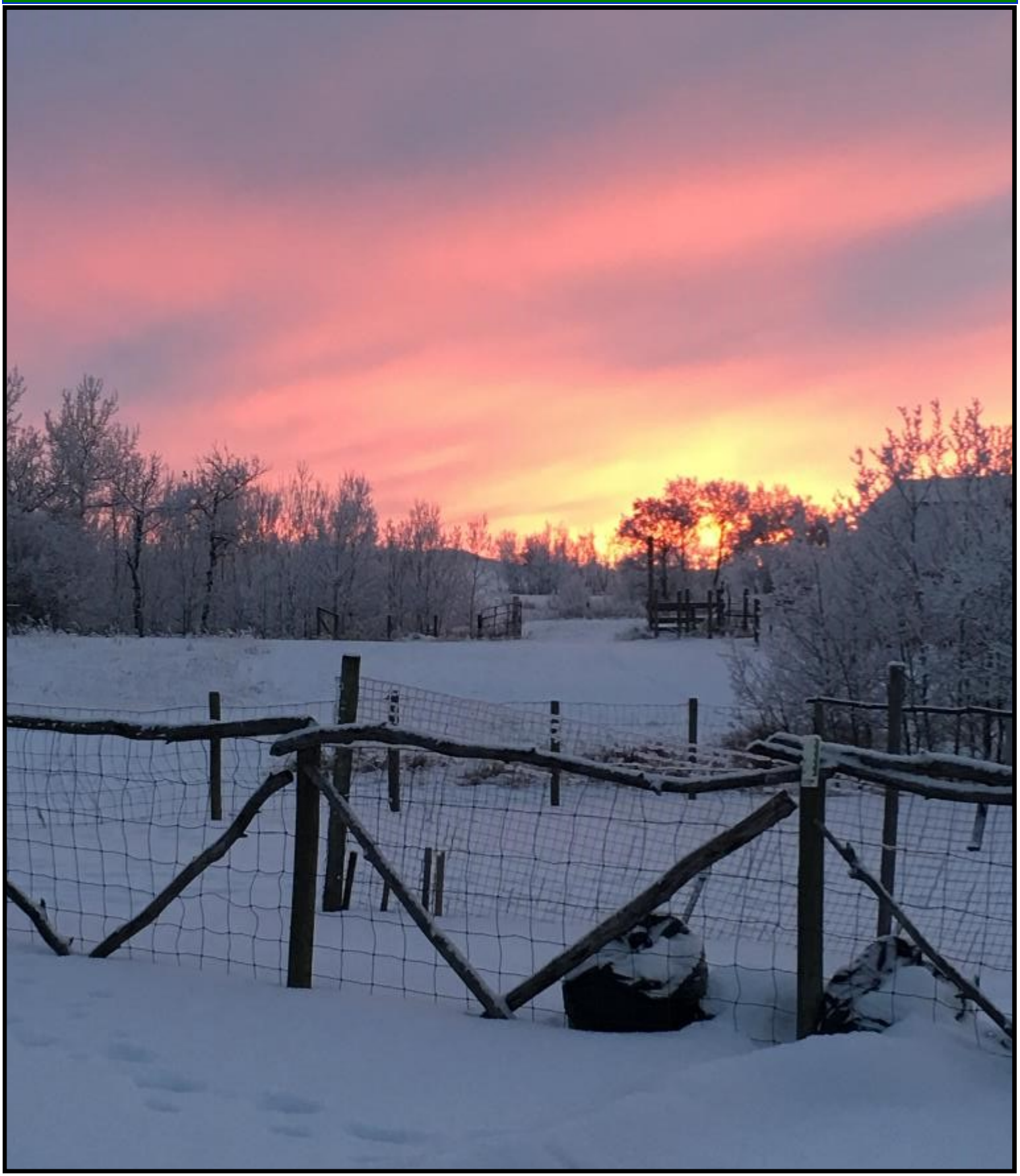
The Prairie Arborist

The Official Publication of the ISA Prairie Chapter Issue 4 2018



FROM THE PRESIDENT


Mimi Cole President

Another sunny day...

Yes, we've had a bit of a reprieve from the early onset of winter here in Alberta.

A busy few months, with the TCC in Winnipeg, TRAQ on Saskatoon (with the 1st renewal course included), and of course, the "There's a Fungus Amungus" conference in Olds.

This year's event was great - always a pleasure to be in Olds, and it was a perfect opportunity for some of the students to get a taste of our arboriculture community!

