

Illinois Trees

The Quarterly Publication of the Illinois Arborist Association



IAA Memorial Opens in Springfield

On November 30th the IAA hosted a Memorial Tree Planting Ceremony at Rotary Park in Springfield, Illinois in memory of William "Bill" Bolt Jr. (Swamp White Oak) and Earl Leroy Throop Sr. (London Planetree) with the trees being graciously donated by Steve Green of Green View. A big thank you to Aaron Schulz for the hard work in researching and securing Rotary Park as an IAA Memorial Ground. While the weather was cold and rainy, family members, friends, fellow arborists and the IAA office traveled down to pay their respects to two well-loved and respected arborists from our association. Both Bill and Earl had infectious personalities, always bringing a smile and kind words. It goes without saying that these two giants of our association will be missed.



Patty & Evan Bolt



Steve Green, Aaron Schulz & Daniel Miraval



Earl "Trooper" Throop Jr.



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Don't forget
to sign-up for
the upcoming
IAA Annual
Conference &
Trade Show

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Illinois Arborist Association

Mission Statement

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

President's Message

Jake Miesbauer

Hello IAA members!

I am writing this as we are just wrapping up with Thanksgiving. As I reflect on this holiday, I would like to express my thanks to the IAA Staff, Board members, and volunteers for the time and talent they have given to help move this organization forward. As I step into my new role as President, I would especially like to give a heartfelt thanks to my predecessor, Steve Lane, for all he has done over the past year. He has certainly given me big shoes to fill. I am also thankful for the opportunity to spend the next year serving as the president of this great organization.

It was great to see so many of you at our annual conference in Tinley Park. I received a lot of good feedback from many of you. Several comments were discussed by the Conference Program Committee during our post-conference round up, and we will be working to implement changes based on the suggestions we received.

Finally the Board of Directors will be having our annual strategic planning meeting in early January. It is during this meeting that we review the progress we made during the past year, and set out our goals and priorities for the year ahead. Once priorities are set, we will be forming committees to work toward achieving our goals. In order to meet those goals, we need your help. As cliché as it may sound, the strength of our organization is in its members. Your help will make a difference. So, I would like to extend an invitation to all of you to volunteer in some capacity over the course of the next year. In our next newsletter we will be extending a call for volunteers for specific projects or committees. But in the meantime, if you are interested in getting involved, please feel free to contact me at jmiesbauer@mortonarb.org, or April Toney, our Executive Director at april@illinoisarborist.org. I hope that together we can make 2020 a fun and productive year!

Happy Holidays!

Cheers,

Jake Miesbauer

Sincerely,
Jake Miesbauer
IAA President

2019 IAA Annual Conference Summary by April Toney

The Illinois Arborist Association Annual Conference & Trade Show took place on November 5 & 6, 2019 at the Tinley Park Convention Center. 693 people were in attendance for the conference and Monday



classes had an additional 77 attendees. I would like to say that the conference went off without a hitch, however, it did not. We purchased a new \$6,000 sound system and we didn't work the bugs out prior to the conference. I am sure a lot of members wonder why we always struggle with the sound and AV. Well, I have to tell you, the cost of AV and sound is a lot of money. The board decided years ago to purchase the equipment so the conference would be more affordable. AV can, and has, cost as much as \$12,000 for the three days that we are running classes. Each year, the committee tries to diligently handle all of the AV in an effort to keep the conference costs down to a minimum. The new sound system is phenomenal, and the committee

has decided that next year they will meet on Monday to make sure all sound and AV work perfectly. We have had members ask – “why not hire a professional to man the AV and sound?” Unfortunately, when using your own equipment most companies don't want to man it since they are not familiar with it. AVP is our provider at the show and we have to say that team has really stepped up to help us out. They provide the LCD tables and screens and have helped us when needed. Their typical cost for onsite help is \$525 for 5 hours with a 5-hour minimum. Again, we really are trying to save the bottom line in the long run. Now that the white elephant is out of the room, we can turn our attention to the great feedback on the topics and speakers.

We really try to offer our members a variety of classes or sessions to choose from while attending the conference. We have General, Commercial, Municipal, Utility, Spanish, Joseph Kramer Demonstration Arboriculture Area, and IFA sessions to provide the members with a litany of topics and diverse speakers. Monday sessions provide more training without the food budget tied in for those that need a bulk of CEUs in a short period of time.

