



# In the Shade

Vol. 33, No 5  
January, 2010



2010:  
A New Year is  
a New Beginning

I hope all of you had a happy and safe holiday season. For the coming year, I'd like to encourage you to put some of your experience and education to good use: Take a moment to help someone plant a tree, or consider telling your neighbor or family member how to prune or remove a tree the right way. Sometimes things can repay you twofold, and time you think is wasted can be the most valuable gift to those around you. Have a happy and prosperous New Year!

—Jim Carse, President, ISAT

# Tree News from Here & There

## SPRTI Arborist Workshop Feb 7–9 in Oklahoma

Southwest Park and Recreation Training Institute will host its fourth Arborist Workshop Feb. 7 through 9 at the Western Hills Guest Ranch and Sequoyah State Park in Hulbert, Oklahoma. The workshop, held every three years, is designed to assist arborists in preparing for the ISA certification exam.

The Southwest Training Institute is a non-profit organization administered by volunteers from the Parks and Recreation field. Their mission is “to present and promote educational opportunities to students, professionals, and lay supporters of the broad field of parks and recreation.” The workshop is not limited to park employees; all arborists wishing to enhance their careers are encouraged to attend.

Each year the workshop focuses on the domains of the test that are statistically more challenging for the exam takers. The instructors are a mix of municipal and state foresters. The workshop concludes by hosting an ISA certification exam. CEUs are available for those already certified. For more information on the upcoming workshop or the Institute, visit their website at [www.swprti.org](http://www.swprti.org).

– Melinda Adams,  
City Forester, Fort Worth

## Test Preparation Course March 26–May 14

A Certified Arborist test preparation course will be offered March 26 through May 14 at the San Antonio Botanical Garden. This 21-hour course combines classroom instruction and hands-on activities in preparation for taking the ISA Certified Arborist examination. Three years of experience is required to take the exam.

Classes will be on Fridays from March 26 through May 14—except for April 2 and 23—from 8 to 11:30 a.m. Subjects covered include soil management, identification/selection, installation/ establishment, safe working practices, tree biology, pruning, diagnosis/treatment, urban forestry, tree protection, and tree risk management. Students receive continuing education credits. Fee is \$96, not including books.

Register at [www.accd.edu/sac/ce](http://www.accd.edu/sac/ce). For more information about registering, call Steven Lewis at 210-486-0417. For questions about the course or about purchasing an ISA Study Guide, contact Sasha Kodet at 210-207-3270.

The San Antonio Arborist Association will sponsor a luncheon on Friday, May 14 at 11:30 am.

## North Central Texas Urban Forestry Conference

The 16th annual North Central Texas Urban Forestry Conference will be held Friday, February 19 from 9 am to 4 pm at the Ruthe Jackson Center in Grand Prairie. Dr. David Appel, Dr. Michael Merchant, and Dr. Raul Cabrera will speak.

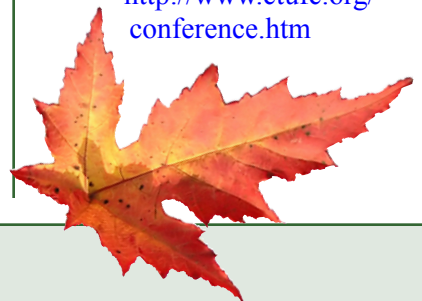
Topics will include:

- Latest Technologies for Clinical Diagnosis of Tree Diseases
- Update on Critical Tree Problems of Texas
- Things That Go BUMP in the Park: Biting and Stinging Insects
- Mistletoe Biology Research and Control in Urban Trees
- Insect Biology for Pesticide Applicators

The conference is sponsored by the Cross Timbers Urban Forestry Council, Trinity Blacklands Urban Forestry Council, Texas Forest Service, City of Grand Prairie, and ISAT.

More information and online registration available at:

<http://www.ctufc.org/conference.htm>



## Stormwater Calculator & CO2 Calculator

The Center for Neighborhood Technology recently released their National Storm Water Management Calculator, a tool for quickly comparing the performance, costs, and benefits of Green Infrastructure to conventional stormwater practices. See <http://greenvalues.cnt.org/national/calculator.php>

\* \* \*

The Center for Urban Forest Research has released a tree carbon calculator, along with many links: <http://www.fs.fed.us/ccrc/topics/urban-forests/ctcc>

## NOWS Proceedings Available at TFS Offices

A soft-bound copy of the 267-page Proceedings of the National Oak Wilt Symposium, held in Austin in June, 2007, is available to all Certified Arborists who have completed the oak wilt specialist training offered by Texas Forest Service and Texas AgriLife Extension Service.

Pick up your complimentary copy at the Texas Forest Service office in College Station (John Connally Building, 301 Tarrow, Suite 348), Granbury (450 Howard Clemmons Drive), Austin (8317 Cross Park Road, Suite 425), or San Antonio (15110 Jones Maltsburger, Suite 101). Supplies are limited, so stop by one of these TFS offices soon and get your copy of this important publication.

