



In the Shade

Vol. 31, No. 6
March 2008

Texas Tree Climbing Championship April 4-5 in Fort Worth



Come to Trinity Park in Fort Worth and see if you have what it takes to be the next Texas Tree Climbing Champion and represent the Texas Chapter at the International Tree Climbing Championship in St. Louis this July. This is a two-day event with all five preliminary events starting on Friday, April 4. Six climbers per group will rotate through events, and groups will be pre-drawn; each group will draw numbers for starting order. Climber rotation will change with each event.

Schedule

Friday April 4

8:30 am Competitor check-in. **Do not be late.** You must attend to compete.

8:30 - 10 am Roll call, group assignment, tee-shirt handout, equipment check, event walk-thru, including demonstrations

10 am - dark Competition

Saturday April 5

7:30 - 7:45 am Roll call

8 am - 12 pm Resume competition

12 - 12:30 pm Tally scores

12:30 - 1 pm Announce scores

1 - 1:30 pm Judges/competitors meeting

1:45 - 3:15 pm Masters challenge

3:15 - 3:30 pm Tally scores

3:30 - 4 pm Announce results

4 pm Adjourn

Pre-Competition Workshop April 3

This workshop will provide information on how to become an ISA Certified Tree Worker (CTW) and also advanced climbing techniques.

Topics will include how to apply for Tree Worker Certification and necessary training and testing information. The climbing techniques will be geared toward day-to-day climbing, details for passing the CTW climbing test and tips to help you compete in the Tree Climbing Championships.



Trinity Park, Fort Worth

FOR MORE INFORMATION

James Tuttle is chairing this year's competition, and the head judge is Nevic Donnelly. For more information, and to download registration forms for both the TTCC and the Pre-conference Certified Tree Worker workshop, go to <http://www.isatexas.com/Members/TTCC/TTCC.htm>



www.acmeclimbing.com

Great resource for climbing gear.

<http://www.esscodist.com/edstore.html>

Wholesale gear – limited selection, but good prices.

<http://www.arboristspecialties.com>

Another good site for comparison shopping

<http://www.treestuff.com>

You guessed it..... more tree stuff.

<http://www.huskygrip.com/>

Simple tool handle for sharpening your chainsaw.

<http://www.armchaps.com/treeservices.html>

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<http://www.gemplers.com/product/127559/Mulch-Magic-Black>

Why re-mulch when you can refresh old mulch (or use yours) but color it.

www.txplant-soillab.com

A great private resource for plant and soil testing.

<http://www.dallastrees.org/>

Download a copy of the Dallas Tree Planting Guide from the Dallas Urban Forest Advisory Committee website.

<http://www.sref.info/newsletters>

Download the current issue and back issues of Southern Regional Extension Forestry newsletters.

<http://www.treesaregood.org/>

Check out the new look of ISA's consumer education website. The design allows for continual updates, enabling ISA to provide the latest information on tree care.

Big Cuts in Forestry Programs

The President's budget for 2009 was released in February, and all state and private forestry programs in the USDA Forest Service's budget experienced big cuts. The Urban and Community Forestry program is scheduled for an 82% reduction resulting in a \$5 million budget. In the coming weeks, Alliance for Community Trees (ACT) will work with its partners in the Sustainable Urban Forests Coalition to develop a response and recommendations for the FY 2009 budget. ACT will keep urban forestry advocates informed and invite state and local entities to add their support to the united message of support for urban forests. See links to related news items at:

http://actrees.org/site/stories/administration_budget_for_fy_2009_released.php?tag=news

Urban Forestry Best Management Practices

The American Public Works Association and their partners – Forest Service, National Urban and Community Forestry Advisory Council, Society for Municipal Arborists and Davey Resource Group – have developed four BMPs especially designed for urban forestry entitled: Budget & Funding; Staffing; Ordinances, Regulations & Public Policies; and Urban Forest Management Plan. To access these plus information on the “Click, Listen & Learn Presentation: Developing and Managing an Urban Forestry Program for Public Works,” visit:

<http://www.apwa.net/About/CoopAgreements/urbanforestry/>

“A plant is not merely a unit in a design, but a complicated work of art more complete and beautiful than anything we shall ever make ourselves. It belongs to a different, a vegetable world which we cannot realize, it is governed by laws which we can only remotely understand, and it is adapted to this mysterious life in patterns of astonishing beauty.”

