

# Choose herbicides carefully for controlling volunteer trees

Though trees are a vital part of our landscapes, there are situations where volunteer trees need to be controlled. This is often a case of the wrong plant in the wrong place. If the tree is a desirable species, you may want to consider transplanting in the spring. If it is not, accurate control measures would be in order.

Most trees re-sprout after cutting though some don't. Cutting those that don't re-sprout is an effective control method. For example, eastern red cedar is a very common species that will not re-sprout after cutting. Those that do re-sprout include Siberian elm, hackberry, osage orange (hedgeball), oak, ash, aspen, cottonwood, maple, sycamore, willow and many more. These trees will either need to be dug out or the cut stump treated with herbicide after cutting.

Note that when we say volunteer trees, we mean those that come from seed rather than suckers that come from the roots of an existing tree. The recommendations given in the remainder of this article are designed to kill these volunteer trees. Using herbicides on suckers will damage and very possibly kill the original tree.

Trees that commonly produce suckers include tree of heaven, honeylocust, black lo-



**Clint Milliman**

• Knowledge for Life

cust, hackberry, western soapberry, cottonwood, aspen, poplar, willow and boxelder. It is also possible for larger trees of the same species to be root-grafted. Even though root-grafted trees are not suckers, they do share materials between the individual root systems and therefore herbicides used to treat one tree can be passed to its neighbor.

So let's say we have a tree we want to control that is a volunteer and there are no other trees of the same species close enough to be root-grafted that we do not wish to harm. What do we do? If the tree is any size, you probably do not want to dig it out. That leaves using a herbicide on the cut stump. Basal treatments are also possible but that is beyond the scope of this article.

First decide what herbicide to use. Triclopyr and glyphosate are the herbicides most com-

monly available to homeowners. Triclopyr is found in many brush killers and glyphosate is found in Roundup as well as numerous other products.

Read the label before purchasing to make sure that a cut stump treatment is listed. Most often the undiluted product is applied to the stump immediately after cutting. A paint brush is often used for the application though some people will dip their pruning shears in the products immediately before cutting. Regardless, it is important that the stump is treated immediately or at least within 5 minutes. Note that a paint brush with foam rather than bristles is less likely to drip.

Trees do not need to be actively growing to be controlled. Actually, this time of year is a very good time to treat as long as applications are not made when the temperature is below freezing.

*Clint Milliman is the Thomas County agriculture and natural resources agent with Kansas State Research and Extension. A native of Illinois, Milliman works with area 4-H clubs, farmers and ranchers.*

## Babies

### Timber Laine Lindberg

Timber Laine Lindberg, daughter of Kyle and Toni Lindberg of Colby, was born Tuesday, Dec. 13, 2011, at Citizens Medical Center in Colby. She weighed 7 pounds, 4 ounces and measured 19 inches.

Brother Laken Ridge Lindberg welcomed the baby home.

Timber is the granddaughter of Gary and Annette Lindberg of Colby, Dick and Becky Dempewolf of Colby and Todd and Sandy Houseman of Dodge City.

Her great-grandparents are Marvin and Marilyn Lindberg of Salina, Chet and Nina Hays of Grinnell and J.D. and Sharon Houseman of Liberal.



**Timber Lindberg**

### Dylen Andrew Shanahan



**Dylen Shanahan**

Dylen Andrew Shanahan, son of Christopher Shanahan and Shania Finley of Colby, was born Thursday, Dec. 8, 2011, at Citizens Medical Center in Colby. He weighed 7 pounds and measured 20 1/2 inches.

Brother Breylen Andrew Shanahan welcomed the baby home.

## Two area students receive scholarships

Several area students have accepted scholarships to attend Fort Hays State University for the 2011-2012 academic year.

The final scholarship awards for the 2011-2012 academic year were recently announced by FHSU.

Scholarship winners are arranged by hometown.

**Colby:** Brittany Bange, a 2011 Colby High School graduate, accepted a \$700 Fort Hays Bronze Academic Award. Bange is the

daughter of Paul and Tawnia Bange, Colby. She is majoring in art.

**Hoxie:** Cayle Taylor, a 2011 Hoxie High School graduate, accepted a \$900 Academic Opportunity Award from the College of Business and Leadership and a \$500 Copper Academic Award. Taylor is the son of Kory and Stacie Taylor, Hoxie. He is majoring in business.

