

Canopy



..... WINTER 2013

Indiana Urban Forest Council | PO Box 409 | Carmel | Indiana | 46082

IUFC ANNOUNCES SECOND ANNUAL ARBOR DAY POSTER CONTEST

The Indiana Urban Forest Council is very pleased to announce our 2nd annual Indiana Arbor Day Poster Contest carrying the theme, "Trees are Terrific and Energy Wise!"

Since 1872, Arbor Day has been celebrated throughout the United States and Arbor Day celebrations in schools have always played an important role. After the national discontinuation of their annual poster contest in 2010 for fifth grade students, the Arbor Day Foundation encouraged individual states to host their own contests and freely made available all of their lesson plan materials to that end.

In 2011, the IUFC, recognizing the void felt by many Hoosier educators by the absence of this annual event, made the decision to revitalize the Arbor Day poster contest. By the fall of 2011, a new lesson plan book was designed and adapted to correlate with the new Indiana Academic Standards for Science (2010) and Fine Arts: Visual Arts (2010) for the fifth grade and in 2012 launched our 1st annual Arbor Day Poster Contest!

The IUFC would like to extend an invitation to our state family of educators and instructors to join in participation of the 2013 Arbor Day Poster Contest for fifth graders that



The winning entry from the 2012 Arbor Day Poster Contest submitted by Kyle Bickel from Highland Elementary School in Evansville, Indiana.

will begin on Friday, February 1, 2013. The complete registration information, including contest rules and submission forms, can be found in the last section of the 2013 poster contest lessons plans guide.

To access and download this guide, which is in PDF format, please go to the Educational section of IUFC's website here: <http://www.iufc.org/Education.html>.

As chair of the IUFC Poster Contest Committee and member of the IUFC Board of Directors, I thank each of you for your efforts to guide and teach our young people

the value of our natural resources. Each of us, no matter our age, can play a valuable role in making a difference in sustaining these.

Please feel free to distribute and share this invitation to your colleagues across our beautiful state!

We are also still asking for sponsor support to donate funds and/or "prizes" to be applied towards this educational outreach effort. If you can help or know of someone or an organization who would like to get involved in this statewide event, please direct them to me or, if desiring to send a monetary, tax-deductable, donation, please make a check out to: "IUFC" with memo: "Arbor Day Poster Contest." Mail it to:

"IUFC, PO Box 409, Carmel, IN 46082, Attn: Arbor Day Poster Contest Donation." Tax-deductable donations may also be sent via PayPal to our address: director@iufc.org. Please indicate in the notes that this is a donation to support the Arbor Day Poster Contest. Prize items may be sent to IUFC's PO Box address above. Thank you for your support of our Indiana youth and urban forests!

Contributed by Jeff Harris, IUFC Board Member and CEO of Arbor Rangers, LLC.

2012 BOARD MEMBERS

Paul Pinco, President
City Arborist, Indy Dept. of Public Works
Paul.Pinco@indy.gov

Nate Faris, Vice President
President, Faris Tree Consulting
nate@faristreeconsulting.com

Gregory Shaner, Secretary
Tree Lafayette Volunteer
Professor Emeritus, Purdue University
gregory_shaner_454@comcast.net

Jim Farr, Secretary
City Arborist, Franklin
jfarr@franklin-in.gov

Nate Mathews, Treasurer
Vegetation Specialist, Duke Energy
nathan.mathews@duke-energy.com

Mike Baldwin
Staff Forester, Indy Power & Light
mbaldwin36@comcast.net

Rachel Christenson
Senior Planner
Madison County Council of Govts.
rchristenson@mccog.net

Jim Farr
City Arborist, City of Franklin
jfarr@franklin-in.gov

Jeff Harris
CEO, Arbor Rangers, LLC
jeff@arborrangers.com

Marjorie Hennessy, MLA
Program Manager/Adjunct Instructor
Butler University
mhenness@butler.edu

Stephanie Krull
Grounds Manager, Indiana State University
Steph.Krull@indstate.edu

Matthew Lake, M.S.
Executive Director
Merrillville Stormwater Utility
mlake@merrillville.in.gov

John Montgomery
Retired from Ivy Tech Community College
jdmont@sbcglobal.net

Chad Tinkel
Manager of Forestry Operations
Fort Wayne Parks and Recreation
chad.tinkel@ci.ft-wayne.in.us

OUR MISSION

The Indiana Urban Forest Council promotes public understanding of the need for trees and other natural resources in and along parks, green space areas, streets, and urban woodlands, and assists Indiana communities in protecting, expanding, and improving their urban forests.

OUR GOALS

The Indiana Urban Forest Council strives to promote ideal community forest practices to public and private organizations and seeks to establish sustainable urban forests in all communities while assisting all municipalities educationally to plant and maintain trees properly. The Indiana Urban Forest Council also collaborates with the Indiana Department of Natural Resources, Community and Urban Forestry (IDNR, CUF), to widen the public’s understanding and appreciation for the value of urban trees and forests in our Indiana communities and to preserve and renew Indiana’s community forests.

Dear IUFC Members:

I am writing to tell you that I am stepping down from the board. I am saddened by this, but it is a necessary evil of my impending move and new adventure. I have recently accepted a position with the Sitka Conservation Society (SCS) in Sitka, Alaska. SCS has been around since 1967 and has worked to protect the Tongass National Forest. It is the largest National Forest in the US and home to one of the largest remaining swaths of temperate rain forest. My new position is Conservation Solutions Director and I will be working primarily on their new ‘People and Place Program’ which focuses on the intersection of people and the environment. Sitka is a small fishing town that also at one time relied on the logging industry and proximity to the forest. The mills are now gone, and SCS is working to find solutions that lead to social, ecological and economic sustainability for the community. Other programs I will be involved in are the ‘Second Growth’ in high schools program, which demonstrates the ways Tongass second growth timber can be used locally and sustainably by providing this wood to high school students in carpentry classes. I will also be working to develop a new project through SCS that is funded by the Community Capacity and Land Stewardship Program (CCLS). The CCLS program encourages collaborative efforts that allow community groups to work through conflict in order to address both local natural resource and rural economic development challenges

About Sitka, it is located in the SE channel, not far from Juneau. It is fairly small, about 9,000 people. It is on Baranoff Island and is literally surrounded by the Tongass. Here is a great video highlighting the charm and strong ties to fishing in the area: <http://www.nunatakdesign.com/2012/01/21/sitka-alaska/>.

