



Spring Quarter 2008

Focus: Arbor Day 2008

Arbor Day was founded in 1872 by J. Sterling Morton in Nebraska. Celebrations were held in communities across our state in March and some of the highlights are featured below. Note that the official state Arbor Day ceremony is hosted with the tree board that the year prior won the Tree Board Award in the Excellence in Urban Forestry award program. Morristown was the host city this year. Mayor Sami Barile previously served as chair of their tree board.



At Morristown, Smoky Bear and the Living Tree pose for the camera. Many more Tennessee Arbor Day highlights are featured throughout this issue.

Want a Tree Specialty License Plate?

The TUFC is pursuing a specialty auto plate that promotes trees while raising funds to support the cause of urban forestry. A bill is pending in the state legislature to approve our tag, sponsored by State Representative Bill Dunn of Knoxville and Senator Rosalind Kurita of Clarksville. Once this process is done, **1000 tags must be pre-sold for \$ 35.00 each** before the tree license tag program is official.

You can help in two ways: **First**, help with the license plate design and slogan. Contact Liz Didier, elizabethdidier@kub.org. (Suggested Slogans: "Trees Make a Difference," "Treasurer Our Trees," "Tennessee Trees". **Second**, buy a tree license plate and help us reach the 1000 goal!

Mark Your Calendars Now!

17th Annual Urban Forestry Conference *"The Nature of Design: Educating for the Future"*

with Tennessee Urban Forestry Council
and American Society of Landscape Architects.

Save the Dates: Thursday and Friday, Sept. 11 & 12, Knoxville Hilton. Pre-conference Tours & Opening Reception and Awards Dinner Thursday, Sept. 11. Go to tufc@comcast.net for registration & hotel rates information. ISA and pesticide points assigned.

10th Annual Tenn. Tree Climbing Championship, Sept. 13 – Knoxville

Ten Utilities Approved for Tree Line USA - 2nd Place in US

The Tenn. Dept. of Agriculture, Division of Forestry has approved eight municipal utilities and two electric cooperatives for Tree Line USA status for 2007. Tree Line USA is a recognition program sponsored by the National Arbor Day Foundation and the State Forestry agency for utilities whose practices and activities help to improve the urban forest. East TN Regional Urban Forester, Tom Simpson, who manages this program statewide notes that Tennessee has the second highest number of utilities recognized behind California! Each utility that receives recognition must meet 3 standards:

1 - Adopt pruning standards that eliminate stubbing or topping, such as lateral pruning. Adopt policies for tunneling rather than trenching near high value trees.

2 - Implement an annual training program of tree care for utility crews. Mail tree care information to all customers at least once each year. Hire an utility forester or arborist or designate someone to serve that capacity.

3 - Spend \$.10 per customer on tree planting projects within the community. Participate in the community's Arbor Day activities.

The ten utilities receiving this designation for 2007 are: Dyersburg Electric System, Knoxville Utilities Board, Cleveland Utilities, Clinton Utilities Board, Morristown Utilities, Johnson City Power Board, Duck River Electric Member Coop., Cookeville Electric Dept., Appalachian Electric Member Coop., and Bristol Tennessee Electric System.



TUFC

Helping to Build Healthy Communities With Trees
Help make a difference in your urban forests tomorrow--join TUFC today!
www.tufc.com

TUFC Board of Directors

Nominations are being accepted for the TUFC Board of Directors. Self-nominations are encouraged. For more information or to make a nomination, contact committee chairman, Patrick Haller, Patrick.haller@qualitytrees.net

Notable Trees of Tennessee Note Cards For Sale

Featuring eight full color images selected from the Notable Trees of Tennessee photographs of historic, landmark, national and state champion trees, they are packaged in sets of four assorted cards with envelopes, two assortments.

Printed on heavyweight vellum, 30% post consumer recycled content, they are ideal for personal correspondence, thank you's to volunteers and supporters, gifts for colleagues and friends.

The price will be \$8.00, \$6.00 for TUFC members, tax included. For more information see www.tufc.com.



