



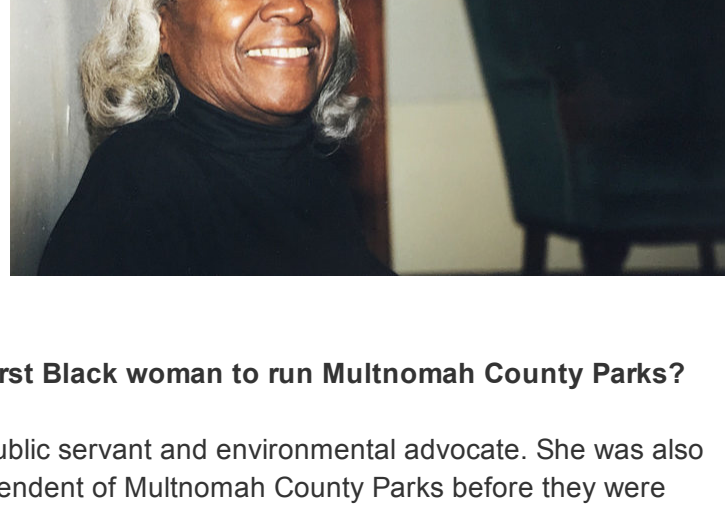
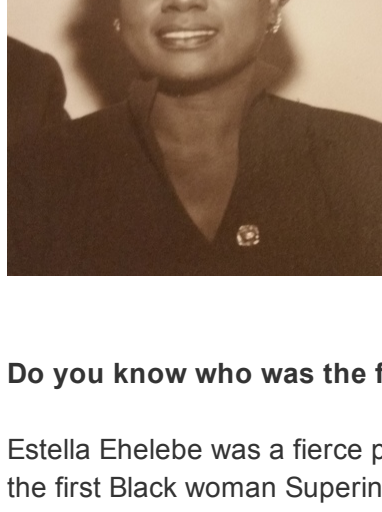
TREE BARK

NEWS FROM URBAN FORESTRY - ALL TREES, NO PULP.

Tree Bark

Urban Forestry News from Portland Parks & Recreation

Celebrating Black Environmentalists in Portland: Meet Estella Ehelebe



Do you know who was the first Black woman to run Multnomah County Parks?

Estella Ehelebe was a fierce public servant and environmental advocate. She was also the first Black woman Superintendent of Multnomah County Parks before they were transferred to Metro.

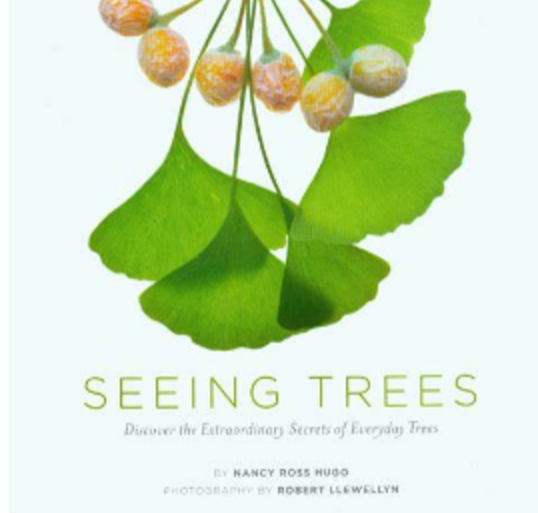
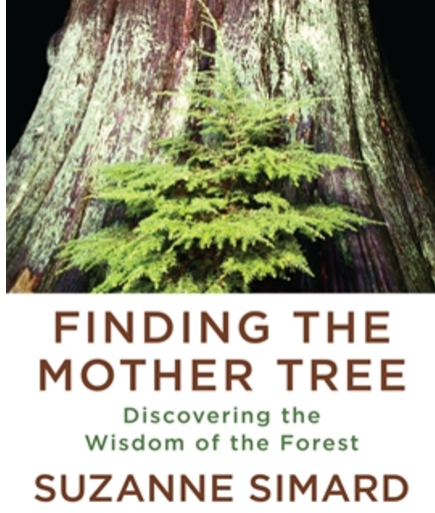
She was born Estella Mae Allen in June 1928 in Wichita Falls, Texas. She graduated as high school valedictorian when she was 16.

