



**MERRILL**  
**WISCONSIN**  
*City Of Parks*

# CITY OF MERRILL

## Parks & Recreation Dept. - Smith Center

1100 Marc Dr. • Merrill, Wisconsin • 54452  
Rec. Dept. Telephone (715) 536-7313 • Smith Center Telephone (715) 536-6187  
Fax (715) 539-2790

### JUNE MEETING NOTICE

The Merrill Parks and Recreation Commission will have a meeting on **Wednesday, June 7, 2017 at 4:15 p.m.**, at the **Smith Center**.

Voting members of Commission: John Burgener, Jean Ravn, Brian Artac, Melissa Schroeder, Dave Sukow, Ben Debroux and Michael Willman.

The following items will be included on the agenda:

1. Approve minutes from previous meeting.
2. Approve claims.
3. Public Comment
4. Update on Outdoor Recreation Plan.
5. Update on Normal Park Restroom Project.
6. Monthly reports.
7. Set date for next meeting.
8. Public comment
9. Adjournment
10. Bierman Family Aquatic Center Visit.

Submitted by

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Mike Willman". The signature is written in a cursive style with a small "dms" written below the name.

Mike Willman, Chairperson  
Parks and Recreation Commission

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## PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION

May 3, 2017

The Merrill Parks and Recreation Commission met on Wednesday, May 3, 2017 at 4:15 p.m. at the Merrill City Hall.

Members Present: John Burgener, Brian Artac, Melissa Schroeder, Dave Sukow, Jean Ravn, Ben Debroux and Mike Willman

Members Excused Absent:

Department Staff Present: Dan Wendorf and Dawn Smith

Visitors: City Administrator Dave Johnson, Erik Pfantz, Kandy Peterson, Fred Heider NCWRPC and Mary Ball

\*\*\*Motion by Sukow, seconded by Artac to approve the minutes from the April meeting.

\*\*\*Carried unanimously.

\*\*\*Motion by Burgener, seconded by Schroeder, to approve the claims.

\*\*\*Carried Unanimously.

The first item on the agenda was to review/approve Normal Park Restroom bids. Wendorf stated that he would like to thank Rod Akey for all his hard work on this project. Linda Becker from the Merrill City Band was present and announced that the City Band will give a minimum of \$25,000.00 towards the Normal Park restrooms. Wendorf stated that they received 3 bids. J & J Lee Construction Co., Inc. bid a base bid of \$148,937.00 and base and alternate bid of \$156,047.00, Finnegan Construction, Inc., bid \$146,076.00 and base and alternate bid of \$161,103.00, S.D. Ellenbecker Inc., bid of \$170,831.00 and base and alternate bid of \$180,976.00. Alternate bid is an addition of one toilet in each restroom. Wendorf stated that all the construction companies have done work for the city in the past and do a good job.

\*\*\*Motion by Schroeder, seconded by Burgener to approve the bid from J & J Lee Construction Co., Inc. in the amount of \$156,047.00 for base plus alternate.

\*\*\*Carried Unanimously.

The next item on the agenda was a continued discussion on 5 year Outdoor Recreation Plan. Wendorf stated that Fred Heider NCWRPC was here to discuss some plans for the 5 year Outdoor Recreation Plan. Mary Ball questioned why this all had to be done. Wendorf explained without having a 5 year Outdoor Recreation Plan the Park and Recreation Department could not apply for or receive state or federal grants or stewardship money. Fred Heider NCWRPC will be posting a Wiki map online for people to review and comment about the changes Fred is proposing for the 5 year Outdoor Recreation Plan. Sukow commented that he feels we should not be adding anymore to our list because there are already projects on the list from previous years that have not been completed.

The next item on the agenda was to discuss potential evening fees for Bierman Family Aquatic Center. Wendorf is proposing a rate of \$2.00 from 5 – 7 p.m. for ages 2-61 and \$1.00 for 62 + year, military and non-swimmers. Wendorf stated that other aquatic centers do the same thing

and if it does not work out we can change next year again. Wendorf feels this will be more appealing to the public.

\*\*\*Motion by Schroeder, seconded by Artac to change the evening prices at the Bierman Aquatic Center to \$2.00 from 5 – 7 p.m. for ages 2-61 and \$1.00 for 62 + year, military and non-swimmers.

