

MISSOURI SOCIETY OF AMERICAN FORESTERS

2022 FALL NEWSLETTER

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From the Chair

By Michael Bill, MOSAF Chair

Fall is upon us! The days are shorter, the leaves have fallen, and I once again find myself sitting in a tree stand waiting, watching, and hoping that a deer will come my way. For me though, it is not about harvesting a deer (as you could tell by a quick glance at my telecheck records!), it is a chance to reflect and unwind and watch wildlife that abound in healthy forest systems. This year my son and I had the opportunity to hunt on a fellow forester's property where he has completed numerous forest management practices over nearly 2 decades. These practices have helped



improve the long-term sustainability of his forest and have provided diverse habitat for a wide array of wildlife species. While sitting in the stand we see gray squirrels, a lonely opossum, a diverse mix of songbirds, hear an owl hoot nearby and yes, we even see a few deer! However, we did not have an opportunity for a clear shot.

Through this lens I am reminded that good sustainable forest management, is good wildlife management. In the past, foresters and wildlife biologists did not work well together and were often solely focused on their traditional disciplines (producing fiber/timber products and maximizing game species). However, when they work together and use the science behind both of their disciplines it can truly be a win-win for both forests and the wildlife that live there. I am fully aware that there are tradeoffs between maximizing high quality timber products and using prescribed burning to maximize wildlife habitat, but there is common ground where we can work together to integrate silvicultural practices that will ensure healthy forests and wildlife. In today's world it is now the norm and not the exception that foresters and biologists collaborate together to make management decisions. This in turn ensures that both disciplines become better scientists and managers.

Recently I had the opportunity to attend a field tour organized by MOSAF members Jim Guldin and John Kabrick, along with the MTNF silviculture and timber program staff, to look at pine management on the CFLRP (Collaborative Forest Landscape Restoration Program). This is a landscape scale restoration area for pine woodland management.

This management work has created habitat suitable for the reintroduction of the brown-headed nuthatch. Their silviculturists, fire program managers, and biologists have worked well together to develop silvicultural practices to help encourage healthy shortleaf pine woodlands. This has included planting pine seedlings in areas where pine is not found in the overstory, releasing young pine from hardwood competition, and adjusting fire return intervals to ensure that pine seedlings are not continually top killed. I really enjoyed the tour and commend the MTNF silviculturists for their collaborative approach to find management techniques that will ensure that the pine woodland systems in this landscape continue to be resilient.

In September, I attended the SAF National Convention in Baltimore, MD. The conference was well attended with over 3,000 forestry professionals from all forestry sectors. The theme of the conference was “Our Working Mosaic” and it highlighted the power of collaboration, explored the wide range of work done to manage forests and other natural resources, and focused on innovation and cross-disciplinary engagement. Overall, I thought it was a great conference and I enjoyed networking with professionals from across the country. There were many young SAF members in attendance. This included college forestry students and young professionals. I think this speaks well to the future of SAF and the forestry profession. A common theme discussed during the conference was “what is a forester?” Several speakers discussed their viewpoint on this topic with some stating it must be defined as someone who has an accredited forestry degree from a university and practices forestry, others stated that it could be someone with a nontraditional degree that manages or works with trees in some manner.

The most interesting thing that I saw at the conference was the technological advances especially around forest inventory data collection and management. There is now a company that has a drone that flies below the canopy and uses lidar and high-resolution photography to collect the traditional forest management inventory data. This includes basal area, stocking level, DBH, tree height, merchantable height, tree species, and even grade and defect. I believe at the end of the day, no matter how good the data



collection is, there will still be a need for a professional forester to help make decisions about management actions. However, my recommendation to forestry students and young professionals is to get your drone pilot license, as you will likely be using one sometime in the near future.

I hope everyone has a great holiday season and I look forward to seeing everyone at MNRC for our winter business meeting.

“It’s a great day to be in forestry! It’s a great day to be a MOSAF member!”

