

WAA Legislative Update

by Jeff Treu

Chapter NR 40-Invasive Species

NR 40 Wisconsin's Invasive Species Identification, Classification and Control Rule NR 40, became official September 1, 2009. NR 40 is a WI DNR rule regarding specific invasive species. More information can be found at:

<http://dnr.wi.gov/invasives/classification/>.

Urban Forestry BMPs for Invasive Species in Wisconsin

One of four parallel tracks each focused on a segment of the forest resource and associated user groups. The three other tracks are: Forest Management, Right-of-way, and Recreation. The last step before the UF BMPs are finalized is presenting them to the Wisconsin Council on Forestry at their September 15th meeting. These BMPs are voluntary best management practices designed to help prevent the introduction and spread of invasives. They are not species specific, but meant to be applicable to all UF invasives in general. They were developed by UF stakeholders across Wisconsin. For more information and to view the draft document: <http://council.wisconsinforestry.org/invasives/>.

ANSI A300 Updates

No changes to ANSI A300 (Part 2)-2004 Fertilization were proposed in this revision by the ASC A300. A public review period ended Feb. 2, 2009, for BSR A300.

ANSI Z133 ASC

Z133 (Arboriculture Safety Standard Committee) met 4/28/09 for its spring business meeting. For more information, call Peggy Currid, at ISA (217) 355-9411 x210 or e-mail pcurrid@isa-arbor.com.

EAB Emerald Ash Borer

For the latest Wisconsin EAB situation report, visit the WAA website legislative issues page and click on the link http://emeraldashborer.wi.gov/first_find.jsp.

Consider adding these links to your favorites:

- <http://emeraldashborer.wi.gov/pdf/quarantinelissuesWithEAB08062008.pdf>
- <http://emeraldashborer.wi.gov/pdf/EasyGuideEABRegulations.pdf>
- <http://emeraldashborer.wi.gov/pdf/WIEABQuarantine.pdf>

EAB has been found in Vernon County Wisconsin, discovered in Victory, a small

community along the banks of the Mississippi River, about 20 miles south of La Crosse. State officials were made aware of the infestation by an observant property owner. The emerald ash borer quarantine has been expanded to include Vernon and Crawford counties 4/22/09

EAB trapping – DATCP survey staff put up approximately 8,000 traps. The season, including trap inspections and take-down, will continue through the end of August.

Wisconsin's survey effort is part of a national survey funded by a cooperative agreement with USDA APHIS 5/1/09

EAB has been found in traps in Kenosha, Brown, and (in a tree) in Milwaukee counties since last report. Public hearings on the ATCP – 21 Emergency Rule quarantine of Brown and Kenosha counties are: Tuesday, September 29, 2009, 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., Kenosha County Courthouse, Conference Room A, 19600 75th Street, Bristol, WI 53104-0550; and Wednesday, September 30, 2009, 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., Agriculture & Extension Service Center, Room 161, 1150 Bellevue St., Green Bay, WI 54302

NR 47.950

Urban Forestry Catastrophic Storm Grant passed by the Natural Resources Board at their October meeting. (Passed by legislature and since published 6/1/09). If you'd like more info on the grant program, contact UF grants manager Candice Sovinski at 608-267-3775.

Industry Practices

OSHA has published an Advance Notice of Proposed Rulemaking. ISA is making an official statement to OSHA on these issues and recommend support of the Z133 standards to OSHA.

Assembly Bill 3 / Senate Bill 5

An Act to create 94.643 of the statutes; relating to: restrictions on the use and sale of fertilizer containing phosphorus and other turf fertilizer and providing a penalty. Approved by the governor on 4-14-2009. Wisconsin Act 9.

Assembly Bill 138

Relating to the appointment and term of service of the secretary of natural resources and board vacancies. Introduced and referred to Committee on Natural Resources on 3/9/2009. For details, <http://www.legis.state.wi.us/2009/data/AB138hst.html>.

legis.state.wi.us/2009/data/AB138hst.html. (Companion bill SB113113 referred to Committee on Transportation, Tourism, Forestry, and Natural Resources.)

Assembly Bill 142

Landscape architect bill requiring a license to engage in the practice of landscape architecture. Referred to Committee on Rules 4/28/09

SB-123

Relating to regulating the transportation of aquatic plants and aquatic animals. Senate Amendment 1 offered by Senator Jauch 5/5/2009 <http://www.legis.state.wi.us/2009/data/SB123hst.html>.

Wisconsin State Budget Related to Urban Forestry

Joint Finance executive session voted 11-4 in favor to restore the UF grant program at 99% of its current funding (\$524,600 annually). Joint Finance also voted to give Urban Forestry its own appropriation and to change the appropriation to biennial. The budget passed the senate, assembly and the governor approved the budget.

Senate Bill 226 and Assembly Bill 316

Provides for increased penalties and a civil forfeiture option for plant pest violations and also includes changes that would allow Wisconsin to join the Interstate Pest Control Compact.

This could provide another source of potential funding (limited) to address pest emergencies in Wisconsin. Public hearing held for AB316 on 7/2/09.

New link added to Legislative page to Alliance for Community Trees "Hill Leaflet"

Several federal bills: http://actrees.org/files/Newsletter/leaflet_09jun3.html?tag=news.

HR 2998

The American Clean Energy and Security Act of 2009 passed the House on 8/7/09. The Senate won't tackle this bill until fall. It includes a tree planting program designed to support strategically planting shade trees to reduce ratepayers' energy demand (see page 367 of HR 2998).