\*\*\*Carried Unanimously.

The next item on the agenda was potential authorization from Commission to authorize Parks & Recreation Director/City Engineer to approve River Bend trail east extension bids. Wendorf stated that the bids are due next week for the project and instead of calling a special meeting he and City Engineer Rod Akey could approve the bid for the project. Wendorf also stated if bids were not all in alignment they would hold off and review with commission. Wendorf also said City Attorney was alright with it.

\*\*\*Motion by Sukow, seconded by Ravn to give authorization to Director Wendorf and City Engineer Rod Akey to approve a bid for the River Bend trail east extension bid.

\*\*\*Carried Unanimously.

The next item on the agenda was an update from Merrill Youth Hockey Association on Smith Center contract. Wendorf stated that Merrill Youth Hockey has been very happy with the contract between the City of Merrill and Merrill Youth Hockey. Wendorf did state that Merrill Youth Hockey will not be giving Merrill Ice Reflections their donation and Merrill Ice Reflections is good with that, both organizations have been working together.

The next item on the agenda is an update and status of upcoming City Forest Timber sale. Wendorf stated that he has been taking with Rich LaVally from the DNR and Rich LaVally assures Wendorf that the sale is getting ready to take place and everything will move forward as scheduled.

The next item on the agenda was monthly board reports. Wendorf asked if anyone had any questions. Wendorf stated that parks are opened up and ball fields are ready to go. Programs have been filling up and the Bierman Family Aquatic Center is set to open on Friday, June 9 at 12:00 noon.

\*\*\*Motion by Sukow, seconded by Schroeder to approve the monthly board report given by Wendorf.

\*\*\*Carried unanimously.

The next regular meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, June 7, 2017 at 4:15 p.m. at the Smith Center.

Public comment: none

\*\*\*Motion by Sukow, seconded by Artac to adjourn at 5:25 p.m.

\*\*\*Carried unanimously.

Dawn Smith, Recording Secretary

## MAY

ACE HARDWARE	CLEANING SUPPLIES	5/9/2017		\$8.07	55400-03-50000
ACE HARDWARE	BULB METAL	4/20/2017		\$65.98	55200-08-40000
ACE HARDWARE	PARTS FOR SHOP	4/21/2017		\$27.99	55200-03-40000
ACE HARDWARE	KEY CUT	4/26/2017		\$23.88	55200-03-4000
ACE HARDWARE	GLOVES	4/26/2017		\$17.98	55200-03-40000
ACE HARDWARE	BONNET POLISHING	5/2/2017		\$13.28	55400-03-50000
ACE HARDWARE	MR. CLEAN	5/3/2017		\$20.76	55400-03-50000
AJ CONTRACT SERVICES	START UP COST	5/16/2017	35390	\$2,725.00	55420-03-50000
AMERICAN RAMP COMPANY	ROLL ON MAX GRIP	4/28/2017	23779	\$896.75	55200-08-91000
AMERICAN WELDING	CYLINDER RENTALS	4/30/2017	646	\$82.68	55200-02-15000
AMERICAN WELDING	CYLINDER RENTALS	4/30/2017	929	\$112.57	55200-02-15000
APPLIED	PARTS FOR SHOP	5/5/2017		\$636.92	55200-08-91000
ATCO INTERNATIONAL	QUATRO URINALS	4/26/2017	10484200	\$224.00	55200-03-40000
ATCO INTERNATIONAL	FIRST AID KITS	4/28/2017	123383	\$392.63	55400-03-50000
AUTO PARTS	ADAPTER	4/26/2017	655542	\$9.69	55200-03-50000
BAUMGART WASTE REMOVAL	GARBAGE PICKUP	6/1/2017		\$30.00	55400-02-23600
BURGOYNE'S TOILET RENTAL	TOILET RENTAL	4/26/2017	54161	\$990.00	55200-02-15000
CARQUEST	DVI6 MASTERBLEND	4/21/2017	50717	\$14.00	55200-03-40000
CLASSIC CLEANERS	DRY CLEAN BUNNY SUIT	4/25/2017		\$16.71	55300-03-41500
COLOR CREATIONS	BARLEYFEST TICKETS	5/12/2017		\$73.80	BARLEYFEST
ELLI WILK	SECURITY DEPOSIT	5/25/2017	VOUCHER	\$50.00	10-21-7200
FASTENAL	PARTS FOR SHOP	6/1/2017	94870	\$10.24	55200-03-40000
FERGUSON ENTERPRISE	PARTS FOR SHOP	4/21/2017	105637	\$237.86	55200-03-40000
FERGUSON ENTERPRISE	PARTS FOR SHOP	5/25/2017	3913956	\$92.34	55200-03-40000
G & K SERVICES	UNIFORMS	4/20/2017	1016539979	\$81.08	55200-03-46000
G & K SERVICES	UNIFORMS	4/27/2017	6016542791	\$81.08	55200-03-46000
G & K SERVICES	MATS/MOPS	5/11/2017	6016548387	\$290.44	55400-02-23250
GREEN LAWN UNDERGROUND SPRINKLERS	BROADLEAF WEED CONTROL	5/16/2017	17-00303	\$2,800.00	55200-08-91225
HEARTLAND COOPERATIVE	GLYPROS	4/26/2017	234059	\$189.52	55200-08-91000
HEARTLAND COOPERATIVE	SUPPLIES FOR SHOP	4/17/2017	2337876	\$94.76	55200-08-91000