## Discarded police car sold online to civilian

CHATTANOOGA, Tenn. (AP) — An Ellijay, Ga., police car that was supposed to have been crushed by a towing company ended up on Craigslist instead.

Chattanooga Police Officer Todd Clay pulled over the driver on Nov. 18 after seeing a Ford Crown Victoria with blue lights and a bumper guard but a personal license plate.

After stopping the car, he discovered it also had a siren, a dash camera and radar.

Luke Ridings said he bought the car online for \$4,000, according to the *Chattanooga Times Free Press* (<http://bit.ly/vRKR4t>).

Ridings, who is 20, was charged with underage drinking, financial responsibility and driving an unregistered vehicle. He is free on \$1,500 bond and jail officials did not know whether he had an attorney.

Chattanooga police took possession of the car.

## Three run toilet paper scam

WEST PALM BEACH, Fla. (AP) — Talk about a dirty scam.

Federal prosecutors in Florida say at least three people working for a septic tank company duped customers into buying about \$1 million in unnecessary products — in some cases enough toilet paper to last more than 70 years.

More than a dozen customers were told they needed special toilet paper to avoid ruining their septic tanks because the federal government changed regulations on toilet paper. The federal gov-

ernment does not regulate septic tank products.

The trio pleaded guilty in federal court to conspiring to commit wire fraud.

The *Miami Herald* reported (<http://bit.ly/uNgbS7>) that they worked for FBK Products. A phone number for the Riviera Beach-based company was not working Saturday.

The trio faces up to two decades in prison when they are sentenced in February.

## Watch for scams when giving to charity

Any discussion on charitable giving during the holidays has to start with a warning. Watch out for scams!

"Scam artists are active year round," said IRS spokesman Michael Devine. "Don't let them take advantage of your good intentions. Research unfamiliar organizations, check with the Better Business Bureau and the state attorney general's office before making a donation."

The IRS offers some reminders that individuals and businesses should keep in mind when making contributions to a charity.

- Contributions are deductible

in the year made. So, donations charged to your credit card before the end of 2011 counts for 2011. This is true even if the credit card bill isn't paid until 2012. Also, checks count for 2011 as long as they are mailed in 2011 and clear shortly thereafter.

- Check that the organization is qualified. Only donations to qualified organizations are tax-deductible. IRS Publication 78 can be found at [www.irs.gov](http://www.irs.gov) and lists most organizations that are qualified to receive deductible contributions. In addition, churches, synagogues, temples, mosques and government agencies are eli-

gible to receive deductible donations, even if they are not listed in Publication 78.

- Individuals who itemize on Form 1040 Schedule A can claim deductions for charitable contributions. This deduction is not available if you choose the standard deduction, including anyone who files a short form (Form 1040A or 1040EZ).

- For all donations of property, including clothing and household items, get a receipt from the charity, if possible. The receipt should include the name of the charity, date of the contribution, and a reasonably-detailed description of

the donated property. If a donation is left at a charity's unattended drop site, keep a written record of the donation that includes this information. Also include the fair market value of the property at the time of the donation and the method used to determine that value. More rules apply for a contribution of \$250 or more.

For information on charitable giving, visit [www.irs.gov](http://www.irs.gov) and see Publication 526, Charitable Contributions or check out our Charitable Contributions video on the IRS YouTube Channel.

## Gove County now a Rural Opportunity Zone

Gove County is the latest northwest Kansas county to join the Rural Opportunity Zone student loan reimbursement program.

Gove, along with Chatauqua and Pawnee counties, joined the program recently, bringing the number of counties participating to 43. Thomas, Decatur, Cheyenne, Graham, Greeley, Logan, Norton, Rawlins and Sherman counties are already participating.

"I'm pleased to have Chatauqua, Gove and Pawnee counties included as part of the program," said Kansas Commerce Secretary Pat George. "We continue to have strong interest in the program as we get ready to welcome the first participants starting in 2012."

The Rural Opportunity Zone program offers student loan reimbursement of up to \$3,000 per year for five years for individuals that graduate from an accredited post-secondary college or technical school. In addition, people moving from out-of-state could be eligible for 100 percent state income tax reimbursement, if

they have lived outside of Kansas for at least the past five years and have had Kansas source income of less than \$10,000 per year over the past five years.