–Nan Fairbrother, Men and Gardens

San Antonio's 5th Annual Arbor Day Festival

By Mark Duff

San Antonio's 5th Annual Arbor Day Festival was celebrated January 26 at the historic San Pedro Park, just north of downtown San Antonio.

Events included a photography contest, tree giveaway, awards presentation, demonstrations and ceremonial tree plantings. The event was sponsored by the Alamo Forest Partnership and CPS Energy, headed by Carla De La Chapa; San Antonio Water Systems; Alamo Area Council of Governments; Keep San Antonio Beautiful; City of San Antonio and others.

The Festival was organized by Michael Nentwich, City Forester from City of San Antonio Parks and Recreation Department.

CPS Energy donated the trees for the giveaway.

Gene Basler from the F.A. Bartlett Tree Expert Company and Booker Arradondo, president of the San Antonio Arborists Association conducted presentations and demonstrations on proper tree pruning and climbing safety, instructed attendees and handed out literature on how to hire an arborist.

Sam Holmes from the City of San Antonio Parks and Recreation Department used a 90-inch tree spade to transplant two street trees. One Monterrey oak (Mexican white oak) was planted in front of Fox Tech High School. A nice bur oak was placed in front of the campus at San Antonio College.



Mark Peterson, former regional urban forester with the Texas Forest Service and now Project Coordinator for Conservation with the San Antonio Water System, gave talks on how to plant and care for trees.

The Alamo Forest Partnership gave away 250 one-gallon native-to-the-region trees. Species included Mexican buckeye, bur oak, Mexican white oak and lacey oak. Both large and small species were selected to accommodate different size planting spaces.

Mark Duff from the Texas Forest Service, Kerrville office, and Dan Keierleber, owner of Alamo Woodworking, brought their LT-30 WoodMizer portable sawmill to demonstrate how you can harvest beautiful urban timber that would otherwise end up in the landfill. The City of San Antonio donated two mesquite and one deodar cedar logs to cut up. The lumber was raffled off to Festival participants.

In all, close to 300 people attended the Arbor Day Festival.

Photos courtesy of Lissa Martinez.



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Research Shows How Trees Affect Air Quality

by Steve Houser

Trees have a direct and profound effect on our air quality, as well as our quality of life, in many ways. They clean our air, water and soil; plus they improve our health, sense of well being and our economic future (among many others).

The scientific community and regional decision makers are just beginning to understand that trees offer many solutions to environmental problems. Trees are powerful, full time, efficient air filters. Smart decision makers know that cleaner air and a greener city attract business and people, which encourages prosperity. They are also aware that large areas of brick, glass and concrete create a “heat island effect” causing a rise in temperatures of up to 12 degrees. Even a simple one degree rise in urban temperature will have a direct and negative affect on our air quality.

Current research provides important data regarding the positive and negative effects of trees on our air quality. A brief list includes:

- Trees that shade buildings reduce energy use and power plant emissions.
- Trees that shade streets and hardscapes reduce ozone formation.
- Trees can reduce wind speeds, which can increase ozone concentrations. However, proper tree pruning and planting will help to increase air movement.
- Trees absorb carbon dioxide and other chemicals from our air (biogenic sequestration). The absorption of carbon is more of a global warming issue than an air quality issue.
- Trees remove ozone from the air through dry deposition but also add volatile organic chemicals (or VOCs, such as isoprene and benzene) which are precursors to ozone formation.

New research is being produced on a regular basis, but it is clear that the many benefits of trees far outweigh any negative effect on our air quality. However, in order to maximize these benefits, efforts must be made to strengthen regional and local forestry programs. These efforts should include conducting a regional survey and analysis of our forest tree (or canopy) cover as well as establishing management guidelines that lead to sound urban forestry practices in the future.

In order to effectively address air quality concerns using trees, the public must assume ownership of our urban forest and offer a commitment to the proper management of this vital asset. As the public and private sectors are exposed to current research in the future, all of us become stronger stewards of our green infrastructure. We all breathe the

same air. By working together, we multiply our efforts and knowledge, as well as public support. The results have a positive impact on our environment in many ways.

According to National Forest Service research, larger trees are 60 to 70 times more beneficial than recently planted trees. As a result, conservation helps air quality today and tree planting will help in the future. These efforts will not resolve all of our air quality concerns but they are a critical part of the solution.

We have an obligation to leave our ecosystems in better condition than we found them. A great economic future is of little value without clean air. You do not have to be an environmentalist to be an airhugger. Assuming ownership of our urban forest will provide a precious gift for our children that cannot be measured in dollars and cents.

