



TreeNOTES

Cross Timbers Urban Forestry Council • 4200 South Freeway, Suite 2200 • Fort Worth • Texas • 76115-1499

January • 2006

Mission: To promote programs in the region to increase interest in urban and community forestry

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GOT EMPTIES?

Recycle your used print cartridges by donating them to the CTUFC.

For more information, contact Melinda Adams, 817.871.5705

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Call Emily Galpin at 817.421.5648

Special thanks to newsletter contributors:

Carrie Atchison
Melinda Adams
Courtney Blevins
Gene Gehring
Jared Martin
Melanie Migura
Michelle Villafranca

Thursday, February 16 • 8:00am – 4:00pm



Colleyville Center • 5301 Riverwalk Dr. • Colleyville

Submitted by Courtney Blevins, Texas Forest Service

The annual North Central Texas Urban Forestry Conference, sponsored by the Cross Timbers Urban Forestry Council, Trinity Blacklands Urban Forestry Council, and the Texas Forest Service is set for Thursday, February 16 at the Colleyville Center.

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WORKSHOP HIGHLIGHTS

Keynote speaker, Dr. Jason Grabosky of Rutgers University, will present a two-part program on structural soils tested by Cornell's Urban Horticulture Institute. Structural soils offer expanded opportunities for successful tree plantings in urban areas where soils often have to be heavily compacted for engineering standards.

Jeffery Gremaud of Stoney Creek Materials of Austin will speak about the history and design techniques of pervious pavement. This pavement type allows water to percolate through it and reach the roots of trees planted on the site.

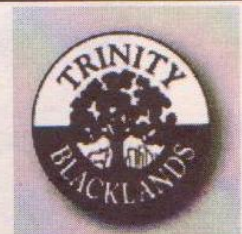
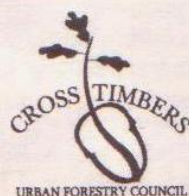
The outbreak of Dutch elm disease in Flower Mound and the town's plan to deal with the disease will be discussed by Jared Martin, Environmental Review Analyst.

Professor and Extension Plant Pathologist Dr. Kevin Ong's presentation will focus on maintaining healthy plants and trees through increased awareness and knowledge of diseases and plant disease management. A new patented irrigation design by PQ Partners for establishing newly planted trees will be demonstrated by Darrell Downey.

•••

Cost of the workshop is \$55; lunch is included. Multiple attendees from the same company or organization are \$45 each after the initial registration of \$55.

For more information, contact Matt Grubisich, 214.953.1190 or Courtney Blevins, 817.926.8203 or send e-mail to cblevins@tfs.tamu.edu.



COUNCIL CALENDAR SALE TIMELY SUCCESS!

Gene Gehring, Board Member, Fundraising Committee Chair

I would like to thank those of you who helped make the first annual Cross Timbers "Champion Trees of the Metroplex" calendar a success. We printed 275 calendars and made approximately \$700.00. If you did not get your collector's item (it is sure to be worth a fortune in the future) there are only SIX! available. If you have not received your order, please contact Melinda Adams. There will be one calendar auctioned at the upcoming North Central Texas Urban Forestry Conference.

The calendars were sold at two different levels: a personalized business edition and the Cross Timbers edition. The business edition had a minimum order of 50 and had space for a full color, full page ad. It also included a 1" x 11" space along the bottom for company name, logo, phone number, etc. that is visible every month of the year. I would like to thank Arborological Services, Inc. and Horton Tree Service for

their purchases. The Cross Timbers edition had the month of January 2007 in place of the ad and our name and logo across the bottom.

For the second annual Champion Trees of the Metroplex calendar, we would like to include pictures of trees at their peak (flowering trees in full bloom, cedar elm during the two weeks between full leaf and the onset of spider mites, massive oak with a dozen climbers, etc.). Submit photos of champion, big, or unique trees to Courtney Blevins. If you would like to nominate a tree, see the Texas Tree Trails website at www.texasstreetrails.org or contact Courtney Blevins. 817.926.8203. Not all champion or big trees have 10 foot diameters: the state champion paper mulberry is only 35 feet tall with a diameter of 42 inches. Pay attention to the smaller trees you run across; you may find a champion.



DATES TO NOTE...

February 14

Cross Timbers Urban Forestry Council Meeting

2:30pm • City of Mansfield City Hall • 1200 East Broad Street

Take Hwy 287 South, exit E. Broad, and turn right. Travel ½ mile, then turn left into the parking lot.

