



NEWSLETTER OF
THE ISA TEXAS
CHAPTER

Vol. 40, No. 6
March, 2017

In the Shade

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The Texas Tree Conference returns

**September 27-29
Waco Convention Center**

After hosting the International Conference last year, ISA Texas is bringing back the Texas Tree Conference for 2017. Mark your calendar now for the biggest and best Texas Tree Conference yet!

We anticipate over 1,000 attendees again and will have Texas, national and international speakers. There will be tracks for Commercial, Municipal and Utility arborists with plenty of time to socialize and visit the exhibitors at the packed trade show.

If you would like to be a speaker go to:
<http://bit.ly/2017Speaker>

If would like to exhibit or sponsor this year go to:
<http://bit.ly/2017Exhibitor> ■



PRESIDENT'S LETTER by Lara Schuman



It's a busy time of year for the Board of Directors. We are in the thick of conference planning, and our Educational Committee has been working hard to plan several workshops. If you are interested in presenting at the conference, or would like to be a sponsor or exhibitor, you can throw your name in the hat on our website. The theme of the conference this year is Growing Texas Trees. From what I've heard on the planning calls, this year's conference will not disappoint. If you are interested in volunteering to help, please contact our president-elect and conference committee chair, Micah Pace.

Registration is now open for the Lone Star Tree Appraisal Workshops in Fort Worth and Buda. This will be a workshop you don't want to miss! Dr. Todd Watson and consulting arborist Greg David, both board certified master arborists, are teaming up to teach the methods of tree appraisal and to discuss some real cases. This is going to be some really interesting and helpful stuff.

Be on the lookout for other upcoming workshops. We'll be offering the new Oak Wilt Qualification course again this year, and there are going to be some really good training opportunities with the annual Texas Tree Climbing Competition this spring. I'm excited to have the opportunity to host the TTCC at one of our Austin parks this year. This is always a fun event, and I hope to see many of you there. Come say hi if you are able to make it out. I'll be the person cheering loudly for some City of Austin Urban Forestry staff members who are going to compete. ■

In the Shade

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ON THE COVER

Kids introduced to climbing at the Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center Winter Tree Fest. Wildflower Center staff member Phillip Schulze set up and ran the event with assistance by ISA Texas board member Nevic Donnelly (They Might Be Monkeys!).

Photo by Vincent Debrock.

Trees' movement makes them strong

by Keith Babberney, Community Tree Division Forester, City of Austin

When I was still a young, green climber, I accidentally taught myself an important lesson about trees and their natural supports. Working from a customer's roof, I noticed a stub about two feet long that bumped into the eave when the wind blew. Being a conscientious arborist-in-training, I decided to fix the problem and removed the stub.

Then I watched in horror as the end of a 50-foot-long, ten-inch-diameter branch over the back patio slowly collapsed onto a glass table. It had crossed over the stub and relied on it for support so long that it was unable to hold itself up. Fortunately, the table was fine and the customer was glad to get some firewood, but I've remembered that lesson throughout my subsequent 20 years of pruning trees.

A tree develops strength in two ways. First, the weight of its branches creates compression wood on the underside and tension wood on top. This helps the branch support itself even under heavy loads of water, ice, or snow. Second, wind movement compresses cells, which then grow thicker and multiply, much like when people exercise their muscles—there is damage initially, but ultimately

Leave grafts intact for support.



Even disparate species can support each other.

the tree is stronger. This fact informs how we brace or cable trees, plant them, and prune them.

Most of us are already familiar with how this affects cabling. We are taught that because the tree has developed strength in response to growth and movement, we shouldn't pull branches upward or sideways with cables; this would put strain on the weaker parts of the branches and could cause failure. We have developed dynamic cabling for certain applications so the tree is able to move naturally. When rigid cables are needed, we try to minimize strength loss by leaving them slightly slack rather than pulling them taut. Once installed, we treat cables as permanent additions to the tree because we have restricted its ability to gain strength over time through movement.

Let's apply the same principles to planting. Most container-grown trees have a wide, heavy base that makes blowing over unlikely. Nevertheless, their trunks are often wired in tightly from two or three directions so they cannot be moved by wind. Problems develop later; as the diameter of the stem increases, the wire begins to choke off vascular tissue and tree decline begins (and, no, running the wire through a piece of garden hose does not help). When we remove the staking, though, the tree often bends or breaks under its own weight. For this

reason, staking should only be installed when stability is clearly a concern. When needed, supports should not be too tight, and should be removed after a year or so. Attachment by loose loops of wide, flat webbing or nylon stockings instead of wire allows the tree to move naturally and prevents girdling. For small trees, we can even aid the process by gently shaking the stems whenever we pass by.

This knowledge is also important when we break out the saws. Pruning recommendations generally tell us to

Grafted limbs.



Crossed limbs.