Steve Houser, a Certified Arborist, is president and owner of Arboriological Services Inc., and chair of the City of Dallas Urban Forest Advisory Committee.

Cities Step Up Tree Planting

Increasingly, trees are the new must-have for American cities. Some prodded by environmental awareness, some by regulatory edict, they’re stepping up tree plantings in hopes of improving air quality, reducing energy consumption and easing storm water flows.

And a four-man team of scientists at the University of Vermont is helping urban planners and foresters gauge the existing tree canopy in their cities and set realistic goals for increasing it. Their expertise has been tapped by public and private groups in New York, Boston, Washington, D.C., and several Maryland towns eager to green their cities with the help of private property owners.

“Everybody’s trying to do their best to improve tree canopies and work with developers and urban planners to make sure they remove as little tree canopy as possible in their projects,” said Mark Buscaino, executive director of Casey Trees, a not-for-profit in Washington, D.C., that works to green the nation’s capital.

—From an article by John Cullan at Alliance for Community Trees. To read the rest, go to:

http://actrees.org/site/stories/cities_step_up_tree_plantings.php

Powdery Mildew on Cedar Elm

Powdery mildew is a common problem on cedar elm trees throughout northern Texas. This fungal disease infects tender leaves in May and early June. As the whitish hyphal strands grow on the underside of the leaves, the fungus produces ethylene, which damages foliar tissues and removes chlorophyll from the leaves. As infected yellow and orange leaves drop early, the tree is robbed of food-making capability, so the overall health and vigor of the tree is diminished.

Although powdery mildew is primarily considered to be an aesthetic problem on cedar elm, as opposed to a significant health threat, repeated infections over several years can seriously deplete a tree's food reserves. The standard cedar elm powdery mildew prevention protocol involves applying cover sprays of propiconazole or thiophanate fungicides, mixed at label rates, in mid-April, mid-May, and mid-June.



Once the infection has become established, spraying is not effective in achieving control, so infections found during the summer months are usually left untreated.

– Gregory P. David

Gregory P. David of TreeConsult, LLC, is an ASCA registered consulting arborist and an ISA board certified Master Arborist.



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Climbing Lines by Guy LeBlanc

DON'T LEAVE THE GROUND WITHOUT IT!

In the beginning, there was the handsaw. Long before man first hauled a 40-pound gas-powered wood eater up a tree, branches were cut with hand-powered blades attached to wooden handles. Imagine! Today, even pruning is often done exclusively by chainsaw, and with so many lightweight, ergonomic and reliable options to choose from, they make sense for those dealing with lots of large (4-inch diameter plus) branches to remove. However, using chainsaws for routinely pruning branches less than about 1 1/2 inches in diameter is really inappropriate, for a number of reasons.

First, consider safety. A chainsaw is certainly a more dangerous tool. Not only directly, via its increased cutting potential and its risk of kickback, but indirectly, via its ability to sever

your climbing line much more easily (which is why ANSI Z133 requires a second tie-in when using a chainsaw). And while hearing protection is also required by ANSI (and OSHA), the daily drone of the chainsaw can increase operator stress and fatigue.

Then there are the environmental aspects of dinosaur juice. Average estimates place CO₂ emissions at 22 pounds per gallon. And, have you ever had your oilcap pop off and your oil dump into a client's pool? While she watched?! Like the captain of the Valdez, you are going down, my man!

Next there's the issue of pruning quality, to me nearly as important as my personal safety (if you're not going to do the job right...). As branch diameter decreases, so does the probability of getting a quality

cut with a chainsaw. Too often I have seen trees entirely pruned by chainsaws where dozens of half-inch diameter cuts were made. The result is a tree covered with flush cuts, overcuts, nicks, gouges and scrapes. As the day wears on, these injuries to the tree increase as operator fatigue sets in. But even on perfectly made chainsaw cuts, the cut surface is rough.

The probability of these kinds of injury to both tree and treeman is greatly reduced with the use of a handsaw. The cut angle can be much more precisely controlled with a handsaw. Flush cuts are less likely, as they are bigger and take more energy to make. Handsaws leave a much smoother surface which has less surface area, hence less area open to microbes and less area for woundwood to have to cover over. I think it's even probable that on a microscopic level, the vascular tissue is less open when severed by handsaw.

