

An Arborist takes
care of a tree for life.



OUT ON A LIMB

SUMMER 2018, VOLUME 38, ISSUE 2



Local arborist company provides Arbor Day support.
See page 6.

COMMON HACKBERRY - NATURAL TREE PRUNING

By: Eric Berg, Community Forestry & Sustainable Landscapes Program Leader, University of Nebraska—Lincoln, Nebraska Forest Service LANR

Beyond the cottonwood, and perhaps eastern redcedar, if there is a common tree associated with the Nebraska landscape and the Great Plains, common hackberry would certainly come to mind. Because of its prevalence across the United States this tree (*Celtis occidentalis*) also has picked up many common names including sugarberry (eat a fruit), nettletree (feel the leaf) and beaverwood (yes, they like this, too). This tree also tops the list as an excellent species to plant for wildlife. The pea-sized fruits which mature in late summer often persist into the winter months, offering an excellent food source for many birds and mammals. The leaves are an important source of food for several butterfly caterpillars. The tendency for decay at branch stubs and injuries also creates nesting habitat for many wildlife species. While the tree prefers to grow in rich, well-drained alluvial soils, it can be found growing in dry upland sites in some of our toughest community sites, including ones with high compaction and salt spray. This species is tolerant of a wide pH, adapted to zones 3 to 9 and does not seem to notice drought conditions. In fact, this is one of the few tree species that went through the 2012 drought largely unaffected.



Figure 1: Common hackberry tree (*Celtis occidentalis*), a familiar native deciduous tree known for its wide range of environmental tolerances and fast growth rate. Useful for everything from windbreaks to shade trees to city streets, this species also provides excellent value for wildlife year round. Its biggest drawbacks are typically poor branch structure and high susceptibility to decay.

But – there is always a but, this species is terribly weak at compartmentalizing wounds and decay, which often result in large branch and stem failures and ultimately loss of the tree. It is important to remember the principles of wound reactions in trees, especially given that the tree species, type of wound and timing of the injury all directly impact woundwood formation. At the heart of these principles is the concept of compartmentalization and model of CODIT (Compartmentalization of Decay in Trees) as described by the late Alex Shigo. As a brief review, the compartmentalization concept has four major events: 1) Wound; 2) Response of the tree to compartmentalize the injured and infected wood; 3) Entry of harmful microorganisms such as wood-decay fungi; and 4) Development of discolored or decayed wood within compartments.

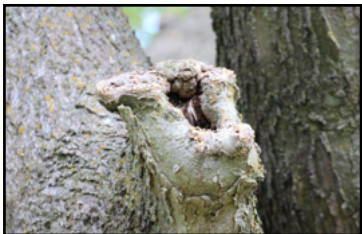


Figure 2: Typical woundwood response following the shedding of a branch. Hackberry is a classic poor compartmentalizing tree species. When harmful organisms such as wood decay fungi enter the tree, they frequently and rapidly spread and remain active in the tree. In the photo opposite, this wound may never close, leaving it in phase 3 of the CODIT principle.

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A QUARTERLY UPDATE OF THE NEBRASKA ARBORISTS ASSOCIATION

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SUBMIT ARTICLES:

If you have anything you'd like to submit for inclusion in the Quarterly Update, please contact Jim Keepers at jlkeepers45@gmail.com or (402) 332-0715 or (402) 618-8837.

Submission deadlines for the NAA
2018 quarterly newsletters:

3rd Quarter - September 1, 2018

Photo contributions throughout
courtesy of Jim Keepers.

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FROM THE PRESIDENT

By Kevin Popken, NAA President

I think for many of us who make a living in arboriculture much of the attraction is the variety of our work. There is never a day that is the same as the last. Each new day presents different challenges, whether that be trimming or removal or diagnosing disease or insect damage...never a dull day.

With this comes the ever-changing methods, equipment and ways to meet these daily challenges. Most of these new advances have come from other tree workers like ourselves, people in the field looking for a better way to address daily problems that we all face. That passion and independent thinking has made our industry among the fastest-changing industries in terms of the new technologies and creative uses of technologies brought in from other fields. Just in the last decade we have seen changes in chemistries for insect and disease issues, climbing methods and devices, as well as new ways to work and remove trees altogether.

Our company bought our first backyard lift in 2010, now they are becoming more and more common, as is crane use for safe removal of large trees. Now tree company owners like Gary Garasmek have adapted knucklebooms fitted with a grapple saw so a tree can be removed safely without the operator even leaving the ground.

These innovations were all driven by folks in the field looking to be safer and more efficient way so they could come home to their families at the end of the day with something left in the tank to give to the things that matter the most.

While you are out there doing what you are passionate about, be safe and be thinking about how you can make your work safer and more efficient. You may well be the next contributor to making our industry better.

