Wells. Register online:

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1b4cQi48aCNCl3ZEb-VjMoOom-a7slyT-S4yssBKHu8c/viewform>

Invasive species spotted in NH Larvae of emerald ash borer beetle found in tree

Concord, N.H. —An invasive species of insect that eats and kills ash trees has turned up in New Hampshire.

The New Hampshire Department of Agriculture said it found larvae of the emerald ash borer beetle in a tree in Concord.

The beetle has been moving eastward for years, most recently turning up in Massachusetts and Connecticut.

The state has been preparing for the arrival of this beetle for some time now, but now that it's here -- little if anything can be done to stop it.

The clock is running out on New Hampshire's ash trees.

"The Emerald Ash Borer is probably the most destructive forest insect that we have in the country, on the continent currently. It's an invasive species from Asia, and it's been spreading from state to state," said Lorraine Merrill, commissioner of N.H. Dept. Of Agriculture.

The beetle can destroy an ash tree in 3 to 5 years and has already killed millions of trees in the midwest. The state will be surveying trees in Concord to determine the scope of the infestation.

"We have a plan that we are beginning to implement, and there will be information coming out for homeowners and municipalities," said Merrill.

Ash trees make up about 6 percent of the state's forests, but with the beetle setting up camp, experts said that figure will begin to drop.

"From the parts of the country and Canada it has affected so far, it devastates the Ash population very quickly," said Rob Farquhar, general manager of Brochu Nurseries.

Farquhar said the beetle tends to stay in the canopy of the ash tree, making it hard to spot.

"I doubt the regular homeowner is going to be cognizant of it until it's too late," said Farquhar.

Anticipating the beetle's advance, Brochu began phasing out ash production four years ago. More established specimens, like the majestic ash tree on the statehouse lawn, won't be so lucky. Deputy Secretary

*"It is remarkable how closely the history of the apple tree is connected with that of man."
-Henry David Thoreau*

of State David Scanlan is a forester and said the emerald borer is bad news for New Hampshire.

"Each tree species that grows in our forests is an important component of our forests. They all serve a purpose, and to lose one of them really has a big impact," said Scanlan.

The presence of this beetle triggers a federal quarantine on certain ash wood products, but the commissioner of agriculture said its too soon to determine what the scope of that quarantine will be.

Source: wmur.com

New Forest Management Plan for Carrabassett Valley's 2100 acre public lot

The town of Carrabassett Valley is fortunate to own 2100 acres of woodland nestled between Sugarloaf and Penobscot Indian Nation lands. Included on this lot is the recently renovated Sugarloaf Outdoor Center with its many recreation trails. Last year the town was awarded a Project Canopy grant to assist them in developing a "Woodswise" quality stewardship plan for the property. After a competitive proposal process, American Forest Management (AFM) out of Eustis was chosen to develop the plan.

The highest priority objective for the lot is recreation and any forest management activities recommended including where, when and how much to harvest will revolve around recreation and aesthetics considerations. The plan is a blueprint to guide the town in their forest management decisions for the next ten years. The town was very satisfied with the information included such as current and potential values of the woodland and AFM's application of science to help them achieve their goals. The town was also very satisfied with the Project Canopy grant process and working with the AFM foresters, it was a real win-win process for them.

*"A tree is an incomprehensible mystery."
-Jim Woodring*

*"If you look closely at a tree you'll notice it's knots and dead branches, just like our bodies. What we learn is that beauty and imperfection go together wonderfully."
-Matthew Fox*

Find us on the web at projectcanopy.me, on Facebook at facebook.com/ProjectCanopy or on twitter [@ProjectCanopy](https://twitter.com/ProjectCanopy)

