David S. Bienemann Municipal Arborist City of Bowling Green

# Emergency Storm Mitigation ISA Annual Conference August 5, 2014

## Objectives

- What's in for the Community?
- Arborist What's in it for You!
- Inventory of Trees GPS/Wind Shield Survey/i-Tree
- Urban ForestryManagement Plan

- Tree Risk Assessment
- Budget, Goals, and Objection/Action Plan
- Educate the Decision Makers
- Educate the Public
- Implement the Action Plan
- Follow Up and Evaluate

## What's in it for the community?

#### REDUCED OVERTIME & PROPERTY DAMAGE



#### **PROVIDING ANSWERS**

- We promote the professional practice of urban forestry, foster public awareness of benefits of trees, and increase the extent and condition of our urban and community forest.
- Provide information to decision makers such as mayors, town council, and other city leaders on how much to invest in the management and care of trees.
- How much is known about the environmental services and benefits trees provide on an annual basis?
- How much is known about possible storm threats to the community forest?

## Arborist – What's in it for you?

#### EACH CITY HAS LARGE, MATURE TREES THAT MAKE THE COMMUNITY

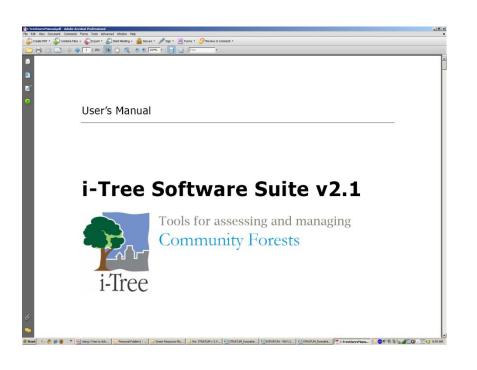
## PRESERVATION OF CANOPIED STREET TREES

- Implement an urban forestry program that incorporate storm mitigation and tree risk assessment from day.
- Creditability to you and your staff when requesting money for budgets to manage and care for the urban forestry.
- Educate the public of benefits of trees and need for proper tree planting, proper tree care and insect/disease diagnosis.
- The dividends will pay off in the longterm when you need to remove trees that become a public safety concern.



## **Urban Forestry Inventory**

#### I-TREE - STREETS

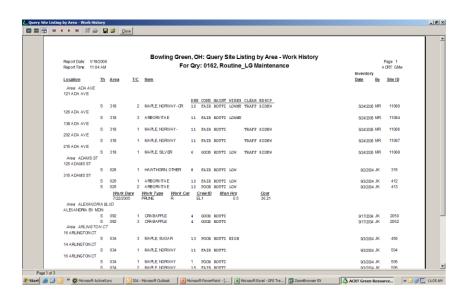


#### STATUS OF INVENTORY

- No Inventory/No Data
- Wind Survey Review a percentage of trees to determine a plan
- 100% GPS/GIS Data base of Street & Park Trees
- i-Tree Software

## **Urban Forestry Management Plan**

- GPS/GIS Street Tree Inventory Database.
- Work History and Cost Analysis System.
- Tracks Customer Calls
- Track Storm Foot Print
- Run customized queries to capture tree related data.



#### Tree Risk Assessment

#### WHAT TREES NEED TO ADDRESSED IMMEDIATELY

- In 2005 GIS Inventory Data
- Removal\_1 Rating Immediate
   Target 250 Trees
- Removal\_2 Rating 85 Trees –
   No Immediate Target
- Priority Prune\_1 Immediate
   Targets 174 Trees
- Priority Prune\_2 No Immediate targets – 342 Trees
- Routine LG 3318 Trees
- Routine SM 2224 Trees
- Train 1100

## LIGHTING STRIKE TO 85 FEET TALL AND 42 DBH ASH TREE



### Tree Risk Assessment

#### FIELD INSPECTIONS

- City Staff to inspect all Priority Removal and Priority Prune in the field.
- Assess each tree to the immediate targets (i.e. – public, homes, cars)
- Create a scheduled for the priority trees starting with worst first.
- Review prior foot print of past weather events that caused tree damage in the city.
- Create budget dollars for labor, equipment, and resources to address the priority trees.