Less than 3 percent of my business is tree removal, so when I'm in a tree, it's almost always to prune it. I don't tie a chainsaw on unless I have multiple cuts over 3 inches in diameter to make. And most of what I prune are live oaks, the densest large hardwood in the U.S. Sometimes I'll prune for two days straight without firing up my "top handle" (not "one-hand") chainsaw. So this is certainly feasible from a production standpoint.

So what are some of the handsaw choices available today? Although straight-edged blades are common, especially for orchard and nursery work, most arborists use curved blades. That's what I'll describe here.

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PP 780 Telescoping Pole Saw
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HT 101 Pole Pruner
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PP 500 Pole Pruner Set
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Continued on next page

Climbing Lines

Continued from previous page

Years ago, pruning saws had what are now called “traditional” teeth, which came to a fine point, and were “set” or slightly bent in alternating directions away from the center alignment. This “set” produced a wider “kerf” (the groove created as the saw passes through the wood), which reduced binding. The newest tooth design is called the razor tooth or tri-edge design. These teeth are taller and narrower, and a third edge is created on the tooth by the tip being taken off at an angle. There is also almost no set to the tooth. Razor tooth handsaws work much faster than the old style, but have their drawbacks.

Pictured are four popular razor tooth saws. The Silky Sugoi (top) has become one of the best sellers in the industry, as has the slightly smaller Silky Zubat (second from top). Much less expensive are the Samurai (third from top) and the Corona (bottom). Most of these types of saws come with a custom plastic scabbard, sometimes with a positive locking mechanism to keep the saw from falling out. This is a plus, since the blades do not fit as snugly in the plastic scabbards as they do the leather ones. Also, the new saws often have plastic handles with large “pinky hooks” on the end (see photo). Although intended to improve grip, these hooked ends are much more prone to hanging up while descending. If your handsaw goes missing during descent, look up! One thing I like about the Zubat is that it does not have this hooked end to the handle. Fanno makes both razor tooth and traditional tooth saws with wooden handles that are not hooked. Although I have broken several plastic handles (Coronas), I have never broken a wooden handle. I have not heard of any Silky handles breaking.

Overall, I think plastic scabbards are



superior to leather ones. They weigh a lot less, and I found my saw teeth were constantly getting worn by the copper rivets on leather scabbards. They can and do crack, however, especially if dropped.

I have read on TreeBuzz.com about several folks breaking blades on Silky handsaws. Pushing or twisting the blade, especially when cold, seems to be the cause. Others respond that they have had no breakage with Silkys. Handsaws only cut on the draw, so pushing them is a waste of energy. I have never used the Silky brand, but have never broken any other brand handsaw blade.

Then there is the hook on the blade tip of some new saws, such as the Silky Sugoi and Zubat. This is meant to keep it from being pulled through the cut accidentally, and possibly cutting you, but I find it can interfere with getting my blade tip into tight places. I prefer the Samurais and Coronas, which do not have this tip, and because their lower cost makes frequent replacement affordable.

And frequent replacement is an issue. One significant problem with razor tooth saws is that because they have

no tooth set, they become unusable much faster than traditional tooth saws due to binding. This is especially true of the Corona and of Samurai’s least expensive model, because their blades are not taper ground, as the better quality ones are.

But dull saws have more significant consequences than reduced production: worker fatigue, and stress injuries. If you find that any of your hand or arm joints are chronically painful, it could be you need to replace your blade. If that doesn’t improve things immediately, look to body mechanics, especially the angle your wrist is at while cutting.

And finally, remember that while not as dangerous as chainsaws, handsaws can still inflict impressive injuries, especially these new, aptly named razor tooth ones. They can go through flesh and tendon like butter. So be careful with your handsaw. And as those who saw my last Master’s performance can attest... Don’t Leave the Ground Without It!

The author has owned and operated Arbor Vitae Tree Care in Austin for over 24 years. He is available for tree care and worker safety instruction and may be reached at 512-301-8700.

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ISAT Board of Directors Meeting

February 2, 2008, Elgin, Texas

Members Present: Jim Breaux, Keith Brown, Courtney Blevins, Jim Carse, Gene Gehring, John Geidraitis, Jordy Hagen, James Tuttle, David Vaughan, Mike Walterscheidt, Todd Watson, Hans Williams

Member Absent: Pat Wentworth

Others Present: Nevic Donnelly

I. Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 10:10 by President Hagen and a quorum was declared.

II. Approval of Minutes: A motion was made to approve the minutes of the November 16 meeting; motion seconded; motion passed.

