

# The Arboretum News

Our mission is to connect the Platteville community to the Rountree Branch corridor, through recreation, conservation, and environmental education.

SPRING 2019

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Greetings to all PCA trail users, volunteers and supporters. My name is Bob Hundhausen, new president of PCA. I am very proud to serve on the PCA executive board with newly elected and returning board members, Kris Wright, vice president, Julie Pluemer, treasurer/trainer, Diane Jentz, treasurer/trainee, Robin Fatzinger, membership, Shannon Baxter, secretary and Mike Penn, former president. These folk's commitment to the spirit of volunteerism and our beautiful trail has been amazing to me. I would also like to thank outgoing president Mike Penn for his

*continued on back page*



PCA Board of Directors & Officers  
Bob Hundhausen, President  
Kristopher Wright, Vice President  
Shannon Baxter, Secretary  
Dianne Jentz, Treasurer

Bob Digman	Ben Grady	Gene Weber
Dan Flesch	Joe Jacquinet	Robin Fatzinger
Mike Penn	Luke Peters	
Luke Peters	Julie Pluemer	

### Past Presidents:

Mike Penn – Past President, 2017 - 2019  
Frank Steck - Past President, 2016 - 2017  
Robin Fatzinger - Past President, 2013 - 2015  
Ric Genthe - Past President, 2011-2013, 2015 - 2016  
Kris Wright - Past President, 2005 - 2011  
David Canny - Past President, 2004 – 2005

Creative Director - Ric Genthe

pca@plattevillearboretum.org  
www.plattevillearboretum.org  
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## Platteville Community Arboretum

### 1st Annual **MONSTER DASH**

**October 19th, 2019**

**5K Run/Walk**

**or**

**10K Run**



**Registration begins at 9:00 AM**

**Race begins at 10:00 AM at Mound View Park**

**Parking Available at Platteville High School**

**COSTUMES ENCOURAGED!!**

**Proceeds to benefit the Platteville Community Arboretum and Trail**

**Register online at**

**plattevillearboretum.org**

**Cost - \$20 (Register before October 4th to receive a t-shirt)**

\$20,000 Added to PCA Endowment. A \$10,000 challenge match funded by an ~ \$9,000 Eva Beining estate gift and ~ \$1,000 Max Anderson gift led to sixty two wonderful donors providing \$10,000 in matching to add \$20,000 to the PCA Endowment fund. An awesome response from our community. Donors included:  
**Eva Beining and Max Anderson**



**High Vibe Raises  
Over \$1000 in 1 Hour Workout  
Jess Redfearn and a fitness room of great folks  
working out hard for PCA and for personal fitness  
raised over \$1000 in one hours.**

**Thank you Jess and  
wonderful folks!!!**



## Donors for PCA Endowment

Anonymous

Armstrong, Zachary R. and Amelia L.  
Banfield, Gregory T and Brenda  
Boll, James R and Judith R  
Buch, Bruce M. and Brooke A.  
Carnahan, David and Ellen M.  
Clare, Patrick M. and Barbara Jean  
Curry Law & Mediation  
Custer, Andrea L.  
Digman, Paul J and Donna A  
Doeringsfeld, Richard N  
Doran, Brian and Colleen M  
Dusbury, John  
Edgette, Mark D and Dianne M  
Eggers, Lee G and Patricia S  
Fairchild, Nancy J.  
Gimski, Gordan and Susan  
Gottschalk, Roger and Marilyn  
Haight, John-Erich  
Haas, Gary and Carol  
Hauser, Roger E. and Ann K.  
Heiser Hardware, Inc  
Heiser, Tom S.  
Helker, Kay L.  
Hennessy, Mary Jo  
Hoffman, Marilyn Cecile  
Hood, C. Ellsworth and Hood, Margaret F.  
Johnson, Diana L.  
Kenealy, David A. and Janet C.  
Klaas, Jeanette J.  
Lafayette County Abstract & Title  
Lange, Carol  
Lindahl, Thomas J. and Lee Ann  
Lory, James C and Judith L  
McGinley, Lawrence E. and Mary A.  
McKichan, Mac A.  
Mergen, Michael J. and Janet L.  
Millsap, David R  
Murphy, Timothy J. and Kathryn M.  
Peters, Luke R. and Mrs Elizabeth J.  
Platteville Dental, LLC  
Rice, Deborah  
Riniker & Co - Ag Division  
Salzmann, Donald J. and Nancy A.  
Simmons, Jason M. and Kelsie J.  
Steger, Velma  
Swales, Thomas R and Nancy A  
Weier, Ronald E. and Janis K.  
Wieters, James W. and Geri L.  
Susan and Lynn Schlager Fund of Fidelity  
Charitable  
Wright, Kristopher and Angie  
Weber's Processing Plant, Inc  
Risic Enterprises  
Tri-Com Inc. - Radio Shack  
Zidon, Mark and Twila

