



Welcome to the West Lafayette Tree Friends newsletter: Urban Leaves - Tree News You Can Use

This is a new project of the West Lafayette Tree Friends - a newsletter to offer you useful information about trees in West Lafayette, answer your tree questions, and let you know what the West Lafayette Tree Friends are doing to keep our city a lovely Tree City. We put your donations to work as we plant, prune, and protect West Lafayette's street trees. These trees are working too - keeping our neighborhoods cool, cleaning the air, and adding to the natural beauty of our streets. Join us with your support as a volunteer, donor, or both, and forward this newsletter to your friends. They can join the mailing (email) list for future issues by responding to the "subscribe" information at the end of this issue.

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What's Happening to this Ash Tree?

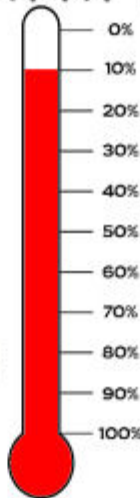
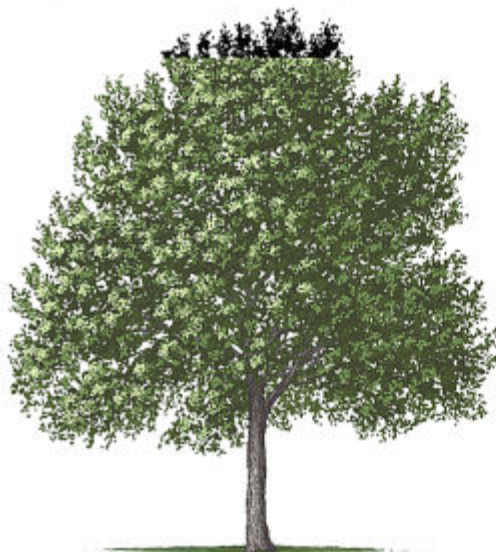


Sadly, this and over 800 other Ash trees planted along WL streets are dying because of the Emerald Ash Borer (EAB) that has already killed hundreds of thousands of Ashes in the U.S. If you're a WL resident wondering if there's an Ash between the curb and sidewalk on your street, contact John McDonald macdonaj@purdue.edu. For information and treatment possibilities for EAB, go to: extension.entm.purdue.edu/EAB/. If the street tree becomes hazardous, the City will take it down.

UPCOMING EVENTS

- Wednesday, 9/24/14
Tree Friends at the Farmers Market in West Lafayette
- Tuesday, 10/28/14
Founders Day planting and celebration - 11 AM
WL Police Station
- Autumn Plantings in
Amberleigh Village,
Barbary Heights, and
Prophets Ridge
- November: Autumn Fund
Raising Campaign

EMERALD ASH BORER SCOURGE



TREES REMOVED
2013 - 33
2014 - 55
(SO FAR)

**784 ASH TREES
REMAINING ON
WEST LAFAYETTE
CITY STREETS**

Quick Links

To learn more visit us at the [Tree Friends website](http://www.westlafayette.org/tree-friends)



"Like" us on
[Facebook!](https://www.facebook.com/westlafayette.org/tree-friends)

THANK YOU RECENT DONORS

Carl Griffin
Blackbird Farms
Neighborhood Assn.
GardenArt, Inc.
Beverly Shaw
Max & Lynn Layden

Tree Friends Pruning Partners

Three years ago, The WL Tree Friends began a program called "Pruning Partners". In addition to our primary task of taking care of the 6000+ street trees, we wanted to offer pruning services to West Lafayette businesses. Several of our neighbors, trained in International Society of Arboriculture Pruning Standards (as are all of our regular pruner members), and specifically-deputized for this particular task by Mayor John Dennis, started seeking businesses who might wish our help in improving their business visibility by pruning their tree landscape. Of course the beautification of their business landscape is also a major motive.



So far, you can see the results at the Go-Lo Station and the Village Bottle Shoppe (see photos to the left) , both at the corner of Lindberg and Northwestern in West Lafayette. Drop by Red Mango in the Village for another view of our efforts to improve the visibility of our popular probiotic yogurt shop. We've helped the Rubia Market on the Levee and the old Spurlock's (which will become the new Town 'n Gown restaurant) near McDonald's at the corner of State Street and River Road (the bottom of the State Street hill). Summer Days are never complete in our city without a visit to Dog 'n Suds on the west side, so be sure to check out the beautifully-pruned trees on the property, too, courtesy of the Pruning Partners.

If you're part of a WL business and would like us to take a look at your trees to see if we can help with pruning, it's a free service (both the evaluation and the pruning). We're doing our best to keep West Lafayette beautiful, and we think this is another good way to use our talents. Just contact Beverly Shaw: bshaw@westlafayette.in.gov and she'll put the Pruning Partners in touch with you.

What Trees Do For West Lafayette

Trees...

Add to our community's economic well-being by reducing our cost for energy, by cleaning air and water, by reducing storm water run-off, by shading our streets and allowing less frequent paving of them, and also increasing our property values, attracting businesses and tourists, and fostering higher work productivity and lower absenteeism.

