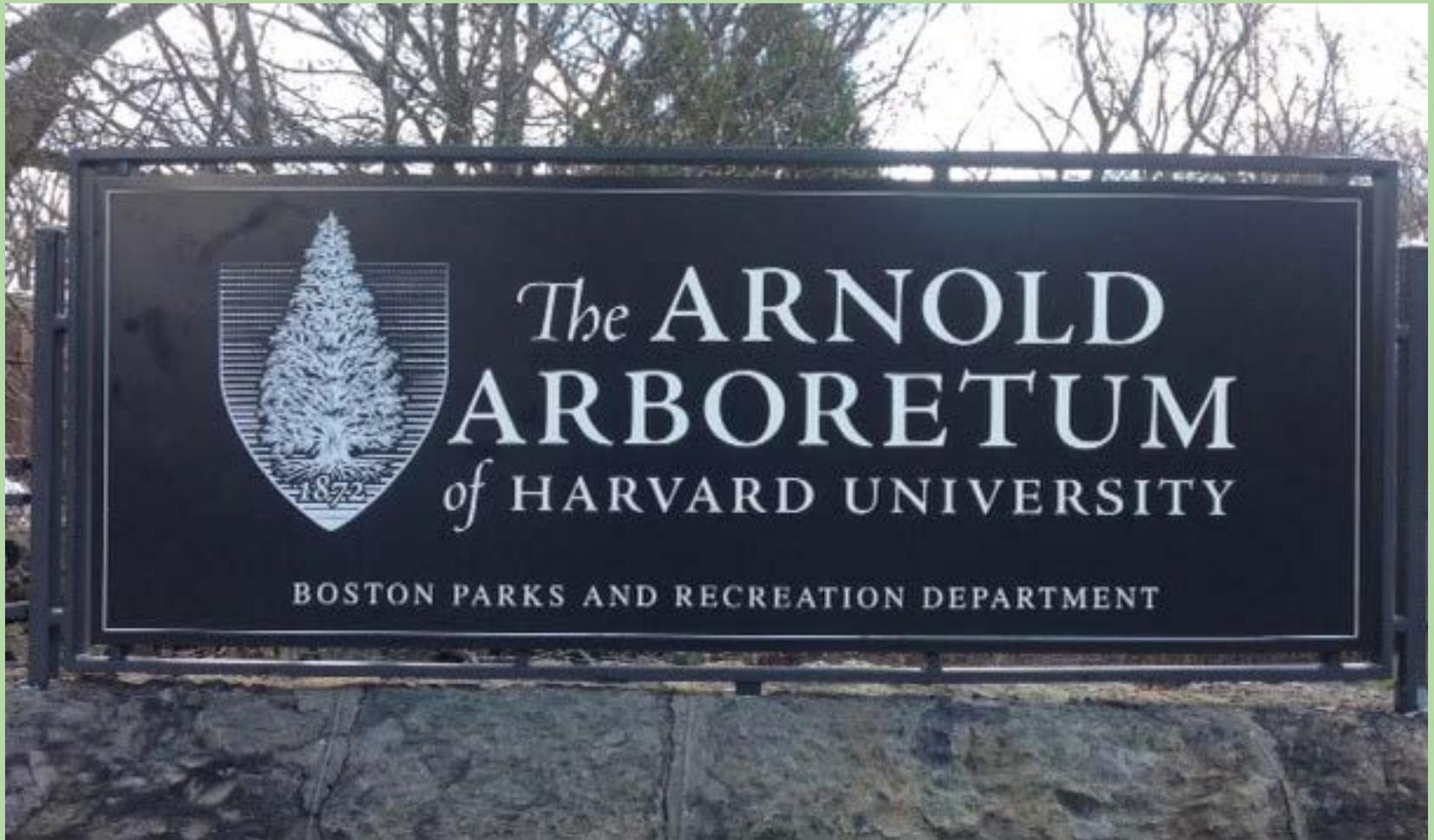


Taking Care of The Arnold Arboretum

A red arborvitae shearer machine is positioned on a grassy area next to a paved road. The machine is spraying a powerful stream of water onto a large, dense tree. The background is filled with more trees and a clear blue sky. The machine has a red frame and a green nozzle. A red hose is connected to the machine and runs across the grass.