MU Student Chapter Update

By Owen Steins, Student Chapter Chair

The Mizzou SAF Student Chapter has had an exciting semester! Thanks in part to the generous support of MOSAF towards registration costs, the chapter sent a group of students to the SAF National Convention in Baltimore, MD. The week consisted of a job fair, quiz bowl, and networking. It was an excellent opportunity to connect with various forestry companies, agencies, and schools. The Forest Service even had a computer lab to help students work on their federal job resumes. The highlight of the convention was the quiz bowl. With three undergraduate and one graduate student, the team made its way through a bracket of about 30 schools, answering questions about forestry and natural resources. The team placed 2nd overall!



On October 26th, several students attended the fall MOSAF field tour. At Mingo National Wildlife Refuge, red oak bottomland regeneration and restorative bottomland hardwood planting efforts were discussed. The tour also touched on the importance of microtopography as it relates to species selection, together with the advantages and disadvantages of sapling spacing. At Duck Creek, the afternoon was spent discussing the process of reforestation farmland as part of a government program. This was a great networking opportunity, as students got to speak with potential employers as well as



SAF student members from MU attend the quiz bowl at the SAF national convention. From left to right: Owen Steins, Johnnie Swizdor, Jacob Grochowski, and Tessa Cecchin. Photo: Owen Steins.

professionals in the field in an informal setting. Some students noted it was good to see how MDC functions operationally. This was a great opportunity, and I expect many students will be attending the spring tour!

At our bi-weekly meetings with the Forestry Club, we planned for the convention, discussed plans, and hosted guest speakers. Recently, Rebecca Landewe, Chief Ecologist for the LAD Foundation spoke with the club about her job and careers in natural resources. This spring, the club is planning volunteer events, fundraisers, and more guest speakers. We're looking forward to what the next year holds!

MNRC 2023: New Frontiers on Old Landscapes

MNRC 2023 is February 7 – 9, 2023 at Margaritaville Lake Resort in Osage Beach, MO.

The Missouri Chapter of the Wildlife Society is leading this year's conference. They are working diligently to finalize details for us to learn and enjoy our time there.



Dr. Robbie Kroger and Veterinarian Craig Stephen are the keynote speakers. There will be the normal sessions of research papers, and several workshops including one sponsored by MOSAF.

Students again have the opportunity to attend the Career Expo, whether attending the conference or not, and join us for regular sessions.

Don't forget to bring your donation for the MOSAF silent auction to support your societies activities. Bring items to the MOSAF Booth in the exhibit area.

Registration for MNRC is open with Early Bird Registration (\$95 for Society members, \$50

for students) closing January 9, 2023. Registration and Hotel links are at:

<https://mnrc.org/registration/>.

Spring 2022 Technical Tour: Licking Post and Timber & George O. White State Forest Nursery

By Kristen Goodrich, MOSAF Chair Elect

The spring technical tour started with a beautiful, sunny but crisp day at Licking Post and Timber after a last-minute cancellation from Ozark Shavings. The tour was something many of us had never learned about and had taken for granted and a good change from many things being virtual through the winter.

Licking Post and Timber just outside of Licking, Missouri were great hosts and showed us a treated pine post operation. Of interest was the fact that they took various lengths of pine logs in varying diameters and manually maneuvered those logs onto the very manual debarker. From there they were hand-cut to length and sorted into piles where they would weather for approximately 8 months before shipping them to Wisconsin to be treated. Interestingly enough, there are no treatment plants located in Missouri and Wisconsin is the closest. Many sizes of posts/poles are produced at this facility.

After being shipped to Wisconsin and treated, these posts are shipped all over the country and in high demand since there are few treated pine post facilities in the US. It is amazing that Missouri's pine are being used and shipped nationally.



Many sizes of posts and poles are produced at the Licking facility.

