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Issue 109



Mike Brunk joined the Forestry Division earlier this year as the Urban Forestry Manager. Prior to coming to IDNR, Mike spent the past 34 years managing the community forestry, landscape and recycling programs and was a part of the development review team for the City of Urbana. Mike is well-known in Champaign county for his work in developing a sustainable landscape recycling facility. He is a U of I graduate, an IL licensed Landscape Architect, and an ISA Certified Arborist. Mike loves camping, canoeing, slo-mo remodeling and spending time with his wife and dogs.

@ORC is a weekly publication by the IL Department of Natural Resources Office of Resource Conservation about exciting and wonderful things ORC staff are doing throughout Illinois.

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Trees are the Bee's Knees IDNR Urban and Community Forestry

By Michael Brunk, Urban Forestry Manager

Like our forestry brethren the focus of IDNR's Urban and Community Forestry Program is to increase the vigor and vitality of Illinois forests, the building block for healthy ecosystems, crucial habitats, and a sustainable environment. The focus of the program, as the name suggests, is the urban arena. Community trees, public and private, back yard and front yard, parks and streets, yes even parking lot trees all make up the "urban forest". Like our traditional forests, well managed urban forests benefit Illinois people in many ecological and economical ways. And like our natural resources, the living urban infrastructure in our communities needs good management to remain vigorous and viable.

A well-known component of Forestry's urban focus is the nationally recognized Tree City, Tree Line, Tree Campus USA programs. These managed "TCU" programs are popular, and Illinois has the 3rd highest participation in the nation. TCU is a recognition program for communities that sets standards such as having a tree care ordinance, forest management plan and professional forestry staff to help ensure community tree care and oversight. The Urban Program Manager reviews and approves these criteria for participating communities as well awards communities striving towards advanced programs. A percentage of time is given to marketing TCU standards and benefits to grow the program so more developing communities learn and practice proper forest management. However, as popular as this program is, these efforts alone barley scratch the surface. After 40+ years of TCU recognition and awareness only one quarter of our Illinois communities have tree care



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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

Hello IAA members!

Check back later, my message is coming soon.



Cheers,

Jake Miesbauer

Sincerely,
Jake Miesbauer
IAA President

ordinances, and barely one fifth of Illinois communities employ professional tree care staff. So, it is important to realize there is plenty of room for Green growth in Illinois' gray environment and TCU is but one piece of a necessary multifaceted approach towards improving urban forest health.

As you might surmise Forestry's urban work consists of a good percentage of outreach in public education, information dissemination and marketing. Job one is to inform, educate and train community leaders, the public and forestry professionals on the needs of forests and trees. In 2019 IDNR partnered with the USDA Forest Service and the City of Urbana to revise and distribute a professionally recognized publication written to answer the most popular tree questions of homeowners. The *Under the Canopy, How to Select, Plant and Care for Trees in Illinois* had already been through two printings in years past and in both cases demand outpaced supplies. In this third revision one half million copies were printed and distributed to 455 dispensing outlets around the state. Copies of the new *Under the Canopy* are on display at IDNR NW of the main entrance or available from the Forestry Division.

Trees Forever

Trees Forever and IDNR completed outreach and education across Illinois through their "Recover, Replant, Restore!" urban and community forestry program. Twenty small underserved communities, spanning the state from the Quad Cities to the Shawnee National Forest, received assistance with developing tree ordinances, Tree City USA program establishment and conducting street tree inventories. Residents, volunteers, and city officials received hands-on instruction on species selection, planting techniques, and proper tree care & maintenance with

emphasis on becoming stewards and advocates for their urban trees. Heartland Conservancy was also utilized for small community outreach. Heartland similarly worked with 7 small communities in 2019.



Early 2019, the Trees Forever partnership facilitated the deployment of the Urban Forest Strike Team (UFST) to Taylorville, a community of 10,000 people in Christian County, that was struck by a tornado. The Strike Team, comprised of specially trained arborists from around the state, volunteered their time and expertise to inventory and assess the town's storm-damaged trees. A detailed report was developed for the community and will serve as a crucial tool as the community begins replanting the 100+ storm-lost trees.

