

Illinois Trees

The Quarterly Publication of the Illinois Arborist Association

Volume 40 Issue 3
Summer 2024



Bittersweet Tree Climbing Championship *by April Toney*



Image 1: For the first time in the Illinois Tree Climbing Championship, there were 8 female competitors. Image was taken next to the ceremonial tree oak tree planting in honor of Norm Hall.

The 2024 Tree Climbing Championship, hosted by the Illinois Arborist Association (IAA), was marked by a mix of celebration and remembrance. The event set a new record with eight women participating, highlighting a significant increase in female representation. However, it also felt the absence of long-time volunteer Norm Hall, who had been instrumental in organizing these championships for 18 years.

Honoring Norm Hall

The event kicked off with a touching tribute to Norm Hall. Volunteers and competitors gathered for a tree planting ceremony in his honor, remembering his enduring legacy within the tree climbing community.

Norm Hall served as the championship chair for an impressive 18 years. His passion for tree climbing and dedication to safety left an indelible mark on the community. To

commemorate his legacy, the committee introduced the **"Norm Hall Outstanding Volunteer" Award**, celebrating volunteers who demonstrate exceptional service, leadership, teamwork, innovation, and consistent dedication.

The inaugural recipient of this award was **Jason Diehl** from At Height, recognized for his remarkable contributions to this event over the years.

The Competition

The competition, held at St. James Farm Forest Preserve in Warrenville on May 18 and 19, saw 29 local climbers compete in five preliminary events: throwline, work climb, belayed speed climb, ascent, and aerial rescue. The final Master's Challenge determined the overall winners.

continued on page 4

Table of Contents

Bittersweet Tree Climbing Championship	1
President's Message	3
Welcome New TRAQ Instructor, Steve Lane!	5
Calendar of Events	8
42nd Annual IAA Conference & Trade Show Agenda	10
2024 IAA Golf Outing	19
Growing Extension Forestry Team Speaks for the Trees	20
2024 IAA Summer Conference	23



Don't forget to visit the IAA Website for updates on events, certification classes, and important issues impacting our industry.

IAA Board of Directors

President

Dan O'Brien
Banner Sales
PO Box 860
Antioch IL, 60002
Phone: 877-617-8887

President Elect

Eric Hendrickson
Village of Lombard
255 East Wilson Ave.
Lombard, IL 60148
Phone: 630-620-5470

Vice President

Joe Hansen
Village of Wilmette
1200 Wilmette Ave
Wilmette, IL 60091
Phone: 847-853-7622

Past President

Tony Dati
Village of Niles
6849 Touhy Ave.
Niles, IL 60714
Phone: 847-588-7900

Executive Director

April Toney
Illinois Arborist Association
PO Box 860
Antioch IL, 60002
Phone: 877-617-8887
Fax: 262-857-6677

ISA CoR Representative 2025

Steve Lane
Graf Tree Care/Great Lakes UF
1485 Louis Bork Dr., #113
Batavia, IL 60510
Phone: 224-433-1124

Director Municipal 2024

Theresa Kyriazis
Elk Grove Village
450 E. Devon
Elk Grove Village, IL 60007
Phone: 224-446-1149

Director Commercial 2024

Paul Filary
Kramer Tree Specialist, Inc.
300 Charles Court
West Chicago, IL 60185
Phone: 630-293-5444

Director Utility 2025

Eric Francke
Davey Resource Group, Inc.
910 Riverside Drive
Elmhurst, IL 60126
Phone: 224-760-6631

Director Municipal 2025

Michael Collins
Village of Riverside
3860 Columbus Blvd.
Riverside, IL 60545
Phone: 708-243-4335

Director Commercial 2025

Andrew Ranney
Skyline Tree Service
PO Box 684
St. Charles, IL 60174
Phone: 630-913-3443

Director Industrial 2025

Rob Boughman
Arborjet/Ecologel
2444 Fairview Circle.
Woodstock, IL 60098
Phone: 847-456-1756

Director of Programs 2024

Fredric Miller
The Morton Arboretum
4100 Illinois Rt. 53
Lisle, IL 65032
Phone: 630-416-9039

Director Research 2025

Michelle Catania
The Morton Arboretum
4100 Illinois Rt. 53
Lisle, IL 65032
Phone: 630-719-5769

Director Finance 2024

Mark Bluhm
Eastern Illinois University
5031 Frank Scott Pkwy West
Belleville, IL 62223
Phone: 618-791-9038

