



F E B R U A R Y 2 0 2 3

Pensacola Park Post

A Monthly Pensacola Park Neighborhood Association Distribution
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NEW YEAR, NEW STREET TREES

Thanks to the efforts of our new Council Member Sevigny we have some new funds for street trees this spring. We will be opening up the application process to the entire neighborhood, instead of one street this time. So if you would like a free street tree, please contact us at pensacolapark@gmail.com, and we will go over the details and requirements to get one. It is first come, first serve, and we are limited this spring, but don't worry, if you don't get one this go, we will keep your name down for the next round.

WINTER INJURY VISIBLE ON LANDSCAPE PLANTS by William M. Fountain, Horticulturist and Julie Beale, Plant Disease Diagnostician with UK

With the arrival of spring's warmer weather, many landscape plants in Kentucky are showing the effects of a winter that broke records. The winter of 2022-23 approached all-time historical lows in many parts of the Commonwealth. Now landscapers and homeowners are wondering which plants might recover and which must be removed. Particularly hard-hit were evergreens and marginally hardy plant species.

"Evergreens" Not So Green This Spring. Broadleaf and needled evergreen plants retain foliage during winter, thus they continue to lose water through their leaves although at a reduced rate throughout the winter months. During the growing season, plant roots take up water from the soil, where it is pulled upward through the xylem (water conducting tubes inside stems). Some of this water is used by the plant, but much of it exits the plant as water vapor through pores in the leaves. Deciduous plants drop foliage in the fall to reduce water loss during the winter when soils are frozen. During sunny winter days with wind and low humidity which were prevalent during the past two winters the rate of water loss from evergreen foliage increases, leading to brown, scorched leaves. The pull of transpiration may even result in air pockets developing in the xylem, similar to air pockets in a siphon. Plants are unable to move water through these xylem tubes. Further injury may occur when frozen stems are bent by snow or physically shaken to remove ice and snow, and xylem cell walls are fractured.

Certain landscape plants, both deciduous and evergreen, are considered to be marginally hardy in Kentucky. Plant hardiness is based on the lowest temperature that the plant can tolerate under optimal growing conditions. The USDA Plant Hardiness Zone Map places most of Kentucky in Zone 6b with the far western counties in Zone 7a. Temperatures associated with the hardiness map are based on the 30-year average of the single lowest winter temperatures recorded each year. This is not the absolute lowest temperature recorded each year, just the average. The map also does not take into account the duration of cold, soil moisture, humidity, solar radiation, topography, or wind. While there are shortcomings to this map, it is still a valuable aid in deciding what to plant and where it should be located.

Problems arise for marginally hardy plants when winters are colder than average. Examples include boxwood, cherry laurel, southern magnolia, Leyland cypress, crape myrtle, and nandina. Some of these plants have survived previous milder winters but now show symptoms ranging from moderate leaf burn to twig dieback to death of entire plant.

Rule number one in addressing winter injury is to be patient. If the foliage or the tips have been damaged but the stems and buds are still green, wait until the plant puts out new growth before deciding if the plant should be pruned or removed. Sheering dead foliage will immediately improve the appearance of the plant, but pruning should not be done until after the chance of the last frost has passed.

Spring fertilization is not recommended, especially for plants suffering winter injury. The addition of nitrogen can encourage more growth than the damaged stems can supply with water during hot, dry summer months ahead. The addition of water during dry periods is more beneficial than the addition of fertilizer. When necessary, fertilization of woody landscape plants should occur in late fall.

Established broadleaf evergreens in exposed locations can be protected from the intensity of winter sun and wind. Cover these plants with light-colored cloth or burlap prior to the onset of winter. Spray moisture on the cloth prior to the onset of extremely windy sub-freezing temperatures. Water frozen on cloth will further reduce the effect of wind.

The best long-term approach, however, is to match the plant to the site. This can involve using hardy needled evergreens where evergreens are desired and deciduous species that originated in our climatic zone."