I am certainly sad to be leaving behind so many great friends here in Indianapolis. However, I am unable to express how excited I am about this new adventure and a big career development professionally. I have always wanted to go back out west, but was never able to find the right fit so that I could get more involved with western land policy. I hope if any of you are ever in the ‘neighborhood’ you will look me up! My place is only 400 yards from where I will be working, and it’s easy to get around town without a car- which is good because you can’t drive there. You have to fly or float in. I am bringing my car via ferry because it could come in handy in the mountains.

Cheers and Happy New Year!
-Marjorie Hennessy

IUFC TO PARTNER WITH IPRA ON CONFERENCE

The IUFC is partnering up with organizations like Indiana Parks and Recreation Association (IPRA) to help with a conference on tree and shrub care for park staff and arborists throughout the state. Continuing education units (CEUs) will be available. The conference will be held at the Monon Community Center in Carmel on May 1st, 2013. We will keep you posted on the details!

Contributed by Holly Jones, IUFC Executive Director

A LETTER FROM THE NEW IUFC PRESIDENT, PAUL PINCO

Happy New Year, IUFC! As your new President, I am honored and privileged to be writing this message to you and am excited for the opportunity and challenge to lead this outstanding organization. My hope is that I can be as successful in fulfilling my responsibilities as have our past presidents.

I would once again like to thank our most recent past president, Burney Fischer, for his wisdom and leadership during the two terms he served on the IUFC Board of Directors, his final two years as President. During his tenure, the IUFC continued to grow as an exceptional organization; its state-wide urban forestry outreach and educational programming unsurpassed anywhere. I am also grateful that Dr. Fisher is continuing to serve the Board in the newly developed role of Past-President.

With its recently elected members Tim Detzner, Jeff Harris, and Julie Wiseman, the new IUFC Board of Directors met on December 12, 2012. Comprised of a diverse and experienced group of individuals, the Board established a number of exciting goals for 2013.

One of the more challenging goals is the expansion and diversification of funding for IUFC. You may recall at our 2012 Fall Conference that Phil Wagner, Assistant State Forester, suggested that dwindling USDA and IDNR budgets may jeopardize future Community and Urban Forestry (CUF) grants to IUFC. Taking this counsel seriously, Board members have determined to reduce the organization's reliance on public funding through initiatives to solicit additional private and corporate memberships, sponsors, donations, and grants.

On the topic of private grants, in 2012 the IUFC received a \$20,000 grant from the ALCOA Foundation/Warrick Operations. IUFC will sub-grant these funds to cities and towns in the counties of Spencer, Vanderburgh, and Warrick in 2013 for the purchase and planting of trees on public properties. We are hopeful that effective administration of this grant will lead to similar grant opportunities from other corporate partners.

Other exciting goals established for 2013 include improving the planning and marketing of IUFC's newest fund raising event, Tree-cycle, which premiered in 2012 (see article on page 5), and the 2013 Arbor Day Poster Contest, in an effort to significantly increase interest and participation in both. To expand its public and legislative presence,

IUFC will be initiating and strengthening partnerships which can benefit from urban forestry advocacy. Finally, and perhaps of most interest to you, is the continuing production of diverse and informative winter and summer meetings and an annual fall conference which provide innovative ideas and current trends in research and advocacy.

A dedicated and committed Board is only part of what will be necessary to accomplish these goals for 2013. Although Board members are determined to lead the efforts, some events such as the conferences and the Tree-cycle will require significant support from IUFC membership to be successful. So when, not if, you receive the call for event volunteers, please respond with an enthusiastic and resounding, "You bet I will!"

Also, remember IUFC Board terms have limits and annual vacancy is guaranteed. So please take some time this year while you are enjoying your membership benefits to consider how your talents may further the cause of urban forestry as an IUFC Board member.

Have a wonderful 2013.

Contributed by Paul Pinco, IUFC President and Indianapolis City Arborist.

WINTER CONFERENCE: JUST AROUND THE CORNER

The IUFC Education/Conference Committee is busy preparing yet another interesting and educational agenda for the winter conference which will take place February 13th, 2013 at the Bloomington/Monroe County Convention Center in Bloomington. The conference will focus on reclaiming the urban forest.

The winter conference will showcase a few new ideas: Tuesday afternoon, the IUFC will be hosting a pre-conference workshop, which includes some educational sessions, an orchard tour, happy hour, and dinner. The conference itself will feature poster presentations by Indiana University students during the lunch hour. Post-conference, there will be a casual gala celebrating Pam Louks, the former IDNR-CUF Director.

We are looking forward to seeing you at the conference!

8:15 am - 9:00 am	Registration
8:30 am - 9:00 am	Welcome and IUFC Update Dr. Burney Fischer, IUFC President
9:00 am - 9:15 am	Welcome from Bloomington Mayor's Office Mayor's Office
9:15 am - 9:30 am	Successful Ordinances, Revisions, and More Laurel Cornell, Bloomington Tree Commission
9:30 am - 9:45 am	President's Welcome and IUFC Update Paul Pinco, IUFC President
9:45 am - 10:30 am	History of the Urban Forest Dr. Rebecca Dolan, Butler University
10:45 pm - 11:30 pm	Completing Our Streets Vince Caristo, City of Bloomington
11:30 pm - 1:00 pm	Lunch and Poster Presentations
1:00 pm - 2:00 pm	Reclaiming the Urban Forest Edith Makra, Metropolitan Mayors Caucus
2:00 pm - 2:15 pm	Wood Reclamation Lee Huss, City of Bloomington
2:30 pm - 3:15 pm	Urban Woodlots Jason Kissel, ACRES Land Trust
3:15 pm - 4:00 pm	EAB in Southern Indiana Panel Discussion

URBAN FORESTRY SPOTLIGHT: THE BLOOMINGTON TREE BOARD

Q: When was the Bloomington Tree Board founded? By whom? For what reason?

A: There was some kind of tree-related law in Bloomington as early as the late 1920s, but the first Tree Ordinance was passed in 1992. It established a Tree Commission.

Q: How are board members selected? Are certain groups/ interests consistently represented on the board?