The rest of the technical session was held at the George O. White State Forest Nursery, also just outside of Licking. Mike Fiaoni and Dena Biram gave us a wonderful, in-depth tour of the nursery. They still had a little lifting of seedlings going on as well as some mail orders. The coolers, however, were beginning to be empty but it is amazing to see the intricacies to taking in seed, storing, scarifying, planting, and growing the millions of seedlings being sold every year! The specialized equipment and the age of some of it was also of interest.

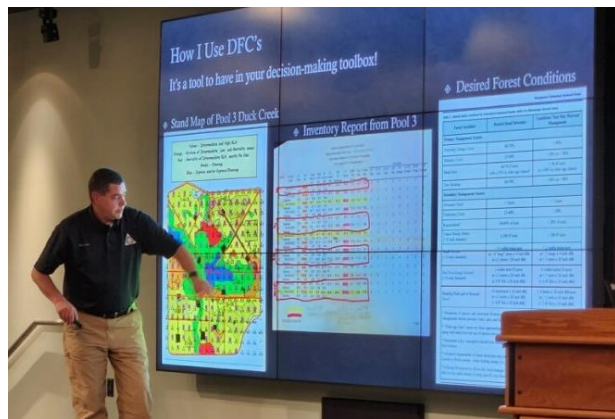


Lunch was catered at the Nursery and the field portion was followed by a short business meeting. Thanks to all who attended the spring technical session!

Fall 2022 Technical Tour: Bottomland Hardwood Management

By Jon Skinner, Communications Committee chair

MOSAF teamed with MDC to put on the Bottomland Hardwood Management Fall Technical Session October 25-26, 2022. This provided a unique opportunity to provide both MDC staff and MOSAF membership knowledge about how bottomland hardwoods are managed. These unique, often flooded, ecosystems require appropriate silvicultural attention, so they do not become barren without trees reducing their diversity and making them less useful for the wildlife that utilize them.



The first afternoon was all in the classroom. We learned about Basic Wetland Dynamics/Ecology, Wetland Soils, Lower Mississippi Valley Joint Venture Desired Future Condition's, Bottomland Hardwood Forest Management Approaches, Green Tree Reservoir Water Management Project, and Afforestation to Bottomland Hardwood Forest.

During the evening, MOSAF held a short business meeting at the hotel. Anyone interested was invited to join. After the meeting, several visited various local establishments to get a taste of the Cape Girardeau night life.

The field day began with the morning session at Duck Creek Conservation area. Several sites were visited on the property with the following topics covered: What is Duck Creek/Mingo and brief history, use of the area, forest resources and challenges of Duck Creek Conservation Area Bottomland Hardwood Management, Brief overview of Green Tree Reservoir project, Research plots pool 8 and 3 that had similar treatments with different results due to elevation differences and Developing & Recruiting Oak Regeneration in Bottomland Hardwoods. The afternoon portion of the day was a short visit to the Dark Cypress Unit for an example of Afforestation Species and Elevation Selection Examples on a Wetland Reserve Program Site.



Agency/Affiliate Group News

MU Extension

Sarah Havens transitioned from Field Specialist in Natural Resources to the Southwest Regional Director position December 1. During this time of transition, there will be a pause on the *What's New in Natural Resources* newsletter and the Women Owning Woodlands program as new people come on and get acclimated. The search for Sarah's replacement in Phelps County will begin January.



Brian Schweiss joined the School of Natural Resources November 1 as a state Extension specialist and teaching instructor. This position is the direct result of a five-year gift from the Independent Stave Company and matching funds from a wide range of individuals, companies, and organizations interested in sustaining Missouri's forests and woodlands. His Extension responsibilities will be to engage forest landowners in the MDC River Hills and Shoal Creek Woodlands Priority Geographies in conjunction with the White Oak Initiative. Brian's teaching responsibilities will include forest measurements, forest management, and sustainable harvesting systems.

Joni Harper joined the Natural Resources Extension team September 1. While to natural resources, she is not new to Extension having previously worked as a field specialist in agronomy and ag business in the Lake of the Ozarks region. Stationed in Versailles, her coverage area will be the West Central region of Missouri primarily north of I-44 and south of I-70. She has already hit the bricks running attending the fall meeting of the Missouri Consulting Foresters Association and making contact with key landowners of the Morgan County Forest Landowners Association.