III. Reports

Treasurer: Walterscheidt presented the treasurer's report. A motion was made to approve the treasurer's report; motion seconded; motion passed.

Editor: Blevins reported the next issue will be out in March. He will contact the ad man to see if he is still working with us.

Liaison: Walterscheidt reported on the purchase of the new building. Walterscheidt will not be able to attend the March board meeting and our alternate, Russell Peters, will attend.

Executive Director: Walterscheidt reported the office is working well. There was some discussion on the amount of funds we have in the checking account. A motion was made to keep \$15,000 in checking, move \$20,000 to the research account and other funds remaining to another savings account or best available option account with lowest risk; motion seconded; motion passed.

Committee Reports:

Convention 2008: Giedraitis distributed a document with committee chairs for the convention. He also stated there will be conference calls to check on progress.

Tree Climbing Championship: Tuttle said it would take place in Trinity Park in Fort Worth on April 3, 4, & 5. with the 6th as a back-up day.

Arbor Day: Giedraitis reported it will be on April 25 in El Paso. Jordy will represent ISAT at the ceremony.

Certification: No report

Membership: Membership continues to increase.

Educational Services: Giedraitis distributed a proposed workshop schedule.

Awards: The awards will be the same as last year and be presented at the conference.

Publicity: Carse will continue to do this by contacting publications as to ISAT events.

Scholarships: Money will be sent to SFA, none to TAMU as they did not use theirs last year.

Research Committee: The funds that were transferred to offset the deficit from the oak wilt conference will be put back in as discussed under the Executive Director's report.

IV. Old Business

There was no old business.

V. New Business

Approval of 08 Budget: A motion was made to approve the draft budget submitted by Walterscheidt; motion seconded; motion passed.

Member Survey for Board Game: A survey of some members will be conducted to find what duties members do for urban forestry for development of a board game for school children.

Co-sponsorship of North Texas Urban Forestry Symposium: A motion was made for ISAT to cosponsor the North Texas Urban Forestry Symposium; motion seconded; motion passed. This will be no cost to ISAT.

VI. Next Board Meeting

The next board meeting will be on May 2 at 10:00 a.m. at the College Station Hilton, the site of the 2008 conference.

VII. Adjourn

A motion was made to adjourn; motion seconded; motion passed. The meeting was adjourned at noon.

Respectfully,

Michael J. Walterscheidt
Executive Director



Cool Tools by Patrick Wentworth

CHAPS PROTECT YOUR ARMS

Sometimes the best “cool tool” is a simple one. This one is something I have thought of several times but never found until now.

On hot days feeding the chipper, you have on the required hardhat, safety glasses, and gloves, but your forearms go unprotected and frequently get scratched up in the process. When it’s too hot for long sleeves, arm chaps may be just the thing to protect your arms.

Full adjustable protection from wrist to shoulder. Optional hand protector available.

Excellent protection while trimming thorny bushes and evergreens, plant clean-ups, and to prevent muffler burns from 2-cycle handheld equipment. Wraps completely around the arm and secures with velcro straps. Features padded forearm protection that can be taken out or added as needed to an inside pocket.

Abrasion-resistant and scratch-resistant outer shell and breathable cotton inside for a cool, comfortable fit.

Twenty inches long, dark green in color. One size fits all. Made to easily fit larger sized arms. Fully adjustable.

Optional brush hand protectors: Protect the back of the hand from the wrist to the middle of the fingers. Abrasion and scratch resistant material outside with foam padding in the middle and durable cotton inside against the hand. Two elastic straps secure the hand protectors in place. Designed to easily attach to the arm chaps or they can be worn by themselves. Fully adjustable.

They are only \$17.73 per pair. See them at :

<http://www.rittenhouse.ca/asp/product.asp?PG=620>

There is a market opportunity here for someone to make these in a ballistic cloth like chain saw chaps that would be even better protection.

Also, someone should make these in a fluorescent orange for additional safety.

Brush arm chaps with hand protectors.



TREES PROVIDE A GOOD RETURN ON PORTLAND’S INVESTMENT

The figures are impressive. It would cost at least \$5 billion to replace Portland’s trees. Meanwhile, by trapping rainwater on their leaves and keeping it from carrying pollutants into streams, city trees save Portland \$11 million in storm water management costs each year.

Each year the trees capture 25 million pounds of pollutants on their leaves. By providing shade in summer and windbreaks in winter, they reduce energy use, and they capture carbon dioxide directly as they grow. They do double-duty in slowing climate change.

