

# TREE TALK



September 2019

## KIRKWOOD URBAN FORESTRY COMMISSION

### REPLACE INVASIVE HONEYSUCKLE

What do we mean by “invasive”? Bush honeysuckle are shrubs that are fast-growing natives of Asia. They grow and spread quickly, forming dense thickets that crowd out Missouri’s native forest plants. The Missouri Department of Conservation suggests that seedlings may be hand-pulled when soils are moist. All of the root should be removed to prevent re-sprouting. Bush honeysuckle stems can be cut at the base with hand-tools, chainsaws, or brush-cutters. Immediately after cutting, a

herbicide can be hand-sprayed or applied to the cut stump with a sponge applicator. Replace

honeysuckle with other shrubs that also offer good screening ability such as Viburnum (varieties such as leather leaf, blackhaw, etc.); Black chokeberry (native to Missouri); and Fragrant sumac (native to Missouri and deer-resistant). For more information about honeysuckle and native Missouri plants visit the Missouri Department of Conservation website at [www.mdc.mo.gov](http://www.mdc.mo.gov).



### TREE INVENTORY

In 2014 the City contracted with ArbroPro to do a multi-year inventory of the City’s street trees including information on the species, diameter at breast height (standard forestry measure), and condition. The final report, completed in 2017, offered good information which will help the City manage this valuable community asset. For example, there are 88 street trees with diameters in excess of 36 inches, almost 90% of the City’s street trees are in Fair to Good condition, and there are eighteen different species of Oak trees represented in the inventory. Links to the full report and to a map of the City’s street trees can be found at the Urban Forestry Commission page of the City’s website at [www.kirkwoodmo.org/UrbanForestry](http://www.kirkwoodmo.org/UrbanForestry). Interested in learning the species of a particular street tree? The street tree inventory map is searchable by address.

### Benefits of Street Trees: Fun Facts

- ◆ A mature tree can store 50 to 100 gallons of water during a large storm.
- ◆ Trees reduce noise pollution by absorbing sounds. A belt of trees 98 feet wide and 49 feet tall can reduce highway noise by 6 to 10 decibels.
- ◆ According to a study, the presence of trees in a suburban landscape significantly reduced the cruising speed of drivers by an average of 3 miles per hour, for both faster and slower drivers
- ◆ A mature tree canopy reduces air temperature by about 5 to 10 degrees. The net cooling effect of a healthy tree is equivalent to 10 room-size air conditioners operating 20 hours per day.
- ◆ According to research, street trees growing in front of homes in Portland, Oregon, added an average of \$8,870 to the average sale price and reduced time on the market by an average of 17 days.
- ◆ A study on children with ADD discovered that the effect of a walk through a park is equal to peak effects of two typical ADHD medications.
- ◆ Children and youth living in greener neighborhoods have lower body mass index.
- ◆ A person standing in direct sunlight takes 20 minutes to burn. However, under a tree providing 50 percent coverage, it takes 50 minutes to burn, and under full shade, it takes 100 minutes to get a sunburn.

Source: Alliance for Community Trees



**October 5, 2019 || [www.handsonkirkwood.org](http://www.handsonkirkwood.org)**

Hands-on-Kirkwood is a one-day mission blitz in the community to help neighbors in need. Everyone is encouraged and empowered to help out. Sign up as a group or an individual.

### How can you help?

- **Home Projects:** Visit the website to see all of the volunteer opportunities available, and sign up to help. We have particular needs on our home projects. Skilled and unskilled volunteers are needed.
- **Collection Drive:** Volunteers will drop yellow bags on Kirkwood doorsteps the first week of October, for a food and personal-care items drive. The filled bags will be picked up on Saturday, October 5. The collected items will go to KirkCare (food pantry), Meramec Brown Bag Café, and Nurses for Newborns. Please take time to fill a bag. You can also drop your donation off at Kirkwood Baptist Church any time before October 5.
- **Clothing Drive:** Donate winter clothes, coats, boots, diapers, pillows (new only), toys, and bikes in good conditions. Drop donations at Kirkwood City Hall (139 S. Kirkwood Rd.), Kirkwood Public Library (140 E. Jefferson), and multiple other locations – see website for all drop-off points – **prior to Saturday, September 28.**

### What to do if you need help?

- **Home Projects:** For yard work, small home repairs, simple household chores, furniture moving, or winterizing your home, call 314-965-2349 – **prior to Friday, September 27.**
- **Clothing, Toy, and Book Store:** 9:30 a.m. to 12:00 noon, at Kirkwood Baptist Church, 211 N. Woodlawn. Come shop for FREE clothing and toys, some new and some gently used.
- **Electronics Recycling:** 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon, St. Louis Community College at Meramec. Free. Old-style TVs and some monitors will have a cost. Otherwise, if you can plug it in, we will take it.
- **Document Shredding:** 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon, at Enterprise Bank and Trust, 1052 S. Kirkwood Road. Bring up to two boxes of your confidential documents to shred on site.
- **Winterize Car Check:** 9:30 a.m. to 12:00 noon, Kirkwood Baptist Church, 211 N. Woodlawn. Volunteers will inspect cars and provide a list of items for follow-up. Windshield wiper fluid will be topped off.

## Kirkwood / Oakland “Day Out” and Open House

**Saturday, October 5, 10:00 a.m., to 2:00 p.m.**

**Kirkwood Police Department, 131 W. Madison (lower parking lot)**

Partnering with the Mungenast Automotive Family

Klaas Kids Foundation will be on hand to provide digital child identification kits to parents

Food – Fun – Meet Your Police Officers

Hands-On Activities