Northern Missouri position now open! We are actively looking for a Field Specialist in Natural Resources that will cover Northern Missouri. This position will be housed in Macon and involves planning, developing, implementing, and evaluating science-based natural resource educational programs for our cornerstone programs such as Missouri Woodland Steward, Missouri Master Wildlifer, and Missouri Master Naturalist. The incumbent will also support youth programs in forestry, fisheries and wildlife, and environmental science.

Missouri Consulting Foresters Association

The recent Missouri Consulting Foresters association was held November 3-4, 2022, on three Morgan County properties that have been under long-term active management. The 496-acre Brauning Tree Farm has used forestry advice since the 1950s. The Haake 461-acre Tree Farm and the Bloess 516-acre Tree Farm began using advice by foresters beginning in the 1980s. Forester written management plans, tree planting experiments, timber harvests, FSI, establishing warm season grasses, and pollinator seeding are just some of the practices that have been implemented in the last several decades.

Although the management plans developed by foresters to meet landowner objectives have undergone several iterations and landowner objectives have broadened over time, the primary objectives of managing for a healthy forests, habitat, and occasional revenue from timber harvests have remained consistent. The Farm Forester who began work with the Brauning family is not known. However, MDC retired forester, Larry Lackamp's name is on an early management plan. Since then, management plans written by Dennis Rhoades (retired MDC) and Eric Yarnell, Yarnell Forestry Consulting LLC, have been written.

Ecological considerations of geology and soils influence capability of tree species to thrive on the landscape. Situated on the outer edge of the Ozark Highlands, not far from prairie soils to the north and west, the area features Dolomite, Limestone, and intrusions of Rubidoux Sandstone overlaid with loess soils deposits and best suited for forest and woodlands. The Rubidoux sandstone is needed by shortleaf pine for optimal growth and the loess soil benefits tree growth.

Oklahoma State forestry graduate and forestry consultant, Ed Wheeler (deceased), became involved in the 1970's. Ed likely identified that old fields could be planted with shortleaf, loblolly, red and white pines. Yellow-poplar was also part of the experiment to learn what species would be better suited for the soils. Records were kept that described the sources of seed and seedlings. Flash forward to the present, it is obvious that the species and seed and seedling sources proved successful. Please keep in mind that Missouri pine, shortleaf, was in fairly strong demand and Ed Wheeler was likely an eternal optimist that markets for pines grown in Missouri could be marketed effectively. Besides experimenting with tree planting, Ed Wheeler also developed the Morgan County Landowner Association that involved the Brauning, Haake, Bloess Tree Farms, and some other forest owners. The Association was active but discontinued probably due to decline of Ed's health. Brauning and Haake properties join and he Bloess Property; owned and managed by Steve Bloess, a Missouri Forestry graduate; is within 10 driving miles of the Haake and Brauning properties.

Chris Lohmann, Heartland Forest Consulting LLC our Fall Meeting tour guide provided background of the three tracts and guided a tour of the managed stands. Chris's crew,

is presently marking timber on the Haake Tree Farm. Chris has also marked and assisted in the sale of pine sawtimber from the Brauninger Tree Farm to a local sawmill. Some of those timbers are being utilized in a timber frame barn located near Sedalia. Additional tour stops and discussions on the Haake property included reviewing the pine stands, TSI treatments on previously harvested stands, discussing the potential impacts of plans to use prescribed fire on selected stands to improve woodland habitat. Based on the capability of the site to produce oak seedlings, a prescribed fire will likely stimulate growth of oak seedlings presently growing on the site, ensuring they are recruited into the stand. David Haake accompanied the tour and provided a description of the repeated applications of herbicide to prepare a ridge-top old field for pollinators. David also described the repeatedly successful deer hunts. During the lunch meal Joe Alley, NRCS state forester, provided information and answered questions about the forestry planning process.