# Emerald Ash Borer Confirmed in Platteville

In July of 2018 emerald ash borer (EAB) was confirmed in Platteville. This means that some ash trees are starting to show symptoms of infestation which include: a thinning crown, new growth near the base, bark splitting, and an increase in woodpecker feeding. By the time these symptoms are present, it's often too late to save the tree. According to City Forester, Luke Peters, "The City is going to be losing hundreds, maybe even a thousand, ash trees in a relatively short period of time. We've been trying to sound the alarm about emerald ash borer, because it is going to have a very noticeable effect on our urban forest." Ash trees currently represent about 8% of Platteville's publicly owned trees. However, when taking privately owned trees into account, this percentage is likely significantly higher.

Tree loss is especially detrimental within cities, because our urban forest provides so many benefits. These benefits include: reducing stormwater runoff, improving air quality, sequestering carbon dioxide, providing habitat for wildlife, increasing property values, plus reducing heating and cooling costs. Luke added, "It's sometimes hard for us to picture the benefits we are receiving from the trees around us, but the economic and environmental benefits are very real."

Homeowners can calculate these benefits themselves using the National Tree Benefit Calculator. This calculator is free to use and can be found at [www.treebenefits.com](http://www.treebenefits.com). By entering the tree species, location, and size the calculator will produce the expected benefits from that tree. For example, when entering the information for a 36" green ash tree in City Park, the calculator shows this one tree provides \$314 of benefits, each year. Over the course of a year the tree will intercept 6,365 gallons of stormwater runoff, reduce atmospheric carbon by 1,625 pounds, and help to conserve 413 Kw hours of electricity. Because of these benefits, the City started treating this tree with insecticide in 2016. Without these treatments it is nearly certain EAB would kill the tree in the next few years.

So, what is EAB? It is an invasive insect native to Asia. Since its discovery in North America in 2002, EAB has killed untold millions of ash trees. The larva feed beneath the bark disrupting the flow of water and nutrients, leading to the death of the tree. All native species of ash are susceptible including green ash, white ash, black ash, and blue ash. This has decimated the urban forest of many communities. In Wisconsin, the spread of EAB was slowed using county-by-county quarantines, providing homeowners time to plan. Some readers might remember an article written about EAB in this newsletter back in 2015. At that time, we suggested: treating with insecticide, removing and replacing, or waiting. Unfortunately, with the recent confirmation of EAB in Platteville, waiting is no longer an option.



Platteville youth help plant a young, treated ash tree and Jay.



## 2018 Flood Damage to Trail

Heavy rains in late September caused widespread flood damage in the region. Specifically for PCA the bridge over the Rountree Branch behind Country Kitchen was dislodged from its foundation. The trail itself and some of its amenities were damaged by erosion. Additionally, significant sediment and debris deposits (several inches deep in some locations) covered the trail. PCA, community and University of Wisconsin-Platteville volunteers as well as city staff were instrumental in quickly completing repairs and clean-ups. Once the floodwaters receded, the bridge was lifted back onto its foundation and re-opened for use, thanks to Bob Digman and Digman Construction. Two weeks later, we received more rain which caused significant runoff and more flooding because the region's soils were already saturated. Once again the bridge was dislodged. To date, the bridge remains off of its foundation and this stream crossing of the trail remains closed. The city, with the



L-R Jerry Bartels and John Urness re-landscape the area with the new picnic table built in the spring by Rob Serres and Spider Fromader and placed on the concrete pad gifted by Bob Digman, Chad and Jay.

assistance of engineers from Delta 3, have determined modifications needed to the bridge foundation to increase its resilience to future floods. It is expected that the bridge will be re-opened in the Spring of 2019. We appreciate your patience and apologize for the inconvenience until this section of the trail reopens.

