

September, October, November 2022

KEY:

Holiday

eNews

eNews DUE

Webinar

Blog Post

SlideShare

Campaign

Experiment

Other

SUNDAY

MONDAY

TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

SATURDAY

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1) Impact of Heat <edit>
2) Leaves Rains Drains <edit >
3) Tree Concerns <edit >

SUNDAY

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SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
25	26	27	28	29	30	
			eNews			

DATE	MESSAGE	LINK	CAMPAIGN	IMAGE	CHARACTER COUNT
September 2022	<p>Recommendations for your heat-damaged trees and shrubs</p> <p>Go ahead and cut off dead flowers but try to resist the urge to remove partially dead leaves.</p> <p>Water deeply. Use drip or soaker hoses for more efficient water use; water is lost to evaporation when using an overhead sprinkler.</p> <p>Apply mulch 2 to 3 inches deep.</p>	https://www.oregonlive.com/hg/2021/07/how-to-care-for-heat-damaged-plants-after-oregons-historic-heat-wave.html	1) Impact of Heat <edit>	https://www.cityofflp.com/Areas/CivicSend/Assets/Uploads/4953/s6b55e694adfb4d9e939dbd4df2a669ce637684446943338567_optimized.jpg	343
October 2022	<p>It is time to check the storm drains and clear leaves from them to keep the stormwater flowing.</p> <p>Please do not create piles of leaves expecting the sweeper to sweep them away. Use your yard waste tote so they can be composed.</p> <p>DO NOT rake or blow leaves and debris into the street, ditchlines, or rights-of-way.</p> <p>The sweeper cannot handle large piles of leaves. If the sweeper encounters large piles of leaves, the driver must drive around them, or the pile of leaves could damage the street sweeper and the process may come to a screeching halt.</p> <p>Municipal Code 16.25.025 makes it illegal to collect lawn clippings, leaves or branches and discharge them into the path of surface water.</p> <p>Never try to clear a storm drain or culvert if there is moving water greater than knee deep, and always be wary of traffic when working near a roadway.</p>		2) Leaves Rains Drains <edit >	https://www.cityofflp.com/Areas/CivicSend/Assets/Uploads/4953/240744b34a7446f4804c20f0a777a663_small_optimized.jpg	836
November 2022	<p>As we enter the rainy/windy season, it can be natural to have some concerns about trees on your property.</p> <p>If a tree on your property is fully dead with no live foliage, you can email a picture of the tree along with a description and your address to the City Arborist for confirmation that the tree meets the code definition of a dead tree.</p> <p>If you'd like someone to come take a look at your trees and provide an assessment of their health and/or structural condition, the City recommends finding an ISA Certified Arborist.</p> <p>If you'd like to remove any live trees on your property that have a DBH (diameter at 4.5 feet above ground) of 6 inches or more, then a tree removal permit application can be submitted</p>		3) Tree Concerns <edit >	https://www.cityofflp.com/Areas/CivicSend/Assets/Uploads/4953/0f149d9d245f40cf8cb46ade2fd3024c_small_optimized.jpg	709

December 2022, January February 2023

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SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
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SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
			Dec: Christmas Tree Dilema			
			Jan: Beaked Hazel			
			Feb: Green Giants			
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
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			eNews DUE			
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
25	26	27	28	29	30	
			eNews			