A: There are seven members, each of whom serves for a three-year term. Two are appointed by the City Council, two by the Mayor, and one each by the Environmental Commission, the Board of Park Commissioners, and the Board of Public Works. The actual membership varies: currently we have a professional arborist, a professional landscape architect, and several citizens, some of whom are current or retired members of the Indiana University faculty. One of them is a biologist. Burney Fischer, former State Forester and now an Indiana University – School of Public and Environmental Affairs faculty member, was on the commission for several years and continues to provide excellent research and advice to us. We would like to have a representative of the downtown business community since currently there are many tree issues in the downtown area.

Q: How is your tree board chartered? Does it exist by executive order or as part of city ordinance? What authority does it have?

A: We are established by ordinance. The Tree Commission, like some of the many other commissions in the City of Bloomington, is a commission which advises the responsible City staff member --- in this case, Urban Forester Lee Huss. We do not have any legal authority on our own but we research questions and make suggestions about specific topics, many of which have been implemented.

Q: What are some of the board's accomplishments?

A: We revised the Tree Ordinance in 2008 to make it better structured and more comprehensive, and to bring it up to date. We also developed a Tree Care Manual for care of public trees. Burney Fischer's students undertook a tree inventory on our behalf in 2007, and a sample update has been completed this year. The development director of the Parks Foundation worked with Lee to establish a Big Tree TLC program, which offers the opportunity for donors to the Tree Fund to support the maintenance of specific trees and to have their support publicly acknowledged. We have an Urban Wood Waste Program, where local sawmills and woodworkers transform trees that have been removed into items that the City can use. These include practical items such



Members of the Bloomington Tree Board.

as tables and also clocks, plaques, and other kinds of reward items. We also have worked to increase diversity of the tree canopy and to teach neighborhoods how to maintain their street trees.

Q: What are the current goals of the board?

A: Dealing with emerald ash borer (EAB) is the major issue at the moment. We also are working to update the Emergency Plan and to do fundraising for the support of trees.

Q: What challenges or difficulties does your board face?

A: Again, dealing with EAB is the major challenge we face at the moment. The Tree Commission has decided to use the strategy of applying

pesticide in order to reduce tree mortality and to spread it out over a longer period of time in order to contain costs of tree removal and replacement. While one neighborhood association has embraced this plan enthusiastically, we expect to encounter some resistance from the large environmental community in Bloomington, which would prefer losing all of our native ash trees rather than using pesticides to save some of them and ensure that the species continues to exist in our area.

Over the past several years, the composition of the Tree Commission has changed from citizens who were very enthusiastic about saving specific trees to citizens who take a more professional approach and realize that planting, maintenance, and removal all are parts of successfully managing an urban forest. That change has made the Tree Commission a more effective advocate for trees. However, we could be more dynamic if we had more turnover in our membership. In addition, we have difficulty keeping a consistent record of our activities by taking minutes.

Q: Has the board ever received attention for controversial decisions? For positive accomplishments?

A: We got into trouble with the City Attorney a couple of years ago when we discussed a controversial issue among ourselves by email and had a couple of unannounced public meetings. We learned that, as a public body, we must conduct our discussions in public --- a good principle to remember!

In addition to awards from the IUFC, Bloomington has been a Tree City USA for 28 years, and in 2009, we were the National Winner in the Urban Forestry category for America in Bloom.

(continued on page 5)

IUFC'S FIRST ANNUAL TREE-CYCLE A SUCCESS!

It is 8:00 a.m. the morning of September 22, 2012. Heavy rain from the previous night resulted in nothing more than a few inconvenient puddles, the sky is now clear and sunny and the temperature comfortably mild; a perfect day for the first annual Indiana Urban Forest Council Tree-cycle event.

As registrants arrive, they are greeted and directed by friendly volunteer staff and given a commemorative t-shirt and sports bottle to thank them for their participation. While they wait to start their ride they are entertained with music from the DJ, they snack on food and beverages, and enjoy educational tree-related exhibits and activities. They take pictures with Smokey the Bear, watch a tree climbing demonstration, mulch trees, and speak with tree and entomological experts. They also purchase raffle tickets for a chance to win some pretty cool prizes.

As the 9:00 a.m. start time arrives, riders are given directions for their chosen routes (6, 14, or 23 kilometers). Each route begins and ends at the Indiana State Fair Grounds and riders proceed at their own pace along the Fall Creek Trail between the Monon Trail and Skiles Test Park. Riders include parents and their children (some still using training wheels). About an hour after the ride begins, riders start to trickle back to the registration and vendor areas they finish their routes. Some call it a morning and leave to enjoy the rest of their day but others remain to socialize with the tree experts and to see if

they will win anything in the raffle. Ending about 11:00 a.m., Tree-cycle 2012 is deemed a success as registrants and participants leave smiling, having enjoyed a beautiful morning helping to promote urban forestry.



The success of Tree-cycle 2012 was the result of many volunteer hours from dedicated IUFC members as well as the financial support, donations, and participation of not-for-profits and corporations. I want to take this opportunity to thank the many volunteers of the IUFC membership and their families, as well as the Tree Stewards who helped to ensure the event ran smoothly. I also want to recognize those on the Tree-cycle 2012 Committee (Andrew Hart, Holly Jones, and Tom Ordway) who gave many hours to the conceptualization, promotion, organization, and direction of the event. A special thank you to Jeff Harris for his work designing the Tree-cycle logo and t-shirt and Rachel Christenson for crafting the Tree-cycle flyer used to promote the event.

Thanks also to the Tree-cycle food donors (Harts Bakery, Kroger, and Starbucks), raffle donors (Climb Time, Go Ape, Holly Jones, and TREE Fund), and those who entertained and educated participants with urban forestry related kiosks and activities (Indiana Department of Natural Resources, Indy Parks, Keep Indianapolis Beautiful, Purdue University Department of Entomology, Recycleforce, and Wright Tree Service).

Finally, thank you to the Tree-cycle in-kind sponsors (Indianapolis Departments of Code Enforcement, Parks, and Public Works) and financial sponsors (Arbor Rangers, Citizens Energy Group, Davey, Indiana Arborist Association, Purdue University, and Vermeer), whose contributions allowed this to be a truly worthwhile fundraising event for the IUFC.

