

If you have any questions about Urban Forestry or would like more information about any of the items in this email, please feel free to call or email anytime. Also, please forward this email to anyone else that you think may be interested in getting involved in the effort to restore Vancouver's urban forest! **

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1) TreeTalk Workshops: Proper Pruning & Tree Care –October 24

Our popular TreeTalk workshop series continues throughout the winter. You are invited to take part in a series of free, all-about-trees, educational workshops presented by Vancouver Urban Forestry, a division of the Department of Public Works.

Diagnosing Hazardous Trees On Tuesday, Jan 26 from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. you can attend a free TreeTalk workshop and learn to recognize hazards while taking proper corrective actions to protect yourself and your trees. Careful understanding and management of tree defects creates a safer environment, reduces liability, and provides a basis for prioritizing tree care. A local certified arborist and tree risk assessor will be on hand to

lead the discussion and answer your tree care questions.

Tuesday, Jan 26

6:30 – 7:30p

Marshall Community Center

Fruit Tree Pruning & Care This workshop is FULL, please email or call to have your name put on a waitlist for the next fruit tree pruning workshop. Join this workshop and hands on demonstration with an industry professional on Saturday, February 6 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Learn fruit tree pruning basics including when, where and why to make the cut. Bring a lunch -snacks and coffee will be provided. The morning will be a workshop session and the afternoon will be in the orchard, remember to dress for the February weather.

Saturday, February 6

10 a.m. – 3 p.m.

Joe's Farm, 701 NE 112 Ave

For all workshops, Pre-registration is required. For more information or to register, call (360) 619-1108 or email urbanforestry@ci.vancouver.wa.us.

Additional information about upcoming Urban Forestry events, including future TreeTalk workshops, are found at www.cityofvancouver.us/urbanforestry

2) Join in, Become a NeighborWoods Steward

NeighborWoods is a comprehensive course training volunteers in the various areas of arboriculture necessary to effectively tend the urban forest. As leaders and educators within their neighborhoods and communities, [NeighborWoods Stewards](#) will spearhead the program's mission of community education and involvement through volunteerism and stewardship.

NeighborWoods Stewards receive free education from local arboricultural experts on tree-related topics, including: tree identification, tree biology, proper tree care, Vancouver's tree regulations, the benefits of trees, and more. Stewards then implement volunteer tree-related projects in their own neighborhood. Program information and the application form are available on our [website](#).

What does it mean to become a NeighborWoods Steward?

- *Complete 20 hours of in-class and field training,*

- *Volunteer at least 15 hours each year with Vancouver Urban Forestry's various education and outreach programs,*
- *Be a leader in education and urban forestry for your neighborhood and community. Help change the landscape and mindscape of your urban forest community.*

We are currently accepting applications for the NeighborWoods Stewards program. Classes will be held Tuesday evenings from mid March through mid April (six weeks) with three Saturday sessions trips. Pre-registration is required and space is limited; applications are due by March 1 and participation is first-come first-serve.

3) Upcoming Friends of Trees Neighborhood Tree Plantings –order your trees now!

Vancouver Urban Forestry is once again partnering with the non-profit Friends of Trees to implement community-based tree plantings in multiple Vancouver neighborhoods. Each year, Vancouver Urban Forestry partners with Friends of Trees and dozens of community volunteers to plant hundreds of trees throughout Vancouver; these trees provide multiple social, environmental, and economic benefits to city residents. These projects rely on volunteers for success; there are many ways to get involved -- contact your neighborhood coordinator to find out how (see the [Friends of Trees website](#) for neighborhood coordinator contact information). Ask your neighborhood coordinator about getting a yard sign, a great way to let your neighbors know about Friends of Trees!

The planting schedule is as follows:

February 27, 2010 – West Vancouver

Arnada, Carter Park, Central Park, Edgewood Park, Harney Heights, Hudson's Bay, Hough, Lincoln, Rose Village, Shumway
Tree Ordering Deadline: **January 25, 2010**

March 20, 2010 – Central Vancouver

Burton Ridge, Fircrest, Marrion, Oakbrook, Ogden
Tree Ordering Deadline: **February 19, 2010**

If you live in one of these neighborhoods, go to www.friendsoftrees.org and order trees for your planting strip or yard. Ordering deadlines are approaching, so don't delay. If your neighborhood is not doing a planting this year, contact [Jesse Batty](#) to find out how to get involved for next year. (See the [Office of Neighborhoods website](#) to learn which neighborhood you live in.)

4) Arbor Day Poster Contest

Vancouver Urban Forestry is coordinating the national Arbor Day poster contest this year for Vancouver fifth-graders. This is an excellent opportunity to teach students about the benefits of trees and environmental stewardship.