– Ronald F. Billings, Manager,  
Forest Pest Management

## Check Out E-Magazines from TCIA & TNLA

The Tree Care Industry Association has started publishing *TCI Magazine* in a new interactive digital format. The digital version features fast and easy navigation, instant live links to every advertiser, videos and more. Check out the December issue at <http://viewer.zmags.com/publication/24322be3#/24322be3/1>



To view the December online issue of *TNLA Green*, the magazine of the Texas Nursery & Landscape Association, visit: [http://www.nxtbook.com/nxtbooks/tnla/green\\_200912/#/0](http://www.nxtbook.com/nxtbooks/tnla/green_200912/#/0)

It includes an interesting article on creating an iPhone app for your business.

## Rio Grande Valley Urban Forestry Conference Jan. 21

The 4th Annual Rio Grande Valley Urban Forestry Conference will be held January 21 at the Palmview Community Center in McAllen.

Topics will include:

- Why become a Tree City USA
- Urban Forestry in the 21st Century
- Tree Inventory- Why do it?
- Palm Tree Pruning
- Broadleaf Pruning
- Tree Health Panel
- Biodiversity in the Urban Forest
- Bugs in the Urban Forest

Early registration goes through January 15 at \$25.00 per person. Regular and at-door registration is \$30.00 per person. Registration fee includes all sessions and lunch.

Make checks payable to the City of McAllen, Memo: RGV Urban Forestry Conference, and mail to City of McAllen, P.O. Box 220, McAllen, TX 78505. Attn: Mark Kroeze. For more information, contact Ed Kuprel, City Forester, City of Edinburg, 956-388-8202.

## City Considers New Way To Finance Urban Forestry

The Longview WA city council is considering a proposal to pay for the city's urban forestry program out of stormwater fees. Urban forestry now is paid for out of the general fund, competing with police, library, parks and other essential services. Stormwater management, on the other hand, has its own dedicated account that is funded by stormwater fees.

For details see the article at: [http://www.tdn.com/news/article\\_37153494-e467-11de-aed8-001cc4c002e0.html?mode=story](http://www.tdn.com/news/article_37153494-e467-11de-aed8-001cc4c002e0.html?mode=story)

## Jim Urban's *Up By Roots* February 4 in Houston

James Urban brings his book *Up By Roots* to life with a day of hands-on instruction Feb. 4 in Houston. The workshop will highlight key soil and site assessment techniques—skills that are critical for arborists, landscape architects, architects, planners, and urban foresters, or anyone who designs, specifies, installs, or manages trees in the built environment.

The workshop will be held at the Texas Department of Transportation Auditorium, 7600 Washington Ave.

To register online, go to: <http://www.regonline.com/builder/site/Default.aspx?eventid=784990> Online registrations will conclude on January 20 unless the seat maximum has been reached before that date. After January 20, registrations will be accepted on site only if seats are available.

Registration discounts and CEUs are available for ISA and ASLA members.

All registrants can purchase a copy of *Up By Roots* at a discounted price. Books ordered at the time of registration – by selecting the “purchasing book” option – can be picked up at the workshop. The registration fee includes a box lunch.

## 2010 Pecan Calendars Available from Texas Growers

The new year is underway but the Texas Pecan Growers probably have some 2010 Pecan Wall Calendars left. Price is \$10 each for 1 to 5 copies. \$9 each for 6-10 and \$8 for orders of 11 or more. Price includes tax and shipping.

Order from TPGA, 4348 Carter Creek Pkwy. #101, Bryan, TX 77802. Or call 979-846-3285.



***From Incoming Editor Paul Johnson:***

## Let's Get to Know Each Other

Hi, I am Paul Johnson the new editor for *In The Shade*. It is a privilege to follow in the footsteps of Courtney. Sixteen years is a very long time and



there have been many improvements along the way. My job will be much easier than yours was. Thank you, Courtney.

I hope to get to know all of you better. Here is a little more about me: I planted my first tree from a sprouted acorn when I was 18 months old. I may have had a little help. I graduated from Oklahoma State University with a degree in forestry. My wife, Rebecca, and I actually met in school at our forestry summer camp just outside of Missoula, Montana. We went through graduation in the morning and got married that afternoon. (We were getting all the family together anyway . . . right?) Later that week we moved to Colorado. I worked as a

stewardship forester for the state and she was marking timber for the feds. At the end of the season she said we were moving back to Oklahoma... I could come if I want. So we moved back.

Jobs were a bit tough to come by, so I ended up stocking groceries at Wal-Mart during the night shift. I started looking for something better. I found a small landscape company whose owner said he wanted to expand. He was a landscape architect and did design/build and maintenance including tree work. After a long summer of mowing mile upon mile of lawn with an occasional installation, I finally figured out that the opportunity was non-existent. We

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***From Outgoing Editor Courtney Blevins:***

## Has it Been 16 Years Already?

As best I can recall I was "volunteered" to become the ISAT Editor back in 1993. The culprit offering me up was Larry Schaapveld and he did so at a meeting I was not even attending. For those of you who know Larry you know he was pretty good at that!

