

September 17, 2012



PARK PICKS
by

FRIENDS OF THE ALLENTOWN PARKS



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Pest Alert—Thousand Cankers Disease Affects Black Walnut Trees

Dieback and mortality of eastern black walnut in several Western states has become more common and severe during the last decade. A tiny bark beetle is creating numerous galleries beneath the bark of affected branches, resulting in fungal infection and canker information. The large number of cankers associated with dead branches suggest the disease's name—*thousand cankers disease*.

The principal agents involved in this disease are a newly identified fungus and the walnut twig beetle. The three major symptoms of this disease are branch mortality, numerous small cankers on branches and the bole, and evidence of tiny bark beetles. The earliest symptom is yellowing foliage that progresses rapidly to brown wilted foliage, then finally branch mortality. The fungus causes distinctive circular to oblong cankers in the phloem under the bark. The bark surface may have no symptoms, or a dark amber stain or cracking of the bark may occur directly above a canker. Numerous tiny bark beetle entrance and exit holes are visible on dead and dying branches, and bark beetle galleries are often found with the cankers.



Visually inspecting walnut trees for dieback is currently the best survey tool for the Eastern United States. Look for declining trees with the symptoms described above. If you suspect that your walnut trees have thousand cankers diseases, collect a branch 2 to 4 inches in diameter and 6 to 12 inches long that has visible symptoms. Please contact Mr. Timothy Latz, Forester with the PA Dept. of Conservation and Natural Resources, Bureau of Forestry at 610-799-3800 or e-mail tlatz@pa.gov.



Information is provided by a publication of the USDA Forest Service, Northeastern Area State and Private Forestry.



Pet Safe "Bark for Your Park" Contest Results

Thanks to everyone who voted for Allentown in the Pet Safe "Bark for Your Park" contest.



While we didn't win the top prize, we received equipment for a dog agility course.

Artwork Graces South Allentown

Israeli painter and sculptor Igael Tumarkin searches for his imagery in history and in classic mythology. Inspired by the myth of Theseus and the Minotaur, Tumarkin's work "Theseus" is located at 12th & Jackson Streets, south Allentown. Tumarkin creates the drama of that moment in the legend when Theseus is following the string out of a maze.



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