The National Arbor Day Foundation has been sponsoring this national contest since 1992. This year's theme is "**Trees are Terrific...and Energy Wise!**" focusing on the important role trees play in the production and conservation of energy. Developed by the National Arbor Day Foundation, materials include an inter-disciplinary curriculum guidebook which includes background information, lesson plans, activities, and assessment guidelines. *The curriculum has been designed to correlate with all state and federal educational standards.* The guidebook has everything educators will need to incorporate trees into lessons and engage students in the poster contest.

The submission deadline for the local contest is February 22, 2010. The top three posters city-wide will be recognized at the Vancouver Arbor Day celebration on April 14 and all commendable entries will be displayed at the Water Resources Education Center. If you know a teacher or fifth-grade student attending school (or home school) within the city limits of Vancouver pass on this exciting opportunity.

Please contact Urban Forestry at (360) 619-1108 or jessica.antoine@ci.vancouver.wa.us for more information on how to participate.

5) Website Update: Storm Page

Visit the new [storm page](#) on our website for advice on managing trees before and after a storm. Get valuable tree care tips on how to prepare your trees for severe weather conditions as well as how to manage your storm-damaged trees. Trees are amazingly resilient. Most trees survive storm events and many recover over time from previous storm damage. It is imperative to get careful, professional assessments on remaining trees so that they are not unnecessarily removed or damaged. Attend the upcoming TreeTalk Workshop 'Diagnosing Hazard Trees' and learn to recognize hazardous conditions to help maintain your trees before and after the storm.

6) Volunteer Tree Plantings

Please RSVP for any of the following plantings to [Urban Forestry](#) or 360.619-1108.

Friends of Trees West Vancouver Planting, 2/27

8:45 a.m. to noon

St. Lukes Church, 426 E Fourth Plain Blvd

International Women's Day Planting, 3/6

10 a.m. to noon

Rose Village Community Garden, 39th & P Streets

Women, mothers and daughters -help celebrate [International Women's Day](#) by planting fruit and nut trees in the neighborhood community garden.

Friends of Trees Central Vancouver Planting, 3/20

8:45 a.m. to noon

Location to be determined, check our [website](#) for details in the coming months.

Downtown Planting, 3/27

9 a.m. to noon

Location to be determined, check our [website](#) for details in the coming months.

7) Portland Fruit Tree Project

[Portland Fruit Tree Project](#) (PFTP) is a non-profit organization that increases equitable access to healthy food and strengthens communities by empowering neighbors to share in the bounty and care of city-grown food resources. We register fruit and nut trees throughout the city, bring people together to harvest and distribute thousands of pounds of fresh fruit each year, and teach tree care and food preservation in hands-on workshops.

Tree Care Workshops:

- Winter Pruning (February)
- Fruit Tree Selection & Planting (March)
- Pest & Disease Assessment/Control (May and September)
- Fruit Thinning (May/June)
- Summer Pruning (July)

We are seeking volunteers to help teach workshops!

Are you interested in sharing your knowledge on one (or more) of these topics?

Please contact Bob (503)284-6106, bob@portlandfruit.org

Winter Pruning Workshops:

- Saturday January 30. 10am-1pm
- Monday February 15. 10am-1pm (President's Day)
- Saturday February 27. 10am-1pm

In these hands-on workshops you will learn the basics of winter pruning in order to increase the health and abundance of local fruit trees! This fun workshop will be an opportunity to gain a basic understanding of the different types of pruning cuts and when these cuts should be used.

If you are interested in attending one of our Winter Pruning Workshops, these are now open for registration at www.portlandfruit.org

8) Charles Ray Recognized for Urban Forestry Work

Charles Ray, City of Vancouver Urban Forester, has been recognized as Municipal Arborist for 2009 by the Pacific Northwest Chapter of the International Society of Arboriculture. [Read more](#) about Charles' accomplishments as Urban Forester for the City of Vancouver!

***You are receiving this email because you have volunteered with Urban Forestry, expressed an interest in volunteering, submitted comments on the draft urban forestry management plan, or participated in our online survey. If you would like to be removed from this mailing list, simply reply to this email with "unsubscribe" in the subject line along with your first and last name.*

Thanks,

Jessica Antoine
Urban Forestry Outreach Coordinator
City of Vancouver Public Works
Environmental Resources Division
(360) 619-1108
www.cityofvancouver.us/urbanforestry

Neighborhood tree planting projects are a great way to improve your local environment, meet your neighbors and build a strong, healthy community. Visit the Urban Forestry website to learn about Vancouver's [NeighborWoods](#) program.