#### DEAD LOCUST ADJACENT TO SR25 (MAIN ST.) AND POWER LINES



## Implementing Priority Project

#### **NEW STREET PLANTING IN BG**



### WHAT ARE THE BENEFITS TO BOWLING GREEN?

- Value of the Green infrastructure.
- Energy Conservation
- Storm Water Control EPA Reports
- Growth Award Project for Tree City USA.
- National Recognition of Bowling Green's Urban Forestry Program.

## Reduced Budgets Due to Economy

#### ECONOMIC IMPACTS TO THE CITY OF BOWLING GREEN

- Loss of tax revenue to Bowling Green in 2008-2009.
- In 2008, Sky bank closed and was purchased by Huntington Bank.
- In 2008, Rexam Plastics closed in December. Palm Plastics has leased plant.
- In 2009, Henry Filter closed.
- In 2009, Auto Suppliers plants have temporarily reduced workforce due to car industry shutdowns in 2009.
- City tax revenue down 5% in 2009.

#### MONEY DOWN THE DRAIN



## **Economic Impacts to Budget**

#### ECONOMIC IMPACTS TO BG URBAN FORESTRY

- Used i-Tree reports and data to justify tree care and maintenance programs for 2009-2012 budgets.
- Used i-Tree reports and data to minimize the amount of money reduced from 2009 2012 budgets.
- City Administration, City Council, Board of Public Utilities, and City Department Directors' received copies of the i-Tree Municipal Forest Resource Analysis on August annually.
- PDF copies of the i-Tree Municipal Forest Resource Analysis to be posted on the City website by October.

#### SLIPPERY ELM BIKETRAIL



#### Budget, Goals, Objective, Action Plan

#### BUDGETS FOR DOWNTOWN REVITALIZATION IN BG 2000



#### **CHALLENGES OF BUDGETS**

- Inventory Data Back Up the Facts Total Number of Trees to address in City.
- Prioritize the Trees Determine number of hours per tree and multiple by the crew rate (bucket & chipper, tree crane, Frontend loader, 2.5 dump truck)
- Excel Template Have data in presentable fashion for the Decision Makers.
- GIS Software Reports Queries can be run on tree size, condition, species, and location.
- Asset Valuations based on urban forestry data primarily from GIS Survey. Help the Decision Makers and public understand the need for budget dollars.

## Goals & Objectives of Program

- In 2005, the city has total of 7500 street trees.
- 851 of the trees are labeled as priority trees (11.3%)
- Contract out priority tree removals and prunes in 2005.

- No Tree Crew in PWS.
- 2 man crew in Electric Division.
- Trees were done as reaction to storm damage.
- Focused on tree plantings with no follow up care.
- Lots of Overtime!

## Goals & Objectives of Program

#### **GOALS & OBJECTIVES**

- Tree Work: Remove all priority removals and priority prunes over 3 years.
- Budget: \$56,000 in 2005, \$40,000 in 2006.
- **Labor:** Request to hire 2 new PWS employees in the Arborist Division in 2007.
- Equipment: Purchase new bucket truck, chipper, chains saws (12) and stump cutter in 2008.
- Resources: Zero budget dollars in 2004 to \$300,000 in 2005 Arborist Division plus Electric Division \$200,000 (In Kind) and Public Works \$200,000 (In Kind).
- Nelson Tree Service was contracted in 2005 through 2007 to remove and prune the priority trees in BG. Time & Materials Contract base don an hourly rate for a two man crew & equipment.

