



ILLINOIS ARBORIST ASSOCIATION
INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY OF ARBORICULTURE



November
19th & 20th
2024



Illinois Arborist
Association

PO Box 860
Antioch, IL 60002
877-617-8887

In-Person and Virtual
**42nd Annual
Conference & Trade
Show Agenda**



Professionalism in Arboriculture

www.illinoisarborist.org

IAA 42nd Annual Conference & Trade Show

EVEN Hotel Chicago & Tinley Park Convention Center

November 19th & 20th

We are thrilled to announce this year's IAA Annual Conference & Trade Show! With an exceptional lineup of speakers from across the globe, we are dedicated to ensuring a productive event where attendees, speakers, and exhibitors can effectively conduct business while enjoying quality learning and networking opportunities.

IAA Annual Conference & Trade Show

Advanced Training - Monday Sessions - November 18th, 2024

Monday Sessions are In-Person

Time: 8:00am-4:00pm
CEU's Available:
Sam Tinley Room
(Testing Tuesday 8:00
to 12:00)

Title: Utility Specialist Prep Class – Matt Millette, Davey Resource Group

Description: The Utility Specialist Prep Class is designed to help individuals prepare for the ISA Utility Specialist exam. We highly recommend purchasing the Utility Specialist Study to aid in your preparation. You can purchase a copy of the study guide by clicking on the link below. Please note that the exam incurs a separate fee. It will be held on Tuesday, November 19th, from 8 AM to 12 noon in the Sam Tinley room. Anyone wishing to take the exam must fill out the exam application and submit it to the ISA by November 1st. The prep class is worth 7 CEUs.

Click on the link to complete the online application for the utility specialist exam: <https://www.isa-arbor.com/Portals/0/Assets/PDF/Certification-Applications/cert-Application-Utility-Specialist.pdf>

Click on the link to purchase a copy of the Utility Specialist Certification Study Guide: <https://www.isa-arbor.com/store/product/4397/cid/23/>

Prerequisites for taking the exam are:

The candidate must be an ISA Certified Arborist and have at least 2,000 hours of verifiable work experience directly within electric utility vegetation management of the past two years or one of the following:

- Full-time employment as an electric utility arborist, forester, or vegetation manager for at least 36 cumulative months during the past 10 years.
- Full-time employment on a project as an electric utility vegetation management contract employee/consultant for at least 36 cumulative months during the past 10 years.

Documentation of work experience is required with submittal of application. Letter(s) of reference from your current or previous employer(s) is acceptable. If you are self-employed or own your own company, you will be required to submit three letters of reference with your application. References may be in the form of copies of invoices, contracts, and/or business licenses. The documentation provided must include the practical experience and outline the dates of work required for eligibility. Please contact ISA for other possible forms of verification.

Cost:

Each registrant will need to login to your own account to find out your specific pricing since it is based on the amount of time left on your Arborist Credential. If your application has already been approved, the easiest way to figure out your specific pricing is to login and go through completing an exam registration order, as long as you don't pay you will not be committed to that exam yet.

Candidates who are members of ISA and an ISA chapter or associate organization receive an exam discount. If the exam is sponsored by an ISA chapter or associate organization and your ISA Certified Arborist® credential expires within: • 25 to 36 months, the fee is \$120 USD for members and \$260 USD for nonmembers; • 13 to 24 months, the fee is \$95 USD for members and \$235 USD for nonmembers; • 0 to 12 months, the fee is \$75 USD for members and \$215 USD for nonmembers. In addition to the exam fee, there is a computer-based testing administrative fee of \$125 USD for those who elect the computer-based option. The administrative fee applies each time a computer-based exam is scheduled. To be eligible for the discounted rate, a candidate must be a current member of ISA and a current member of an ISA chapter or associate organization. In the event that a local chapter or associate organization does not exist where you reside, you may receive member pricing by being a current member of ISA only. ISA certification fees are separate and distinct from ISA membership dues and from ISA chapter or associate organization dues.