For more information, call Melinda Adams – 817.871.8705

February 16

North Central Texas Urban Forestry Workshop

Colleyville Town Center

Co-sponsored by the Cross Timbers Urban Forestry Council • Trinity Blacklands Urban Forestry Council • Texas Forest Service • City of Colleyville

For more information,

Call Courtney Blevins – Office – 817.926.8203 • Cell – 936.546.3184 or Matt Grubisich – 214.953.1190

March 22

Community Tree Management Workshop

Sponsored by Texas Forest Service • Texas Cooperative Extension

Session Dates

March 22 • April 26-28 • May 26 • June 22 • July • August 16-17

For more information: 979.458.0829 or e-mail ctmi@tamu.edu

April 11

Cross Timbers Urban Forestry Council Meeting

For more information, call Melinda Adams – 817.871.8705

April 28

National Arbor Day

Knowing trees, I understand the meaning of patience. Knowing grass, I can appreciate persistence.

Hal Borland, *Countryman: A Summary of Belief*



THREE COMMUNITY FORESTRY AWARDS COME TO THE CTUFC AREA

Submitted by Melinda Adam, Forester, City of Fort Worth • President, Cross Timbers UFC

On September 29, 2005, there was a celebration of the accomplishments of those who have dedicated their talents to spreading a leafy green canopy over Texas - the 2004 Texas Community Forestry Awards Program.

"This program was open to anyone who has a role in building stronger communities by planting and nurturing trees or leading others to perform that service," says James Hull, director of the Texas Forest Service.

Winners were announced to the over 200 attendees at an awards banquet during the annual Texas Tree Conference held this year in Waco. Each award winner received a numbered, remarked and framed, limited-edition print of a painting specially commissioned for the program. The Texas Community Forestry Awards Program is sponsored by the Texas Forest Service, the Texas Urban Forestry Council, and the Texas Chapter of the International Society of Arboriculture. This year, three of the nine awards came home to the Fort Worth area; two of which were directly related to Fort Worth's Forestry Section.

• • •

The Award of Excellence for a Government Project was given to the City of Fort Worth for the "Look up! Don't Lose a Limb!" campaign. A new fleet of larger service vehicles and changing bus routes and trash collection methods was causing a sudden increase of street tree damage, including falling limbs. In response, the Forestry team developed the "Look Up! Don't Lose A Limb!" campaign. This low cost, multi media approach aims to prevent tree loss by increasing citizen awareness of potential damage and reporting to the Forestry Section for corrective measures.

Since its inception in April 2005, the message has been widely promoted using low cost high impact media sources, targeting both residents and tree care professionals. Articles have run at the local, regional and statewide level, including local papers, neighborhood association newsletters and have appeared on web sites and local cable TV. The City's is distributing 15,000 brochures to new city water clients and the Forestry Section will distribute the remaining 1,000 brochures at city events.



Melinda Adams accepts awards from James Hull

After only five months, increased citizen awareness of low limbs is evident by the number of phones calls to Forestry, and a decrease in major damage to trees. Street trees are an integral part of city infrastructure and contribute greatly to quality of life in our communities. Through the ongoing efforts of the "Look Up! Don't Lose A Limb!" campaign, the City of Fort Worth has taken a proactive stance in protecting its urban forest.

Melanie Migura, a City of Fort Worth Forester is the team leader on the "Look Up" project and is supported by Fort Worth Forestry team members Terry Dodson, Bob Shea, Michelle Villafranca, Will Pemberton, and Melinda Adams.

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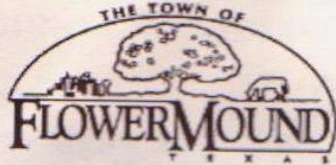
And this, our life, exempt from public haunt, finds tongues in trees, books in the running brooks, sermons in stones, and good in everything.
- William Shakespeare

INTRODUCING...CARRIE ATCHISON: NEW STAFF FORESTER IN GRANBURY

I would like to take this opportunity to introduce myself to all of you. My name is Carrie Atchison and I am the new Staff Forester with the Texas Forest Service in the Granbury office. I am replacing Christie Alexander who decided to stay at home with her two wonderful children. I grew up in Southern Indiana and received a Bachelor of Science in Forestry degree from Purdue University. After receiving my degree, I accepted a position with the Texas Forest Service as the Forest Inventory and Analysis (FIA) Forester in Lubbock for almost two years before transferring to the Granbury office. In my new position, I will have an assortment of responsibilities which include oak wilt suppression, stewardship plans for landowners, outreach, and education programs. I will also be working with the urban and FIA foresters in the area. Feel free to contact me at any time if I can be of any assistance to you. You may contact me by phone at 817.579.5773 or e-mail at catchison@tfs.tamu.edu.



Carrie Atchison, Texas Forest Service



Throughout the 1990s the Town of Flower Mound experienced rapid growth as the town's population increased from 15,527 people to 50,702 people. This was a growth rate of 226.5%. In an effort to ensure the Town develops according to its Master Plan, mitigates the ill effects of rapid urbanization, and preserves the Town's natural environment and rural character, the Town adopted its SMARTGrowth Management Plan February 17, 2000. The plan was later amended and updated as the SMARTGrowth Program July 15, 2002.

