

Shade Tree Commission

Agenda – October 16, 2023

Approve: Minutes from September 2023

Tree Removal on Edwards Street property

- bill sent 9/25/23

Tree Tender - Workshop Oct 5

Training online Jan 17- Feb 28, 2024

Fall Tree Orders

Planters for Oct/Nov

- pre-hole digging
- tree removal/sidewalk cuts
- group/indiv help

Separate Fall Tree Order

505 Edwards

- serviceberry (2)

- hornbeam

170 N Centre St – hackberry

700 N Centre St - little leaf Linden

Howard Ave –thornless hawthorn

Fall/Winter Pruning

- Boy Scouts – Sat, Oct 21 morning. Earl @ dukeearl76@comcast.net 570-640-4875
- Mahantongo Street pruning 10/4 Troop 615

Open Time:

- 618 Mahantongo St and street tree at 3rd floor
- advise Charlotte Mayley

Next Meeting: Monday, November 20, 2023 @ 3:00

The struggle of today, is not altogether for today. It is for the vast future also. A. Lincoln

<u>Grant Trees</u>		<u>16 TreePA bare root trees</u>
12 & Norwegian Playgd	2	Red Oak and Linden
City Hall/Laurel	1	Syringa Ret "Ivory silk"
Eastside Playgd	1	American Elm
609 Edwards St	1	Serviceberry
607 Edwards St	1	Hackberry
Wolf Street	4	2 tiliia,
		1 Kentucky coffee tree
		1 prunus sarg "colunmaris"
18 th & Westend	6	Japanese syringa lilac

See article below. This is noticeable in neighborhoods locally.

Volutella Blight of Boxwood

The fact that temperatures were relatively mild in the winter of 2022-23 until that brief cold snap meant that plants were not fully winter-hardy before the deep freeze took hold in December, resulting in a lot of winter injury. Anecdotally, it seemed that boxwoods that were sheared or pruned late in the season suffered the most. Pruning before plants are fully dormant can push new growth that did not have a chance to harden off before the bitter cold hit.

Winter injury and insect damage can open injured boxwood shrubs to a few pathogens. While visiting numerous sites for landscape professionals, *Volutella* blight was the most common pathogen identified by Penn State's Plant Disease Clinic. **Caused by the fungus *Volutella buxi*, it affects leaves and stems, resulting in browning leaves and dieback of stems, leaving plants with distinct patches of dead, straw-brown leaves.**



Early symptoms include pale or chlorotic leaves that become bronze or brown and, typically, remain attached to the stems for a few months before falling. During humid weather, coral-colored fruiting structures may be visible on the underside of leaves and on infected stems. Stems may show black or light brown streaking. ***Volutella* overwinters on fallen leaves or infected plants. Disease development is favored by warm weather (68 to 77° F) and high relative humidity.**



Management includes pruning out infected and dead branches a few inches below the juncture of diseased and healthy tissue. Disinfect pruning tools between cuts by soaking them in 70% alcohol for a few minutes and allowing them to air dry before using them again. Fungicides may help prevent disease development and reduce sporulation but cannot "cure" infected plants.

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