



Northern Kentucky Certified Arborist Scholarship Program

By: *John Volz, Chair—NKY Urban & Community Forestry Council and Jenny Gulick, Davey Resource Group*

In an effort to promote more professional arboriculture in the area, The Northern Kentucky Urban and Community Forestry Council is offering tuition and other benefits for up to six applicants for the calendar year 2004. The Certification Exam will be given November 4, 2004.

Successful applicants will receive:

1. One-year membership to the International Society of Arboriculture
2. One-year membership to the Kentucky Arborists Association
3. A personal copy of all study materials needed to prepare for the examination
4. Access to local Certification Preparation classes
5. Payment for one Certification Examination

Applications are available from the Northern Kentucky Urban and Community Forestry Council website at www.nkyurbanforestry.org. The applicants will be judged on their ability to successfully pass the Certification Test. The application should be mailed to Kris Stone, Director, Boone County Arboretum, P.O. Box 566, Burlington, KY 41005. (859) 384-4999. Application must be postmarked by April 30.

Eligibility Requirements

The ISA Certification Board requires a candidate to have **a minimum of three years of experience in arboriculture**. Acceptable experience includes the practical use of knowledge involved in pruning, fertilization, installation and establishment, diagnosis and treatment of tree problems, cabling and bracing, climbing or other services that

directly relate to arboriculture. Examples of experience sources include **but are not limited to**

- Tree care companies
- Nursery and landscape personnel
- Municipalities
- State forestry personnel
- Utility personnel
- Instructors of arboriculture/horticulture
- Consulting Arborist
- Pest control advisors/applicators

The eligibility requirement also may be satisfied with a two-year degree in arboriculture and two years of practical experience or a four-year degree in a related field and one year of practical experience.

An arborist by definition is an individual who is trained in the art and science of planting, caring for, and maintaining individual trees. ISA Arborist Certification is a non-governmental, voluntary process by which individuals can document their base of knowledge. It operates without mandate of law and is an internal, self-regulating device administered by the International Society of Arboriculture. Certification provides a measurable assessment of an individual's knowledge and competence required to provide proper tree care.

Certification is not a measure of standards of practice. Certification can attest to the tree knowledge of an individual but cannot guarantee or ensure quality performance. Certified Arborists are individuals who have achieved a level of knowledge in the art and science of tree care through experience passing a comprehensive examination de-

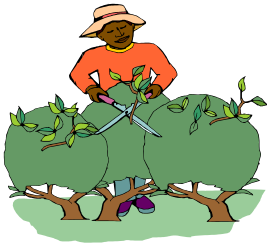
veloped by some of the nation's leading experts on tree care.

Scholarship Requirements:

1. All applicants who receive the scholarship, whether they pass the examination or not, will be required to provide the Council 25 hours of volunteer time within one year of receiving the scholarship. This requirement may be fulfilled by performing such tasks as: consulting with local communities on urban forestry issues; coordinating or participating in public education events, such as Arbor Day; providing the Council with administrative or technical support; and/or other useful tasks at the mutual agreement of the scholarship recipient and the Council.
2. Certified Arborists must also continue their education to maintain their certification, as it is desirable that they remain up-to-date on current techniques in arboriculture. To maintain certification, Certified Arborists must obtain 30 Continuing Education Units (CEUs) within a three-year period. Scholarship recipients who successfully obtain certification must obtain these CEUs at their own expense. The Council will assist the recipients in learning of the many no-cost and low-cost methods of receiving the CEUs.
3. Applicants must reside in the Northern Kentucky area and have a demonstrated interest in arboriculture.

Early Spring is the ideal time to plant trees and shrubs, while they are still dormant. Dig a hole the same depth as the root ball, but at least twice as wide. Don't amend the backfill soil. No nitrogen fertilizer (the first number on the bag) is necessary at planting time, but triple superphosphate (0-46-0) may be added if soil tests reveal low phosphorus.

Early Spring is the time to prune summer-flowering trees and shrubs, such as Mimosa, Smoketree, Goldenrain tree, Japanese Pagodatree, Fiveleaf Aralia, Glossy Abelia, Butterflybush, Beautyberry, late-blooming Clematis, Summersweet Clethra, Rose-of-Sharon, Annabelle Hydrangea, Hills-of-Snow Hydrangea, Peegee Hydrangea, Crapemyrtle, Little Prin-



cess Spirea, Anthony Waterer Spirea, and Hybrid Tea Roses.

Most evergreens (except pines) can be pruned in early Spring.

