

Community Forestry Assistant



Newsletter April 2010

Tree City USA Awards!



Coeur d'Alene Arbor Day Poster Contest 1st Place Winner

When a community becomes a Tree City USA, it means more than being able to display a road sign or fly the flag. Tree City USA is a foundation for effective, well-organized tree care programs. Along with the community pride are practical benefits such as helping to gain financial support for tree projects, contributing to safer and healthier urban forests, and allowing municipal officials to deliver better service to the voting public.

Every community, regardless of size, benefits in a different way from being a Tree City USA. Some of the benefits being reported by award recipients in Idaho include:

Framework for Action – Meeting the Tree City standards provides direction for the community forestry program.

Education – Tree Cities join a larger network of partners that share information and have access to all kinds of professionals and teaching aids.

Public Image – Being a Tree City USA helps present the kind of image that most citizens want to have for the place they live and work. It is an indication that the quality of life may be better here.

Citizen Pride – Gaining and retaining Tree City USA recognition is an award to the tree workers, managers, volunteers, tree board members, and others who work on behalf of better care of the community's trees.

Financial Assistance – Preference is sometimes given to Tree City USA communities when allocations of grant money are made for trees or forestry programs.



Nez Perce County Commissioners Ron Wittman and Doug Zenner with Forestry Commission Chairman Bill Furstenu receive Tree City USA award

Publicity – Presentation of the Tree City USA award and the celebration of Arbor Day offer excellent publicity opportunities for the community.

Several north Idaho communities have taken their community forestry programs to the next level. For their efforts, the National Arbor Day Foundation has awarded them **Growth Awards** for the continual improvement of their community forestry programs. A Growth Award is a powerful demonstration that positive action is being taken to make the community a better place to live.

For 2009, Coeur d'Alene, Hayden, Moscow, Post Falls, Sandpoint, and Kellogg were recognized with Tree City USA Growth Awards.

2009 North Idaho Tree City USA Recipients	
Community	Per Capita Community Forestry Expenditures in 2009
Coeur d'Alene	\$15.39
Cottonwood	\$3.58
Craigmont	\$5.07
Deary	\$9.50
Genesee	\$7.58
Hayden	\$3.81
Kellogg	\$4.51
Kendrick	\$14.98
Lewiston	\$4.07
Moscow	\$5.02
Nezperce	\$8.94
Orofino	\$2.97
Peck	\$2.25
Post Falls	\$6.38
Sandpoint	\$6.75
Smelterville	\$3.79
St. Maries	\$5.33
Worley	\$8.70
Nez Perce County	\$3.64

Some of the information in this newsletter was excerpted from Tree City USA Bulletin No. 22 – “Tree City USA: Foundation for Better Tree Management” edited by Dr. James R. Fazio.

If you have questions about this Newsletter or the Community Forestry Assistance Program, please contact Tera King with Northwest Management, Inc. at 208-883-4488-ext. 133.