The Illinois Strike Team concept was presented to the state by the USDA Forest Service in 2014. The idea was to train volunteers to professionally evaluate community wide tree damage after natural

disasters to assist communities to efficiently organize hazard abatement and preserve salvageable trees. This recent deployment was the third such deployment since the program's start. IDNR's 2019/20 urban forestry plan of action looks to strengthen this program and present the public safety service to state and county emergency management agencies and the Illinois Public Works Mutual Aid Network. Discussions are being sought on how on-going development of the Illinois Strike Team program can best assist community needs. This communication and contact will continue with these organizations with the goal of becoming a viable component of state and county disaster assistance across the state.

On the team development side, Illinois Strike Team training took place in Urbana this June in partnership with Trees Forever and the Illinois Arborist Association. Seventeen individuals participated in the two-day training which included class and field inventory training. Participants will continue through a final level of training resulting in a required Tree Risk Assessment Qualification and TRAQ certification. Participants have the option to have this training paid for if they sign up for voluntary Strike Team deployment. Illinois' goal is to recruit 30+ disaster deployment volunteers and have them trained and ready for deployment by 2021.

Illinois Arborist Association

IDNR's work with the Illinois Arborist Association involves training and education. In 2019 IDNR and IAA provided urban forestry related educational information and training to 349 individuals representing 137 different state, county and local public agencies and several non-profit agencies. Sessions provided tree care, pest and disease

updates and management, workplace safety information and live demonstrations of tree climbing/roping, tree felling and tree diagnostics.

In 2019/20 IDNR and IAA are also holding monthly municipal meetings in northern Illinois. These workshops are to hone dissemination of hot-topic information to participating communities and create a network of municipal professionals for sharing information and managing new challenges. There will be two such meetings held each month, one in the Chicagoland area and the other in Moline by the Quad-Cities. Any presented resources such as door hangers, resident letters, ordinance language, tree specifications/policies will be provided via IAA's website for communal sharing.

Openlands

IDNR and Openlands inner city support facilitated 13 community tree plantings resulting in 330 new trees planted, watered, and mulched with 364 participants, accounting for 1,219 hours of volunteer work in Chicago. Sites included parkways, school grounds, city parks, community gardens, and historic boulevards.

Openlands TreeKeepers, a component of this partnership, volunteered 650.25 hours in 17 neighborhoods of the greater Chicago area and 5 adjacent communities. Volunteer work included tree pruning, mulching, inventory, advocacy, and insect and disease trainings, as well as tree walks.

Other goals of IDNR for this program are to create a pilot curriculum for a Junior TreeKeepers program. This work has been initiated with John F. Kennedy High School. The program



is to be inquiry-based while also focusing on arboriculture and related careers. The second goal is to complete an updated revision of the TreeKeepers Program manual to capture the latest advancements in arboriculture and with that revision a Spanish version.

The Morton Arboretum

IDNR has teamed with The Morton Arboretum, a long-standing partner, in research and community assistance. This partnership is to assist large to medium sized communities in tree planting, conducting tree inventories and or creating tree ordinances and management plans through a community grant program. Over 30 communities applied for the assistance and 18 were selected to receive grant awards. The goal of the grant program is to assist 15-20 Illinois communities in improving their urban forest care efforts.

The other component of this partnership is cutting-edge research with a first in tree census studies. A seven county Chicago region urban tree and forest census will be completed in 2020, the second census of this area. This ten-year study is the largest such census in the country and the only duplicate census to study trees over time. Data will be analyzed through the US Forest Service i-Tree program and findings will present the outcome of urban forest health after a difficult decade of development, exotic pests and economic decline.



Self-fulfilling Partnerships, We Need You

Trees inspire humanity. Yet, from an inside point of view, the masses relegate little attention to a forest's needs. Why is this? A question that when answered generally builds concern. Are trees a nicety or necessity, to us, to communities, to our state or country, the world? Are they worthy of our time? Trees create the very habitat we desire, to some, need. We, like many living organisms, migrate towards tree canopy. Can you imagine lakes and streams without the sediment/pollutant filtering and soil stabilizing benefits of trees? Or neighborhoods and streets without shade? Birds? Wildlife in general? Whether trees are part of our forests or our communities their benefits to "our" environment are irreplaceable.