Finally, be sure to check our website for upcoming classes, some involving many of these new innovations. Classes include a grapple saw demonstration sponsored by Hughes Tree Service at our Summer Field Day on August 17, crane training on August 24 with Mark Chisolm, EHAP class on September 12 with Phillip Kelley, Tree Climber Specialist class on September 13 with Phillip Kelley, and our regular fall Arborist School classes.

All the Best,

Kevin Popken - President, Nebraska Arborists Association

UPCOMING EVENTS

Nebraska GREAT PLAINS Summer Field Day

Friday, August 17, 2018 - Great Plains Nursery, Weston, Nebraska

Crane Operations Workshop (co-hosted with TCIA)

Friday, August 24, 2018 - Benson Park, Omaha, NE

Electrical Hazards Awareness Training

Wednesday, September 12, 2018 - Carol Joy Holling Center, Ashland, NE

Tree Climber Specialist Workshop

Thursday, September 13, 2018 - Carol Joy Holling Center, Ashland, NE

2018 Arborist School

Tree ID, Evaluation & Selection, Planting & Establishment
September 6-7, 2018 - Carol Joy Holling Center, Ashland, NE

Pruning, Climbing & Safety

October 4-5, 2018 - Carol Joy Holling Center, Ashland, NE

Plant Health & Tree Biology

November 14-15, 2018 - Carol Joy Holling Center, Ashland, NE

Nebraska GREAT PLAINS Conference

January 23-24, 2019 - Holthus Conference Center, York, Nebraska

(continued from page 1)

This compartmentalization concept has two main parts: Part 1 includes events in the wood at the time of wounding and Part 2 the events



Figure 3: In branch failure from high winds, the remaining splinters will typically point upwards. When a failure occurs from loading or no wind, the splinters will typically point downwards. Branch fractures and stubs create long-term entry points for harmful organisms and often lead to the development of wetwood. For this type of wound, Natural Target Pruning to the branch bark collar can eliminate the stub, encourage the development of woundwood and potentially close and encapsulate harmful organisms.

which take place in the wood after the wounding. CODIT as a model also consists of two main parts. Part 1 of CODIT describes the three walls that give the model designations to the reaction zone within the tree: Wall 1 resists vertical spread of decay; Wall 2 resists inward spread; and Wall 3 resists lateral spread. Part 2 of CODIT describes

the creation of a barrier zone formed in new wood after the wounding event; Wall 4 is a boundary which separates the wood present at the time of wounding from the new wood that continues to form after the wounding. It is the strongest protection zone and when wounding is minimized, such as with Natural Target Pruning, complete closure and encapsulation of the wood can be achieved. Shigo was always careful to remind us that these principles are describing models and not biological features or processes.



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So what are the lessons to be learned with the example photographs and hackberry in general? First, I strongly support the continued use of hackberries as a primary species for community forests in Nebraska. We should, however, be more selective about the sites where we plant hackberries. They should be avoided in sites predisposed to mechanical injury such as street curbsides, parking lots, and around utilities. Where they are planted, it should be not as individuals but in groups of three to five with understory shrubs or perennials and the entire area mulched. This will minimize mower and trimmer injuries. Where single trees are planted for shade, the planting is best tied into existing structure such as the backside of a sidewalk, fence or similar hardscaping, and the elements grouped together in a large mulched area, again to minimize mechanical injury to the stem and rooting area.

Second, structurally pruning the tree to remove weak branch crotches and multiple or codominant stems is very important for the first 10 – 20 years of its growth. Developing good structure while the tree is young will dramatically minimize wounding and the improved branching structure will help protect it from pests, diseases and extreme weather for decades to come.

A SPECIAL OR UNIQUE TREE

By: Jim Keepers, NAA Newsletter Coordinator

Pinyon Pine, *Pinus edulis* - Most Arborists in Eastern Nebraska are unfamiliar with this pine tree. The Eastern 4H Center south of Gretna is the only location I know of in our area with these trees. It is a small pine tree growing about 20 feet tall. It is a very water efficient tree and can survive on less than 15 inches or less of water. The needles are yellow-green and are only two inches long growing in bundles of two. The needles can last eight or nine years on the tree. The cones of this tree are small and look like brown roses. The cones contain valuable pine nuts.



The pinyon or piñon pine group grows mostly in the southwestern United States and in Mexico. The tree is the official state tree of New Mexico. The word “pinon” means pine nut in Spanish.



The trees yield edible pinyon nuts, which were a staple of the Native Americans, and eaten as a snack. The name is derived from the Spanish Pino piñonero, a name used for both the American varieties and the Stone Pine common in Spain, the pinyon nut or seed is high in fat and calories.

When wood from this tree is burned it has a distinctive fragrance, making it a common wood to burn at camp sites in the southwest. It also has another unique feature: it enhances the soil in which it grows by increasing concentrations of both macronutrients and micronutrients.

ARBORIST SPOTLIGHT

By: *Jim Keepers, NAA Newsletter Coordinator*

Since I started writing the NAA Newsletter Arborist Spotlight article I have been looking for interesting and exciting individuals to recognize for their accomplishments and contributions to Nebraska tree care. My selection process has allowed me to broaden my search to include anyone related to the tree care industry. This quarter I feel I have hit the nail on the head. I hope when you have finished reading this article you will realize what a great individual I have decided to spotlight this month.