Even now the Tree-cycle 2013 Committee is hard at work planning an even bigger and better Tree-cycle event for this year. So I would like to also take this opportunity to ask you now to consider joining us this fall, either as a registrant or a volunteer, for a fun and excitement filled Indiana Urban Forest Council Tree-cycle 2013.

Contributed by Paul Pinco, IUFC President and Indianapolis City Arborist.

Urban Forestry Spotlight

(continued from page 4)

Q: How does the tree board relate to IU Bloomington and its campus and staff?

A: Mia Williams, Director of Landscape Architecture for all eight Indiana University campuses, is a member of the Tree Commission. In addition, she and Lee work very closely, sharing information on issues which affect both the campus and the community. Burney Fischer has generously allowed many of his SPEA students to conduct research which directly benefits our community as a whole.

Q: What are the activities of your board? Does the board participate in resolving tree disputes? Reviewing development plans? Setting canopy goals?

A: We are only advisory to the Urban Forester. We do deal with tree disputes, objecting when a homeowner wants to cut down mature trees to plant a tomato garden or to install a solar power panel. We

emphasize the long-term contributions of trees to environmental sustainability. The Environmental Commission, not us, reviews development plans.

Q: Does your board have a website?

A: Search "Tree Commission" on the City of Bloomington website and you will find our homepage and a great deal of information about us and our activities.

Q: How do you communicate information to citizens? How do citizens communicate with the board?

A: Communication is through our website, newspaper articles, posting of tree removal information, attendance at Tree Commission meetings, attending the Garden Show, conducting an Arbor Day program, and working with Cooperative Extension.

Contributed by Nate Faris, IUFC Vice President and President of Faris Tree Consulting and Laurel Cornell, Bloomington Tree Board.

IDNR-COMMUNITY & URBAN FORESTRY UPDATES

The Community and Urban Forestry Department (CUF) successfully reviewed applications for the Trees in Our Towns Key to our Health Grant by November 30 and awarded over \$143,000 in grants to 11 communities and non-profits for projects to begin in the spring 2013. CUF is currently managing 47 grants to communities awarded between 2011 and 2012. CUF is also in the process of reviewing the 70+ Tree City, Tree Line, and Tree Campus USA applications this month. The Department is happy to see some first-time applications and appreciate the 18 online Tree City applications and appreciate your patience as we work on getting some of the kinks worked out. The online applications are much easier to process in the online system, so thank you!

Our Grants Administrator, Carol Shaver, will be on mandatory leave on January 25, 2013 through approximately March 1, 2013. We would like to thank all of our communities, non-profits, Tree Stewards, and other partners for being supportive and understanding of our staffing situation. Now, more than ever, we need your vigilance with grant execution, accomplishment reports (reminder!), volunteer hours recording, communications, and flexibility. This will help us continue to provide assistance across the state.

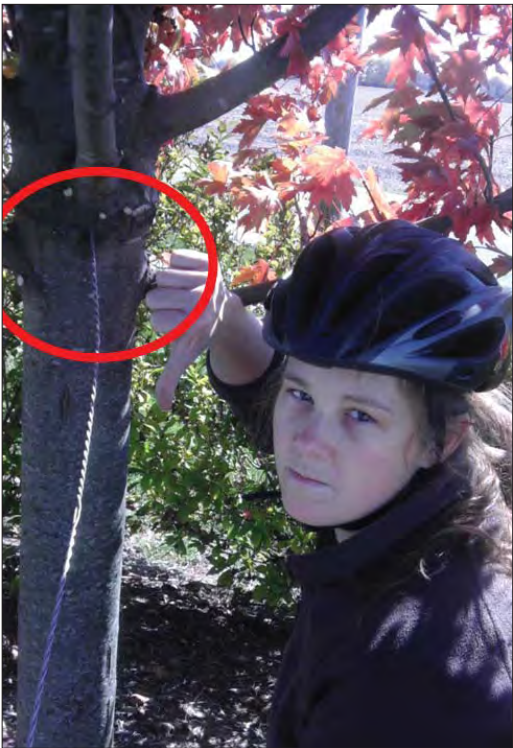
With a staff of one and field work to be done please call my cell at 317-629-0711 if you are unable to reach me in the office. If your community or organization would like to host a workshop in 2013, we are looking for two or three Tree Steward and Advanced Tree Steward training sites, two host sites for the Municipal Tree Care Workshop, and one to two potential sites for an Urban Woodlot Management workshop. Contact me as soon as possible if you are interested.

I am firming up details on the Advanced Tree Steward Winter Tree Identification class (es) in February. Three hours of tree identification for \$5 to \$10. It is cheaper than a movie!

Look for updates on the IUFC website and the Indiana Community Tree Stewards Facebook Page. We have one Basic Tree Stewards course set for Thursday evenings in May with Keep Indianapolis Beautiful. More details to follow.

There is so much work to be done in Indiana and I know we can do it together! I am seeing communities large and small working to find collaborative solutions in order to establish, save, and grow their urban forest. More good things to come in 2013!

Contributed by Carrie Tauscher, Acting State Urban Forestry Coordinator and Volunteer Coordinator, Indiana Department of Natural Resources.



Some reminders of why I do my job....trees planted in my subdivision.

.....

RECIPIENTS ANNOUNCED FOR IU CAMPUS SUSTAINABILITY AWARDS

The first Indiana University Bloomington Campus Sustainability Awards were announced this past October. In an awards ceremony at the Neal-Marshall Black Culture Center's Grand Hall, the 2012 recipients were recognized for outstanding contributions to campus sustainability in the areas of leadership, teaching, research and collaboration. The Research Award was presented to the Bloomington Urban Forestry Research Group, a coalition of university researchers and community members. "I selected Bloomington Urban Forestry as the winning entry in the research category because I believe this research will have significant and broad impact for IU along with the Bloomington and Indianapolis communities," one selection committee member said. "As we continue to see impacts from climate change, this type of research will be essential for identifying mitigation mechanisms."

Contributed by Dr. Burney Fischer, IUFC Past President and Professor at Indiana University.

FERDINAND PARK BOARD ACORN PLANTING PROJECT

In 2006 and 2008, Ferdinand Park Board had been awarded Indiana Division of Forestry, Community and Urban Forestry (CUF) grants for the planting of about 100 transplant trees. Our application in 2010 was not awarded a grant and so the Park Board chose to establish more oaks by direct seeding of acorns.