A study released by City Nature Urban Forestry Division of Portland Parks & Recreation revealed that Portland has 1.2 million trees in city parks and natural areas. The study concludes that for every one dollar the city spends on its trees, city residents receive \$3.80 worth of benefits, quite an impressive return on an investment.

–From Community Tree Connections, Oregon Department of Forestry

“The great French Marshall Lyautey once asked his gardener to plant a tree. The gardener objected that the tree was slow growing and would not reach maturity for 100 years. The Marshall replied, ‘In that case, there is no time to lose; plant it this afternoon!’”

–President John F. Kennedy, speaking at UC Berkeley’s Charter Day, 1962

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Photo ©Tony Collings-FOTOLIA

Public Works and Urban Forestry – Something to Talk About

By Jenny Gulick, Davey Resource Group

There is a communications gap in public works management that, if not addressed properly and closed quickly, could impact a community's safety, aesthetics, and livability. That gap is the communication rift between traditional public works managers and urban forestry professionals. With a growing body of research showing the economic and environmental benefits of "green" infrastructure, public works agencies are under pressure from various community constituencies to recognize the value of urban forests and effectively maintain them. However, a common refrain among urban foresters and public works professionals is that they talk past each other. This disconnect hinders the allocation of adequate resources and the advancement of proactive management programs.

Over 80% of governmental departments responsible for public tree care also have non-tree-related responsibilities. Clearly, the vast majority of urban forest management in the United States is being performed by public works and other non-arboricultural staff.

The American Public Works Association (APWA), in partnership with the Society of Municipal Arborists (SMA) and Davey Resource Group (DRG), successfully obtained a 2006 Challenge Cost-Share Grant from the National Urban and Community Forestry Advisory Council (NUCFAC) to fund a project to bridge the communication gap between arborists and public works professionals, crafting reports and an education campaign tailored for senior public works staff. The project targeted senior level public works managers through peerbased programming with the goal of enhancing communication between public works officials and urban foresters and promoting better urban forest management.

After an extensive literature review, interviews with public works managers and municipal arborists across the country, and guidance from a multi-disciplinary steering committee, it was clear that information on four key urban forestry program components was critical to deliver to public works managers. They are: budgeting and funding; staffing; legislation/ policies; and urban forest management plans. *Note Forest Management Component Outline below.*

Completed in the fall of 2007, the results of the project have been the subject of an APWA national webcast, a panel discussion at the 2007 APWA Congress, presentations made at local and regional APWA Chapter meetings, and have been distributed to the Urban Forestry Coordinator in every state. Copies of APWA's urban forestry best management practices (BMP) reports, publications and other information from this grant project are now available for downloading from: <http://www.apwa.net/About/CoopAgreements/urbanforestry/>

The communication gap between public works managers and urban foresters and arborists must be narrowed or even closed. Trees on streets and on other publicly-owned properties managed by public works agencies provide a multitude of aesthetic and environmental benefits to citizens, businesses and visitors alike. When urban foresters and public works managers can speak the same language, the health and safety of trees and citizens can be maintained.

This article previously appeared in the winter 2008 issue of Branching Out, published by the Tennessee Urban Forestry Council.

Key Urban Forest Management Components

I. Staffing - A proactive and comprehensive urban forest management program requires trained and dedicated staff to oversee management and operational activities. Staff responsible for urban forest management should be professionally certified or have access to certified employees to assist in making operational and management decisions.

II. Regulations and Policies - Tree ordinances and clear urban forest management policies are the foundation of a sustainable program. Such regulations and guiding principles establish the authority and accountability for

tree management, set minimum standards for maintenance and planting, and can help protect and preserve the existing urban forest canopy.

III. Budgeting and Funding - With sufficient financial resources to secure professional services, equipment, and management, an urban forestry program can fulfill its mission, respond to change and challenges, and best serve the public. The National Arbor Day Foundation believes an annual budget of at least \$2 per capita is a minimum amount necessary to provide tree maintenance, planting and management services. A common belief is that \$5 per capita is more realistic.

IV. Management Plan - An Urban Forest Management Plan is an action plan; it gives public works agencies detailed information, recommendations, and resources needed to efficiently and proactively manage public trees. The plan states what is needed to manage the urban forest and describes activities and services required. A plan based on a current tree inventory prescribes maintenance and planting actions, but also addresses risk reduction, storm response, citizen education, and urban forest values.

