



URBAN FORESTRY

March 2021 Issue 2



PORTLAND
PARKS & RECREATION
Healthy Parks, Healthy Portland

[Get Involved!](#) | [Resources](#) | [Tree Permits](#) | [Tree Problems](#) | [Home](#)

Did You Know You Could Be a Community Scientist?



When you learn what to look for, and share it with others, you become an important part of keeping trees healthy!

Have you seen brown, **dying cedar trees** around? If you have, you are not alone! Scientists are asking us to share what we see so that we can learn more about this problem.

Western redcedars around the Portland area are likely dying due to climate change. Researchers need your help to better understand what is going on with these trees.

When you see dead or dying western redcedars in their natural range, here are some ways you can help:

- Sign up to be a **Community Scientist**.
- Share information to the **Western Redcedar Dieback Map** through **iNaturalist**.
- Email location information to Christine Buhl (christine.j.buhl@oregon.gov) at the Oregon Department of Forestry.

There are already **229 observations** that community members like you have sent in. But we need more, especially in the Portland area.

Want to help, but not sure what to look for? Here is a quick list:

- Yellowing leaves
- Brown, dead tops or branches
- Leaf loss, an overall thin appearance of leaves

Visit <https://foresthhealth.org/> to learn more about this western redcedar community science project. If you are interested in being more involved or setting up a forest health presentation for your community, contact Joey Hulbert (hulbe@wsu.edu).

Upcoming Events

Opportunities to learn and volunteer!

www.portland.gov/trees/workshops



Tough Trees Bootcamp - Final Season Event

4/2/21 to 4/8/21: Pruning Preparers

4/10/21: Tree Caregivers and Support Stewards

Last call for volunteers looking to practice their tree pruning skills while taking care of neighborhood trees!

This event will take place in the Portsmouth Neighborhood, exact location shared after registration.

Broken, damaged, or dead branches are easier to see as trees begin to put out their leaves – but what are the next steps in your pruning approach?

Learn about the next steps, and the Portland Pruners Program, where you can host a tree care stewardship event in your neighborhood.

Sign up on the [event page!](#)

More Upcoming Events

4/21/21, 4:30 pm - 5:30 pm, **Flowering Tree Walk**: Spring has sprung, buds are bursting, and trees throughout Portland are coating the city in fragrant flowers! Join PP&R Urban Forestry for a stroll along the waterfront, learning about the flowering trees of Portland and how to protect them for future generations to enjoy. Tom McCall Waterfront Park, meet at the north entrance of the park near the Steel Bridge and NW Glisan St. REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED. Sign up on the [event page](#).

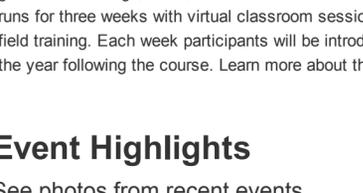
5/13/21, 6:30 pm - 7:30 pm, **Trees of Peninsula Park Tree Walk**: There is more to see here than roses! Join Urban Forestry Manager, Angie DiSalvo, for a tour of 100 years of tree plantings at Peninsula Park. Meet the conifers that produce the heaviest (up to 10 pounds!) and longest (up to two feet!) cones in the world, a new Heritage Tree, and the next generation of drought tolerant evergreens. Peninsula Park, meet at the gazebo in the center of the park. REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED. Sign up on the [event page](#).

5/29/21-6/11/21, **Apply to be a Neighborhood Tree Steward - 2021 Course Open**: Are you interested in being an advocate for trees in your neighborhood? The 2021 Neighborhood Tree Steward course will run for three weeks this spring, May 29 - June 11. Neighborhood Tree Stewards (NTS) gain the knowledge, skills, and confidence to be stewards of Portland's urban forest. The NTS course runs for three weeks with virtual classroom sessions, independent learning tasks, and an in-person field training. Each week participants will be introduced to one of three projects they will complete in the year following the course. Learn more about the course and how to apply [here](#).