By Ana Maria Caballero
September 25, 2015

The Arboretum is a tree museum. It was created in 1872 for the citizens of Boston, Massachusetts.



Harvard University maintains the plant collections and uses them for research, conservation, and education.

The people who work here take good care of the trees and other plants that grow in the Arboretum.



The dawn redwood is the symbol of the Arboretum



There is always something beautiful to discover.

They also care for the visitors who come to enjoy this beautiful landscape.



Let's find out about how to care for this place.



Arborists are people who take care of trees.



Robert Ervin works at the Arnold Arboretum.



Arborists have to get up into the trees to do their job.



Arborists prune tree branches that are broken or old.

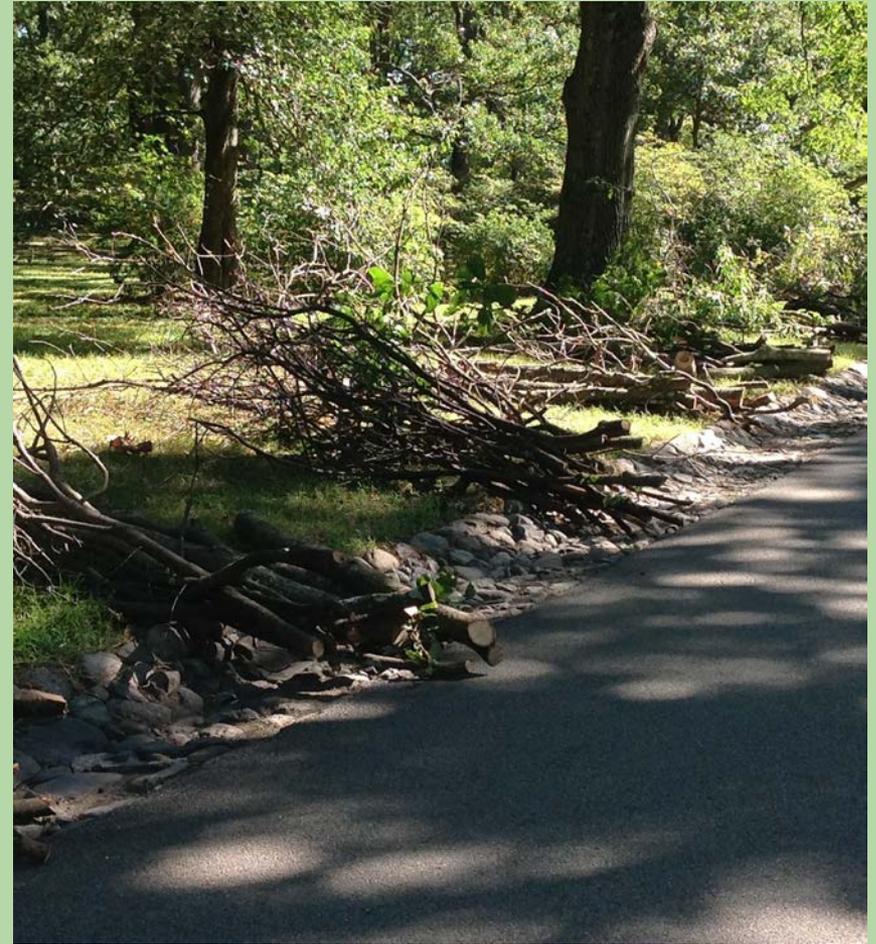
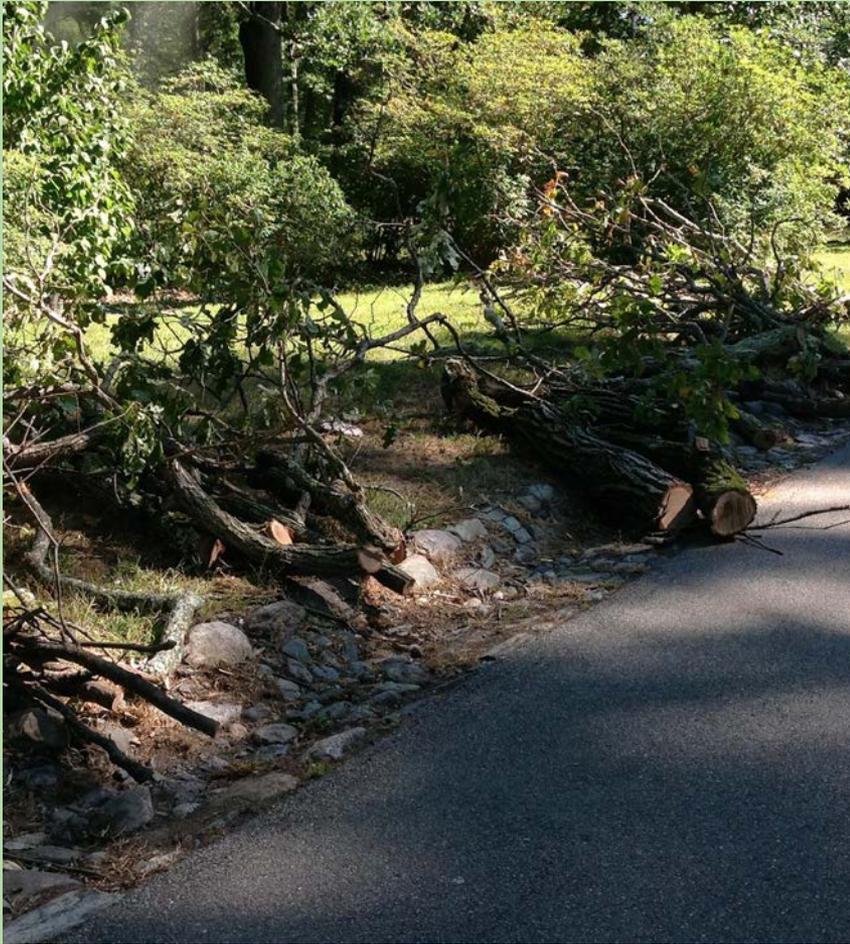