TREE Fund Liaison 2025

Mike Priller
Zion Park District
2400 Dowie
Zion, IL 60099
224-308-7768

Illinois Arborist Association

Mission Statement

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

President's Message

Greetings Illinois Arborists,

The night before my good friend Tony Dati passed me both the Gavel and the title of President of the IAA, I took a moment to look back at my career. The places I worked and the jobs we did. In the end the places and jobs paled in comparison to the people I worked with. Be it the person who taught me a new process, the people who helped push me to get my certifications, or the person working with me that helped get us to the end of a grueling day in good spirits, these memories matter most.

After our last board meeting, I found myself on another trip down memory lane. This time my focus was on my time on the IAA Board. First as two years as Industrial director and the two and a half years so far on the Presidential track. In that time, I thought of the places I have been, the changes the board has made, and again most importantly the people with whom I have served. Those faces and moments with the board and our staff are the true driving force behind the IAA and what keeps me pushing for more.

In the past I have said "We are the biggest little industry around." One unique thing about us as arborists is the friendships that exist that other industries lack. Across company lines, across age groups, and across this great state if you love trees and tree work, we all have something in common.

In this spirit I encourage all of you to get out to IAA events, serve the IAA on a committee, or step up the challenge of going for a board position. If service is not your way, then reach out to a former co-worker and have fun reminisce about old times. We have a finite amount of time on the planet and may as well enjoy it.

Sincerely

Daniel O'Brien
Illinois Arborist Association President
Certified Arborist and CTSP

Dan O'Brien



Bittersweet Tree Climbing Championship (cont.)

**Congratulations to
the winners:**

Women

1st Place: Libby Bower
2nd Place: Mel Hamilton
3rd Place: Katie Fleming

Men

1st Place: Beau Nagan
2nd Place: Cameron Hughes
3rd Place: Ryan Sams



Image 2: (From left to right) Ryan Sams, Cameron Hughes, Beau Nagan, Libby Bower, Mel Hamilton, and Katie Fleming

continued on page 9

Wedgle® Direct-Inject™ TREE INJECTION SYSTEM

Our advanced technology for
tree treatment allows you to

**INCREASE THE
NUMBER OF TREES
YOU TREAT
IN A DAY!**

- ◆ No drilling damage
- ◆ No mixing at job sites
- ◆ No guarding or return trips
- ◆ No waiting for uptake
- ◆ Treats most trees in five minutes or less!
- ◆ Successful and most profitable add-on service



Multiple injection tips designed for all types of trees, conifers and palms

Insecticides • Fungicides • PGRs • Antibiotics • MicroNutrients



888-557-2455
BannerSales360@gmail.com
www.bannersales.net



Welcome New TRAQ Instructor, Steve Lane! *by April Toney*

We are excited to announce that the Illinois Arborist Association has welcomed a new TRAQ (Tree Risk Assessment Qualification) instructor, Steve Lane, from Great Lakes Urban Forestry Consultants. Steve joins Don Roppolo from Davey Tree Expert Company.

With the addition of Steve, we are now able to offer more "Full TRAQ" courses as well as TRAQ renewal classes, providing greater flexibility and availability for our community.

The spring TRAQ courses have successfully concluded, with 80 participants completing the program in various locations across Northern Illinois, including Arlington Heights, Oak Park, Orland Park, and Chicago.

Stay tuned for the announcement of our fall TRAQ courses. We look forward to continuing to provide high-quality education and training for tree risk assessment in Illinois.

For more information on upcoming TRAQ courses, please visit our website or contact our office.



TRAQ CERTIFIED



CONTACT US FOR A QUOTE TODAY!

800-423-3789

GRANDARBORSUPPLY.COM



FOLLOW US ON SOCIAL MEDIA



***Fertilizers for
the future
From your
favorite brands***



Goodmark



NURSERIES

Growing for your success.



● Shade Trees ● Ornamentals ● Evergreens ● Shrubs ● Perennials

Wholesale nursery supplier since 1985 with 700+ acres, and 500 varieties of plant material.



Delivery Available



815-653-9293

8920 Howe Rd. Wonder Lake, IL 60097 | www.goodmarknurseries.com

Want to Volunteer?