TUFC 2008 Board

EAST TENNESSEE

Liz Didier - Utility Forester, Knoxville Utility Board
Patrick Haller - IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT
Quality Trees and Haller Landscaping and Lawncare, Sparta
Mike Ganues - Retired Urban Forester, Maryville
Jon Nettle - Arborist & Landscape Consultant, Chattanooga
Warren Nevad - Mgmt Consultant, UT Municipal Tech Advisory Svc.
Patrick Walding - PRESIDENT, City Forester, Johnson City

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West Hopper - Arborists, Urban Forestry, Memphis
Susan Murray - West TN Chapter, TUFC
Trey Watson - Forester, Jackson Energy Authority

ONE YEAR APPOINTMENTS

Mary Thom Adams - Marketing Consultant, Knoxville
Dr. Bridget Jones
Ex. Director, Cumberland Region Tomorrow, Columbia
Todd Morgan - Planner, City of Morristown
Parvathi Nampoothiri - Planner, Hastings Architecture, Nashville

URBAN FORESTRY STAFF

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Shawn Posey - West TN Regional Urban Forester, Div. of Forestry
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Knoxville Utilities Board (KUB) Plants Trees for Habitat Homes

KUB recently launched a program to plant a tree at each new Habitat for Humanity home in the service area to congratulate the homeowner for their hard work and demonstrate KUB's commitment to tree planting and community beautification.

Camelita Nixon is a new owner of a Habitat for Humanity home. She was presented a tree from KUB at a ceremony on September 24.

Habitat for Humanity Tree Planting

KUB is certified by the National Arbor Day Foundation as a Tree Line USA utility and is recognized by the American Public Power Association's Tree Power Program.

To demonstrate its commitment to tree planting and community beautification, KUB recently launched a new program to plant a tree at each new Habitat for Humanity house in the service area.

KUB planted more than 30 trees for the Habitat for Humanity homes in the October Woods subdivision off Rutledge Pike. Beatrice Gahima, the recipient of a Habitat home built by KUB in the spring of 2007 was given a new red crabapple tree for her front yard.



TUFC New & Renewing Membership

Alice Ann Barge
 Philip Brown
 Randy Ellis
 Elizabeth Gassel
 Tracy Jackson
 Stan Myers
 Richard Page
 David Vandergriff
 Laurie Williams