Thank you to all for taking the time out of your busy schedules to come and participate; all our delegates, speakers, trade show folks, sponsors Arbor-Tech, STOPDED, ...we couldn't have done it without each and every one of you!

A special shout-out to our executive director, Keith Anderson...for all your countless hours of dedication.

As we head into the holidays, I want to take a moment to wish all of you a Merry Christmas season, filled with family and friends.

Cheers!!

M.J."Mimi" Cole

Thanks to our "There's a Fungus Amungus" Sponsors

10th Edition Leads to New PNW-ISA Committee

By Zeb Haney, posted on December 3, 2018 in PNW-ISA News

Last summer, the Guide for Plant Appraisal 10th Edition finally reached our industry. Long promised and fiercely debated, it addresses several changes in our systematic approach to placing a value to a tree. The new guide weighs looks, feels, and reads similar to the tree risk assessment manual. And this was intentional. As stated in the preface of the manual itself:

The goal was to align the concepts and terminology of plant appraisal with those employed in the general practice of appraisal...similar to the International Society of Arboriculture's effort to align tree risk assessment terminology with the general practice of risk assessment.'

A significant adjustment has been made by incorporating principles of real estate appraisal. This type of appraisal is now classified as a market approach. Some tree appraisers offer a specialized practice within the real estate appraisal community.

Other adjustments include different concepts of value, such as ecological benefits, or the value to the public. These concepts may be new to some of the plant appraisal community.

Of course, within the cost approach we still have the trunk formula method of appraisal, but we now call it the Trunk Formula Technique. And the way we derive values using a cost approach has been adjusted. Formerly we depreciated a tree through condition, species, and location ratings. Now we'll be using physical deterioration (condition), functional, and external limitations.

We've got some handy new charts, forms, and formulas to use. And you'll no doubt start seeing opportunities for continuing education in relation to tree appraisal. Foremost is a new Tree and Plant Appraisal Qualification (TPAQ) built around the new guide. It will be administered through the American Society of Consulting Arborists. The guide isn't intended to be a standard. But the information and concepts can generally be considered

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as a default position when conducting a tree appraisal.

A word of warning - the first edition has a few typos and errors. The tree appraisal community is still catching them. So be careful not to assume that you can find a copy of a form and instantly perform a tree appraisal. No doubt, a second revision will be needed before long.

In the meantime, each of the ISA chapters will be convening a new Regional Plant Appraisal Committee (RPAQ). The committee will be reviewing and updating the different species and planting costs. The goal of the RPAQ is to bring information we use into harmony with that of other chapters. We'll endeavor to produce an accessible regional guide. It will be updated as cost data changes and new information becomes available.

Click here for a PDF of a more in-depth overview of the Guide by Jim Clark. .

Article By:

Zeb Haney
Tree Resource
Learn more about Zeb Haney.

CERTIFIED ARBORIST ISA

Save the Date

The next written Certification Exam in the Prairie Chapter Spring 2019 at Olds College

www.isa-arbor.com/Credentials/Exam-Information

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Watch this spot for the next Tree Risk Assessment (TRAQ) Workshop and TRAQ Renewal

Or go to: www.isaprairie.com
click on: TRAQ 2019

Alberta Elm Pruning Ban
April 1st to September 30

Manitoba Elm Pruning Ban
April 1st to July 31

Saskatchewan Elm Pruning Ban
April 1st to August 31

Help keep Alberta Dutch Elm Disease free.

DON'T PRUNE ELM TREES FROM APRIL 1 TO SEPT 30

The elm bark beetle, which transports the DED fungus, is attracted to fresh wounds on elm trees. The Alberta elm pruning ban prohibits pruning when the beetles are most active.

- Do not store elm wood
- Ensure wood is properly disposed of at a landfill or by burying, chipping, or burning it immediately

Prevention starts at home.

www.stopded.org • 1-877-837-ELMS (3567)

STOPDED

Government of Alberta

A Trip to Black Island

by Wilbert Ronald

Black Island is a large Island in the south basin of Lake Winnipeg, the eleventh largest freshwater lake on earth. This location reportedly has the most northerly-known native stands of Red Pine (Pinus resinosa) in North America. It has been a lifelong goal of mine to see these trees.

With the help of Trevor Stanley, (Director, Central Region Parks and Recreation, Province of Manitoba) we were able to fulfill this goal through a two hour (each way) trip in a 24' lake worthy boat powered by two, 150hp outboard motors.

