



FOREST HISTORY ASSOCIATION of WISCONSIN

Woodchips

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Urban Hardwoods / Seattle's Largest Hardwood Tree

This is basically watching a ballet of wood chopping. This video shows Seattle's largest elm tree carefully cut down piece by piece in an urban area with perfect placement of ropes and the expert use of a crane and the daring knowhow of climbers. There is so much to consider when taking down a giant and they covered everything. The wood of the tree was salvaged for Urban Hardwoods. [Watch Video](#)

In the News

End of an Era: State to End Use of its 72 Forest Fire Towers

A relic of Wisconsin's northern and central forests is coming to an end. Fire towers, perched over the treetops to spot smoke and fire since the 1930s, will be taken out of service in 2016. The Department of Natural Resources says that all 72 towers will be removed from service. The agency assessed their condition and determined they are no longer safe and would be too expensive to replace. In the early 1930s, the state operated 119 fire towers. [Read More](#)

2015 Now USA's Costliest Wildfire Season on Record

The 2015 wildfire season is now the costliest on record, with \$1.71 billion spent to fight the blazes, the U.S. Forest Service said Wednesday. The previous record of \$1.67 billion, adjusted for inflation, was set in fiscal year 2002, U.S. Department of Agriculture communications director Matt Herrick said. (The Forest Service is part of the U.S.D.A.). [Read More](#)

2015: The Year in Wood Construction

It was a breakout year for wood construction, with cross-laminated timber becoming a big deal in the USA and Canada. We are big fans of wood, for a lot of reasons. Here are the biggest stories about wood that we covered in 2015. [Read More](#)

Landowners Could Get Tax Breaks Despite Closing Forestland, Under Bill

Landowners would be allowed to keep the public off more of their forest property while still getting a tax break, under a bill introduced by two Republican legislators. The state's 3.3 million-acre Managed Forest Law gives property tax reductions to owners of forestland who agree to adopt a plan to periodically log timber from the land. In exchange for paying lower property taxes, the owners now must keep the land in timber and allow citizens to use the land for hunting, fishing, hiking, sightseeing and other recreational uses. [Read More](#)

Magazines, Like Books, Are Making a Comeback

...Or are magazines, like books and bookstores, making a comeback? It appears that new magazines are being launched these days, and ironically, many of them are spinoffs from websites. In the Columbia Journalism Review, Chava Gourarie writes that Print is the "new media." Let's ignore the shocking fact that the CJR is grammatically incorrect in the title (media are plural) The fact is, print is still where the money is. That's why new magazines are being started: [Read More](#)

Electronics Recycling in Wisconsin

Electronics are one of the fastest growing parts of the waste stream, with millions of devices discarded each year in the United States. Computers, TVs, cell phones and other electronics contain valuable materials that can be recovered through responsible recycling. Electronics also contain potentially hazardous materials, such as lead and mercury, that can pose a risk to human health and the environment if not properly managed. [Read More](#) or [Watch Video](#)

Upcoming Events

Eagle Watching Events Get Underway in January

MADISON -- Bald eagle watching events kick off in Wisconsin in January and run into March as Wisconsin's growing number of bald eagles - 2015 nest surveys recently revealed a record high population -- boost opportunities to see these majestic birds and spurs more communities to add or expand events. "The increase in bald eagle populations are leading to more of these events and potentially better viewing, depending on conditions," says Rich Staffen, a Department of Natural Resources conservation biologist and raptor specialist. [Read More](#) and [More](#)