Time: 8:00am– 4:00pm CEU's Available: SP 5/6 Rooms	Title: <u>Insect & Mite Pests – Fredric Miller</u> Description: This advanced training (AT) class will focus on the proper identification, biology, and management of insect and mite pests affecting woody plants. Emphasis will be on current PHC tactics and strategies for use in arboriculture, landscape, and urban forest settings. An update will be provided on newly emerging pests, invasive pests, and insect-pathogen complexes, (i.e., spotted lantern fly (SLF), elm zigzag sawfly, and drippy disease of oaks). Weather permitting a walking field exercise will be conducted on the conference grounds.
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Time: 8:00am– 4:00pm CEU's Available: SP 3/4 Rooms	Title: <u>Safety – John Ball, SDSU</u> Description: TBD
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IAA Annual Conference & Trade Show
Tuesday, November 19th, 2024

General Sessions – In-Person & Streamed Live

8:00am - 8:30am	15 Minute ISA Update and 15 Minute Presentations from Vendors
8:30am - 9:15am CEU's Available: .75	Title: <u>Safety – John Ball, SDSU</u> Description: TBD
9:15am - 10:00am CEU's Available: .75	Evolution of GIS as an Arboricultural Solution – Nathan Schuettpelez, Wachtel Tree Science Description: Implementing GIS into your arboricultural operations is critical to evolving in a technologically advanced market. Paper maps get lost, and squirrels destroy metal tags (weird, right?). This discussion will provide a basic understanding of geographic information systems (GIS) and how to implement them into your commercial or municipal operations right now! GIS will improve your communication with clients and/or residents, help manage high-stress storm response, and provide efficiency to your team.
10:00am – 10:30am	Break with Exhibitors
10:30am – 12:00pm CEU's Available: 1.5	Panel in Climate Change and Drought Project – Trent Ford, Christy Rollinson, and Jake Miesbauer Description: TBD
12:00pm-1:00pm	Lunch with Exhibitors

Municipal Sessions

1:00pm - 2:00pm CEU's Available: 1	New Tools To Understand and Manage Chicago Region's Trees at the Local Level - Lindsay Darling, CRTI Description: This talk will showcase a suite of new digital tools from the Morton Arboretum's Chicago Region Trees Initiative. These tools help foresters detect shrubby invasives, identify places to plant trees, apply for grants, and offer a variety of ways to communicate the importance of our urban forest and engage with the broader public and other stakeholders. While many of these tools are geared towards the Chicago region, we hope to expand them to the rest of the state.
2:00pm - 2:45pm CEU's Available: .75	Artificial Intelligence in Urban Forestry – Lee Mueller, Davey Resource Group, Inc. Description: The practice of urban forestry is rapidly changing. New technologies, relying on massive datasets and machine-learning algorithms, are becoming increasingly common. Rightly so, there remains some trepidation about artificial intelligence. Yet, appropriately developed and applied, advances in artificial intelligence and machine learning promises to support and enhance the work of urban foresters. This presentation explores applications of new and emerging tools (e.g., ChatGPT, object detection, sensors) including how these technologies have been applied in the past and future possibilities for urban tree monitoring and management.
2:45pm - 3:15pm	Break with Exhibitors
3:15pm - 4:00pm CEU's Available: .75	Oak Decline Research Update – Stephanie Adams Description: TBD

Commercial Sessions – In-Person & Streamed Live

1:00pm – 2:00pm
CEU's Available: 1

Using Plant Phenology to Predict Treatment Timing – Aaron Schulz, Oak Bros Tree Care & Removal, LLC

Description: When treating trees and shrubs for insects, mites, or diseases, applicators must be precise in their timing so that control can be established. We commonly use growing degree days to predict vulnerable stages of insects, mites, and diseases but with our climate shifting, growing degree days are not always a reliable source. What if a more predictable way to time treatments, such as plant growth stages, existed? Plant phenology uses cyclical biological events based on climatic conditions (bud swell, leaf development, flowering, fall color, etc.) to coincide with insect, mite, and disease vulnerability. This session will explore the benefits of adding plant phenology to your treatment program so that you can reduce pest resurgence from the use of broad-spectrum pesticides and deliver a more predictable outcome for your clients.

2:00pm - 2:45pm
CEU's Available: .75

Title: Principles of Persuasion, How to Increase Your Level of Influence – Jeff Joutras, Step Forward Into Growth Leadership

Description: Let's Face it, everyone is trying to influence somebody, every day. In this presentation, attendees will learn the principles of influence, principles backed by research. Principles that are scientific, ethical, and applicable. Oftentimes, increasing your level of influence comes down to minor changes that won't cost you anything or will only require a small investment. Learn how to move more people in your direction to achieve a favorable result. This will include examples for sales and marketing professionals, managers and business owners who want to improve their level of influence with clients and staff. Understand the psychology of persuasion and create a specific action plan to improve your results!