After a long walk in from the shore, we were able to stand at the base of these magnificent forest giants growing in almost pure stand. This location would normally be considered to host boreal forest, but the flora on this site was more akin to regions of southeastern Manitoba where the Red Pine is more common.

We found native Red Pine up to 3 feet (90 cm) in diameter growing on Black Island, 100 miles north of any other known trees of this species. We were able to collect seed and hope to renew this Black Island seed strain for use in prairie landscapes.

Wilbert Ronald - Jeffries Nurseries

To Those Who Mourn a Tree

From: CANUFNET
Posted by Tracy Smith, RPF Forester,
Forest Management Unit
City of Ottawa

I live in Ottawa and specifically, I live in Arlington Woods, one of the areas that was devastated by a tornado on September 21st. We are so thankful that our home was not affected, it has given my family time to help friends and neighbors clear debris from their home.

For those of you who are not familiar with Arlington Woods, it is a suburb of Ottawa and was built by Developer Robert Campeau between 1968 and 1980. It is like living in a forest, yet we can drive to Parliament Hill in 20 minutes – well at least it use to be anyway.

When Campeau designed the neighborhood, he did not cut down all the trees because they were in the way, instead the homes were built with these trees in mind. These trees were mainly white pine that were remnants of a large forest planted after a fire went through the area in 1870. Up until September 21st, these pines, along with large beech, oak and maples were in abundance, lining the streets of our beautiful sought after neighborhood.

Even amongst the vast amount of devastation and destruction to the many homes in the neighborhood, the residents, including those who were impacted are mourning the loss of the trees, especially the white pines that once towered over the homes. My neighbor, Gina Radic wrote this poem and she was thrilled when I asked if I could share it with the broader Forestry community. Hope you enjoy it, I thought it worthwhile to share with you.

To Those Who Mourn a Tree
By Gina Radic

Is it strange to mourn a tree,
To shed my tears and softly weep?
Would a stranger understand
Why my feelings run so deep
For a life, neither human
Nor animal in form,
But for which I cannot help
But feel my heart, in two, is torn?

Graceful giant that once stood
Welcoming me home
Now trunk and branches shattered,
Like a giant broken bone

A lawn that once was dappled
By the sun's game in its leaves
The soothing swishing sound as
Back and forth the branches weaved

Feeding and protecting
The squirrels I love to watch
Gently cradling baby birds
In their nest after they hatch

Majestic sentinel that seemed
To almost touch the sky
Fond memories of my child
From a limb, swinging high

I'd lay my hand upon its trunk
Before its sad demise
I'd think of history witnessed
And marvel at its size

A century old spirit
We settled on its land
Lived and loved beneath its beauty
This tree that was so grand

All this is why I mourn a tree,
Shed my tears and softly weep
For its strength and grace now gone
Leaving memories to keep.

DED Background Information

The Society to Prevent Dutch Elm Disease (STOPDED) is a non-profit organization which takes an active leadership role in the development and delivery of the Provincial Dutch Elm Disease Prevention Program since 2005. They work hard to avoid the economic, environmental and social impacts from Dutch elm disease (DED) and other invasive alien tree pest species.

STOPDED Board and its membership, would like to thank Alberta Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry for their annual financial support. Without this financial support from government and all of STOPDED's volunteers and partners throughout the province, the level of vigilance maintained to keep Alberta (AB) DED free would be impossible.

STOPDED's Provincial DED Prevention Program annual budget since 2005 has been $110,000. This includes monitoring for the beetles in high risk smaller municipalities, US/AB ports of entries, provincial parks and Travel AB Information Centres, surveillance of DED, public awareness, operating the STOPDED hotline, administration, insurance and accountant fees.

Dutch Elm Disease
Background Information

Since the introduction of Dutch elm disease (DED) in 1930, the disease has destroyed millions of American elm trees across North America. At that time there were no prevention/control programs in place.

DED is now well established in Manitoba (MB) and Saskatchewan (SK). These provinces and their municipalities are now forced to spend millions of dollars annually in control.

DED is caused by three species of invasive alien fungus (Ophiostoma ulmi, Ophiostoma nova ulmi and Ophiostoma himal-ulmi) that can affect any elm (Ulmus spp.) tree. Once infected, the elm tree dies.

The invasive alien insect and human vectors for DED are:
Smaller European Beetles (SEEBB) (Scolytus multistriatus, Marsh)
Native elm bark beetle (NEBB) (Hylurgopinus rufipes, Eichh)
Banded elm bark beetle (BEBB) (Scolytus schevyrewi)
Elm firewood from an infected province.

