

Vermont Arbor Day Conference

Thursday, May 4, 2017

8:30 AM - 3:30 PM

Vermont College of Fine Arts, Montpelier

Registration cost: \$40

vtcommunityforestry.org

8:30 AM	Registration and Refreshments			
9:00 AM	Welcome and Arbor Day Proclamation			
9:15 AM	Shared Biology: Discovering your Inner Tree* with Joe Murray			
TRACKS	A	B	C	D
10:15 AM	Hemlock Woolly Adelgid* Jim Esden	"Green" your Streets* Lucy Gibson Sophie Sauve	Vermont Tree Warden Statutes* Sarah Jarvis	Tree Biology through the Seasons* Joe Murray
11:00 AM	Break			
11:15 AM	Emerald Ash Borer* Meredith Whitney	Growing Resilient Right of Ways* Joann Garton	Tree Warden and Board Session* Panel	Working with Nature to Restore Soil Health* Joe Murray
12:00 PM	Lunch (provided)			
12:45 PM	Awards Ceremony			
1:30 PM	Break			
1:45 PM	Forest Health Update* Barbara Schultz	16,673 Trees and Counting* Elise Schadler	Vermont Open Meeting Law Christopher Winters	Tree Cabling and Alternatives* Mike Fallis
2:30 PM	Break			
2:45 PM	What's Wrong With My Tree?* Josh Halman	Growing Tomorrow's Tree Stewards Lynn Wild	Basics of Tree Pruning* VJ Comai	Tree Cabling and Alternatives Walk* Mike Fallis

*Eligible for continuing education credits

PLANT LIVE GROW

Tracks



Forest Health: open to all to learn about invasive forest pests and general forest health



Municipal Staff: planners, town managers, parks or public works department, and roads crews



Volunteers: Tree Wardens, tree boards, conservation commission, and planning commission members



Tree Care Professionals: arborists, foresters, and landscapers

Detailed Agenda

9:00 AM **Welcome and Arbor Day Proclamation**

9:15 AM **Shared Biology: Discovering your Inner Tree**
with Joe Murray

Joe Murray, Consulting Arborist & Educator

What if trees were more like animals? More like pets? If trees could run up to our cars to greet us when we return from work, might we be more mindful of trees and provide them with more appropriate care? Naturally, this scenario presents a host of challenges for the trees - running, vision, memory, emotion. Nevertheless, if the reader will permit me the latitude to present information about tree and human biology in a nontraditional approach, perhaps we can evaluate our similarities and differences with trees with fresh eyes. Enlightened by this perspective and knowledge, we can provide more accurate comparisons between trees and people to help make more informed decisions on proper tree care. *0.75 - ISA credits, 0.5 SAF credits.*

10:00 AM **Networking**

Hemlock Woolly Adelgid

Jim Esden, Forester, VT Department of Forest, Parks & Recreation

Hemlock woolly adelgid is an invasive forest pest that threatens hemlock trees, species diversity, and the overall ecology of infested areas. Come learn how to identify this invasive species, its fascinating biology, and management options with forester, Jim Esden. *0.75 ISA credits, 0.5 SAF credits.*

“Green” Your Streets!

Lucy Gibson, Dubois & King

Sophie Sauve, Dubois & King

Coming in summer 2017! The Vermont Green Streets Manual will be a resource for local leaders and designers seeking to champion green streets principles in their communities. Learn how the Manual will support communities wishing to “green” their streets with traffic calming, green stormwater retention, and streetscape place making in their downtowns, village centers, and even parking lots. Innovative local examples and partnerships will be highlighted to educate and inspire local leaders to find opportunities for implementing Green Streets. Come for a preview of this collaborative work-in-progress between the Urban & Community Forestry Program and State partners! *0.75 - ISA credits, 0.5 SAF credits.*

Vermont Tree Warden Statutes

Sarah Jarvis, Staff Attorney- Municipal Assistance, Vermont League of Cities and Towns