In 1944 her family moved from Texas to [Vanport, Oregon](#). They took advantage of the free train tickets offered to families willing to move to Oregon for jobs in the Kaiser shipyards. She was said to have hated the heat of Texas and relished the rain and greenery of Oregon. Her family relocated after the Great flood of 1948 that destroyed the city.

She had a varied professional career with jobs ranging from the Oregon Arts Commission to Camp Fire Girls to Job Corps. She began her tenure at Multnomah County Parks under the Building and Grounds Cleaning and Maintenance Occupations team. After working her way up, in 1975 she became the first and only African American woman to be superintendent.

Learn more about Estella's work to preserve an ancient forest in Oxbow park and other environmental leaders from Portland at the [Albina Black History Month Tree Talk](#), Saturday, February 11th.

New Year, New Reads: Suggestions from Urban Forestry Staff



Reading more is always a great resolution to start off the new year. And if that was yours or you just want to some great suggestions for your next read, you've come to the right place. We asked the staff at Urban Forestry to recommend their favorite reads. We put together this list of a great tree-themed books for your reading pleasure!

Urban Forests: A Natural History of Trees and People in the American Cityscape by Jill Jonnes

"This book is a great overview of the history of Urban Forestry in the United States. It also takes a deep dive into the work of those currently in the industry striving to make known the benefits of trees to humans and cities alike." - Jeff, Science and Policy Coordinator

Finding the Mother Tree by Suzanne Simard

"A fascinating read that challenges conventional forestry wisdom on the behavior of trees in forest environments. Ecologist Suzanne Simard shares her findings from three decades of research in the forests of British Columbia. Readers also get to see Simard's personal journey from growing up in a logging world to becoming a renowned ecologist and tree advocate." - CJ, GIS Analyst

The Wild Trees by Richard Preston

"This was the book that got me interested to learn about trees! It is a true story, based here in the PNW, about a group of pioneering people that began free-climbing redwoods and Douglas-firs. Their forays were some of the first in-depth explorations of tree canopies and led to new perspectives and frontiers in our understanding of trees!" - Nik, Science and Policy Specialist

Seeing Trees: Discover the Extraordinary Secrets of Everyday Trees

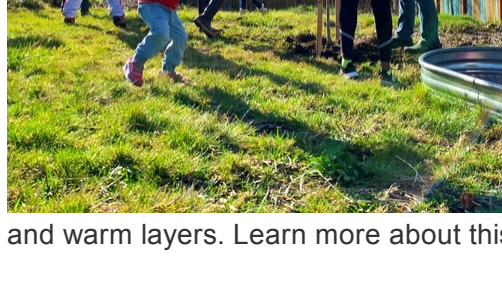
"*Seeing Trees* is great for vibrant and detailed photos of tree leaves, seeds, and buds. This one combos as a coffee table book and for those looking to increase their tree ID skills." - Molly, Community Tree Planting Specialist

The Golden Spruce by John Valient

"A true crime about the controversial logging of the Golden Spruce. The Sitka Spruce was sacred to the Haida people of the Queen Charlotte Islands in British Columbia. John Valient writes an incredible page-turning book exploring the motivations of the felling and how the search for the logger united a divided community." - Biz, Community Service Aide

Upcoming Events

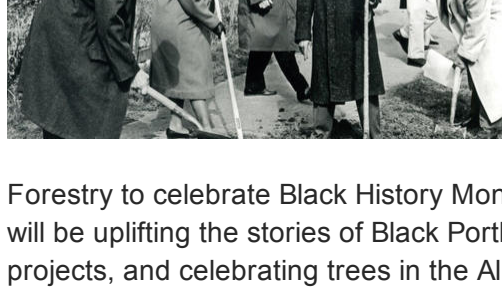
[Opportunities to Learn and Volunteer](#)



Kelley Point Park Tree Planting
Saturday, 02/04/2023, 10:00 am – 1:00 pm
Kelley Point Park (8484 N Kelley Point Park Rd, Portland, OR 97203)

Volunteer to help plant trees at Kelley Point Park with our [Youth Conservation Crew](#). Meet your fellow community members and help beautify Portland by planting trees and performing tree care on established park trees.

