



# All About Street Trees

Everything you need to make smart decisions about planning, planting, and caring for your street trees can be found right here.

## Organizations:

**Massachusetts Arborists Association**, A professional trade organization that serves the commercial arboriculture industry. The MAA advances the goals of its tree service professional members through tree care education, research support, arborist certification and promotion of the value of arboriculture to the public.

**International Society of Arboriculture**, Through research, technology, and education, the International Society of Arboriculture (ISA) promotes the professional practice of arboriculture and fosters a greater worldwide awareness of the benefits of trees. Workshops, resources,

- **ArborPod**, Sharpen your knowledge on arboriculture topics with ISA's informative, entertaining, and free podcasts! Each series has a different flavor, but they are all educational and sure to entertain.
- **TreesAreGood.org**, Provides the public with educational information about the benefits of trees and how to properly care for trees in the urban environment. The site contains resources from the International Society of Arboriculture, and provides a collection of reliable tree care information provided by other industry organizations.

## **New England Chapter - International Society of Arboriculture**

The New England Chapter of the International Society of Arboriculture (NEC-ISA) is a member organization for arborists and urban foresters. We bring together professionals from Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Vermont, and Rhode Island. Since 1965, we have been a resource and advocate for the green industry.

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### **Massachusetts Tree Wardens and Foresters Association,**

A forum for municipal tree managers to share their concerns and to promote the preservation of public shade trees. Since that time, our mission has expanded to encompass preservation of the entire urban and community forest.

**Tree Care Industry Association,** TCIA develops safety and education programs, standards of tree care practice and management information for tree and landscape firms around the world. We provide continuing education, training, conferences, and publications to promote the safe and appropriate practice of tree care.

**Arbor Day Foundation,** Our vision is to help others understand and use trees as a solution to many of the global issues we face today, including air quality, water quality, a changing climate, deforestation, poverty, and hunger.

- **Tree City USA,** This program has been greening up cities and towns across America since 1976. It is a nationwide movement that provides the framework necessary for communities to manage and expand their public trees.

**Society of Municipal Arborists,** An organization of municipal arborists and urban foresters. Membership also includes consultants, commercial firms, nonprofits, tree boards, tree wardens, allied professionals, and citizens who actively practice or support some facet of municipal forestry.

## **Services:**


**Plant Diagnostics Laboratory, UMass Extension.** Serves farmers, greenhouse producers, landscape contractors, turf managers, arborists, nurseries, and others in agriculture and the green industries.

**Soil and Plant Nutrient Testing Laboratory, UMass Extension.** Public service provides soil and plant nutrient testing.

**iTree,** Tools for Assessing and Managing Forests and Community Trees. This is a state-of-the-art, peer-reviewed software suite from the USDA Forest Service that provides urban and rural forestry analysis and benefits assessment tools.

**MA Law about Neighbors and Trees, Mass.gov.** A compilation of laws, cases, and web sources on the law of neighbors and trees.

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**Extension Foundation**, Our mission is to help Cooperative Extension generate a more visible, measurable, local impact. Includes national funded programs. The Extension Foundation is a member-based nonprofit established by Extension Directors and Administrators nationwide. Extension Foundation is embedded in the U.S. Cooperative Extension System and serves on Extension Committee on Organization and Policy (ECOP).

**Michael Dirr's Plants**, This site is for amateurs and professionals who seek cutting edge information on trees and shrubs, particularly the new introductions. It includes articles, images, travel experiences, garden and nursery news as well as sorties into the world of garden issues, for example, native plants, invasives, boxwood blight, and genetically modified organisms.

**Kristina Bezanson**, Lecturer in Arboriculture and Urban Forestry, UMass Amherst Department of Environmental Conservation, Kristina specializes in ANSI Standards of safety in arboriculture.

## Tree ID Tools:

**Leafsnap**, Leafsnap is a series of electronic field guides being developed by researchers from Columbia University, the University of Maryland, and the Smithsonian Institution. The free mobile apps use visual recognition software to help identify tree species from photographs of their leaves. They contain beautiful high-resolution images of leaves, flowers, fruits, petioles, seeds, and bark.

