



TICT OFF

Tippecanoe Invasive Cooperative Taskforce Newsletter
April 2021

Callery Pear: Impacts, Treatment, and Replacement Program

By: Amy Krzton-Presson
Wabash River Enhancement Corporation

Originally from Asia, Callery pears (or Bradford pears and other cultivars of *Pyrus calleryana*) are invasive in Indiana. They are commonly planted in landscaping and were a popular street tree for many years. Unfortunately, their seeds are carried by birds from landscape settings to other sites like natural areas, pastures, and right-of-ways. Once established, they can form dense thickets and outcompete native plants. They are also weak wooded, meaning they easily break in strong winds or heavy ice.



Callery pear in bloom.
Flowers smell like rotten fish.
Photo thanks to TICT.

Seedlings and shallow-rooted plants can be pulled when soil is moist. Medium to large trees should be cut down and stump treated with a systemic glyphosate, or triclopyr-based herbicide can be used in a basal bark application.

The Tippecanoe Invasive Cooperative Taskforce (TICT) is working on programs that would fund the replacement of this invasive species with native species. Please check out the website listed below if you are interested in receiving a free native replacement for removing an invasive Callery pear tree. Please note that applicants are only eligible for one replacement tree or shrub at this time.

Right now, this program is open to residents of Tippecanoe County, Indiana. We have different funding sources for street tree replacement and private property replacement. Depending on the location of your invasive Callery pear tree, we may or may not be able to fund a replacement at this time. We will contact you with more information after you apply. Applications are reviewed on a rolling basis and we will regularly update the application page with funding information.

We do not currently have funds to help with the costs of removing the invasive tree. Currently, all participants will be responsible for removing their invasive tree, providing proof of removal in the form of before and after pictures, picking up their native replacement, and planting their native replacement.

Check out the Wabash River Enhancement Corridor's website on this program to learn more and apply for a free tree or shrub to replace your Callery pear here: <http://www.wabashriver.net/callery-pear-replacement/>

TICT Volunteer Callout

Name of the property: Tippecanoe County Amphitheater

Invasive in need of control: Garlic mustard

TIPPECANOE COUNTY AMPHITHEATER: MORE THAN JUST A PERFORMANCE VENUE!

In 1983, the Tippecanoe County Park & Recreation Department finalized purchase of 166 acres of property in NE Tippecanoe County, to serve as the home for an outdoor performance venue hosting The Battle of Tippecanoe Outdoor Drama. Although the Outdoor Drama was short lived, the theater has continued to serve its purpose as a space for concerts, plays, church services, weddings and other large outdoor events. However, many local residents are unaware that this property offers so much more than just a theater!

Located at the confluence of Burnett's Creek and the Wabash River, the wooded bluffs and ravines above the river are home to healthy populations of spring ephemerals such as bloodroot, spring beauty, sharp-lobed hepatica, mayapple, and shooting stars. Small seeps are found along the hillsides, colonized by skunk cabbage. Tree species present range from white oak and shagbark hickory on the gravelly, dry bluffs and ravines to a mix of hackberry, black walnut, sycamore and cottonwood in the moist bottomland areas adjacent to the creek and river.

The Tippecanoe Mountain Biking Association has worked with the Park Department to construct and maintain a multi-use trail system, offering approximately 4 miles of looped trails throughout the property. These trails provide access for bikers and hikers to the beautiful views along the creek and river and through the areas recovering from prior agricultural use. Stewardship challenges related to invasive species are many; the prior agricultural land has heavy infestations of woody invasive species such as autumn olive and bush honeysuckle. The interior woodlands are seeing encroachment from these problematic species, along with colonization of garlic mustard in many areas.

Save the date: The Park Department plans to work with TICT to bring additional attention to these challenges and provide opportunities for the community to help in the efforts to combat the spread of invasive species on this property. Our first TICT sponsored community event is planned for Saturday, April 24: a Weed Wrangle focusing on the removal of garlic mustard. Plans are underway for this project which will provide opportunities for local citizens to enjoy a beautiful property, see spring wildflowers, and improve this natural area through removal of this common invasive species! The community work day will adhere to all COVID related protocols to insure that participants will remain safe while engaging in this worthwhile work. More details will be coming soon on our Facebook page!

Contact: Mary Cutler, Tippecanoe County Naturalist
Phone: (765)567-2993, Email: mcutler@tippecanoe.in.gov



Photos top to bottom: bloodroot, a forested bank, Dutchman's breeches. Photos thanks to Mary Cutler and the Tippecanoe Co. Park & Recreation Dept

City of Lafayette Street Tree Inventory

By Greg Shaner

From 2010 through 2013, the City of Lafayette, (with financial assistance from grants to Tree Lafayette from the Community and Urban Forestry Program of the Indiana Department of Natural Resources) conducted an inventory of all street trees in the city. Davey Resource Group surveyed all sites where trees existed or where trees could be planted. They recorded each tree's location, species, size, and condition. Of the 20,900 sites, 10,885 were occupied by trees, 9,171 were vacant, and 844 contained stumps. The most common tree species were maples (silver, 12%; red, 8%; sugar 7%), followed by callery pear, (6%.)

Since completion of the inventory, the Lafayette city forester and Tree Lafayette have used the inventory to help determine where new trees can be planted and where trees need pruning or removal. Records are updated when trees are lost due to insect infestations or disease, run down by vehicles, or removed for construction activity. Likewise, as new trees are planted, these records are added to the inventory.

Because the Callery pear is so abundant along Lafayette's streets and has become a dangerous invasive species, the city is working to remove these trees and replace them with native species. Tree Lafayette has planted more than 3,000 trees in the city, along streets and on school grounds. They plant native species or non-invasive introduced species, but never Callery pear or Norway maple. Learn more about Tree Lafayette here: <https://www.treelafayette.org/>

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Wabash River Enhancement Corporation: <https://www.facebook.com/WabashRiver>



W R E C ' S T O O L L I B R A R Y

Clean up your rain garden or prep your site for next year's garden by borrowing from our invasive plant removal tool library. One Pullerbear or two soil knives can be checked out for a week at a time.

[HTTP://WWW.WABASHRIVER.NET/TOOL-LIBRARY/](http://www.wabashriver.net/tool-library/)

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