2:45pm - 3:15pm

Break with Exhibitors

3:15pm – 4:00pm
CEU's Available: .75

Title: ELDT and OTR Requirements and DOT and CDL Acquisition – Daniel Greer, Eclipse DOT Inc

Description: Join us for a dynamic session tailored for arborists, focusing on Entry-Level Driver Training (ELDT) and DOT compliance. Learn how to navigate the complexities of DOT regulations, ensuring your team is road-ready and compliant. Discover practical tips and strategies to streamline your training process, avoid costly fines, and maintain safety standards. Perfect for arborists looking to elevate their operations and meet industry requirements efficiently. Don't miss this opportunity to enhance your knowledge and keep your crew compliant and safe on the road.

Utility Sessions – All Sessions Will Be at The Joseph Kramer Demonstration Tree

1:00pm – 2:00pm
CEU's Available: 1

The Importance of Utility Vegetation Management – Brian Sprinkle, Iapetus Infrastructure Services

Description: TBD

2:00pm – 2:45pm
CEU's Available: .75

The Importance of Utility Vegetation Management – Brian Sprinkle, Iapetus Infrastructure Services

Description: TBD

2:45pm - 3:15pm

Break with Exhibitors

3:15pm - 4:00pm
CEU's Available: .75

The Importance of Utility Vegetation Management – Brian Sprinkle, Iapetus Infrastructure Services

Description: TBD

IFA Sessions

1:00pm – 2:00pm
CEU's Available: 1

Oak Origins: From Acorns to Species and the Tree of Life – Andrew Hipp, The Morton Arboretum

Description: How did oaks become such important and beloved trees across the northern hemisphere? What are oak species? What are oak hybrids, and how important are they? How do oaks shape the forest? This lecture, based on Hipp's forthcoming *Oak Origins* (University of Chicago Press, 2024), answers these questions and many more. It touches on the natural history and biology of reproduction in oaks; the origins of oak species and their hybrids; and the estimated 56 million years of oak evolutionary history. The lecture covers research spanning more than a century and illustrates it with trees we all know and love.

2:00pm – 2:45pm
CEU's Available: .75

Fragmentation, Fire, and Funding: Challenges Facing Oak Management in Our Modern Landscape – Jordan Winkenbach – American Bird Conservancy

Description: Widespread oak regeneration failure and an aging canopy class presents a serious concern for continued oak habitat cover. The oak regeneration crisis is driven primarily by a lack of active management, made more difficult and complicated within urban/suburban landscapes and on privately owned lands. Public perception of prescribed fire and tree removals, smoke management, historically high deer

populations, and rapidly increasing costs associated with management are among the most difficult hurdles to overcome. Newly available funding opportunities for private lands management, increased education and outreach, and collaborative management strategies will all be needed to preserve our oak ecosystem resource.

2:45pm - 3:15pm

Break with Exhibitors

3:15pm – 4:00pm

Fire's Effects on Oak Seedlings in Grass-Invaded Central Hardwood Forests – [Dan Marshalla and Jen Fraterrigo, UI](#)

Description: Oak tree dominance in Illinois has diminished over the past century, partially due to fire suppression. Prescribed fire is increasingly being used as a management tool including to improve oak regeneration. Several factors affect the post-fire survival ability of oak seedlings including seedling size, invasion by Japanese stiltgrass, and factors related to fire history such as fuel load and soil nutrients. Understanding the determinants of post-fire oak survival will give forest managers a better idea of when to burn their land.

4:00pm – 6:00pm

TREE Fund Raffle

Come have a few drinks, network with the exhibitors, and stay for the raffle! Bring some extra cash as raffle tickets will be sold throughout the day on Tuesday. All proceeds will go to support the TREE Fund. The Tree Research and Education Endowment Fund (TREE Fund) is shaping the future of trees and the arboriculture profession. The TREE Fund provides research grants, scholarships, and educational programs to advance knowledge in the field of arboriculture and urban forestry. With this knowledge, arborists and citizens will be better equipped to ensure that healthy, mature trees remain an integral part of the urban and suburban communities of our future.



IAA Annual Conference & Trade Show Wednesday, November 20th, 2024

General Sessions – In-Person & Streamed Live

8:00am – 9:00am
CEU's Available: 1

Leadership & Talent – Organizational Succession Planning – [Kevin Martlage, Nextier Advisors](#)

Description: Succession planning is key for any organization to conduct as strategies are further defined, your team continues to grow, and leadership looks toward the future. Additionally, it is always best practice for you to have a good understanding of the current and future workforce as you continue to align skills with your team's impact and advancement. Succession planning can also help enhance individual and team engagement using transparent and intentional conversations about individual career paths, leadership development opportunities and performance. If done properly, succession planning will enhance team engagement, provide a common language for individual and team development conversations, identify potential leadership opportunities, and provide a high-level overview for continual improvement. All of this is critical as you sustainably develop and advance your organization and team.