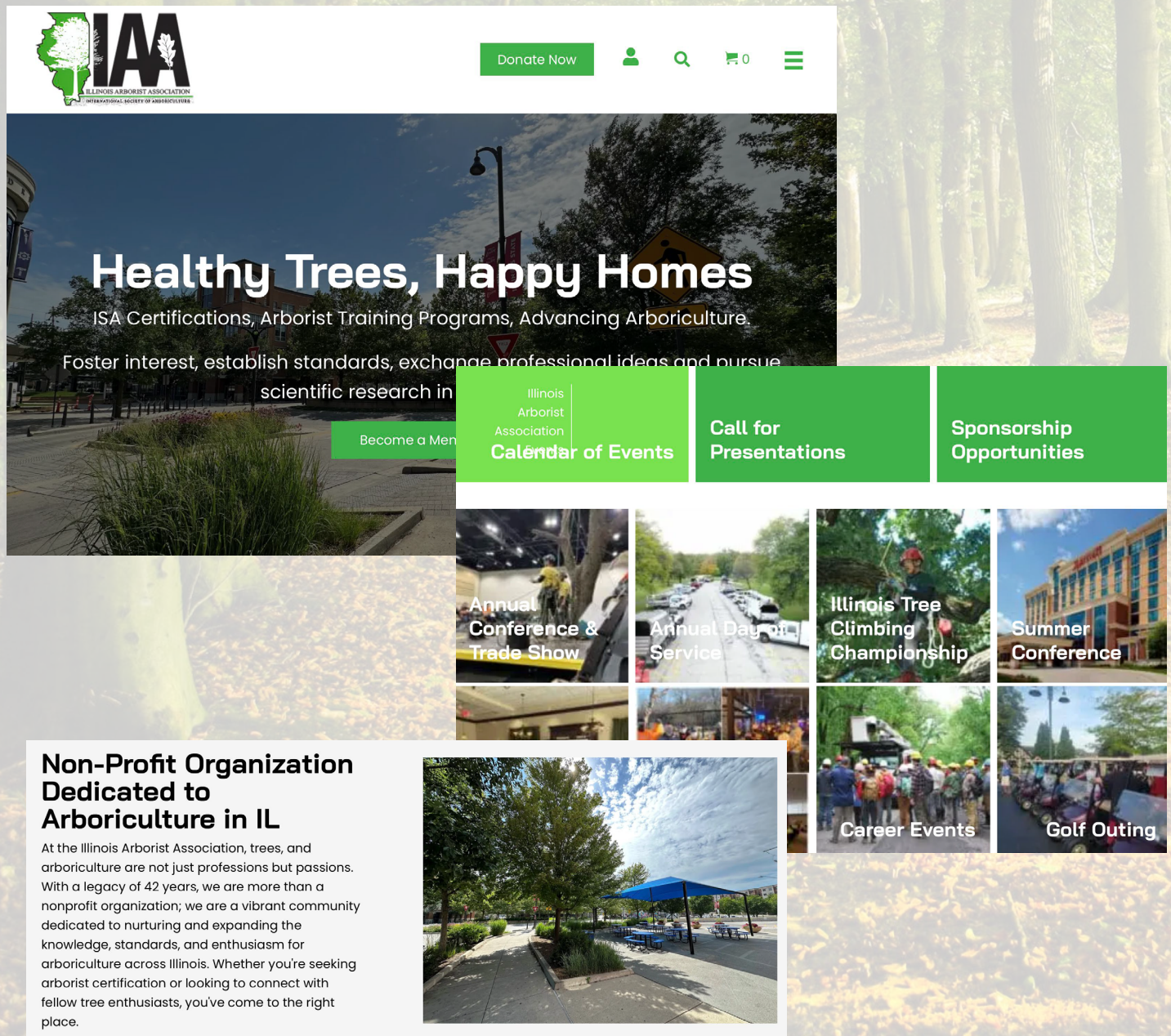
Call April at 877-617-8887

email: april@illinoisarborist.org



Coming Soon!

The IAA is excited to announce that it is in the process of rolling out a new look and feel for our website, including a new **learning management system** to help with all your training needs.