HEARTLAND COOPERATIVE	TURF MX	4/25/2017	234009	\$163.93	55200-08-91000
LIFEGUARD STORE	SUPPLIES FOR AQUATIC CENTER	5/22/2017	547287	\$428.55	55420-03-40000
LINCOLN COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT	RENEWAL	6/30/2027		\$275.00	55420-03-40500
LINCOLN COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT	RENEWAL	6/30/2017		\$192.00	55420-03-40500
LINCOLN COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT	RENEWAL	6/30/2017		\$165.00	55420-03-40500
LINCOLN COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT	RENEWAL	6/30/2017		\$105.00	55420-03-40500
LINCOLN COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT	RENEWAL	6/30/2017		\$275.00	55420-03-40500
LINCOLN WOOD PRODUCTS	GLASS	4/28/2017	705007-0	\$29.00	CASH PAYMENT
MELINA MORDEN	SECURITY DEPOSIT	5/25/2017	VOUCHER	\$50.00	10-21-7200
MERRILL FOTO NEWS/COURIER	ADVERTISING	4.30-17		\$740.50	55400-03-41000
MERRILL FOTO NEWS/COURIER	NORMAL PARK BATHROOM	4/30/2017		\$120.00	CAPITAL PROJECT
MERRILL FOTO NEWS/COURIER	RIVER BEND TRAIL	4/30/2017		\$120.00	RIVER BEND TRAIL
MERRILL SHEET METAL	SECURITY DEPOSIT	5/2/2017	VOUCHER	\$50.00	10-21-7200
MERRILL STREET DEPARTMENT	P-14	4/25/2017	8482	\$521.77	55200-03-50000
MERRILL STREET DEPARTMENT	P-14	4/5/2017	8456	\$569.95	55200-03-50000
MERRILL STREET DEPARTMENT	P-6	4/4/2017	8453	\$74.70	55200-03-50000
MERRILL STREET DEPARTMENT	P-4	4/4/2017	8454	\$78.12	55200-03-50000
MERRILL WATER UTILITY	ATHLETIC PARK	6/10/2017	222-26940-13	\$167.35	55200-02-21000
MERRILL WATER UTILITY	ATHLETIC PARK CONCESSION ST	6/10/2017	222-27040-00	\$49.44	55200-02-21000
MURRAY AND ASSOCIATES	YOUT AND DESIGN OF LOBSTER CRA	5/11/2017	3348	\$126.00	LOBSTER CRAWL
POPMP'S TIRE SERVICE	TURF TIRE	4/26/2017	350029028	\$200.00	55200-03-50000
RIESTERER & SCHNELL	CAPTIAL EQUIPMENT	4/18/2017	1158142	\$7,440.00	CAPITAL PROJECT
RIESTERER & SCHNELL	SHOW	5/16/2017	1179033	\$201.64	55200-03-50000
SAMS CLUB	MEMBERSHIP	4/25/2017	6535	\$225.00	55300-03-41500
SAMS CLUB	DRUM LINNERS	5/23/2017		\$20.68	55420-03-40000
SHARE CORPORATION	T-BOWL CLEANER	5/15/2017	19149	\$236.34	55200-03-40000
STARDUST CIRUS	SECURITY DEPOSIT	5/1/2017	VOUCHER	\$50.00	10-21-7200
STEVE WIEX	SECURITY DEPOSIT	5/25/2017	VOUCHER	\$50.00	10-21-7200
SUNRISE BROADCASTING	ADVERTISING	5/1/2017	RESNICK	\$249.00	55400-03-41000
VICTORY JANITORIAL INC.	CIRCUIT BREAKERS	5/8/2017	94430	\$40.00	55400-03-50000
WALMART	SUPPLIES FOR POOL	5/12/2017		\$227.83	55420-03-40000