Chapter

Stan Myers
 Laurie Williams
 Memphis/Shelby County

Non-Profit

Bristol Tree Board
 Rogersville Tree Board

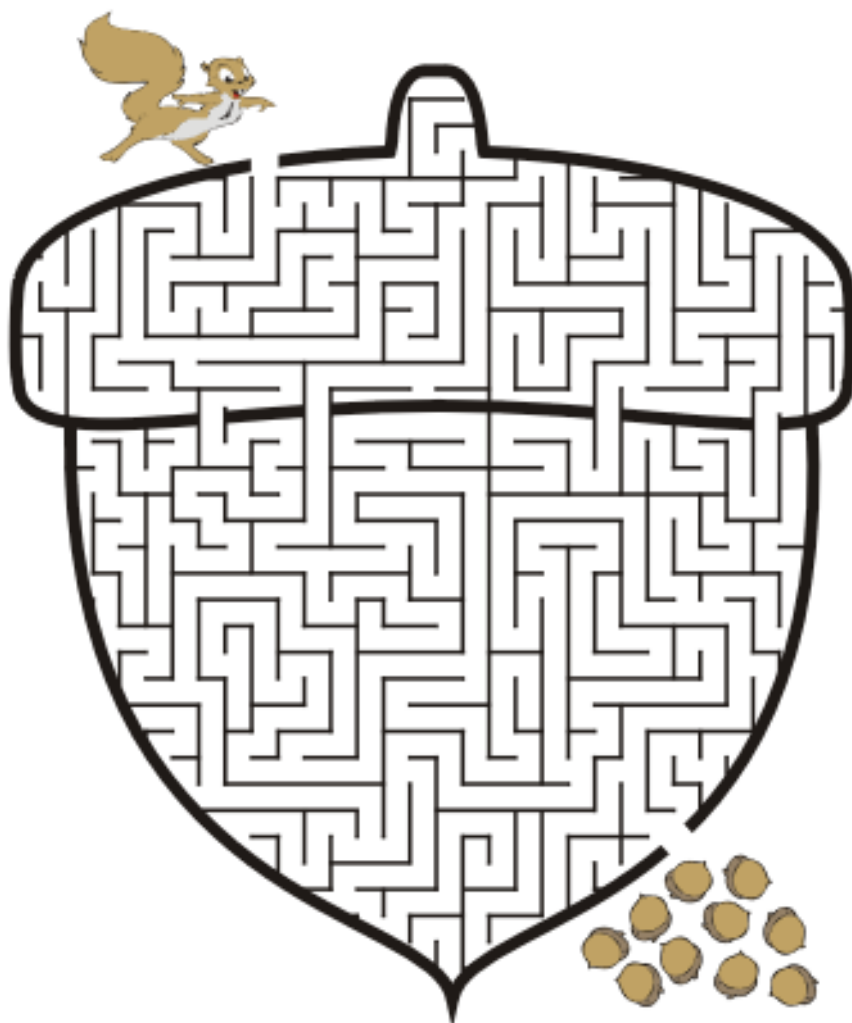
Business

Duck River Electric Membership Corp.
 Skip Heibert and Associates

Government

City of Crossville
 City of Memphis/Shelby County
 Town of Livingston

Help the squirrel through the maze to find its acorns



Tree City USA: Two New in Tennessee!

The Tennessee Department of Agriculture, Division of Forestry and the National Arbor Day Foundation are excited to announce the state's Tree City USA cities. The state assistant urban forester, Brian Rucker, notes that "Tennessee's communities are continuing to recognize the importance of trees within our urban settings and we are glad to welcome both the city of Bartlett and Martin into the program."

To become a Tree City USA, a city must meet these four standards: (1) Have a Tree Board or Advisory Committee, (2) Spend \$2 per resident of the community on a community forestry program, (3) Have a municipal tree ordinance in place, and (4) Celebrate Arbor Day with a ceremony and proclamation.

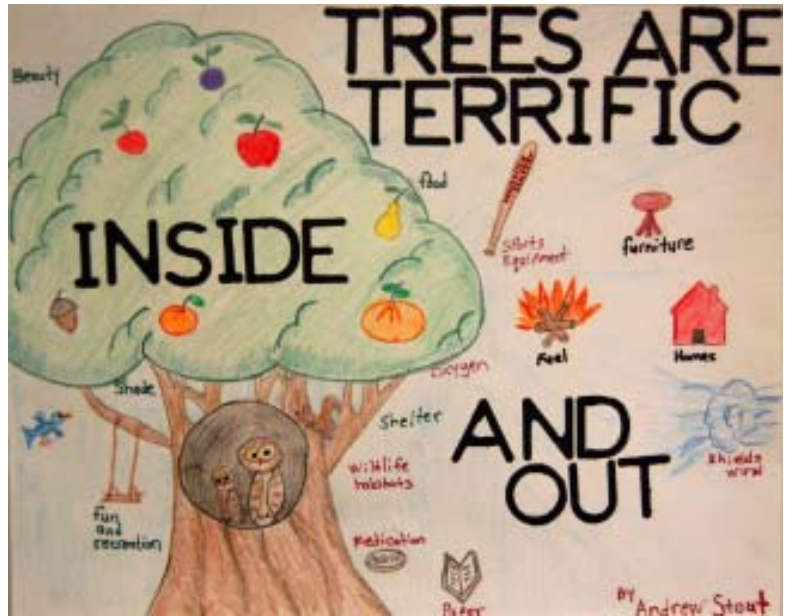
Tree City USA communities and their years achieved:

