



Carbon Dioxide-Good Carbon Dioxide-Bad

We need carbon dioxide because every living thing contains a lot of this building block of life. But carbon dioxide retains the sun's heat and is a major contributor to global warming. Unfortunately, the Dept. of Energy (DOE) reports that carbon dioxide emissions, which were decreasing for the last two years, are now rising again. But don't blame factories alone because the fossil fuel used in our cars and planes also contributes carbon dioxide to the atmosphere. (To read a newspaper summary of the DOE report, [go here...](#))

Fortunately, trees are doing their part to reduce carbon dioxide emissions because a tree can absorb about 48 pounds of carbon dioxide in a year. That means that by the time a tree reaches 40 years of age, it has sequestered one ton of carbon dioxide, and a single mature leafy tree produces about as much oxygen in a season as ten people inhale in a year! Yes, trees help to slow global warming and keep giving us oxygen to breathe! While West Lafayette will lose 800 ash trees because of the Emerald Ash Borer, the WLTF will be planting as many replacement trees as possible.

Pruning and Planting Street Trees, While Watching Others Die

West Lafayette Tree Friends volunteers pruned more than 1100 trees during 2013. As of mid-October, 2014, they have pruned 1285 trees. Volunteers have contributed 218 pruning hours this year, with several pruning days left in this fall pruning season. Pruning reduces the risk of pedestrian, bicyclist and vehicle contact with the trees' lower branches.

Meanwhile as street trees are being pruned others are being removed, completely. During 2013, 33 ash trees were cut down: victims of emerald ash borer. As of mid-October, this year, approximately 98 more ash street trees have been removed, with many others being considered for removal, according to Beverly Shaw, West Lafayette Marketing, Grants and Greenspace Administrator. The ash tree die-off is far from over, with hundreds of others soon to follow, Shaw reports.

As city employees cut down dead ash trees, and in anticipation of the death of hundreds more, trees of other species are being planted by outside contractors. During 2013, 389 street trees were planted, reports Dan Dunten, Stewardship Director, West Lafayette Parks and Recreation. In Spring 2014 there were 31 street trees planted. This fall, an

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UPCOMING EVENTS

Autumn Plantings in
Amberleigh Village,
Barbary Heights, and
Prophets Ridge

November: Autumn Fund
Raising Campaign

Quick Links

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Don Wood on Trees

TREES ARE NOT BORING!

Don't know about you, but these tree pests like the Emerald Ash Borer and the Gypsy Moth articles are dragging me down - what about the FUN of trees?

Remember when you were a kid and could actually CLIMB

additional 120 trees are scheduled to be planted, Shaw says.

What you can do if you are a recipient of a new street tree: While this year's growing season, with its abundant, timely rains has been a great one for trees, tender loving care should be extended to these newest trees on the block by looking out for them while they establish roots in their new street-side homes.

Meet a Tree Friend



John MacDonald: As a retired Purdue entomologist, volunteering for West Lafayette Tree Friends was a natural match. A member since 2009, I enjoy the relationship with other volunteers (kindred spirits all) as well as the excellent leadership provided by Beverly Shaw, Marketing, Grant, & Greenspace Administrator for the City of W.L., and our Chairperson, Lynn Layden.

The physical aspect of taking care of trees (planting, pruning, watering, etc.) really appeals to me (more fun than the gym) providing a sense of accomplishment, an avenue for learning, as well as an opportunity to work together with neighbors and friends.

Homeowners often have questions about trees or tree issues, including those about emerald ash borer, an interchange I sincerely enjoy. Please feel free to contact me macdonaj@purdue.edu.

City trees add to the beauty, value, and health of our WL community. There is no better season to enjoy, appreciate, and celebrate trees. Just look around and marvel!



Tree Questions??

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

Q. I don't have trees in my front yard. Do I really have to rake up all the leaves from my neighbor's tree that fall into my yard?

A. We should like to reply that it sure would be neighborly of you. That tree was also cleaning your air. You could, of course, run your mower over the leaves and it will be mulch to fertilize your lawn.

Q. Are my contributions to WL Tree Friends tax deductible?

A. Yes, since we are a governmental creation. We are not a 501.c.3, but still deductible.

Q. How are my contributions to WL Tree Friends used?

A. Almost all goes to purchase trees or tree-related tools. Less than 5% of contributions go to postage and paper costs.

trees? Throw a rope over a thick limb, tie a big knot on the end and just swing away?

Which is not to say the only good tree is a fun tree. We all, being responsible, environmentally-conscious adults, already know the economic and aesthetic benefits of an urban forest such as the West Lafayette Tree Friends have created since 1983, thanks to Helen Lillich's vision and the efforts since then of hundreds of donors and volunteers on the WL Tree Friends committee.

And whether it's "street trees", or the ones in our own yards, we still remember the fun. Please, let's never forget the joy, the satisfaction, the beauty of a single birch, or maple, or elm, or an exotic swamp white oak you can see now on the streets of West Lafayette...and the fun we remember and the happiness they inspire in our hearts.

You remember Fun, don't you?

THANK YOU RECENT DONORS

Butler, Fairman & Seufert, Civil Engineers

Jean Cicirelli

Ann Hunt

Donate to the Tree Friends

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

Moving, downsizing, or no longer using gardening tools? The WLTF could use tools (pruners, loppers, saws, etc) for tree trimming. A receipt for tax purposes will be provided. Call Sieb @765.463.1066 or email siebent7@aol.com.

The best time to plant a tree is twenty years ago. The second best

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