#### SILVER MAPLE STORM DAMAGE IN OAK GROVE CEMETERY



## **Educating the Decision Makers**

#### CITY OFFICIALS

- Mayor
- Administrator
- Assistant Administrator
- Public Works Director
- Utility Director
- Planning & Zoning Director
- Parks & Rec. Director
- Finance Director
- IT Department
- Tree Commission

#### **DANGEROUS WATERS**



## Educate the Public/Schools

#### ARBOR DAY PROGRAM

- 8200 Managed Street Trees
- Green Infrastructure Asset
   Valued at \$6,099,884
- Canopy cover is the driving force of the urban forest's ability to produce benefits for the community.
- City of Bowling Green has invested \$2,500,000 in the program from 2004-2012.

### ARBOR DAY PROGRAM - ST. KENWOOD ELEMNETARY



#### **Educate the Public**

#### **MEETINGS & TRAINING**

- Offer 3 free public educational seminars on urban forestry.
- Hosted 2011 NW Ohio Tree City USA Awards Ceremony in April 2011.
- Hosting Bucket Truck, Chipper and Chainsaw Certification training for NW Ohio Cities in Fall 2012.
- Hosting 2012 UAA EAB Summit at the OARDC OSU Campus.

## HOSTING EDUCATIONAL SEMINARS IN BOWLING GREEN



## Implement the Action Plan

- Remove the critical trees first.
- Rotary Nature Center with dead black locust trees overhang the roof. Very emotional for public.
- Perform the work during the dorm season (November through March).
- Contacted residents and businesses six month in advance to allow for questions.
- Articles in local newspaper on Priority Tree Program.
- Public meetings on the priority tree program.



## Implement the Action Plan

#### **AERIAL INSPECTIONS**

- Priority prunes required aerial inspections to determine if the tree should be removed.
- Take pictures of each tree with defects for documentation and questions by citizens or city council at future date.
- Provide the facts, data and answers to the decision makers on weekly basis with first program.

## ROT I UPPER CANOPY OF SILVER MAPLE



## Implement the Action Plan

#### I-TREE REPORT DATA

- Tree Removals Critical part of Urban Forestry Program. BG crews remove 205 trees per year.
- Significantly reduce property damage, power outages, and overtime costs to the city.
- EAB, Gypsy Moth, ALB and other invasive pests/diseases can impact a tree removal program.
- Cyclical Pruning ideal is 5-10 year frequency of pruning street trees.
- BG crews prune 1350 trees per year.

#### **HOLLOW TREE REMOVAL**



## Priority Trees Update 2012

#### PRIORITY REMOVAL – SIBERIAN ELM



#### 2004 - 2012 DATA

- 250 Removal\_1 16 left (Private Property)
- 85 Removal\_2 10 left (Private Property)
- 174 Prune\_1 125 left and 49 removed (7 Private Property).
- 342 Prune\_2 277 left and 65 were removed (18 Private Property).

## Using i-Tree to Mitigate Storm Damage

#### I-TREE REPORT DATA

- 139 Tree Species identified in BG.
- Five Predominate Species:
- Crab Apple (9.3%)
- Norway Maple (7.4%)
- Honey Locust (6.0%)
- Pear (5.2%)
- Silver Maple (4.4%)
- White and Green Ash (0.7%) 2012
- This is of concern because of the Emerald Ash Borer's impact and silver maple are large, weakwooded trees. A large portion of the tree canopy will be lost with removal of white ash and silver maple.

#### SILVER MAPLE REMOVAL



## Mitigate Storm Damage

#### ROTARY NATURE CENTER



#### THE GOOD OF I-TREE

- New Tree Establishment
- City's total investment per new tree planted is \$300.
- 10-20-30 Rule of Planting Diversity.
- Tree-Related Maintenance
   Activities such sidewalks,
   visibility, street signs, business
   signs and narrow tree lawns.
- Overhead utility line conflicts.
- 10% of the manage trees under power lines.