They also inspect the leaves and bark for insects or disease.

Arborists sometimes mark dying or dead trees with white ribbons. It is important to keep the landscape safe and healthy for both people and plants.



What is happening here? Why is this important?



Sometimes trees need help to stay strong or grow straight.



Wires help keep branches together so they don't break off during storms.



Ropes and stakes help keep a young tree growing straight up.

Plants need water to grow. When it is very dry, Arboretum workers help by watering the landscape.



Young trees are cared for in the nursery. They get extra attention with water and nutrients. When they are old enough, the trees are planted in the landscape.



Gardeners dig a trench for irrigation pipes, and prepare the soil for new plantings. The Arboretum is always adding new plants to its collections.



These movable paths for heavy trucks keep tree roots from getting hurt and the soil from being disturbed.



Some signs teach us how to get around the Arboretum



This map shows the different paths visitors can take.



Some signs teach us about the trees themselves.



Tree ID tags tell us the name of the tree, where it came from, and when it was added to the collection. They can be found hanging from a branch, on the trunk or at the base of the tree.

What information can you get from this tree ID tag?



Some signs help us to do what is right.



Here are some other ways the Arboretum cares for its visitors and the landscape.



Even our dog friends get a drink on hot days!

It is important to keep the park clean. Why?



Next time you visit the Arnold Arboretum, look for all the clues that tell you how people take care of the Arboretum.



You too, can help take care of the Arboretum!



Glossary

plant collection:	all the trees and other plants that are planted in the Arboretum
inspect:	to look very carefully
irrigation pipes:	pipes that carry water to the plants
landscape:	all the features that are part of the grounds of the Arboretum
nutrients:	minerals, vitamins, and other materials that help a plant grow
prune:	to cut away