These "back-to-back" dislodgings of the bridge remind us of how we are, to a degree, at the mercy of the forces of nature.

To our knowledge, the only prior dislodging occurred in June 2008. A similar magnitude flood occurred in 2000, but this was prior to the installation of the bridge.

Good news: the new bridge along Valley Road that was installed as part of the trail paving and lighting project weathered the storm well. It was designed such that the bridge deck was higher than the floodwaters.



L-R Professional treatment of older ash tree. Street lined with healthy ash trees. Street with EAB infected trees.

Treating with insecticide works best as a preventative treatment on healthy ash trees. If your tree is not yet showing symptoms of infestation, and you want to try to save it, now is the time to start treatments. There are some insecticide products that can be applied by a homeowner and others that must be applied by a certified professional. These treatments must be repeated every one-to-three years for as long as you want to continue to protect the tree. Cost might prohibit treating all but the highest valued ash trees, however, for some this may be the best option. The City is currently protecting a handful of its high value ash trees in City Park and Legion Park.

The other remaining option is removal and replacement. Removing ash trees before they are completely dead reduces the risk of property damages or injuries caused by falling branches or trees. Once removed, we strongly encourage homeowners to plant a replacement tree. To encourage replanting, the City of Platteville has established a cost sharing program to aid homeowners with the cost of removal and replacement of ash trees. Residents within the City of Platteville can apply to share in the cost, up to \$250 per tree, for the removal and replacement of up to two ash trees per property. Additional details and application paperwork is available on the City website at [www.platteville.org/forestry](http://www.platteville.org/forestry).

[platteville.org/forestry](http://platteville.org/forestry) or for pickup in the Parks & Recreation Office at 75 N Bonson Street, Platteville, WI 53818. This cost sharing program was made possible through a grant from the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources.

EAB is going to drastically change the urban forest of Platteville. As ash trees are removed we will be losing the many benefits they provide, so it is important to plant new replacement trees as soon as possible. These small trees will not immediately provide the same benefits as a mature tree, but over time they will grow into suitable replacements. When choosing replacement trees, it is important to plant using a greater diversity of species. By not having any species dominate our urban forest we will be better able to cope with future pests, diseases, and climate changes.

## Thanking Our 2018 TRAIL BLAZERS

### \$1000+

Alliant Energy  
Max Anderson  
Community First Bank  
High Vibe Fitness  
Edward Jones/Nutrition World  
(Ben Reeves)  
L&M Corrugated  
Container Corp  
Paul Guler  
Jim Lubbe & Liz Heimerl  
Platteville Development Group  
Wisconsin Bank and Trust

### \$750 to \$999

Dupaco

### \$500 to \$749

American Bank  
Peggy & Jerry Burkard

Digman Construction  
Dan Engelke  
Heartland Credit Union  
Honkamp Krueger & Co.  
Medical Associates  
Platteville Community Fund  
Platteville Journal  
Ruby's Pantry  
Steve's Pizza Palace, Inc.  
Ubersox Chrysler, Inc.  
Ron & Jan Weier

### \$250 to \$499

Mark & Lori Adrian Family  
David & Sarah Allen  
Applied Micro  
Baker Iron Works  
Baird Materials  
Bill's Plumbing  
Andrew & Gretchen Bohnoff