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Parks & Recreation Dept. - Smith Center

1100 Marc Drive - Merrill, WI 54452

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Fax (715)539-2790

## MEMORANDUM

Wednesday, May 31, 2017

To: Parks & Recreation Commissioners

From: Dan Wendorf  
Parks & Recreation Department

Re: ORP – Public Survey

Dear Commissioners,

Please take time to review Fred Heider's memorandum in this packet. I would also like to invite you to please review the survey questions and content before the meeting, to allow for any adjustments you would like to see before we go live with it.

You can see the survey at the following link: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/merrill-orp>  
When you get to the site, you will need to answer each of the questions (however you would like) in order to advance from page to page. The answers to your questions will not be part of the official survey so don't worry about how you answer.

Please bring any feedback you have to the meeting on June 7<sup>th</sup> so I can relay that to Fred to make final adjustments for the public.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Dan Wendorf".

Dan Wendorf  
Parks & Recreation Director  
City of Merrill

# NORTH CENTRAL WISCONSIN REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION

210 McClellan Street, Suite 210, Wausau, Wisconsin 54403  
Telephone: 715-849-5510 Fax: 715-849-5110  
Web Page: [www.ncwrpc.org](http://www.ncwrpc.org) Email: [staff@ncwrpc.org](mailto:staff@ncwrpc.org)



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## **MEMORANDUM:**

**To:** Merrill Park and Recreation Commissioners  
**From:** Fred Heider, AICP  
**Re:** Merrill Outdoor Recreation Plan – Online Survey Review  
**Date:** May 26, 2017

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I will not be at the June Park and Recreation Commission meeting.

Please review the draft survey here: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/merrill-orp>

- Does it include all the basic topics that you would like community input on?
- Are the questions easy to understand, or should something be phrased differently?

**Note:** When we are ready to go live with the survey, I will delete all the “test” responses, so you will have to take the survey again when it is live.

Consider how to get the survey out to the public.

### Here are some options:

- Facebook post;
- Nextdoor post;
- Pop-up on Merrill’s homepage;
- A post on Merrill’s homepage under “News and Announcements;”
- Other???

The plan website is at: <http://www.ncwrpc.org/lincoln/merrillorp/>

NEW web address from  
the last 5-year plan.



# Wisconsin Horticulture

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**Wisconsin Garden**  
May 17 at 11:49am

If you're looking to reduce the impacts of your lawn care practices, these two publications can be particularly helpful:

- 1) <https://learningstore.uwex.edu/Organic-and-Reduced-Risk-Law...>
- 2) <https://learningstore.uwex.edu/Conservation-of-Native-and-D...>

## Homeowner Guide to Emerald Ash Borer Insecticide Treatments

R. Chris Williamson and PJ Liesch, UW Entomology  
Revised: 4/12/2017  
Item number: XHT 1181

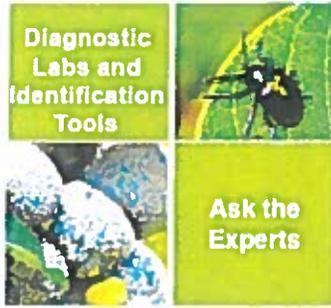
**Emerald ash borer insecticide treatment considerations.** Several insecticide products are available to homeowners for control of emerald ash borer (EAB). Since the presence and infestation level of EAB is quite difficult to determine at early stages of an infestation, insecticide treatments may be merited to mitigate damage by EAB. However, not all ash trees should be treated as some may be too extensively compromised or in poor condition to receive treatment. Tree location, value, and health, as well as the cost of treatment are all factors to consider. Due to the expense of yearly insecticide treatments, one should consider the value of a particular ash tree in relation to insecticide treatment costs before making any treatments. In addition, consider the health of each tree before treating. Research suggests that insecticide treatments are significantly more effective on EAB-infested ash trees with less than 50% canopy thinning. Insecticide treatments are not suggested for trees with greater than 50% canopy thinning. Trees with greater than 50% canopy thinning should be removed and destroyed in accordance with established guidelines. For a more detailed discussion on this topic, see University of Wisconsin Garden Facts XHT1215, "Is My Ash Tree Worth Treating for Emerald Ash Borer".