Under the guidance of Ray Major, members of a local Girl Scout troop and the Landscape Design Class from the Forest Park High School Agriculture Department carried out the project. The project consists of 52 planting sites, in which acorns of six species of native oaks were planted in the first week of April, 2011. The sites are parallel to a section of the 18th Street Park walking trail which traverses a hilly area with a variety of slopes and aspects. The soils are eroded clays of former agricultural fields and are of relatively poor fertility and water holding capacity.

The purpose of the planting was to compare the feasibility and economics of establishing park trees through the use of direct seeding and volunteer labor to the use of public funding for the planting of large nursery stock.

Project Description

Acorns of six oak species were gathered and properly stratified for storage in October 2010. The acorns were sorted by floating. Those which did not float in water were judged to be viable. Oaks of the red oak group were stored in rodent proof, shallow wooden boxes which were placed in a shady area behind the barn and covered with a four inch layer of damp leaves. Those of the white oak group were planted temporarily in loose soil. All acorns were removed from storage late in March and sorted for viability. At this time most of them had begun to produce a radicle. The roots of the chestnut oaks were rather large, but still small enough to transplant. They were kept cool and moist until time for planting.

The planting sites were on 20 foot spacings parallel to, and at a 20 foot distance from, the walking trail. Each site was prepared late in March by turning a three foot diameter circle of sod. In the first week of April, each site was sown with six to eight acorns of species appropriate to the slope, aspect, and soil conditions. South and west facing slopes and the dry ridge tops were sown with black oak

and chestnut oak, which are the commonest dry site oaks in southwestern Indiana. White oak acorns would have also been used but very few were to be found locally in the fall of 2010. Two areas of north facing slope were planted with northern red oak and Shumard oak in mixture with black oak. Two drainages at the bottom of the slopes, which sometimes have standing water during the winter, were planted with swamp white oak and Shumard oak.



Northern Red Oak Seedling, 41 inches tall at 5 months old.

The seedlings began to appear early in May. A typical planting site produced four seedlings. Some sites produced as many as eight seedlings, and all sites produced at least two seedlings. An oval shaped area approximately three feet wide and six feet long was killed with Roundup around each planting site. The seedlings were covered with five gallon buckets to protect them from herbicide damage. The oval shape of the treated area allows for mowing without forcing the mower to turn a circle around each site. This makes mowing the row much easier, allows the mower driver to mow with greater care, and reduces seedling damage, soil compaction and erosion.

After herbicide treatment, each site was mulched with leaf mould or rotted grass clippings which the park department had on hand. This is a more appropriate mulch material for the newly germinated native oaks than coarse commercial wood chip mulches.

At the end of May, an additional layer of mulch was applied consisting of rotted wood chips obtained from the Street Department at no cost. Care was taken not to apply this material too deeply or too close the stems of the seedlings.

Each site was thinned to three to four vigorous seedlings during June and July. Seedlings most suited to the slope and aspect of each site were retained, but selection was also done to provide as great a variety of species as possible. In light of the difficulty with oak crown gall and chlorosis in pin oak, it seemed wise to plant a greater number of species of native oaks.

The seedlings were hand weeded twice during the summer. They were also lightly fertilized four times and watered twice. Neither of these measures was necessary for the survival of the seedlings, but it is probable that the growth and vigor of the seedlings was improved.

Comparison to the Scout Potted Seedling Project

At the same time that this project was done, our local Girl Scout troop planted 20 seedlings which were potted as acorns in the first week of March and were planted in the field during the first week of June. These trees were planted on similar soils and given the same care as the direct-seeded trees. The direct seeded plants have outgrown the potted seedlings in every respect. On August 23 the direct seeded trees averaged 20.8 inches high compared to an average of 12.0 inches for the potted transplants. On August 4, 2010, 50% of the direct seeded trees were still growing, but only 15% of the potted trees were still growing. Although we did not measure other parameters, the direct seeded trees had more and larger leaves, larger calipers at the root collar and were more robust and had better color than the potted transplants. Our largest direct seeded tree is northern red oak, which is 41 inches tall with a ½ inch caliper at the root collar. Here are comparisons of growth rates for the two projects. The species comparisons are not complete. In the direct seeded sites only the largest seedling was

(continued on page 8)



Northern Red Oak direct seeded sapling, 7 1/2 feet tall at 4 years.

Ferdinand Acorn Project
(continued from page 7)

measured. Number of trees by species is listed in parenthesis:

Tree Height (Inches)		
Species	Direct Seeded	Potted Seedlings
Red Oak	26.8 (5)	None Planted
Black Oak	17.3 (17)	8.7 (6)
Shumard Oak	21.4 (18)	13.9 (9)
Chestnut Oak	22.7 (12)	None Planted
Swamp White Oak	13.0 (1)	15.0 (4)
White Oak	None Germinated	6.0 (1)
Average for all Species	20.8 (52)	12.0 (20)

With good care, we predict that the direct seeded trees will reach 1-1/2 inch caliper

and six to eight feet in height within five years. They will need less care than planted nursery stock. They require far less planting labor than even the smallest nursery stock. Site grown trees seldom require watering or staking. With proper care, site grown oaks make better early growth than nursery grown transplants. They are not subject to transportation injury, planting damage, to transplant shock, or to girdling roots that have deleterious effects on nursery stock.

Cost Comparisons
Site preparation, gathering and storage of acorns, planting, herbicide treatment, initial mulching, fertilizing, and hand weeding, watering and thinning were all accomplished with volunteer labor. Total volunteer labor for the project was 38 man hours. Additional mulching and mowing were done with park department labor. Costs of mulching, herbicide treatment, and early pruning are about the same for direct seeding and for large transplants.

We estimate that a nursery, arborist or forester could make a reasonable profit planting trees in this way by charging \$15 per planting site. By comparison, 1-1/2 inch caliper nursery stock, which were planted in other

projects, cost an average of \$133 per tree for purchase, transportation, planting, and initial care such as watering and staking. If done by the traditional means of planting large nursery stock, this project would have cost \$6919. This is well beyond the tree planting budget for a small parks department such as Ferdinand's. This project was done as a volunteer effort; however, we estimate that this could be done commercially at a cost of no more than \$1000, assuming that the park department provides ongoing care for the trees. Because this project was a volunteer effort, the cost to the park department was minimal.