◀ remove crossing branches to prevent bark damage where they make contact. As climbing arborists, we need to recognize where branches are supporting each other and be smart about which ones we remove. If we take too much foliage, we might damage the tree's ability to make enough energy, or we might upset a customer who doesn't want a big gap in the canopy. It can be challenging for less experienced climbers to know what to cut and what to keep. Gray areas arise when crossing branches have wounded each other over a long period without forming a graft. Though the concern about the wounds is valid, avoiding the damage from excessive foliage loss or undermining support of another branch sometimes takes precedence. My rule of thumb is, I don't cut a branch unless I can clearly articulate to the customer (or the boss) a reason for removing it. Remember, you can always take more off later, but you can't put it back.

I hope this discussion helps prevent any more disasters like the one I caused when I cut off that stub way back when. Understanding that trees develop strength through movement is critical to every arborist. This knowledge leads us to adjust our work practices in several ways, including: once cabling is installed in a tree it must be maintained, because the tree may become dependent on it; rigid staking leads to weak trees and should be avoided; and pruning out branches to eliminate crossing can lead to failure of the retained branch. Keep these principles in mind as you work and you will be rewarded with strong, healthy trees.

A QUICK NOTE ON OAK WILT

We know oak wilt can be spread by insects that carry fungal spores to a fresh wound on a healthy tree. This creates another potential justification for removing crossing limbs. In my experience, this is not necessary. As a climber in Austin, I have pruned countless live oaks that developed crosses or twined branches. In some cases, I might remove a few; however, eliminating all crosses would often mean removing more live tissue than is acceptable, especially on mature trees. To mitigate the risk, the Texas A&M Forest Service recommends painting the branches wherever you see bark damage. ■

EDITOR'S NOTE by Rebecca Johnson



As winter gives way to spring (or is it summer? hard to tell with the 80+ degree days here), ISA Texas continues to move full speed ahead. Our members are volunteering to help out at tabling events, workshops, and the Texas Tree Climbing Championship, plus we're planning the Texas Tree Conference and are getting closer to launching the wildfire mitigation qualification. We're also planning TRAQ for the DFW and San Antonio areas.

The board continues to watch proposed legislation as the Texas Legislature meets. There have been a few bills that have come up that directly address trees. So far none of them are out of committee, but the session is young. While ISA Texas is not a lobbying organization, we can serve as a resource for science-based education and information regarding trees and humans' impact on them and we can encourage and support our members as they speak up.

The bills identified so far are:

SB 782: Relating to the ownership and local regulation of trees and timber.

SB 744: Relating to a tree planting credit to offset tree mitigation fees imposed by a municipality.

SB 898: Relating to the ownership and local regulation of trees and timber.

HB 1572: Relating to a property owner's right to remove a tree or vegetation that the owner believes poses a fire risk.

HB 1586: Relating to the services that require a structural pest control license; changing the applicability of an occupational license.

You can look up the language and any actions taken at <http://www.capitol.state.tx.us/BillLookup/BillNumber.aspx> and sign up for bill alerts under My TLO.

We'd always like members to take a more active role in ISA Texas. If you're interested in volunteering to serve on a committee or in another capacity, let us know. You can email any of the board members, post on ISA Texas' Facebook page or tweet us. ■

Bilingual Tree Care Workshop

Spanish and English Tracks March 10, Schertz

It's time for the 8th Annual Bilingual Tree Worker Safety Workshop in San Antonio. Come learn from industry leaders including Kevin Bassett of Arborological in Dallas, the Texas Engineering Extension Service, and Tim Jackson and Eduardo Medina of Davey Tree in Chicago.

We will discuss professionalism in arboriculture, accident prevention, how to set up for safe work on roads, pruning, and oak wilt. There will be outdoor demonstrations on chipper and chainsaw safety, and tree pruning. We hope to see you there!

For the Spanish track: <http://bit.ly/SpanishTrack>

For the English track: <http://bit.ly/EnglishTrack>



Beware of a Bad Guy That May Whip Your Ash

by L. Allen Smith, Regional Forest Health Coordinator, Texas A&M Forest Service

Texas has a new, unwelcome visitor with the potential to devastate the state's natural resources and ecosystems and cost Texans hundreds of millions of dollars. This invader remains relatively unknown to most Texans. I am not talking about some terrorist sneaking into the United States from a foreign land, but rather an invasive beetle, the emerald ash borer (EAB), known scientifically as *Agrilus planipennis*. The EAB is a highly invasive green beetle native to Asia: specifically Siberia, Korea and Manchuria. In its home range it is a secondary pest, attacking only stressed and/or dying ash trees.