Planting season falls at the same time as our rainy season, be sure to wear boots, raingear, and warm layers. Learn more about this event and [register online](#).



Albina Black History Month Tree Talk
Saturday, 02/11/2023, 11:00 am – 1:00 pm
June Key Delta Community Center (5940 N Albina Ave, Portland, OR 97217)

In partnership with the [Portland Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc.](#), come join Portland Parks & Recreation Urban

Forestry to celebrate Black History Month at the June Key Delta Community Center. We will be uplifting the stories of Black Portlanders who pioneered environmentalism, their projects, and celebrating trees in the Albina neighborhood.

Come have a snack, take a tree tour, and learn about other ways to get involved with trees through Urban Forestry and local environmental nonprofits. Learn more and [register online here](#).



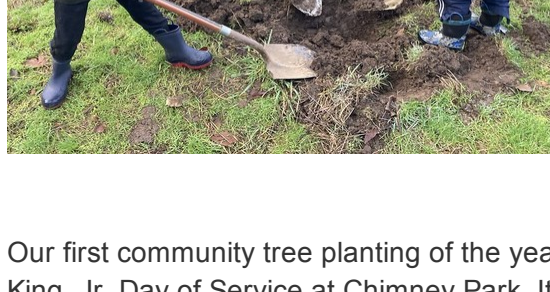
Bloomington Park Tree Planting

Saturday, 03/11/2023, 10:00 am – 1:00 pm
Bloomington Park (10131 SE Liebe Street, Portland, OR 97266)

Volunteer to help plant trees at Bloomington Park with Urban Forestry. Meet your fellow community members and help beautify Portland by planting trees and performing tree care on established park trees.

Planting season falls at the same time as our rainy season, be sure to wear boots, raingear, and warm layers. Learn more about this event and [register online](#).

Event Highlight: MLK Day of Service Tree Planting



Our first community tree planting of the year was on January 16th, for the Martin Luther King, Jr. Day of Service at Chimney Park. It is the only federal holiday that is also designated by Congress as a National Day of Service – a "day on, not a day off." Many Americans find ways to give back to their communities and our planting was no exception. With an incredible turnout of 80 volunteers, we were able to plant, mulch, and even name 14 trees. We even had a bit of time to do some general stewardship of other park trees. It was a great event to see so many community members excited about getting out in nature. Check out our [Flickr](#) to see some pictures from the day.

In Other News

Portland Parks & Recreation Urban Forestry Division is hiring 7 different Botanic Specialist I and Botanic Specialist II positions that are permanent or limited-term on our Science and Policy and Planting teams. The pay range for these positions is \$33.54 - \$45.05 hourly. Learn more and apply [here](#).

PP&R Urban Forestry and the Portland Bureau of Transportation will create curb bump-outs to plant large-form trees thanks to a grant from the Bureau of Environmental Services. Where right-of-way space is limited for tree planting in certain parts of the city, this effort will help create more space for trees. Read more [here](#).

Trees For Life Oregon (TFLO) Announces New Tree-Friendly Design

Award. Developers, landowners, or architects who, when developing private property in Portland, were instrumental in preserving existing large trees or preserving or creating adequate space to plant new large trees are eligible for TFLO's first annual Tree-Friendly Design Award. Projects must be at least 5 years old. Nominations are open until March 31 and will be announced in late spring. For more information, including how to apply, click [here](#).

Join 350PDX on February 13th from 6-8 pm at a Shade Equity Social to celebrate Portland's urban forests and share updates and ideas about how to grow a more climate-resilient and equitable urban forest. Short presentations from Portland Fruit Tree Project, Trees for Life Oregon, East Portland Resilience Coalition, Friends of Trees, and 350PDX. Learn more [here](#).

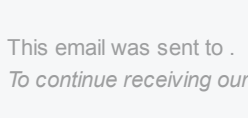
The Portland EcoFilm Festival is an environmental film festival, showcasing the very best films about nature, the environment, outdoor pursuits, and ecological living. Watch the 2023 Festival trailer from a diverse community of advocates [here](#).

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[portland.gov/trees](#) | 503-823-3601 | [trees@portlandoregon.gov](#)

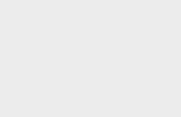
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