Wood Boring Insects and Bark Beetles: Understanding, Diagnosing, & Managing

By Fredric Miller, Ph.D.

Hopefully, spring is not too far away. As we prepare for the 2014 field season, it is important that we do not forget recent history. We should not forget the long term effects of the 2012 and later summer 2013 droughts and dry periods. In this article, I would like to address some of the major insect issues that will continue to plague our woody plant clients for the near future.

There are two major groups of insects that will probably appear this summer as result of past weather events: the wood boring insects and bark beetles. With the exception of the emerald ash borer (EAB) and the Asian long-horned beetle (ALB), the vast majority of our borers and bark beetles are opportunists. For them to successfully attack and colonize a woody plant, some predisposing factor(s) must be in play first. Common factors include drought, flooding, lightning strike, soil disturbance and compaction, defoliation by other insects or a disease, and cold injury, just to name a few. Keep in mind, that even though they are considered secondary pests, they have the capacity to kill a tree.

The first group I would like to discuss is the wood-boring beetles. This group includes the flat-headed and round-headed borers. They get their name from the shape of the larval head and pro-thorax. Members of this group include the flat-headed apple tree borer (FHBATB), members of the Agrilus spp. including the two-lined chestnut borer which attacks oaks, honeylocust borer on honeylocust, and the bronze birch borer for white barked birch. Round-headed borers include the round headed apple tree borer, sugar maple borer, and cottonwood borer as examples. These insects have a one year life cycle with adult emerging during the first half of June, feeding for a short period, mating, and then laying eggs. The eggs hatch and the larvae bore into the tree and begin forming galleries. All of the borers damage the tree’s vascular system, but some species like the FHATB and the black locust borer eventually tunnel into the heartwood to overwinter. In this case, the tree is also weakened structurally and may snap off or fail in a wind or heavy ice or snow storm. The larvae spend the winter months either just under the bark or in the heartwood and wait for warmer spring temperatures. When spring arrives, they complete their development and prepare to emerge as adults. Adult beetle emergence holes for the flat-headed borers will be the characteristic “D” shaped hole about 1/8 inch in diameter while the round –head borer holes will be circular and ¼ inch across. Depending on the species, you may see frass or sawdust at the base of the tree or in spider webs at the base of the tree. Another group of related wood boring larvae include the clear-winged moth borer. Examples are the peach-tree, viburnum, and ash/lilac borers. Like the beetle borers, they also attack vulnerable woody plants. The main difference is the adult stage is a moth that closely resembles a wasp, thus they are sometimes called wasp mimics. Their life cycle and the damage they cause are very similar to the beetle borers. The clear-wing borers tend to attack the plant right at the crown or soil line, but will also hit areas higher on the stem or trunk. Exit holes for the clear-winged borers will circular and about ¼ inch in diameter.

Regardless of the type of borer, most healthy trees can fight off borers; however, if they have stressed or weakened, then the insect can gain the advantage and eventually colonize the tree.

Our second group is the bark beetles. There are many types of bark beetles, those that attack hardwoods and also conifers. Like the borers mentioned above, bark beetles also prey on stressed trees. There are two big differences between with the bark beetles, one they mass attack a tree and second they have multiple generations. Once a suitable host is found, large numbers of bark beetles will arrive and attempt to overcome the trees natural defenses. If the (continued on page 6)
**Table of Contents**

- Wood Boring Insects and Bark Beetles  | 1
- President’s Message | 3
- 2014 Tree Climbing Competition | 7
- Cold Weather Overwintering Insects | 8
- 2014 Tour de Trees Information | 10
- IAA Summer Conference Returns to Allerton | 11
- IAA Summer Conference Agenda | 12
- IAA Summer Conference Registration Form | 13
- Introduction to Climbing for Certified Arborist | 14
- Callery Pear Recognized as Invasive Species... | 18
- Calendar of Events | 20

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**Illinois Arborist Association Mission Statement**

"Foster interest, establish standards, exchange professional ideas and pursue scientific research in Arboriculture"
Dear Members,

Mayday, Mayday!

Mayday was yesterday, and it was memorable in the fact that I wore a stocking cap to work. (For those of you that know me, I have shiny head syndrome, an exceeding forehead, or in other words, am follicularly challenged…) Made up words, love em.

