



42ND ANNUAL

ILLINOIS ARBORIST ASSOCIATION

# CONFERENCE & TRADE SHOW



NOVEMBER 18TH - 20TH, 2024

TINLEY PARK CONVENTION CENTER

IN-PERSON/VIRTUAL



# IAA ADVANCED TRAINING NOVEMBER 18TH, 2024

Location: Tinley Park Convention Center

## Choose One

8:00am-4:00pm

CEU's Available: 7

Sam Tinley Room (Testing Tuesday 8:00 to 12:00)

### Utility Specialist Prep Class

**Matt Millette, Davey Resource Group**

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.

[Application for the utility specialist exam](#)

[Utility Specialist Certification Study Guide](#)

8:00am-4:00pm

CEU's Available: 7

SP 5/6 Rooms

### Insect & Mite Pests

**Dr. Fredric Miller**

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.

8:00am-4:00pm

CEU's Available: 7

SP 3/4 Rooms

### The New Z Electrical Hazard Section: Changes in Training Requirements for Arborists

**Dr. John Ball, SDSU**

The new Z Electrical Hazard section has some major changes that impact all arborists. A key one is that arborists have training on electrical system hardware identification and function, minimum approach distances to energized electric supply lines and safe work practices among other components. These requirements must be met for any arborist to work within 10 feet of an electric supply line or communication line. This also includes the tree. So, for an arborist to work within a tree that is less than 10 feet from even a communication line or secondary line, they must have this training. This workshop will cover all the knowledge requirements. We will cover how electricity works, identification and function electrical system hardware found along distribution lines, minimum approach distances (MAD), safe work practices and emergency response to aerial incidents. We will also cover the four electrical levels for arborists and their MADs and practices.



# GENERAL SESSIONS NOVEMBER 19TH , 2024

8:00am- 8:30am	15 Minute ISA Update and 15 Minute Presentations from Vendors
8:30am - 9:15am  CEU's Available: .75	<b>The New Z133 - What Does It Mean To You? Dr. John Ball, SDSU</b> The new Z133 is coming out and inside there will be numerous changes and updates to the standard. The Electrical Hazards section has been completely revised. A training component has also been added to the Standard. This session will cover the highlights to the new Z.
9:15am- 10:00am  CEU's Available: .75	<b>Sneaky Saprobes; Saprophytic Fungi Biology and ID Chelsi Abbott</b> 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	<b>Break with Exhibitors</b>
10:30am – 11:45pm  CEU's Available: 1.5	<b>Panel Discussion about Climate Change and the Drought Project Trent Ford, Christy Rollinson, and Jake Miesbauer</b>  TBD
11:45pm - 12:00pm	<b>Award Ceremony</b>
12:00pm - 1:00pm	<b>Lunch with Exhibitors</b>



# AFTERNOON SESSIONS NOVEMBER 19TH , 2024

## Choose One

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

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.

**Municipal**

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

Available: 1

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

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.

**Commercial**

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

Available: 1

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

TBD

**Utility**

Location:

Joseph Kramer  
Demonstration  
Tree



# AFTERNOON SESSIONS NOVEMBER 19TH, 2024

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



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

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.

### Choose One

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



## Artificial Intelligence in Urban Forestry – **Lee Mueller, Davey Resource Group, Inc.**

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.

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



## Principles of Persuasion, How to Increase Your Level of Influence **Jeff Joutras, Step Forward Into Growth Leadership**

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!



# AFTERNOON SESSIONS NOVEMBER 19TH, 2024

2:00pm-

2:45pm

CEU's

Available: .75

**Utility**

Location:

Joseph Kramer

Demonstration

Tree

## The Importance of Utility Vegetation Management

Brian Sprinkle, Iapetus Infrastructure Services

TBD

2:00pm-

2:45pm

CEU's

Available: .75

**IFA**

## Fragmentation, Fire, and Funding: Challenges Facing Oak Management in Our Modern Landscape

Jordan Winkenbach – American Bird Conservancy

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

**Choose One**

3:15pm-4:00pm

CEU's Available:

.75

**Municipal**

## Oak Decline Research Update Dr. Stephanie Adams

Oak Decline has been associated with environmental factors, but findings from a preliminary 2021 survey have found that disease-causing organisms (pathogens) and secondary insect pests are also associated with declining trees. Stephanie Adams will explain how the changing environment has impacted how hosts and pathogens interact and how and when secondary pests and diseases invade stressed trees. She will also explain current treatment trials that are underway.



# AFTERNOON SESSIONS NOVEMBER 19TH, 2024

## ELDT and OTR Requirements and DOT and CDL Acquisition

**Daniel Greer, Eclipse DOT Inc**

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.