DATE	MESSAGE	LINK	CAMPAIGN	IMAGE	CHARACTER COUNT
December 2022	<p>Artificial?</p> <p>Your volunteer Tree Board focuses on LFP’s living forests. This time of year, though, we are often asked about Christmas trees, and which has a smaller environmental impact: buying a real tree or an artificial one.</p> <p>The bottom line: real! Real trees have a smaller carbon footprint and help fight climate change, and even though your Christmas tree is cut down, you are actually supporting forests.</p> <p>In the U.S., around 10 million artificial trees are purchased each season. Nearly 90 percent are shipped from China, resulting in an increase in carbon emissions. Most are made of PVC, which pollutes across its entire lifespan, from production to end of life. Most artificial trees are not recyclable and end up in landfills, where they release more greenhouse gases and leach dangerous chemicals.</p> <p>But shouldn't we avoid cutting down real trees? One of the best ways to protect forests is to use them—carefully. When our forests are sustainably managed, they can produce renewable resources like Christmas trees and wood products. Christmas tree farms provide clean air and water, habitat for wildlife, and erosion control. When these natural trees are harvested, there are more than 10 times as many left standing. For every tree purchased, farmers plant 1-3 seedlings in its place. Plus, most of the 15,000 Christmas tree farms across the U.S. are family-owned, so when you buy a real Christmas tree, you support local economies and contribute to an industry that provides 100,000+ jobs.</p> <p>The caveat: try to ensure your real tree comes from a local, sustainable farm that doesn't use pesticides, and make sure it is responsibly composted after the holidays.</p> <p>Maybe you are considering a living tree to plant in your yard after the holidays. If you keep it inside for less than a week, then plant it promptly, it should survive and become a valuable addition to our city's tree canopy. Any longer inside than that, though, and they rarely survive the transition. A small-scale alternative is a potted Norfolk Island Pine, which is happy as a year-round houseplant.</p> <p>If you still prefer the convenience of an artificial tree, the key is to buy one that's high quality, so it will last. An artificial tree must be in circulation for at least 8 years—but ideally 20—to negate its carbon footprint. Or go vintage! Scout the many used</p>		1) Look for an Evergreen's Dec 19, 2022 <edit>	<p>Tree1otstockimage.jpg</p> <p>Or</p> <p>https://www.cityoflfp.com/Assets/CivicSend/Assets/1/p1oade/4953a15b4426d7a934d67a7b5c37757e4de06_fm-all_optimized.jpg</p>	2516
January 2023	<p>Meet the Beaked Hazel – <i>Corylus cornuta</i></p> <p>Lake Forest Park is proud of its extensive trees, but a forest includes much more than its canopy trees. Our attention is sometimes drawn lower in the forest to subcanopy trees that are also a critical part of our urban forest community.</p> <p>The beaked hazel (<i>Corylus cornuta</i>) is the earliest native flowering plant in our forests, appearing as a tawny yellow haze, and often seen flowering best where it grows, along the edge of a forest. Flowering in January and February at low elevations and later in the spring as you go up in elevation.</p> <p>Like other members of the birch family, beaked hazel flowers before the leaves emerge in the spring. This is not by accident; they are all wind pollinated and dense foliage inhibits both free dispersal and capture of pollen. Wind-pollinated trees typically separate the male stamens and female pistils into separate flowers. In fact, wind pollination is so inefficient that plants with separate male and female flowers allocate more resources to pollen production by having more male flowers to make up for all of the wasted pollen.</p> <p>From a distance, male flowers, which are arranged in pendant “catkins” (a spike of unisexual, apetalous flowers having scaly, usually deciduous bracts, as of a willow or birch) create the yellow aura that signals the presence of a hazel in our early spring woods. While not visible from a distance, it is worth taking a closer look to see the tiny, brilliant, red female flowers arranged individually near the tips of stems. The bright red structures are not the petals we normally think of as the colorful part of a flower, but are the stigma, where pollen is deposited. On plants pollinated by animals, the stigma is small and unobtrusive; but, in wind-pollinated plants, it is large and branched to capture the pollen as it blows by on the wind, instead of having the pollen delivered to it. Since it does not need to attract animal pollinators, it is not known why they are such a brilliant red; maybe it's to attract our attention!</p> <p>In birches and alders, the female flowers are also organized in catkins. Why not in hazel? Birches and alders produce lots of small, winged seeds that are dispersed by the wind the following fall, but hazelnuts are heavy and a small branch tip would not be able to support a bunch of them. Like the commercial European hazelnut, ours is edible, but they never seem to produce in large quantities and we are unlikely to beat the squirrels to the ones they do produce. In late summer, we can see big gray squirrels (introduced from eastern North America) foraging in hazels for the still-green nuts—small branches waving to and fro as the squirrels move from nut to nut.</p>		2) Beaked Hazel (TBD)	<p>https://www.cityoflfp.com/Assets/CivicSend/Assets/1/p1oade/4953a15b4426d7a934d67a7b5c37757e4de06_fm-all_optimized.jpg</p>	2915
February 2023	<p>Green Giants</p> <p>Here in the Pacific Northwest, we share our home with very diverse botanical giants. Most conifers are trees, although a handful are shrubs. An iconic trait of conifers is their reproductive cone, often composed of overlapping scales: large and woody in western white pine, medium size with protruding “mouse tail” bracts in Douglas fir, and very small, upright ovoid cones with few scales on western red cedar. With many shaped like the typical Christmas tree, conifers have produced the world’s tallest, thickest, and oldest specimens. Every type of coniferous tree represented in the Northwest finds its largest and often longest-lived individuals here.</p> <p>We are lucky in Lake Forest Park to have such a botanical backdrop for our daily lives. How often do we pause to take stock of such a glorious natural legacy? Traveling to my family home in the Midwest, I feel unnaturally exposed within what seems the stunted stands of native deciduous trees. When I return to Lake Forest Park, it is like emerging from a tunnel into a dazzling dreamworld of green and verdant growth reaching toward the sky.</p> <p>Visitors often ask if our trees are remnant old growth and are stunned when I tell them our trees are youngsters, mostly 50 – 100 years in age. With care and preservation, they may live several hundred more years. More surprisingly still, big Douglas firs are outlived by Western hemlock and Western red cedar—some living perhaps 1,000 years or more. The grand and beautiful coniferous forests of the Northwest are a botanical treasure of immeasurable importance to the health</p>		3) Green Giants (TBD)	<p>https://www.cityoflfp.com/Assets/CivicSend/Assets/1/p1oade/4953a33bcb8d42dc1846ab65e001f11413eac_fm-all_optimized.jpg</p>	1658