First detected and identified in southeastern Michigan near Detroit in 2002, its actual date of introduction was much earlier, probably around 1992–1993. Here, the beetle is not constrained by its natural predators and feeds on trees with which it didn't co-evolve. Thus, all species of ash trees (*Fraxinus* spp.) in the United States are susceptible to EAB. Currently confirmed in 30 states and two Canadian provinces, millions of ash trees have been killed in



North America since its introduction at a cost of hundreds of millions of dollars to municipalities, local governments, forest product industries, and individual property owners. Texas became the 26th infested state on May 6, 2016 when four adult EAB were discovered on a survey trap in Harrison County near the town of Karnack.

EAB is a metallic wood-boring beetle in the family Buprestidae. Adult EAB are larger than all other 171 species of *Agrilus* in North America, measuring between 10 and 13 mm in length. Adults are bright metallic green with a characteristic coppery-red abdomen and feed on ash foliage throughout their entire 3–6-week lifespan. Tree mortality is actually caused by larvae developing in the phloem of ash trees; their feeding results in girdling. This disruption in the transport of water and minerals results in tree mortality typically 2–3 years after initial infestation. Unlike in its native range, EAB in North America may infest healthy ash trees.

The first signs of infestation are usually declining/deteriorating canopies starting at the top of the tree. Infested ash trees may produce copious basal sprouts to compensate for lost canopy. Emerging adult EAB leave 1/8" characteristic "D"-shaped exit holes on branches or the trunk of infested trees. Woodpeckers may drill holes and knock off pieces of bark from the infested tree as they seek out beetle larvae. If you peel back the bark of an infested tree, you'll see broad, winding larval galleries. Because native wood-boring insects may make similar galleries in dying ash trees, the only way to positively confirm the presence of EAB is to have the suspected larvae or adults examined by an expert. Any suspected samples can be sent to:

Allen Smith
Texas A&M Forest Service
1203 W. Loop 281, Suite B102
Longview, TX 75604

Long-range dispersion of EAB is greatly accelerated by the movement of infested firewood and raw ash logs; thus regulations have been designed and put in place to slow the spread of the insect. Confirmation of EAB in Texas triggered the initiation of both federal (USDA APHIS) and state (Texas Department of Agriculture) regulations on the movement of ash wood and hardwood firewood. Currently the EAB quarantine applies *only* to Harrison County. This quarantine prohibits the movement of *untreated* ash logs *out* of Harrison County during the adult EAB non-flight period from November to March. Ash logs may be moved *out* of Harrison County if they have been treated (kiln dried, fumigated, or bark plus one inch of wood removed), though no such facilities to treat ash wood exist in Harrison County. The transport of *all* hardwood firewood *out* of Harrison County is prohibited as it is too difficult to identify the species of cut wood. Violators face civil penalties.



Management of ash trees prior to the arrival of EAB should include the removal of poor quality/undesired ash trees and their replacement with other species. A comprehensive urban tree inventory will reveal the number of ash trees that might be affected and the associated costs for removal/replacement and/or treatment. Chemical treatment options are available, ►

- ◀ including some using non-restricted use pesticides. Research done at Ohio State University indicates that the treatment of 20% of an urban ash tree population results in adequate protection for the entire population if the trees are treated prior to initial EAB invasion. Treatment of ash trees for prevention of EAB infestation using injectable (systemic) pesticides should be done only when EAB has been detected within 15 miles of your property. To treat trees before EAB is confirmed in your county is costly and unnecessary.

As spring arrives and EAB adults start to disperse, an extensive EAB trapping survey will begin across Texas, to detect new areas of occurrence and delineate the extent of the EAB population in Harrison County. The Texas A&M Forest Service and their cooperators will place over 600 green prism traps in both rural and urban ash trees. Coupled with an aggressive public awareness/information campaign, these traps serve as our front line defense against this insidious pest.

For more information contact me at 903-297-5094 or lasmith@tfs.tamu.edu . ■

Friends:

As some of you may know, I retired from Texas A&M Forest Service after 26 years of service at the end of January. It has truly been a pleasure to work with you. I will miss the day to day "sun-screening up" and walking with you talking trees, forestry and land stewardship. However, I will still be engaged in forestry-related activities and helping teach urban forestry and tree care. Being a forester is much like being a Marine. . . . Once a forester, always a forester. After all, most of my friends are foresters or arborists. I have a sawmill, collect wood, and take my family on vacations into the forests to look at trees.

I will still be living in San Antonio and have another house in Sisterdale 45 miles north with an office, shop and barn full of wood. I will be doing some wood projects, visiting with my mother more, travelling, visiting friends and taking on certain consulting assignments. So please let's stay in touch, or better yet, come see me in Sisterdale. My new contact information is: markduff432@yahoo.com .

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While you're doing your spring cleaning keep the Texas Tree Conference Silent Auction in mind. Books, antique tools, wood crafts, jewelry, or toys make great items that can be auctioned individually or assembled into packages for the auction. Bigger items are welcome too. Can you donate a hunt, a new chainsaw or a weekend at your beach condo? Gifts support student scholarships to attend the conference. For more information contact April Rose, april@rosewoodarbor.com .