As trees are a pillar to our physical environment (air, water, land) so too they support a community's vitality ecologically and economically. Trees have bridged the natural and made environments and serve as a basis of well-being for both. The only missing piece of the formula are leaders, doers, thinkers,... you. Trees/forests need our attention and thus our professional charge to maximize potential. In the urban arena, we explain that trees help invigorate communities by attracting people who attract business which generate tax dollars which in turn provide funding for police, fire and infrastructure needs. In other words, Trees Can Grow Money! Are we seeing the Forest for the Trees? Ah yes, trees are the bee's knees.

Day of Service at Farnsworth House

The Illinois Arborist Association will be having the first of it's 2 annual Days of Service on Wednesday, **March 4th** at the Farnsworth House property in Plano, Illinois (just outside of Sugar Grove). Last year, we partnered with the folks at Farnsworth to remove significant amounts of dead Ash and Elm trees along their major walking paths. We had an amazing turnout of around 40 people from various private industry groups, as well as provided training to 10+ volunteers from the GreenCorps program in Chicago, who learned from industry professionals how to safely remove and prune trees. We are hoping that this year will be a success as well!

The work this year that will help enhance the property will be much less labor and equipment intensive than last year. Essentially, we will be helping to clear dead trees from along the remaining walking paths, as well as performing brush clearing of the many small Silver Maples, Buckthorn, and Bush Honeysuckle that border the walking paths. Very few large dead trees require removal, and the overall nature of the site will be much improved by thinning these woodlands and removing dead or invasive species. We will also be performing basic pruning along a line of Red and Sugar Maples which border their entry driveway for aesthetic reasons.

Equipment required for this Day of Service will be a minimum of two 15"+ chippers, a variety of chainsaws (mostly smaller climbing saws due to the brush removal being a key focal point), one front end loader to handle larger logs, climbing gear for up to 4 climbers, pole saws and hand saws, a minimum of one Bobcat or other similarly equipped claw machine, and a minimum of 2 bucket trucks

for pruning the crowns of some of the larger trees on the site.

In terms of manpower, the more the merrier! If we can meet or exceed the 40-50 people we had last year, this would be a tremendous success. This Day of Service is a great way to not only network with your peers, but also to show your



company's commitment to Arboriculture overall. And feel free to include some of your grounds people! With a lot of brush to remove, we will be looking to have 2 grounds people for every person cutting brush, so additional manpower will be a welcome addition regardless of skill level. And in fact, this event may be a great way to have your grounds folks get training from some of the biggest names in the industry for how to advance their skill sets and careers!

Please respond back to this email with the number of people you intend to commit to this effort, as well as any machinery you are able to provide. Hot lunch will be provided by Farnsworth House, and a free tour of the Farnsworth House itself will be provided as part of this program. Thank you again for your continued commitment to IAA, Arboriculture, and your careers.