Initially all I attempted to do was to duplicate the fine work of the previous Editor, Dr. Mike Walterscheidt, who had been the editor for many years. Over the course of the past decade and a half, new technologies have made it easier for us to publish a newsletter with a bit more polish and a lot more information. Publisher software and the increasing use of the internet made this possible.

Other changes within ISA also helped us to improve the newsletter. Membership has increased from under 200 to almost 900, and much of that increase was surely due to the initiation of the Certified Arborist program. As membership increased so did the pool of resources for obtaining articles.

Despite improvements though, it was obvious that I didn't exactly have a flair for newsletter layout! Whichever side of the brain is responsible for artistic talent was seriously lacking in me. This led to our most recent improvement and that was the hiring of an Associate Editor to actually take over the design and publication of the newsletter. Jeannette Ivy has filled this role perfectly for the

past few years and hopefully will continue to do so for many more.

The ISAT has grown dramatically since I first came on board. As mentioned above, membership has increased by about 400%. I also

*Continued on next page*



## **Incoming Editor Paul Johnson** *Continued from previous page*

decided to move to Tulsa. I joined a tree care company as an “urban forester;” actually I was a salesman. That ended badly the Monday before Christmas on Friday. But I had met Ken Preaus at a tree care workshop, and I joined Preaus Landscape, a tree care and landscape company.

There I learned the value of proper tree care and our industry. You can do a good job and make a living. I started out at the base of the pyramid; that’s right – dragging brush, chipping, and raking. The next step was to get a pair of pruners and a saw in my hands. Then I started climbing and working from the bucket truck. Eventually, they brought me into the office. I started consulting, selling, and formed their Plant Health Care program. They had been doing

design, installation, maintenance, cabling, fertilization, and treatments. I helped them put all the pieces together into a program with monitoring and got people to pay for all of it. I am proud to say that the program is still going strong today.

While I was there Ken and Bill encouraged me to get certified. I still remember the day that I took my test. I was so worried about the tree ID. I entered the room and there they were—ten limbs just waiting to be identified. It was such a relief ☺ when I walked out of that room. That was also the day that I found out that we were expecting our firstborn. Like many young, new arborists, I thought I could do it better on my own and spent time as a consulting arborist. I figured out that I like to teach more than anything else. I was fortunate to become Extension Horticulturist in Oklahoma City. I was the only Certified Arborist in Oklahoma Cooperative Extension at the time. I helped start the Oklahoma Arborist Association so that we could do a better job of selling our profession as a profession. We needed to convince people to see that caring for trees is different from mowing the lawn. The Midwest Chapter of ISA included too

many states to accomplish what we wanted.

I decided that I wanted to concentrate on trees. Trees are the largest, longest lived, and most valuable part of our landscapes. I was tired of teaching people how to care for their lawn. So I joined Texas Forest Service as a Regional Urban Forester in the Rio Grande Valley. My first Texas Tree Conference, in Waco, was eye opening . . . so many smart, highly qualified arborists. TFS decided that they wanted me to move up to San Antonio and I am glad that I have.

I may be a transplant, but just like a tree I have overcome the shock and I am ready to help us grow. This is your newsletter. It will only be as good as you make it. Put your thoughts about trees, our industry, or business down on paper so that we can all benefit. Don’t worry if you have never written for a publication before. Just start, sit down at the computer or with a pencil and paper and start putting one word after the other. We all have thoughts and experiences that are worth sharing. You don’t have to be a professional communicator. You just have to have a desire to share. Please share with us.

– Paul Johnson

## **Outgoing Editor Courtney Blevins**

*Continued from previous page*

recall we had trouble getting even 50 people to attend our annual Tree Conference, whereas the recent conference in Round Rock had over 300 attendees!

My time as Editor has been extremely valuable and rewarding for me. The exposure to so many people with so much arborological knowledge, and the friendships made, cannot be replaced. Now I turn it over to the capable hands of Paul Johnson knowing the newsletter will likely continue to improve. I appreciate the support I have received over the past many years from the membership of the ISAT and I look forward to continuing to serve in some other ways.

– Courtney Blevins

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# Hispanic Committee Presents Successful Programs in Buenos Aires

by Mark Duff

The ISA Hispanic Committee programs for the Municipality of Buenos Aires and at the World Forestry Congress were more successful than we

in Buenos Aires that was scheduled to last from 9 am until noon. Over 100 participants showed up and were still helping clean up limbs past 3:00 pm.