You're invited to volunteer

2017 TTCC coming up in May

As spring approaches and the trees begin to wake up across the state, the ISA Texas team is busy planning the 2017 Texas Tree Climbing Championship! This year's event will be in Govalle Park in Austin May19-21 with the pre-competition workshop on the 18th.

As many of you know, long-time chairperson, Kevin Bassett, and long-time head judge, Guy LeBlanc, have turned over the reins to Markus Smith and Jim Dossett, respectively. Markus and Jim are working hard on living up to the high bar set by Kevin and Guy and are already gearing up for a great event. Fortunately for the new crew, much of the volunteer staff that has made the event possible over the years will be returning to help.



That being said, the event welcomes all volunteers. And volunteering is a great way to network and become involved in the chapter. The friendships that are forged at the competition are often ones that endure throughout your career.

So if you'd like to help put together an event that brings together the best climbers, judges, and technicians in the state, contact Jim Dossett at jdossett@bartlett.com and get your name on the volunteer list today.

Sponsorship opportunities also remain available for those who are looking for a great opportunity to build relationships with climbers, owners, and arborists in all corners of the state. For sponsorship opportunities, visit the events page at ISATexas.com/events. ■



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Fire Blight Photo: William Jacobi, Colorado State University, Bugwood.org
Bacterial Leaf Scorch Photo: William M. Ciesla, Forest Health Management International, Bugwood.org



UPCOMING EVENTS

March 3

Certified Arborist, Municipal Specialist and Utility Specialist Exams, San Antonio

Check ISATexas.com/events for details.

March 3

Spring Master Series/Tree Appraisal Workshop, Buda

with Todd Watson and Greg David. <http://bit.ly/Appraisal-Buda>

March 10

Bilingual Tree Care Workshop, Schertz

Topics include safe work sites on roads, chipper safety, climbing skills, and pruning. Taught by Kevin Bassett, Micah Pace, Eduardo Medina and others.

Spanish track: <http://bit.ly/SpanishTrack>

English track: <http://bit.ly/EnglishTrack>

March 24

Certified Arborist, Municipal Specialist and Utility Specialist Exams, Round Rock

Check ISATexas.com/events for details.

March 24

Spring Master Series/Tree Appraisal Workshop, Ft. Worth

with Todd Watson and Greg David. <http://bit.ly/Appraisal-FtWorth>

April 19 and 20

San Antonio Arborist Association Aerial Rescue Workshops, San Antonio. One in English, one in Spanish. <http://www.sa-aa.com>

May (date TBA)

Oak Wilt Qualification Course And Assessment, Austin

Keep watching ISATexas.com/events

May 18–20

Texas Tree Climbing Championship, Austin

Contact Jim Dossett to volunteer. jdosssett@bartlett.com

June (date TBA)

Oak Wilt Qualification Course And Assessment, Johnson City

Keep watching ISATexas.com/events

June 19–21

TRAQ Course and Assessment, Ft. Worth

Keep watching ISATexas.com/events

June 22–24

TRAQ Course and Assessment, San Antonio

Keep watching ISATexas.com/events

July 28–August 2

ISA Annual International Conference and Trade Show with ITCC

www.isa-arbor.com/events/conference/

September 27–29

Texas Tree Conference, Academy, Trade Show and Tree School

Keep watching this newsletter and ISATexas.com/events



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See the video





A 260-year-old, 425-ton heritage oak tree stood in the way of the planned site for a new City of Buda municipal complex. The city decided to move the tree to another site. Here are some photos of that move, which was handled by Environmental Design, Inc. of Tomball.

See article at <http://bit.ly/treerelocation>

A time-lapse video showing Environmental Design's tree-moving technique is available at <http://bit.ly/2jnKXOh>



Moving a 425-ton heritage oak

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ELECTRICITY BURNS HUGE LIVING PECAN LIMB

Earth’s gravity pulled the sheer weight of hundreds of newly formed pecans, along with sap and photosynthetic compounds generated by spring growth, lower and lower each year. This totally normal process happens in every pecan-producing tree. But this sizable stem ran into complications.

A seven-thousand-volt, bare-wire primary distribution conductor was situated just below. Each time the limb sagged down and bounced up and down during weather patterns, electricity entered the limb. The contact was not long enough or strong enough to kill the line, so it produced repeated charring and sparking in short bursts. The smoky, fiery glow of flames rolling underneath and inside the hole had to be an interesting sight at night.

As the limb continued to add wood and weight, the situation became worse. It is obvious to see that a significant amount of fire and flame was produced over time. Because the flames and heat were on the underside of the limb, the heat was concentrated and stayed in that zone. Over time it grew to the size of about a four-foot burned-out gouge in the limb. And the limb kept living.