Wait until after bloom to prune spring-flowering shrubs and ornamental trees grown for their flowers.

Some old, overgrown, lanky shrubs may need to be rejuvenated by cutting them to the ground. You will lose one season's bloom when doing this to spring bloomers such as lilacs or Forsythia.

Many of the shrubs planted in early Spring can be rooted from the pruned off stem cuttings. Simply dip the base of the cutting in a rooting hormone (after wounding the stem with a knife just below a bud), and stick them in the ground or in a pot. Rooting may take several months. Keep moist, not soggy wet.

Now is also a great time to fertilize trees and shrubs, based on soil test results (free at your local Northern KY Extension Office). Lime or sulfur should only be

added if the soil pH is out of the desirable range.

Watch out for the 17-year periodical cicadas to start emerging from the ground in late April. The females will lay eggs in tree branches, making splits and damaging or killing branch tips. Preferred plants include oak, hickory, apple, peach, pear and grapes, but they may attack anything. Valuable plants may be covered with cheesecloth netting, over the top and secured to the trunk, from late April through early June, when egg-laying is complete. Cicadas on landscape plants may be sprayed with permethrin insecticides such as "Spectracide Bug Concentrate," or "Total Pest Control Formula." Other spray options include "Lawn & Garden Insect Killer" and "Ortho Bug B Gone Spray." Read and follow label precautions.

Compaction Tolerant Trees

By Dr. Kim D. Coder, University of Georgia

Soil compaction is a complex set of physical, chemical and biological constraints on tree growth. Principal components leading to limited growth are the loss of aeration pore space, poor gas exchange with the atmosphere, lack of tree available water and mechanical impedance of root growth. There are significant genetic differences between tree species for tolerating various levels of soil compaction.

Below is a select list of compaction tolerant trees. Tolerant species were selected for their effectiveness in reacting to mechanical damage quickly, in surviving anaerobic soil conditions and in adjusting their root systems to new conditions. This is not a comprehensive list and is only provided to show average species examples. Chronic and severe compaction will kill any tree. Some species, varieties and individuals may tolerate various compacted soil conditions better than others.



Scientific name common name

* <i>Acer negundo</i>	boxelder
* <i>Acer rubrum</i>	red maple
* <i>Acer saccharinum</i>	silver maple
<i>Alnus spp.</i>	alders
<i>Betula nigra</i>	river birch
<i>Carya aquatica</i>	water hickory
<i>Carya illinoensis</i>	pecan
<i>Celtis laevigata</i>	sugarberry
* <i>Celtis occidentalis</i>	hackberry
* <i>Cercis canadensis</i>	redbud
* <i>Crataegus spp.</i>	hawthorns
* <i>Diospyros virginiana</i>	persimmon
* <i>Fraxinus spp.</i>	ash
* <i>Gleditsia triacanthos</i>	honeylocust
<i>Ilex spp.</i>	holly
* <i>Juglans nigra</i>	black walnut
* <i>Juniperus virginiana</i>	Eastern redcedar
* <i>Liquidambar styraciflua</i>	sweetgum
<i>Magnolia virginiana</i>	sweetbay
* <i>Nyssa spp.</i>	tupelo/black gum
<i>Persea borbonia</i>	redbay

<i>Pinus elliotii</i>	slash pine
<i>Pinus taeda</i>	loblolly pine
* <i>Platanus spp.</i>	sycamore/planetree
* <i>Populus spp.</i>	cottonwood/aspen
* <i>Quercus bicolor</i>	swamp white oak
<i>Quercus falcata</i>	Southern red oak
* <i>Quercus imbricaria</i>	shingle oak
<i>Quercus laurifolia</i>	laurel oak
<i>Quercus lyrata</i>	overcup oak
* <i>Quercus macrocarpa</i>	bur oak
<i>Quercus michauxii</i>	swamp chestnut oak
<i>Quercus nigra</i>	water oak
<i>Quercus nuttallii</i>	Nuttall oak
* <i>Quercus palustris</i>	pin oak
<i>Quercus phellos</i>	willow oak
* <i>Quercus rubra</i>	red oak
* <i>Quercus shumardii</i>	Shumard oak
* <i>Robinia pseudoacacia</i>	black locust
* <i>Salix spp.</i>	willows
<i>Taxodium distichum</i>	baldcypress
* <i>Ulmus spp.</i>	elms

* = Native to NKY (source: John Thieret, NKU, Botanist)

Kris's Corner focuses on recommended and often overlooked high quality urban tree species.