The Day 1 tour concluded with a business meeting and a “grill your own steak” supper with baked potato, Dutch oven BBQ beans, and salad. Many thanks to Shelby Jones who stared as the steak chef and Sam Orr for stoking the coals under the baked spuds. Bruce Palmer treated us to a sampling of Blacksmith Bourbon distilled in Lohman, MO. Chris and his crew have marked and assisted in the harvest of oak timber on the Bloess Tree Farm. Our tour, guided by Steve Bloess, included reviewing and discussing the results of the marked timber harvest and need for FSI. We also discussed the need for a thinning of and for markets for shortleaf and loblolly pines that were planted in the 1980s. The Bloess Tree Farm is part of a Conservation Opportunity Area as it is the headwaters for Big Buffalo Creek, featuring habitat for the Niangua darter and several other endangered species and species of conservation concern. Day 2 concluded with a grilled brats and sides lunch hosted by Steve Bloess.

We had a total of 15 MCFA members and 14 guests who participated the two-day Fall Meeting. MOSAF members totaled 11. Thanks to Hank Stelzer for bringing Joni Harper, a local Extension Specialist; Brian Schweiss, an experienced forester and newly mined Forestry Extension Specialist; and three forestry students.

When forest management is implemented for 30 years and more, the results and take-home point is that management works! Healthy forests, quality wildlife habitat, and supply a supply of clean water for a significant stream located in a Conservation Opportunity Area are the beneficiaries. Thank you to Chris for a great tour!

MOSAF Business Meeting Minutes – 10/26/2022

Meeting minutes are also available at <https://www.mosaf.net/meeting-minutes.html>.

Date: Wednesday Oct 26, 2022

Location: Holiday Inn, Cape Girardeau MO

1. Welcome

Michael Bill, MOSAF Chair, called the meeting to order at 5:22pm

2. Minutes

Motion to approve the spring meeting minutes was passed.

3. Treasurers Report: David Vance, Treasurer, was not in attendance but provided a written report. As of Oct 1, 2022:

- Account balances:

Savings	\$121.18
6 Month CD	\$19,155.83
12 Month CD	\$19,335.70
Checking	\$10,743.36
PLT Money Market	\$11,558.71
- Recent Transactions:

Donation, MU Student Chapter to attend National Convention	\$500.00
Deposits, Fall Tour/Meeting registrations	\$383.52
- Some government computers wouldn't allow use of Square. Most folks used their phone instead. Overall, David found using Square saved a lot of time and effort.
- A request was made to the chapter to think of ways to spend down our \$40k balance, such as providing more or bigger scholarships. The officers will discuss this further at the leadership meeting at MNRC.
- MU students appreciated the donation from the chapter to send them to the National Convention. They placed 2nd in the quiz bowl.
- Megan Buchanan will audit the chapter again this year.

4. Announcements

- Missouri Natural Resources Conference is coming up. We need to start planning.
- The biennial Southern Silviculture Conference will be held in Texas this spring.
- The Wetlands Summit in Missouri will be the week before MNRC at Lake of the Ozarks.
- MU and MSU forestry students will be attending a regional Forestry Conclave at SIU next weekend.

5. Committee Reports:

- Communications/Website (Jon Skinner)
 - Got Square up and running on the website.