The U.S. EPA defines Smart Growth as "development that serves the economy, the community, and the environment." Flower Mound takes this concept a step further, using SMARTGrowth as an acronym that stands for "Strategically Managed And Responsible Town Growth." Flower Mound's program requires that all new developments adhere to a set of criteria. These criteria are grouped into six major categories:

- 1) adequate public infrastructure;
- 2) adequate public facilities;
- 3) adequate public services;
- 4) economic development;
- 5) environmental quality; and



The wonder is that we can see these trees and not wonder more. - Ralph Waldo Emerson

SMARTGROWTH PROGRAM

Submitted by Jared Martin, Environmental Review Analyst, City of Flower Mound

6) community character.

The Environmental Quality section of the SMARTGrowth Program provides a tool for the town to use to evaluate each new development for key environmental features by requiring Flower Mound staff to perform an Environmentally Sensitive Area (ESA) survey on each proposed development site. The key features looked for during an ESA include: floodplain, wetlands, upland habitat, riparian habitat, native prairie habitat, and waters of the State. If any of these features are found on a site, the developer is then responsible for developing an Environmental Protection Plan (EPP) outlining all of the environmentally sensitive areas on the site and describing the effects their development will have on these areas. The developer is also required to propose and outline any mitigation that will occur on the site if an environmentally sensitive area is negatively impacted.

Water quality and watershed protection are high priorities in Flower Mound. The protection of the floodplain is a key to upholding the priorities. The SMARTGrowth Program requires strict regulation of development in the 100-year floodplain. This includes 100-year floodplain on all stream channels,

and not just those recognized by FEMA. In addition to water quality benefits, regulating development in the floodplain has allowed for the preservation of several connected habitat areas throughout the town. As riparian habitats, bottomland forests, and wetlands occur almost completely within the floodplain, many of these areas are automatically protected during development. Prairie and upland habitats, which are generally located outside of the floodplains and stream areas, are typically harder to protect than the previously mentioned habitat areas. On a typical development site, once the floodplain, streams, riparian habitat, and wetlands are removed from the developable area, the only place left to develop is in the prairie and upland areas. This does not mean that these areas are ignored or any less important. Since ESA surveys are done for each new development, these areas are identified prior to development and required to be mitigated for, reconstructed, or, in the case of prairie habitats, transplanted to other sites in Town. In cases where water-related habitats are not present, upland and prairie habitats then become the primary focus of preservation efforts.

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Thank You Arboriological Services

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COMMUNITREE ACTION...

CITIZEN FORESTER TRAINING UNDERWAY

Submitted by Melanie Migura, Forester, City of Fort Worth

Back in November 2005, many of you received an e-mail message and/or a brochure in the mail marketing the Cross Timbers Urban Forestry Council's (CTUFC) new Citizen Forester program, which is designed to educate and train volunteers to support municipal urban forestry programs within the Cross Timbers region. The brochure advertised, "If you are interested in learning more about trees and are willing to volunteer to help care for and maintain the public trees in your town, then Citizen Forester is for you!"

Much to our excitement, many of you expressed interest in participating in this training program. Those of us closely involved with the CTUFC are pleased to announce that 35 individuals

have been accepted to participate in the 2006 Citizen Forester pilot class. Participants come from six of the 17 counties that make up the Cross Timbers region. These six counties are Tarrant, Denton, Parker, Wise, Erath, and Johnson.

The first training session begins Wednesday, January 18, followed by February 15, March 15, April 19, May 17 and June 14. The training sessions will be held from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. at various locations in Fort Worth, including the Fort Worth Botanic Garden, Tarrant County Extension Offices, and the Resource Connection of Tarrant County facilities. Topics include recommended native and adapted trees, "hands-on" planting and pruning experience, benefits of trees, recognition of hazardous trees, urban tree conflicts and their effects

on public tree management and other relevant urban forestry subjects.

Pilot class participants will complete a combination of 36 hours of classroom instruction and "hands-on" field training between January and June. They will then return to their home towns and dedicate a minimum of 25 hours of community service towards projects that help their community take care of its public trees. Examples of these projects include: assisting with tree inventories, training and pruning newly

established trees, measuring street trees for clearance, pruning crape myrtles on public property, mulching trees in public parks, and participating in public tree planting programs and tree give-away events.

Last fall, a \$10,000 matching grant was awarded to CTUFC by the Texas Forest Service to provide training materials and equipment for the program. As members of the CTUFC, City of Fort Worth Forestry staff are leading the pilot program. This includes recruiting program participants and developing the training curriculum. Other Cross Timbers members are assisting in supervising field training exercises and serving as guest speakers.

For more information about the Citizen Forester program, call 817-871-5739 or scroll down to the Citizen Forester section on the City of Fort Worth Forestry website at www.fortworthgov.org/pacs/fwpcsd/forestry/volunteer/volunteer.htm.