2020 IAA Annual Budget

Annual Program Income/Expense	Income	Expense	Net Income
Advanced Training (5105) (6101)	\$29,000.00	-\$22,000.00	\$7,000.00
Annual Meeting (5106) (6102)	\$190,000.00	-\$150,000.00	\$40,000.00
Certification (5107)(6105)	\$66,000.00	-\$26,000.00	\$40,000.00
Golf Outing (5112) (6108)	\$13,000.00	-\$9,000.00	\$4,000.00
Municipal Forester Meetings (misc income) (5115) (6112)	\$0.00	-\$500.00	-\$500.00
Summer Conference (5119) (6124)	\$9,000.00	-\$9,000.00	\$0.00
Tree Climbing Competition (5113) (6109)	\$3,500.00	-\$3,500.00	\$0.00
TRAQ Training - (5122) (6123)	\$25,000.00	-\$20,000.00	\$5,000.00
SAWW (5124) (6507)	\$4,000.00	-\$3,500.00	\$500.00
Total	\$339,500.00	-\$243,500.00	\$96,000.00
Payroll Expenses	Income	Expense	Net Income
Total	\$0.00	\$133,700.00	\$133,700.00
Administrative Operations	Income	Expense	Net Income
Contract Services: Lawyer (6204), Accountant (6401), Newsletter (6403), Website (6404) Income Newsletter ads (5102)	\$1,000.00	-\$7,500.00	-\$6,500.00
Administrative Operations: Software (6304), Office supplies/equipment (6309), phone/internet (6306), postage (6302), books (6301), rent (6310). Income is Publications (5103)	\$9,000.00	-\$18,000.00	-\$9,000.00
Other Expenses: Professional Fees, Pay Pal/Credit Card/ Bank Fees, Insurance D & O (6500s)	\$0.00	-\$16,000.00	-\$16,000.00
Total	\$10,000.00	-\$41,500.00	-\$31,500.00
Board & Committee	Income	Expense	Net Income
Board of Directors -Strategic Plan/Board/ Travel/Meeting (6200s)	\$0.00	-\$3,000.00	-\$3,000.00
Total	\$0.00	-\$3,000.00	-\$3,000.00
Other Income	Income	Expense	Net Income
Membership dues (5101) (5123)ISA Discount	\$65,000.00	\$0.00	\$65,000.00
Donations (5121) TREE Fund (6120)	\$1,500.00	-\$12,000.00	-\$10,500.00
Total	\$66,500.00	-\$12,000.00	\$54,500.00
2020 Strategic Plan Goals	Income	Expense	Net Income
Member Value	\$0.00	-\$9,100.00	-\$9,100.00
Partnerships	\$0.00	-\$1,800.00	-\$1,800.00
Marketing	\$0.00	-\$10,300.00	-\$10,300.00
Outreach	\$0.00	-\$5,700.00	-\$5,700.00
IDNR Agreement	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
IAA Organizational structure and effectiveness	\$0.00	-\$500.00	-\$500.00
Total Strategic Plan requests	\$0.00	-\$27,400.00	-\$27,400.00
Total	\$416,000.00	\$461,100.00	-\$45,100.00

Calendar of Events

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

NEMF Meeting
Lombard Village Hall
Location: Lombard, IL

March 23rd (5:30pm check-in)

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

March 25th

Tree City USA South Central
IDNR Headquarters
Location: Springfield, IL

April 2nd

Tree City USA Northern
Morton Arboretum
Location: Lisle, 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 18th (5:30pm check-in)

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

June 25th (5:30pm check-in)

Certification Exam
Lombard Village Hall
Location: Lombard, IL

July 14th - 15th

IAA Summer Conference
Allerton House
Location: Monticello, IL

July 20th (5:30pm check-in)

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

August 26th - October 28th

Certified Arborist Workshop
Vernon Hills Village Hall
Location: Vernon Hills, IL

September 14th (5:30pm check-in)

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

September 17th (10:00-12:00)

NEMF Meeting
Lombard Village Hall
Location: Lombard, IL

October 6th - 7th

IAA Annual Conference & Trade Show
Tinley Park Convention Center
Location: Tinley Park, IL

November 21st (10:00-12:00)

NEMF Meeting
Lombard Village Hall
Location: Lombard, 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

2020 Illinois Arborist Association Strategic Plan

2020 IAA Strategic Plan

This annual strategic plan was created to guide the Illinois Arborist Association (IAA) Board of Directors towards goals that they deemed important to the membership and which supports the IAA mission.

IAA Mission: To foster interest, establish standards, exchange professional ideas and pursue scientific research in arboriculture.