DATE	CAMPAIGN	MESSAGE	LINK
Month of March	Gardening, Nature, and Ecology Books Month		
March 7th	Plant Power Day		
March 11th & Sept 26th	Johnny Appleseed Day		
March 20th	International Earth Day & Spring Equinox		
March 22nd	National Agriculture Day		
Month of April	National Garden Month		
April 13th	International Plant Appreciation Day		
April 14th	National Gardening Day		
April 22nd	Earth Day		
Last Friday in April	Arbor Day		
Month of May	Gardening for Wildlife Month		
2nd week in May	National Public Gardens Week		
May 3rd	Garden Mediation Day		
May 6th	National Public Gardens Day		
May 16th	Love a Tree Day		
May 19th	Plant Something Day		
3rd Saturday in May	Plant a Lemon Tree Day		
1st week of June	National Gardening Week		
June 5th	World Environment Day		
Month of July	National Outdoor Month		
December 19th	Look for an Evergreen Day		
Summer	IVY OUT Events		

CONTENT TYPE	TITLE	INTERESTING SNIPPET	IMAGE
August	Summer Garden Watering Advice	<p>Summer Garden Watering Advice</p> <p>We are entering the driest time of the year - so unless your garden only has established drought-tolerant plants, summer watering is a necessity. It is generally better to water deeply and infrequently. Moisten the whole root zone and let the soil dry before watering again. In hot weather, garden beds and lawns (unless you let your grass go dormant) need about an inch of water per week.</p> <p>Make every drop count by mulching, selecting drought-tolerant plants, using soaker hoses and water timers, and watering only in the early morning or evening to reduce evaporation.</p> <p>More information is available here.</p>	https://www.cityoflfp.com/Areas/CivicSend/Assets/Uploads/4953/220a7d3fb0aa4b4c9b42a372b48be6f9_optimized.jpg
July	Illustrated Tree Walks	<p>From the Tree Board: Illustrated Tree Walks in Lake Forest Park</p> <p><i>This is part of a series of occasional columns on the trees of Lake Forest Park. The LFP Tree Board exists to advise the City on policies pertaining to trees, to facilitate tree planting events, and to provide outreach and education to the community.</i></p> <p>Citizens of Lake Forest Park are rightfully proud of its extensive tree canopy and all the benefits that provides. Sometimes it is hard to see the trees, for the forest! Our urban forest includes an incredible diversity of trees in City parks, street rights-of-way, and especially in residents' gardens throughout the City.</p> <p>It has been nearly 15 years since LFP resident, David Hepp, and the Urban Forest Task Force created the wonderful booklet <i>Tree Walks in Lake Forest Park</i>. The booklet describes four walks through different neighborhoods in Lake Forest Park, pointing out and identifying noteworthy trees, both native and ornamental, encountered along each route.</p> <p>Because neighborhoods can change—trees grow or die, and new ones are planted—the LFP Tree Board, with assistance from David Hepp, is revising the Tree Walks. In addition to updating the original descriptions by removing trees that have died and including new ones that caught our attention, photos of many of the trees are included to help users pick out the trees noted in the text. The new <i>Illustrated Tree Walks</i> booklet is available online and can be</p>	https://www.cityoflfp.com/Areas/CivicSend/Assets/Uploads/4953/s38cd9fbfeb1d4886991fea623d7b6e08637920288784646699_small_optimized.jpg