All the work on the project was done with simple home garden tools: garden spades, hoes, a small back pack sprayer, and a few buckets. All materials were taken to the site in a small automobile. The seed stock was gathered from local sources at no cost. Perhaps \$20 in herbicide and \$10 in fertilizer were used. Twenty of the 38 hours of the labor was provided by volunteers who though enthusiastic, were not very efficient in their efforts. Well trained professional laborers would do this work in far less time.

Factors to consider
Patience is required in growing trees from seed. It is important for everyone concerned with the project to realize that while this method is economical, seedlings require time to grow. Furthermore,

- Suitable seed sources may not be available every year.
- This type of planting may not work well in areas of heavy foot traffic.
- Ferdinand is a small, very orderly town. In areas where vandalism is a threat, plantings using very small trees may not succeed.
- We have been very fortunate that we have had little damage from deer or other wildlife. In such cases protective grow tubes and other deterrents are available.

Above all, it is of great importance to have the full cooperation of the lawn maintenance staff. If the mower driver understands the need for care and the work is made as easy as possible, the chance of a successful planting are much improved. Our mower drive also is trained in tree care, so he has an interest in good tree care because it is part of his job.

(continued on page 9)

IU RESEARCHERS AWARDED FUNDING TO STUDY NEIGHBORHOOD-LEVEL TREE PLANTING

A team of Indiana University Bloomington researchers will spend the next three years studying the effects of tree-planting programs in six cities with help from a \$173,206 grant awarded by the U.S. Forest Service.

The National Urban and Community Forestry Challenge Cost-Share grant was awarded to IU's Center for the Study of Institutions, Population and Environmental Change. The principal investigator is Burnell C. Fischer, clinical professor in the School of Public and Environmental Affairs and co-director of the Vincent and Elinor Ostrom Workshop in Political Theory and Policy Analysis. Co-principal investigators for the grant are Ph.D. students Jessica M. Vogt, Sarah K. Mincey, and Shannon Lea Watkins.

The grant, titled "Trees and People -- a Two-Way Street," will allow Fischer and his colleagues to expand urban forestry research they have been conducting in Indianapolis to include Detroit, St. Louis, Philadelphia, Atlanta and Des Moines.

"This large-scale, holistic study will help us understand how people influence urban trees and also how trees influence people in urban settings," Fischer said. "We're deeply

grateful to the U.S. Forest Service for funding this research."

The IU research proposal was one of three that were selected for funding, out of 60 applications, in a national competitive grant proposal.

The interdisciplinary, collaborative project will evaluate several tree-planting programs, assessing their direct effects on the survival and growth of urban trees and their indirect effects on the involvement of organizations and individuals. Researchers will collect data using mixed methods in the tradition of research on social-ecological systems. For example, they will inventory planted trees to gather data on environmental variables; and they will carry out surveys and interviews to measure effects on community engagement.

Results of the research will:

- Improve knowledge of the impact of tree planting for researchers, urban foresters and urban tree-planting non-profits
- Help close the gap between knowledge and practice for community tree-planting organizations

- Generate data for a national assessment of urban tree planting in the face of climate change.

- Inform best practices for volunteer tree planting and environmental stewardship.

Partner organizations for the project include the Alliance for Community Trees and six community organizations: Greening of Detroit, Keep Indianapolis Beautiful Inc., Forest ReLeaf of Missouri (St. Louis), Pennsylvania Horticultural Society (Philadelphia), Trees Atlanta, and Trees Forever (Des Moines).

The Center for the Study of Institutions, Population and Environmental Change is a research center of the Office of the Vice Provost for Research at Indiana University Bloomington. It studies processes of change in forest environments as mediated by institutional arrangements, demographic factors and other major human driving forces.

Contributed by Dr. Burney Fischer, IUFC Past President and Professor at Indiana University.

Ferdinand Acorn Project

(continued from page 7)

Conclusions

Establishing shade trees by this method has many advantages that may be attractive to public or institutional land managers as well as to private land owners. They include the following:

- Availability: Direct seeding projects can be done by all members of the population, young and old, by those who are not physically strong and by both the wealthy and the poor. With direction from an arborist or forester, many volunteers can be involved in public tree planting projects. By contrast, the planting of large nursery stock requires strength and effort beyond the ability or inclination of many.

- More trees: Because direct seeding is far less expensive than the use of even small nursery stock, there exists the potential to plant far greater numbers of trees.

- Lower costs: Costs are much lower than planting nursery stock. Seed can usually be

gathered at no cost. Equipment and tool costs are negligible. Initial care costs such as watering and staking are smaller and often unnecessary. These factors remain the same whether the project is achieved by volunteer effort or through contract planting by a nurseryman, forester or arborist.

- Increased variety: The variety of native trees that can be planted by direct seeding is much greater than for projects using nursery stock. This is especially true for native oaks, hickories, walnuts and other trees that are difficult to transplant. Nurseries, with good reason, sell only species that are profitable. Since only pin oak and red oak transplant easily, the other 17 species of oaks that are native to Indiana are not as frequently planted. Planting a wide variety of native species is one of our best hopes in the face of potential disease and insect infestation.

- Improved site compatibility: A greater variety of species allows the planting of species suitable to many different sites. Tree species can be matched to soil types, slopes, and aspects where they will grow best.

- Higher survival rate: Because each planting site produces several seedlings, survival rate for each site is 100%. Each site can be thinned to a single tree at the end of the second or third season.

- Increased early growth: It is well known that in oaks, early growth and tree health and vigor are greater in direct seeded plants than in transplanted nursery stock. Our comparison between the growth of the direct seeded acorns and the potted transplants bears this out.

- Improved quality: The common practice of planting of soft maples, flowering pears, and other short lived trees produces relatively small shade trees, which are generally subject to damage, produce inferior shade, and can damage structures and infrastructure. The planting of oaks and other large forest trees produces long lived trees of great strength with superior shade quality, which are well adapted to site conditions and which have the potential to reach truly majestic proportions.

Contributed by Ray Major, Ferdinand Park Board.

TRASH VERSES TREES: SAVING GOSHEN'S CITY FORESTER POSITION

In October 2012, the Goshen City Council President gave Goshen Mayor Allan Kauffman a list of proposed budget cuts. Included in those cuts was the City Forester position, the City's lone position dedicated to urban forestry issues. While it would not be fair to say the proposal was a complete surprise, it certainly was a disappointment.