- Put a permanent link on the site to donate \$5 increments to the student fund. Square takes 2.9% and 0.30 off the top.
- Council, Fellows and Awards (Jim Barresi)
 - Please give nominations to Jim, to be awarded at spring meeting at MNRC
- Education (Mike Goerndt)
 - We have Project Learning Tree funds.
- Membership (Hank Stelzer)
 - Membership is flat; 135 total.
- Program (Kristen Goodrich)
 - Options for our spring tour were discussed in New Business
- MNRC Steering Committee (Jon Skinner)
 - Conference is Feb 7-9, 2023. The theme is “New Frontiers in an Old Landscape.”
 - The Wildlife Society (TWS) is in charge this year but most people running MNRC are not in TWS.
 - If you have a topic for the Forestry workshop, abstracts are due Nov 8.
 - Any topics longer than 2 hours can be presented under the affiliated workshops. If you suggest a topic, you are in charge of planning the workshop.
 - Costs
 - Registration is \$115 for society members, late registration is \$135.
 - Margaritaville has increased price dramatically. Example: price of kegs has doubled. The contract with the hotel is through 2024.
 - A room is now \$114/night, and room reservations begin Jan 9th. Jon encourages everyone to reserve a room even if you may not attend, since you can cancel the room up to 72 hours beforehand.
 - Commercial Booths are increasing from \$300 to \$400. Anticipate that commercial booths will go up to \$450 in 2024. Non-profit booths are 150 with 1 registration.
 - Sponsorship levels are unchanged.
 - Our MOSAF chapter is hosting in 2024.
 - The theme is “Education: the Theme of Conservation Success.”
 - Looking for a plenary speaker. Let Justine Gartner or Jon Skinner know if have an appropriate suggestion.
 - No outside food will be allowed our year, so no more Lutz BBQ.
 - This will be Jon’s last year, so someone will have to take over.
 - Soil and Water is going to look at other hotels for a cheaper option for 2025.

6. Old Business

- Update on progress related to MOSAF Nonprofit status
 - Completed.
 - Student chapters are supposed to be under our chapter. MU is currently our only student chapter. They have their own account which is run entirely through students. No faculty or MU staff can be on their account.

7. New Business

- Planning for Forestry session at MNRC Due Nov 8 and Spring meeting

- See committee reports for MNRC planning. Michael Bill and Kristen Goodrich will work on the conference.
 - Kristen Goodrich asked for suggestions for a spring meeting topic. Urban forestry was suggested. Jon Skinner thinks he could get Danny Moncheski and Mark Gruber to help us plan if it is held in St. Louis. This topic can tie into MDC's push for prioritizing community conservation cities. Kristen will send an email to poll folks on dates.
- Report of the SAF national conference
 - 1,300 attendees. The theme was "Our Working Mosaic."
- Support of students to attend SAF convention
 - There was general chapter consensus that we continue to give financial assistance to students to attend the National SAF convention, since it is a great networking and learning opportunity.

8. Agency/consulting firm/NGO/university news

- FS Northern Research Station
 - Dan Dey is now serving as the Acting Assistant Station Director for Research in the Northern Research Station.
 - John Kabrick is serving as Acting Project Leader while Dan is in this role.
 - Texas Nall, the Chief Technician at the Sinkin Experimental Forest, retired on September 30th after more than 20 years of service to the Experimental Forest, so his vacancy is planned to be filled.
- Natural Resources Conservation Services
 - Expecting a substantial influx of funds as a result of Inflation Reduction Act.
 - Dollars will be targeted at Climate Smart Agriculture and Forestry (CSAF). Not sure what this will look like specifically, but will provide more funding towards forest management, agroforestry practices, and general tree/shrub establishment.
 - NRCS staff numbers will not change much. To deliver increased funding, they are looking into utilizing new and existing partnerships. They are also looking for ways to streamline internal Farm Bill Program implementation processes.
 - In FY22, conservation practice 666/Forest Stand Improvement was not on the list of CSAF practices because there was not sufficient documentation to show a short term benefit to carbon sequestration or storage. This means no additional funds available to implement our #1 forest management practice.
 - Many states lobbied on behalf of 666 and other practices based on their merits for climate resilience. Joe Alley was part of a small team involved with providing input.
 - FY23 CSAF list does include 666 in provisional status but requires support in terms of quantifiable carbon benefits. NRCS is working with USFS researchers and others to assist with this. This is a good opportunity for SAF assistance.
- University of Missouri
 - Brian Schweiss is starting Nov 1 in a position that is mostly Extension with some teaching. He will be working with the Missouri Woodland Steward program and