CITY OF FORT WORTH FORESTRY SECTION SPEARHEADS "COWTOWN ADVENTURES" SCIENCE CABLE PROGRAM FOR KIDS

Submitted by Michelle Villafranca, Forester, City of Fort Worth



Michelle Villafranca and Melinda Adams reached out to various City departments and FWISD to invite representatives to participate in designing a kids' science cable program. The idea was enthusiastically accepted, and collaboration began! "Cowtown Adventures" is a program targeting children in fifth grade. The show highlights city services and how science plays a role in our everyday lives.

Why is it so important to produce a kids' science program? Children are naturally curious. Science education feeds that curiosity and provides students with valuable concepts, life skills, and career options. Science helps give kids a greater appreciation for the world, a healthy dose of skepticism, strong problem-solving skills, and research know-how. The President and state governors have set challenging goals for science education, and it is up to all of us to help our children learn what they will need to know in order to live and work in today's world.

Each participating city department has been charged with the task of compiling several five to ten minute long, science-based segments to be used on the program. They can use current outreach programs as the

...Continued page 8

COMMUNITY FORESTRY AWARDS

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Award of Excellence for a Student Project was given to Castleberry High School Community-Based Instruction Students. Last spring, six students and three coaches from the Community-Based Instruction program of Castleberry High School joined with the Fort Worth Forestry Section to volunteer at the City of Fort Worth's Rolling Hills Tree Farm. Duties included repotting trees, weeding, cleaning and organizing stock. The Special Education students were motivated

Wonder". The exhibit shows what makes the Cross Timbers unique - its geology, topography, ecology, climate and the influence of human development from pre-history to modern times. Since this past February, the exhibit has been viewed by over 6,000 folks in eight sites including libraries, city halls, botanic gardens, tree conferences, and colleges in the region. This traveling education exhibit consists of the Cross Timbers display along with auxiliary, interactive teaching components for use by educators.



Castleberry students, teachers with Will Pemberton, Greenhouse Manager

hard working, never complained, and were always happy to learn new skills. They made a noticeable impact on the operation of the Tree Farm and helped increase container stock inventory by 30 percent.

Michelle Villafranca, City of Fort Worth Forester, was responsible for the program and was supported by other Fort Worth Forestry team members Melanie Migura, Will Pemberton, and his crew Robert Hornbuckle, Gary Bond, Ed Nelsen, Robert Soria, and Royce Stille.

• • •
Award of Excellence for a Public Awareness Project was given to the Fort Worth based Cross Timbers Urban Forestry Council for its traveling exhibit "Cross Timbers: A Natural

The display features a lightweight, modular design that is easy to assemble and transport. An exhibit brochure provided with the display, provides more background information about the Cross Timbers.

The native Cross Timbers are challenged by rapid population growth and urban development, "The Cross Timbers: A Natural Wonder" educational exhibit will serve as a way to remind residents that the natural world surrounds them and is worthy of conservation and care.

The fact that three of the nine state wide awards went to Fort Worth groups is a testament to the dedication of its residents to a healthy urban forest.

UNTITLED POEM

*Feeling hollow and empty inside,
I stood beneath you,
lost in your presence.*

*Tall, reaching to the heavens,
yet humble with arching branches that
grace the earth,
You drew me close to you.*

*My hand reached out...
to touch, to respect,
to pay tribute and celebrate your
majesty.*

*Silent and welcoming, you have seen
many changes.
I see signs that say you have lived for
over 100 years.
Keeping quiet watch while a city grew
up around you.*

*You have stood the test of time.
Will I?
The very fact that we met means more
changes are coming.*

*Once clothed, now naked.
The wind has taken your leaves,
only to leave you more beautiful in my
eyes.
Your inner strength revealed.*

*Now flagged with red tape,
A silver tag tries to quantify you
but there are not words:*

*Resolute yet yielding, cradling,
defiant while protective,
shelter and refuge...all fall short.*

*You will survive.
Your gift to me a connection to the
ages,
both what was and what lies before.
A link to the holy and the sacred.*

*Farewell, my friend.
Having to say goodbye, I am sad.
Knowing I will remember you in my
heart, my spirit soars...*

Melanie Migura
December 6, 2005

Community Tree
Management Institute



The Community Tree Management Institute (CTMI) is a series of advanced educational sessions covering the technical, managerial, and administrative aspects of managing trees in cities. With both online and face-to-face sessions, the Institute is tailored to individuals who are the true decision makers when it comes to the urban forests in their city – the municipal parks, planning, or public works employees responsible for trees. These may include tree managers, or others who inspect trees, issue permits, or supervise any community forestry issues. The purpose of the CTMI is to provide the employees with the necessary or additional education and skills to effectively carry out their tree related responsibilities. In an ongoing effort to disseminate quality urban forestry programs, the Texas Cooperative Extension Forestry Unit, the Texas Forest Service, and the National Urban and Community Forestry Advisory Council are partnering to deliver the Community Tree Management Institute (CTMI).