Adult EAB is a small metallic green beetle measuring 3/8" to 1/2" long and 1/16" to 1/8" wide

**Emerald ash borer insecticide treatment options.** Insecticide products available for use by homeowners are summarized in Table 1. They include:

- ACECAP 97 Systemic Insecticide Tree Implants (acephate)
- Bayer Advanced Tree and Shrub Insect Control II (imidacloprid)
- Bayer Advanced Tree and Shrub Protect & Feed (imidacloprid)
- Bayer Advanced Tree and Shrub Protect & Feed II (imidacloprid + clothianidin)



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The Wisconsin Master Gardener Program



How To Get Started With Aiding Monarch Butterflies At Home

Putting Rural Wisconsin On The Map

Making Small Changes That Add Up To A Healthier Lifestyle

- Bonide Annual Tree & Shrub Insect Control with SYSTEMAXX (imidacloprid)
- Compare N Save Systemic Tree & Shrub Insect Drench (imidacloprid)
- Ferti-lome Tree and Shrub Systemic Drench (imidacloprid)
- Optrol (imidacloprid)
- Ortho Bug-B-Gone Year Long Tree & Shrub Insect Control (imidacloprid)
- Several other products containing imidacloprid are also currently available

Most of the products available to homeowners are systemic insecticides containing imidacloprid and are applied as soil drenches around the base of an ash tree. One granular product is also available. Recent university research suggests that applications of imidacloprid should be made in spring to be most effective. Research also has demonstrated that soil applications of imidacloprid-containing homeowner products provide excellent EAB protection for ash trees that are less than about 47 inches in circumference [i.e., 15 inches in diameter at breast height (DBH)]. Due to differences in application rates and label restrictions, treatment by a tree care professional (e.g., arborist) may be the best option for larger trees. For best results, treatment of trees should begin before trees become infested. Lastly, insecticide treatments must be repeated each year.

Be aware that many insecticide products available at hardware stores and garden centers look alike. Carefully check all product labels before purchase to make sure that you have selected the correct product/active ingredient. ALWAYS read and follow the pesticide label directions on the product that you select!

Finally, note that although ACECAP 97 Systemic Insecticide Tree Implants are available to homeowners, we do NOT recommend that homeowners use these because they require physically drilling into a tree during their application.

<i>Product</i>	<i>Active Ingredient</i>	<i>Timing</i>	<i>Type of application</i>
<i>Bayer Advanced Tree &amp; Shrub Insect Control II (D)</i>	<i>Imidacloprid</i>	<i>Mid-April to mid-May</i>	<i>Soil Drench (D)</i>  <i>or</i>  <i>Granular (G)</i>
<i>Bayer Advanced Tree &amp; Shrub Protect &amp; Feed (D or G)</i>			
<i>Compare N Save Systemic Tree &amp; Shrub Systemic Insect Drench (D)</i>			
<i>Ferti-lome Tree &amp; Shrub Systemic Drench (D)</i>			

<i>Ortho Bug B Gone year Long Tree &amp; Shrub Insect Control (D)</i>			
<i>Optrol (D)</i>	<i>Imidacloprid</i>	<i>Mid-April to mid-May and/or Early-Sept to mid-Oct</i>	<i>Soil drench (D)</i>
<i>Bayer Advanced Garden Tree &amp; Shrub Protect &amp; Feed II (D or G)</i>	<i>Imidacloprid + Clothianidin</i>	<i>Mid-April to mid-May</i>	<i>Soil Drench (D) or Granular (G)</i>
<i>ACECAP 97 Systemic Insecticide Tree Implants</i>	<i>Acephate</i>	<i>Mid-May to mid-June</i>	<i>Trunk Implant</i>

Other emerald ash borer treatment options. Homeowners may also contact a certified arborist or certified pesticide applicator to treat their trees. See <http://www.waa-isa.org> for a list of certified arborists in Wisconsin. Professionals have access to some products that are not available to homeowners.