Norris	29 years	Brentwood	19 years	Tullahoma	11 years	Lakeland	4 years
Athens	27 years	Clarksville	19 years	Bell Buckle	8 years	Collierville	3 years
Maryville	27 years	Cookeville	19 years	Crossville	8 years	Franklin	3 years
Sevierville	24 years	Chattanooga	18 years	Johnson City	8 years	Livingston	3 years
Jackson	22 years	Sewanee	18 years	Sweetwater	8 years	Rogersville	3 years
Kingsport	22 years	Knoxville	17 years	Harrogate	7 years	Bartlett	1 year
Alcoa	21 years	Cleveland	16 years	McMinnville	7 years	Martin	1 year
Bristol	20 years	Germantown	16 years	Pigeon Forge	7 years		
Gatlinburg	20 years	Pulaski	15 years	Morristown	6 years		
Oak Ridge	20 years	Nashville	13 years	Jonesborough	4 years		

In addition to the Tree City USA designation, Bristol, Clarksville, Collierville, Cookeville, Crossville, Germantown, Jackson, Lakeland, Morristown, Pigeon Forge and Rogersville have received Tree City Growth Awards for expanding and improving their programs!



First Place - Ben Apodoca - Cedar Bluff Intermediate School, Knoxville, TN



Second Place - Andrew Stout - Manley Elementary School, Morristown, TN

State 2007 Arbor Day Poster Contest

The winning Tennessee Arbor Day Poster was drawn by fifth grader Ben Apodoca of Cedar Bluff Intermediate School in Knoxville. Her poster has been submitted to the National Arbor Day Foundation's contest as Tennessee's entry.

The Department of Agriculture, Forestry Division thanks the TUFC for their continued sponsorship of prizes.



Third Place - Veronika Vafina - Croft Middle School, Nashville, TN



Morristown hosted its own poster contest, and the three winners pose with Forester Rick Martin and Smoky Bear.

Calendar of Events

April 7-9

Trees & Utilities 15th Annual National Conference, Presented by the National Arbor Day Foundation, Orlando, FL. 1-888-448-7337, www.arborday.org/TUConference. Featuring Tree Line USA recognition program, educational programs and exhibits

April 18-Sept 11

Engaging Communities in Urban Tree Risk Assessment

Workshop Dates and Locations

- * April 18th – Nashville – TSU/AITC Bldg.
- * May 13th – Cookeville – TTU South Hall - Room 104
- * June 18th – Jackson – West TN Exp. Station - Room B
- * Sept. 11th – Knoxville – Hilton at the Urban Forestry & Landscape Architecture joint conference. Held as a pre-conference workshop

This workshop will provide hands-on training enabling arborist(s) and green industry professionals to better assess the trees in their communities. Training includes evaluating decayed wood in trees using IML Resistograph technology for essential tree assessment. It is designed to increase their ability to locate and manage trees that may be hazard situations in their surrounding environment.

After participating in this workshop, participants will have these skills:

- (1) Identifying the highest risk trees so that they can be treated first and determining how many trees can be treated with the budget available and how much that would reduce risk within the population,
- (2) Assessing the adequacy of the current budget to fund abatement treatments (justify urban forestry budget in cities), and
- (3) Determining whether additional funds are needed or, if educational efforts are needed, to moderate community risk tolerance and demonstrating that the agency is acting reasonably to protect public safety.

Tennessee State Extension is sponsoring this workshop series and presenting it with these key partners: University of Tennessee, Tennessee Tech University, Tree Solutions and Haller's Landscaping. Workshop Fee: \$25. For registration information contact: Karla Kean, TSU Extension Agent-Montgomery County, 931-648-5725, kkean@utk.edu

April 25

The 21st annual High Tree Party celebrating Davidson County's biggest trees will be April 25, at 4 pm at historic Glen Leven, 4000 Franklin Pike, just south of Thompson Lane in Nashville. The High Tree party recognizes the winners of the annual Big Old Tree Contest with nominators and owners of winning trees in

each species receiving a certificate. The winner of the Victor Johnson Award for contributions to Nashville's urban forest also will be announced.