This year a large area of the exhibit hall was empty – this is the area that Jim Schuster displayed all his riker mounts of bugs and diseases. His presence was greatly missed. Jim passed away in May of Crohns Disease.

Dues go up on **January 1st** to **\$55/year**

It has been a decade since dues have increased for our chapter.

(continued on page 5)

2019 IAA Annual Conference Summary (cont) (continued from page 4)



Jim Schuster



Joseph Kramer Demonstration Arboriculture

Illinois Trees

Spanish Session with Eduardo Medina



Thank you Conference Sponsors!



(continued on page 6)

2019 IAA Annual Conference Summary (cont) (continued from page 5)

The Illinois Arborist Association Annual Conference & Trade Show took place on November 5 & 6, 2019 at the Tinley Park Convention Center. 693 people were in attendance for the conference and Monday classes had an additional 77 attendees. I would like to say that the conference went off without a hitch, however, it did not. We purchased a new \$6,000 sound system and we didn't work the bugs out prior to the conference. I am sure a lot of members wonder why we always struggle with the sound and AV. Well, I have to tell you, the cost of AV and sound is a lot of money. The board decided years ago to purchase the equipment so the conference would be more affordable. AV can, and has, cost as much as \$12,000 for the three days that we are running classes. Each year, the committee tries to diligently handle all of the AV in an effort to keep the conference



Eric Hendrickson & Ron Gatewood
Award Prizes



Roger Smith Awarding Prizes



Michael Pheiffer wins chainsaw!



Bill Black won some New Glarus

2019 IAA Annual Conference Summary (cont) (continued from page 6)

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Bryson wins a bike helmet to exercise with..

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period of time.

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This year Adam Rozborski completed the Tree Worker Advanced Training Domain! Congratulations Adam let’s hope that next year we have a bigger graduating class.

This year the TREE Fund Raffle was sponsored by SingleOps and it raised **\$1,542** that will be applied to the Larry R. Hall Memorial Scholarship Fund for Education and Training in Illinois. We are just \$6,556 away from completing our target goal of \$100,000! Upon completion of this goal, proceeds from this endowment will be used specifically to support education grant programs in Illinois. A BIG THANK YOU to Ron Gatewood, Eric Hendrickson and Roger Smith for helping facilitate the TREE Fund Raffle. And a BIG THANK YOU to the SIU students that helped out!

Thanks to the **TREE Fund** raffle donors:

- Alexander Equipment
- Atlas Bobcat
- Conserve FS
- IAA
- Kankakee Nursery
- Midwest Arborist Supplies
- Planit Geo
- Rainbow Treecare Scientific Advancements
- Ron Gatewood
- Russo Power Equipment
- Stihl
- Trees Forever
- Village of Lombard

2019 IAA Annual Conference Summary (cont) (continued from page 7)

Congratulations to Steve Ludwig for being awarded Honorary Life Membership! Steve was nominated for his selfless contributions to the Illinois Arborist Association, its membership as well as the tree care industry as a whole.

Steve's accomplishments include:

- ISA Certified Arborist since 1993
- ISA Municipal Specialist since 2004
- ISA Certification Liaison to the IAA (2005-2009)
- ISA Certification Liaison Chairperson (2007-2009)
- IAA Certification Program Instructor (2006-2011)
- IAA Municipal Chairperson 2009-2011
- IAA Vice President 2012-2013
- IAA President-Elect 2013-2014
- IAA President 2014-2015
- ISA Council of Representatives – IAA Chapter - Current
- Graduate of the Illinois Public Service Institute 2006
- Illinois Public Service Institute Committee 2006-2008 and 2014-Current
- Program facilitator/administrator of the American Public Works Association's Roads Scholar Program for both Illinois and Michigan
- Owner – Ludwig Speaks Motivational Speaking and Training Services, LLC



Steve Ludwig & Steve Lane

To say that Steve has given the IAA and its members his all is an understatement. Somehow, he has managed to give us everything he's got and then find time and energy for twice as much. He is highly deserving of the Honorary Life Membership Award.

As most of you know, the newly elected board members started their term on Tuesday at the Conference, after the winners were announced.