## Bring In Research Projects

#### EXPOSE BOWLING GREEN'S URBAN FORESTRY PROGRAM TO US.

- Bring in Urban Forestry Research Projects to BG.
- Two EAB Research Projects and One Species Diversity Research Project.
- BG Municipal Arborist asked to speak across the Midwest on EAB Management Plans and Urban Forestry.
- Network Urban Forestry Professionals in Ohio and across the US.

#### OSU EAB RESEARCHERS AT WATER POLLUTION CONTROL PLANT.



## **Storm Mitigation**

#### EMERALD ASH BORER ON WHITE ASH LOG IN RESEARCH PLOT.



#### I-TREE REPORT DATA

- Age Structure of Urban Forest in BG: Ideal 2012
- 47.7% Young Trees (< 6 inches in dbh)</li>
- 23% Established Trees (6-12 in. dbh)
- 21.8% maturing Tree (12<24 in dbh)</li>
- 7.5% Mature Trees (>24 in dbh)
- Condition of Trees:
- 73.0% are Good.
- 22.1 % are Fair.
- 4.7% are Poor.
- o.2% are Dead. (Priority Removals)
- Tree Canopy: 88 acres or 1.06% of the total land area in BG (80 acres).

#### I-TREE REPORT DATA

- \$4,157,808 is the Value of Street Trees (\$3,656,871).
- \$2,443,013 is the Value of the Park Trees and Oak Grove Cemetery (-\$20,000).
- Benefit-Cost Ratio is 258%
   Return (226%).
- Energy Savings is \$220,170
   per year for electric and gas (\$169,559).

#### **FALL COLOR IN BG**



#### BG TREE COMMISSION – 2012 ARBOR DAY POSTER CONTEST



#### I-TREE REPORT DATA

- Carbon Dioxide Reduction: Tree reduces 1630 tons (After Ash removal 1443).
- Air Pollution Control: Trees reduce 1 ton of particulate matter.
- Avoided Pollutants" Tree reduced plant emissions by 4.6 tons (After ash removal 4.3 tons).
- Storm Water Reduction: Trees intercept 7,447,550 gallons of stormwater annually (after ash removal 6,708,716).
- Trees add to the Aesthetic, Social, Economic, and Property Values in Bowling Green.

### CITY ADMINISTRATION BUILDING TREE PLANTING



#### I-TREE REPORT DATA

- New Tree Establishment City has planted an average 300-350 trees per year form 2003-2012 using 10-20-30 rule of diversity.
- Resulted in 11% increase in the tree stocking levels.
- As trees continue to grow the cost to maintain the trees increase.
- Average invest in a city planted tree is \$300.

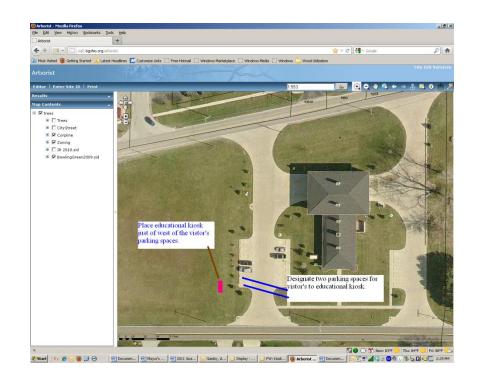
#### I-TREE REPORT DATA

- Sidewalk Conflicts -255 sites or 3.2% of total public trees.
- 49 required immediate attention and remaining 206 required grinding.
- Overhead utility power lines – 10% of the citymanaged tree canopy is within 10 feet of an overhead utility.

### WHITE ASH REMOVAL BY BG MUNICIPAL POWER LINES



- i-Tree has helped improve the long-term benefits of managing of an urban forest to the city leadership and citizens.
- i-Tree is tool in the tool box an urban forestry manger can use to compliment the urban forestry program.
- i-Tree can help small and large communities to move the urban forestry program forward.
- New Street Tree ID Kiosk
   Planned in BG to start 2012.