The Institute consists of six sessions spread throughout the year and participants must participate in all sessions in order to complete the course. Core curriculum topics include:

- **Urban and Community Forest Management Principles:** *writing/administering ordinances, strategic planning, planning and budgeting for urban forestry, legal and liability issues involving trees, street/park tree inventories*
- **Technical Aspects of Community Forestry Program:** *tree biology, urban soils, selecting and planting trees, forest fragmentation, protecting trees during construction*
- **Administering a Municipal Community Forestry Program:** *working effectively with volunteers working with tree boards and commissions, trees and the media, writing grants & project proposals, and administering urban forestry contracts.*

Schedule

- Session I: March 22, 2006 (online)
- Session II: April 26-28, 2006 (College Station)
- Session III: May 26, 2006 (online)
- Session IV: June 22, 2006 (Dallas, TX)
- Session V: July 2006 (online)
- Session VI: August 16-17, 2006 (College Station)

Questions about CTMI should be directed to the CTMI Technician, 979.458.0829 or send an e-mail to ctmi@tamu.edu.


FLOWER MOUND SMARTGROWTH

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Through SMARTGrowth, Flower Mound has also been able to encourage developers to consider conservation development as an alternative to traditional development. Conservation development, or cluster development, allows for the protection of 40 to 50 percent of a building site in its natural state, while also allowing the developer to maintain the original density allowed on the property. Chimney Rock, a residential subdivision in western Flower Mound, is a good example of a conservation development. This subdivision was zoned agricultural which allowed for two acre home sites to be built. The total buildable area of the site was approximately 96 acres. This would have allowed 48 home sites to be built at two acres each. Instead of doing a traditional development, the developer opted for a conservation development which left 50% of their land in its natural undisturbed state, and allowed them to reduce their required lot size by half. Not only does this benefit the environment by reducing the negative impacts to the site, but it benefits the developer by allowing them to build the same number of homes (48 one-acre home sites in this case) while reducing their infrastructure and construction costs by clustering those homes in specific areas of the development.

For more information on Flower Mound's SMARTGrowth Program, please visit the Town's website at: <http://www.flower-mound.com/smart/smartgrowth.php>

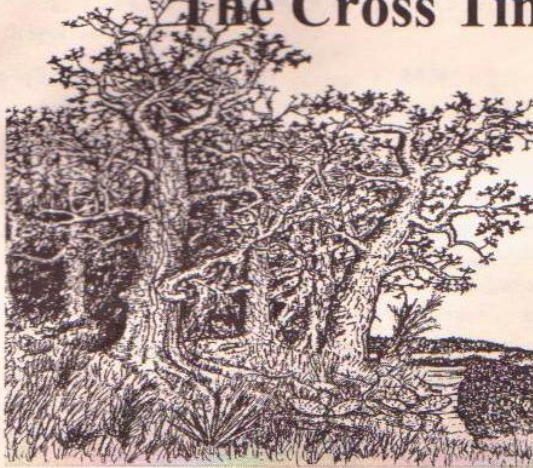
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The Cross Timbers: A Natural Wonder



The Cross Timbers: A Natural Wonder traveling exhibit is available at no cost to municipalities, schools, libraries, town halls and other venues to educate citizens about the importance of the Cross Timbers ecosystem and to promote urban forestry.

For more information or to schedule the exhibit for your area, contact Emily Galpin, 817.421.5648 or galpineh@charter.net.

(Sketch by Dr. Richard Francaviglia from his book, the Cast Iron Forest: A Natural and Cultural History of the North American Cross Timbers)

COWTOWN SCIENCE ADVENTURES GO CABLE

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basis or adapt them. The program will be produced as a quarterly show. Segments will be filmed separately so they can be interchanged to create new shows at any time in the future.

Filming of the first program began Tuesday, November 22. Three City departments were involved: the Fort Worth Zoo, Botanic Garden, and the Herd. The theme for this show is "Adaptation." Each department representative developed a segment establishing a connection between the services they provide and how science plays an important role in

the process. Currently, "Cowtown Adventures" is in the editing stage and it is expected to air in February. Before widespread distribution, students and teachers will evaluate the program and offer comments. "Cowtown Adventures" will also include an interactive web site designed and administered by Michelle Villafranca. Additionally, participating City departments will create educational publications to accompany segments.

This is an important project and it will benefit all involved in several ways:

- Help FWISD students improve

TEKS science requirements;

- Teach children how science is a basic part of everyday life;
- Highlight future career options for students;
- Help Outreach staff accomplish goals in a new format;
- Provide a vehicle for each participating department to get their message out;
- Provide a service to the City;
- Provide a public service not only to children, but also adults;
- Prove that many City departments can collaborate successfully on a large project.



A tree is our most intimate contact with nature. - George Nakashima, woodworker

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TREE PLANTING SEASON IS HERE!