April 29

Building with Trees – Full Day Seminar presented by the National Arbor Day Foundation, featuring Dr. Charles Stewart. Memphis, Memphis Botanic Garden. 1-888-448-7337, www.arborday.org/bwt. TUFC is a program Cooperator. Seminar is for anyone involved in the planning, building, and designing of residential or commercial structures. Topic Outline Phases: Planning, Pre-Construction, Construction and Maintenance.



May 31

Landmark and Historic Tree Register and the Arboretum Certification Application Deadline


May 28 – 30

2008 National Conference on Urban Ecosystems: Nature and the Network – Building a New Framework for people and Nature to Work Together, Orlando, FL, www.americanforest.org/conference



June 30

Deadline for Excellence in Urban Forestry Awards. for more information contact Jeff Gill, jgill@mtmc.com. Application at www.tufc.com



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Morristown Hosts Official State Arbor Day Celebration

Hosted in the beautiful City Center's rotunda, Morristown and the Division of Forestry hosted an Arbor Day celebration.

Among attendees were U.S. Representative David Davis, State Representative John Litz, State Senator Steve Southerland, Agriculture Commissioner Ken Givens and State Forester Steve Scott. More than 200 citizens crowded the rotunda.

During the ceremony a choir sang *Embraceable You* and *Blue Skies*, Mayor Sami Barile made an Arbor Day proclamation, and awards for the county poem and poster contest were given. Mayor Barile was presented a Tree City USA flag by state urban forester Bruce Webster, and Regional Urban Forester Tom Simpson presented a Tree Line USA flag. Attendees were able to have their pictures taken with Smokey the Bear and the Keep America Beautiful Tree.



Smoky Bear shares the limelight with The Living Tree, played by Kelli Arwood of the local Keep America Beautiful office.

Arbor Day Celebration on Signal Mountain

The Signal Mountain town council passed an Arbor Day resolution and allowed the town employees to participate in the Arbor Day activities.

Because the Arbor Day Foundation focuses its educational effort toward fifth grade elementary students, both Nolan and Thrasher Elementary School fifth grade teachers received the Arbor Day resource books with lesson plans, educational activities, and the rules for the national poster contest.

Eight classes of sixth graders planted trees. Since this was the first sixth grade class entering the new Middle School, they created a grove beside the athletic fields near the school as their legacy. Native trees were planted that will be labelled with their common and scientific names and planting dates.



The Middle School Grove in Signal Mountain celebrates both the legacy of the first sixth grade class to attend the new school and the importance of trees to our world.

Bristol Arbor Day Celebration

The Bristol Arbor Day celebration was held at Fairmount Park. Sponsored by the Bristol TN Tree City USA Board this ceremony noted Bristol's twentieth year as a Tree City and its sixteenth as a Tree Growth Award winner! Mr. Steve Bingham, a forester with the TN Division of Forestry, presented the awards. Bristol TN Essential Services donated a tree that was planted in the park. Members of the city council and the parks and recreation board as well as citizens were in attendance. Tree seedlings were distributed.

Arbor Day in Memphis

Braving snow and wind, Memphians gathered at the Memphis Botanic Garden for a 1:30 pm ceremony organized by Stan Myers of the Memphis Botanic Garden, Memphis Park Services and the Little Flower Garden Club.

Sara Misner, Janet Mizner, and Sue Clark represented the Little Flower Garden Club which donated the Yoshino cherry tree planted on the grounds.

Memphis Botanic Garden director Jim Duncan noted the Botanic Garden is the only level four arboretum in West Tennessee. Memphis Park Services Director Cindy Buchanan reminded everyone how trees absorb pollutants. Memphis City Council Parks Committee Chairman Jim Strickland read the Arbor Day Proclamation from Mayor W. W. Herenton.

Incoming president of the West Tennessee Chapter of the TUFC Alan Wyatt urged the crowd to plant trees for future generations. His quote from Theodore Roosevelt rings true today. "...We of an older generation can get along with what we have, though with growing hardship: but in your full manhood and womanhood you will want what nature once so bountifully supplied and man so thoughtlessly destroyed: and because of that want you will reproach us, not for what we have used, but for what we have wasted."