February	Spring Gardening	<p>Spring Gardening</p> <p>Spring gardening is right around the corner! This year, try gardening without all the chemicals. Get free one-on-one garden advice from www.gardenhotline.org. Learn more about how to use Natural Yard Care methods at www.naturalyardcare.org.</p>	<p>https://www.cityofflfp.com/Areas/CivicSend/Assets/Uploads/4953/a4b5ecef605d4e2eb14b20f136281eb5_small_optimized.jpg</p>
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December	The Christmas Tree Dilema	<p>THE CHRISTMAS TREE DILEMMA: Real or Artificial?</p> <p><i>Submitted by the LFP Tree Board</i></p> <p>Your volunteer Tree Board focuses on LFP’s living forests. This time of year, though, we are often asked about Christmas trees, and which has a smaller environmental impact: buying a real tree or an artificial one.</p> <p>The bottom line: real! Real trees have a smaller carbon footprint and help fight climate change, and even though your Christmas tree is cut down, you are actually supporting forests.</p> <p>In the U.S., around 10 million artificial trees are purchased each season. Nearly 90 percent are shipped from China, resulting in an increase in carbon emissions. Most are made of PVC, which pollutes across its entire lifespan, from production to end of life. Most artificial trees are not recyclable and end up in landfills, where they release more greenhouse gases and leach dangerous chemicals.</p> <p>But shouldn’t we avoid cutting down real trees? One of the best ways to protect forests is to use them—carefully. When our forests are sustainably managed, they can produce renewable resources like Christmas trees and wood products. Christmas tree farms provide clean air and water, habitat for wildlife, and erosion control. When these natural trees are harvested, there are more than 10 times as many left standing. For every tree purchased, farmers plant 1-3 seedlings in its place. Plus, most of the 15,000 Christmas tree farms across the U.S. are family-owned, so when you buy a real Christmas tree, you support local economies and contribute to an industry that provides 100,000+ jobs.</p> <p>The caveat: try to ensure your real tree comes from a local, sustainable farm that doesn’t use pesticides, and make sure it is responsibly composted after the holidays.</p> <p>Maybe you are considering a living tree to plant in your yard after the holidays. If you keep it inside for less than a week, then plant it promptly, it should survive and become a valuable addition to our city’s tree canopy. Any longer inside than that, though, and they rarely survive the transition. A small-scale alternative is a potted Norfolk Island Pine, which is happy as a year-round houseplant.</p> <p>If you still prefer the convenience of an artificial tree, the key is to buy one that’s high quality, so it will last. An artificial tree must be in circulation for at least 8 years--but ideally 20--to negate its carbon footprint. Or go vintage! Scout the</p>	<p>https://www.cityofflp.com/Areas/CivicSend/Assets/Uploads/4953/s15bf426d7e934dd7a9b5c37797edee06_small_optimized.jpg</p>
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	<div><h2>Impact of June “Heat Dome” on LFP Trees</h2><p><i>Submitted by Richard Olmstead, LFP Tree Board</i></p><p>We will all have stories for years to come of the infamous Pacific Northwest “heat dome” that set and then broke temperature records throughout the region for three days in a row, culminating in 108°F in Seattle on June 28. It was too much figuratively, and, sadly, literally, for many people in our region. But what about the trees that shape the identity of Lake FOREST Park?</p><p>First, let’s consider the good news. The temperature in my woodland garden rose to 100°F. That’s hot, but the extensive forest canopy that our city is blessed with has a buffering effect on temperature, so no matter how hot it seemed, we had it better than many communities in our area.</p><p>Over the next few days, however, the effect of that bright sun and heat on our trees and vegetation became visible, with browning leaves evident on a broad range of trees and shrubs, especially where exposed to the sun during the hottest parts of the day. The visible damage was frightening to anyone who loves trees, but how bad really was it?</p><p>Long-lived trees and shrubs have evolved to survive a range of conditions in their native environments, but the record-breaking heat they experienced this year created stresses beyond the normal range of variation. It is informative to see how they responded.