Spring is plodding along, the temperatures are behind, grass is behind, and trees are behind. I have been hearing of the first cover sprays going out on crabs, depending where you stand. Once we really get going, the office phone rings off the hook, with homeowners looking for certified arborists. If you are a commercial arborist, now might be a good time to peruse your listing, to make sure the contact information is current, and accurate. If you are a commercial arborist, and don’t have your information on the site, we obviously can’t steer people your way. (That’s almost free advertising, which rarely happens….)

As I stated previously, we are having a summer conference. Please, please, either attend, or send someone from your organization. There will be some very good educational sessions, and you’re never too old to learn something new.

Also, the ISA show is directly to the north of us, in Milwaukee. Sometime in August, if memory serves. Hope to see you there!

And, in closing, if you wish to enroll in the TRAQ classes, now would be a good time to call/email April. Classes are filling up fast!

Happy would be spring!

Sincerely, Mark
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Illinois Trees
tree has a strong sap or resin flow, the tree may pitch
the beetles right back out. However, if the tree is suf-
fering from drought or its root system has been dam-
aged from flooding or soil compaction, the tree may
not be able to provide enough sap flow to physically
force the bark beetles out. Once this critical threshold
is reached the beetles gain the upper hand and begin
colonizing the tree. Bark beetles and shot-hole borers
are known to attack most hardwoods including oaks,
hickory, maple, ash, and members of the rose family
(i.e. flowering plum, cherry, peach). Adult beetle exit
holes of most bark beetles range in size from 1/32 to
1/16 inch in diameter and will be circular. If a conifer
is involved, you may see sap oozing from the exit hole
or crystallized sap up and down the trunk which most
forest entomologists call “popcorn”. Because of their
sheer numbers, bark beetles produce a lot of frass and
sawdust. This will accumulate at the base of the tree.
Different from the wood-boring beetles and moths,
bark beetles can also vector plant pathogens such as
fungi responsible for vascular diseases such as DED,
oak wilt, TCD, and blue stain in pines. Of course, this
is one of the major ways by which Dutch elm disease
(DED) is spread. Oak bark beetles have also been
implicated in spreading oak wilt, but they are not as ef-
ficient as root grafting. More recent examples include
Thousand Cankers Disease (TCD) which is spread by
the walnut twig beetle. In conifers, pine bark beetles
carry the blue stain fungus which is usually associated
with pine wilt disease and death of exotic Scotch and
Austrian pines.

It is almost a given that plants growing in urban areas
are going to be stressed, so what do we look for and
how do we protect our valuable landscape plants and
urban forest? Proper diagnosis is the best place to
start. Make sure the problem is due to an insect, and
not a disease or abiotic factor. Remember, borers are
opportunists. PREVENTION IS THE KEY! It is much
harder to get rid of borers and bark beetles once they
are established. Look for typical symptoms and signs.
Symptoms include small leaf size, poor growth and
dieback, exit holes, frass at base of the tree, and early
fall color. Signs include insect frass, exit holes, pupal
skins (always a treat and makes you feel special), and
larval galleries. A good time to look for infestations
is when you are pruning. Peel a few branches and
look for larval galleries and tunnels. We are still in a
recovery mode. Droughts like 2012 were devastat-
ing to root systems. Depending on weather, it will
probably take a number of years for trees to repair
and replace their root infrastructure. Trees made
some progress last spring, 2013, but then it turned
hot and dry the last half of the summer. We have
received lots of moisture this winter, but the spring
and summer precipitation will be critical in the
recovery period. As we all can see, we seem to be
in a pattern of extremes which will further com-
plicate the tree’s recovery efforts. Watch out for
the pre-disposing factors and try to mitigate them
as much as possible. Protect the root zones from
compaction, water when you can (in hot, dry spells
it takes about 1 inch of rainfall per week), if planting,
right plant, right place, and protect your trees from
insects and diseases where appropriate.

Once you have established borers are the culprit,
conduct a tree assessment to determine if treat-
ment is warranted and will be effective. Be care-
ful not to jump to conclusions and overlook the
pre-disposing factor(s). It is a temptation to blame
the insect for the demise of the tree when it may be
there just to clean up the mess. If you catch the
problem soon enough, then insecticide treatments
may be an option. There are plenty of systemic
treatments and delivery methods available and if
applied early enough can be quite effective. Using
degree days and plant phenology will help you pin-
point your treatment schedule more precisely.