Yellowwood (*Cladrastis kentukea*)

Yellowwood (*Cladrastis kentukea*) is perhaps one of the most beautiful native ornamental trees of Kentucky. Yellowwood has a very restricted native range within Kentucky and is found mainly along the Kentucky River Palisades area of central Kentucky within the limestone cliffs and ridges. Named for the yellow heartwood of the tree, fresh pruning cuts are quite noticeable.

Yellowwood forms a beautiful medium sized tree in the landscape with a broad spreading rounded to vase shaped crown.



Perhaps one of its most outstanding ornamental features rests in the beautiful spring display of 10-16" long clusters of white wisteria-like flowers in mid spring. Especially heavy flowering occurs at 2-3 year intervals where an individual tree can be

incredibly stunning. After flowering, small green flattened 2.5" to 4" long pods develop that ripen and turn brown by October. Yellowwood has alternately arranged pinnately compound bright green leaves that remain relatively free of insect and disease problems. Fall color is often an outstanding golden yellow and orange with good consistency among individuals. Yellowwood is without question a tree of four season appeal as autumn leaves fall to reveal very attractive smooth light grey bark much like that of Beech.

Cultural requirements of Yellowwood are not excessively demanding, and it is quite tolerant of high pH soil just as well as acidic conditions. Soil should, however, drain well, with respect to the native habitat of the tree following limestone cliffs and ridges. Early spring pruning should be avoided as Yellowwood bleeds profusely, and though this will not harm the tree, the oozing sap can temporarily stain the bark. Pruning should be done after the leaves have fully expanded in the spring to avoid excessive bleeding. Once well-established, Yellowwood is somewhat drought tolerant and hardy in USDA zones 4-8. The most significant cultural consideration with this species is the possibility for the tree to develop bad crotch angles. However, while the tree is young, pruning to remove narrow "V" crotch angles within the main scaffolding of the tree can help to alleviate this problem. Trees left un-pruned to correct such flaws may be subject to splitting

at such crotch angles during storms later in life. Young specimens of Yellowwood can be viewed in Northern Kentucky at Boone County Arboretum, www.bcarboretum.org.



Sources:

Frequently available locally at many nurseries and garden centers, or can be readily obtained from wholesale suppliers to local retail outlets

Cultivars:

'**Rosea**' - A beautiful pink flowering form distributed by Arnold Arboretum originating in Watertown, MA.

NORTHERN KENTUCKY URBAN & COMMUNITY FORESTRY COUNCIL

c/o Boone County Extension Service
P.O. Box 876
Burlington, KY 41005

Phone: 859-572-2600

Creating an awareness about the value of urban forestry in Northern Kentucky Communities.

We're on the Web!
www.nkyurbanforestry.org

Upcoming Meetings

Spring Fling and Arboretum Amble

Saturday, May 15, 2004

Boone County Arboretum's annual Spring Fling and Arboretum Amble will be held Saturday, May 15, 2004. This year's event will kick off with the Arboretum Amble race beginning at 8:30

a.m. followed by the opening of the Spring Fling Exhibition tent at 10:00 a.m. We would like to encourage everyone who participated in last year's event to please join us again to celebrate the beauty of springtime and all that nature has to offer in Northern Kentucky.

Plans for this year's events are to make things even bigger and better than last year with, of course, Mother Nature's permission. Our planning committees are hard at work to insure this will be an enjoyable event for the entire family as well as those who participate as exhibitors with the Spring Fling.

Visitors can pick up plants for their springtime gardens or sit in on one of our many educational lectures. Topics range from composting to the state of our forests in Northern Kentucky. Family activities provided by Boone County Parks and Recreation will ensure that even the little ones have something to do at this year's event. In addition, the Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife Resource's Biodiversity Bus will be on hand for visitors to walk through and learn about Kentucky's unique flora and fauna.

We sincerely hope you will join us for this fun-filled family event. For information about the Arboretum, you can contact the Arboretum office at: (859) 384-4999. For information about the Spring Fling, contact Friends of Boone County Arboretum at: (859) 384-3239, or visit the Spring Fling page on the Arboretum website at: <http://www.bcarboretum.org/spring.asp>.

Plants to Attract Song Birds

Saturday, June 5, 2004

10:00 a.m. – Noon

Campbell County Environmental Education Center located on Race Track Rd. (Route 824) Alexandria, KY 41001

Race Track Rd. is located south of Alexandria and is accessible via U.S. 27

Instructors: David Koester and DJ. Scully (Campbell Co. Extension Service)

Pre-registration is required. Please call (859) 572-2600