The screenshot displays the new website design for the Illinois Arborist Association (IAA). The header features the IAA logo on the left and navigation links for 'Donate Now', user profile, search, shopping cart (0 items), and a menu on the right. The main banner area has a large image of a park with the headline 'Healthy Trees, Happy Homes' and subtext 'ISA Certifications, Arborist Training Programs, Advancing Arboriculture.' Below this, a row of green buttons includes 'Become a Member', 'Calendar of Events', 'Call for Presentations', and 'Sponsorship Opportunities'. A grid of smaller images promotes various events: 'Annual Conference & Trade Show', 'Annual Day of Service', 'Illinois Tree Climbing Championship', 'Summer Conference', 'Career Events', and 'Golf Outing'. A text box on the left describes the IAA as a 'Non-Profit Organization Dedicated to Arboriculture in IL' with a legacy of 42 years. A large image of a park with a blue canopy is also featured.

Non-Profit Organization Dedicated to Arboriculture in IL

At the Illinois Arborist Association, trees, and arboriculture are not just professions but passions. With a legacy of 42 years, we are more than a nonprofit organization; we are a vibrant community dedicated to nurturing and expanding the knowledge, standards, and enthusiasm for arboriculture across Illinois. Whether you're seeking arborist certification or looking to connect with fellow tree enthusiasts, you've come to the right place.

www.illinoisarborist.org





TreeMec® Inject

Emamectin Benzoate in one-quart bottles

Designed to be used with higher volume tree injection devices that meet the label and dose requirements for the control of listed insects and mite pests.



TreeMec Inject can be used as formulated or diluted with water (low, medium, medium-high and high rates).



Emerald Ash Borer



Ambrosia Beetle*



Winter Moth



Bagworm



Gypsy Moths



Japanese Beetles



Conifer Mites*



Honeylocust Plant Bug

See the label for a full list of pests controlled. *Not registered for use in California



888-557-2455
BannerSales360@gmail.com
www.bannersales.net



~ Calendar of Events ~

July Events

July 18th & 19th, IAA Summer Conference (All day event)

Location: Marriott in Bloomington/Normal Hotel & Conference Center – 201 Broadway Avenue, Normal, Illinois 61761

Instructors: Various

[Click here to register](#)

September Events

September 5th - November 7th, ISA Certified Arborist Exam Prep Course

Instructor: Bryon Doerr

Location: Homewood Public Works, 18355 Pierce Ave Homewood, IL 60430

[Click here to register](#)

August Events

August 22nd - October 17th, ISA Certified Arborist Exam Prep Course - [Exam on October 24th](#)

Instructor: Steve Lane

Location: Virtual (Thursdays 6:00pm - 8:30pm)

[Click here to register](#)

October Events

October 8th - November 7th, ISA Municipal Specialist Exam Prep Course

Instructor: Bryon Doerr

Location: Homewood Public Works, 18355 Pierce Ave Homewood, IL 60430

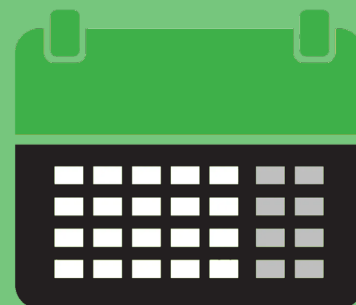
[Click here to register](#)

November Events

November 18th - November 20th, 42nd IAA Annual Conference & Trade Show

Location: EVEN Hotel & Tinley Park Convention Center - 8451 Convention Center Drive, Tinley Park, IL. 60477

[Click here to register](#)



Bittersweet Tree Climbing Championship

ComEd Corporate Cup Tree Climbing Award

The ComEd Corporate Cup, designed to foster competition between companies, saw participation from Cantigny Park, Davey Tree Expert Company, and Kramer Tree Specialists. The Davey Tree Expert Company emerged victorious, demonstrating outstanding teamwork and skills.



Image 3: Davey Tree Expert Company won this year's IAA Corporate Cup

Spirit of the Competition Award

The Spirit of the Competition Award, given annually at the Illinois Tree Climbing Championship, recognizes competitors who exemplify camaraderie, support for others, and a positive attitude. This year's award went to Libby Bower, who was praised for her uplifting spirit and encouragement of fellow competitors. A spectator visiting the scoring booth remarked on the exceptional camaraderie among competitors, highlighting the supportive nature of the tree climbing community.

COMPETITION SPONSORS

Arbsession, Arborwear, ArborMaster, Davey Tree Expert Company, Kramer Tree Specialists, The Mulch Center, Samson Ropes, & Tree Stuff

REFRESHMENTS

All Gear & Mobetta Arborist Supplies

LUNCH

Provided By:
Kramer Tree Specialists, Inc.