A Yoshino cherry tree is planted at Memphis Botanic Garden to commemorate Tennessee's Arbor Day 2008. Pictured from left to right are: W. TN chapter of TUFC president, Alan Wyatt, Memphis Botanical Garden Grounds and Facilities Director and Tree City Ad Hoc Committee representative, Stan Myers, Little Flower Garden Club representative Sara Misner, Memphis Park Services Director, Cindy Buchanan, and Memphis City Councilman Jim Strickland

Arbor Day in Nashville

A crowd of nearly 300 gathered on March 14th in Centennial Park to celebrate Arbor Day in Nashville.

In attendance was Nashville Mayor Karl Dean and past mayors Bill Purcell and Richard Fulton.

TUFC Mission Statement

The Tennessee Urban Forestry Council (TUFC) serves as an advisory body to promote healthy and sustainable urban and community forests in Tennessee by providing leadership and guidance through education, planning, advocacy, and collaboration.



Mayor Dean (r) and Metro Tree Advisory Board chair Chris Armour (l) accept the Tree City USA flag from State Urban Forester Bruce Webster.



Tennessee Urban Forestry Council

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(615) 352-8985 - www.tufc.com

Branching Out is a publication of the Tennessee Urban Forestry Council (TUFC).

Newsletter Committee:

Dr. Douglas Airhart, Dottie Mann and Jennifer Smith



The Tenn. Dept. of Agriculture, Div. of Forestry, and the TUFC work together to enhance urban forestry statewide.

News from ISA Southern Tree Climb

Held in Knoxville on Sunday, March 16th, the Southern Chapter of the ISA hosted their Tree Climbing Championship. Many Tennesseans served on the organizational committee, as judges and as contestants. Robert Bramblett who works for Poteet Tree in Nashville finished second in the Masters Challenge, coming in behind the winner Lucas Drews of South Carolina by only .34!

Representing the state of Tennessee was Aquilino Amador-Cruz who came in 12th overall out of 32 participants. Aquilino works for Davey Tree in Nashville and as the representative from our state's Tree Climbing Championship had his expenses paid by the Tennessee Urban Forestry Council for the Southern's competition.

Scott Wunningham who served as the head judge of the Aerial Rescue is the chair of the Tennessee Tree Climbing Championship next September 13th also to be held at Knoxville's picturesque Lakeshore Park. Scott has served on our state's set-up crew and judging staff for five years and is ready to take the chairman's job. Scott notes that the climbing trees at this park are in great shape for our event. He encourages those that want to be on the set-up crew and/or judging staff to contact him at 931-537-6829 or sawinningham@tnaccess.com

Welcome 2008 West TN Chapter of the TUFC Officers and Board

President - Alan J. Wyatt, RLA/ASLA/CLARB/LEED AP, Landscape Architect, Wyatt Design Group, LLC.

Vice-President – Jim Volgas, Arborist, Master Gardener

Secretary/Treasurer - Terran Arwood, Arborist, Woodland Tree Service

Board of Directors

Mark Follis, Phd., Arborist, Follis Tree Preservation

Keith May, Utility Arborist, Memphis Light Gas & Water

Andree Glenn, Vollentine-Evergreen Neighborhood Assn.

Alan J. Wyatt, RLA/ASLA/CLARB/LEED AP, Landscape Architect, Wyatt Design Group, LLC.

Jim Volgas, Arborist, Master Gardener

Terran Arwood, Arborist, Woodland Tree Service

Thank You

In gratitude for their service, for establishing the West TN Chapter of the TUFC, we thank founding president, Susan Murray, Vice-president Eric Bridges, Secretary/Treasurer Wes Hopper and also the board members Jack Golio, Dr. Stan Myers, Don Richardson, and Jeremy Palazolo.

Notable Trees of Tennessee Exhibit Touring Schedule

Look for Schedule on www.tufc.com
If you want to host this exhibit, contact
Jennifer Smith - tufc@comcast.net

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