Luckily our seasoned utility forester, Richard Bewely, came upon the scene and took actions to eliminate this increasing electrical fire hazard. Richard thought it was so unusual he had the tree crew cut the specimen in pieces and load it into a truck so he could use it for educational purposes. The burned-out hulk of a pecan limb now resides in an Oklahoma Gas and Electric conference room south of Oklahoma City! And there is our good friend Richard posing beside his trophy that brought safety back...at least in that area. ■

–Steve White, Davey Resource Group, Austin



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NEW MEMBERS

Matthew Austin	Johnson City
Michael Bairfield	Porter
Marc Beaudoin	Rowlett
Joshua Erickson	Bellevue
Kelly Gallo	Austin
Kenneth Grayson	Austin
Jason Hagen	Plano
Fonda Honda	Fort Worth
Janay Jones	Apple Springs
Angela Kralik	Plano
Austin McCoy	Cedar Park
Nelson Medina	Austin
David Michael	Austin
Melissa Moncier	Princeton
Donyne Plankenhorn	Austin
Prophet Randel	Garland
David Robinson	Cypress
John Sastre	Beaumont
Monica Sousa Singhania	Houston
Tanya Soans	Austin
John Stoker	Dallas
David Suarez	Taylor
Kathleen Fitzgerald Taylor	Kingwood
Luis Torres	La Feria
Andrew Trimble	Woodway
Adrian Valdez	Bulverde
Rusty Weatherly	Nacogdoches
Eric Weeks	San Marcos



Lining up for free trees at Jammin' Jams



On Saturday, January 28, well over 3,000 people stood patiently in line for three or more hours in the hope of obtaining a free 5-gallon fruit tree at the 8th Annual Jammin' Jams Tree Giveaway. Each year the Alamo Forest Partnership, a non-profit organization dedicated to tree planting and care throughout the San Antonio metropolitan area, along with the City of San Antonio Parks & Recreation Department and the San Antonio Arborist Association disseminate 1,500 5-gallon trees and tree care knowledge. Once again, the event was held at the beautiful confines of The Pearl in midtown San Antonio.

Call for Poster Submissions!

Texas Tree Conference Poster Session Registration

ISA Texas is hosting a poster session in Waco at the 37th Annual Texas Tree Conference September 27–29. Register to display your poster today. The deadline for poster submission ideas is Friday, July 14. This is simply to gauge attendance. You will not need to submit a physical poster at that time.

Poster set-up time: Wednesday, September 27 from 5 pm – 6 pm.

Poster session time: Thursday, September 28 – Friday, September 29.

Posters will be displayed, and while presenters are not expected to stand by their poster throughout the day, there will be dedicated viewing times.

Posters are exhibited for informal browsing with opportunities for

individual discussion with poster authors. Graphic materials will be displayed on easels supplied by ISA.

Follow these *recommended* formatting instructions for a successful poster design:

- Make use of graphics and limit text to brief statements where appropriate
- Materials, both textual and visual, should be of professional quality and should be clearly legible from a recommended distance of 4 feet
- 36" x 48" is the recommended poster size
- Posters should not exceed 48" x 96" in size
- Posters should be landscape-oriented

This poster session is intended 1) to display the great work, innovative techniques, and practices performed

by our state's arborists and tree professionals, and 2) to explore the latest research conducted by undergraduate and graduate students. As such, this is not a competitive poster session, and submissions are not limited to any single topic. ISA Texas welcomes poster submissions from all walks of life including private industry, academia, local or state government, the GIS community, and many more!

Poster break-down time: Friday, September 29 from 12 pm to 1 pm

Please send poster submissions and inquiries to Zaina Gates at zgates@tfs.tamu.edu. Include your name, email, phone number, poster idea, and company, college, university, or other affiliation. ■

GREEN AMBASSADORS WIN VICE CHANCELLOR'S AWARD

Students from Houston's impoverished East End are changing their schools, their neighborhoods and their futures for the better. And the forestry and agricultural communities are taking notice.

A multi-agency team of Green Ambassadors has been awarded the 2016 Vice Chancellor's Award in Excellence Partnership Award from Texas A&M AgriLife. The award was presented Jan. 9 at the AgriLife Conference on the campus of Texas A&M University in College Station.

The collaborative group is comprised of many individuals and state, federal, non-profit and student organizations. Green Ambassadors is a grassroots movement led by the youth they serve. The young leaders help local schools and the broader surrounding community plant and grow urban and community forests as answers to some of the issues they see in their neighborhoods every day: issues such as access to fresh, healthy foods; the heat island effect and flooding that are so prominent in Houston; environmental justice; and food sovereignty.