The University of Wisconsin does not endorse commercially available insecticide products over those available directly to homeowners. Products discussed in this fact sheet have been evaluated in university research tests on EAB.

### Links & Downloads

- [Homeowner Guide to EAB Insecticide Treatments 2017 PDF](#)
- [Alternatives to Ash for Homeowners](#)
- [YouTube Video – Protecting Your Ash Tree from EAB](#)
- [The Wisconsin Gardener Video – Trees to Plant Instead of Ash](#)
- [Professional Guide to Emerald Ash Borer Insecticide Treatments](#)

Tags: [emerald ash borer](#)

Categories: [Tree & Shrub Care](#), [Tree & Shrub Problems](#)

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## Invasive Plant Pest and Disease Awareness Month Help Keep Pests from Bugging Wisconsin

Release Date: 4/11/17

Contact: Donna Gilson  
608-224-5130, [donna.gilson@wi.gov](mailto:donna.gilson@wi.gov)  
Bill Cosh, Communications Director  
608-224-5020, [William2.Cosh@wi.gov](mailto:William2.Cosh@wi.gov)

MADISON – You've heard it before, and we hate to be pests, but now that cabin and camping season is starting, remember: Don't move firewood.

"This is probably the single most important thing you can do – or not do – to prevent spreading insects and diseases that could severely damage our forests," says Brian Kuhn, director of the Plant Industry Bureau in the Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection.

April is Invasive Plant Pest and Disease Awareness Month. Most Wisconsin residents are probably aware of pests like the gypsy moth and emerald ash borer. Kuhn's bureau conducts an annual aerial spray program to control gypsy moth populations, and 50 of the state's 72 counties are under a quarantine for the pest. Emerald ash borer, a much newer invader, has now been found in 41 Wisconsin counties.

But there are other pests that DATCP is trying to keep out of the state entirely. Anyone who has visited the western United States in recent years has seen whole mountainsides of dead pine trees, killed by the mountain pine beetle. Another beetle, the walnut twig beetle, carries a fungus that causes thousand cankers disease and destroys black walnut trees. The Asian longhorned beetle has been found just outside Chicago, and eradicated at great expense. It feeds on maple trees. Any of these pests could inflict great damage on our forests, and the most likely way they would enter the state would be as hitchhikers on firewood or other wood products.

You might remember that DATCP recently asked people to be on the lookout for wood-boring beetles in rustic log furniture, after finding infestations by two different species in shipments last year. Luckily, the department was able to work with partners in the Minnesota Department of Agriculture and U.S. Department of Agriculture's Plant Pest and Quarantine Section to stop those infestations in their tracks. These insects, which came in on the furniture from Asia, could have killed thousands or millions of trees if they had escaped into the environment.

"Our forests are among our most valuable resources in Wisconsin. We have one of the nation's most productive timber industries," Kuhn said. Forestry provides 64,000 jobs in Wisconsin, with a \$3.4 billion annual payroll. That's in addition to the value of forests to tourism. Urban forests are important, too, in reducing cooling and heating costs and keeping soil in place.

"We rely on the public to be our eyes and ears, and to do the right thing by buying firewood where they burn it," Kuhn says. "We work one-on-one with affected businesses in quarantine areas so they can continue to move their products while minimizing the risk of also moving pests. And we work very closely with our partners at the USDA, the Department of Natural Resources, the University and the Extension. It's a whole community looking out for our resources."

For more information about plant pests, visit [datcp.wi.gov](http://datcp.wi.gov) and search for "pests" or visit [hungrypests.com](http://hungrypests.com).

###

Find more DATCP news at [facebook.com/widatcp](https://facebook.com/widatcp) and [twitter.com/widatcp](https://twitter.com/widatcp).