**Tree Identification**, Arbor Day Foundation, Illustrated, step-by-step guide makes it easy to identify a tree simply by its leaves or needles.

**Choosing the Right Tree**, Arbor Day Foundation, Trees thrive when they are planted in the right place. Find your hardiness zone to see which trees can be planted in your area.

**Dirr's Tree and Shrub Finder/Plant App**, Michael Dirr is a rockstar in the plant world. This App gets excellent reviews as an indispensable resource for plant identification and knowledge. I have his books so have not felt the need to invest, but nice to have in your pocket so will probably spring for it, come Spring.

**Audubon Trees App**, Identify 716 North American trees with this iTunes "Apps for Earth Day" top pick! Whether on the trail or in your backyard this AppStore recognized iPhone app will help you ID leaves, bark, cones, needles, fruits, flowers, and more. Get

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up-to-date and authoritative species information, brilliant color photos, detailed range maps, habitat information on hundreds of cedars, maples, oaks, pines and others.

## Learn:

### [UMass Extension Landscape, Nursery, & Urban Forestry Program](#)

- **[Green School](#)**, A comprehensive 12-day certificate short course for horticultural professionals who wish to gain an understanding of economically feasible and environmentally responsible plant and land care practices and the relation of those practices to the protection of the environment.
- **[Landscape, Nursery & Urban Forestry Program](#)**, UMass Extension Landscape, Nursery and Urban Forestry Team works closely with the [UMass Extension Turf Team](#) to educate landscape, nursery and turf professionals by providing programs and research-based information on the best horticultural practices and technology for environmental stewardship in nursery and landscape management.
- **[Annual Community Tree Conference](#)**, This one-day conference is designed for tree care professionals, volunteers, and enthusiasts including arborists, tree wardens, urban foresters, foresters, landscape architects and shade tree committee members.

**[Tree Steward Training, Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation Urban & Community Forestry Program](#)**. Check for current offerings. Tree Steward Training is offered by the Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation's [Bureau of Forest Fire Control](#) and [Forestry's Urban and Community Forestry Program](#), the [USDA Forest Service](#), and the [Massachusetts Tree Wardens and Foresters Association](#).

## Funding:

**[Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation Urban & Community Forestry Program](#)**, Assists communities and nonprofit groups in protecting, growing, and managing community trees and forests with grant programs, technical assistance and training across all Massachusetts.

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- **Community Forest Grant Program**, US Forest Service competitive grant program whereby local governments, qualified nonprofit organizations, and Indian tribes are eligible to apply for grant funding to establish community forests.
- **Community Forestry Challenge Grants**, Annual grant opportunity for municipalities and nonprofit groups in Massachusetts to improve and protect their urban forests. These 50/50 matching grants help develop, grow, and sustain programs that plant, protect, and maintain a community's public tree resources and develop partnerships with residents and community institutions.
- **Urban and Community Forestry National Grid Partnership Challenge Grant**, Grants are offered to specific municipalities in which National Grid has completed their ACT Reliability Improvement Program. These grants are made for the purposes of community tree replacement planting and building local capacity for excellent urban and community forestry.
- **Urban and Community Forestry Eversource Partnership Challenge Grant**, Eversource Energy is offering matching grants to municipalities within their service territory. These grants are made for the purposes of community tree planting and building local capacity for excellent urban and community forestry.



**New England Chapter Arbor Day Grant, Arbor Day Foundation**. This grant awards up to \$1,000.00 to a municipality, non-profit organization, or institution that demonstrates the need to promote and support their Arbor Day celebration.

## Watch:

**UMass Amherst Department of Environmental Conservation**, The Department of Environmental Conservation's focus extends from the ecology and management of fish and wildlife populations, trees, forests, watersheds and landscapes to the physical, social, and policy aspects of conservation involving urban forests, human habitat, and sustainable building and construction.