Eduardo Medina (from Davey Tree) and Carlos were the principal instructors. The rest of us provided ground support and technical interpretation. Eduardo and I transported about 200 pounds of ropes, lanyards, blocks, carabiners, saddles and slings that were used at this event. Most of this equipment was donated to our host Carlos Anaya, Urban Forester for the city of Buenos Aires. Magaly also packed in about 75 pounds of ISA literature/publications to donate and sell.

The XIII World Forestry Congress began on Sunday, with over 7000 registered participants from 130 countries. Our Committee presentations were very well received with rooms at full capacity.

had anticipated. On Friday October 16, the Hispanic Committee gave a full day of technical presentations to over 150 registered participants from all over Argentina, Uruguay and Chile.

Iris Magaly Zayas repeated her earlier presentation on the ISA, while Carlos Llanos and Eduardo Medina

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Iris Magaly Zayas began with a presentation defining arboriculture and describing the ISA and its activities around the world. Dr. Hector Benavides provided a talk on dendrology and tree selection for urban settings. Carlos Llanos gave an overview on managing trees in ROWs, and I concluded our workshop with a presentation on planting and pruning trees in urban settings. The presentations were very well received, with time having expired during the question/answer session and no one wanting to leave the auditorium.

On Saturday we held a tree pruning, climbing, rigging and chainsaw safety workshop in a prominent public park



## Hispanic Committee *Continued from previous page*

presented a program on tree removal practices in urban areas. Carlos Anaya gave a talk on the state of urban forestry in Buenos Aires at the Urban and Peri-urban Forestry sessions, again to a standing-room-only-capacity crowd. Dr. Benavides had three posters displayed at the poster sessions as well.

To top it off, members of the ISA Hispanic Committee were interviewed by reporters from a local television station. In addition, we all attended a reception at the residence of the US ambassador to Argentina, where we met the USDA Forest Service Chief, the US Ambassador to Argentina and others. In all, I believe our objective to introduce the ISA and arboriculture to the diverse audiences at these important venues was achieved.

My only regret is not having time to explore the country beyond Buenos Aires, since Argentina is nearly 5000 miles long, with tropical rainforests at the Brazilian and Paraguayan northern borders, alpine tundra in the Andes to the western Chilean border, Antarctic tundra in the extreme south with glaciers and penguins, the Pampas with grasslands and deserts – encompassing most of the life zones that come to mind.

Finally, I would like to thank the USDA Forest Service, Texas Forest Service, UNIFAP (Mexico forestry research group), the Municipality of Buenos Aires and the International Society of Arboriculture for subsidizing the costs associated with our trip and/or allowing us to attend and participate in these programs on work time.



If you are thinking a year ahead, sow a seed.

If you are thinking ten years ahead, plant a tree.

If you are thinking one hundred years ahead, educate the people.

– Chinese Poet, 500 BC



# 6th Annual San Antonio Arbor Day Celebration a Budding Success!

On a foggy November 7 morning, a line slowly began to form in Lincoln Park in front of a table where 500 free trees (Mexican white oak, Texas red oak, cedar elm, Texas redbud, and Mexican buckeye) were being given away, courtesy of City of San Antonio Parks & Recreation, to those who participated in a brief tree-planting course. The occasion was the 6th Annual San Antonio Arbor Day Celebration, organized by the Alamo Forest Partnership and sponsored by the Spurs Sports and Entertainment, CPS Energy, HEB, and Coca-Cola.

By midmorning, the sun breaking through the fog revealed that several activities were taking place as the morning shaped up to be a beautiful day.

With the exuberant assistance of the Baseline Bums, HD Supply, and other community volunteers, six trees were hand planted in the park. Two trees were bare rooted with the assistance of Preferred Landscape & Lighting and Bartlett Tree Experts. It was a great way to get messy and learn new planting techniques.

Scheduled demonstrations included the San Antonio Arborists Association, who showed onlookers proper tree pruning and safety techniques; chainsaw sculptors Joe Bear and Phillip Conner, who held the crowd spellbound as they quickly whittled bird and animal forms from tree trunks; and sawmill operators Dan Keierleber and Mark Duff, who turned logs into beautiful slabs fit for table tops, which many attendees won in a drawing and were able to take home.

Meanwhile, educational booths, including those of the San Antonio Arborists Association, Garden Volunteers of South Texas, Davey Tree, Bartlett Tree Experts, Texas Rainfall Catchment, and Alamo Area Council of Governments were being visited, with people collecting informative brochures and other freebies. HEB provided free reusable shopping bags, and the free

event t-shirts with tree-planting instructions on the back were provided by the Spurs.

Councilwoman Ivy R. Taylor's talk in support of trees and tree-planting was much appreciated by the enthusiastic crowd. Her substantial interest in trees was underscored by her willingness to strap into a harness and use tree-climbing ropes to ascend a large live oak.