</p><p>The combination of bright sun and hot temperatures creates a series of stresses for plants, which of course are fixed in place and can’t retreat into air-conditioned homes. While sun and warm temperatures are necessary for their photosynthesis and growth, excess of both can create a demand for water that a plant cannot keep pace with. This causes the physiology within leaves to malfunction and their cells to die. The immediate result can be patches of dead leaves on many trees, but it can also have a more measured effect in prioritizing resources—water--within the tree to sacrifice some leaves, while allocating available resources to the leaves most needed for survival.</p><p>In some cases, the damage was restricted to the leaves immediately affected by the heat and sun, leaving patches of dead leaves in the most exposed positions at the tips of branches. In other cases, trees were able to cut off water to older, less efficient leaves while maintaining younger leaves on branch tips. In my garden, I’ve seen examples of both patterns of damage. Incense cedar and salal suffered loss of leaves on branch tips that were most exposed, while noble fir and Wilson’s magnolia lost the older leaves, keeping only the youngest leaves on branch tips. Though unsightly this summer, they will survive and look fine next year.</p><p>I’m also confident that trees in my garden will survive because I was able to provide supplemental water this summer. Of greater concern than the heat wave in June is the fact that Seattle received the least spring and summer rainfall in 2021 since records have been kept. This prolonged drought is much more likely to result in tree mortality than the record-breaking but short-term “heat dome” of June.</p><p>Recommendations for your heat-damaged trees and shrubs (with info from The Oregonian)</p><p>Go ahead and cut off dead flowers but try to resist the urge to remove partially dead leaves. Leaves, dead or alive, will shade foliage that wasn’t burned, and those with some green remaining will continue to photosynthesize.</p></div>	
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August	Beat the Heat	<p>Beat the Heat with Natural Yard Care</p> <p>Sick of the heat yet? Well, we'll need to get used to it, because hot, dry summers are going to continue to be the norm here in the Puget Sound region. For gardeners, this may mean having to re-imagine what your garden looks like and how you tend to it, in order to adapt to a changing climate. Luckily, following these five simple steps to natural yard care can help by following this link: https://pugetsoundstartshere.today/2021/07/26/beat-the-heat-with-natural-yard-care/</p>	https://www.cityoflfp.com/Areas/CivicSend/Assets/Uploads/4953/70ba6788b4934a19824c8d3b994b1045_small_optimized.jpg
February	Green Giants	<p>Green Giants</p> <p><i>Timothy Hohn, LFP Tree Board</i></p> <p>Here in the Pacific Northwest, we share our home with very diverse botanical giants. Most conifers are trees, although a handful are shrubs. An iconic trait of conifers is their reproductive cone, often composed of overlapping scales: large and woody in western white pine, medium size with protruding “mouse tail” bracts in Douglas fir, and very small, upright ovoid cones with few scales on western red cedar. With many shaped like the typical Christmas tree, conifers have produced the world’s tallest, thickest, and oldest specimens. Every type of coniferous tree represented in the Northwest finds its largest and often longest-lived individuals here.</p> <p>We are lucky in Lake Forest Park to have such a botanical backdrop for our daily lives. How often do we pause to take stock of such a glorious natural legacy? Traveling to my family home in the Midwest, I feel unnaturally exposed within what seems the stunted stands of native deciduous trees. When I return to Lake Forest Park, it is like emerging from a tunnel into a dazzling dreamworld of green and verdant growth reaching toward the sky. Visitors often ask if our trees are remnant old growth and are stunned when I tell them our trees are youngsters, mostly 50 – 100 years in age. With care and preservation, they may live several hundred more years. More surprisingly still, big Douglas firs are outlived by Western hemlock and Western red cedar—some living perhaps 1,000 years or more. The grand and beautiful coniferous forests of the Northwest are a botanical treasure of immeasurable importance to the health and</p>	https://www.cityoflfp.com/Areas/CivicSend/Assets/Uploads/4953/s33bdb8d2dc1846abb5e001f311413eac_small_optimized.jpg