ORGANIZER & SPECIAL ADVISORS

Eduardo Medina, Charles Shonts, Don Roppolo

SCORING TEAM

Steve Lane & Mike Priller

2024 JUDGES, TIMERS & TECHNICIANS

WORK CLIMB

Sean Zieche- Head Judge
Tony Perez - Scoring Judge
Dave Jorns - Scoring Judge
Bill Black- Scoring Judge
Montrell Jordan - Tree Tech
Steven Haigh - Ground Tech
John Steid - Ground Tech
Mike Dirksen - Timer
Todd Kramer- Timer

THROWLINE EVENT

Felipe Banuelos - Head Judge
Cody Steele - Ground Tech
Evelyn Rojas - Timer
Emmett Orr- Timer

BELAYED SPEED CLIMB

Dan O'Brien - Head Judge
Kevin Ward - Belay
Anthony Santisi - Belay
Kassandra Patrick - Timer
Bill Black - Timer

MASTERS' CHALLENGE

Eduardo Medina- Head Judge
Jason Austin - Scoring Judge
Sean Zieche - Scoring Judge
Charles Shonts- Scoring Judge
Phi Prohaska - Tree Tech
Diego Mena - Ground Tech
Colton Hoffman- Timer
Ian Hemmerling- Timer

AERIAL RESCUE

Gary Kohler - Head Judge
Jason Austin - Scoring Judge
Lily Soderlund - Scoring Judge
Charles Shonts- Scoring Judge
Cameron Miller - Tree Tech
Nate Whelden - Tree Tech
Stacey Woessner - Ground Tech
Ian Hammerling - Ground Tech
Liz Carroll - Timer
Leanna Strecker - Timer

ASCENT EVENT

Jason Diehl - Head Judge
Jenny Rexroad- Head Technician
Juan Octaviano - Belay
Humbertino Perez - Belay
Phil Prohaska - Tree Tech
Helder Macedo- Ground Tech
Colton Hoffman- Ground Tech
Eric Hendrickson - Timer
Tom Day - Timer
Colton Hoffman - Timer

SCORE SHEET RUNNER

Eric Hendrickson

Event Sponsors





42ND ANNUAL

ILLINOIS ARBORIST
ASSOCIATION

CONFERENCE & TRADE SHOW



NOVEMBER
19 & 20TH, 2024

TINLEY PARK CONVENTION CENTER

IN-PERSON/VIRTUAL

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: Insect & Mite Pests – <u>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.
Time: 8:00am– 4:00pm CEU's Available: SP 3/4 Rooms	Title: Safety – <u>John Ball, SDSU</u> Description: TBD
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: Safety – <u>John Ball, SDSU</u> Description: TBD
9:15am - 10:00am CEU's Available: .75	Evolution of GIS as an Arboricultural Solution – <u>Nathan Schuettelpelz</u>, 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 – <u>Trent Ford, Christy Rollinson, and Jake Miesbauer</u> 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 - <u>Lindsay Darling</u>, 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 – <u>Lee Mueller</u>, 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 – <u>Stephanie Adams</u> Description: TBD

Commercial Sessions – In-Person & Streamed Live

1:00pm – 2:00pm CEU's Available: 1	Using Plant Phenology to Predict Treatment Timing – <u>Aaron Schulz</u>, 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 – <u>Jeff Joutas</u>, 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 – <u>Daniel Greer</u>, 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 – <u>Brian Sprinkle</u>, Iapetus Infrastructure Services Description: TBD
2:00pm – 2:45pm CEU's Available: .75	The Importance of Utility Vegetation Management – <u>Brian Sprinkle</u>, 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 – <u>Brian Sprinkle</u>, 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 – <u>Andrew Hipp</u>, 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 <i>Oak Origins</i> (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 – <u>Jordan Winkench</u>, 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 – <u>Dan Marshalla and Jen Fraterriago, UI</u> 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 – <u>Kevin Martlage</u>, 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 – <u>Chelsi Abbott</u> 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 – <u>Randy Miller</u> 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 – <u>Jason Meyer</u>, 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 – <u>Jake Miesbauer</u>, 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 - <u>Fredric Miller</u> 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 – <u>Kevin Martlage</u>, 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 – <u>Glen Stanoz</u>, 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 – <u>Tim Walsh</u>, 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 – <u>Randy Miller</u> 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– <u>Kurt Driesilker/Michelle Beloskur</u>, 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 – <u>Chris Evans</u>, 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 Gruaas – 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 “Carnie” 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 “Carnie” 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