The City Forester position was created and filled in 2006. Mayor Kauffman supported the position's creation and has been a steady advocate of urban forestry operations in Goshen ever since. It was likely assumed that there would be stiff opposition to this proposed cut. Nevertheless, the make-up of the Goshen City Council made it clear that this was no idle threat: the votes were there to make the City Forester position disappear, along with positions from other City departments.

The proposed budget cuts were the result of falling revenues over the past years due in part to property tax caps coinciding with the larger national and global economic downturn. As in many cities in Indiana and across the country, Goshen has had to find ways to shuffle money, tighten belts, cut spending, and eliminate waste in order to balance ledgers. Goshen has done quite well at this despite being in the heart of Elkhart County, one of the counties hit hardest by the recession. Goshen faced a budget shortfall for 2013, so Mayor Kauffman proposed a modest trash pick-up fee as a way to make up most of the difference. Goshen residents do not pay a trash pick-up fee. This is only a requirement for businesses. It was in this light, and seeing the trash pick-up fee as a tax, that the Council President proposed budget cuts.

Of course, there are many ways to look at the competing interests that were laid out in this particular budget debate. Revenue increase versus spending cuts. Collective good versus individual good. Quality-of-life economics versus basic-needs economics. It all sounds very familiar. In the City of Goshen's peculiar case, a very compelling way to frame the debate became Trash versus Trees. In other words, the choice was either have free trash pick-up or a City Forester and other City employees, but not both. In reality, the dichotomy was never quite that stark, but it felt that way in the weeks leading up to the City Council vote that would set the 2013 budget.

So what did we do? Goshen's Tree Board is very active, and they immediately began calling, emailing, stamp-mailing, and talking to people about the budget cut proposals. Tree advocates talked to church members, club members, neighbors, and family. Forestry volunteers were made aware of the situation. Avid Face-bookers began spreading the word. Biology and Environmental Science professors at the local college talked to their students and colleagues. The County Soil and Water Conservation District and Parks Department were brought on board. The local power company, NIPSCO, a perennial Tree Line USA company, was contacted for support, as was the IUFC and the Indiana DNR CUF office. Lots and lots of people began writing letters to the Goshen News editor in support of either the forester's position or trash pick-up fees, or both. Even more people called and emailed Council members to let them know that trees are an important infrastructural component of Goshen and needed to be maintained.

While it is not accurate to say that the City Forester's position was especially highlighted in the original proposed budget cuts, it was the only specific position named, and that allowed people to focus on it differently from some of the other positions. Also, the forester has been writing a regular column, published twice monthly, so forestry-related efforts had been well documented and explained to the public. Due to these factors and hundreds of good connections, people were quickly mobilized and motivated to speak up for the trees.

One of the most important connections that the forester and Tree Board had been working on to this point was getting out the information from our 2011 Public Tree Inventory and i-Trees Streets Analysis. In fact, in the months prior to the proposed cut, the Tree Board was already working on a larger presentation of these important findings, a presentation that would involve and solicit input from City Council. So we had much of the information ready to disperse just at the time we needed it. We were able to send supporters to links about our public trees and the analysis of all that these trees do for us. While it was scary to contemplate the reality of a vote which could eliminate the forester position, we also recognized that the situation was putting a spotlight on our forestry work, which we couldn't have created for ourselves, and which we could carefully take advantage of.

The day before City Council's vote on the budget, in November, Tree Board received word that a compromise had been reached. We encouraged the many supporters who were planning to come to the meeting to speak on behalf of trees, to come anyway – not expecting to need to say anything, but prepared to just in case. A compromise was revealed at the meeting, and all the City positions were saved, including the forester's. The Mayor announced at the meeting that he was setting up new email accounts for each of the Council members, requiring that they check them regularly, because he had received many frustrated calls from citizens who were either unable to contact Council members or weren't being responded to. This is a result of the great action by Goshen's tree supporters.

The forester and Tree Board had long been planning two volunteer tree-planting days at the end of October and beginning of November. We took advantage of our publicity to make these two opportunities known widely, and make it clear why planting trees is so necessary. The result was 85 volunteers who planted 72 trees in less than five hours. This is something sturdy to build on.

Of course, the whole experience is something to build on. We learned that the people of Goshen do really love their trees. We had a pretty good hunch that this was true, but they showed each other how much they care in this situation. Staying connected with these people – and businesses, and congregations, and schools, and other organizations – is really the key. Being connected helped us educate, which in turn helped to get people involved.

And involvement is the most – and the best – that any city or town can want.

Contributed by Aaron Kingsley, City Forester for the City of Goshen.

2012 FALL CONFERENCE RE-CAP

The Fall Conference took place October 10, 2012 at the Garrison Conference Center at Fort Harrison State Park in Indianapolis. President Burney Fisher opened the conference with a summary of accomplishments during the past year and challenges the IUFC faces. The organization successfully made the transition to a new Executive Director. IUFC is on solid ground financially, but needs to identify more partners and sources of income. One of our greatest challenges is to recruit members who will be active on committees. He also spoke about the need to get commitment from communities to replace trees in the urban forest, to sustain this vital resource.

Phil Wagner, Assistant State Forester said the DNR is committed to filling Pam Louk's position. He anticipates no radical changes in the Community and Urban Forestry program. Most of the money from a grant from the United State Forest Service (USFS) goes out to communities for urban forestry programs. The DNR regards groups such as IUFC and local communities as vital partners in urban forestry. Changes in state and federal governments may mean some budget cuts in forestry. Phil advised that local groups should not be too reliant on DNR and USFS for funds.

Lindsey Purcell spoke about the impact of the drought during the summer of 2012. Rains during the fall have helped ease the drought, but as of late October Indiana was still 6 to 13 inches below normal for the year. Lindsey briefly touched on some effects we are already experiencing from climate change, among which are more frequent and persistent droughts. Many variables determine the impact of drought. A tree already under stress from some other cause will be more susceptible to drought. Next year we may see consequences of depleted carbohydrate reserves. Moreover, as carbohydrate reserve is depleted, defense compound production is diminished so trees may be more prone to disease and insect attack. Lindsey concluded his talk with a discussion of "potions", including paclobutrazol, which can reduce stress caused by drought.

