

Trees on Maine Street

∞ *The Project Canopy Bulletin* ∞



Sept-Oct 2013

2013 PROJECT CANOPY ASSISTANCE GRANTS

Project Canopy Assistance Grants are available to state, county, and municipal governments, educational institutions, and non-profit organizations for developing and implementing community forestry projects and programs. Project Canopy, a cooperative partnership between the Maine Forest Service and GrowSmart Maine, anticipates that \$100,000 will be available to support community forestry projects in the following categories:

Planning and Education

\$10,000 maximum award

Projects support sustainable community forestry management, and efforts to increase awareness of the benefits of trees and forests.

Planting and Maintenance

\$8,000 maximum award

Projects increase the health and livability of communities through sound tree planting and maintenance.

To be eligible to apply for 2013 Project Canopy Assistance grants, all applicants must attend a grant workshop prior to submitting an application (excluding previous workshop attendees). Grant workshops will be scheduled for September 2013, will be held in various locations throughout the state, and will cover topics including grant writing, project development, sustainable community forestry management, and grant administration.

Grant applications will be due to the Maine Forest Service at 5:00 pm on Monday, December 2, 2013. All grants require a 50% match from the grant recipient in cash or in-kind services.

Project Canopy is funded by the USDA Forest Service Community Forestry Assistance Program. The USDA Forest Service Urban and Community Forestry Program was authorized by the Cooperative Forestry Assistance Act of 1978 (PL95-313) and revised by the 1990 Farm Bill (PL101-624) to promote natural resource management in populated areas and improve quality of life.

For complete grant application and workshop information, please visit the Project Canopy website at <http://www.projectcanopy.me/grants>. You can also learn more about the Project Canopy assistance program by contacting Jan Ames Santerre by phone at 207-287-4987 or by email at jan.santerre@maine.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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To read the latest Forests for Maine's Future Newsletter

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

News and Updates

Request For Applications Issued

The USDA Forest Service published a call for applications for the Community Forest and Open Space Program in the Federal Register on August 27, 2013. Applications are due to the State Forester or the appropriate Tribal official by January 15, 2014.

Proposed Administration funding for the community forest projects is \$4 million. Individual grant applications may not exceed \$400,000.

[Click here](#) for a copy of the Application Solicitation published on August 27, 2013

[Click here](#) for an application template sample
[State Foresters](#) contact information
[Application Forms](#)

What is the Community Forest Program?

The Community Forest Program is a grant program that authorizes the Forest Service to provide financial assistance to local governments, Tribal governments, and qualified nonprofit entities to establish community forests that provide continuing and accessible community benefits.

The Community Forest Program was authorized by the 2008 Farm Bill (Section 8003 of the Food, Conservation, and Energy Act of 2008 (Public Law 110-234)), which amends the Cooperative Forestry Assistance Act of 1978. The full title is the "Community Forest and Open Space Conservation Program." The working title is the "Community Forest Program."



Emerald Ash Borer Research: A Decade of Progress on an Expanding Pest Problem

U.S. Forest Service Northern Research Station, Research Review, Summer 2013

Newtown Square, PA (Summer 2013) — Beautiful, shady neighborhoods all over the Midwest and the Northeast are bare of their ash trees, cut down because of the emerald ash borer (EAB). The rapidly spreading EAB infestation has also set off a storm of scientific investigation into the ecological and social damage and the costs to affected communities.

Since it was first detected in 2002 around Detroit and neighboring parts of Ontario, EAB has spread to 18 states, from Kansas City to Minneapolis/St. Paul in the Midwest, south to the Smoky Mountains National Park, and all the way north to New Hampshire and Montreal, Quebec. Since its arrival, EAB has been able to attack and kill all native species of North American ashes (genus *Fraxinus*) that it has encountered.