# Herbicide damage to trees

Posted on April 25, 2017

Search... GO

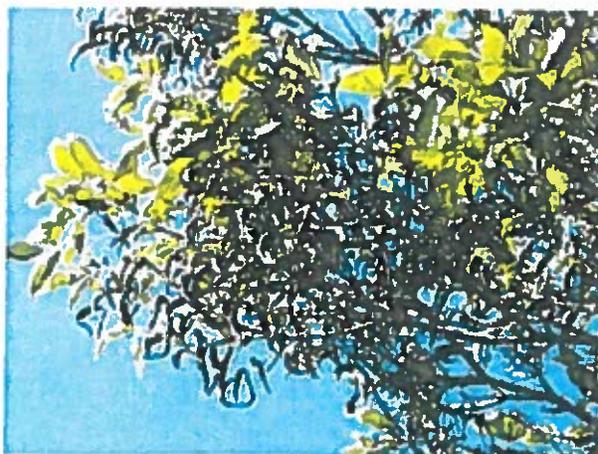
Herbicide damage can resemble other tree problems such as branch dieback, foliage discoloration, and premature leaf or needle drop. Look for certain clues to help narrow down whether it is a weather related issue, insect or disease issue, or a potential herbicide issue.

### Categories

- Division of Forestry News
- Forest Health News
- Forest Products News
- Northern State Forests
- Private Forestry News
- Reforestation News
- Urban Forestry News
- Wildland Fire News

### What to look for

First, look at all the trees in the area. Does more than one tree



Leaves in the crown are cupped or curled.

species show similar problems? Do all sizes of trees show the problem? If so, the damage may be from herbicides.

### Tags

Look at the entire tree and pay attention to the foliage.

- Does the tree seem to have less foliage than normal?
- Does any of the foliage look smaller than normal?



Leaves are curled, and look thick and waxy.

- Is the foliage cupped, off color, twisted and/or curled?
- Most importantly, does the foliage look thicker and/or waxier than normal? If so, get a sample and feel it. Herbicide damage will cause the foliage to feel thicker and waxier than normal.

These problems could occur on a single branch, multiple branches, or the entire tree. You may want to compare affected trees to non-affected trees in terms of how they look, and the feel and texture of the foliage.

If the foliage looks normal, look at the branches and twigs.

- If the branches and twigs curl and twist, this is an indication of herbicide damage.

## Awards

Best Management Practices

Buying seed

## Care for your woods

Central WI Forest Health

Certification

## Did you know?

## Disease

East Central WI Forest

Health

Emergency management

## Events

## Financial help

Fire season Firewood

Foresters

Forest products

## Insect

Invasive plant Inventory

## Northeast

WI Forest

Health

Northwest WI

Forest Health

## Partners

## Pest

- Abnormal growth can also be caused by herbicides.



Tree showing abnormal growth.

### Avoiding unintentional damage

The same active ingredient for some herbicides can have different formulations. For example, if you remember the old Garlon 3A product had a triclopyr amine formulation, while the old Garlon 4 product had a triclopyr ester formulation. You need to be aware of which formulation you are using.

Ester formulations can volatilize and move at temperatures at or above 85° F, settling around non target plants. I have seen this in Christmas tree plantations where a triclopyr product was used. The temperature reached at least 85° and the product volatilized, lifted and settled around other conifers in the plantation. The volatilized triclopyr product caused chlorotic rings around the middle of the trees. If temperatures are going to be 85° F or above, you may want to consider using an amine formulation instead of the ester formulation.

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If you use “Weed-N-Feed” on your lawn, be careful how much weed-n-feed you apply around your yard trees. Some of the herbicides in these products can and will affect your yard trees and other woody plants.

How To  
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Before you use any pesticide, make sure to read the label and follow the label directions. The label is Federal Law, and by following the label directions you should avoid any problems that may occur from using the product.

Written by: Todd Lanigan, forest health specialist, Eau Claire,(Todd.Lanigan@wisconsin.gov), 715-839-1632.