Figure 1. Leaf browning of southern magnolia exposed to drying winter winds.
(Photo: Julie Beale, UK)



Figure 2. Leaf burn and twig dieback of holly from winter injury.
(Julie Beale, UK)

HISTORY CORNER: Suburbanization by Rebecca C. Glasscock

Even during the years of the Depression and WWII, Lexington's population continued a steady climb: from 41,534 in 1920 to 55,534 in 1950. Single family homes, apartments, and businesses went up in response to the population pressure, with much of the growth along the Pikes. The logic of corridor development was sound: it was along these Pikes that mass transportation (the interurban) was available. One of those corridors was Nicholasville Pike and while it may be hard to visualize now, as the lots on Penmoken, Rosemont, and Suburban began to be sold, the area was bordering on countryside. To remedy the isolation, in 1927, the First Presbyterian Church decided to organize a Rosemont Sunday School, so that these folks on the southern edge of town would have access to regular Bible study and worship. The Sunday School was housed at 190 Rosemont Drive. Interest in establishing their own church grew along with the membership at the Sunday School. On March 8, 1931, under the leadership of Dr. H. H. Pitzer, Hunter Memorial Presbyterian Church was established. From its original ten charter members in 1931, the membership had grown to 150 by 1948. Over the years, it has remained a progressive religious force in the community. Today, the church building faces Nicholasville Road and the pre-school and community garden face Rosemont Garden.

SAVE THE DATES!



- **SPRING POTLUCK AT GOODRICH:** We are planning a spring get-together in Goodrich Park near the date of summer solstice and we are requesting volunteer help to put it together for the neighborhood. Organizing includes arranging for tables, chairs, games, and coolers; inviting neighbors to bring food to share and grillers to grill burgers and hot dogs; purchasing burgers, hot dogs, fixings, drinks, and fun items for the kids (all of which will be paid for by PPNA).
- **PENSACOLA PARK NEIGHBORHOOD SPRING FAIR / FUNDRAISER**
 - **PLANT SALE PORTION:** As always, our annual plant sale will take place on May 13th this year. We are not only looking for volunteers to help with this event, which would include sourcing donations, tagging plants prior to the sale, and helping out at the event, we are also looking for neighbors to donate plants to the fundraiser. It's still a little early for some plants to start, but not too early for others. All proceeds (yes, 100%) from this event go to the neighborhood.
 - **ART FAIR PORTION:** This year we will also be adding crafted and art items to our annual event. So this is a call out to all creative Pensacola Park residents who would like to sell their handcrafted pieces at the fair. We are asking for a \$20 dollar fee from any participants, artist in charge of bringing their own table, pop-up and chairs for event. Please contact for additional details if you would like to participate.
 - **MUSIC:** If you would like to do some acoustic jamming at the event, reach out and let us know!

HOW TO ORDER A PENSACOLA PARK EMBLEM

Please visit our website www.pensacolapark.org to order any emblems, or write us at pensacolapark@gmail.com. Payment is via paypal, check, or cash. There are three types of emblems you can order:

- **Flag.** Comes in three colors: 2'x3' Black, Green, Red (\$85)
- **Metal Plaque.** Comes in two sizes: 8x8 (\$165) and 5x5 (\$80)
- **Stickers.** Comes in eight different colors (\$2 each)



PLEASE CONSIDER DONATING TO PENSACOLA PARK NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION

As an organization we do not currently collect any neighborhood association dues, instead we function off of grants, fundraisers, and donations from the neighborhood. Donations allow us to go after matching grants, buy trees to increase our canopy, improve street conditions, throw community events, and be able to print this newsletter. If you would like to donate, you can either:
(1) Drop off Cash or Check to our GREEN PPNA mailbox at 107 Lackawanna Rd / (2) Use Paypal @ pensacolapark@gmail.com

ABOUT PENSACOLA PARK PRESERVATION SOCIETY AND PENSACOLA PARK NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION

Pensacola Park Preservation Society is a non-profit 501(c)3 formed by Pensacola Park Neighborhood Association in order to bring together residents and businesses located in the Pensacola Park Nationally Registered Historic Boundary, for the common good of (1) preserving the historic integrity and resources of the area; (2) creating an environment that promotes sustainable and appropriate growth for the neighborhood; (3) providing historic education and assistance to those in the Pensacola Park Neighborhood for the preservation and rehabilitation of historic homes, structures, and landscapes; and (4) Unifying and being representative of all the original streets in the Pensacola Park Historic boundary. Also check us out online at www.pensacolapark.org, and follow us on Facebook @ Pensacola Park Neighborhood Association.

If you have any questions or would like to submit topics or op-eds to Pensacola Park Post, please feel free to write us at pensacolapark@gmail.com. If you would like to stop receiving the free monthly post, please write us and put "stop post" in the heading, along with your physical address. Thank you.

Pensacola Park Neighborhood Association (PPNA) and Pensacola Park Preservation Society (PPPS), our nonprofit. PPNA/PPPS represent ALL streets in Pensacola Park Historic District, including: Goodrich, Lackawanna, Nicholasville, Norfolk, Penmoken, Pensacola, Rosemont, Suburban, and Wabash.