Using pheromone traps for wood borers and bark
beetles will also tell if you they are in the area and
when adults are beginning to emerge. It is a small
investment of time and money and will provide
valuable information. Once you have treated, you
will still need to follow up with some TLC and try to
mitigate or eliminate the pre-disposing factor(s), if
possible. If the tree is beyond help, then remove it
so that you minimize breeding more insects and re-
duce your hazard. Some tree species, like ash, will
dry out very quickly and will fall apart causing struc-
tural damage and/or injury to people and property.
As we approach another field season, no one
knows how this summer will unfold, but if we pay
attention to the weather, practice effective PHC,
and monitor for pests and diseases, we have a
much better chance of protecting and preserving
our valuable urban forest and landscape plant
resource.
2014 Tree Climbing Competition by April Toney

The Tree Climbing Championship (TCC) was a huge success with 28 climbers competing for the opportunity to compete at the International Tree Climbing Championship (ITCC) in Milwaukee, WI.

The TCC is designed to test the skills of the climbers in everyday tasks. TCC is broken up into 5 events, where the top three finishers move onto the Master’s Challenge to represent the chapter. The five events are the Belayed Speed Climb, Secured Footlock, Aerial Rescue, Work Climb, and the Throwline.

**Belayed Speed Climb**

Belayed Speed Climb event, the climber must climb a predetermined route from the ground to about 60 feet up in a tree with a belayed (secured) climbing line attached for safety. This event is timed and the contestant who reaches and rings the bell at the top of course in the least amount of time wins. The top three finishers for the Belayed Speed Climb event were:

- Jeremy Dunivan; 27.69 seconds
- David Meurer; 28.15 seconds
- Gene Meurer; 30.17 seconds

**Secured Foot Lock**

The Secured Footlock event, measures the climber’s ability to perform a 40-foot vertical ascent into the tree using special climbing knots and the footlock method of climbing. This event is timed and the fastest time wins. The top three finishers for the Secured Footlock event were:

- Beau Nagan; 18.21 seconds
- David Meurer; 21.9 seconds
- Gene Meurer; 24.64 seconds

**Work Climb**

During the Work Climb event, the contestant is required to complete five stations in the tree. The event evaluates the climber’s ability to move about the tree safely and with minimum impact to the tree. Workstations include a handsaw station in which the contestant must ring a bell using their handsaw. The limb-toss station is where the contestant must ring a bell with handsaw and throw a single limb into a designated area. The pole pruner station requires the contestant to ring a bell with 2 hands on a pole saw. During the limb walk station the contestant must walk the limb out, ring bell with handsaw and walk limb back without activating a buzzer, which is rigged to go off if there is too much weight on the limb the contestant is walking on. The final decent and landing into a bulls eye scores final points. The top three finishers for the Work Climb event were:

- Jeremy Dunivan
- Josh Hodson
- David Meurer

**Aerial Rescue**

The Aerial Rescue event, tests the contestant’s ability to reach and safely lower an injured climber. The contestant must enter the tree using a pre-installed line located 15-20 feet from the injured worker, tie-in to the tree for security, secure the injured worker and descend to the ground safely with the injured climber. The top three finishers for the Aerial Rescue event were:

- Josh Hodson
- Brian King
- Jeremy Dunivan

(Aerial Rescue not pictured)
2014 Tree Climbing Competition

Throwline

The Throw Line event, is a timed event that tests the contestant’s ability to accurately place a throwline and climbing line in the tree at heights between 40 and 60 feet. The top three finishers for the Throwline event were:

Josh Hodson  
Matt Mokijeweski  
Andy Misch

This year’s top three finishers for all five events were Jeremy Dunivan, Brian King, and David Meurer. By the end of the Master’s Challenge, David Meurer had accumulated enough points to take first. Jeremy Dunivan placed second and Brian King placed third. David will go on to represent the IAA in Milwaukee.

We had one female competitor this year at TCC. A huge congratulations goes to Alex Julius for competing in the Master’s Challenge and completing the necessary stations to compete on behalf of the Illinois Chapter in the 2014 ITCC!

