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Tree and Landscape Workshops Focus on Preparedness

LINCOLN, Neb. – The 2015 Tree and Landscape Workshops focus on some of the most immediate concerns facing Nebraska’s communities—disaster preparation for tree loss from insects and diseases, risk and safety issues and developing healthier, more manageable landscapes. The Nebraska Forest Service will offer these training workshops statewide from March into June.

“Disaster-ready Communities” March 12 in Norfolk and March 26 in Scottsbluff. These workshops are aimed at helping prepare for disasters to the community forest—ice, wind and snow storms, tornados, Thousand Cankers Disease and Emerald Ash Borer—threats that impact community budgets, habitat, and green infrastructure. Topics include detection and treatment plans for pests and diseases; recommendations for structural pruning techniques that can be done in advance to minimize storm damage; and safety considerations for people working in and around trees after a disaster. Recommended for arborists, municipal workers and anyone involved with community landscapes.

“Utility Pruning and Worker Safety” March 24 in Ord and March 25 in Bridgeport. Pruning around public utilities is crucial to the management of community trees and public utilities. This workshop will cover the dangers of tree work around utilities and instruct on proper pruning techniques for utility worker safety and tree health and speak to the many dangers and impacts for people responsible for these valuable community resources. Recommended for anyone overseeing or working on or around utility lines.

“Tree Risk Awareness and Management” June 2 in North Platte, June 8 in Lincoln and June 9 in Hastings. Trees play an important role in our community forests and provide many benefits, but as they age they also began to create risk which communities must manage. Learn how to determine if trees are low or high risk for failure and how to care for them. Recommended for arborists, parks workers, school maintenance staff and anyone working with or responsible for tree care.

The cost of these full-day workshops is \$55; exceptions, discounts and exact times and locations are on the Nebraska Forest Service website at go.unl.edu/dwkw. For additional information, contact Amy Seiler at aseiler2@unl.edu or 308-633-1173. The Nebraska Forest Service, an affiliate of the University of Nebraska, Institute of Agriculture and Natural Resources (IANR), works to enrich lives by protecting, restoring and utilizing Nebraska’s tree and forest resources.

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