Recent Population Change and Future Development of Forest Land

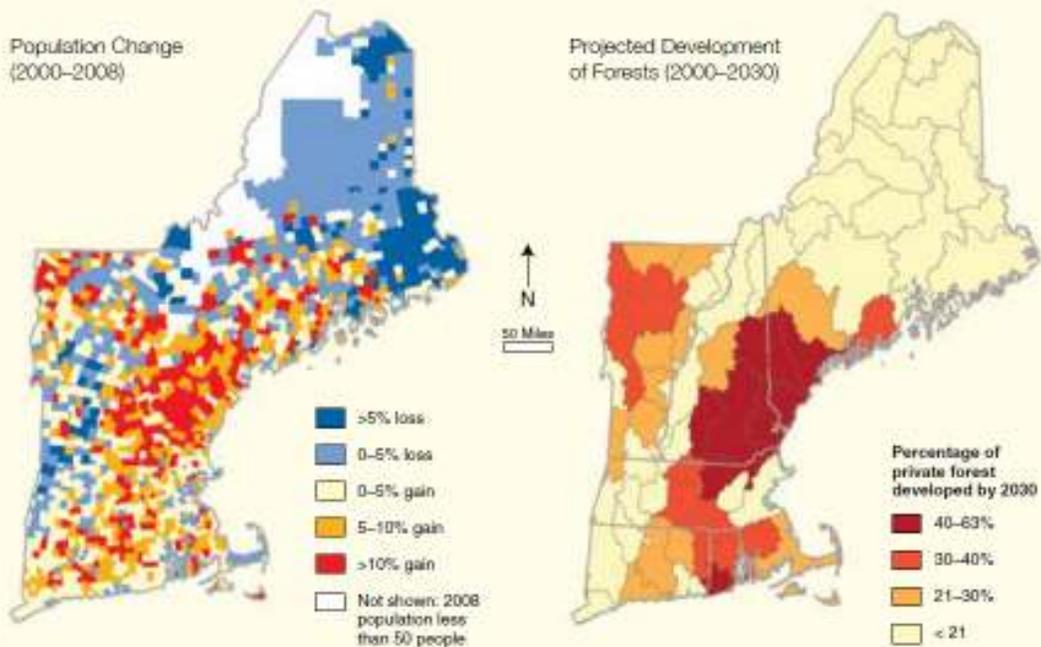


Figure 5. All six New England States are expected to experience dramatic rates of forest loss over the next 20 years. The areas of most intense future development overlap with those that underwent the greatest increase in population in recent years. These include the suburbanizing region that stretches from north of Boston to southern Maine and the area adjacent to Burlington, Vermont.

Source: <http://www.wildlandsandwoodlands.org/sites/default/files/Wildlands%20and%20Woodlands%20New%20England.pdf>

WHITE ASH *Fraxinus americana* L.

White ash is one of Maine's valuable timber trees and is found commonly throughout the state.

Best growth occurs on rich, rather moist soil of low hills. It grows to a height of 60-70 feet and a diameter of 15-30 inches. The branches are upright or spreading, forming a narrow top in the forest.

The bark pattern resembles a woven basket; it is broken into broad, parallel ridges by deep furrows, and is dark brown or deep gray.

The leaves are opposite, 8-12 inches long and consist of 5-9 (usually 7) leaflets. The leaflets are 3-5 inches long, oval to lance-shape, borne on short stalks, edges remotely toothed towards the tip, dark green and often shiny on the upper surface. In fall, they turn to a soft, velvety purple.

The fruit is a single samara occurring in clusters. The seed body is cigar-shaped and has a terminal wing.

The twigs have a smooth, shiny bark which is grayish, greenish or maroon on the surface. The inner layer of the bark is brick red. The terminal buds are rounded or dome-shaped. The wood is hard, strong and tough. It is used for agricultural implements, tool handles, oars, furniture, interior finish, dowels, pulp and firewood, and sporting goods including baseball bats, hockey sticks and snowshoe frames.

To read the latest Forests for Maine's Future Newsletter

<http://www.forestsformainesfuture.org/new-from-the-woods/>

"What is the purpose of the giant sequoia tree? The purpose of the giant sequoia tree is to provide shade for the tiny tit-mouse."

-Edward Abbey

**MAINE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE,
CONSERVATION AND FORESTRY**

Maine Forest Service

DOUG DENICO

DIRECTOR

Forest Policy and Management Unit

We help you make informed decisions about Maine forests