The featured individual is Heather Byers, a Horticulturist and Certified Nebraska Nurseryman. She is co-owner of Great Plains Nursery with her husband Brian Byers, Nursery Operations Manager. She is a wife, mother, dog owner, and business owner who plays an active role in her community as well as in the arborist, nursery and landscape fields.



RootMaker Containers line up in the greenhouse. Photo by Heather Byers.

Heather was born on May 15 in Clarks, Nebraska, a small village in Merrick County with a population of 369. Her parents are Tim and Cindy and she has one brother, Vinny, and one sister, Lynn. She attended local Nebraska community schools and graduated from the University of Nebraska, Department of Agronomy and Horticulture in 2006 with a degree in Horticulture.

She always wanted to be an entrepreneur because starting a business was in her blood. Her great-grandfather started a rural telephone exchange, her parents developed several businesses over the years, and numerous cousins are all in business for themselves. To quote Heather, “Everybody started their own thing,” and she was determined to start hers. She decided what direction she wanted to take, and she knew she always had a love for horticulture. While she was developing her game plan she met her future husband, Brian.

Heather took business courses during her senior year at the University and in these courses, she was required to develop a business plan. Her plan established the foundation for Great Plains Nursery, and she entered it into the UNL Venture Plan Competition hosted by the College of Business Administration’s Center for Entrepreneurship. She won first place and it gave her the confidence needed to follow her dream.

After graduation she married Brian on October 28, 2006. Brian had a degree in construction and had experience working for a year in nursery management.



Great Plains Nursery entrance – Photo by Heather Byers.



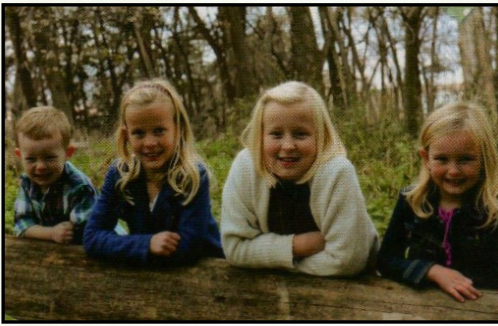
RootMaker Bags in a pot in the field – Photo by Heather Byers.

Great Plains Nursery got off the ground in 2008 after they built their first greenhouse in the fall of 2007. 2018 marks their 10th season in business. Heather’s venture plan became the foundation for the business. Heather’s parents had sold their business and they helped with the establishment of the new business. They first started growing trees in smooth containers, a very traditional nursery method, but they were not happy with the results.

Heather and Brian soon realized there was a market for native trees grown from seeds and after some research they decided to utilize Dr. Carl Whitcomb’s RootMaker system. Dr. Whitcomb had 40 years of research developing his containers and bags. Heather developed the following theme for their business: native trees and shrubs for conservation & landscape use. Brian quit his other job after three years and began working full-time at the nursery. With his construction background, he has built all their greenhouses and office space. He also devotes several hours to making nursery stock deliveries.



Acorns germinating in the greenhouse.



Christmas photo 2017, L to R. Griffin, Gracyn, Bristol & Finley

The nursery has grown over the years under Heather’s leadership and Brian’s gifted construction skills. They added a new hoop house, new bag-in-pot beds and now a second greenhouse. They also added shrubs from cuttings, fruit trees and just recently, bare root trees. They are branching out into landscape design and wind break installation. They have an awesome team of dedicated employees. Their nursery stock is sold to municipalities, retail nurseries, arborists, landscapers and some retail to homeowners.



L to R - Huck & Moses.

Heather has established a niche for her tree sales. Their business is a way of life. Every year the entire family goes across the state of Nebraska collecting seeds from native trees.



Brian and Heather giving syndicated writer Jan Rigenbach a tour of the Nursery

Heather and Brian have four children: Finley, 9, Bristol, 7, Gracyn, 5, and Griffin, 3, with another one on the way in early August. They have two Golden Retrievers – Huck and Moses making up the rest of the family. Finley and Bristol help on deliveries. Finley was last year’s tree model and Bristol will be this year’s tree model for the Gretna Tree Giveaway Program. The models show the tree’s height.



Heather planting Oak acorns in the greenhouse.

Running the nursery has been difficult at times. A few years ago, they were faced with a flash rain storm that washed several trees out of the fields. The local farming community stepped in and helped them retrieve the trees they could save. They also lost several trees because of chemical drift and bad soil mix. These road blocks have not stopped Heather and Brian in developing their nursery into one of the best in Nebraska.



Finley modeling a tree for height.