Two companies competed for the ComEd Corporate Cup Award. The ComEd Corporate Cup Award was created to increase participation in the IAA Tree Climbing Championship by fostering competition between companies. The award itself travels each year to the winning team’s office, and is a reminder that teamwork is invaluable in the tree care industry. This year Davey Tree Expert Company and The Care of Trees competed for the award. The award is given to the team with the highest overall score in all events. This year’s winner was Davey Tree Care Company. Congratulations Davey!!

An addition to the TCC, we added the Spirit of the Competition Award, which is awarded to, and held for one year by, the competitor who demonstrates a genuine interest in helping others do better, gives his or her best and gains from the experience, promotes a feeling of camaraderie among fellow competitors and volunteer and enriches the event for everyone else present, by the manner in which he or she competed. This winner of this year’s Spirit of the Competition Award was Jeremy Dunivan. Jeremy was supportive of all climbers and was visibly cheering on each and every competitor. Great job Jeremy!

These events take a lot of planning and preparation. I would like to point out and thank the many volunteers that make this competition possible. Without the following people this competition would NOT happen.

Special Thanks to our Sponsors

ArborMaster - 1st place prize of $1000 in tree gear  
Overall Event - Davey Tree Expert Co.

Event sponsors:  
Aerial Rescue - All Gear, Inc  
Belayed Speed Climb - Rainbow Treecare Scientific  
Secured Footlock - Davey Tree Expert Co.  
Work Climb - The Care of Trees & Vermeer Midwest  
Throwline - Alexander Equipment Co.

Refreshments - SavATree  
Lunch - Kramer Tree Specialists, Inc.

(continued on page 16)
ARLINGTON POWER EQUIPMENT is a retailer of Landscape and Arborist supplies. We stock the most popular and most demanded items from manufacturers including: Stihl and Echo power equipment; Buckingham Manufacturing; Weaver Leather; Petzl; DMM; ISC; Jameson; Fred Marvin; Anchor Bridge Ropeworks; ARS; Silky; Fanne; Felco and Kask. Climbing and rigging ropes from Samson, New England Ropes, All Gear Inc and Yale Cordage.
2014 Tour des Trees Information

Many thanks to our 2014 STIHL Tour des Trees sponsors!

Join us for a week of unforgettable scenery, cycling and camaraderie as the 2014 STIHL Tour des Trees escapes to Wisconsin July 27 – August 2, 2014. The 583-mile ride features rolling country roads, pristine forests, acres of orchards and sparkling lakefront views, plus world-famous beer, brats and cheese! The adventure concludes August 2 in Milwaukee, site of ISA’s International Tree Climbing Championship.

Beyond the bike, the Tour includes tree plantings and community outreach. Professor Elwood Prickleshorn (aka Toronto arborist and veteran Tour cyclist Warren Hoselton) provides educational programs for young audiences along the way.

The TREE Fund is grateful for the support of long-time TREE Fund sponsors STIHL Inc.—Title Sponsor of the Tour des Trees since 2009, and Bartlett Tree Experts—Crown Partner of the TREE Fund and Educational Programming Sponsor of the Tour. We’re excited to welcome The Davey Tree Expert Company as a new TREE Fund Crown Partner and Media Sponsor for this event. Thank you to Asplundh, Arborjet, ISA, KASK and TCIA for their continuing support of the Tour as TREE Fund Partners.

Since 1992, the STIHL Tour des Trees has generated more than $6.6 million and has funded a variety of research projects and educational programs for budding tree care professionals. To learn more, visit the TREE Fund grant and scholarship archives.

The 2013 event raised $611,540 and was an undeniable success due to our dedicated riders, hard-working volunteers and generous sponsors. Corporate sponsorships ensure that the money raised by Tour riders is applied to research and education programs, not event costs. Thank you to all of our 2013 STIHL Tour des Trees supporters. We’re looking forward to another outstanding Tour in 2014!

Visit the 2014 STIHL Tour des Trees event website for more information.

If you would like to donate to the 2014 STIHL Tour des Trees, please contact the TREE Fund.
IAA Summer Conference Returns to Allerton

Mark you calendar! IAA Summer Conference will be held on June 5 & 6 at Allerton House in Monticello.