Under the AB Agricultural Pests Act (APA) "Pest and Nuisance Control Regulation (PNCR)" the DED pathogens, SEEBB NEBB are named declared pests. All municipalities, counties and MD's in the province of Alberta have the responsibility and authority to prevent and control DED

Photo by Mike Allen

DED Background Information

under the APA. AB has a DED Prevention/Control Measures in place that are enforceable under the APA.

The Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA) administers the Plant Protection Act which regulates the movement of disease from DED infected provinces to DED free provinces. Once a province is infected with DED, CFIA prohibits industry from selling or moving elms out of the province. AB currently has a very strong nursery industry that export elms across Canada.

In SK, DED is regulated under the authority of the Forest Resources Management Act and Dutch Elm Disease Regulations. Enforcement of the DED regulations is a priority of the Ministry.

In MB, invasive forest pests which includes DED are regulated by The Forest Health Protection Act (FHPA) and the associated Forest Health Protection Regulation.

A provincial elm inventory completed by the STOPDED in 1999 and updated in 2017 indicates there are at least 600,000 elms growing in AB municipalities, rural properties, shelterbelts and provincial parks. City of Edmonton has 100,000 elms and Calgary 50,000. The provincial elm inventory can be found at: www.stopded.org under Inventory.

Up to 50% of the overall tree plantings in municipal landscapes are elms with equal amounts ash trees. Ash trees are threatened by emerald ash borer, now found in Winnipeg.

The value of the existing elm inventory is estimated at $2 billion with this number rising rapidly when removal, replacement, and environmental costs are factored in. Estimated value of ash trees is also $2 billion.
Using the International Society of Arboriculture (ISA) tree valuation calculator, an average AB elm and ash is valued at approximately $4,000 dollars each.

The elm has been the preferred tree to plant, not only for its stately beauty, but also for the tree's impressive list of useful properties.
growing fast on a wide variety of soils
tolerant to drought conditions
high salt tolerance in urban boulevard plantings
one of the few species that can thrive in the AB extreme climactic conditions

In 1975, DED was found in Winnipeg, MB
In 1976, the pathogen and the beetles where included as declared pest under the APA.
In 1981, DED was found in Regina, SK.

Survey conducted by SK Ministry of Environment in 2018 showed DED remains well established in its traditional southeastern part of the province. DED has affected high numbers of elm along the Fort Qu'Appelle River all the way to Buffalo Pound Park just north of Moose Jaw. BEBB are found in high numbers along the south western part of the province.
In 2012, one DED infected elm tree in Maple Creek was identified. This is 100 km east from Medicine Hat. Monitoring and surveys was increased and no more DED was found.
In 2015, one DED infected elm tree was found in Saskatoon for the first time.
DED is found in municipalities throughout Montana, USA.

Since 1994, SEEBB and BEBB have been found in AB municipalities across the province.

In 1998, an isolated case of DED was found in Wainwright by STOPDED. This tree was removed and properly disposed of immediately. Monitoring and surveillance was increased for 5 years. This was an isolated case for AB.

As a result of vectors being found

Photos 1 and 2 by Thérèse Arcand, Natural Resources Canada

1

2

DED Background Information

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throughout AB, trapping locations and elm surveillance has been increased.
From 1976 to 2004, AB Government operated and administered the Provincial Dutch Elm Disease Prevention Program.

Since 2005, STOPDED has received Government funding to operate and administrate the program.
Alberta is one of the last geographic areas in North America still DED free.
Examples of what various cities and provinces spend on DED prevention and control:

- City of Winnipeg's average annual budget is 4.2 million.

Province of MB has cost share agreements with 38 communities that have been identified to have DED to help with the diseased elm removal and disposal. In 2018, there were 4551 diseased elms. The total number of dedicated survey staff days was 684. (10 weeks). In addition to the field surveyor's staff, the province employs 2 full time positions for DED management.

- Province of SK 2018 budget was $200,000 to remove DED infected elms in municipal buffer zones. Province has 2 full time staff working on DED management.

The City of Regina 2018 budget was $516,000 towards staff, monitoring, elm tree pruning and DED infected tree removal, fungicide treatments. With a prevention program in place their annual elm loss is 5.5 elm trees.

- The City of Edmonton spends $135,000 annually on DED prevention.