Heather is a member of the Nebraska Community Forestry Council, Nebraska Nursery and Landscape Association, and the Western Nursery and Landscaping Association (WNLA). She is an active member of St. John Nepomucene Catholic Church in Weston and every year grows vegetables for the church school plant sale. The family plays an active role in the plant sale. She also finds time to coach her children’s volleyball teams and loves going to all their sports and school events. The kids are the center of her life! She also enjoys going to the lake on the weekend with the family.

Heather has a God-given talent to be able to balance work life and home life. She wants her children to grow up to be hard workers and appreciate nature. Her children work beside her and go along on deliveries. Heather strives to pass along to her children her knowledge of nature and the way things work in our fast-paced world.

I feel fortunate to have met Heather, her husband Brian, their four children and dogs many years ago. I have given you a glimpse into the life of Heather Byers, but the only way you will get to know her and see her in action is to visit the Great Plains Nursery. You will have this opportunity by attending the Nebraska GREAT PLAINS Summer Field Day on August 17.

I want to leave you with a quote from Heather’s husband Brian, “She is dedicated to finding the best way to grow trees to ensure long-lived trees for our communities.”



Shrubs growing RootMaker containers in the field.

HUGHES TREE SERVICE SUPPORTS NEBRASKA ARBOR DAY

By: *Jim Keepers, NAA Newsletter Coordinator*

In the first quarter NAA newsletter, I asked all NAA members to set some time aside to assist their local City/County, City Tree Board or local schools in the celebration of Arbor Day on Friday, April 27. I am pleased to recognize Stacy Hughes, Hughes Tree Service, for accepting my request and dispatching his company's crew to the Sarpy County Fair Grounds in Springfield to accomplish much needed tree work.

The Hughes crews consisted of two bucket crews, grapple saw crew, crane crew and two grapple truck loaders along with a landscaping crew and plant health crew. The crews removed four old maple trees and trimmed four other trees. They also ground the four stumps down to the ground. The landscaping crew planted two trees in place of the two removals. The plant health crew treated the remaining ash trees for Emerald Ash Borer (EAB). Combining the crew hours and the equipment, the tree work at the Fair Ground totaled \$20,000.

Terry Hughes has always been a big supporter of the Sarpy County Fairgrounds by providing high quality mulch every year for all the Fairgrounds Demonstration Gardens maintained by the Douglas/Sarpy County Extension Master Gardeners under the leadership of Amy and Bob Green. Stacy Hughes is following in his father's footsteps.

The Sarpy County Fair Board didn't have the funding to remove, prune and replace these very old and defected trees. The efforts of Hughes Tree Service and their personnel is just one example of how NAA arborists are responding to the needs of the community on a very special Nebraska holiday. I want to personally thank Stacy and all the Hughes personnel who took part in this project. I hope other NAA association members will follow Hughes lead and offer their services next Arbor Day. Special thanks go out to Terry Hughes for supporting his local community.



Sarpy County Fair Grounds Monument to 4H.



Example of the detreating tree canopy at the Sarpy County Fair Grounds .



Additional photos show Hughes Tree Service Crews removing trees at the Sarpy County Fairgrounds on Arbor Day.

OAK TREE GIRDLER FLAGGING

is caused by Twig Girdler beetles, an insect that damages hardwood trees. These insect pests chew the bark all the way around the small branches, girdling and killing them and causing them to fall to the ground. Their scientific name is *Oncideres cingulata*. These beetles don't sting you, nor do they carry infection to your plants. However, twig girdler damage can be significant damage especially in pecan, hickory and oak trees. Damage is very intense in late summer. The leaves wither and die prematurely. You'll also notice twigs and branches dropping from your trees and piling up beneath them on the ground.



NEW MEMBERS

- Cody Merritt**
- Ben Hunter**
- Doug McIntosh**
- Evan Fauss**
- Brandon Bogus**
- Steven Schutz**

NEWLY CERTIFIED MEMBERS

- Evan Fauss**
- Hugh O'Donnell**
- Mark Scudder**
- Dutch Sevenser**
- Tyler Leetch**
- Eric Moore**
- Rony Interiano**
- Sarah Dein**

NAA ARBORIST SCHOOL SCHOLARSHIPS

Registration is now open for the 2018 Nebraska Arborists Association (NAA) Scholarships for the NAA Arborist School being held at Carol Joy Holling Center in Ashland, Nebraska. The scholarship application and instructions can be found on the NAA website. Class dates are listed in the Upcoming Events section of this newsletter.

ANTHRACNOSE (än-thrāk'nōs)

is a complex of different fungal pathogens that can attack many of our trees, shrubs and perennials. Most often we see this disease when spring has been cool and damp. However, this year it is showing up late. Maples are starting to show symptoms. Sycamore and ash traditionally have issues, too. It is difficult to manage due to the uncertainty of it even occurring. Trees will drop heavily infected leaves and normally push a secondary set. Fungicide treatments are seldom needed. If applied they need to be put on before symptoms start to appear.



Read more here: <http://www.extension.umn.edu/garden/yard-garden/trees-shrubs/anthracnose/>

From Scott Evans, Weekly E-mail Update June 18, 2018, Extension Assistant, Horticulture & Certified NE Arborist.