This was the first year that the Alamo Forest Partnership presented an award in recognition of groups or individuals who go out of their way to improve our urban forest. The award this year went to Spurs Sports and Entertainment for their tree-planting efforts at the AT&T Center. The AT&T Center is a shining example of how a few extra trees can improve and beautify our city. The Spurs were awarded a wooden bowl carved by Dan Keierleber, which was made from a mesquite tree that fell and would have otherwise been turned into mulch.

The Alamo Forest Partnership would like to specially thank the Spurs organization for their support in this 6th annual Arbor Day Celebration. It was especially wonderful having George "Iceman" Gervin, the Coyote, the Silver Dancers, and the Baseline Bums help plant and stress the importance of trees in our community.

*— Alamo Forest Partnership*



Bexar County Judge Rogelio "Roger" Lopez Jr. lends a hand with the tree planting.



The 1st annual Arbor Day award goes to Spurs Sports and Entertainment. Standing left to right is Paul Johnson, co-chair of the Alamo Forest Partnership; George "Iceman" Gervin, Spurs Community Relations; Torie Villa, Spurs Silver Dancer; Michael Nentwich, co-chair of the Alamo Forest Partnership; Leo Gomez, Spurs Vice President of Communications & Corporate Development; and the Coyote, Spurs Mascot.



# News from Around Dallas

by Steve Houser

The Dallas Urban Forestry Advisory Committee will present the preliminary findings of our urban forest inventory project, plus show other uses for the laser sensing technology January 28 from 1-3 pm at the North Central Texas Council of Governments building.

Click on the following to review a recent article on the project in the UTD newsletter:

<http://www.utdallas.edu/news/2009/12/08-002.php>

Click on the following link to register (space is limited):

<http://www.nctcog.org/envir/events.asp>



Volunteers planted 18 trees (bur oaks and Caddo maples) in the Jefferson Boulevard median near Hampton Road December 12. It was the first step of a multi-year project to transform the entire length of Jefferson into a shady linear park. The planting project was covered by Roy Appleton with the Dallas Morning News:

<http://oakcliffblog.dallasnews.com/archives/2009/12/a-nip-of-cold-and.html>



Our own “Johnny Appleseed” (AKA, John Stack) was recognized last fall for planting over 10,000 trees throughout the Dallas/Plano area over a 19-year period.



The Division Street Palm, kept alive for years in a bleak location by engineer Richard McMullen, has found a new home at Carrollton’s Rosemeade Aquatic Complex. Read about it in Jacqueliynn Floyd’s Dallas Morning News article:

[http://www.dallasnews.com/sharedcontent/dws/dn/localnews/columnists/jfloyd/stories/DN-floyd\\_15met.ART.State.Edition1.4baa450.html](http://www.dallasnews.com/sharedcontent/dws/dn/localnews/columnists/jfloyd/stories/DN-floyd_15met.ART.State.Edition1.4baa450.html)



The current draft of the recommended revisions to the Dallas tree ordinance is now posted on our ftp site ([www.DallasTrees.org/lisfiles.asp](http://www.DallasTrees.org/lisfiles.asp)) under “Tree Ordinance Draft Revisions Dec 1<sup>st</sup> 2009”.

## Texas Utility Arborist Association Meeting

Mark your calendars and watch the ISAT website for more information on a Texas Regional UAA meeting being planned for April 14 and 15 in the Lewisville area. The planning team is working with the national UAA group and local utilities to make this a fantastic opportunity.

# CTUFC Launches 2010 Citizen Forester Training

The Cross Timbers Urban Forestry Council (CTUFC) has announced that its 2010 Citizen Forester training will be held Feb. 25 through May 18 in Fort Worth. Application deadline is January 29.

The training is open to residents of the 17-county North Texas area, and is designed to prepare them to:

- Become skilled at planting, pruning, and maintaining trees,
- Gain knowledge about managing trees in urban settings,
- Help care for trees in their local communities.

Participants will receive 36 combined hours of classroom instruction and hands-on field training. Training sessions will be held at various locations in Fort Worth from 9 am to 4 pm on the following six dates: February 25, March 10, April 8, April 22, May 6 and May 18. An application, training schedule and informational brochure are available at <http://www.ctufc.org/citizenforester.htm>.

In exchange for their training, Citizen Forester volunteers provide a minimum of 25 hours of community service to their local town, city or county towards projects that involve trees on public property. Since the program’s inception in 2006, Citizen Foresters have proven to be an invaluable resource to North Texas municipalities striving to stay abreast of public tree management.

For more information contact Courtney Blevins at [cblevins@tfs.tamu.edu](mailto:cblevins@tfs.tamu.edu).

## Certified Arborist Exams for 2010

Certification test dates and locations scheduled so far for 2010:

January 16	Humble
March 11	Round Rock
May 20	San Antonio
August 19	Round Rock
October 1	College Station





*From the Stump* by Patrick Wentworth

## GLOBAL WARMING: A SOLUTION IN SEARCH OF A PROBLEM

As it snows for the second consecutive year in Houston and snow is piling up by the foot across the western states, it's still autumn as I write this. The East Anglia University Climate Research Unit (CRU) has been exposed for the frauds they are and yet the meeting in Copenhagen continues as though the world is about to come to an end.