Submitted by Melinda Adams, Forester, City of Fort Worth • President, CTUFC

Someone with great wisdom once said the best time to plant a tree is 20 years ago, and the second best time is today. The best season to plant a tree is upon us. If you have been thinking of planting a tree at your home, now is the time to do so. Planting a tree correctly will greatly increase its chances for survival.

Arboriculture is an ever-expanding science. What was common practice as little as ten years ago may not be accepted today. Here are the latest guidelines for proper tree planting.

Timing

Container grown plants can be planted during any season but the best time for planting all trees, shrubs, and woody vines is during the dormant season. Balled and burlapped trees, often referred to as B&B, should only be planted during the dormant season, late fall through winter.

Selecting the Site

Trees grow! Make sure you give your new tree enough room. Shade trees should not be any closer than 20 feet from your foundation and 25 feet from another large tree. Small ornamentals should not be closer than 10 feet from your home and 15 feet from any other tree. To check your site for proper drainage dig a hole the same size as the root ball, fill with water and let sit overnight. If water is still in the hole in the morning, find another location to plant your tree.

Selecting the Tree

The tree should have a single trunk. Multiple trunk trees, especially larger species, have inherent problems that will shorten their life. There should be only one central leader. That means the tallest limb should appear to be an extension of the trunk with all other limbs arising from it. More than one dominant leader will cause the tree to split later in life. There should be an obvious root flare; the bottom of the trunk should widen at the base where it is attached to the root

crown. If not, it may have been transplanted too deep. Another way to tell if the tree is planted too deep is to gently rock the trunk from side to side while holding the container or root ball stable. If the movement causes a gap between the soil and the trunk, the tree was transplanted too deep. The fine roots should be white in appearance and firm, not woody or mushy. The buds on twigs should be plump. Scratch a twig with your thumbnail or a key. A thin layer of green should be detected between the bark and wood of twigs and branches. Anywhere the green layer is missing that section of the tree is dead. There should be no scars or tears along the trunk or major limbs.

Planting

Dig a hole the same depth as the container and 2 to 3 times wider. Loosen the sides of the hole with a rake. Remove the root ball from the container by carefully laying it on its side and rolling the container back and forth with gentle pressure until the root ball is loosened. Slide the container from the root ball. Cut one to two inches deep along the side of the root ball in four places. **DO NOT LIFT THE TREE BY ITS TRUNK!** Lift by the root ball or if the tree is too heavy gently roll into the hole. Make sure the top of the root ball is at ground level. This can be checked by placing the shovel handle across the top of the hole. If the hole is too deep, add enough soil to raise the root ball one to two inches above ground level. This will allow for settling of the added soil. Amending the soil will create a difference in soil texture and may cause improper drainage. It will also encourage tree roots not to grow beyond the planting hole. Using the same soil that came out of the hole, fill the hole half way. Lightly tap the soil in around the root ball to eliminate air pockets. Wet down

the added soil to further eliminate air pockets. Finish filling the hole and use the extra soil to create a water ring six inches outside the root ball. Do not place any soil over the original root ball. Gently tap down the soil and water. Place 2 to 4 inches of mulch inside and on top of the water ring, but keep all mulch off the trunk. Prune any dead or damaged limbs at the time of planting. You may also remove any co-dominant leaders. Do not do any aesthetic pruning until the end of the second growing season.

Staking

If possible, don't. The tree will establish a stronger root system if not staked. If necessary, stake the tree on two or three sides. Protect the tree from wire or use flexible ties. Stake the tree loosely enough the trunk sways in the wind from the base to encourage lateral root growth. Remove all staking material within one year or sooner if you detect the tree growing around the staking material.

Establishment

Water with a slow drip such as from a soaker hose. Deep watering will encourage the roots to grow deeper and become more drought tolerant. Water the tree once or twice weekly during the first two years. Consider rainfall when watering trees. Do not water until soil beneath the mulch layer is completely dry. Keep the tree ring mulched for at least the first two years adding fresh mulch when needed.

...

Now that you know how to plant a tree, grab that shovel and go to it. The second best time to plant a tree will be gone by sunset! If you would like to learn more about proper placement of trees in your yard and tree maintenance visit Fort Worth Forestry's web site <http://www.fortworthgov.org/pacs/ftpacsdl/forestry/index.htm>

Arbor Day!