THE 4TH ANNUAL SALUTING BRANCHES WILL BE HELD ON WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 19, 2018

By: *Jim Keepers, NAA Newsletter Coordinator*



“Saluting Branches: Arborists United for Veteran Remembrance” is an opportunity for tree care professionals throughout the country to unite and do what we do best – provide exceptional tree care – to keep our veterans’ cemeteries safe, beautiful places for all those who visit. Rainbow Treecare Scientific Advancement is the driving force behind this initiative along with numerous industry sponsors.

I have been approached by one of our association members to consider the possibility of NAA members participating in this event at the Sarpy County National Cemetery. Our cemetery is so new it doesn’t have any large trees and it is not on the Saluting Branches register, but I am sure there are some grounds work that needs to be done. If there is support within the NAA to provide help on this day, please let me know and I will see what service we can provide. I will present it to the NAA Board if our services are needed and if there are NAA volunteers to help. I can be contacted by phone or e-mail – 402-618-8837 or jlkeepers45@gmail.com.

I’ve been climbing for 6 years. My best friend is a fallen marine. So this project hits close to home. I’d love to participate in any way needed.

- Matthew Smith-Davis, Smith-Davis Tree Co.

2019 NEBRASKA GREAT PLAINS CONFERENCE

By: *Jim Keepers, NAA Newsletter Coordinator*

The Nebraska GREAT PLAINS Conference is moving to a new location in 2019. The conference will be held at the Holthus Conference Center in York, Nebraska, on January 23-24, 2019. The Holthus Center is a first-class conference facility with hotel rooms and restaurants just a few blocks from the facility.



City of York, Holthus Conference Center.

This center brings the elegance and state-of-the art technology of a large convention facility to the heart of Nebraska. It is located on Highway 81, north of the 1-80 York interchange. This beautiful 40,000 square foot facility is versatile to meet all our needs. This facility offers easy accessibility and the luxury of loading docks with drive-in accessibility for large equipment items. I had the opportunity to see this facility firsthand and by far it is the best midsize convention center I have ever seen.

The conference committee is looking at new ideas for the 2019 event, and we will keep you informed of what we have planned. If you have any suggestions for speakers or topics to present, please contact me at jlkeepers45@gmail.com or call 402-618-8837.

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BUR OAK, KING OF THE FOREST

By: Justin Evertson, Green Infrastructure Coordinator,
Nebraska Forest Service

Perhaps no tree better symbolizes the spirit of the Great Plains than the bur oak (*Quercus macrocarpa*). This incredibly tough native can grow in places few other trees dare go. Its thick, corky bark has even enabled it to withstand prairie fires, making it one of the few trees prominent in grasslands.

Although no tree is perfect, the bur oak comes awfully close. It is relatively disease free, extremely drought tolerant, adaptable to a wide range of soil conditions and can be very long-lived. As a testament to its longevity, one tree growing in Ponca State Park in northeast Nebraska has been dated to 1644. It was reaching for the sky well before the Mayflower landed at Plymouth Rock!

Bur oak grows naturally in Nebraska from Richardson County in the southeast corner to Dawes County in the Panhandle. Despite its natural prominence, bur oak is seldom planted in Nebraska communities. What a shame. If we had planted just one bur oak to every 10 Siberian elms (*Ulmus pumila*), our community forests would be much more spectacular. Fortunately, with tree planting, it's never too late to start. Contact your local nursery today about ordering a bur oak, or if you're ambitious, gather and plant the acorns this fall.

When planting a bur oak, be sure to give it plenty of room to grow. Trees in Nebraska commonly reach 50 to 70 feet tall with a crown spread from 50 to 80 feet. The state champion in Beatrice is 75 feet tall, has a crown spread of over 100 feet and has a trunk circumference of nearly 15 feet.



DOTHISTROMA – NEEDLE BLIGHT

From: Pest Update (May 30, 2018) Vol. 16, no.16, John Ball, Forest Health Specialist, SD Department of Agriculture Extension Forester, SD Cooperative Extension

Dothistroma treatments should be started now. This is a very common disease of Austrian pines this year (also Ponderosa pines) and is responsible for most of the discolored pines we are seeing. The symptoms are dead needle tips beyond the yellow to tan spots. The spots have now enlarged to form brown to reddish brown bands and sometimes fruiting structures can be seen in the bands. The infection this year is so bad that the entire needle may be discolored.



The treatment is a copper fungicide applied now as the candles are expanding and repeated in late June and again in mid-July. There are copper containing four fungicides available such as Camelot for those individuals who must spray several or more trees. Chlorothalonil-based fungicides have shown effectiveness for treating the disease but are not registered for this use.