January	Beaked Hazel	<p><i>This is the first of occasional columns on the trees of Lake Forest Park. The LFP Tree Board exists to advise the City on policies pertaining to trees, to facilitate tree planting events, and to provide outreach and education to the community.</i></p> <p>Lake Forest Park is proud of its extensive trees, but a forest includes much more than its canopy trees. Our attention is sometimes drawn lower in the forest to subcanopy trees that are also a critical part of our urban forest community.</p> <p>The beaked hazel (<i>Corylus cornuta</i>) is the earliest native flowering plant in our forests, appearing as a tawny yellow haze, and often seen flowering best where it grows, along the edge of a forest. Flowering in January and February at low elevations and later in the spring as you go up in elevation.</p> <p>Like other members of the birch family, beaked hazel flowers before the leaves emerge in the spring. This is not by accident; they are all wind pollinated and dense foliage inhibits both free dispersal and capture of pollen. Wind-pollinated trees typically separate the male stamens and female pistils into separate flowers. In fact, wind pollination is so inefficient that plants with separate male and female flowers allocate more resources to pollen production by having more male flowers to make up for all of the wasted pollen.</p> <p>From a distance, male flowers, which are arranged in pendant “catkins” (a spike of unisexual, apetalous flowers having scaly, usually deciduous bracts, as of a willow or birch) create the yellow aura that signals the presence of a hazel in our early spring woods. While not visible from a distance, it is worth taking a closer look to see the tiny, brilliant, red female flowers arranged individually near the tips of stems. The bright red structures are not the petals we normally think of as the colorful part of a flower, but are the stigma, where pollen is deposited. On plants pollinated by animals, the stigma is small and unobtrusive; but, in wind-pollinated plants, it is large and branched to capture the pollen as it blows by on the wind, instead of having the pollen delivered to it. Since it does not need to attract animal pollinators, it is not known why they are such a brilliant red; maybe it’s to attract our attention!</p> <p>In birches and alders, the female flowers are also organized in catkins. Why not in hazel? Birches and alders produce lots of small, winged seeds that are dispersed by the wind the following fall, but hazelnuts are heavy and a small branch tip would not be able to support a bunch of them. Like the commercial European hazelnut, ours is edible, but they never seem to produce in large quantities and we are unlikely to beat the squirrels to the ones they do produce. In late summer, we can see big gray squirrels (introduced from eastern North America) foraging in hazels for the still-green nuts--small branches waving to and fro as the squirrels move from nut to nut.</p>	<p>https://www.cityoflfp.com/Areas/CivicSend/Assets/Uploads/4953/sbad48ff64d07413ea9d8e8851ad55ef2_small_optimized.jpg</p>
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December	Our Forest	<p>COMMUNITY FOREST TREE WEB</p> <p>Timothy Hohn, Chair, LFP Tree Board</p> <p>Something incredible is happening underground in our community forest. Scientists have discovered that forest trees and understory plants are all linked together in a “wood-wide web,” a mutually supportive network of fungal threads and plant roots. The network is anchored by large “mother” trees that act as network hubs, doling out surplus resources to smaller trees and plants. In effect, these networked groves of monarch trees and their lesser green mortals are one symbiotic association.</p> <p>With this in mind, I met with the Lake Forest Park City Council on behalf of the Tree Board to pass along Board recommendations on how the city code might better support our community forest wood-wide web. These recommendations included code references to tree “groves” and how they are defined, as well as new dimensions for important “exceptional” trees—what we now know are grove “mother” trees—that form the foundation of our community forest and its wood-wide web. We also discussed prioritizing native trees as replacements for those that are removed, in order to retain the ecological integrity of our community forest. The City Council is likely to ask the Planning Commission to review these suggestions early next year. To view the recording of my presentation and the Council’s discussion, click here.</p>	<p>https://www.cityoflfp.com/Areas/CivicSend/Assets/Uploads/4953/s8ce4e0d091034f23a74ad278fc5eabe8_small_optimized.jpg</p>
