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As the summer blazes on, our forests continue to grow and flowers bloom. Read on to learn more about the history of scientific forestry in the US, brown-eyed susans, and more! This month's Tree Talk features sugar maple, a favorite and sweet member of the *Acer* genus.

Top Stories



Heart(wood) of it All

This history of the lumber industry and scientific forestry in the United States is a fascinating one, complete with log jams, mansions, and forest festivals. The Cradle of Forestry, located just outside of Asheville, North Carolina, documents its beginning in a small school house on the Biltmore Estate.

[Read the Full Story](#)



What's Poppin? Phenological Fun!

Late summer blooms are in full swing and brown-eyed susans are no exception! This month's feature shows how our very own Jenny McGarvey transformed her backyard into a brown-eyed susan haven. Read on to learn more about this process and the benefits of beautiful native plant!

[Learn More](#)

Tree Talk: Sugar Maple



The month's Tree Talk features *Betula papyrifera* or white birch. An iconic species of New England, the Great Lakes states, and Canada, white birch (also called paper birch or canoe birch) is treasured for its distinctive bark. White birch is short-lived and highly dependent on disturbance for regeneration. Watch this month's video to learn more about this important pioneer species!

[Watch Now](#)

Trivia



July Trivia Reveal (pictured on the left)

The common hackberry (*Celtis occidentalis*) is a native shade tree to the Chesapeake Bay watershed and is commonly known as sugarberry or nettletree. Hackberry is easily identified by its gray-brown bark with distinct raised corky ridges and warts. On average, this resilient, fast-growing tree grows 40' – 60' tall, prefers full sun or partial sun and thrives in a variety of soil types. It can be found along rivers, streams, woodlands, rocky hillsides, limestone bluffs and in urban areas.

Hackberry is often used in urban plantings and in landscaping because of its wide soil adaptability, resiliency to tough conditions and beauty during all four seasons. It grows well in urban areas because of its high tolerance to drought, flooding, wind, salt, heat, pollution and compaction. Hackberry is also deep-rooted, meaning it is less likely to uplift sidewalks if planted correctly.

Wildlife, birds and pollinators also benefit greatly from the hackberry. The small, dark purple berries ripen in the fall and persist into the winter making them a great food source for wildlife into the colder months when food is less available. Hackberry also serves as a larval host for the American snout, Tawny Emperor, Hackberry Emperor and Mourning Cloak butterflies.

[Congrats to Forest for the Bay member J. Harris for the correct answer!]

NEW August Trivia (pictured on the right)

For this month's forest trivia, can you name this fruit and the native tree that it grows on?

Submit your answers using the button below. Correct answers will be entered to win a Forests for the Bay baseball cap.

[Submit Your Answer](#)

Think you have a forest trivia question sure to stump your fellow Forests for the Bay members? Email it to us at forestsforthebay@gmail.com and we will include it as a future trivia question!

News Around the Watershed

General/Watershed Wide

- [Eastern Hemlocks Face Extinction. A Tiny Fly Could Save Them](#)
- [New report: State of the science on western wildfires, forests and climate change](#)
- [Trees Are Climate Change, Carbon Storage Heroes](#)
- [Forest Health- Scout It Out!](#)
- [Formidable jaws deserve applause](#)
- [Agroforestry Is Key to Cleaning Up Waterways and the Chesapeake Bay](#)
- [Can a forest survive a wildfire? Washington experts are testing it](#)
- [Sizing Up How Agriculture Connects to Deforestation](#)

D.C.

[New Specialty License Plates Will Support Local D.C. Wildlife](#)

Maryland

- [Fierce storms fell scores of trees in D.C., Maryland](#)
- [Maryland wildlife refuge fights to protect American history from climate change](#)

New York

- [To York New York NYC's Heat Islands, Scientists Recruit Residents in Hardest-Hit Neighborhoods](#)
- [New York City's Hidden Old-Growth Forests](#)

Pennsylvania

- [Keeping Track of Pennsylvania's Resurgent Black Bear Population](#)
- [Reports Of Mysterious Bird Disease Decreasing In Pennsylvania](#)
- [USDA study finds COVID-19 antibodies in Pa. deer, first sign of wild animals' virus exposure](#)
- [DCNR Announces New Conservation Measures On State Forests To Protect Bats](#)
- [A North Philadelphia grower is planting an orchard on a vacant lot](#)

Virginia

- [Pitching in for the Next Generation of Trees at the Augusta Forestry Center](#)
- [Urban Forestry Comes Full Circle](#)

Get Involved

Webinars

- [Controlling Japanese Knotweed in Parks and Landscapes](#)
When: Tuesday, August 24, 2021, 12:00 pm
- [Nature's Odd Couple: Spotted Salamanders and Algae](#)
When: Thursday, August 26, 2021, 7:00 pm to 8:00 pm
- [Optimizing Ecosystem Services from Longleaf Pine: Balancing Carbon Sequestration with Watershed Health](#)
When: Monday, August 30, 2021, 2:00 pm
- [Breakfast on the Bay: Ecolatinos](#)
When: Wednesday, September 1, 2021, 12:00 pm to 1:00 pm
- [Mystery Songbird Disease: Knowns, Unknowns, and Actions to Take](#)
When: Thursday, September 9, 2021, 7:00 pm
- [Using Natural Ecological Communities Research with Glenn Tobin](#)
When: Thursday, September 9, 2021, 7:30 pm to 9:00 pm
- [Community Forestry Webinars: The Role of Climate Change on Forest Trees, Including Fall Coloration, in the Eastern U.S.](#)
When: Wednesday, September 15, 2021, 12:00 pm

D.C.

[Tregaron Conservancy Tree Walk with Capital Nature](#)
When: Sunday, August 29, 2021, 10:00 am to 11:30 am
Where: , 3100 Macomb Street, Washington , DC 20008

Maryland

[Woods in your Backyard- Harford](#)
When: Saturday, October 16, 2021, 9:00 am to 12:00 pm
Where: Harford Glen Environmental Education Center, 502 West Wheel Road, Bel Air, MD 21015
Contact: Craig Highfield, chighfield@allianceforthebay.org

Pennsylvania

[Invasive Species in Rural Pennsylvania](#)
When: Tuesday, August 24, 2021, 10:00 am to 12:00 pm

[Woods in Your Backyard- Lancaster](#)
When: Friday, September 3, 2021, 9:00 am to 12:00 pm
Where: Millport Conservancy, 737 E Millport Road, Lititz, PA 17543

[Woods in Your Backyard- Bedford](#)
When: Friday, September 3, 2021, 1:00 pm to 5:00 pm
Where: Mike and Laura Jackson Property, 8621 Black Valley Road, Everett, PA 15537

2021 Pennsylvania Forestry Association Annual Symposium

When: Saturday, October 9, 2021,
When: Friday, October 1, 2021, 1:00 pm to 4:00 pm
Where: Penn State Deibler Tract, 3030 W Pine Grove Road, Pennsylvania Furnace, PA 16865

Virginia

[Learn the Trees of Shenandoah Mountain](#)
When: Saturday, September 11, 2021, 10:00 am to 12:00 pm
Where: Hone Quarry Campground, Hone Quarry Road, Dayton, VA 22821

[Woods in your Backyard- Madison](#)
When: Tuesday, September 14, 2021, 9:00 am to 12:00 pm
Where: Hoover Ridge Park, 158 Primary School Drive, Madison, Va 22727

[Woods in Your Backyard- Loudoun](#)
When: Friday, September 17, 2021, 1:00 pm to 4:00 pm
Where: Willowsford Conservancy, 41145 Shasta Daisy Court, Aldie, VA 20105