TREE CITY USA AWARDS

By: Jim Keepers, Coordinator Gretna Arbor Society (Tree Board)

At the Nebraska Urban and Community Forestry Advisory Council Tree City USA Program held in York, Nebraska, a total of ninety-three Nebraska Cities received The Arbor Day Foundation 2017 Tree City USA Award. The following nine Nebraska cities received the 2017 Tree City USA Growth Award: Gering, Gretna, Lincoln, Norfolk, Valley, South Sioux City, Sidney and Ogallala. The Growth Award is special because a local tree board must go out of their way to demonstrate their efforts to establish unique tree related training and planting programs for their respected cities.



Many NAA association members have volunteered to be members of their city's tree board. They are to be commended for their service to their city for utilizing their time and talents to enhance their cities tree programs. Thank you to Graham Herbst and Amy Seiler, Community Forestry Specialists, Nebraska Forest Service for all the hard work they put into the Nebraska Tree City USA awards program.

Pictured: Flag given to Tree City USA Award Winners.

TREES FOR BEES AND OTHER POLLINATORS

By: Nebraska Statewide Arboretum



Bees and other pollinators rank at the top of the list of important insects, moving pollen from flower to flower to ensure pollination and the resulting production of many of our most important fruits and vegetables. Our supermarket shelves and dining room tables would look dramatically different if not for pollinators — especially bees. But in many areas, parasites, a lack of forage, and other factors are threatening bee health and survival. Trees' flowers are a critical source of forage for bees, providing nutrient-rich pollen and nectar that bees use for food and to make honey.

When using pesticides, please take additional steps to help keep pollinators healthy. Do not apply pesticides when pollinators are active and always follow label instructions carefully.

Following is a list of bee-friendly trees provided by the Nebraska State Arboretum



Maples, *Acer* sp. This large family of deciduous trees ranges from tall giants like red maple, *Acer rubrum*, to smaller specimens like Japanese maple, *Acer palmatum*. The flowers are generally not showy. Most have great fall color.



Serviceberry, *Amelanchier* sp. These small American native trees are best adapted to cold winter areas. White to pink spring flowers appear before the leaves, which turn fiery shades in fall. They also produce edible fruit that is used to make jams and jellies and is loved by birds.



Fruit trees Many types of trees including plums, apples, crabapples, peaches, and pears are good food sources for bees. Varieties come in fruiting and fruitless types. Many fruiting varieties need bees to produce fruit. Most of these will flower in the spring.



Liquidambar, *Liquidambar* sp. These large, upright trees provide beautiful fall color. The flowers are inconspicuous but still attract bees. One variety is the American sweetgum.



Black locust, *Robinia pseudoacacia* Clusters of fragrant white flowers appear in late spring on this locust, with beautiful yellow color in the fall. This species is not a good garden tree, as it reseeds heavily and has brittle wood. A better place for it is out-of-the-way areas like hedge rows.



Linden, *Tilia* sp. This tree blooms late spring into summer with small, yellowish-white, fragrant flowers. Both the silver linden and littleleaf linden are great examples of this species.

Other trees that provide food for pollinators include Hawthorns (*Crataegus* sp.), Tuliptrees (*Liriodendron tulipifera*), Southern magnolias (*Magnolia grandiflora*), Privets (*Ligustrum*), and many additional natives.

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TECHNICAL NOTICE: STERLING 30 FT. WEB WHEELS

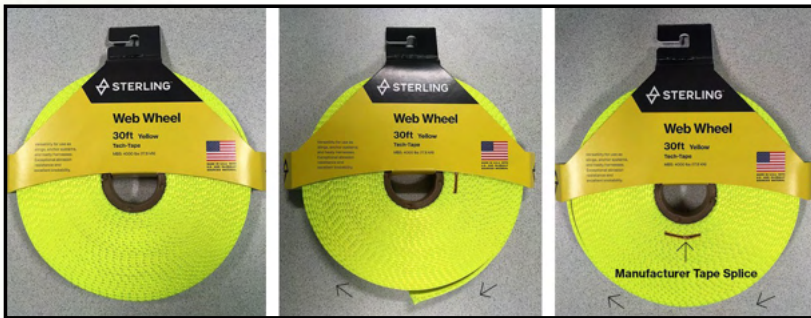
By: Travis Shipman, Quality Control Manager, Sterling Rope Co.

It has been brought to our attention that it is possible that recently a very small number of the Sterling 30 ft. Web Wheels may contain a taped splice. Specific part numbers are:

Item	Description
WB254MS04009	1" Tubular Mil-Spec Web Wheel Black 30'
WB254MS06009	1" Tubular Mil-Spec Web Wheel Blue 30'
WB254MS08009	1" Tubular Mil-Spec Web Wheel Red 30'
WB254MS09009	1" Tubular Mil-Spec Web Wheel N Yel. 30'
WB254TT04009	1" TechTape Web Wheel Black 30'
WB254TT06009	1" TechTape Web Wheel Blue 30'
WB254TT08009	1" TechTape Web Wheel Red 30'
WB254TT09009	1" TechTape Web Wheel Neon Yel. 30'

Our larger spools of webbing often do contain taped splices allowing shorter sections of webbing to be spooled together on the same spool. As a result, if webbing is purchased off a spool at a retailer, you should always carefully inspect the webbing as it is possible that it may contain a taped splice.