Cities of Calgary, Red Deer, Lethbridge, Medicine Hat, Grande Prairie all have prevention programs in place costing comparable amount.

STOPDED's Provincial DED Prevention Program annual budget since 2005 has been $110,000.
www. stopded.org

DED Hotline 877-837-ELMS

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Super Grove of Redwoods

Conservationists plant a 'super grove' of redwood trees cloned from ancient stumps

The clones come from trees that were larger than any alive today.
By Russell McLendon

From the Mother Nature Network

This story can be found at : https://www.mnn.com/earth-matters/wilderness-resources/blogs/super-grove-redwood-tree-clones

A new "super grove" of endangered coast redwood trees has arisen in California, thanks to a nonprofit group that planted 75 saplings at a park in San Francisco.

Since their species is endangered, any new community of coast redwoods would be welcome news. Yet these 75 saplings are also newsworthy for another reason: They're all clones, born of DNA that conservationists retrieved from ancient redwood stumps. Now growing together at the Presidio of San Francisco, they carry on a valuable genetic legacy that dates back thousands of years.

About a quarter of the new saplings were cloned from the Fieldbrook stump (pictured), a redwood that was roughly 400 feet tall and more than 3,000 years old when it was cut down in 1890.
(Photo: Archangel Ancient Tree Archive)

The trees were planted on Dec. 14 by Archangel Ancient Tree Archive (AATA), a nonprofit group that creates "living libraries of old-growth tree genetics." Each sapling was sourced from one of five ancient stumps in Northern California, remnants of redwoods that were all larger than the largest tree standing today, a giant sequoia known as General Sherman.

After discovering the stumps were still alive, AATA co-founder David Milarch and his team led an expedition to clone them.

Pictured above, for example, is the 35-foot-wide (11-meter) Fieldbrook stump, left by a coast redwood that was about 400 feet tall and more than

Super Grove of Redwoods

3,000 years old when it was cut down in 1890. And pictured below is one of 20 saplings cloned from it:

Because they're clones of trees that were larger than any currently living redwoods, the AATA is calling these saplings "champion trees," a term for the largest tree of a given species. There's no guarantee they'll live up to that title, but their genes and protected location at least give them a chance. And they may also become champions in a broader sense, both for their own species and many others — including us.

A mature coast redwood can remove huge amounts of carbon dioxide from the air, the AATA points out, sequestering as much as 250 tons of the greenhouse gas per tree. They also perform other important ecosystem services, like filtering water and soil, and they're highly resistant to wildfires, droughts and pests.

"We're excited to set the standard for environmental recovery," Milarch says in a statement. "These trees have the capacity to fight climate change and revitalize forests and our ecology in a way we haven't seen before."

A redwood sapling cloned from the nearly 4,000-year-old Fieldbrook stump.
(Photo: Archangel Ancient Tree Archive)

Once the source material is collected from a redwood stump, it takes about 2.5 years to cultivate the saplings and get them large enough to plant.

The idea of cloning trees may sound "complicated and unnatural," the AATA acknowledges on its website, but this process is actually mimicking a natural kind of asexual redwood propagation.

In the wild, coast redwoods can reproduce by self-cloning from masses of unsprouted bud tissue known as burl, as the U.S. National Park Service explains: "Occasionally, an almost perfect circle of redwood trees grows in the forest. These 'fairy

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rings' or 'family circles' sprouted from the basal burls of one parent tree, long harvested or fallen. ... If a redwood falls or is otherwise damaged, the burl may begin to sprout from the trunk or branch it developed on, sharing or taking over the established root system of the parent tree. The new tree is an exact clone of the original tree, carrying its genetic identity far into the future."

Volunteers plant a coast redwood at the Presidio of San Francisco on Dec. 14, 2018.
(Photo: Rob Lovato Victor Aquino)

In addition to the Fieldbrook stump, which yielded 20 saplings, the AATA created clones from four other coast redwood stumps with diameters of at least 31 feet (9 meters): the Barrett stump (25 saplings), Barrett stump No. 2 (14 saplings), Big John stump (11 saplings) and Ayers stump (five saplings).

"These saplings have extraordinary potential to purify our air, water and soil for generations to come," Milarch says. "We hope this 'super grove,' which has the capability to become an eternal forest, is allowed to grow unmolested by manmade or natural disasters and thus propagate forever."

Mature coast redwood trees tower above Redwood National Park in California (Photo: Wildnerdpix/Shutterstock)

Invasives in a Nutshell

From the Tree Canada Website

What is an invasive species?