I. **Membership Value –\$9100**

- a. Advanced Training - We are looking to build on this success and expand the program in 2020. Champion: Steve Lane – Funds approved \$8000
 - i. Increase pay for hands-on climbing instructors for the Tree Worker domain.
 - ii. We would like to run a “Train the Trainer” program so that our Advanced Training instructors, aides, and certification instructors can learn Adult Learning Theory.
 - iii. Create a formal teacher application to be approved by the committee which includes having the teacher shadow one class before teaching on their own.
- b. Tree Risk Assessment as a Part of the TCC on May 16th, 2020.
 - i. Create a Tree Risk Assessment competition that offers CEUs and is run in conjunction with the annual TCC. Champion: Steve Lane – Funds requested \$0.
- c. Fire Department Training.
 - i. Train Fire Fighters/ Paramedics/Technical Rescue Teams on the safe methods of getting to an incapacitated climber in the tree canopy and bringing the climbing to the ground. Champion: Norm Hall – Funds requested \$0.
- d. Illinois Public Service Institute (IPSI) Scholarships. Champion: Steve Ludwig – Funds received \$1000.
 - i. Provide 2 scholarships for IAA members to attend IPSI Training, one in the spring and one in the fall.
- e. Annual Conference – Fix AV issues and make conference a success. Champion: Chris Evans – Funds received \$3525. To be taken out of Checking
 - i. Establish an AV Committee to be on standby at all times during the Annual Conference.
 - ii. Purchase 2 dedicated laptops, two Bluetooth speakers, three projectors, 5 slide advancers to improve our ability to conduct a conference.
 - iii. Create an AV Crew to handle all the AV during the Annual Conference.
- f. Utility Membership Survey – to serve the members best. Champion: Geoff Watson – Funds received \$100
 - i. Qtr 2 Survey, Qtr 3 Results, Qtr 4 2021 Planning

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2020 Illinois Arborist Association Strategic Plan

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II. Partnerships –\$1,800

- a. Chicago Region Trees Initiative (CRTI) -Urban Forestry Training Sponsorship (4) Events. Champion: Rob Sproule – Funds requested \$1800.
 - i. Co-sponsor the Urban Forestry Basic Training. This training helps promote the IAA and create new potential members.
- b. Urban Wood Utilization (WUT) – Having made inroads with the Wood Utilization Team (WUT) from 2014-2017, IAA has fallen out of communication with the team, which had been struggling with budget issues. Recently, they have become more active again, and IAA wishes to meet with the WUT to discuss how to move their mission forward to benefit both IAA & WUT. Champion: Steve Lane – Funds requested \$0.

III. Marketing –\$10,300

- a. Website Rebuild/Overhaul or hire a consultant to help us figure out our needs. Champion: Beau Nagan – Funds requested \$5000.
 - i. Vet companies to provide a website overhaul or facelift.
- b. Social Media – Champion: Daniel Miraval – Funds requested \$500.
 - i. Boost Facebook and Instagram posts about IAA Events.
- c. Develop Swag for membership recognition. Champion: Daniel Miraval - \$4800.
 - i. Swag would consist of promotional materials such as neck buffs, t-shirts, IAA brochures, pens, etc.

IV. IAA organizational structure and effectiveness –\$5700 (the \$5200 for office equipment is being taken out of checking and not reflected in the plan budget).

- a. Policy review work with the board. Champion: April Toney – Funds requested \$0.
- b. Social Media Policy development. Champion: April Toney – Funds requested \$0.
- c. Office Equipment and software. Champion: April Toney – Funds requested \$5200 approved out of checking so \$0.
- d. Add Legal Affairs Chair to IAA Board of Directors. Champion: Jake Miesbauer – Funds requested \$500.
 - i. Position description developed by 6/20.
 - ii. Put out to membership vote 10/20
 - iii. Position appointed upon membership approval

V. Outreach –\$5700

- a. High Schools and Community Colleges, Student Career Fair. IAA Scholarships, AVID Outreach. Champion: Steve Ludwig – Funds requested \$0.
 - i. Committee to reach out to local colleges and social media (LinkedIn). Promote Gateway Tech Urban Forestry Tech Program.

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2020 Illinois Arborist Association Strategic Plan