Paul & Chris Budden  
Burger King  
Clare Bank  
John & Katherine Cottingham  
Country Inn & Suites  
Country Kitchen  
Dairy Queen  
Paul & Donna Digman  
Driftless Market  
Eastman Cartwright  
Edward Jones  
(Bob Hundhausen)  
Fiesta Cancun  
Kelly & Don Francis  
Robert & Elizabeth Gates  
Gobin & Allion Flooring Center  
H&R Block  
Holiday Inn Express  
J&N Stone / Rural Excavating  
Ron & Dianne Jentz

Joe & Gina Jewison  
KFC / Taco Bell  
Milio's  
Momentum Bike  
Morrissey Printing  
Southwest Landscaping  
Moundview Inn  
NAPA Auto Parts  
Pizza Hut  
Platteville Dental  
Platteville Jaycees  
Platteville McDonalds  
Platteville Optimists  
Platteville Regional Chamber  
Queen B Radio  
Super 8  
TC Networks, Inc.  
Wilma Verger  
Gene & Jan Weber



Fire has always been a natural way of managing our prairies, woodlands and wetlands. We have a tendency to suppress fires which gives weeds and non-native plants the ability to take over the area. Prescribed burns help control and clear invasive plants and also helps in maintaining the health of native plants. A burn also helps restore nutrients and helps in more

desirable plant growth.

Some members of the Platteville Fire Department did a controlled burn on the trail from the Gazebo to the East border of the Arboretum (behind Walmart and Goodwill stores). There is a plan to do one or two controlled burns now through the spring, depending on the weather.

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

thoughtful representation of our organization within the group and in the community and all his hard work.

I would like to tell you a little about myself. My family moved to Wisconsin in 1985. I graduated from UW Madison in 1990 and am an avid Badger Fan. I have worked in the Madison area my entire career until recently. In 2015 I came to Platteville to start a business and have loved being here since. When I came to Platteville, I looked for places to exercise and found the, under-construction David Canny Rountree Branch trail and fell in love. I ran the trail in the evenings avoiding the out bridges and construction obstacles. I watched the trail be completed and was surprised at the quality. This trail is nicer with better amenities (lighting, paving) than most trails in the Madison Area.

I connected with the PCA board. I began to learn the truly incredible story of community grass roots spirit, philanthropy, perseverance, volunteerism, and business sponsorship. If the world had the kind of will and collaboration that exists right here in Platteville, WI, it would be a better place. The best part of starting with the PCA board is that the heavy lifting had already been

done. But I found things to do. I learned a lot goes into keeping beautiful a 1.6 million-dollar, 3.1 mile paved and lit trail. I got rid of my share of dreaded invasive species. I learned about the passion, love, and sweat that goes into the beautiful gardens along the trail. I helped with painting of historical and informational kiosks. Also, the heavy lifting was not over, and our team of over 40 volunteers is out every week in the spring, summer, and fall tirelessly caring for the beautiful DCRB Trail.

I found my niche with the board in fundraising. Besides the human power that goes into the trail annually an amazing amount of individual and business financial support goes into maintenance of the trail. This money goes to our commitment to the city of Platteville to help with the paving maintenance of the trail. It also goes to the upkeep and repair of our equipment as well as the occasional purchase of new equipment. Last year we also hired the much needed half time coordinator position for PCA. The coordinator is the only paid PCA position. Brigid Reimann plans trail work and schedules our awesome volunteers. She also runs our social media, helps with community events and outside volunteer groups and million other things that I am sure

that I don't know. Anyway, if I have shaken your hand and asked you for money or received a check from you, thank you again for everything you have done. Your support is appreciated and goes to a wonderful cause that I hope you also enjoy personally as much as I do.

Trails are about connection: between communities, like PCA trail to the new Mound View State Trail to Belmont and the rest of the state, between people, meeting and greeting our neighbors while walking, running playing or biking, between the philanthropy and community spirit of our individuals and our businesses, or our city to events or art, history, entertainment and education. These connections are the motivation behind PCA's plans for the future. We look to make the maintenance and sustenance of the trail, 2nd nature. We look to make the river corridor a healthy part of the overall Platteville ecological environment and we hope to create events that will bring new and current users coming back to the trail. As I have said before I am very proud to be a part of this board, this group of volunteers and the Platteville Community.

*Bob Hundhausen*