Award of Excellence

2011 Arborist of the Year

Nevic Donnelly

Austin, Texas

2011
Texas Tree Conference
Awards Luncheon

Waco, Texas

October 6, 2011

Texas Chapter
International Society
of Arboriculture

TEXAS
FOREST SERVICE
The Texas A&M University System

2011 Texas Tree Conference

Awards Luncheon

Welcome and Introductions
John Giedraitis
TFS Urban Forestry Program Manager
ISAT COR Representative

Invocation
Deacon Jeff Heiple
Reicher Catholic High School
Waco, Texas

State of the Forest
Bill Oates, Associate Director, Texas Forest Service

Presentation of the
Texas Community Forestry Awards
Todd Watson, President ISAT
Bill Oates, Texas Forest Service

2011 Award Winners

Texas Community Forestry Awards

Individual Awards

2011 Texas Arborist of the Year
Nevic Donnelly

Project Awards

2011 Arboricultural Project of the Year
The Green Ribbon Project:
Corridor Aesthetics and Landscape Master Plan
Houston District
Texas Department of Transportation

2011 Gold Leaf
Arbor Day Award
Arbor Day Activities
City of Grand Prairie

2011 Gold Leaf
Landscape Beautification Award
Threes for Trees
Dallas Parks and Recreation

2011 Gold Leaf
Landscape Beautification Award
Super Grow XLV
Texas Tree Foundation

All award winners are requested to have their photos taken either before or after the program. Thank you.

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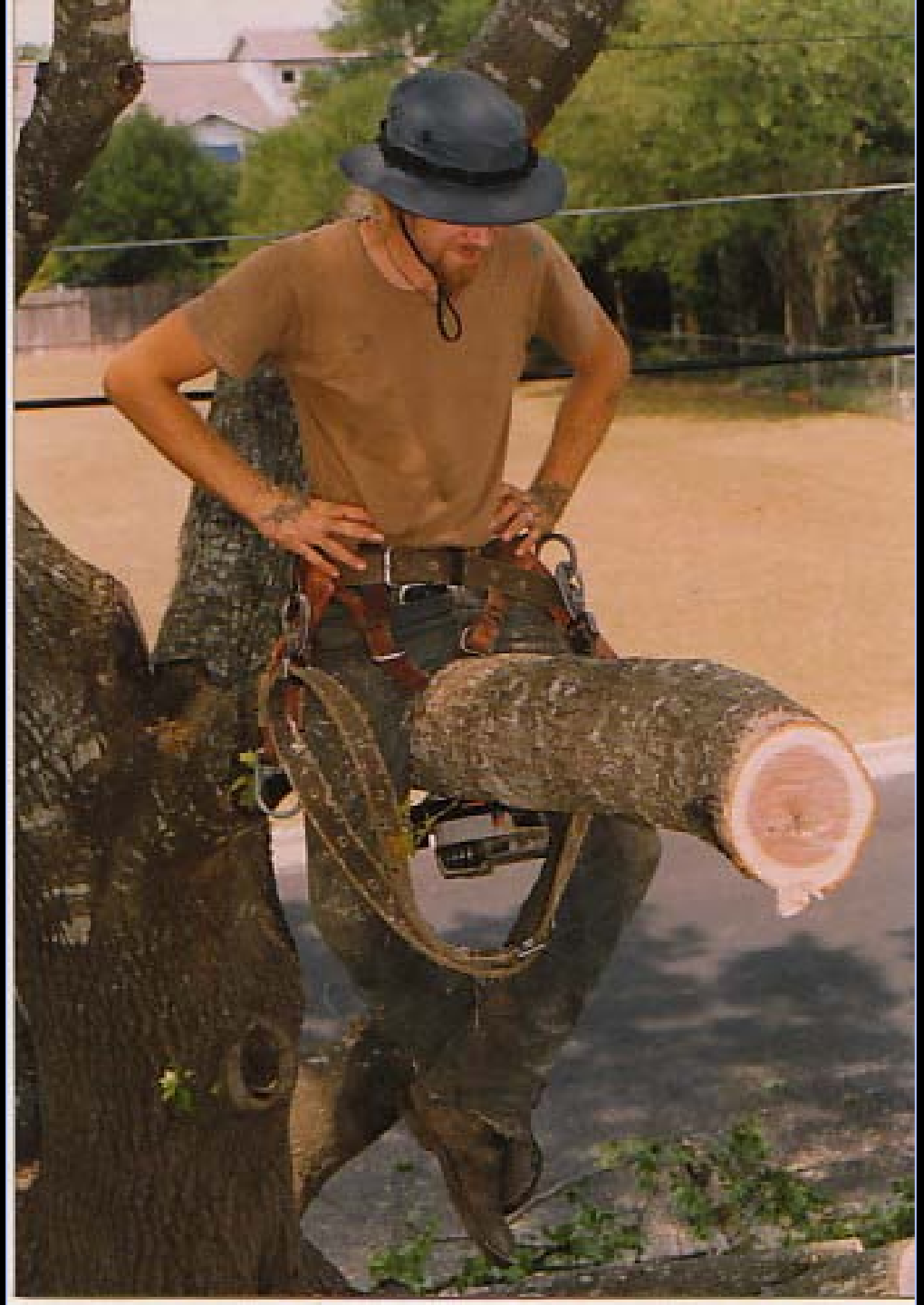
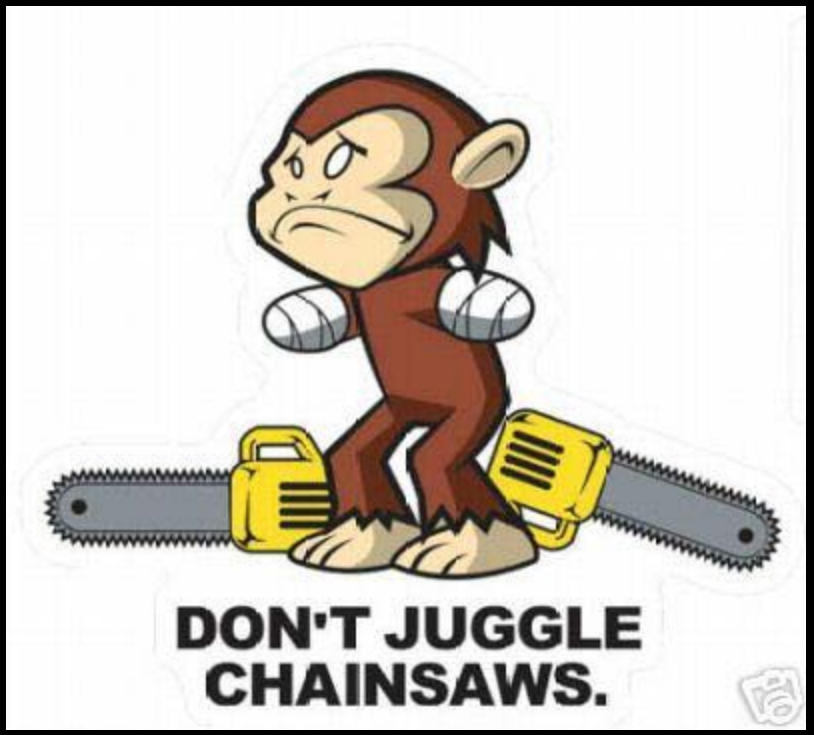
GREETINGS FROM
California