Much of the long-distance spread of EAB is due to human activities—people moving infested firewood and nursery trees out of quarantined areas. Early eradication efforts consisted of cutting and chopping or burning infested wood and prevention efforts focused on quarantines, developing detection and treatment methods for individual trees and education efforts such as the "Don't Move Firewood" campaign. Knowledge about the EAB and how to control it, or at least slow its spread, continues to drive efforts to save ash.

Entomologists from the U.S. Forest Service's Northern Research Station (NRS) laboratory in East Lansing, MI, and other NRS scientists from Delaware, OH, are in the forefront of EAB research (along with their Michigan State and Ohio State University partners). Their efforts have involved studying many aspects of EAB biology and control—basic behavior, reactions to pesticides, detecting the larvae in logs and trees, and traps for detecting adult beetles.

Get the report on the expanding information and technology that have contributed to control efforts and slowing the spread of the beetle: "Emerald Ash Borer Research: A Decade of Progress on an Expanding Pest Problem" was released by the U.S. Forest Service this summer (2013).

*"Autumn is a second spring when every leaf is a flower."
- Albert Camus*

Helping Street Trees Weather Drought -ACTrees

College Park, MD (July 15, 2013) – In June, Wichita reported 10,000 urban trees dead as a result of drought. Indiana's trees are still suffering after last year's long drought and 100-degree days. The summer of 2012 was one of the worst droughts in 50 years. Recent research shows trees feel the drought—and suffer. A team of French scientists have captured the sound that trees make, their “cry for help,” when they are parched and in need of water. With another season of dry weather likely for trees in many communities, here's a roundup of tools for managing drought stress on urban trees.

Unfortunately, trees may already be under severe trauma from drought before they show it in their leaves, which begin to wilt or yellow, in their roots, or in other signs of distress. By then, the affects of prolonged and severe drought make trees more vulnerable and susceptible to both disease and pests.

Like humans with a healthy immune system, healthy trees can fight off invaders, but not when they are weakened. Here's more on how researchers are acoustically measuring the impact of drought on trees and what it means: [Trees Call for Help—And Now Scientists Can Understand](#).

Drought stress is an especially serious condition for urban trees, which must content with increasingly hotter and dryer conditions each year. The urban heat island effect produces much higher temperatures in cities than their suburban and rural counterparts. And street trees also often face poorer or compacted soils, poor drainage, contaminants such as salt, oils, and pet waste, a variety of pests, and root and trunk damage from construction, cars, and sidewalks.

“[Managing Drought Stress on Urban Trees](#),” Tree Care Industry Magazine, explains just what happens when a tree is in distress as a result of drought, and appropriate treatments for a variety of symptoms. And from the City of Atlanta, “[Drought and Urban Trees](#),” presents a few “do's and don'ts” for prevention and care of urban trees under drought conditions.

When it comes to watering, check out three great ideas for keeping trees appropriately watered during the summer or other dry season:

[Keeping Trees Watered: Dealing with Drought and Water Restrictions \(Trees Atlanta\)](#) — Trees Atlanta, in partnership with the city's Department of Watershed Management, recycles the water flushed daily from fire hydrants to soak 3,000 downtown trees and hundreds in surrounding neighborhoods.

[Keeping Trees Watered: Volunteer Mobilization \(Casey Trees\)](#) — Utilizing an extensive tree inventory and Geographic Information Systems (GIS) mapping, Casey Trees has created an efficient method for mobilizing volunteers to install Ooze Tubes to water trees during the summer.

[Keeping Trees Watered: NeighborWoods Youth \(Keep Indianapolis Beautiful\)](#) — A Youth Tree Team helps maintain the trees planted each year on public lands such as schools, parks, greenways and along highways. Using water donated by the local water company, the Youth Tree Team waters 500 trees each week during spring, summer and fall seasons.

Finally, visit the National Weather Service Climate Prediction Center [website](#) for drought monitoring information.



