

# Urban and Community Forestry Program

## 2011 Accomplishment Report – Ohio

### State Contact

Drew Todd  
Urban and Community Forestry Coordinator  
Ohio Department of Natural Resources  
Division of Forestry  
2045 Morse Road, Building H-1  
Columbus, OH 43229-6605  
Phone: 614-265-6707  
Fax: 614-447-9231  
E-mail: [Drew.todd@dnr.state.oh.us](mailto:Drew.todd@dnr.state.oh.us)  
Web site:

<http://ohiodnr.com/Home/urban/UrbanForestryHome/tabid/5438/Default.aspx>

### State Forester

Robert Boyles  
Ohio Department of Natural Resources  
Division of Forestry  
2045 Morse Road, Building H-1  
Columbus, OH 43229-6605  
Phone: 614-265-6699  
Fax: 614-447-9231  
E-mail: [bob.boyles@dnr.state.oh.us](mailto:bob.boyles@dnr.state.oh.us)  
Web site: <http://www.dnr.state.oh.us/forestry/>

### Introduction

Ohio's Urban Forestry Program, created in 1979, is a state-supported service of the Ohio Department of Natural Resources that provides organizational and technical urban forestry assistance primarily to community officials and allied agencies. A statewide network of urban foresters helps communities manage their urban forest resources to meet local needs. Six regional urban foresters use one-on-one assistance to encourage, enhance, and/or expand local tree care programs within participating communities. Urban foresters use technical knowledge to convey the benefits of a safe, healthy, and functional urban forest resource to community leaders. They use organizational skills to demonstrate how to effectively provide these benefits by properly managing the urban forest resource.

### Key Accomplishments

#### Tree City USA

For the **30th** consecutive year, Ohio was the national leader in the number of Tree City USA communities. Ohio's **244** designated Tree City USA cities, villages, and townships demonstrate a continuing commitment to enhancing the quality of life through the proper management of their urban forest resources.

#### Significant Community Projects

Maintaining the program's long-term core activities remains the best approach in facilitating significant, enduring, and meaningful community projects. As part of the normal assistance provided to their client communities, regional urban foresters continue to prepare communities for and help them deal with emerald ash borer (EAB) infestations. All of Ohio's 88 counties are now part of the statewide EAB quarantine. The regional urban foresters use each new find to move communities from EAB apathy to EAB action. Our primary focus has been to encourage communities to develop and implement EAB Management Plans. When completed, these are posted online at [www.ohiodnr.com/Home/eab/management/tabid/5073/Default.aspx](http://www.ohiodnr.com/Home/eab/management/tabid/5073/Default.aspx).

Implementing the urban forestry components of the congressionally directed EAB project within the Western Lake Erie Basin remained a high program priority. In addition to the conventional community pass-through ash tree removal and canopy restoration grants made available from the State through funds from the U.S. Forest Service, a unique partnership with a community action agency was maintained to assist low-income homeowners with ash removal. Using experience gained from pilot testing this effort in

several communities, the project area was expanded to include all homeowners in a four-county area. This is the first large-scale private sector financial assistance program provided to urban residents to address the costly removal of their ash trees by qualified and professional arborists.

In addition to the above EAB efforts, Ohio joined four other States dealing with an Asian longhorned beetle infestation. Experience and knowledge gained from EAB will greatly help as Ohio addresses this non-native invasive insect and its devastating effects on the environmental, economic, and social aspects of infested areas.

### Statistical Highlights

Population Percent Living in Managing Communities:	44.90
Population Percent Living in Developing Communities:	35.26
People Living in Assisted Communities:	5,919,479
People Living in Developing Communities:	2,603,800
People Living in Managing Communities:	3,315,679
Communities with Management Plans:	148
Communities with Professional Staff:	118
Communities with Ordinances or Policies:	370
Communities with Local Advocacy/Advisory Organizations:	332
Number of Volunteer Service Hours:	39,971
Tree City USA Communities:	244
Tree City Growth Awards:	24
Tree Line USA Awards:	5
Tree Campus USA Awards:	6
Total Number of Community Assists:	645
Total Number of Unique Communities Assisted:	249



Ohio joins the ALB-infested ranks.