The ISA magazine, *Arborist News*, continues to print stories about "global warming" in an article labeled "Managing Trees During Climate Change" (page 30, December 2009), while in the reader's forum (page 40, December 2009), Scott Carlson wonders why the mainstream media ignores scientists who dispute the "theory" of "global warming."

Looking at G.M. Moore's nicely written assessment of "global warming" problems in Australia, there are several salient points that need to be made. The first paragraph

suggests that "manmade greenhouse gases" (or anthropogenic greenhouse gases – AGW) have reduced the radiation of sunlight warming the earth's atmosphere. This has yet to be proven.

He goes on suggest that carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>) has a 68.4 % contribution to global warming with methane coming in a close second at 25.0%. His sources remain anonymous. Perhaps they were invented by the CRU in East Anglia.

The truth is that CO<sub>2</sub> is "not a greenhouse gas" (John Coleman, founder of the Weather Channel). As a percentage of the atmosphere, the effect of CO<sub>2</sub> is essentially negligible. The primary greenhouse gas no one discusses is water vapor. CO<sub>2</sub> comprises only .00038 of 1% of the atmosphere (380 ppm or 380/1,000,000). How it is measured comes into question, as I will mention later.

Mr. Moore goes on in his article to quote anonymous sources when discussing the Kyoto Protocol, which called for the drastic reduction of CO<sub>2</sub> in 2000. Sequestration is defined in his article as the "removal of greenhouse gases by plants or technological processes" and he refers to carbon sequestration as the "absorption of carbon usually by biomass such as trees, soils, and crops."

All of this is well and good to a point. Mr. Moore then continues to suggest that we can all do our part by planting more trees and preserving the mature trees as carbon sinks to save the environment from the evils of CO<sub>2</sub>.

He makes the comment that "should the trees die, the carbon, the major element of their structure, will be released to the atmosphere making matters significantly worse." I have to take exception here to this idea that a dead tree is suddenly "released" back into the atmosphere. In truth, the tree returns to the soil, completing the carbon cycle that has been going on since life on this planet began.

Mr. Moore's article continues placing a dubious price tag on the amount of carbon sequestered on each tree and then calculating the loss of carbon sequestration when the tree is pruned. It would seem to the casual reader that Mr. Moore is suggesting that trees should not be pruned at all yet, everything about ISA is concerned with is good tree health and proper pruning. The material pruned from trees is not released into the

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### Your Opinions Are Welcome

Opinion pieces from ISAT members are welcome!

The content of your article must relate to the profession of arboriculture and/or the mission of ISAT, and must be civil in tone.

Opinions expressed in "From the Stump" are not necessarily those of the ISA, ISAT, or the editors of *In the Shade*.



## *From the Stump* Continued from previous page

atmosphere but returned to the earth in the form of mulch.

Mr. Moore also seems to worry about electrical line clearance operations and the amount of “sequestered carbon” removed from trees to allow for uninterrupted electrical service. His suggestion that we could “see a rapid move to underground service” is shortsighted and not likely. When this was recently investigated in the Austin Energy utility, it was discovered that underground electrical transmission lines to replace aerial lines would (1) cost more than \$3 billion [in today’s dollars], (2) take more than 30 years to implement, and (3) destroy the roots of the very trees everyone was trying to protect. It was discovered that over the life expectancy of the aerial lines vs. the underground cables, aerial lines with line clearance added in were about 1/10 the cost of buried lines and would likely remain so for the next several hundred years barring a new discovery for electrical transmission.

The tree industry as a whole loves the idea of carbon being sequestered in trees and therefore eagerly joins the global warming alarmists, as it is self-serving. But are trees good carbon sinks? An acre of trees can sequester 2.6 tons of carbon per year (that’s 400 trees per acre – one tree for every 100 square feet – trunks planted on 20 foot centers).

(<http://www.coloradotrees.org/benefits.htm#carbon>)

Yet an acre of grass can sequester 34 tons of carbon per year – more than 47 tons per acre if fertilized. (Go to <http://www.mbforagecouncil.mb.ca/resources/past-event-proceedings/aafc-brandon-research-centre-tour-proceedings/>, scroll down and click “carbon sequestration”).

That makes grass (or pasture) as much as 13 times more efficient than trees at sequestering carbon.

Carbon is everywhere in our world. Where you are right now, there is probably very little – if anything – you can look at that isn’t some form of carbon. All things living or dead are carbon-based. Plastics, steel, paint, asphalt, concrete, even the safety glass in your car all have some carbon in them. Most things in the environment are sequestering carbon every day. The plastic water bottle that takes 700 years to break down (complete the carbon cycle) sequesters carbon for a longer period of time than a hackberry tree.