NOTE: a taped splice is not intended to hold any load and the length of webbing with a tape splice should NEVER be used without removing the tape and separating the sections.



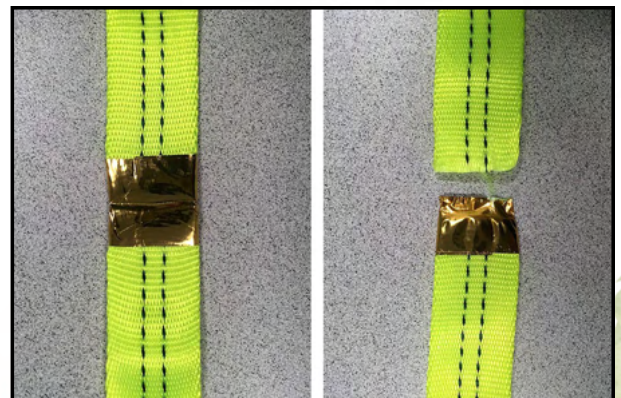
Our 30 ft. Web Wheels, however, should not contain any splices.

Accordingly, we are asking you to check any webbing you have that you may have purchased in the form of a Web Wheel. Inspect any unopened Web Wheel packages by rotating the webbing and looking for a tape splice as shown on the photo

below. Inspect any previously-opened webbing carefully to see if there is a tape splice anywhere along the length of the webbing. If a splice is found, please remove the tape and separate the sections of webbing so that the webbing is not inadvertently used as a single piece. Please rest assured that any webbing contained in a Web Wheel with a splice otherwise meets all specifications and is safe to use so long as the splice is removed and not loaded in your application.

In order to inspect the webbing, rotate the packaging around the entire Web Wheel to insure all webbing is carefully inspected. A tape splice will be visible as shown above.

If you have any questions, or if you would like to return any Web Wheel containing a taped splice for a free replacement, please contact Sterling at 800.788.7673 or email customer service at info@sterlingrope.com.



What is Attacking this Tree?

Photo by Master Gardener Gerry Chase, Eastern Nebraska 4H Center.

NEBRASKA ENVIRONMENTAL TRUST

By Mark Brohman, Executive Director, Nebraska Environmental Trust

The Nebraska Environmental Trust was created by the Nebraska Legislature in 1992 for the purposes of environmental conservation and restoration. The first grants were given in 1994. Over the last 25 years, the Trust has provided more than \$289 million in grants to 2,100 projects across the state, using revenue from the Nebraska Lottery. The Trust receives 44.5% of the Lottery's proceeds. Projects range from habitat restoration and preservation to water conservation, waste management, recycling and environmental education.

In its environmental conservation and restoration activities, the Trust has worked with numerous entities and individuals to bring these projects to fruition. Some of these entities include State agencies like the Nebraska Department of Environment Quality, Department of Agriculture, the Nebraska Game and Parks Commission; organizations like the Rainwater Basin Joint Venture, Ducks Unlimited, Pheasants Forever and the Natural Resources Districts. The Nebraska Environmental Trust positions itself as a partner to these different bodies in bringing projects together, which otherwise would not have been possible due to lack of funding. The Trust's main objective is to collaborate with these partners and provide seed money that will make a difference to Nebraska's future.

The Trust has worked on many tree projects across the State. From funding the planting of thousands of pine trees with Boy Scouts and volunteers in the Pine Ridge, to controlling salt cedars and Russian olive trees along the North Platte River, controlled burns and cutting projects with Eastern Red Cedars across the State, participating in the ReTree Nebraska and Green Towns projects, building rain gardens with trees and shrubs, and many more tree planting projects.

The Nebraska Environmental Trust works to preserve, protect and restore our natural resources for future generations. Anyone – citizens, organizations, communities, farmers and businesses – can apply for funding to protect habitat, improve water quality and establish recycling programs in Nebraska. For more information on the Trust, go to: environmentaltrust.org or call 402-471-5409.

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CONVERSATION WITH TOM WIENS & AMY SEILER

By: Jim Keepers, NAA Newsletter Coordinator

The following is a phone and e-mail conversation I had with Tom Wiens, Past NAA president and Amy Seiler, Nebraska Forest Service, Community Forester Specialist, western Nebraska early this spring. I thought Amy's tree assessment of her trees in western Nebraska was very informative. We think we have trees issues here in eastern Nebraska, but in the western part of the state they have been faced with some bad weather conditions.