This conference is similar to our annual conference in that it gives you the same amount of CEUs. It differs from our annual conference in that its sessions are more hands-on. Smaller classes allow for one-on-one time with the instructors/speakers. Hosting this during June provides us with trees in full leaf and bugs in flight, which makes learning easier for those who are visual learners. The location is one of Illinois' seven natural wonders and it provides a plethora of insects, diseases and trees amongst its 1500 acres of formal gardens and forest preserve trails. Outdoor field walks with a group of your peers offers up interesting conversations and stories that make learning fun and memorable. Not to mention that you will make new friends. Evening classes consist of 10-12 people and provides for a more intimate learning opportunity. If you like being out in the field and seeing things first hand, then this is the conference for you!

The conference agenda and registration flyer will be in the next issue of Illinois Trees and in your mail box soon.
Thursday, June 5

8:30–9:00 Registration Opens

9:00–10:00 “Tree Rigging Seminar” - Stephanie Adams, Norm Hall, Brian King and Don Roppolo
Demonstrating how to use the “tree” to your advantage. We will be setting multiple arborist blocks (pulleys) in the canopy to help distribute the forces, using the tree’s structure to your advantage by opening the rope angles to lessen the forces. This allows the climber to cut heavier loads, while keeping the climber safe. The goal is to show two (2) set-ups in 2 different trees. One for lowering limbs, and one for lowering trunk sections off itself (butt rigging). Using “rope friction devices” mounted near the ground on the trunk. Demonstrating and using the new ANSI Z133-2012 “choked” spar attachment method, using an adjustable friction saver. All methods will be done according to ANSI Z133-2012 standards.

10:00–10:15 Break

10:15–12:00 “Tree Rigging Seminar” continued

12:00–1:00 Lunch

1:00–2:00 “Tell Us Where It Hurts” - John Ball, South Dakota University
As arborists we sometimes refer to ourselves as “tree surgeons”, but our task and that of physicians has little in common; we are more the kin of veterinarians. How? Consider, either veterinarians nor arborists ask their patients about their problems and we both must communicate with their owners. This session will cover some tools and techniques of how we can help our patient (the trees) and work with their owner (our clients).

2:00–2:30 Break

2:30–4:00 “Tell Us Where It Hurts” continued

5:00-6:00 Wine Tasting: TREE Fund Fundraiser

6:00–7:00 Dinner

7:15–9:15 Evening Classes (Four 30 minute classes, 2 CEUs)
Stephanie Adams: Cankers Diseases on Conifers and Broadleaf Woody Plants; Rex Bastian: Tools for Monitoring Soil Moisture; Travis Cleveland: Oak Diseases; Glen Stanosz: Chasmo-what? Understanding Powdery Mildews of Trees and Shrubs

Friday, June 6

7:00–8:00 Breakfast (for overnight guest only)

8:00–9:00 "R-E-P-E-A-T: Strategies and Tactics for Winning the War Against Tree Diseases" - Glen Stanosz
In fighting tree and shrub diseases we are hoping to deter a very well-equipped (or perhaps well-evolved) and agile enemy! We can be successful if we select the appropriate strategy and implement effective tactics. The ways in which resistance, exclusion, protection, eradication, avoidance, and therapy can be used in tree and shrub disease management will be demonstrated in a presentation loaded with entertaining visual aids.

9:00-10:30 "Walking Insect and Disease Tour" - Stephanie Adams and Nanette Kalscheur
A hands-on tour and demonstration of diagnostic tools you can use in the field.

10:30-10:45 Break

10:45-12:00 “Advanced Tree Diagnostics” - Mark Duntemann
This session will allow for hands-on training using the tomograph and the resistograph.