Urban Forest Management Plans:

The Importance of an Emergency Storm Response Plan

By Rachel Barker, Project Manager
Natural Resource Consulting, Inc

Storm events involving violent weather, such as tornadoes, severe thunderstorms, micro bursts and hurricanes are functions of climatic conditions and should be expected to impact the city's tree population. When a storm event occurs in your area, is your community prepared to respond efficiently and effectively? Does your community have a Tree Risk Management Plan that includes an Emergency Storm Response Plan (ESRP)?

A likely scene after a storm event involves downed trees and power lines blocking the roadways and impeding emergency vehicles in route to injured citizens and/or property. Although trees provide many benefits, they can also pose liabilities. Trees are not only infrastructure assets to our communities, improving air quality, providing shade and cooling, and storm water benefits, but also infrastructure assets that must be managed, similar to bridges, streets, and other infrastructure .

A tree that is injured in a storm or a tree that is "at risk" must be inspected post storm to prevent future and/or further damage and/or injury to people, places and property. Like an engineer inspects bridges, intersection signals, etc. after a storm event, a certified arborist and/or certified municipal arborist inspects the community's trees after a storm event. Trees should be included in the post storm infrastructure inspection process.

A Tree Risk Management Plan includes goals and objectives for

a community to evaluate their tree management practices and procedures and how these practices and procedures can be geared to improve public safety through risk assessment and emergency readiness. Risk associated with trees can be greatly reduced through a proactive management approach. It has been demonstrated that communities that proactively manage their trees have far fewer problems in storms than communities that do not.

A key component of Tree Risk Management Plan is the ESRP. More often than not, in times of storms, every city department will pitch in to help where necessary. As a result, there are not any clear defining responsibilities. This type of approach can be effective in clean up; however, it often falls short in prioritizing work, identifying trees "at risk" and can allow certain aspects of tree care to go unattended, such as follow up inspections and reporting . . . thus increasing risk.

A good ESRP includes The Who, The What, The Where, and The How to respond and react efficiently and effectively to the impending storms that frequent our areas.

The Who: Who will respond? Who is in the chain of command? Who takes in calls and prioritizes the tree calls?

The What: What kind of equipment is available? What contracts are prepared to be implemented? What trees do you remove? Private trees?

The Where: Where will debris be disposed of? Where is it to be placed?

The How: How do you manage all the calls? How to issue work

This article originally appeared in the University of Florida School of Forest Resources & Conservation's Urban and Urbanizing Forests Newsletter, January 2008.

Certification Tests

Certification information and an application form can be obtained at http://www.isatexas.com/Members/Certification_Information.htm

As with all Certification Examinations, the application must be in the ISA office 12 working days prior to the Exam.

Test date	Registration deadline	Location
March 13	Past (February 26)	Round Rock
April 18	April 2	San Antonio
June 5	May 20	Ft. Worth
August 14	July 29	Round Rock
September 26	Sept. 10	College Station

Calendar of Events

March 4–5

ISA Utility Arborist Association Regional Meeting, Austin

Utility Vegetation Management Regional Meeting at the Wyndham Austin and Woodward Conference Center.

Theme: “Making Utility Arborists Safer and More Effective.” Phone 1-888-472-8733 or visit

http://www.utilityarborist.org/regional_meetings.htm

March 6–7

Professional Grounds Management Society (PGMS) Regional Seminar, Dallas

PGMS will host the first of its 2008 Regional Grounds Management Seminar & Site Visitation series, featuring courses and behind-the-scenes tours. Cost is \$75 for PGMS members and \$95 for other professionals. For more information visit <http://www.PGMS.org>

March 31 & April 1

The TreePrint Workshop, Houston

This two-day workshop will cover the benefits of developing a community TreePrint project and incorporating tree plantings into new development projects, roadway expansion projects, and neighborhood parks. It will provide decision makers with the tools to quantify the economic benefits of urban forests and how trees can create and preserve a sense of place and boost the local economy. Register online at

http://www.h-gac.com/community/livable/forestry/TreePrint/TreePrint_RSVP.aspx

April 3

Advanced Climbing Techniques Workshop and How to Become a Certified Tree Worker, Ft. Worth

This pre-Texas Tree Climbing Championship workshop will include how to apply for ISA Certified Tree Worker (CTW) Certification. The climbing techniques will be geared toward day-to-day climbing, with details for passing the CTW climbing test and tips to help you compete in the Tree Climbing Championships. Go to <http://www.isatexas.com/Members/TTCC/TTCC.htm>