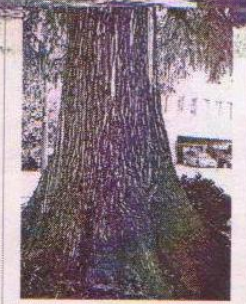
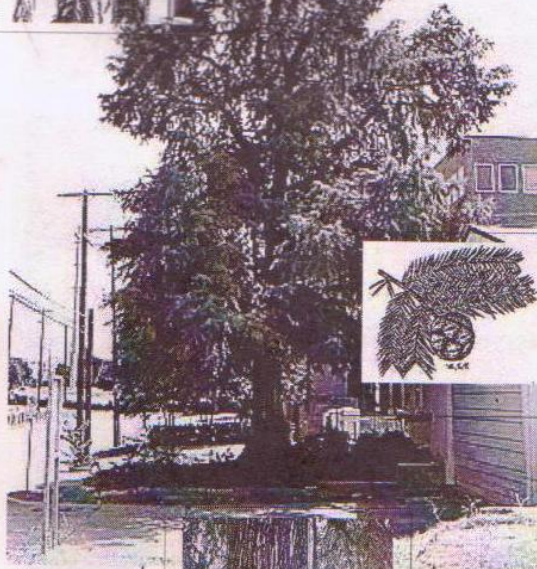


TEXAS



CHAMPION TREE HIGHLIGHTS

Our mission is to find and catalog each of these treasures in order to preserve their integrity for future generations - before they all disappear.



DFW REGIONAL BALD CYPRESS CHAMPION

This bald cypress pictured to the right is the largest of its species in the Dallas Fort Worth regional area measured to date:

- Height • 56'**
- Circumference • 115"**
- Crown spread • 56'**

Found near wet stream banks and bottomlands, the bald cypress occurs in East Texas west to the Nueces River and along streams and rivers of Central Texas. The straight trunk has numerous ascending branches, and narrow conical outline. In old age the tree generally has a broad fluted or buttressed base, a smooth slowly tapering trunk and a broad, open, flat top of a few heavy branches and numerous small branchlets. Virgin-growth timber attains heights up to 130 feet and diameters up to 10 feet.

BARK: The bark is silvery to cinnamon-red, finely divided by numerous longitudinal fissures.

LEAVES: The light green leaves about 1/2 to 3/4 inch long, are arranged in feather-like fashion along two sides of small branchlets which fall in the autumn with the leaves still attached. They turn a brilliant cinnamon red in the fall.

FRUIT: The fruit, a rounded cone, is about one inch in diameter, with thick irregular scales.

WOOD: The wood is light, soft, easily worked, with a light sap wood and dark-brown heartwood. It is particularly durable in contact with the soil. Cypress is in demand for exterior trim of buildings, greenhouse planking, boat and ship building, shingles, posts, poles, and crossties.

Source: Texas Tree Trails
www.texasretrails.org

Of all man's works of art, a cathedral is greatest. A vast and majestic tree is greater than that. - Henry Ward Beecher

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\$500 sponsorships will greatly help the Cross Timbers Urban Forestry Council accomplish its mission, including assisting groups with tree plantings, promoting tree care, providing tree information, and sponsoring tree care workshops.

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- Quarter page ad in the newsletter for one year
- Two complete registrations to workshops
- 10% discount for all other employees
- Booth space at workshop, if desired
- Cross Timbers logo and other benefits as available (caps, t-shirts, pens, etc.)

For more information, contact Eugene Gehring - 817-307-0967.

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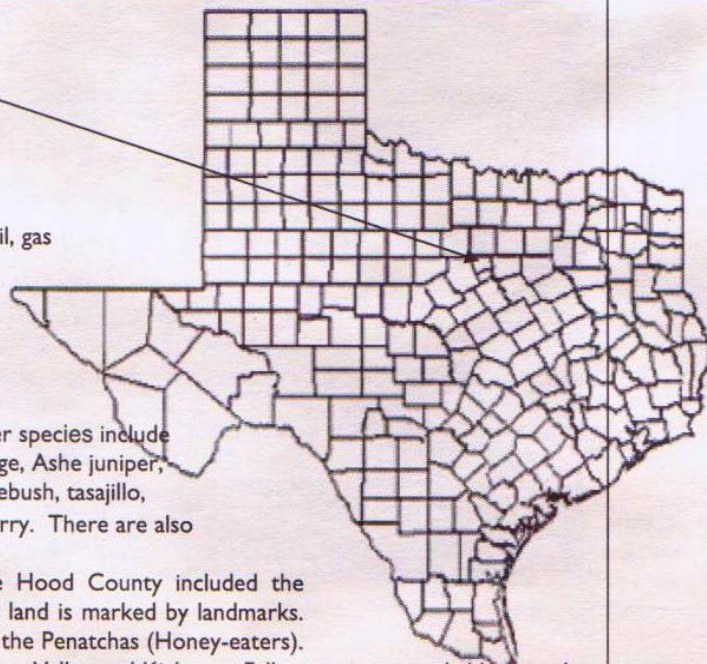


CROSS TIMBER URBAN FORESTRY COUNCIL COUNTIES

The CTUFC includes 17 counties in north central Texas. This is the fourth in the series to provide a snapshot of each of the counties: **Archer, Clay, Cooke, Denton, Erath, Hood, Jack, Johnson, Montague, Palo Pinto, Parker, Somervell, Stevens, Tarrant, Wichita, Wise, Young**