Regardless of where your company and team are currently, planning is critically important as you review strategy, skills, development, and organizational advancement. Join us for this interactive conversation about the importance of succession planning as you continue to advance your company, team, and individuals toward your common goals.

9:00am – 10:00am
CEU's Available: 1

Sneaky Saprobies; Saprophytic Fungi Biology and ID – [Chelsi Abbott](#)

Description: This session will go over the biology and ID of saprophytic fungi; how they are different from parasitic fungi and what they mean from a tree health and structural integrity perspective.

10:00am - 10:30am

Break with Exhibitors

10:30am – 11:15am
CEU's Available: .75

The Importance of Utility Arboriculture – [Randy Miller](#)

Description: Utility arboriculture is critical for striking the balance between the indispensable benefits of both trees and electric power. Trees must be vigorous, and electric power safe and flawlessly reliable. Yet, tree conflicts with power lines have caused catastrophic fires and ruinous blackouts. In that context, this presentation focuses on how utility arboriculture addresses tree conflicts with power lines. Attendees will be able to recognize electric safety principles and understand how trees cause power outages. They will be able to explain some history, problems with and solutions to utility pruning as well as the fundamentals and benefits of integrated vegetation management.

11:15am - 12:00pm
CEU's Available: .75

The Illinois White Oak Initiative – [Jason Meyer, White Oak Initiative](#)

Description: The data is clear – while there are plenty of mature white oaks in the woods today, there is a

severe lack of regeneration (seedlings) that will replace today's mature trees. This has broad ecological, economic, and social implications. The White Oak Initiative is a national, multi-sector coalition that serves as advocates and catalysts for active upland oak forest management, with a focus on white oak regeneration. This presentation will describe the issue at hand, the history of the White Oak Initiative, and how a proactive approach to forest management will ensure a sustainable future for this keystone species.

12:00pm-1:00pm

Lunch with Exhibitors

Municipal Sessions – In-Person & Streamed Live

1:00pm-2:00pm
CEU's Available: 1

Pruning Trees to Reduce Likelihood of Failure – Jake Miesbauer, *The Morton Arboretum*

Description: Tree pruning is one of the most common practices employed by tree care professionals. Proper pruning can improve tree structure, remove, or mitigate defects, and help to enhance tree health and aesthetics. It is important to keep in mind, however, that each pruning cut is an injury that the tree must respond to, and if done improperly can be counterproductive. This presentation will help the audience better understand how proper tree pruning can achieve targeted goals of reducing the likelihood of trees being damaged in storms.

2:00pm – 3:00pm
CEU's Available: 1

Oaks, Gall Wasps, and Pest Update - Fredric Miller

Description: 2024 was one of those years where galls appeared on many types of trees. In this presentation, we will discuss some of the more common and potentially important galls found on trees, primarily oaks, including the recent gall malady that has been plaguing our swamp white oaks and bur oaks. Identification, life cycles, potential harm, if any, to the tree, and effective PHC management practices will be presented. A brief roundup of tree issues in 2024 will conclude the session.

Commercial Sessions

1:00pm – 2:00pm
CEU's Available: 1

How To Eliminate Mischief™ While Building a Sustainable Foundation for the Future – Kevin Martlage, *Nextier Advisors, LLC*

Description: The key to building a successful and sustainable foundation for the future is deeply rooted in your company's business culture and the elimination of Mischief™. A critical part of any team's success is to ensure that there are clear expectations and understanding of what is important among all members of the team. While this understanding is critical there must also be a firm foundation built on trust, communication, and effective conflict resolution, as you eliminate Mischief™ and impact those around you. Join this interactive and informative session as we dig into how to advance your business from the inside by focusing on shared values and alignment around a supportive business culture.

During the session we will introduce you to the Mischief Model™ and will discuss the fifteen traits of a high performing, high trust, and highly accountable business culture. The Mischief™ model has been developed over 50 years of work with organizations, non-profits, and impactful leadership teams around the world. During our discussion we will also introduce you to the Nextier Culture Index™ which will help you critically assess your current business culture across fifteen different team impact areas. Awareness around these concepts and their impact on your business culture will help you understand how to begin to create a sustainable foundation which will support your team's ability to collaborate and advance together.

2:00pm – 3:00pm
CEU's Available: 1

Close Encounters of the Herbicide Kind – Glen Stanoz, *University of Wisconsin-Madison*

Description: Herbicides can be useful tools for management of residential and forest landscapes. But it seems that more and more often trees are "non-target" victims of many commonly applied herbicides. Damage may be acute or chronic, and difficult to positively attribute to chemical application. Learn symptoms exhibited by trees exposed to common herbicides, and the implications for trees, tree owners, and arborists.

