

Archive for October, 2010

Some Random Thoughts

Saturday, October 9th, 2010

If you are a fall tree planter (or want to be), be wary of planting bare root stocks too soon. Most deciduous trees don't really go very dormant until early December, and non-dormant, bare root planting stock must be handled carefully if you plant too soon. Even after leaf fall, it may be two or more weeks before the tree is really dormant enough. If you plant in the fall, a potted or balled and burlap specimen is usually better than bare root stock.

Beware of buying any kind of stock that has been held all summer at a garden center. Check out how they do it, and check the stock carefully for damage from heat, sun, insects, diseases, etc. Also, avoid stocks that have become "pot bound."

Need to replace any of your landscaping/yard work tools? Now's a good time to find some real bargains, if the stores have any left over. Now is also a good time to buy a new snow shovel, if you need one. They're usually cheaper when it's still warm outside.

Do your maintenance on the tools you are keeping. Don't leave them dirty and rusting over winter.

Bring the watering hoses and cans in before it freezes! Bird baths too, if they're not heated.

Need to add some mulch to "patch" some thin/bare spots? Get 'er done now so it can settle down by cold weather.

Want to become more active in providing/promoting better tree care in your community? Contact your local municipal entity that is responsible for community trees, and ask how you can help. This may be a tree board, parks and recreation department, public works department, or even a local group of master gardeners or arborists; and most such organizations embrace volunteers who want to help. To find the responsible party(ies), contact the city hall and have them steer you in the right direction.

The Forest And Woodland Assn. of MO

Friday, October 22nd, 2010

A new association has been formed in Missouri to promote healthy, productive and sustainable forests and trees across the state. The Forest and Woodland Association of Missouri (or FWAM) seeks to bring together a wide variety of forest landowners, organizations, forest industries, and individuals who are simply interested in the welfare of our forests and individual trees in our communities and around our homes. With the support of an active and diverse membership, FWAM will:

- * Advocate for our woods to government and legislative bodies.
- * Provide current information covering the issues through web links.
- * Issue email alerts for those who sign up for the service.
- * Provide legislative email alerts about forestry-related issues.

* Work to connect persons from across the state that have similar passions for forests and trees, so they can more effectively advocate for their concerns.

* Provide on-the-ground informational opportunities such as field days and workshops.

* Provide special discounts on select products and services.

* Support the American Tree Farm System.

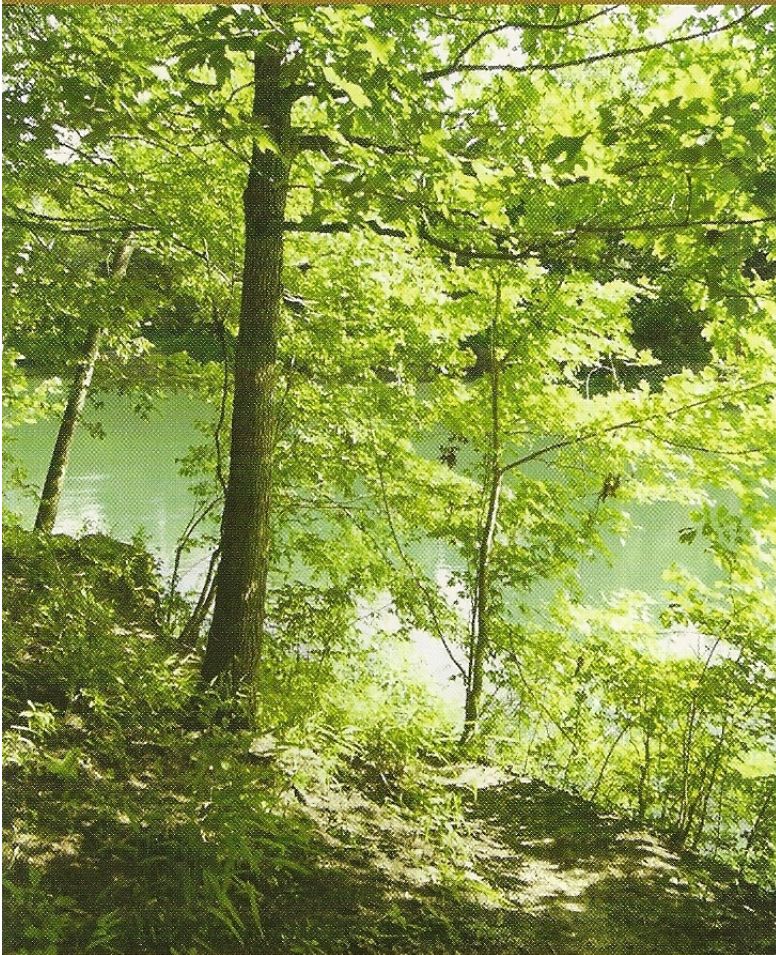
* Help educate children.

The Association was just formally inaugurated on October 16, so it is in the early stages of development, and, naturally, can use all the immediate financial assistance it can get. Building a large membership base is key to it becoming an effective organization, especially in the area of being an advocate for forests. There are several levels of membership available from a \$15/year student category to a \$1,000 lifetime membership. Again, **anyone** who is interested in forests and trees is eligible for membership. I encourage you to check into FWAM. You may find it to be just the kind of organization you've been seeking to further your passion for trees.

To get more information, and obtain a membership application, please contact:
fam@confedmo.org, or call 573-634-2322.

I've signed up. How about you?

Forest & Woodland Association of Missouri



*To promote healthy,
productive & sustainable
forests and trees!*