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**MERRILL**  
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*City Of Parks*

# CITY OF MERRILL

## Parks & Recreation Dept. - Smith Center

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Rec. Dept. Telephone (715) 536-7313 • Smith Center Telephone (715) 536-6187  
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### June 2017 Parks & Recreation Director's Report

**Parks:** The parks have been open for a month so far and things have been going well for the most part. We haven't had any major issues to date. We experienced some flooding in some of our parks, especially Riverside and Stange Park. We had to close both parks down for a few days for patron safety. Riverside flooded the entire lower portion of the park right into the shelter and playground area, with the river flowing right through the main parking lot. Stange flooded all of the lagoons almost all the way back to the shelter area. Fortunately we did not experience any major damage at either location. We will have to do some minor turf repairs, as well as some backfilling again along the ADA paths we finished last fall. It could have been much worse considering the conditions. The water levels have receded since and we are back to almost normal flow through the Prairie and Wisconsin Rivers. The onslaught of rainy days has created some athletic field and park mowing challenges. Fields have handled the moisture well for the most part, but we are behind on mowing. Summer staffers have been arriving so we are trying to catch up as quickly as we can, and as quick as the weather will allow. I have been working with City Engineer and J&J Lee Construction to make sure we are ready for construction (that is also a bit behind due to 3-4 rain days per week over the past 3 weeks. The construction schedule still remains the same for completion as of now, but we could use a few stretches of nice dry weather for the initial stages of construction. The Bierman Family Aquatic Center is almost ready to go for opening day on June 9<sup>th</sup>. We had a few minor repairs that Miron Construction and Badger Pool finished before we filled the pool the week of May 22<sup>nd</sup>. Badger Pool returned to do a start-up for us, which includes pump tests on all features and checks on all of our automated equipment. Things all tested out well and are running great. We turned the heater on Memorial Day and have heated and treated water right now. We are putting the finishing touches on everything so it is all ready to go for day one, including staff and lifeguard trainings, technology installs, concession supplies, safety equipment, water treatment, and scheduling to name a few. I have been working with Fred Heider on the Outdoor Recreation Plan and have included a memo from him in the packets. I will include a memo from me as well but he is finished with a draft of the survey he would like to make available to the public. Please visit the following link to the survey and review it before the meeting:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/merrill-orp> I think the survey does a good job of capturing some of the initiatives we have discussed and have come up within the past few years, while still leaving some of the longer standing projects we would like to accomplish.

**Forestry:** We held our annual Arbor Day/Tree City USA recognition planting on May 19<sup>th</sup>. It was cool and damp, but we had a great group of PRMS Middle School Science students, and City Representatives help us plant 8 trees along 3<sup>rd</sup> Street to help beautify the park. Our young trees we have planted in the parks and boulevards over the past few years have been doing very well with the amount of moisture we have received at this time of year when it is very important for them. This is the latest!

*"Focusing on the Future"*

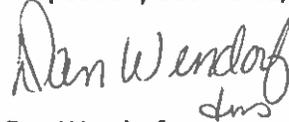
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have ever seen trees not completely leafed out, and obviously it is due to the lack of consistent warm sunshine. As for any tree related issues, things have been pretty quiet to this point and hopefully it remains this way. I am still working on tree inspections. I sat in on a Treekeeper webinar a few weeks ago, as Davey Resource Group (the company that hosts our Tree Management Software) has revamped their entire system so I need to get to know the changes and capabilities. I have also been looking at planting sites for the fall 2017 tree plantings.

**Recreation:** We are all ready and excited for summer recreation programs to begin. Quite a few of our programs are kicking off the week after school is out. Registrations have really picked up within the past few weeks. It is pretty typical for us to have more registrations later. Our numbers are looking very good for almost all of our programs and bus trips as well. Almost all of our bus trips are full already and that is great to see! Our summer staff members will be reporting for duty the week of our meeting in order to get their preparations underway for another good summer. We have a great recreational staff for the summer and I am very excited to get things underway.

**Smith Center:** We have spent some time inside the arena recently cleaning things up and getting some of our mechanical items inspected and repaired. We have been working on buffing the rink boards to make them look like new again. It is a lot of work but is always worth it in the end to have things looking tidy. We have a few events in the coming weeks, including June Dairy Breakfast on June 11<sup>th</sup>, as well as a few other potential large rentals. I have shown the arena to a few groups and am currently working to see if we can get them to move their event to our facility. We hosted one circus a few weeks ago and will be hosting another as well. We had an issue with our southeast corner boards heaving again at the end of the season so we are going to have those looked at and repaired before season starts again this fall. Water occasionally gets under that area where the Zamboni enters/exits and we need to ensure that we limit water leakage there.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Dan Wendorf" with a small "dms" monogram below it.

Dan Wendorf  
Parks & Recreation Director  
City of Merrill