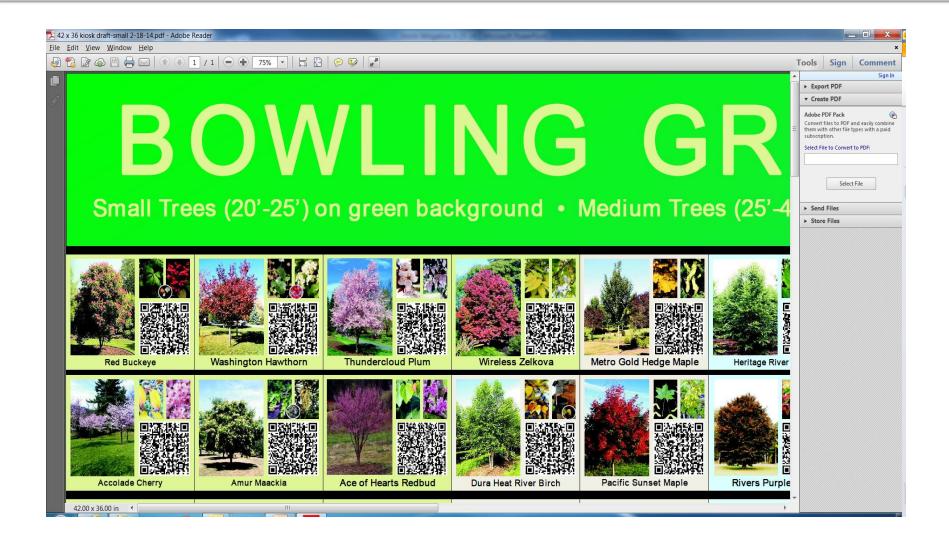


## **Educational Street Tree Kiosk**

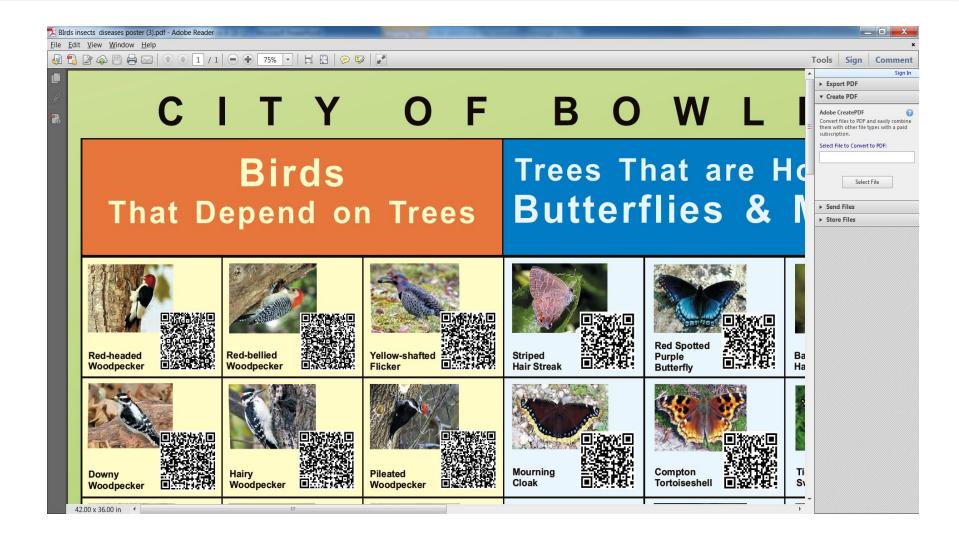


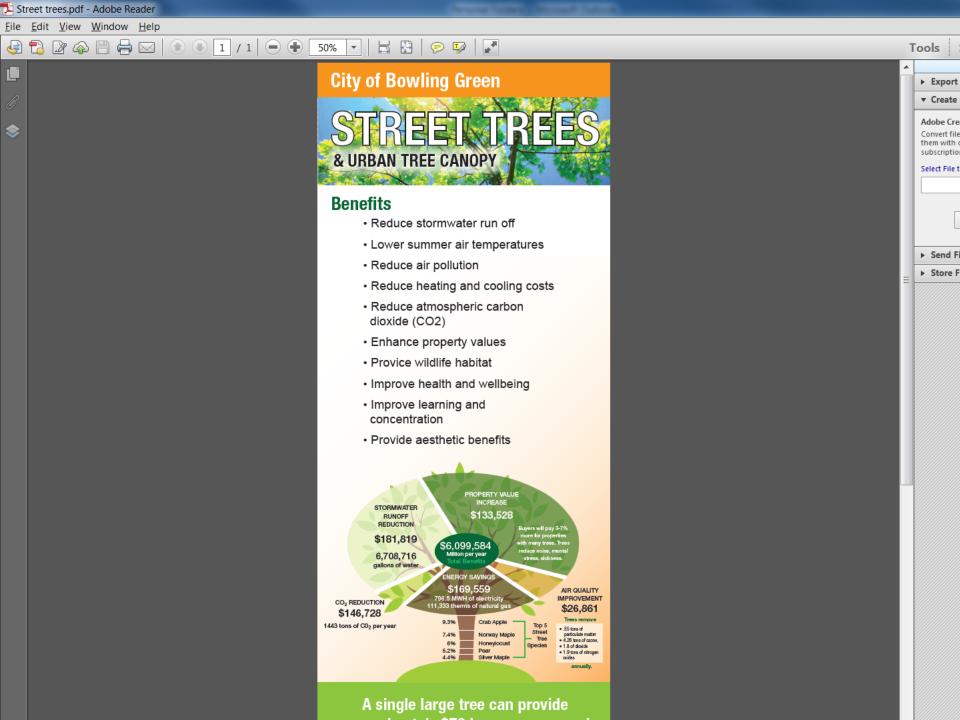


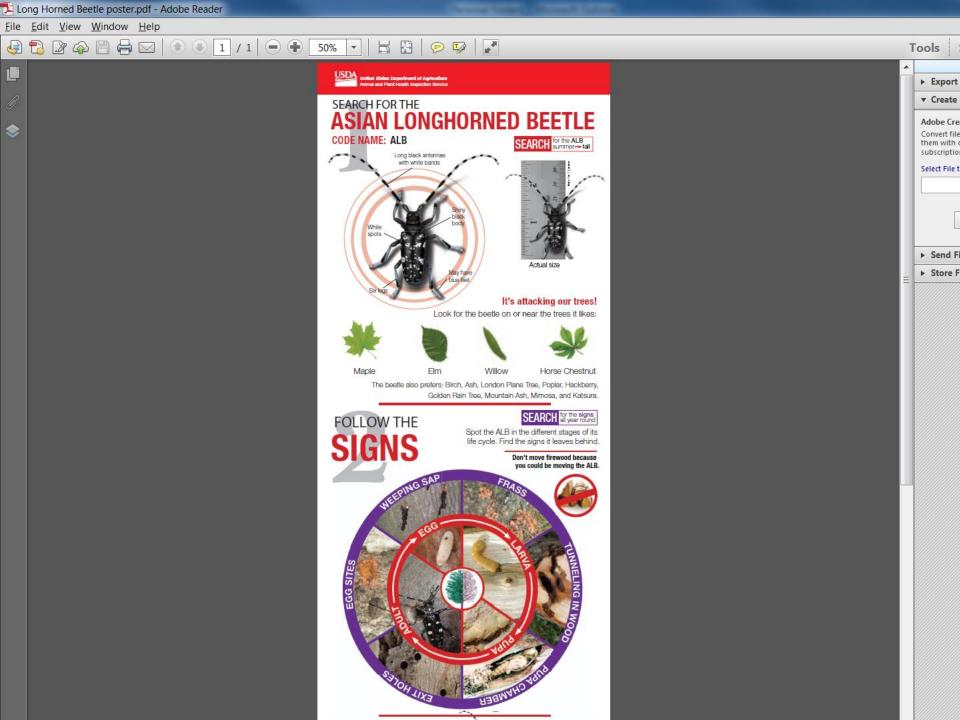
#### **Educational Street Tree Kiosk**

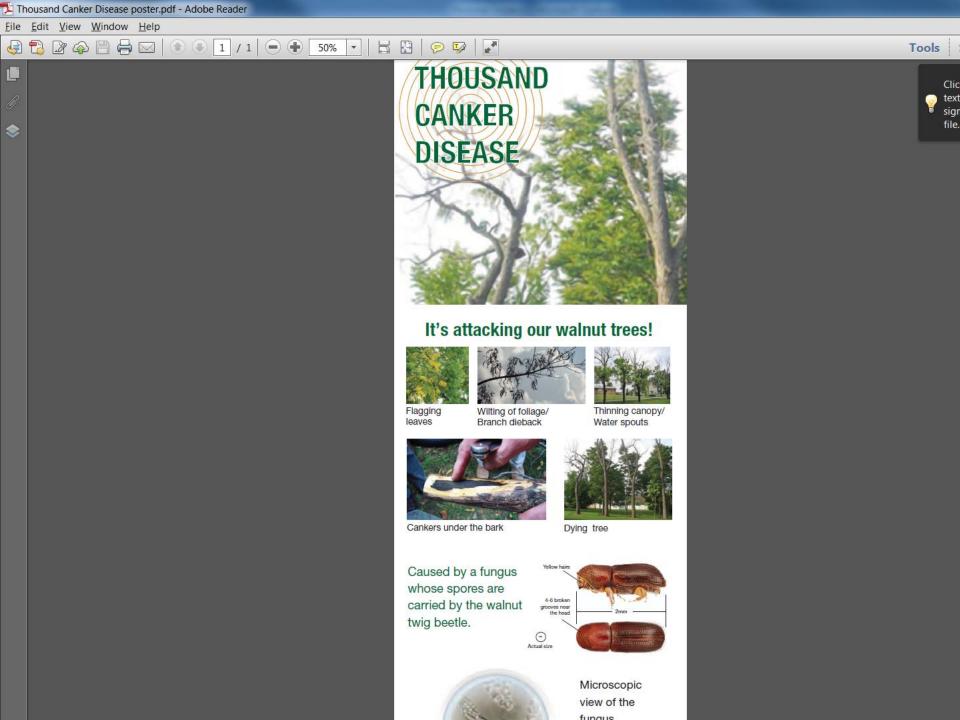