*"She had only to stand in the orchard, to put her hand on a little crab tree and look up at the apples, to make you feel the goodness of planting and tending and harvesting at last."
- Willa Cather*

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

Community Wrap-up

"For man, autumn is a time of harvest, of gathering together. For nature, it is a time of sowing, of scattering abroad."
- Edwin Way Teale

Auburn selected for 2013 TD Bank Tree Days Award

AUBURN - The City of Auburn has been selected by TD Bank and the Alliance for Community Trees (ACTrees) to receive a \$10,000 grant for tree planting downtown during NeighborWoods Month in October.

TD Tree Days is an example of TD's commitment to the environment and is a component of TD Forests, an initiative to reduce the bank's paper use by 20 percent by 2015, and protect forests and plant trees equal to the amount of paper used by the bank.

The planting session is part of a nationwide program sponsored by TD Bank and ACTrees to plant trees in communities from Maine to Florida during the month of October.

The City of Auburn, TD Bank, ACTrees, and Project Canopy will assemble more than 30 volunteers on October 2, 2013 to plant maples, crabapples, evergreens and ornamentals in Edward Little Park, New Auburn and adjacent locations.

The Alliance for Community Trees is a national nonprofit organization dedicated to improving the health and livability of cities by planting and caring for trees.

TD Bank is one of the 10 largest banks in the U.S., providing nearly 8 million customers with a retail, small business and commercial banking products and services at more than 1,280 locations throughout the Northeast, Mid-Atlantic, Metro D.C., the Carolinas and Florida.

Calendar

September

14 SWOAM Tree Farm Field Day, Vassalboro. swoam.org
17 Exploring Forestry - Jefferson. www.hvnc.org
18 Preparing for Emerald Ash Borer Workshop Dalton, MA
20-22 Common Ground Country Fair, Unity—Join us!
24-25 Urban Forest Strike Team Training. Springfield, MA

October

4-5 Yale Cordage Splicing Workshop, Saco, ME. <http://www.splicingatyale.eventbrite.com/>
19 KLT Property Dedication, Peter Miller Woodland, Vienna. 207-377-2848 ~ www.tkl.org
19 Maine Tree Climbing Competition, Deering Oaks Park, Portland, ME. Registration Deadline: Oct 4. Contact Tom Hoerth at 751-7677 or thoerth@cityofbath.com.

Trees are the Key Online Toolkit

New tools have been developed by the Sustainable Urban Forests Coalition (SUFC) as the culmination of a process that began with the release of [Vibrant Cities & Urban Forests: A National Call to Action](#). We anticipate updating this toolkit as new resources become available, or as other tools, successes and lessons learned are shared by other urban forest advocates

To read more about the strategic framework these materials are based on, [click here](#). In brief, the goals of creating this toolkit are to:

- **Provide common language for discussing urban forestry issues.** Based on our research and interviews with urban forest advocates and others, we found that there is no "single message" that will resonate across the board. Trees and urban forests are highly localized issues. Therefore, our communications tools center around a "platform" of the 12 Vibrant Cities recommendations – which encompass the work you're already doing – and strategies for using those recommendations to build on that work.
- **Share communications products that can add value to any size organization.** We have provided both "branded" and "unbranded" copies of most of these materials. The goal is to enable smaller organizations with limited resources to use our materials "off the shelf," with little or no editing. Larger organizations can customize the materials in any way they choose. We have included both a PDF and an editable version of most pieces.
- **Develop tools that can be used to broaden the circle of stakeholders advocating on behalf of urban forests.** A common theme of our listening sessions was the need to create products that can deliver clear and compelling messages to individuals and organizations working on complementary issues. These include areas such as public health, economic development, environmental justice and others. To that end, we have developed talking points, slides and other materials that make the explicit connection between these issues and urban forest advocacy.

If you have questions or comments about these tools, or suggestions for others, please contact: Scott Ward at scott.ward@fifthstateci.com.

"The foliage has been losing its freshness through the month of August, and here and there a yellow leaf shows itself like the first gray hair amidst the locks of a beauty who has seen one season too many."
- Oliver Wendell Holmes

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