THEY MIGHT BE MONKEYS!
Texas Tree & Land Co.



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TEXAS CHAPTER
TEXAS TREE CLIMBING CHAMPIONSHIP
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THEY MIGHT BE MONKEYS!
Texas Tree & Land Co.

CERTIFIED ARBORIST
ISA
TX-3272

CERTIFIED TREE WORKER
ISA

MUNICIPAL SPECIALIST
ISA

THE GREAT APE GEAR CACHE
ARBORIST / FIRE / RESCUE

TEXAS OAK WILT CERTIFIED
TOWC-0022

GREEN GARDEN
CERTIFIED

TEXAS CHAPTER
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30TH TEXAS TREE CONFERENCE

TREE ACADEMY, AWARDS AND TREE SCHOOL

ROUND ROCK, TEXAS SEPTEMBER 30 - OCTOBER 2, 2009 AUSTIN MARRIOTT NORTH HOTEL

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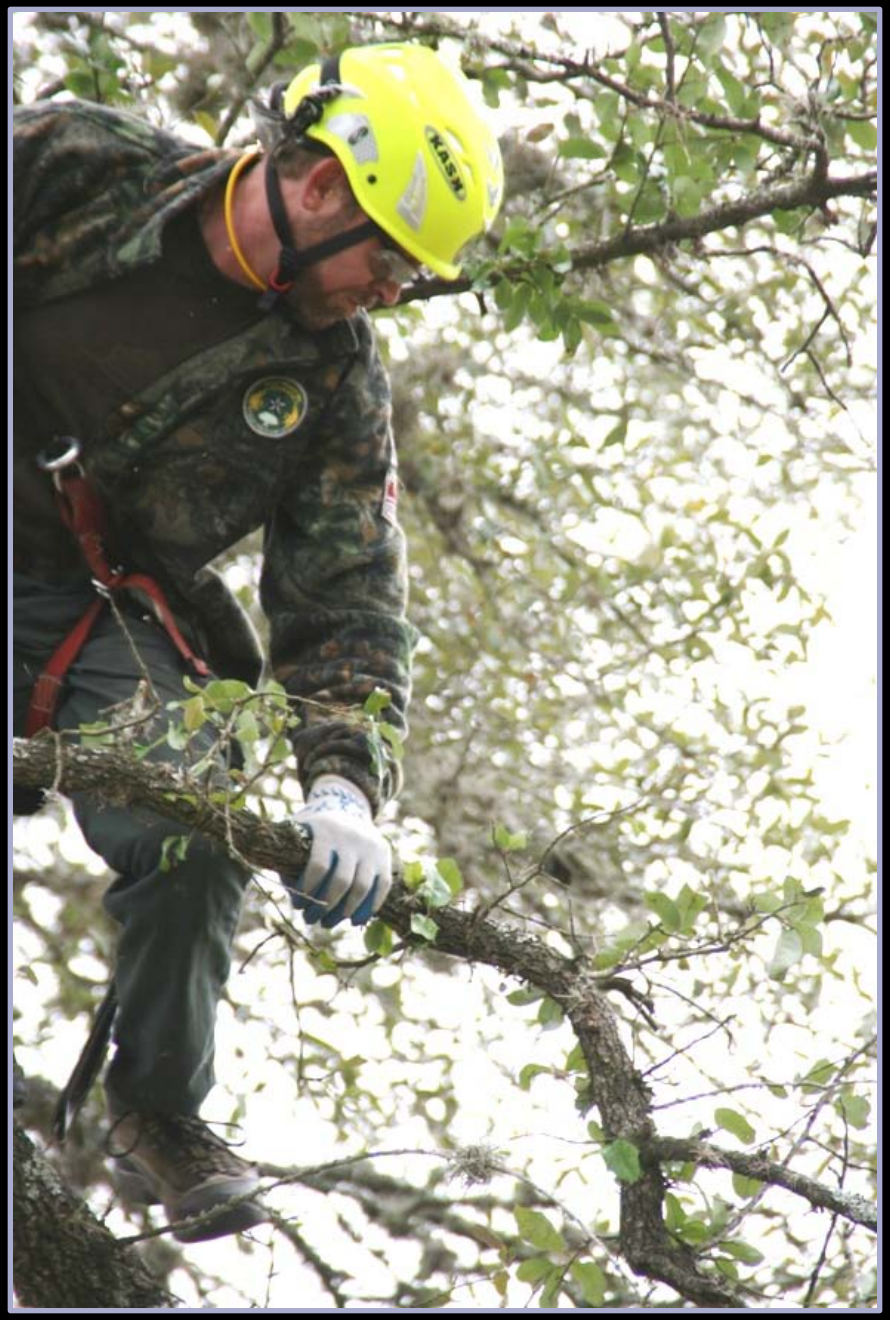
- Treaty Oak
- Wildflower Center
- Not A&M (in Austin)

URBAN FORESTRY
CITY OF AUSTIN



They Might Be Monkeys!

swings to Accreditation

TREE CARE INDUSTRY MAGAZINE
The Official Publication of the Tree Care Industry Association
Volume XX, Number 6 - June 2009

By Rebecca Fater

They Might Be Monkeys! staff taking advantage of a rain day for some training in the shop include, from left, Steven Harthcock, Nevic Donnelly, Tim Noonan, Jackson McIntosh and Larissa Swindle.

All it takes is one phone call to Nevic Donnelly's business in

took that experience with him when he moved to Texas and landed a job running a tree crew.

"It fit me," says Donnelly, now 36. "It's been a career I enjoy and have been able to grow in, and it will probably be a job I'll be doing until I die." He stops and laughs, realizing his inadvertent death sentence, and corrects himself. "I'll grow to a ripe old age doing it, and peacefully retire."

Nevic Donnelly