The new Board of Directors are:

President: Jake Miesbauer, The Morton Arboretum

President Elect: Beau Nagan, Cantigny

Vice President: Aaron Schulz, King Tree Specialists

ISA CoR Rep: Steve Ludwig, Village of Algonquin

Commercial Director: Roger Smith, DJM Ecological

Industrial Director: Dan O'Brien, Russo

Municipal Director: Justin Briski, Village of Schaumburg

Research Director: Lindsay Darling, CRTI

Utility Director: Geoff Watson, Davey Resource Group

(continued on page 11)

Calendar of Events

January 16th (10:00-12:00)

NEMF Meeting
Lombard Village Hall
Location: Lombard, IL

January 29th - April 1st

IAA Arborist Certification Classes - Weds.
Lombard Village Hall
Location: Lombard, IL

January 29 - April 1st

IAA Arborist Certification Classes - Weds.
Homewood Landscape Building
Location: Homewood

February 14th (9:00 - 12:00)

Stop the Bleed with Sam Bryan
Lombard Village Hall
Location: Lombard, IL

February 20th (10:00 - 12:00)

NEMF Meeting
Lombard Village Hall
Location: Lombard, IL

February 26th - April 26th

IAA Arborist Certification Classes - Weds.
Chicago Botanic Gardens
Location: Glencoe, IL

March (exact date TBD)

Certification Exam
Downers Grove Public Works
Location: Downers Grove, IL

March 16th (10:00-12:00)

NEMF Meeting
Lombard Village Hall
Location: Lombard, IL

April 3rd (10:00-12:00)

NEMF Meeting
Fields on Canton Farms Tour
Location: Crest Hill, IL

May 16th (10:00-12:00)

Illinois Tree Climbing Competition
Shiloh Park
Location: Zion, IL

May 21th (10:00-12:00)

NEMF Meeting
Lombard Village Hall
Location: Lombard, IL

May (exact date TBD)

Certification Exam
Downers Grove Public Works
Location: Downers Grove, IL

June (exact date TBD)

Certification Exam
Lombard Village Hall
Location: Lombard, IL

July (exact date TBD)

Certification Exam
Downers Grove Public Works
Location: Downers Grove, IL

For more information on these events...

Contact the IAA office 877-617-8887

Ask for April or Monica

Or

to be added to our listserve, email april@illinoisarborist.org

Visit our website: www.illinoisarborist.org

Message from our new Utility Director

Dear Fellow IAA Members and Arborists,

As your newly elected Utility Director of the IAA I am excited, thankful, and honored to be a part of this great organization and to serve you, the membership. While getting settled into the beginning of this 2-year term I've been asked to share a letter with the membership. I'll try my best to keep it brief, share a short bit about myself, my strategies to life, and lastly a call to action for your input and help.

First, I'd like to thank our outgoing director, Sara Dreiser, for her commitment and time in the role. Working beside her in our day jobs, I've seen firsthand the hard work it takes to keep the IAA ship moving, including coordinating some of the best utility speakers for the annual conference. I'm grateful for what she has accomplished and will do my best to continue her legacy.

About me. In short, I've been around the industry to some degree my whole life with much exposure to municipal, residential/commercial, and research realms and I've held a job in all of them. As a college educated urban forestry student, I had little exposure to utility vegetation management (UVM) until my career path shifted 11 years ago and I suspect most of the membership has had a similar experience with UVM. This is one of the reasons why I feel the utility director role is so important.

In my current role, I've had the great fortune to supervise utility foresters from Chicago to Carbondale, Duluth to Disney World, and everywhere between. This opportunity to support our team members' growth and interactions with their local communities and arboriculture counterparts revealed the following theme: Utility foresters tend to congregate separately from the rest of the arboriculture community, yet we all share the same education, workforce, and challenges. I think we can change this.

The following key principles have served me well through my career and I intend to leverage them with you to achieve great things with our time together.

- 1) Change is inevitable, and necessary for growth
- 3) Be strategic in your actions. Set goals and have a plan to reach them
- 2) Details are important, however plans and goals should be simple
- 4) Include everyone or you will help no one
- 5) Have fun doing it

Moving forward, my goal is to help our community bridge the gap between our core competencies (muni, utility, residential/commercial), provide opportunities to help each other, share together, and grow together like never before.