10:45-12:00 Lunch

1:00-2:00 “The Results of the Municipal Ash Management Survey” - Stephanie Adams
The emerald ash borer (EAB) infestation has left municipalities with many decisions to make on the maintenance of public trees. The Municipal Ash Management Survey (MAMS) was conducted in 2011 & 2012 to gather and distribute information from participating infested municipalities to others that are in varying stages of infestation. The results of the survey are to be used to help municipalities make more educated decisions with EAB management in their communities. The survey includes chemical treatments, use of contractors, removals, funding and replanting information

2:00 Adjourn
# 2014 IAA Summer Conference Registration Form

Name: 

Guest #1: 

Guest #2: 

Company: 

Address:  

City, State, Zip:  

Phone:  Fax:  

e-mail:  

(Confirmations will be sent via e-mail)

**Deadlines:** ALL registrations are due by **May 23rd**

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Total = $ ______

**Payment Options**

Check #:  PO#:  

Visa/MasterCard Accepted

Card Number:  Expiration Date:  

Name on Card:  

Signature:  

Enclose your payment made out to:  

**Illinois Arborist Association**  
PO Box 860  
Antioch, IL 60002  
Ph. 877–617–8887  
Fx: 262-857-6677

To book your room, please contact Allerton House directly: **217-333-3287**

* All Allerton TRAQ students will receive a discount of $50 if they register for the summer conference.
Introduction to Climbing For Certified Arborists
A module of the “Tree Work” Advanced Training Domain

This is a 2-day module designed to show and demonstrate the latest climbing tools and techniques. This is a “hands-on” class. All participants will assess the tree for risk, install a climbing line, ascend into the tree and make several pruning cuts while suspended from their work positioning harness.

Day 1
Meet on site. As a group, we will perform a climbing gear inspection of the PPE and climbing gear, to check it for safety and make sure it meets industry standards. The following knots will be demonstrated and tied: Bowline; Buntline hitch; Double overhand knot; Prusik hitch and Figure eight knot. Demonstrate and perform the following: A tree risk assessment on the tree(s) to be climbed; Throwline use installing a climbing rope; Ring and ring friction saver installation; Ascending into the tree; Advancing the climbing rope; Choosing a final tie-in point (TIP); Positioning in the tree; Redirecting the climbing rope; Limb walking; Descending to the ground. Question and Answer.

Day 2
All participants continue with knot tying, installing climbing rope and climbing. Practical exam at the end.

May 20 & 21, 2014 8:00am—3:00pm
Cantigny Park
Wheaton, IL

Modern Climbing Intro Level Registration Form

Deadline for registration is May 13, 2014 Member Cost: $275

Name: ______________________________ Company: ______________________________

Address: ______________________________ City-Zip: ______________________________

Phone: ______________________________ E-mail: ______________________________

Are you an Illinois Arborist Association Member? Yes_____No_____  Illinois Arborist Association
Membership is mandatory, if not, please enclose $45 membership dues

Check #: __________ Amount $ __________

Visa or MasterCard (circle one)

Card Number: ______________________________ Expiration Date: ______________________________

Name on Card: ______________________________ Signature: ______________________________

Equipment Requirements

- Climbing style head protection with chin strap that meets the ANSI Z89.1 standard
- Eye protection that meets the ANSI Z87.1 standard Work boots suitable for climbing trees (covering the ankle)
- Work positioning harness suitable for tree climbing
- Work positioning lanyard suitable for tree climbing
- Climbing rope 120’ minimum length that meets the ANSI Z133.1-2012 standard, with a locking rope snap or double locking carabiner
- Split tail or eye & eye friction hitch cord with locking rope snap or double locking carabiner

Optional Equipment

- Throwline & shot pouch
- Micro pulley for tending hitch
- Foot ascender
- Handsaw & scabbard

Please make checks payable to:
Illinois Arborist Association
PO Box 860
Antioch, IL 60002
Phone: 877-617-8887
Fax: 262-857-6677
e-mail: april@illinoisarborist.org

Illinois Trees
Nomination Application for the IAA Board of Directors

All nominees must complete this form and mail or FAX it to the April Toney by June 13, 2014. One page (single-sided) page is permitted per question if you need additional space. All information will be confidential and reviewed only by the committee.

The Nominating Committee will meet in the summer and announce its candidates for officer and director positions after the summer board meeting. If no additional nominees are received via petition by June 13, 2014, the nominees will be elected for the ballot. The elected candidate will be introduced at the 32nd Annual Meeting that takes place at the Holiday Inn in Tinley Park on October 21 & 22, 2014.