April 4–5

Texas Tree Climbing Championship, Fort Worth

Come and compete with the best in Texas. For details and to download a registration form and rules, go to:

<http://www.isatexas.com/Members/TTCC/TTCC.htm>

For more information contact James Tuttle, TCC Chair, at 806-785-8733 or email james@treelovingcare.com

April 25

118th Official State of Texas Arbor Day, El Paso

Join local and statewide friends of trees to celebrate trees in Texas. Co-sponsored by ISAT, TFS, the West Texas Urban Forestry Council and the City of El Paso. The pre-ceremony reception is at 9:30 am and the Arbor Day Ceremony will begin at 10 am. For information, contact jjpg@tfs.tamu.edu.

Spring (Details TBA)

Identification and Management of Oak Wilt Workshop, Austin

The Texas Forest Service and the Texas Chapter ISA are hosting a fourth workshop for ISA Certified Arborists on how to identify and manage oak wilt. Each participant that successfully completes the training will be awarded a Certificate of Training Completion. Registration is limited. Contact jhouser@tfs.tamu.edu.

July 26-30

84th Annual ISA Conference and Trade Show, St. Louis, MO

Visit www.isa-arbor.com for conference updates.

September 24-26 (Details TBA)

The 29th Annual Texas Tree Conference, “Trees for the Future,” The College Station Hilton, College Station

November 5 - 9, Society of American Foresters National Conference, Reno, Nevada.

The theme is “Forestry in a climate of change.” Keynote speaker will be Michael J. Walsh of Chicago Climate Exchange (CCX), North America’s only active, voluntary, legally binding integrated trading system to reduce emissions of all six greenhouse gases. More information: <http://www.safconvention.org/natcon-08/index.cfm>

OTHER EVENTS OF INTEREST

Free Monthly Trainings from The Alliance for Community Trees

The Alliance for Community Trees offers a FREE monthly training (webcast) for anyone interested in issues pertaining to preserving and planting their urban canopy. The series is geared for volunteer organizers, community groups, and others. Registration is required. For more information go to <http://actrees.org>

Rainbow Treecare Scientific's Solution Center covers you from A to Z

Rainbow Treecare Scientific is designed to serve arborists. Our new **Solution Center** is staffed with specialists who provide training and sales support for tree health care products. Our company was founded in arboriculture, so we can also help with your questions about adding services, profitability, and marketing to clients.

A Xylect	Aphids 1 2 3	F Copper hydroxide 1	Fireblight 1
B Xylect and/or Bifenhrin	Bronze Birch Borer 1 2 3	G Spinosad Acephate 1 3	Gypsy Moth
C VERDUR	Chlorosis 3	H Xylect	Hemlock Woolly Adelgid 1 2 3
D Arbotect	Dutch Elm Disease 3	I Cambistat Air Tools 2	Injured Roots
E Xylect and/or Bifenhrin	Emerald Ash Borer 1 2 3	J Xylect and/or Bifenhrin	Japanese Beetle 1 2 3
K	K Deficiency 2	L Spinosad Acephate 1 3	Lepidoptera
M Aracinate LUCID	Mites 1 3	O Alamo	Oak Wilt 3
N	Needlecast 1	P Pinetect	Pine Wilt Nematode 3
Q	Quercus Decline 1	R Arbotect	RhinzoSphaera 1
T Xylect and/or Bifenhrin	Two-Lined Chestnut Borer 1 2 3	S Arbotect	Sycamore Anthracnose 3
U Cambistat ISA Arborist	Urban Stress 2	V No Known Cure	Verticillium Wilt
W Xylect	Weevils 1 2 3	X BACASTAT	Yellows 1
Z Bifenhrin	Zimmerman Pine Moth 1		

Application Method
1 Foliar Spray
2 Soil Applied
3 Tree Injection
highlighted number
represents
recommended
method

Pest / Tree Health Problem

Product Solution

Additional Information

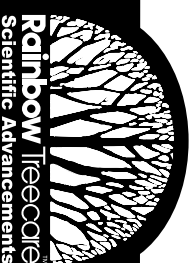
Xylella fastidiosa →
Annual application of Bacastat suppresses symptoms of bacterial leaf scorch.
Apply to trunk and main branches in spring and again in summer.

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Don't miss the Texas Tree
Climbing Championship
April 4&5
and the Pre-Competition
Workshop April 3.
See page 1.