The output of CO<sub>2</sub> by the entire human population of planet earth is thought to be around 8 gigatons a year (8 billion tons.) Yet, the atmospheric content of CO<sub>2</sub> is

40,000 gigatons from all of the natural processes on this planet. That makes the human contribution to atmospheric CO<sub>2</sub> .0002 of 1% of the total atmospheric CO<sub>2</sub> (8/40,000). Then when you consider that CO<sub>2</sub> is only .00038 of 1% of the total atmosphere, one wonders what the fuss is all about. CO<sub>2</sub> is a solution is search of a problem.

And the measurement of atmospheric CO<sub>2</sub> that’s done in Hawaii on the island with the longest continuously erupting volcano on planet earth – it’s no wonder CO<sub>2</sub> rose “suddenly” when NASA started measuring CO<sub>2</sub> in Hawaii.

In short, CO<sub>2</sub> is not a pollutant but a very necessary gas that sustains life on this planet. Without CO<sub>2</sub>, we wouldn’t be here. Nothing man nor the EPA nor the Copenhagen Treaty can do will change that fact.



### Treetop Tools for the Pros



**PP 780 Telescoping Pole Saw**  
For cutting tree limbs of varying diameters and heights where access with more than one tool is impractical. Lightweight telescoping adjustable shaft, 16' 10" overall length.  
Replacement Parts Available! Limited Lifetime Warranty!

**HT 101 Pole Pruner**  
Ideal for hard-to-reach places, the HT 101's adjustable shaft telescopes to 11.5'. Powerful 31.4 cc 4-MIX® engine.

**PP 900 Pole Pruner Set**  
The ideal tools for demanding, high-volume tree work. Durable extended fiberglass poles with 12' reach and a pruning capacity of 1.25".  
Replacement Parts Available! Limited Lifetime Warranty!

**MS 200 Chain Saw**  
A rear handle version of "The ultimate arborist saw." Perfect for ground or bucket work. Features include a Quad Power™ engine, tool-less fuel and oil caps with retainers, and a carburetor preheat shutter for summer/winter operation.

**MS 192 T Chain Saw**  
NEW! Introducing the tough little brother of the MS 200 T, this saw delivers exceptional power and balance. This is STIHL's lightest gasoline powered chain saw ever, only 6.6 lbs. For in tree-use only by professionals.

Only 6.6 lbs!

**To find the STIHL dealer near you, call 1-800-GO-STIHL or visit [stihlusa.com](http://stihlusa.com)**

# Green Care for Troops *by Patrick Wentworth*

A national organization called Project Evergreen (<http://www.projectevergreen.com/>) is not just another “let’s save the planet with more trees” kind of organization. They are working to preserve what little green space remains in the urban areas of the US.

A venture they have taken on recently that has appealed to me is called GreenCare for Troops (<http://www.projectevergreen.com/gcft/>). While we have brave men and women fighting overseas, their home front often goes neglected. Project Evergreen has signed up more than 9,000 military families with over 2,400 industry professionals and volunteers to assist however they can.

Based in New Prague, Minnesota, Project Evergreen is a national non-profit organization representing the green industry, service providers,

associations, suppliers, distributors, and individuals. They serve as a link between volunteers and military families in need.

As a tree service, we were contacted recently to help a wounded warrior with a tree problem. Sergeant H. Smith is a 23-year veteran of the US Army.

During a tour in Bosnia, he was wounded to the extent that he can’t do the yard work he needed to around the house.

We were asked if we could help with the removal of a hackberry tree

destroying his property line fence. We stepped in, removed the tree for Sgt. Smith for free, and thanked him for his service. It was a very small thing to do for someone who has defended this country.

Project Evergreen helps families in need by pairing up professionals with the skill set needed. They won’t ask you to do more than you are willing to do or can financially support, so don’t hesitate to volunteer. This is something everyone can do.

If there isn’t any opportunity to volunteer in your part of the world, please consider sending a donation to this very worthwhile organization.

For more information, you can contact the director, Joy Westenberg at (952) 758-9135 or via email at: [joy.westenberg@projectevergreen.com](mailto:joy.westenberg@projectevergreen.com).



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## Cool Tools

by Patrick Wentworth

### Treepedo® Replaces Throw Bags

Throw bags with shot weight were a vast improvement over the traditional hard rubber throw ball, but today the throw bag has been replaced by a better innovation – the Treepedo®.

This device, invented by a Canadian, is made of solid anodized aluminum with an internal stainless steel weight. It comes with the claim that it can never get stuck in tree – even in the sharpest forks.

It readily accepts throwlines down to 2 mm and can be attached to ropes up to 3/4" diameter for positioning in a tree at that 5-point fork.

Thrown by a traditional stance or with a BigShot®, the shape of the device makes it sail through the tree easily.

It comes with a lifetime guarantee from the manufacturer that claims it will never wear out. This may be the last throwing device you ever buy.