Trees...

Contribute to the character of our community by adding color, softening and screening unsightly views, inviting wildlife into our lives, and acting as living sculptures with their captivating shapes, textures, and aromas.

Trees...

Make us a healthier community by shading and soothing us, dampening noise, protecting us from winds, and helping us heal in many ways.

Tree Pruning Fun Come Along



This past spring, our group was out on six Thursdays and we've pruned

Don Wood on Trees

TALKING TREES?

You know how it goes. The winds howl, the thunder roars, and the lightning claps. But the trees - they whisper quietly among themselves.

A gentle wind turns some maple leaves silver and they whisper softly as they rustle beside each other. The willow, weeping to itself, rustles its low-hanging fronds among its friends, commiserating.

The ash trees are silent, caught up in the devastation and fear and sadness of their dying breaths as they fight a losing battle with emerald ash borers.

Do your trees talk to you?

Donate to the Tree Friends

Help build our urban forest by donating to the Tree Friends. Checks (payable to the West Lafayette Tree Friends) can be mailed to: West Lafayette Tree Friends, 1101 Kalberer Road, WL 47906

Moving, downsizing, or no longer using gardening tools? The WLTF could use tools (pruners, loppers, saws, etc) for tree trimming. A receipt for tax purposes will be provided. Call Sieb @765.463.1066 or email siebenth7@aol.com.

Approved Street Trees

Not all trees are a good fit to be "street trees". A list of approved trees as well as landscape trees for yards can be found on the city website by [clicking here](#). Some examples of approved trees are given below.

Kentucky Coffeetree

Gymnocladus dioica

(male only)

Fall planting only

Height: 60.00 to 80.00 feet

Spread: 40.00 to 55.00 feet

Bloom Time: May to June

Bloom: Greenish-Flower:

Fruit: Showy

about 800 trees on West Lafayette city streets. This was all part of our annual spring pruning, and we'll do this again in the fall with more city trees. We have over 6000 trees along the streets of our city and they all need regular pruning for proper growth. Just like you and I need regular water, food, and tender loving care, so do our trees. In return, the trees along our streets give us oxygen to live on, sequester chemicals coming from our vehicles, provide shade, give us the beauty of our West Lafayette streets, and help us continue to be nationally recognized as a Tree City.

Meet a Tree Friend



Don Wood:

Hi! I retired as a Recreation Therapist at Wabash Valley Hospital in 2005 after 32 years. I immediately signed up to help West Lafayette prune the street trees, since I wanted to learn how to prune my own trees. I've

been the Secretary for the West Lafayette Tree Friends since 2008. Don is also the Tree Friend's intrepid "green man"!



Male trees only because female trees have 10" brown pods.

[More information](#)

Ginkgo



Ginkgo biloba
(male only)

Height: 50.00 to 80.00 feet
Spread: 30.00 to 40.00 feet

Bloom Time: April

Bloom: Green

Flower: Insignificant

[More information](#)

Tree Questions??

We would like your questions about trees. Beverly Shaw, WL Greenspace Administrator and certified arborist, welcomes your tree questions. Please keep the questions brief since we have limited space. Email your questions to atwoodeye@yahoo.com with subject heading "tree question". We'll do our best to help. After all, aren't we ALL "tree friends"? Here are the first two we've received:

Q. Is the "fire blight", which may damage pear trees, damaging to only "fruit-producing pear trees", or ornamental pears as well?

A. Fire blight is a bacterial disease that attacks members of the Rosacea family including apples and pears. Improved cultivars have been developed with resistance to fire blight but none are completely resistant. Among the ornamental pears, 'Bradford', 'Capitol', and 'Red Spire' are less susceptible; 'Aristocrat' is highly susceptible. Go to <https://www.extension.purdue.edu/extmedia/BP/BP-30.html> for information. There are worse things that can happen than to lose a pear tree! Ornamental pears are no longer on the city's approved tree list since they break in storms and self-seed. The seedlings revert to the parental form which includes large thorns and the seedlings crowd out native species. Look at the empty field between Cook Biotech and Applebee's to see a field overtaken with pear seedlings.



Q. The crown (the entire top section) of my linden tree went dead last year and stayed that way this season, too, but lower branches came out beautifully, as well as all those darn shoots at the base. So, is my tree dying? I've heard that the Emerald Ash Borer tree-death is evidenced first by dead crown branches.

A. It looks like linden borer. Look for 6mm exit holes in the trunk near the ground. See <http://backtree.com/pdf/Linden%20Borer.pdf> for more information. The best way to avoid linden borer is to keep the tree healthy since borers prefer stressed trees.

Silver Linden



Tilia tomentos

Height: 50.00 to 70.00 feet

Spread: 30.00 to 50.00 feet

Bloom Time: June to July

Bloom: Pale yellow

Flower: Showy, Fragrant

Leaf: Colorful

Attracts: Butterflies

Fruit: Showy

[More information](#)