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October	Leaves, Rains, Drains	<p>Leaves, Rain, and Public Works - We Need Your Help!</p> <p>As we move into the rainy season and leaves start to fall, the Public Works Department starts turning its attention to the City's drainage system. It is time to check the storm drains and clear leaves from them to keep the stormwater flowing. Street sweeping is a component of the drainage system maintenance and is perhaps the most visible to the citizens. The City is encouraging residents to clear any blocked storm drains that are adjacent to or in front of their property keeping in mind:</p> <p>Please do not create piles of leaves expecting the sweeper to sweep them away. Use your yard waste tote so they can be composed.</p> <p>DO NOT rake or blow leaves and debris into the street, ditchlines, or rights-of-way.</p> <p>The sweeper cannot handle large piles of leaves. If the sweeper encounters large piles of leaves, the driver must drive around them, or the pile of leaves could damage the street sweeper and the process may come to a screeching halt.</p> <p>Municipal Code 16.25.025 makes it illegal to collect lawn clippings, leaves or branches and discharge them into the path of surface water.</p> <p>Never try to clear a storm drain or culvert if there is moving water greater than knee deep, and always be wary of traffic when working near a roadway.</p> <p>Wet leaves are surprisingly heavy, so be careful not to overexert yourself. Debris from storm drains should be placed in yard waste containers. If flooding is severe, or you find evidence of dumping, please call 206-368-5440.</p> <p>What can you do with leaves?</p> <p>Turn your leaves into beneficial compost. Autumn leaves are a great source of high-carbon material for your compost pile. Alternate layers of shredded leaves with the other materials you normally add to your compost pile (scraps from fruits and veggies, grass clippings, weeds, etc.) and let it sit over the winter. Whenever you think about it, aerate or turn the pile. Your compost will be ready to use by spring.</p> <p>Shred leaves and use them as mulch on vegetable gardens and flower beds, around trees and shrubs, and in containers. Just add a 2- to 3-inch layer of shredded leaves to the beds, keeping the mulch from directly touching the stems and trunks of the plants. The mulch retains moisture in the soil, stays cool, and limits weed seed germination. Use a mulching mower to shred your leaves once a week until they have all fallen, then "leave" them on your yard. While the leaves break down during winter, they'll shade your soil and provide it with nutrients, which means fewer weeds to deal with in spring.</p> <p>Hoard them! Save a bag or two of leaves in your garage over the winter. In spring, adding that brown material to your compost pile makes your compost just right for the season.</p>	<p>https://www.cityofpuyallup.com/Assets/Uploads/4953/240744b34a7446f4804c20f0a777a663_small_optimized.jpg</p>
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October		<p>Concerned about Trees on Your Property?</p> <p>As we enter the rainy/windy season, it can be natural to have some concerns about trees on your property. The Planning Department staff is here to help offer some refreshers on best practices and permit requirements.</p> <p>If a tree on your property is fully dead with no live foliage, you can email a picture of the tree along with a description and your address to the City Arborist for confirmation that the tree meets the code definition of a dead tree. Once you receive confirmation from the City Arborist, then you will be allowed to remove the dead tree without a permit.</p> <p>If you'd like someone to come take a look at your trees and provide an assessment of their health and/or structural condition, the City recommends finding an ISA Certified Arborist. A Certified Arborist can evaluate your trees of concern and provide helpful information about the health of your trees and if any problems can be mitigated through pruning or other measures.</p> <p>If you'd like to remove any live trees on your property that have a DBH (diameter at 4.5 feet above ground) of 6 inches or more, then a tree removal permit application can be sent via email to either the City Arborist or the Assistant Planner and payments can be made by check. Checks should be made out to "City of Lake Forest Park" in the amount of \$76.13 (application fee) and can be submitted: By mail to City Hall, 17425 Ballinger Way NE, Lake Forest Park, 98155; or Dropped off at City Hall in a letter-sized envelope in the silver payment drop box (located on the west side of the building next to the King County elections box). Once we receive the application and payment, we will contact you to discuss next steps.</p> <p>If it becomes apparent that a live tree needs to be removed immediately and is an emergency, the City code does have provisions for emergency actions. We recommend contacting the City Arborist and the Assistant Planner for guidance as soon as you become aware that a tree may need to be removed as an emergency.</p>	https://www.cityoflfp.com/Areas/CivicSend/Assets/Uploads/4953/0f149d9d245f40cf8cb46ade2fd3024c_small_optimized.jpg
July	Ivy Out	<p>Wondering how to remove ivy safely? The King County Noxious Weed Board has tips on how to identify ivy (page 2) and recommend manual removal practices (page 3). You can also click here to learn about long-term maintenance ideas and why ivy removal is important for our urban ecosystems.</p> <p>Please note that removal of invasive plants is considered to be exempt from permitting requirements, unless the invasive plants are located within a steep slope hazard area or its buffer. If you are unsure whether the proposed removal area is located within a steep slope hazard area or have other questions, please contact the Assistant Planner for more information.</p>	https://www.cityoflfp.com/Areas/CivicSend/Assets/Uploads/4953/ca181fbac4964720a830850259f1c467_small_optimized.jpg

