# Welcome to <br> Arboriculture <br> 101 

www.ctpa.org/arboriculture101.html

# Introduction to <br> Tree Biology 

or, how the tree functions as a set of systems



## Nine Systems

- Photosynthesis
- Hydrologic
- Structural
- Growth
- Response
- CODIT
- Reproductive
- Chronological
- Death and Shedding



# Photosynthesis 

Carbon Dioxide + Water $\rightarrow$ Oxygen + Sugar energy in = sunlight

## Photosynthesis

Carbon Dioxide + Water $\rightarrow$ Oxygen + Sugar

$$
\text { (6) } \mathrm{CO}_{2}+(6) \mathrm{H}_{2} \mathrm{O} \rightarrow \text { (6) } \mathrm{O}_{2}+\mathrm{C}_{6} \mathrm{H}_{12} \mathrm{O}_{6}
$$

energy from sunlight is now stored in the sugar

## Respiration

Oxygen + Sugar $\rightarrow$ Carbon Dioxide + Water energy out $=$ metabolism

# Sugars are the Building Blocks 

 Plants will use sugars to make: Starches, Proteins, Fats, Oils,... Which then become Cellulose, Lignins, Wood, Which then become Bark, Leaves,...and so on....

From simple sugars to ever more complex compounds....


## All of

## which

 sounds good to the rest of us who are alive on this planet...Photosynthesis= Chlorophyll =
Green $\neq$ Leaves
(not always)

# Sunlight <br> \& $\mathrm{CO}_{2}$ 

## Hydrologic (Circulatory)








(a)


## Explanatory Notes:

- X = xylem
- Conifers have tracheids
- Hardwoods have fibers and vessels
- Early Wood equals Spring Wood
- Late Wood equals Summer Wood
- Tracheids, fibers and vessels run lengthwise (up and down)
- Rays run across (vertical)


## Douglas fir

## White ash

## Bark side



Pith side




## Important Notes - on bark:

- Outer bark provides the inner tree with protection from temperature changes, fire, dessication, insect and disease attack.
- Outer bark is made from the crushed remnants of inner bark and cells generated by the cork cambium that gives each species of tree its characteristic look.
- Inner bark is where the phloem tissue is housed.
- Phloem tissue is how the sugars produced in the leaves and elsewhere are moved throughout the tree.
- Unlike individual xylem cells, individual phloem cells are alive, which means that they are much better able to direct where these sugars go.
- Inner bark has ray cells - these ray cells are connected to the ray cells in the wood (or xylem).
- Both xylem cells (wood) and phloem cells (inner bark) are produced by the vascular cambium layer, which is found just beneath the bark.






Figure 1.12 Roots grow where water, oxygen, and space are available.




## Hurricanes



## Saturated soils

## Growth



# The above 

 ground parts of the tree grow in length from the buds at the tips of the branches and besides the base of the leaves.

Tree roots grow from the tips, in the top 18 inches or so of the soil. When planting a tree, it is important to remove the burlap and wire from the root ball from the upper 18 inches of the root ball, after the root ball has been placed in the hole!




Trees grow in girth by means of the growth layer (vascular cambium) that is located underneath the bark of the tree, including around the trunk and branches and around the roots.






Where in this slide was growth occurring before the tree was cut down?

What is another name for wood?
What was the wood doing in this tree besides holding the tree up?

How come we can see growth rings in this picture?
How is bark different from wood?

## Response















## Terms

- Excurrent - strong central leader (e.g. pin oak)
- Decurrent - spreading branches (e.g. sugar maple)
- Geotropic - guided by gravity (most conifers)
- Phototropic - guided by access to light (most hardwoods)
(All plants are geotropic, in the sense that roots grow down from the seed and stems grow up)


Compression Wood:
Conifers


Tension Wood: Hardwoods





## CODIT

## Compartmentalization

> of Decay
in Trees






## Why you need to know about reproduction in trees

- Floral display (ornamentals especially)
- Fruits and fruiting issues
- Pollen (increasingly a problem in cities!)
- Pollinators - of concern for several reasons
- Asexual reproduction - e.g. suckering


## Perfect or two-sexed flower





## Male and Female Trees??

- Monoecious Trees: "one house" - individual male and female flowers on the same tree.
- Dioecious Trees: "two houses" - male and female flowers on different trees.
- Synecious Trees - trees with 'perfect' flowers (the pawpaw (Asimina triloba) the tulip poplar (Liriodendron tulipifera are examples).







## Yule



19-23 June


19-23 June















## Summary

Trees are woody, highly competitive, highly organized organisms that photosynthesize, and use the products of photosynthesis to develop a variety of structures and conduct a variety of functions that are necessary to keep it alive.