Over the next few months we will be working with the board and the community alike to build a survey on how we can best help you and lean on our local experts to provide education and opportunity that will be beneficial for all our members. Please watch for and complete the survey and if you're interested in helping us, please reach out. It takes a team to move things forward!

My best,

Geoff Watson
Utility Director



2019 IAA Annual Conference Summary (cont) (continued from page 8)

This year 4 directors ran for the board for a second term, I think that tells a lot when a director serves for 2 years and puts their hat back in the ring to return for another 2! It's sad to see our board members leave but most of the time they stay involved. Thank you for your service and involvement in our organization: Bill Black, Lindsay Darling, Sara Dreiser, Eric Hendrickson, Steve Ludwig, Eduardo Medina, and Aaron Schulz.

Outgoing Board Members



Current Board Members



Jake Miesbauer
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Aaron Schulz
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Steve Lane
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Steve Ludwig
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Tony Dati
Village of Niles
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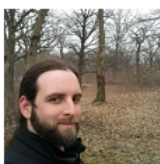
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Chris Evans
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Justin Briski
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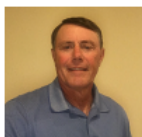
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Lindsay Darling
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Roger Smith
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Illinois Arborist
Association's
2019 - 2020
Board of Directors



Ron Gatewood
Meurer Brothers
618-791-9038



TREES & US. DON'T GIVE YOUR TREES TRENCH FOOT. STOP OVER MULCHING.

Village of Niles Public Works & Illinois Arborist Association
Tony Dati, Streets Superintendent, Village of Niles /
Municipal Director IAA

Trees are a lot like you and me. They need to breathe, eat and drink just like us. Trees benefit from companionship and can be just as sensitive to the sun, cold weather and wet weather.

TREES CAN GET TRENCH FOOT?

Ok, trees really don't get Trench Foot. But trees need to have a solid base to stand up on. Here's another way to think about it. The root flare on a tree is the foot and the trunk is its leg.



Ever heard of volcano mulching? This is a problem that is not only a Niles issue, but a global issue. Volcano Mulching is where mulch is piled high against the trunk of a tree. Tree trunks are not meant to be covered with

mulch. We need to keep their feet and legs dry. Photo courtesy of Google.

If you have ever heard of Trench Foot you will know it was an infection of the feet caused by cold, wet and insanitary conditions. Men stood in trenches without ever being able to dry their feet and legs. Trench foot killed an estimated 2,000 American and 75,000 British soldiers during WW1.

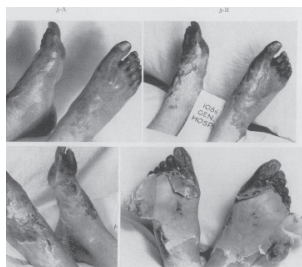


Photo courtesy of Google.



Photo courtesy of Google.

Volcano Mulching can cause the same issues as Trench Foot. Having mulch piled around its root flare (Foot) or its trunk (Leg) will eventually lead to rot, disease and ultimately death. As you can see from the picture below, when the mulch is pulled back from the tree trunk, the trunk is wet, and the bark is discolored.



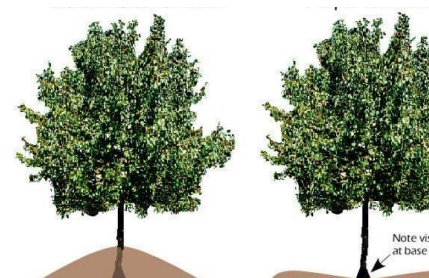
In many communities you see large beautiful bricks and high mulch around trees. Unfortunately, this is actually causing your trees undo harm and shortening its life. In rare cases, some

trees have defied the odds.

See photo to the right. If the tree trunk was your leg you would have wet mulch covering your foot and stopping just below your knee. This only has a negative impact on the tree.



The goal of this article is purely educational. I want you to think about your next gardening project or possibly that of a family member. Remember less is better. Mulching trees helps keep down weeds eliminating competition for water.



Here is a side by side comparison of improper and proper ways to mulch your trees.