"By transforming our community from what I call a food desert to a food forest we can help supply residents with fresh natural foods and also provide nourishment and shelter for wildlife and pollinators," said Juan Elizondo of the Green Institute at Furr High School.

The Green Ambassadors have planted hundreds of fruit trees and more than 200 vegetable garden beds in Houston's East End community. They raised approximately 3,000 pounds of collard greens, sweet potatoes and other vegetables that have been donated to area food banks.

These youth are preparing themselves to serve in leadership roles and careers in natural resource professions. In addition to the trees and gardens, there are members of the group dedicated to permaculture, pollinators, health and physical fitness, wildlife, urban planning and development and environmental justice.

The Green Ambassadors are themselves at-risk high school and college students who are gaining leadership skills and confidence through their roles as teachers and mentors to younger students. They go out to elementary and middle schools, local neighborhoods and parks to

share information on how to take care of the environment.

Unlike many established, youth ambassador programs that were developed top-down by agencies or other entities, the Green Ambassadors have themselves created a movement by building upon the energy of the youth and from partners such as the Latino Legacy program (<http://www.friendsnfgt.org/latinolegacy/Home.html>) of the Friends of National Forests and Grasslands in Texas, the Fruit Tree Planting Foundation (<http://www.ftpf.org/>) and the Arbor Day Foundation's Nature Explore program (<https://natureexplore.org/>).

They are absorbing and combining conservation education curricula from many forestry and natural resource organizations, including the American Forest Foundation's Project Learning Tree, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, U.S. Forest Service, Texas A&M Forest Service, Texas Parks and Wildlife Department and Texas A&M College of Architecture.

"The Green Ambassador program models 'youth-leading-youth' with students teaching each other how to learn, and how to think," Tom Boggus, Texas A&M Forest Service Director said. "As natural resource agencies, we need to figure out how to help other communities achieve this same level of engagement and empowerment."

The Vice Chancellor's Awards in Excellence were established in 1980 to recognize the commitment and outstanding contributions of faculty and staff across Texas A&M AgriLife. ■



Green Ambassador members and partners who were honored with the Vice Chancellor's Award in Excellence are (l to r): John Warner, Urban District Forester, Texas A&M Forest Service; Nalleli Hidalgo, College Green Ambassador, Texas A&M Forest Service; Juan Elizondo, Career and Technical Educator of Agriculture, Food and Natural Resources, Houston Independent School District Green Institute at Furr High School; Tamberly Conway, Partnerships, Diversity and Inclusion Specialist, USDA Forest Service Washington Office; David Salazar, Career and Technical Educator of Agriculture, Food and Natural Resources, Houston Independent School District Green Institute at Furr High School.

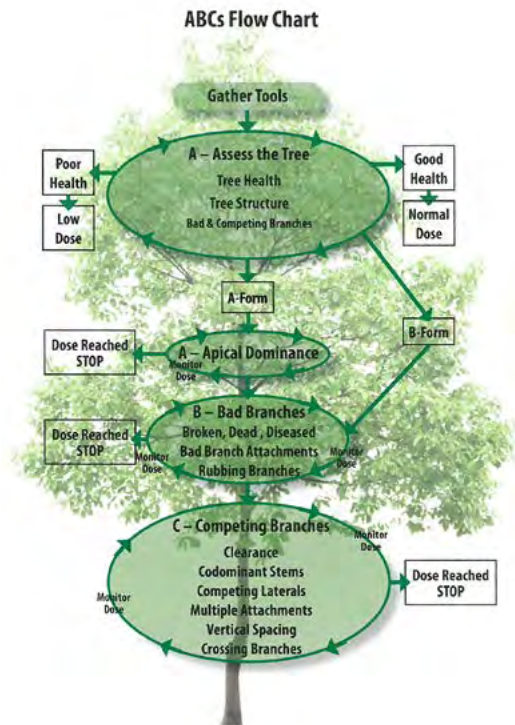
La Poda Estructural – El “Entrenamiento” de los Árboles Jovenes, Parte 3

por Micah Pace, Presidente-electo de ISAT y Arborista con Preservation Tree Services

La siguiente información fue traducida del libro “The ABC’s Field Guide to Young and Small Tree Pruning” por (Pleninger and Luley 2012).

En este último capítulo del artículo de la poda estructural de los árboles jóvenes, discutimos el tercer paso cual es la poda de las ramas agresivas. El paso “C” explica la prioridad de quitar ramas que compitan ser el tronco central/principal. También este último paso ofrece información como usar la poda para mejorar la distancia vertical tal como horizontal entre las ramas permanentes.

Fig. 1 Un gráfico desde el libro “The ABC’s Field Guide to Young and Small Tree Pruning” que muestra los 3 pasos (A, B, y C) del proceso de planificación e implementación de la poda estructural de los árboles jóvenes.