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- b. Insurance Companies – Home insurers, home inspectors, and realtors have become increasingly interested in trees as a function of property values and potential risk factors. However, the staff performing these assessments as to impacts on insurance rates, whether trees need to be removed prior to home purchase, or other such factors, are not performed by Certified Arborists, and as such are vastly inadequate or inaccurate. We seek to accomplish the following goals as an organization and a profession in reaching out to these groups: Champion: Steve Lane – Funds requested \$0.
 - i. To extoll the need for having someone qualified and certified in assessing trees and landscape plants when making decisions such as insurance rates or home values.
 - ii. To engage these professions with our membership to prove the use value of having a Certified Arborist perform such appraisals.
 - iii. To create a proof of concept that can be replicated around the Midwest or even the country.
- c. Student Forestry Field Day – Outreach to entry level students. Champion: Roger Smith – Funds \$4500.
 - i. Student Forestry Field Day is provided to SIU students and provides the following training – climbing, chainsaw, chipper, air-spade.
- d. IPWMAN and IAA Disaster Response Training. Champion: Tony Dati – Funds requested and approved \$500.
 - i. A joint effort between Illinois Public Works Mutual Aid Network and the IAA to respond to disasters. Create brochures for promotion.
- e. IAA Memorial Tree Planting – Memorializing IAA members who have passed by planting a tree with signage in Rotary Park in Springfield. Champion: Aaron Schulz – Funds requested and approved \$500.
 - i. In 2020, remember 3 more arborists and provide a half day memorial.
- f. Future Farmers of America (FFA) Champion: Aaron Schulz – Funds requested and approved \$200.
- g. Day of Service
 - i. IAA to host (2) Day of Service. This will help us with our IDNR Grant Match.

VI. IDNR Agreement - \$0

- a. Create web-based urban forestry education, e-training, how-to videos. Champion: Roger Smith – Funds \$0
 - i. Why Hire an Arborist – loop on a screen at iLandscape.
 - ii. How to flip the chainsaw guy into an Arborist.
 - iii. Inform the public about the importance of hiring Certified Arborists
- b. Conduct 3 or more community hands-on training events. Champion: Dan O'Brien – Funds \$0.
 - i. Set up (4) four training events open to the public and the professionals at Russo Power Equipment.

2020 Illinois Arborist Association Strategic Plan

(continued from page 12)

- c. Conduct (2) two or more training events in tree care, climbing, safety and Aerial Rescue. Provide (1) one in Spanish. Champion: Steve Lane – Funds requested \$0.
 - i. AT Tree Worker Classes
- d. Train the Trainer for IDNR staff, urban issues and goal of providing forestry staff knowledge to speak to local urban forest concerns. Champion: Mike Brunk
- e. Conduct an EAB workshop in fringe areas of infestation. We will partner with the extension forestry to provide this. Champion: Chris Evans – Funds \$0.
- f. Provide guidance and resources to communities on simple tree inventory samples and options. Champion: Steve Lane – Funds requested \$600 all DNR \$0.
 - i. Reverse engineer the Tree Inventory Advanced Training Session to fit within a 40-minute presentation time. Talk to be provided at both Tree City USA Conferences.
- g. Hold (1) one or more TRAQ for Strike Team and Arborists. Champion: Mike Brunk
- h. Support Strike Team Training. Champion: April Toney – Funds requested \$0
 - i. Recruit candidates and aid DNR in organizing the Strike Team assistance after natural disasters. Trees Forever manages deployment, IAA may be asked to help.
- i. Dedicate a portion of the Annual and Summer Conference to Urban and Community Forestry related training. Forestry Health Issues. Champion: Chris Evans – Funds requested \$0.
- j. Administer (2) two Tree City USA Conferences, (1) one in Northern Illinois and (1) one in Central Illinois. Champion: April Toney – Funds requested \$0.

Future Ideas for Consideration

- I. Women's Arb Camp 2021 – 3-4 Days at Cantigny Park in June of 2021



IAA Annual Conference & Trade Show
October 6 - 7, 2020
Tinley Park Convention Center



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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
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making a
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SUSTAINING
A HEALTHY
URBAN FOREST
GROWING
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empowering
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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.

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**Join us for 300+ miles climbing
23k ft in 5 days in Colorado!**

- Registration Dates: January 15 - June 15, 2020
- Ride Check-In: August 29, 2020
- Ride Dates: August 30 - September 3, 2020
- Closing Breakfast & Bike Shipping: September 4, 2020



See the route and register at: treefund.org/tourdestrees



Proceeds Benefit Tree Research and Education
Endowment Fund (TREE Fund®), 552 S. Washington St.,
Ste. 109, Naperville, IL 60540



Illinois Trees



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