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

**Commercial**

## The Importance of Utility Vegetation Management

**Brian Sprinkle, Iapetus Infrastructure Services**

TBD

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

**Utility**

Location: Joseph  
Kramer  
Demonstration Tree

## Fire's Effects on Oak Seedlings in Grass-Invaded Central Hardwood Forests

**Dan Marshalla and Jen Fraterrigo, UI**

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.

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

**IFA**

## 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.

4:00pm –  
6:00pm





# SPANISH SESSIONS NOVEMBER 19TH, 2024

**Instructor: Eduardo Medina, Davey Tree Expert Co.**

---

<b>8:40am – 10:15am</b>	Trabajo Con Gruaas – Eduardo Medina and Phil Reth
<b>10:15am – 10:45am</b>	Break with Exhibitors
<b>10:45am – 11:50am</b>	Seguridad Labora
<b>11:50am – 1:00pm</b>	Lunch with Exhibitors
<b>1:00pm – 2:45pm</b>	Trabajo Seguro y Eficiente En Tierr
<b>2:45pm – 3:15pm</b>	Break with Exhibitors
<b>3:15pm – 4:00pm</b>	Biología Del Arbol Para Poda

---

## JOSEPH KRAMER DEMONSTRATION TREE NOVEMBER 19TH, 2024

**Demonstrators: Nicole “Carnie” Benjamin and Lily Soderlund**

---

<b>8:40am – 9:10am</b>	Your Daily Autograph - JSSA/Job Brief & ERP/EAP
<b>9:10am – 10:00am</b>	EHAP, Deal With It
<b>10:00am – 10:30am</b>	Break with Exhibitors
<b>10:30am – 11:15am</b>	Planning the Work & Managing The Climb for Efficiency, Safety & Longevity
<b>11:15am – 11:50am</b>	Out On a Limb
<b>11:50am – 1:00pm</b>	Lunch with Exhibitors
<b>1:00pm – 2:00pm</b>	The Importance of Utility Vegetation Management - Brian Sprinkle
<b>2:00pm – 2:45pm</b>	The Importance of Utility Vegetation Management - Brian Sprinkle
<b>2:45pm – 3:15pm</b>	Break with Exhibitors
<b>3:15pm - 4:00pm</b>	The Importance of Utility Vegetation Management - Brian Sprinkle

---





# GENERAL SESSIONS

## NOVEMBER 20TH , 2024

8:00am –  
9:00am

CEU's  
Available: 1

### Leadership & Talent – Organizational Succession Planning **Kevin Martlage, Nextier Advisors**

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

### Evolution of GIS as an Arboricultural Solution

#### **Nathan Schuettpelz, Wachtel Tree Science**

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 –  
11:15am

CEU's  
Available: .75

### The Importance of Utility Arboriculture **Randy Miller**

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

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

# AFTERNOON SESSIONS NOVEMBER 20TH , 2024

## Choose One

1:00pm - 2:00pm

CEU's Available: 1

**Municipal**

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

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.

1:00pm - 2:00pm

CEU's Available: 1

**Commercial**

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

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.

1:00pm -  
2:00pm  
CEU’s

Available: 1

**Utility**

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

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

1:00pm -  
2:00pm  
CEU’s

Available: 1

**IFA**

**Public Gardens as Sentinels against Invasive Plants**

**Kurt Driesilker/Michelle Beloskur, The Morton Arboretum/MIPN**

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.

**Choose One**

2:00pm -  
3:00pm  
CEU’s

Available: 1

**Municipal**

**Oaks, Gall Wasps, and Pest Update** **Dr. Fredric Miller**

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



2:00pm -  
3:00pm  
CEU's  
Available: 1

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

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.

**Commercial**

2:00pm -  
3:00pm  
CEU's  
Available: 1

**Utility Vegetation Management is Urban Forestry** **Randy Miller**

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.

**Utility**

2:00pm -  
3:00pm  
CEU's  
Available: 1

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

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.

**IFA**

**JOSEPH KRAMER  
DEMONSTRATION TREE  
NOVEMBER 20TH , 2024**

**Demonstrators: 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**



# THANK YOU TO ALL OF OUR 2024 SPONSORS!

Coffee Break Sponsor

Breakfast Sponsor

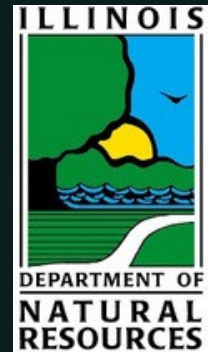
Jim Schuster Plant Health Care Corner Sponsor



Coffee Break Sponsors

Lunch Sponsors

2-Day Show Sponsors



2-Day Show Sponsors

Joseph Kramer Arboriculture Demo Area Sponsor

2-Day Show Sponsors



Jim Schuster Plant Health Care Corner

Conference Notebook Sponsors