NOMINEE IDENTIFICATION

Your Name:______________________________________________________________________________

Title:____________________________________________________________________________________

Organization:_____________________________________________________________________________

Address:_________________________________________________________________________________

City/State/Zip: ____________________________________________________________________________

Phone: (______) _____________ Fax: (______) _____________ E-mail:______________________________

I have reviewed the IAA bylaws and Nominating Committee comments regarding service on the Board of Directors. I agree to the purpose, mission and goals of the IAA and understand the requirements and protocol of Board service. If nominated and elected, I shall fulfill the expectations of the IAA Board Members to my best ability. I (and/or my employer) will support the time, travel, and minimal travel expenses to fulfill the expectations of IAA Board Members.

Nominee’s Signature: ______________________________________________ Date:___________________

Submit this document by mail or fax by June 13, 2014 to:

April Toney
Illinois Arborist Association
PO Box 860, Antioch, IL 60002
FAX: 262-857-6677

Nominate someone today!

Illinois Trees
Last but not least, I want to thank all the volunteers/judges/technicians who make this event possible. Volunteers are truly special people. Many volunteers arrived at 6am and didn’t leave until 8pm on the day of the competition. Some showed up days and even weeks before the event to prune all the trees in the competition area. Some came all the way from Ohio, Kentucky and Wisconsin to help judge and/or set up. They brought their own gear, bucket trucks, worked on week days and weekends. These people are truly dedicated and very passionate about trees. It’s these volunteers that help set the bar for the industry. They are safety driven and very giving. Everyone involved in the competition learns from it; whether you learn about new climbing techniques, new gear, camaraderie, or about safety there is something for everyone. This dedicated team of volunteers gives 110% and it shows. I can’t put into words how moved I am by the amount of time and energy that everyone donates towards this awesome event!

Aerial Rescue
Don Roppolo: Head Judge
Brad Wise: Scoring Judge
Jason Diehl: Scoring Judge
Pete Jerz: Scoring Judge
Adam Maille: Ground Tech
Humberto Perez: Ground Tech
David Hull: Ground Tech
Tyler Wallace: Tree Tech
Matt Bever: Tree Tech
Jodi Carlson: Timer

Throwline
Jeff Kramer: Head Judge
Jim Matkovich: Timer
Greg Masias: Timer
Dan Dykema: Timer

Belayed Speed Climb
Brian Sprinkle: Head Judge
Lucio Jimenez: Belayer
Mike Priller: Belayer
Todd Haefke: Timer
Jen Hatz Wehrheim: Timer

Master’s Challenge
Todd Kramer: Head Judge
Gary Kohler: Scoring Judge
Mike Wendt: Scoring Judge
Jason Diehl: Scoring Judge
Brian Sprinkle: Timer
Stephanie Adams: Timer
Jon Braga: Tree Tech
Don Roppolo: Ground Tech
Eduardo Medina: Head Technician
Norm Hall: Special Advisor

Secured Footlock
Mike Wendt: Head Judge
Steve Murray: Belayer
Edgar Vazquez: Belayer
Kevin Spiller: Timer
Jeff Brink: Timer

Scorekeepers
Rex Bastian
Kathy Hall
Stephanie Adams
2014 Tree Climbing Competition

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Illinois Trees
Callery Pear Recognized as Invasive Species in Illinois

by Bill Vander Weit

The Illinois Invasive Plant Species Council (IIPSC) recently recognized Callery pear as an invasive species. The mission of the IIPSC is to minimize the adverse economic and ecological effects that invasive plants pose to the state of Illinois. The IIPSC defines invasive plants as any species that is not native to that ecosystem, including its seeds, spores, or other biological material capable of propagating that species AND whose introduction does or is likely to cause economic harm.

The Council originally had discussed adding Callery pear to the Illinois Exotic Weed Act, which would have made it illegal to buy or sell Callery pear in Illinois. The Council chose not to pursue this option, recognizing that Callery pear is a large component of the sales and stock of a nursery industry that is still suffering from the impact of the recession and the loss of ash as a viable nursery species.

The Council voted to support an educational approach to reduce the demand for Callery pear cultivars and to encourage the switch to alternative species for planting. The Council discussed ways of crafting and delivering a message to the appropriate audience to reduce the sale and use of invasive species. Simply put, there will be no restrictions on growing and selling Callery pear, but efforts will be made to discourage the use of it.