Hood County Quick Facts

County Seat:	Granbury
Population (2000):	41,100
Elevation:	600'-1,000'
Yearly Rainfall Average:	30"
Growing Season:	232 days
Temperature Range:	34°F-January to 96°F-July
Mineral Resources:	limestone, industrial sand, oil, gas



Hood County is located in 425 sq. miles of the Western Cross Timbers. Running through a terrain that is rolling and hilly are the Brazos and Paluxy Rivers. The Lake Granbury reservoir was dammed in 1969 on the Brazos. Vegetation in Hood County includes post oak-blackjack oak woodlands which characterize much of the Western Cross Timbers. Other species include shin oak, Spanish oak, live oak, Texas ash, mesquite, osage orange, Ashe juniper, eastern red cedar, cedar elm, skunkbush sumac, elbowbush, lotebush, tasajillo, rough-leafed dogwood, flame-leaf sumac, hawthorn, and hackberry. There are also bluestems, Indian grass, and grammas.

The early inhabitants that roamed what was to become Hood County included the Comanches, Lipan Apaches, and Kiowas. Their impact on the land is marked by landmarks. Comanche Peak was a meeting place for Comanches known as the Penatchas (Honey-eaters). The town of Lipan was named after the Lipan Apaches. Kickapoo Valley and Kickapoo Falls were most probably named for a tribe of Native Americans that had come to Texas from the region between Lake Michigan and Lake Erie.

Settlers from the East began arriving to homestead in the river valleys about ten to 15 years before the Civil War. Hood County was formed in November 1866 and was pulled together from parts of several other counties. It was named after Lt. Gen. John Bell Hood of the Confederate Army. Hood was born in Kentucky, attended West Point, and served on the Texas frontier before the Civil War. The establishment of a county seat was a contentious affair; so contentious that settlers in what was southern Hood County seceded and established Somervell County. Granbury did eventually become the county seat and was named for Confederate General Hiram Bronson Granbury. Granbury was born in Mississippi, moved to Waco, Texas in the 1850s, and was killed in November 1864 at the Battle of Franklin in Tennessee.

Perhaps of special Texas historic interest is the settling in the mid-1850s of Elizabeth Crockett, the second wife of David Crockett, and two of her sons in Hood County. They settled on the David Crockett survey, 320 acres granted to the widow by the state of Texas. Buried in the Acton Cemetery, in 1911 the state placed a statue of Elizabeth in the cemetery. The Crockett plot, called the Acton State Historic Site, consists of .006 acres of land and holds the distinction of being the smallest registered state park in Texas.

Add-Ran College was established in 1873 and donated to the Disciples of Christ in 1890. In 1896 the college now called Add-Ran Christian University was moved to Waco, and then moved again in 1910 to Fort Worth where it became Texas Christian University.

During the last 30 years of the nineteenth century, the population of the county rose steadily with a total of just over 10,000 in 1910 with over 1,700 farms, and over 22,500 cattle. The primary crops were cotton, corn, and oats. Produce and livestock were to market on the Fort Worth and Rio Grande Railway which had been completed in 1887. Much of Hood County is still used for farming and ranching with pecans, hay, wheat, oat, peanuts and cattle and milk cows as the principal agricultural products.

After a declining population until just before the 1960s, the population then increased from 1960 to 1980 from 5,443 to 17,714. One of the main reasons for the increase was the completion of Lake Granbury and the development of the county as a popular recreation and resort center. Historic downtown Granbury has also been restored.

Sources: *Websites of Handbook of Texas Online* - <http://www.tsha.utexas.edu/handbook/online/> • *Hood County Genealogical Society* - www.granburydepot.org/home/HCGShomePage.htm • *Texas Parks and Wildlife* - www.tpwd.state.tx.us/landwater/land/habitats/cross_timbers/counties/tarrant/



Give me a land of boughs in leaf, A land of trees that stand; Where trees are fallen there is grief; I love no leafless land." - A.E. Housman

COME GROW WITH US!
CROSS TIMBERS URBAN FORESTRY COUNCIL MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Name _____

Organization _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone Number: _____ E-mail: _____

Individual _____ \$ 10.00 *Family* _____ \$ 25.00 *Business/City* _____ \$ 50.00

Patron _____ \$100.00 *Sustaining* _____ \$200.00 *Sponsor* _____ \$500.00

Please return this form with your check or money order to:

Cross Timbers Urban Forestry Council • 4200 South Freeway, Suite 2200 • Fort Worth, TX • 76115-1499

.....MARK YOUR CALENDARS.....
NEXT CTUFC MEETING
TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 14, 2006 • 2:30
CITY OF MANSFIELD • CITY HALL • 1200 EAST BROAD ST.



Cross Timbers Urban Forestry Council
4200 South Freeway, Suite 2200
Fort Worth, TX 76115-1499