An invasive species is a plant, animal or disease moved to a new region where it damages native habitats or kills native species. They reproduce quickly, spread widely, and tolerate a range of conditions. The worst impacts occur when an invasive species is moved into an area without its natural predators that normally keep it in balance in its native habitat. This movement is almost always caused by human activity.

How do invasives kill trees?

Diseases and insects kill trees directly by blocking or consuming plant tissues used for water and nutrient transport. Vines can physically smother trees and saplings, robbing them of sunlight and nutrients. Other invasive shrubs and plants can crowd out tree seedlings and saplings growth. Still, some plants release toxic compounds into the soil.

ALB: Natural Resources Canada

Why is this important?

Invasive species are the second-biggest threat to biodiversity after habitat loss.
Trees provide habitat for a wide range of other flowers and wildlife.
From a purely economic viewpoint, trees provide forest products and tourism opportunities, which are a significant part of the world's economy.
Invasive species control can be very, very expensive.

What are the common pathways for invasive species?

Quite frequently, invasive species first show up in, or adjacent to urban areas or other ports of entry. In many cases, wood crate packaging may contain exotic insects. Shipments of nursery stock may introduce the plant or a disease as do movements of fruits and vegetables which may transfer disease. Frequently, transporting firewood may introduce insects or disease and even the movements of people and pets may inadvertently transfer seeds.

Tree killers and the world

As world commerce increases, so do the number of species moved into new areas. Most invasive species thrive in disturbed habitats such as those found in urbanizing areas. As well, logging and forest clearing areas can leave the remaining trees more vulnerable to invasives.

Once established, most invasive species are very difficult to eliminate. Canada's extensive forests, especially those in proximity to urban areas are threatened by the same factors as elsewhere in the world.

Canadians should be aware of invasive species
Early detection allows time for control efforts (e.g.: the forklift operator in a Toronto-area warehouse who noticed the first Asian Longhorned Beetle in Ontario gave agencies time to respond and contain the insect).

EAB: Natural Resources Canada

Awareness of the known pathways reduces spread of invasives (e.g. fuelwood sellers need to know not to move ash firewood from areas infested by the Emerald Ash Borer and residents with Dutch Elm Disease affected elm trees should remove and destroy them as soon as possible).

DED: Natural Resources Canada

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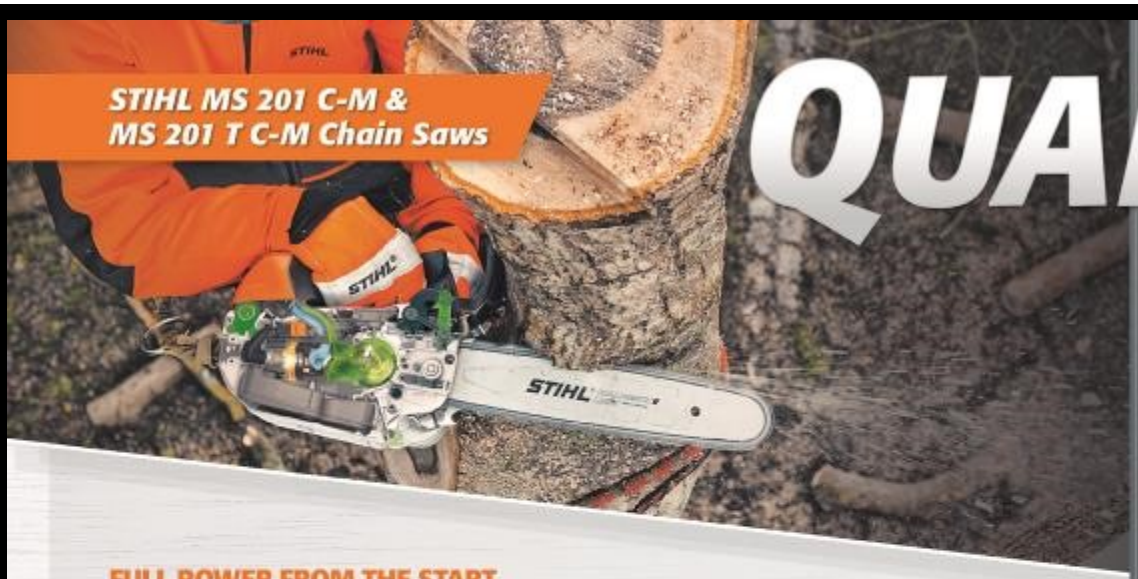

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