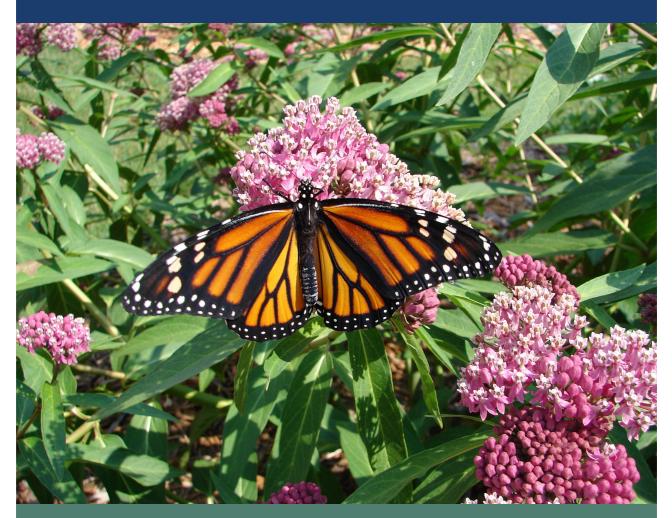


APRIL 2021 CONSERVATION UPDATE

Your Source for Conservation News in Washtenaw County



Monarch Butterfly on Milkweed. Photo credit: Breda Dziedzic

Growing Native Plants that Butterflies and Moths Need

By Brenda Dziedzic, Author of Raising Butterflies in the Garden

At the end of March, I saw lots of bees nectaring on my Prairie Willow. I also saw a bumble bee and a Cabbage White butterfly. These are all signs that soon our gardens will be alive with pollinators, including butterflies and moths. If you would

like to encourage butterflies and moths to your garden, here are steps to take to create a habitat for them. (Continued...)

Meet the New Community Forester: Summer Roberts

I am very excited to be joining the WCCD team! I grew up outside of Columbus, Ohio, earned my bachelor's in environmental science in Colorado, and returned to the midwest to be closer to family. While earning my master's degree in conservation ecology and environmental informatics at the University of Michigan, I interned at the U-M Matthaei Botanical Gardens and Nichols Arboretum where I performed natural area management and restoration techniques, including proper herbicide application practices, and furthered my plant identification skills. I fell in love with Ann Arbor and the beauty of Michigan's natural areas and decided to put down roots.



Following graduate school, I worked in Michigan as an environmental consultant to non-profits, schools, government agencies, private corporations, and public utilities. Using historic aerial photographs, soil maps, and available GIS data, I remotely assessed sites and conducted field verification surveys to collect GPS coordinates, photographs, species lists, and landform notes. This data was then compiled to determine best management practices given government guidelines and client goals. I also designed, installed, and monitored native plantings in a variety of habitats and managed a corporate headquarter property for invasive plant species. Additionally, I coordinated and led educational talks and hands-on workdays for volunteers, clients, high school students, foresters, and construction contractors on a broad range of topics, including invasive species identification.

Furthermore, I enjoy volunteering for environmental causes, so you may see me tending a county rain garden, monitoring a stream in the Huron River watershed, or collecting data on herpetofauna in City of Ann Arbor parkland. Even in my leisure time, I am likely to be gardening or hiking with my husband and Roosevelt, our black and tan coonhound.

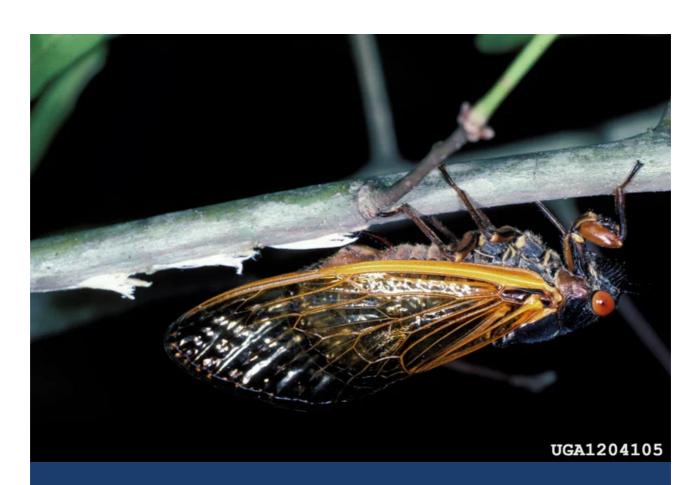
FreeTree Giveaway in the City of Ann Arbor

By Sean Reynolds, Urban Trees Initiative Coordinator, City of Ann Arbor

The City of Ann Arbor's 10,000 Trees Initiative is excited to announce a FreeTree giveaway in celebration of Arbor Day! Through this giveaway event,

you can receive free conifer transplants to plant on your private property. We will have Norway Spruce, White Spruce, White Pine, and Arborvitae/White Cedar available.

All of the trees available through this event were donated to the City by the Washienaw County Conservation District, and were managed by Brines Farm, here in Washtenaw County. Multiple distribution events will be held across Arbor Day weekend, at various sites city-wide.



Cicada Brood X: 2021 Emergence in Washtenaw County

By Summer Roberts, Community Forester

Due to an influx of concern regarding the upcoming emergence of the 17-year Brood X cicadas, expert tips, handy tricks, and online resources have been compiled to assist you in determining whether additional protection for your trees and shrubs is warranted as well as answering some FAQs. (Continued...)



Students install permaculture garden at Emerson School. Photo Credit: Matt Nolan

School & Community Habitat Grant Deadline: June 11th

The School & Community Habitat Grant Program is designed to provide plants, materials, design plans, and technical support for schools and community groups looking to establish natural areas.

Are you a School or Community organization? You can sign up for more information and updates or start your application now:

https://www.washtenawcd.org/school--community-habitat-grant.html

Upcoming Events

Don't forget your plants! Spring Tree & Shrub Distribution on April 23rd-24th!

If you've ordered plants or planting aids from the presale, you'll be able to pick them up next Friday and Saturday, at the

Second Annual Native Plant Expo & Marketplace

Saturday, June 5th

from 9 a.m. to 1
p.m. The Native Plant
Expo & Marketplace offers
residents one convenient
location to shop for

Fish Day 2021

Saturday, June 5th from 12-3 p.m. The WCCD, in cooperation with Harrietta Hills Trout Farm, sponsors Fish Day events for the purchase of fish to stock ponds each spring.

Washtenaw Farm Council Grounds.

Michigan native plants from several Michigan native plant growers, learn how to establish and maintain native landscapes and connect with companies specializing in planning native landscapes.

Reserve a (free) ticket for entry <u>here</u>.

Pre-order your fish with the Harrietta Hills Trout Farm for pick up on June 5th at the Farm Council Grounds.

Washtenaw County Conservation District

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