The IIPSC is a sixteen member board with voting privileges, comprised of, comprised of eight representatives from the commercial or nursery industry, and eight representatives from the natural resource field concerned with habitat restoration efforts. This board is assisted by a non-voting advisory body comprised of experts in invasion biology, land managers, green industry representatives, non-profit organizations and regional, state and federal agency representatives. The role of the advisory committee is to provide advice to the board on various issues.

Questions concerning this decision can be directed to Christopher Evans, Invasive Species Campaign Coordinator, at Chris.Evans@Illinois.gov.

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For more information regarding EAB, visit the Illinois Dept of Ag web site at: www.IllinoisEAB.com

309-654-2261 or 800-738-1356  
www.XylemLtd.com  
Sales@XylemLtd.com
May 19, 2014
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Downers Grove, IL

May 20 & 21, 2014
Intro to Climbing for Certified Arborists
Cantigny Park in Wheaton, IL

June 2-4, 2014
TRAQ Training and Exam
Allerton House in Monticello, IL

June 5 & 6, 2014
Summer Conference
Allerton House in Monticello, IL

June 25-27, 2014
TRAQ Training and Exam at the Hortica Building
Edwardsville, IL

October 21 & 22, 2014
Annual Conference and Trade Show
Tinley Park, IL

To sign up for any of the above classes, please go to the IAA website

Tree Risk Assessment Qualification Dates (TRAQ)

Monticello (June 2-4)
Registration deadline: May 5, 2014

Edwardsville (June 25-27)
Registration deadline: May 28, 2014

Springfield (September 9-11)
Registration deadline: August 11, 2014

Rockford (September 15-17)
Registration deadline: August 18, 2014

Lincolnwood (September 22-24)
Registration deadline: August 25, 2014

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Kerns Brothers Tree Service,
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– Accreditation program statistics 2010

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Illinois Trees
Join the IAA Certified Arborist Online Directory

Spring...the birds start singing, the trees leaf out, and the Illinois Arborist Association’s phone starts ringing with residents concerned about their trees. We refer them to the IAA website to locate a certified arborist within their area and always suggest that they ask to speak to someone on staff that is certified and to call more than one company.

If you are a company that employs certified arborists, please fill out the form below, and fax it to April Toney at the IAA Office (262) 857-6677 to get your company listed on the IAA website.

If you are already listed on the IAA Online Directory, please periodically check your listing and inform the IAA of any updates.

If you have any questions, give April a call @ 877-617-8887.

☐ Yes, I would like to add my company to the IAA Certified Arborist for Hire Online Directory

Company Name
Street Address
City, State, Zip
Phone Number
Fax Number
E-mail Address
Website
Names of Certified Arborists
Certification Numbers
ISA Numbers

Customers often want to know which companies will perform a specific service. Please select the categories that apply to help specific audiences such as homeowners, municipalities or contactors.

☐ Tree Pruning  ☐ Cable, Bracing, and Lightning Protection
☐ Tree Planting and Moving  ☐ Insect and Disease Diagnosis and Control
☐ Tree Fertilization  ☐ Consulting and Appraisal
☐ Tree and Stump Removal  ☐ All of the Above
Natural Path Urban Forestry Consultants specializes in tree risk assessments and management. Are you uncertain of the structural integrity of a client’s tree or a tree in a public space? Natural Path can work with you to inform the decision process to reduce uncertainty.

- ISA Board Certified Master Arborist
- ISA Tree Risk Assessment Qualification
- Tree Risk Assessments
- State of the Art Diagnostic Equipment
- Resistograph (Digital) and PICUS Tomograph
- Tree Risk Assessment Training
- Defensible Reports
- Tree Risk Policy Development
- Expert Witness

Risk assessment is our feature service for this issue of the IAA newsletter. Contact us to learn more about the range of services available. Schedule an on-site demonstration of the PICUS Tomograph. ISA CEUS available.

naturalpathforestry@gmail.com • (773) 699-7284
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Illinois Trees

Inside this Issue

Wood Boring Insects and Bark Beetles
2014 Tree Climbing Competition
Callery Pear Recognized as Invasive Species in Illinois
2014 Tour de Trees Information
IAA Summer Conference Returns to Allerton