



Pratt Named to Governor's Council

Hagley Arborist Richard Pratt had the honor of being named to the Governor's Council on Forestry for a three-year term. "In my line of work," Pratt said regarding his appointment made by Governor Markell, "it's a very unique request from the Governor's Office to support the Forest Service (DFS) and Governor as someone to give direction on how forests are handled." As a member of the seven-person council, Pratt will advise on how to maintain and improve private and state forests—a step up from his role on the Urban Forestry Council, where he serves on its Grant Review Committee in aid to communities with public parks and city trees.

"We wanted somebody with a knowledge of forestry—trees—and we

wanted some representation from the northern part of the state...and we're glad to have his expertise, especially in the urban arena," said State Forester Michael Valenti.

Pratt developed a love of arboriculture from his summer job as an assistant arborist in training while attending Clarion State Teacher's College. Pursuing his passion at Drake Well State Park in his hometown of Titusville, Pennsylvania, he formed a relationship with famous pioneering tree pathologist Dr. Alex Shigo.

Pratt has been at Hagley twenty-two of the thirty-eight years he has been an arborist, and he lives in Clayton, Delaware.

He also received an "Outstanding Service Award" from the DFS in April.

Richard Pratt with Hagley's Osage Orange tree, the second largest in the United States.