You can watch a video demonstration of the device on:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qyEkX29wBIs>

For more information, visit [www.treepedo.com](http://www.treepedo.com).



Treepedo® attached to a 2 mm throwline and a 1/2" climbing line

## The Time Travel Dept.



No, this is not a roadside lemonade stand. Read the high tech dot matrix banner in the background. In the photo from left to right, one unknown Dallas area arborist; Dave McDonald from the Dallas area; then David Hintz with Arbor Care Inc.; Greg David with TreeConsult, who is also currently on the ISAT board of directors; retired Texas Forest Service employee Larry Schaapveld, who is now a consulting arborist with Arborilogical Services; and Mike Richardson, an arborist from the Fredricksburg area, are all manning the “Tree Problem & Diagnostic Clinic” booth at a mid-1980s Grapevine Tree Fest in Grapevine, Texas.

ISAT is in desperate need of fun and slightly embarrassing old pictures of you and your tree constituents. If you have any great old photos, please take the time to email them to Heather Brewer at [hbrewer@georgetowntx.org](mailto:hbrewer@georgetowntx.org) or snail mail them to PO Box 409, Georgetown, TX. 78627. The higher the resolution and pixel number the better.

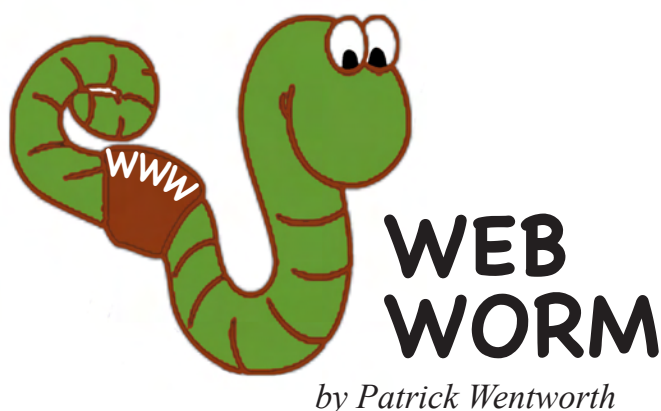
– Heather Brewer, Urban Forester, City of Georgetown

### OUR NEWSLETTER COMES IN TWO FLAVORS!

*In the Shade* comes in a print edition, delivered right to your mailbox but unfortunately not in color, and a downloadable pdf edition that's *in color* and *has clickable links* to all the websites in each article. Download it at:

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

Previous issues are also available, going back to 2004.



<http://eap.mcgill.ca/publications/eap3.htm>

Controlling pests in an ecological manner.

<http://www.ca.uky.edu/entomology/entfacts/ef448.asp>

Alternatives to insecticides

<https://www.msu.edu/~nixonjos/armadillo/expansion.html>

Expansion of the lowly armadillo

<http://www.aquadiamonds.com/>  
Copolymer aids in transplants.

<http://www.soilfirst.com/>  
Soil testing service

<http://www.marroneorganics.com/>  
Organic pest control

<http://greenmethods.com/site/>  
Bio-pest control and IPM

<http://www.buglogical.com/>  
Use bugs to control bugs

<http://www.arbico-organics.com/>  
Organic resource

<http://www.bio-control.com/>  
Biological control of weeds

## Tree Climbing Competition Set for May 21 & 22 in Plano

The 2010 Texas Tree Climbing Competition has been scheduled for May 21 and 22 (Friday & Saturday) in Bob Woodruff Park, Plano, in and around the park's 500 year old bur oak. There will be an educational seminar May 20.

The competition is a grueling test of mental and physical strength that determines our state champion as well as our state representative in the 2010 International Competition.

To learn more about the history, visit [www.isatexas.com](http://www.isatexas.com) and click on "Climbing Competition" on the left hand side.

— Steve Houser



## Report Shows Design Options for Urban Trees

From 2006 to 2008, Casey Trees convened an advisory group of arborists, urban foresters, landscape architects and horticulturists to create design standards that will enable trees in urban environments to survive and thrive, while maintaining sufficient space for pedestrian circulation. Although urban trees face numerous challenges to growth and development, the advisory group focused on providing trees with adequate soil volume for root growth and preventing soil compaction.

The group's report addresses these key issues by presenting (1) a matrix of recommended soil volumes based on sidewalk width and (2) design options to achieve those soil volumes. Soil volume recommendations range from 400 cubic feet to more than 1000 cubic feet based on the sidewalk width. Design methods include open soil areas, covered soil areas and root paths.

Although this report addresses the design conditions in Washington, DC, the recommendations are applicable for any urban area with similar characteristics. The 18-page report, illustrated with photos and drawings of the various design options, can be downloaded at [http://www.caseytrees.org/planning/design-resources/for-designers/tree-space/documents/Tree\\_Space\\_Design\\_lowres.pdf](http://www.caseytrees.org/planning/design-resources/for-designers/tree-space/documents/Tree_Space_Design_lowres.pdf)



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