Tercer Paso (Paso “C”)

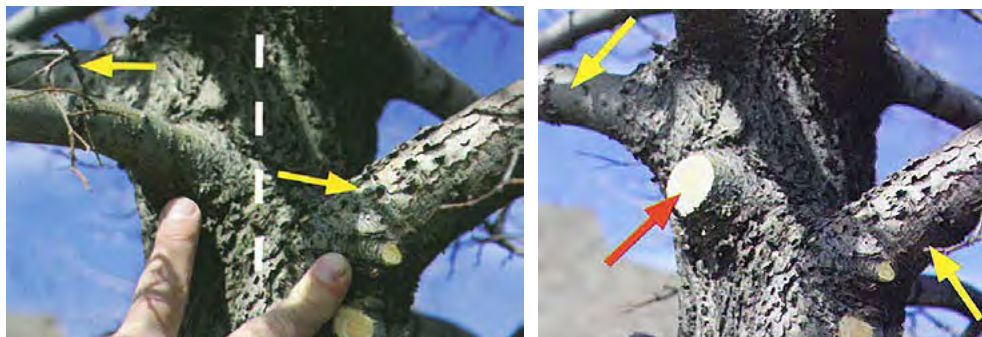
C. Competing Branches (Ramas Agresivas) – Altura/Espacio

- La poda para cortar ramas que bloquean acceso o causan un conflicto con el uso de la propiedad por su tamaño y/o ubicación
- Altura de las ramas más baja (despejar)
 - Remover ramas desde la cuarta (1/4) o tercera (1/3) parte más baja de la copa
 - A. No se corte 2 o más ramas juntas verticalmente ni horizontalmente (Mejor cortar una y subordina la otra para poder removerla en el futuro)
 - Remover brotes (retoños) y ramas cruzadas
 - A. Deja unos brotes si hay una herida a lado, muchos brotes, o si el árbol fue plantado en los últimos 3 años.
 - B. Corte ramas cruzadas que causan daño a otras ramas
- Mejorar el espacio vertical entre ramas permanentes

Fig 2. La primera foto muestra un árbol con ramas en casi la misma posición vertical (una sobre la otra) (flechas amarillas) en el tronco. El segundo imagen demuestra el mismo árbol después de la poda de la rama más agresiva (y grande) dejando más espacio vertical para las ramas permanentes.



◀ Fig 3. Es importante aumentar el espacio vertical alrededor el tronco también. La primera foto muestra tres ramas en casi la misma posición vertical (flechas amarillas) en el tronco. El segundo imagen demuestra el mismo árbol después de la poda de la rama en el medio de las tres ramas.



- Espacio Horizontal (Despejar)
 - Controlando el largo de ramas en conflicto con estructuras del sitio tal como edificios usando cortes de la Reducción o Descopado (“Heading cuts”) sobre la cuarta (1/4) o tercera (1/3) parte más baja de la copa.
 - Mejora el espacio entre ramas de la misma posición horizontal del tronco para aumentar el crecimiento mientras reduciendo conflictos entre las ramas permanentes.
- Pon las ramas cortadas juntos para poder cuantificar la proporción cortado de la copa viva.
- Termina cuando llegues a la dosis querida (determinada en paso “A”).

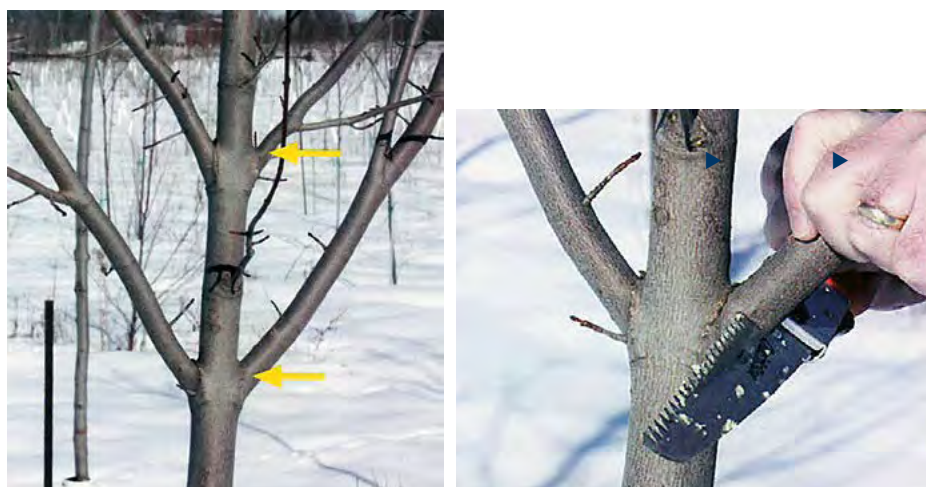


Fig 4. La primera foto muestra un arce con dos pares de ramas en la misma posición horizontal (flechas amarillas) en el tronco. En el segundo imagen el arbolista elige la rama más grande del par más baja.