"Recognizing that our biggest struggle is the 'outmigration' of people, Gove County is thrilled to be able to be a part of the Rural Opportunity Zones program," said Ericka Gillespie, chairwoman of the Citizens for the Economic Development of Gove County and city administrator for Quinter. "Our commitment to ROZs is a clear message that not only reflects how the Kansas Legislature feels about rural Kansas, but how counties like Gove can take the opportunity to invest in themselves by adding student loan repayment into their incentive packages to bring people into their regions. Our wish is that people looking at rural Kansas will hear a message that we want them here, and we are willing to do our part to help them move into an area of the state we feel is extraordinary in many ways."

The application form for the student loan repayment program is available online on the Department's website at [KansasCommerce.com/RuralOpportunityZones](http://KansasCommerce.com/RuralOpportunityZones). A printed version of the form can be requested by contacting Dan Lara, public information officer for the Department, at (785) 296-3760 or [dlara@kansascommerce.com](mailto:dlara@kansascommerce.com).

The state tax exemption is entirely state financed, so all ROZs-designated counties are automatic participants in that part of the program, and there is not a formal application procedure. Questions about the tax exemption should be directed to the Department of Revenue at (785) 368-8222.

The program designates 50 qualifying counties based on population loss over the last 10 years. Those who haven't decided to participate are Comanche, Elk, Osborne, Republic, Sheridan, Washington and Wilson counties.

## Lost dog returns home thanks to friendly stranger in Florida

KANSAS CITY, Mo. (AP) — After getting lost in Florida, Addison the dachshund is back with her owner in Kansas in time for Christmas — and she arrived in style.

The 7-year-old dachshund flew first class from Tampa, Fla., on Monday and was reunited with 14-year-old Abby Mason of Olathe, Kan., at the Kansas City International Airport.

The lucky dog got the special treatment thanks to Crista Banks, a Florida dachshund owner and vol-

unteer, who had seen emails from Abby about her missing dog and decided to help. Banks had some Delta frequent flyer miles going to waste, so she offered to use them to fly Addison to Kansas City.

Banks thought she'd come along, and when she bought tickets, they got an upgrade to first class.

"I really wanted to get this dog back to Abby," Banks told *The Kansas City Star* (<http://bit.ly/siG6lf>).

The whole thing started when Abby, who got Addison as a puppy, left the dog with family mem-

bers in Arizona while she went to visit her father in Olathe for the summer. When summer was over, Abby decided she wanted to stay in Olathe and go to school. Meanwhile, her Arizona family had moved to Florida.

"I didn't know for a long time that Addison was lost down there," Abby said.

When she found out, she started calling and emailing every animal shelter she could find in Florida. Finally, workers at Hillsborough Animal Services in Tampa traced a microchip back to the uncle who had taken Addison to Florida. The

decision was made to somehow reunite Addison to Abby.

Banks said when she saw Addison and Abby reunited at the airport she knew those miles were put to good use.

"Just in time for the holidays," she said. "These two belong together."

Abby called the stranger, "My lovely friend Crista."

"This means the world to me," Abby said.

## Corrections

The Colby Free Press wants to maintain an accurate record of our town. Please report any error or lack of clarity in a news story to us at 462-3963.

## Markets

Quotes as of close of previous business day

Hi-Plains Co-op	
Wheat (bushel)	\$6.18
Corn (bushel)	\$5.97
Milo (hundredweight)	\$10.14
Soybeans (bushel)	\$10.09

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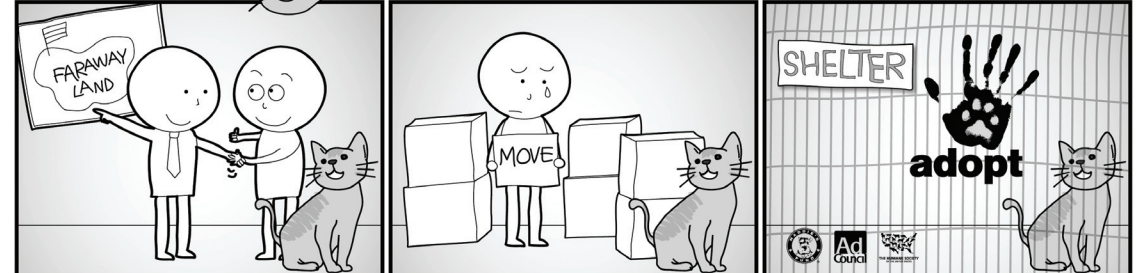
Wednesday – Noon to 6:30 pm  
Thursday – 2:00 to 6:30 pm  
Friday – 9:00 am to 1:00 pm and 2:00 to 6:30 pm

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