Utility Sessions

1:00pm – 2:00pm
CEU's Available: 1

Trees on Wires/Trees Under Tension – Trees Under Tension – Tim Walsh, *The Townsend Company, LLC*

Description: One of the greatest risks that arborists can face is dealing with the hazards associated with trees that have fallen on wires. We will discuss this hazard, and some of the science-based mitigation techniques, training, best practices, and new concepts

2:00pm – 3:00pm
CEU's Available: 1

Utility Vegetation Management is Urban Forestry – Randy Miller

Description: The intent of urban forestry is to manage trees to enhance the physiological, sociological, and economic well-being of urban society, while the primary objective of utility arboriculture is to manage vegetation, so it doesn't interfere with safe, reliable environmentally sustainable power delivery. It is indisputable that safe, reliable electric power contributes to the "...physiological, sociological and economic well-being of urban society". This presentation focuses on the consistencies on how urban

forestry principles apply to utility arboriculture.

IFA Sessions

1:00pm – 2:00pm
CEU's Available: 1

Public Gardens as Sentinels against Invasive Plants– *Kurt Driesilker/Michelle Beloskur*, *The Morton Arboretum/MIPN*

Description: Botanic gardens and arboreta in North America are harnessing their botanical and horticultural expertise to document plant taxa that are escaping from cultivation on their properties. The Public Gardens as Sentinels against Invasive Plants (PGSIP) working group has developed standardized guidelines to help gardens organize and share their data from their collections to characterize these situations when they occur. By collecting and sharing data from gardens across North America, PGSIP aims to provide a clear picture about plants escaping cultivation and potentially becoming problematic before large-scale invasions occur and before commercial adoption of these taxa.

2:00pm – 3:00pm
CEU's Available: 1

Individual Plant Treatments to Control Woody Invasive Plants – *Chris Evans*, *University of Illinois*

Description: Vegetation management on woody plants is often done using Individual Plant Treatments (IPT). These can include foliar applications, cut stump, basal bark, and injections. IPT treatments can be extremely selective, easy to apply, and can be used nearly year-round. This presentation will discuss the methods used for each of the IPT applications, tips and techniques for success, and common herbicides and tools used with IPT applications.

IAA Annual Conference & Trade Show

Tuesday Spanish Sessions – Eduardo Medina, Davey Tree Expert Co.

8:40am – 10:15am

Trabajo Con Gruas – Eduardo Medina and Phil Reth

10:15am – 10:45am

Break with Exhibitors

10:45am – 11:50am

Seguridad Laboral

11:50am – 1:00pm

Lunch with Exhibitors

1:00pm – 2:45pm

Trabajo Seguro y Eficiente En Tierra

2:45pm – 3:15pm

Break with Exhibitors

3:15pm – 4:00pm

Demostracion En El Arbol Tecnicas De Trepa El Pasado y El Presnte

Tuesday, November 19th, 2024 – Joseph Kramer Demonstration Tree Nicole “Carrie” Benjamin and Lilly Soderlund

8:40am – 9:10am

Your Daily Autograph - JSSA/Job Brief & ERP/EAP

9:10am – 10:00am

EHAP, Deal With It

10:00am – 10:30am

Break with Exhibitors

10:30am – 11:15am

Planning the Work & Managing The Climb for Efficiency, Safety & Longevity

11:15am – 11:50am

Out On a Limb

11:50am – 1:00pm

Lunch with Exhibitors

1:00pm – 2:00pm

The Importance Utility Vegetation Management - Brian Sprinkle, Iapetus Infrastructure Services

2:00pm – 2:45pm

The Importance Utility Vegetation Management - Brian Sprinkle, Iapetus Infrastructure Services

2:45pm – 3:15pm

Break with Exhibitors

3:15pm-4:00pm

The Importance Utility Vegetation Management - Brian Sprinkle, Iapetus Infrastructure Services

Wednesday, November 20th, 2024 – Joseph Kramer Demonstration Tree Nicole “Carrie” Benjamin and Lily Soderlund

8:00am – 10:00am

Storm Damage Management Practices

10:00am – 10:30am

Break with Exhibitors

10:30am - 11:50pm

Post Storm Pruning

12:00pm – 1:00pm

Lunch with Exhibitors

1:00pm – 3:00pm

Elements of Rigging

2-Day Show Sponsors