APPLYING MULCH

“Spread mulch under trees, shrubs, and throughout planting beds to a recommended depth of 3-4 inches for medium to coarse textured materials.

Pull mulch away from the bases of tree and shrub trunks creating a donut-hole. Do not pile it up against the trunk (“volcano mulching”). Excessive mulch on the trunk causes moisture to build up, creating ideal conditions for insect pests, diseases, and decay.

Ideally, the mulched area around a tree should extend to the drip line of the branches, or at least cover a 4-5-foot diameter area around the trunk. The larger the mulched area, the more beneficial.

Check the mulch depth annually and replenish as necessary”. Morton Arboretum

Photo courtesy of Google / HomeGuide



This is the proper way to mulch your tree. Keep its feet & legs nice and dry. Your trees will thank you in the long run.

Photo courtesy of Google.



Soldiers in WW1 didn't have a choice. They had to deal with the environment they were thrown in to. Don't give your

trees Trench Foot. Give them the proper tools and chances to survive.

Trees are our neighborhood soldiers. Trees produce oxygen, shade, cool our homes and give



animals a place to live. Tree lined streets have a narrowing effect on the roadway which slows down vehicles keeping us all safe. For everything trees

do for us the easiest thing we can do for them is to not over mulch.

For more information on what you can do for trees in your neighborhood, please contact a local Arborist. The Village of Niles Public Works Department has three Arborists on staff. Please call 847-588-7900

<https://www.vniles.com/153/Forestry>

You can also reach out to the Illinois Arborist Association <http://illinoisarborist.org/services-we-provide/resources-for-municipal-arborists/>

The Morton Arboretum is also a great resource for all your plant and tree questions.

<https://www.mortonarb.org/>

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Trees and Heat

by Lindsay Darling

Given the recent winter weather, it is easy to forget what an incredibly hot summer we experienced. In fact, July 2019 was the hottest month ever recorded (NOAA 2019). These high temperatures are especially problematic in urban areas. Built surfaces like parking lots, roads, and buildings absorb energy from the sun and release it as heat. In addition, cars, air conditioners, and industry create even more excess heat (Taha 1997). All together, this is known as the urban heat island effect, and as a result cities tend to be around 4°F warmer than corresponding rural areas (Akbari et al. 2001).

Urban heat islands can be costly and even deadly. High urban temperatures require buildings to use more electricity for cooling (Akbari 2002), and on especially hot days cities will create cooling centers to protect citizens. Heat causes more human deaths in the United States than any other weather hazard (National Weather Service 2019). On average, 136 people die each year from heat related complications, compared to 69 from tornadoes and 46 from hurricanes. Managing urban heat is a great concern to city governments and planners, and to individual residents and property owners.

Trees are an incredibly important tool in this effort, and they keep urban areas cool in several ways. The first is direct shading: it is no surprise that standing under a tree is cooler than in the middle of a parking lot. This shading cools buildings as well. A home that is shaded by a tree (especially in hot afternoon hours) uses less electricity for cooling than one that is more exposed (Donovan and Butry 2009). Further, if built surfaces are shaded by trees, they absorb less solar energy, which means that less of this energy is released as heat (Akbari et al. 2001). Urban forests also reduce

urban heat at a far larger scale than the individual tree. During photosynthesis, plants release water vapor into the air (known as evapotranspiration). This process acts much like sweating, and it cools the surrounding area well beyond the tree canopies (Ziter et al. 2019). This means that a parking lot that is near a forest preserve will be cooler than a parking lot that has no nearby canopy cover.

The effects that trees have on temperature can even be captured by satellite. A thermal image from LandSat8 shows temperature variation in Cook County compared percent canopy (Figure 1). The coolest areas in the county fall where there is abundant tree to canopy (like in the Palos area to the southwest or along river corridors). The hottest areas are in the west of the loop, where there are lots of built surfaces and few trees (Figure 1). Lake Michigan tends to keep