- a liaison with the White Oak Initiative. He'll be teaching forest mensuration, forest management, and a new harvesting/operations course.
- The director for the Center for Agroforestry, Sarah Lovell, is retiring January 1. SNR has announced to refill the position, and Ben Knapp will be serving as the interim director until the position is filled.
- Missouri Department of Conservation
 - A third party auditor recertified MDC through the Sustainable Forestry Initiative. Full recertification occurs every 5 years.
 - The agency continues to have difficulty recruiting foresters for its vacancies, as well as difficulty with forester retention.
- Missouri Consulting Foresters
 - Having their meeting next week.

Meeting adjourned.

(The following article is for you to share with your local paper. Modify as appropriate for your locality.)

Trees Need Healthy Soil

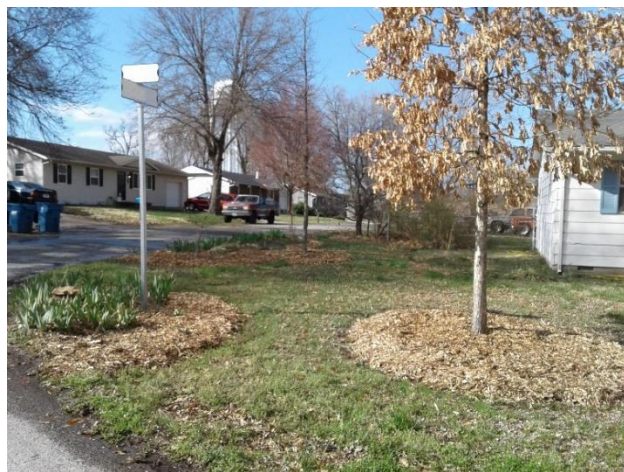
Soil is more than just dirt. Dirt is the stuff you clean up in your house. Soil is more. It is composed of minerals, living organisms, soil organic matter, air, and water.

Trees and all other plants require soil to have the right balance of inorganic particles, organic material, and air space which also holds water. The ideal soil has forty-fifty percent minerals, five percent organic matter, and fifty percent air space.



The structure of the soil also matters to plants. Good soil will have a mixture of large and small spaces between the soil particles. This allows air to fill the larger spaces and water to cling to the soil particles in the smaller spaces. When the soil is compacted, the larger spaces are collapsed and in extreme conditions the smaller spaces are as well.

Most yards, parks, or any other landscaped and/or developed sites have some level of compacted soil. This limits the amount of air and water the soil may hold. Without air and/or water, of course plants will struggle and/or die. The compacted soil also makes it very difficult to impossible for tree and other plant roots to grow through the soil. If the roots cannot expand out away from the tree or plant, their development will be reduced or nonexistent. Often compacted soils have living organisms and organic matter which also leads to less water storage and mineral availability to trees and plants.



How do you help your tree do better in these conditions? Ideally it begins prior to development of a site. Areas where structures and pavement are not going to be need protected with no construction activity allowed on them. For developed sites without trees and plants that have had this occur, there are techniques to aerate the soil and organic matter. It is harder for developed sites with trees. There are various techniques where the soil is loosened and has minor to no

damaging effect on your trees. The easiest of them all is properly placing and maintaining organic mulch around your tree. As the mulch breaks down by action of living organisms, it adds organic matter to the soil. As this occurs the soil loosens slightly reducing the compaction and allows more air, water, and minerals to be available for the tree.

Foresters are knowledgeable in many of the techniques and can help you come up with a potential solution to improve your soil conditions which will help your tree. To find a forester to help you on your property, contact the Missouri Consulting Foresters Association at <http://www.missouriforesters.com> or the Missouri Department of Conservation at <https://mdc.mo.gov>.

The Missouri Society of American Foresters (MOSAF) is a State Society of The Society of American Foresters (SAF). MOSAF and SAF is a professional society dedicated to sound forest management and conservation.