

Let me quote from a 1972 letter by David G. Leach, then President of the American Horticultural Society, to Congressman John William Stanton of Virginia, urging the passage of the National Arbor Day legislation H.J. Res. 563.

"Many people unthinkingly tend to associate Arbor Day with the little red schoolhouse and the quaint customs of another day, when Arbor Day is now more important to our welfare than ever before. As the population explodes, over 1,000,000 acres of the green and growing are paved with masonry, concrete or asphalt every year. About 78 trees are needed to absorb the carbon dioxide and produce the oxygen needed to maintain the balance in the atmosphere for every single person in the United States. Twenty trees are required to offset the effect of a car driven 60 miles in one day. More than 100,000 trees are needed to cancel the atmospheric pollution of just one commercial jet traveling each day round trip between New York and Los Angeles. New York City, which should have 78 trees for each person, has ¼ tree per person! Israel, aware of the growing menace, has planted 100,000,000 trees to reforest mountains which have been barren for 2,000 years. The preservation of trees and plants, may be literally a matter of survival."

Concerning noise pollution, an Ohio Forestry Association publication points out that "Each 100 foot width of trees can absorb about 6 to 8 decibels of sound intensity. Properly planted

trees can absorb enough traffic noise to make living nearby bearable. Around airports, trees can be effective to lower the noise of aircraft."

For too long have adult Americans primarily considered the observance of Arbor Day as strictly an activity by elementary school children. While Arbor Day programs by school children are still an important educational experience for young Americans who one day may be our Senators, Congressmen and even our President, it is vitally necessary that adult Americans and their organizations such as Rotary International get even more involved in the preservation and protection of our nation's trees in cities and towns, as well as in our open lands and forests. This can best be done by urging Congress and the President to establish a national observance of Arbor Day on the Last Friday in April. The unified observance of Arbor Day on this day nationally utilizing all the mediums of communication — T.V., radio, newspapers and magazines — as well as the planting of trees in great numbers or the symbolical planting of a single tree, will have a tremendous educational impact on young and old alike of the value and importance of trees to our way of life.

*Executive Secretary
Committee for a National Arbor Day
West Orange, New Jersey*

ABSTRACT

Kemmer, Harleigh. 1976. Managing outdoor lighting. *Grounds Maintenance* 11(9): 14, 16, 20.

Outdoor lighting extends the time available for play and other activities normally limited to daylight hours. Night lighting also provides security, safety, and creates interesting night scenes by accenting plants, walls, signs, pieces of sculpture, and other noteworthy features in the landscape. Design of lighting systems is generally done by electrical engineers. Installation and repair of the electrical components is handled by electricians and electrical contractors. The grounds manager becomes involved with the following activities: 1. Maintaining poles and other hardware. 2. Keeping tree and shrub branches from obstructing lights. 3. Protecting root systems of desirable trees and shrubs when wires are installed underground. 4. Checking for damage to plants. (Light affects the growth of some plants.) 5. Pruning or removing plants when security becomes a problem.