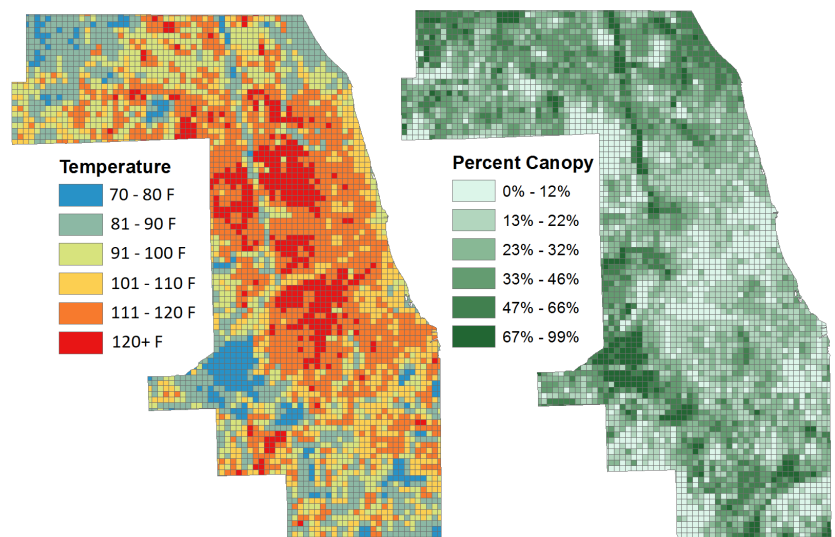


Figure 1: A comparison of surface temperature (left) with percent canopy. Note that areas with more trees tend to have lower surface temperatures.

the heavily built coast relatively cool, even when there are few trees.

Planting new trees can reduce urban temperatures and – when well placed – decrease energy use in buildings. These

benefits can be quantified using products like i-Tree Design. However, new trees take years to grow, and mature trees reduce temperatures considerably more than smaller ones. One of the best ways to maximize the urban forest's temperature reducing potential is to preserve existing trees. Proper watering, mulching, and pruning can extend the life of a tree. Arborists (and the broader public) can advocate for tree preservation and protection during construction.

References

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Illinois Tree Climbing Championship and Arbor Fair



IAA's 1st Annual Arbor Fair

Come join us for our 1st Annual Arbor Fair being held at the 2020 Illinois Tree Climbing Championship on May 16th beginning at 8:00am.

LOCATION: Shiloh Park
1619 27th Street
Zion, IL 60099

Along with the Tree Climbing Championship, there will be a Kid's Climb, Face Painting, Chainsaw Carver/Sculptures, food and much more!

ARBOR FAIR VENDORS

Setup 7:00-9:00am

Have gear to sell? You may want to arrive earlier so the climbers can purchase prior to the competition!

WE ARE IN NEED OF SPONSORS!

If you would like to be a Sponsor for the 2020 event, please click [here](#) for more information.

CLIMBER REGISTRATION

Please email april@illinoisarborist.org or monica@illinoisarborist.org to register to climb in the 2020 Competition!



Kid's Climb

North Branch Tree Climbing will provide kids a safe & fun climbing experience.



IL Tree Climbing Competition

Come out and see some of Illinois' best tree climbers compete to be the best of Illinois and go on to compete against international climbers!



Wood Carver/
Sculptures on site!

FLOURISHING
making a difference
ADVANCING
SCIENCE-BASED
TREE CARE

fueling tree
research
GROWING

empowering tree
care professionals
MAKING A DIFFERENCE
AWARDING NEW GRANTS
AND SCHOLARSHIPS

empowering
tree care
professionals

growing

fueling tree research

ADVANCING SCIENCE-BASED
TREE CARE

EMPOWERING
TREE CARE
PROFESSIONALS
flourishing
making a
difference

thriving
growing
fueling tree
research
ADVANCING
SCIENCE-BASED
TREE CARE
making a
difference

SUSTAINING
A HEALTHY
URBAN FOREST
GROWING
thriving
empowering
tree care
professionals

YOU CAN HELP MAKE URBAN TREES THRIVE

It's a simple fact: people need trees. But like anything worth having, the trees we live with require special care – provided by professional arborists, drawing on fact-based, replicable research. This kind of research is empowered by TREE Fund – but only with your support.

You can help us award grants that empower tree research. You can support scientific discovery. You can enable today's tree care professionals to better anticipate tomorrow's issues before they detrimentally impact our trees.

HELP US MAKE A DIFFERENCE NOW AND FOR YEARS TO COME.
Give today at treefund.org.

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Illinois Trees



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