

Forester's Report 2012-9-30

No burning permits were issued since the last Forester's Report and I recommend no brush burning until we get a substantial period of rain or winter snow.

Fire Chief, John Maczko, and I surveyed city streets and private lanes with an eye toward adequate access for fire fighting equipment. We found that all city streets allow good access for their largest fire truck (approximately 12.5 feet tall). Various private driveways and shared driveways have less open access. The further the fire truck must park from a residence the longer it takes to set up to fight a fire and the more difficult it is to manage bringing in water since I believe that Sunfish Lake has only one fire hydrant. An article with photos is in the works for the next SFL Quarterly.

Street tree clearance pruning has been completed along Salem Church Road. Along Charlton Road several stumps were ground near the street edge and burdock plants with seedheads were removed to prevent seed dispersal along the ditches.

The young trees planted in Musser Park last year have been watered twice in September, the deer protection tubes have been reinstalled, large branches were cleared from the trail through Musser park and the trail has been mowed.

No new news regarding emerald ash borer.

Our continuing lack of rain means that watering your young and special trees is very important as we go through fall and into winter.

Jim Nayes
City Forester