Meg Storrow discussed trees and utilities, using three communities as examples. Evansville developed a greenway along the river. An important design issue was how to incorporate trees into an area with pedestrians, vehicles, commercial property, and utilities.

The tree design was a compromise between instant effect and longevity, and trees may need to be replaced every 20 years. The Indianapolis project was in Center Township, a project by George Kessler in the early 1900s, which incorporated parks, green lawns, and open space for trees. The project in Columbus involves replacement for willow trees.

Following Meg's presentation, there were two break-out sessions. Matt Lake spoke about the role of urban forests in stormwater mitigation, and Chris Davis discussed root-friendly sewer line placement. Matt said that 40% of pollutants entering waterways come from stormwater. He reviewed actions that have been taken to deal with end-of-pipe discharges, as well as non-point sources of pollution. The Clean Water Act of 1972 has been amended, which required the Indiana Department of Environmental Management (IDEM) to modify its rules. The development of user fees associated with stormwater management has created an opportunity for additional conservation practices. For example, Merrillville's stormwater user fees generate more than \$1 million per year. Matt went on to provide some examples of how green infrastructure, including trees, rain gardens, pervious surfaces, and green bumpouts on streets can contribute to low impact development. More and better data are needed to demonstrate the value of stormwater retention. Street tree inventories are essential for quantifying the benefits of street trees for stormwater retention.

Chris Davis talked about pipe bursting as an alternative to a traditional excavation job when a sewer line fails. Although tree roots will not penetrate an intact sewer line, they will invade through breaks and cracks. There is now technology that permits re-lining a pipe without having to excavate the entire line.

The presentation of IUFC Awards followed an excellent lunch. On behalf of the Purdue Tree Committee, Tim Detzner and Belinda Kiger accepted the award for the Outstanding Tree Board. Nate Matthews received the Outstanding Individual award. The Vigo County Public Library was named the Outstanding Government Entity, and Hoosier Re Leaf received the Outstanding Civic Organization award. The Outstanding Tree Steward award went to two individuals: Jim Reece and Morris Schefcik. The Outstanding

Business award was presented to Dogwood Hills Tree Farm. The Outstanding Project Award went to the Kiwanis Club of Indianapolis (Downtown Club) and IPL.

Danielle McGrath and DeAnna Poon of the Indiana Utility Commission gave a presentation on revised tree trimming rules for utilities. The goal of the new rules is to provide more consistency and quality in trimming practices and to improve communication between utility companies and property owners. The Commission mandated that utilities follow ANSI A300 standards for pruning, including no topping. Rules are posted on the IUFC website.

John Stout, Jason Lietz, and Andrea Nichols of NIPSCO, gave a presentation on utilities and trees. Trees can be planted under power lines if they are the correct species. The talk was illustrated with a lot of images of incorrect species. NIPSCO has a list of approved trees for planting under utility lines. Andrea Nichols of NIPSCO is a member of Tree Line USA. Andrea sees education as a major part of her job. When trimming is needed on a street tree, a representative from the utility company talks to both city officials and the adjacent property owner. Pruning on a regular cycle increases worker safety, safety for equipment, and for the public.

Todd Lederman, Dogwood Hills Tree Farm, gave a presentation on utility friendly tree planting. Problems often arise when people plant a small tree under power lines, not recognizing the future conflict. There are many trees in the 20- to 25-ft mature height category. These include paperbark maple and some improved cultivars of crabapple. Todd also discussed the need for care after planting. This is especially a problem for churches, schools, and parks.

Mike Baldwin, Jeff Harris, and Julie Wiseman were elected as new board members. Chad Tinkel and Rachel Christenson were elected to serve a second term. During a brief board meeting after the conference, Paul Pinco was elected president, Nate Faris vice-president, Nate Matthews treasurer, and Greg Shaner secretary.

Contributed by Greg Shaner, IUFC Secretary and Tree Lafayette Volunteer.

LIKE OUR NEWSLETTER?
BECOME A MEMBER OF IUFC!

Membership in the IUFC is open to communities, tree boards, beautification committees, private organizations, corporations, non-profit organizations, students, individuals and anyone with an interest and appreciation of Indiana’s urban forests.

WHY YOU SHOULD JOIN

- Trees provide beauty and help define the aesthetic qualities of a community. Their role in the urban forest and the environment is very critical.
- The IUFC strives to promote ideal community forest practices to the public and private organizations.
 - The IUFC seeks to establish sustainable urban forests in all communities, while assisting all municipalities educationally, to plant and maintain trees properly.
 - The IUFC also collaborates with IDNR, Community and Urban Forestry to widen the public’s understanding and appreciation for the value of urban trees and forests in our Indiana communities and to preserve and renew Indiana’s community forests Membership Benefits.

MEMBERSHIP BENEFITS

- Networking opportunities through annual conferences, workshops and general meetings.
- Email notices of up-to-date information on the latest urban forestry trends.
- Discounted fees to our conferences and meetings.
- A printed membership directory of all IUFC members.
- “Continuing Education Fund” scholarship assistance for all current members.
- Educational information and assistance.
- Your membership dues are tax deductible.

TYPES OF MEMBERSHIP

- Individual Member (\$30.00).
- Non-Profit or Government Membership (\$75.00) includes benefits and directory listings for any three people from the joining organization.
- Corporate Membership (\$100.00 - \$500.00 call for details) includes benefits and directory listings for any three people from the joining organization.
- Student memberships are also available for \$20.00. Must be a full-time student.

A SPECIAL THANK YOU TO OUR
ANNUAL SPONSORS AND DONORS:



SILVER LEAF SPONSORS

(\$1,000 - \$2,499)

- Davey Resource Group
- Duke Energy
- Indiana Arborist Association
- NIPSCO

ANNUAL CORPORATE SUPPORTER

(\$500)

- Vectren Foundation

TREE SUPPORTER

(\$101 - \$500)

- Linda Cromer
- Trish and Bill Eccles
- Dr. Burney Fischer
- Amil Kleinert
- Pam Louks
- John Montgomery
- Lindsey Purcell

FRIEND OF THE URBAN FOREST

(UP TO \$100)

- Nate Faris
- Ashley Mulis

NEWSLETTER ASSISTANCE

Thank you to the Madison County Council of Governments in Anderson, Indiana for their assistance in producing this e-newsletter.



P.O. Box 409
Carmel, IN 46082