- **Urban Forestry Today webcasts**, Host Rick Harper of Department of Environmental Conservation, answers common questions and offers helpful do-it-yourself tips about tree planting, soil sampling, and the environment in this Do-It-Yourself video series.

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- [\*\*InsectXaminer, UMass Extension\*\*](#). The goal of this short video series is to provide professionals and land managers with footage that is helpful for learning the identification of insects throughout the season, rather than at any single point in their life cycle. Proper identification is key to successful management.
- [\*\*Invasive Insect Webinar Series, UMasExtension's Landscape, Nursery, and Urban Forestry Program\*\*](#) and [\*\*UMass Extension's Fruit Program\*\*](#) offers an exciting FREE series of webinars focusing on the impact, monitoring, and management of invasive insects in Massachusetts and the nation!

[\*\*TickTalk with TickReport Webinar Series\*\*](#), Each month TickTalk hears from Dr. Stephen Rich and the [\*\*Laboratory of Medical Zoology \(LMZ\)\*\*](#). In 2020, TickTalk featured exciting guest speakers on tick topics that included seasonality and life stages of ticks (key to planning intervention and prevention), emerging or invasive tick species, how ticks use vegetation and leaf litter throughout their life cycle, increasing fears of Alpha-gal allergies (allergies to certain meat and animal-related products), dispelling myths of tick control, and many more.

[\*\*Tree Tips from the Tree Tops, CT Training & Technical Assistance Center\*\*](#), This video is a full-length feature containing three instructional videos: Assessing Tree Risk, Pruning in a Municipal Setting and Right Tree Right Place.

## Read:

[\*\*Landscape Message, UMass Extension\*\*](#). Educational newsletter and update intended to inform and guide horticultural professionals in the management of our collective landscape.

[\*\*Hort Notes, UMass Extension\*\*](#). A Commercial Horticulture Newsletter for Landscapers, Arborists, Garden Centers, Turfgrass Managers, and Property Owners

[\*\*Citizen Forest Newsletter, Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation Urban & Community Forestry Program\*\*](#). This newsletter is made possible through a grant from the USDA Forest Service Urban and Community Forestry Program and the Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation, Bureau of Forestry.

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### **Recommended Urban Trees: Site Assessment and Tree Selection for Stress Tolerance**

Nina Bassuk, Deanna F. Curtis, BZ Marranta, Barb Neal Urban Horticulture Institute, Department of Horticulture, Cornell University. This book, containing trees with a USDA Plant Hardiness listing of Zone 6 or colder, is designed to help you choose appropriate trees for a variety of urban situations. However, there is no one perfect tree for any situation!

### **Planting for Resilience: Selecting Urban Trees in Massachusetts**

Rick Harper, Ashley McElhinney, UMass Amherst 2019. We can only conjecture you've heard it before- 'right plant, right place'. This type of proactive planning is a powerful strategy, critical to creating and maintaining a healthy urban forest. A well-placed tree has the ability to provide a number of ecological, economic, and societal benefits throughout its lifetime. Trees reduce atmospheric carbon dioxide, levels of airborne pollutants, air temperature, stormwater runoff and flooding, and provide other critical ecological services. Trees contribute economically by boosting property values and fostering energy savings from nearby buildings. Within cities, trees increase people's feelings of well-being, minimize noise, and reduce crime. Trees are a growing investment, and over time generate their benefits in greater magnitude as they increase in size and stature.

### **Tree and Neighbor Law for Homeowners and Professionals**

[Tree and Neighbor Law Blog](#), This blog covers a variety of issues and news that involve trees and neighbors, laws across the country, real court cases, encroachment and boundaries, negligence and damages, and trespass laws, arborist, and professionals.

### **Massachusetts Shade Trees Law**

Commonwealth of Massachusetts General Laws, Part I, Title XIV, Chapter 87.

### **Protecting our Community Trees Fact Sheet, MA Department of Conservation & Recreation, Bureau of Forestry, Urban & Community Forestry Program**

This Fact Sheet attempts to summarize the state laws that govern and protect our public roadside trees.



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