Event Highlights

See photos from recent events

www.flickr.com/photos/urbanforestry



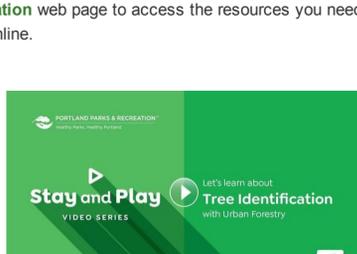
Tree Identification for Portlanders

Can anyone learn to identify and recognize trees? Absolutely! Last week, Portlanders tuned in to watch **Tree Identification for Portlanders**.

This webinar introduces viewers to the skills needed to identify trees, and highlights over 15 of the most common trees in Portland.

Once you learn more about an individual tree, and what features make them each unique, they will become familiar – just like an old friend!

Visit the **Tree Identification** web page to access the resources you need to get started – then watch the webinar recording online.

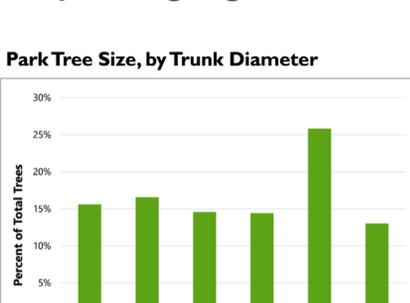


Watch Urban Forestry's **Tree Identification** video courtesy of Portland Parks & Recreation's **Stay and Play** Video Series.

Park Tree Inventory Report Highlights



Park Tree Size, by Trunk Diameter



The **Park Tree Inventory Report**, now available as an online StoryMap, is full of facts about the trees in our Portland Parks. Take a look!

From 2017 to 2019, nearly 1800 volunteers inventoried trees at 175 neighborhood parks in Portland. For each of the 25,740 trees, volunteers measured tree size and recorded its location and condition.

Their dedicated work collecting tree information helps us to understand not just what kind of trees are planted in our parks, but also, which ones are thriving.

Here is a sample of information from the report:

Most Common Tree Species

- Douglas-fir, 27%
- Norway maple, 6%
- Western redcedar, 4%
- Northern red oak, 3%
- Pin oak, 2%

Most Common Tree Genera (Genera is the plural of genus, review it [here!](#))

- *Pseudotsuga* (Douglas-firs), 27%
- *Acer* (maples), 14%
- *Quercus* (oaks), 8%
- *Prunus* (cherries, plums), 5%
- *Pinus* (pines), 4%

Having healthy trees in our parks starts with planting the right trees for Portland. Our tree inventories and reports help us to do that.

Learn more about the **Tree Inventory Project** and the **Park Tree Inventory Report** online. Make sure to check out the **Tree Inventory Web App** for free access to all of the inventoried trees.

In Other News

Portland Parks & Recreation Will Host a Virtual Career Fair in April: There are over 1,800 summer staff positions available for individuals age 14 and up. To learn more about the **jobs** and what Parks has to offer, join them for a virtual career fair on April 6, 2021 from 3:00-4:30 pm. Sign up for the fair through [Eventbrite](#).

Invisible Incentive to Preserve Large Trees, an Opinion Article by Kyna Rubin: On the Trees for Life Oregon website, Kyna Rubin shares her ideas about tree preservation and development in a **recent article**. If you have ideas about this topic or are interested in learning more, you can contact the organization at treessforlifeoregon@gmail.com.

Apply to Mill Park Advisory Committee: Now through April 8, 2021 at 5:00 pm, you can **apply** to be a member of the **Mill Park Advisory Committee**. Located at SE 117th Avenue and Mill Court, a design for this 5.7 acre park could include a playground, splash pad, community garden, or soccer fields. Guided by the 2017 Master Plan, members of the advisory committee will be part of the process to shape the future of Mill Park!

Tree Permit Reminder: Retroactive permitting requirements apply to regulated trees that failed or experienced limb failures during the recent storm. Please refer to our **Tree Permits and Regulations** page as well as information on **Retroactive Permits** for situations which require immediate attention. Apply for permits online through **DevHub**, and find a list of **Local Tree Care Provider** companies who have participated in our training program. **Financial assistance** for permit fees may be available for applicants who qualify.

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