Amy knows Tom Wiens and she told me Tom believes that they have issues with bark beetle and ash borer. This is not something new, we know that those insects come in when our trees are stressed. As far as I can tell they are not attacking healthy ash trees. Our major problem with ash here is the climate. We had drought for nearly 10 years, roughly from 2002-2012, which was very stressful on the ash trees. 2012 was horrible, and some homeowners did not water their trees adequately. Then we had the flash freeze in November 2014 in which temperatures were in the mid-60s to 70 through the first half of November and then plummeted to negative 19 mid-November. Many ash only partially leafed out the next spring and many had significant trunk damage on the northeast side of the trunk. Next, we had two late spring blizzards in 2015 and 2016 which damaged trees that were leafing out. I agree with Tom that we probably won't have many ash trees left for EAB to munch on out here but honestly, we don't have that many in our communities as it is. I could not name a community in the panhandle that would have more than 10-15% ash. If something happens to hackberry then we are going to be in major trouble!

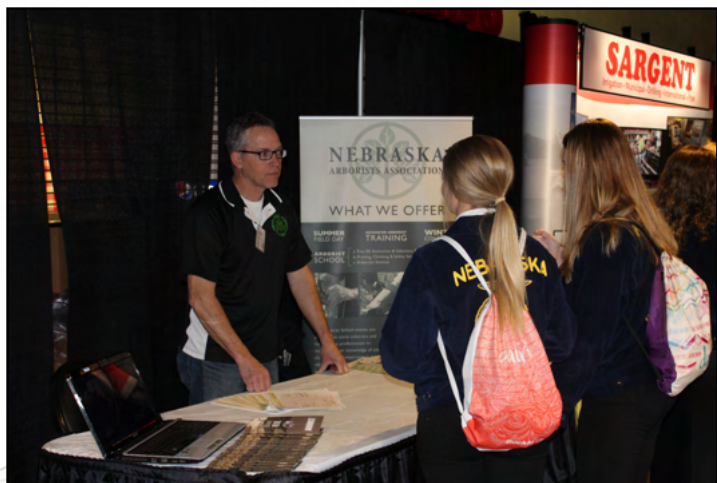
We just had 8" of snow at our house today so it seems like spring is waiting a bit to show up out here but I am certainly thankful for the moisture!



SQUIRREL FLAGGING is similar but not the same as Twig Girdler Flagging. Squirrels chew the bark off tree branches and cause them to die. This is also called flagging. The major difference is that only a few branches are killed and you don't have a large collection of dead branches on the ground under the tree.

2018 FFA CONFERENCE

This year marked the first time the NAA had a booth at the statewide Future Farmers of America (FFA) statewide conference held in Lincoln at the Pinnacle Bank Arena. NAA President Kevin Popken represented the association at this event and informed numerous high school students about the arborist career field.



PASSING OF ARBORIST ALLAN LEROY ENFIELD, ENFIELD TREE SERVICE

Provided by Reichmuth Funeral Home

Allan L. Enfield, age 73 of North Bend, Nebraska, died on Friday, April 6, 2018, at the Nebraska Medical Center in Omaha. He was born the son of Elmer and Dorothy (Timm) Enfield on May 12, 1944, in Omaha, Nebraska. He attended Castelar Elementary school in Omaha and Omaha South High School. As a young person, he soon found his love for cars, hunting and fishing.



On February 22, 1980, Allan was united in marriage to Carole Longson at Eppley Chapel in Omaha. They lived for a time in Omaha before moving to the North Bend area where he, with his own sweat and muscle, built their home. Allan was a Tree Arborist, and general manager of Enfield Tree Service, Inc. You could say he did it all as a mechanic and equipment operator. He had a love for the outdoors, custom cars and playing Keno. Even though Allan used “colorful” language, he was a stand-up guy. He always had a “get it done” attitude and lived his life every day as if it was his last. Words that best describe his are: patriarch, motivated, visionary and a generous leader. Milestones in Allan’s life that were of importance to him were meeting and marrying Carole, his tree business, hunting trips as well his trip to Africa. Of course, his true pride was his custom Mercury of which he won numerous awards and admiration from fellow car lovers. He was a member of the Dunbar Street Cruisers. He enjoyed watching the Denver Broncos and Kansas City Chiefs and would root for anyone who was playing the Dallas Cowboys. He loved his steak and a good cup of coffee. He did have a few pet peeves like people who don’t listen, no work ethic, lack of common sense and disrespectful children. In the end, he is remembered by his family by his generosity, love for his family, his work ethic, “big” presence, his sense of adventure, along with his get it done attitude, love of nature and most of all, his love for helping others.

He was preceded in death by his parents; a son, Jeff; and a brother, Ray Enfield. Allan was part of Enfield’s Tree Service in Elkhorn. He is survived by his wife, Carole of North Bend; daughter, Conni Jo Gatrost of Elkhorn; sons, Tim and Daniel of Hastings; brother, Larry Enfield of North Bend; seven grandchildren and twelve great grandchildren.



Women Around the World are Moving into the Arborist Career Field

Olivia Eggen is a certified arborist from Sweden. She works with and is passionate about nature conservation in several reserves in Sweden where many endangered species are found. Follow her on Instagram: @olivia.eggen.

Photo courtesy of Olivia.

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