March	Earth Day	<p>Earth Day to Reduce the Carbon</p> <p>Did you know there is no filtration system between your outdoor drains and our streams, Lake Washington, or Puget Sound? Where you wash your car, not picking up dog poop, leaky vehicles, improper application of yard care products, and more all contribute to the water quality in Lake Forest Park and around the Sound.</p> <p>Now is a good time and reminder to do a little something extra to help the earth and our LFP environment. A few examples of things you could do at home are:</p> <p>Wash your vehicles at a commercial car wash where they treat the dirty water properly.</p> <p>Pick up your dog's poop—remember to always have a bag with you and put it in the trash. Going on a walk? Pick up the extra pile you pass by.</p> <p>Fix that leaking car to improve its longevity and our environment.</p> <p>Properly apply yard care products and learn some natural yard care techniques. For advice check out the Garden Hotline or call them at 206-633-0224.</p> <p>Use and dispose of chemicals properly. King County provides some great options and resources.</p> <p>Maintain your septic system, don't let that waste water into our groundwater!</p> <p>Click on the link for more information on these topics or other options of what you can do to help the environment, We know it's not easy, but do what you can to help water quality and bring salmon back to our streams, lakes, and</p>	https://www.cityoflfp.com/Areas/CivicSend/Assets/Uploads/4953/scc26a232dc3248dfb70fee1ecd6878a4_small_optimize_d.jpg
February	Earth Smart Green Fair	<p>Earth Smart Green Fair</p> <p>Learn to save the planet at Lake Forest Park's 17th Annual Earth Smart Green Fair! All are welcome and invited to attend – and it's free! The fair is hosted at Third Place Commons (top floor) from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m., March 21, 2020. Bring your friends, neighbors, and family and come on down for some fun, learn something new, and take home some giveaways!</p> <p>Local organizations and businesses will be there to answer your questions regarding composting, recycling, reducing waste, natural yard care, water conservation, environmentally-safe products, and more—all for free!</p> <p>View our Facebook page for more information!</p>	https://www.cityoflfp.com/Areas/CivicSend/Assets/Uploads/4953/sb64b69c0a3a946ef84a4222e29912215_small_optimize_d.jpg