PRODUCTIVITY WITH PURPOSE



LEARN MORE



**AURORA, IL
(630) 820-3030**

**EAST MOLINE, IL
(309) 751-9540**

**GOODFIELD, IL
(309) 965-3300**



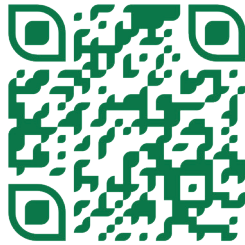
Vermeer®
Midwest



TREE FUND

Cultivating Innovation

For information on
our grant programs,
visit www.treefund.org



Tree Research and Education Endowment Fund is shaping the future of trees, the arboriculture profession, and our world. TREE Fund has awarded more than \$5.4 million in grants toward its mission of identifying and funding programs that support the discovery and dissemination of new knowledge in arboriculture and urban forestry.

2023 GRANT RECIPIENTS



Jack Kimmel
International
Grant Program
\$7,800

Dr. Petr Hedenec

University
Malaysia
Terengganu

Light-side of
the termites:
Distance effect
of termite nests
on tree growth
and pathogen
resilience of tree
species in Taman
Botani at UMT.



Bob Skiera
Memorial Fund
Building Bridges
Initiative Grant
Program
\$29,040

JD Brown

University of
Virginia

Valuing
Retention of
Mature Trees



Ohio Chapter ISA
Education Grant
Program
\$5,000

Benjamin Dolan

University of
Findlay

Arcadia
Arbor-Team



Utility Arborist
Research Fund
Grant Program
\$49,940

Dr. Gregory Dahl

West Virginia
University

Determining
failure
characteristics
from distribution
outage reports



John Z. Duling
Grant Program
\$14,888

Dr. Thomas Whitney

The Davey
Institute

Efficacy of
Aphidoletes
aphidimyza
predator
releases to
control aphid
populations on
linden street
trees

ADDITIONAL TREE FUND GRANTS

- Safe Arborist Techniques Fund Grant Program
- Tree and Soil Research Fund Grant Program
- Barborinas Family Fund Grant Program
- Hyland R. Johns Grant Program

If you are a company, chapter, or individual seeking to expand your research or educational mission through an endowed fund, please reach out to Paul Putman at pputman@treefund.org

Our next grant application cycle begins on August 1, 2024. See website for details.

2024 IAA Golf Outing

Friday, August 2nd, 2024

Fox Run Golf Links

12:00pm Check In & Lunch -

Please arrive early for check in and enjoy lunch with friends before the outing. Hot Dog or brat with chips for lunch.

1:00pm Shot Gun Start

Beverage cart on the course

Hole Contests:

- Close
- Longest Putt
- Longest Drive
- Shortest Drive
- Low score (foursome) -
- Hole-in-One Prizes!

Stay for dinner (included in golf fee) and raffle after the outing

\$120 – Individual Golfer

\$440 – Foursome (\$40 savings)



Growing Extension Forestry Team Speaks for the Trees

by Chris Evans

URBANA, Ill. — Oaks, elms, hickories, and other trees cover Illinois in a tapestry of forests and woodlands that shade homes and parks, shelter and feed wildlife, produce oxygen, and stabilize soil. Trees once covered more than a third of Illinois, but now that number is halved and disease, climate change, and invasive species threaten what remains.

University of Illinois Extension foresters are a link between the university, communities, and the forests across the state, providing educational programs, training, and technical assistance to improve forest and tree management statewide.

“Our goal is to give homeowners and forest owners, resource managers, and volunteers access to evidence-based information to help them confidently manage their trees so they’re healthy and meet whatever their personal goals are,” said [Christopher Evans](#), forestry Extension and research specialist.

The Extension forestry team is made up of staff based on the campus of University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign and at the [Dixon Springs Agricultural Center](#) in southern Illinois and includes Evans, [Kevin Rohling](#), and [Justin Vozzo](#).

Rohling recently began a new role as an Extension specialist in forest management and ecology. He conducts research and leads public programs on topics ranging from how moths and butterflies are affected by different management methods to using drones to map forest health



issues.

“I really enjoy teaching people about things they may not have experienced before or helping them safely execute a task,” Rohling said. “Teaching children is always rewarding because they are so enthusiastic to learn about trees.”