## **Educational Street Tree Kiosk**







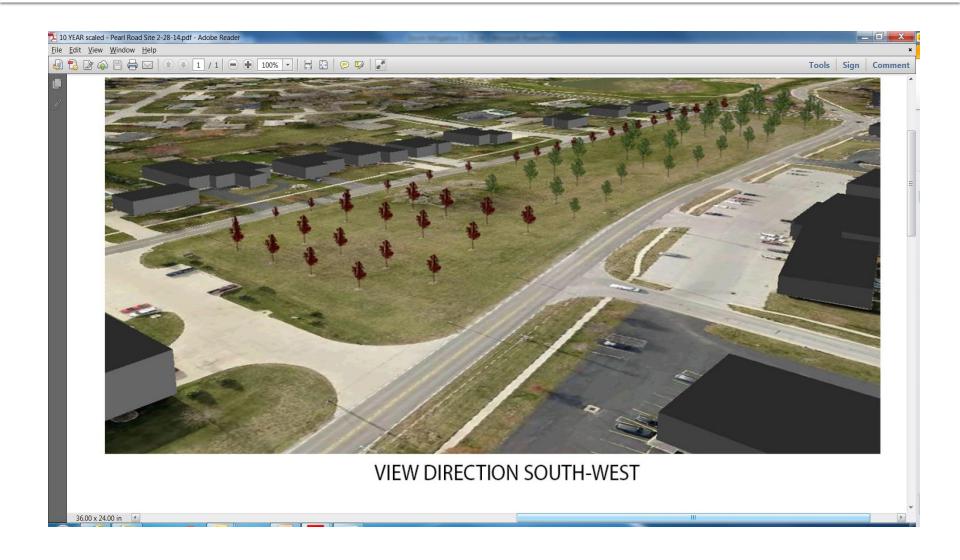


# **Educational Kiosk**





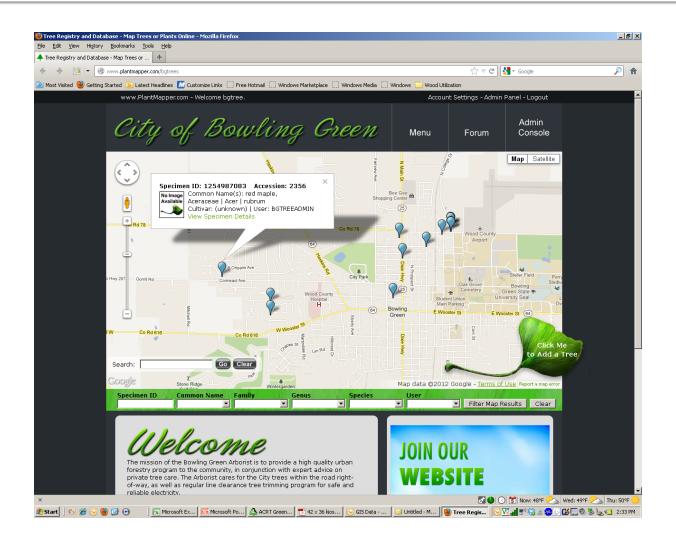
#### Arboretum on Kiosk Site in 10 Years



### Arbroetum on Kiosk Site in 30 Years



# Plantmapper.com



# **BG Urban Forestry Wall of Fame**



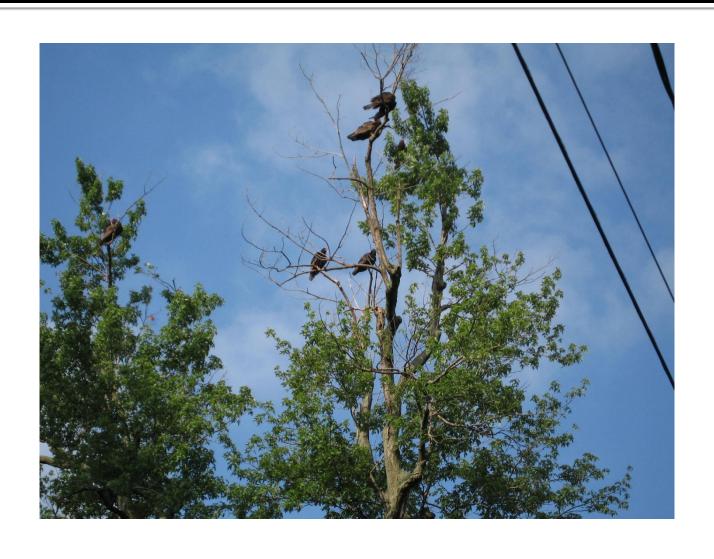
#### **Trained Pointers for EAB Detection**







#### **Borer Buzzards for EAB Detection**



#### New Ash Tree Pest Identified in BG



# Imported from Eygpt



#### Felinis declinus aka Cat Scratch Fever!



# Take Away:

- During a Major Weather Event Count the actual number of tree related calls in the first hour and divide by ten is the minimum number of crews you should call out for storm work. Example: 100 tree related calls / 10 = 10 tree crews for the first 16 hours.
- Public Education, Arbor Day and Education of City Decision Makers will help you mitigate storm damage.

### **QUESTIONS??????**

#### FLY FISHING SALMON MICHIGAN

#### **RACHEL'S' 8 POINT BUCK**