The name of his company is the next clue: They Might Be Monkeys! Texas Tree & Land Co. The unusual, smile-inducing name sprang from the mouth of his daughter years ago when she visited him on the job, surprised to see her daddy swing down from a tree to see her.

"Daddy, do you think you're a monkey or something?" Donnelly still recalls her asking.

"Well, I might be," he told her.

The line stuck in his head, and three years later when he opened the doors of his own business he called up his daughter's quip. Sure, the name is silly, he acknowledges. But after 10 years doing quality work in Austin, They Might Be Monkeys! has earned its respect.

"I like to think, 'silly name, serious arboriculture,'" says Donnelly. "There was a time I thought about changing the name of the company, because I thought, well, it's just not serious enough. We've moved from being strictly a pruning company into more serious arboriculture, working with preservation and the individual health of specimen trees. But there was basically a public outcry that I shouldn't (change the name), from customers, friends and colleagues," Donnelly says.

The quirkiness of the name is also memorable.

"People remember the name," he adds. "Every other tree company in Austin is 'Austin Professional Tree this,' or 'Austin Tree that.'"

But a smile and an upbeat attitude is only half the story at They Might Be Monkeys! Fun aside, Donnelly loves working with trees, from pruning to preservation and education of the greater Austin community about all things related to arboriculture. The company also opened an arborist supply store this year, featuring climbing and safety gear. Always focused on improving his business, he turned to TCIA's Accreditation program to make sure They Might Be Monkeys! was the best it can be.

KASK

CTSP-0389

CERTIFIED ARBORIST
ISA

ACCREDITED
TREE CARE INDUSTRY ASSOCIATION
ETHICS
QUALITY
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