Rohling has a bachelor’s and master’s in geography from Southern Illinois University Edwardsville and has worked in natural resource conservation since 2004 with organizations including the River to River Cooperative Weed Management Area, Natural Land Institute, The Nature Conservancy, Great Basin Institute, Illinois EPA, Great Rivers Land Trust, and National Park Service. He can be reached at (618) 695-3383 or krohling@illinois.edu.

Vozzo, whose focus is on urban forestry, joined Extension in May and is the newest member of the forestry team. He will also coordinate the Illinois Big Tree Registry.

More than 80% of Illinois residents live in urban areas and are benefitting from the trees around them without realizing it. The trees shade and

continued on page 20

Growing Extension Forestry Team Speaks for the Trees (cont.)

shelter buildings from the sun and wind and their roots filter stormwater runoff and reduce flooding.

“Urban trees often face greater challenges than those in rural areas because they have less space to grow and are more likely to be damaged by human activity,” Vozzo said. “That is why it’s really important for people to manage trees in their parks and neighborhoods, so we continue to benefit from them.”

Justin has a bachelor's and master's in natural resources and environmental sciences from University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign. He is an International Society of Arboriculture certified arborist. He previously worked for the U.S. Forest Service and the National Ecological Observatory Network conducting forest inventory and ecological monitoring. He can be reached at vozzo2@illinois.edu.

The Extension forestry team conducts research projects, maintains demonstration sites, and teaches courses at University of Illinois. They also administer the [Illinois Big Tree Program](#) and the new Citizen Big Tree Inspector initiative.

The program is part of the university's department of natural resources and environmental sciences. Explore more about Extension forestry resources at extension.illinois.edu/forestry.

ABOUT ILLINOIS EXTENSION: Illinois Extension leads public outreach for University of Illinois by translating research into action plans that allow Illinois families, businesses, and community leaders to solve problems, make informed decisions, and adapt to changes and opportunities. Illinois Extension is part of the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign College of Agricultural, Consumer and Environmental Sciences.

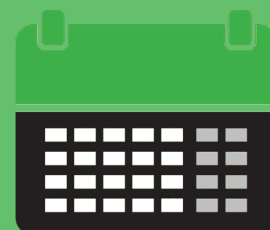
SOURCES: Christopher Evans, Extension forestry and research specialist; Kevin Rohling, Extension forest management and ecology specialist; Justin Vozzo, Extension forestry specialist.

INTERVIEWS: Contact Bridget Lee-Calfas, bkleee@illinois.edu, 217-333-6282 to request specialist interviews on this topic.

Mark Your Calendars!

42nd Annual IAA Conference & Trade Show

November 18 - 20, 2024



NOW ACCEPTING WOODCHIPS FOR FREE!!

See Our Locations Below



847-459-7200



**CLEAN WOOD CHIPS
ONLY**

FREE

LAKE BLUFF

12660 Bittersweet
Ave. Lake Bluff, IL

FREE

VOLO

27601 W. Sullivan
Lake Road Volo, IL

FREE

N. CHICAGO

3023 23rd Place
North Chicago, IL

EVANSTON

2533 Oakton Street
Evanston, IL 60202

Small Load: \$50
Larg Load: \$100

**LOGS & BRUSH CALL
FOR PRICING**

DEERFIELD

21457 Milwaukee
Avenue Deerfield, IL

Small Load: \$30
Larg Load: \$50

Summer Conference

July 18th & 19th, 2024

Marriott in Bloomington/Normal Hotel & Conference Center



Mark your calendars! The IAA Summer Conference has been scheduled for July 18th & 19th, 2024 at the Marriott in Bloomington/Normal and the field program at the ISU Arboretum. Discover the ultimate outdoor learning experience!

The conference was designed to take full advantage of the season's splendor, with a special focus on outdoor sessions. Don't miss out on this extraordinary opportunity to expand your knowledge, network with like-minded professionals, and gain practical skills while enjoying the outdoors!

[Summer Conference Home Page](#)



Illinois Trees



Inside this issue

Bittersweet Tree Climbing Championship
Welcome New TRAQ Instructor, Steve Lane!
42nd Annual IAA Conference & Trade Show Agenda
2024 IAA Golf Outing
Growing Extension Forestry Team Speaks for the Trees
2024 Summer Conference