Fig 5. En este ejemplo la estrategia de aumentar el espacio horizontal entre las ramas permanentes es dejar unas ramas (flechas azules), remover otras ramas (flechas rojas), y subordinar otra rama agresiva (flecha amarilla).

Resumen de los beneficios de la poda estructural para los arboles jóvenes:

La Poda Estructural es la técnica preferida para entrenar a los arboles jóvenes como desarrollar un tronco más seguro y una arquitectura de la corona más sostenible. Los tres pasos exitosos son:

- A. Assess tree (Evaluar el árbol)** – Determinar la forma natural del árbol y su salud para decidir cuál será la cantidad (dosis) de poda necesaria (metas vs. la salud/condición del árbol).
- A. Apical Dominance** – La poda para promover la dominancia apical del árbol.
- B. Bad Branches (ramas feas)** – Poda de las ramas secas, enfermas, y con uniones débiles.
- C. Competing Branches (ramas agresivas)** – Poda de las ramas para despejar o para controlar el crecimiento de las ramas agresivas q compiten con respeto de su tasa de crecimiento, tamaño, o ubicación.

◀ Recuerdarse que los beneficios principales de la poda estructural son:

- Aumenta **Seguridad** – Mejora la fuerza estructural del tronco y las ramas principales para minimizar el riesgo de daño, especialmente durante épocas tormentosas.
- Ahorra **Dinero**– Reduce los gastos de mantenimiento porque los arboles van a tener una mejor forma durante su vida.
- Extiende la **Vida**– Aumenta los años de vida de los arboles urbanos.

Espero que ustedes hayan disfrutado la información sobre la poda estructural en los últimos tres artículos de *Baja la Sombra*. Les deseo mucha suerte en sus prácticas de esas técnicas y que puedan mejorar la calidad de sus proyectos y por supuesto la estructura de los árboles de sus comunidades.

Hasta entonces cuídense mucho. Saludos. –MP ■

.....
Reserve your spot today - seating limited!

Lone Star Tree Appraisal Workshop

A Texas Chapter ISA Masters' Series Event

March 3, Buda March 24, Fort Worth

Need to stand apart from the crowd and take your arboricultural career to the next level? If so, then the ISA Texas Masters' Series Lone Star Tree Appraisal Workshop might be for you!

Two of ISA Texas' own experts will offer insights into what actually works in Texas courts. Todd Watson, PhD/BCMA, and Greg David, RCA/BCMA, will team up to "shoot from the hip" about authentic, Texas-sized, tried-and-true tree appraisal techniques.

From simple "car versus tree" insurance incidents, through oil and gas surface damage claims, complex herbicide drift cases, and encroachment and wrongful removal cases, Watson and David will steer you through the appraisal techniques that make sense in Texas.

We'll talk theory and methodology in the morning, and actual case reviews and scenarios in the afternoon. Of particular interest will be an inside look at two recent precedent-setting appellate and Texas Supreme Court cases related to tree appraisal.

While the Lone Star Tree Appraisal Workshop will be of great interest to anyone providing tree appraisal and valuation services in Texas, a working knowledge of the concepts covered in the *Guide for Plant Appraisal, 9th Edition* is highly recommended.

Buda information here: <http://bit.ly/Appraisal-Buda>

Ft. Worth information here: <http://bit.ly/Appraisal-FtWorth> ■

2017 Tour des Trees Registration Now Open



Registration is open for the 2017 STIHL Tour des Trees 25th Anniversary Ride July 30 – August 5. Riders will enjoy a week of cycling through Maryland, Virginia and Washington, D.C. on a mix of urban trails and bucolic country roads.

- Full-Tour rider registration is open through May 3
- Partial-Tour rider registration is open April 3 to May 31

Participation is capped at 100 riders. More information at <http://stihltourdestrees.org/>.

San Antonio Aerial Rescue Workshops

San Antonio Arborist Association will be hosting two aerial rescue workshops on April 19 and 20 in San Antonio. One will be in English and the second will be in Spanish.

Visit <http://www.sa-aa.com/> for more details.

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What's the Big IDea?

Can you identify this Texas tree?



If you know this tree, look for the photo on our Facebook page and correctly identify it in the comment section under the photo, using the full scientific name and one or more common names. If you don't know it, check the page for an answer in a few days. The winner gets bragging rights and the chance to submit a tree to stump fellow arborists in the May issue. *Hint: This shrubby tree is often found growing in the understory or woodland edge and can be temperamental.*

January Winner



Last issue's winner was Wayne Hitt, arborist for Moore Tree Care/ Lamberts Landscape in Dallas who correctly identified the *Symplocus tinctoria*, sweetleaf. This issue's challenge was provided by ISA Texas Board Member April Rose.