The role of the tree warden is more important today than ever. Join Sarah Jarvis from the Vermont League of Cities and Towns for an overview of the tree warden statutes, and to review tree warden FAQs and limitations and opportunities as tree wardens. This session is intended for tree wardens, but would be helpful to anyone looking to work more closely with their respective tree warden. *0.75 - ISA credits, 0.5 SAF credits.*

Tree Biology through the Seasons

Joe Murray, Consulting Arborist & Educator

Trees are “miners.” Tree roots mine the soil for mineral nutrients while leaves mine the atmosphere for carbon. Trees continue mining activities internally by accessing and sharing nutrients among the different parts of the tree. Understanding how two of the most important nutrients, carbon and nitrogen, are obtained and distributed through the tree is important not only for arborists involved in tree care, but also for the greater global community when caring for natural resources. Now, more than ever, arborists need to be biologically literate and able to explain what role trees can play in the sequestration of carbon and suggest environmentally sustainable strategies for supplying trees with nitrogen. This presentation will explore how carbon and nitrogen enter the tree and assimilate in different forms to be transported through the tree to perform specific functions. This presentation approach will also allow for the reexamination of such important physiological processes as photosynthesis, respiration, transpiration, translocation, and hormonal regulation from a unique perspective. The presentation will be divided into four parts to explore the physiology of carbon and nitrogen in each of the seasons. *0.75 - ISA credits, 0.5 SAF credits.*

11:00 AM

Break

11:15 AM

Workshop Session 2

Update on a Sneaky Pest: Emerald Ash Borer

Meredith Whitney, Pest Outreach Coordinator, UVM Extension, VT Urban & Community Forestry Program

The economic impact of the emerald ash borer has been greater than that of any other invasive forest pest in North America, costing 30 states over \$10.7 billion dollars in removal, treatment, and replacement. There are infestations surrounding Vermont on all sides and we expect the insect to arrive soon if it isn't here already. Come learn how to identify this invasive insect and hear some of the latest research highlights regarding the future of our ash trees with Pest Outreach Coordinator, Meredith Whitney. *0.75 - ISA credits, 0.5 SAF credits.*

Growing Resilient Right of Ways: Vegetation Management in the Rural Right-of-Way

Joann Garton, Outreach Coordinator, VT Department of Forests, Parks & Recreation

Road runoff and washouts, particularly from our scenic and historic backroads, are a source of sediment pollution that alters stream and river channels and carries excess phosphorous to Vermont's waters. There are multiple challenges that make it difficult to manage both stormwater runoff and healthy tree canopy in rural roadside environments. At times, trees can interfere with maintenance equipment and other infrastructure. Towns often lack the capacity to care for trees and other vegetation that reduce stormwater runoff while addressing public safety concerns, aesthetic values, and cultural history. Join Joann Garton, to learn how Vermont Forests, Parks and Recreation is addressing these issues and ask questions about resilient vegetation practices along your rural roads, and the support available municipalities managing this infrastructure. *0.5 SAF credits.*

Tree Warden and Board Question and Answer Session

Sarah Jarvis, Staff Attorney- Municipal Assistance, Vermont League of Cities and Towns

Danielle Fitzko, Program Manger, VT Department of Forests, Parks, & Recreation, VT Urban & Community Forestry Program

Bring your tree board and tree warden questions! Join our panel of VT Urban & Community Forestry Program staff and council members, as well as staff from Vermont League of Cities and Towns to answer your questions. *0.75 - ISA credits, 0.5 SAF credits.*

Working with Nature to Restore Soil Health

Joe Murray, Consulting Arborist & Educator

Learn to decrease your reliance on environmental subsidies and unsustainable soil care practices. By working with - and not against - nature, you'll be able to hand over responsibility of soil management to soil organisms and bring the soil back to life. Even the simple act of mulching (with wood chips) can have a profound effect on improving soil health. *0.75 - ISA credits, 0.5 SAF credits.*

12:00 PM

Lunch (provided)

Join the Vermont Urban & Community Forestry Council as we recognized Vermont's 2017 Tree Stewards and the recipients of national Arbor Day Awards for Tree City, Line and Campus USA.

Tree City USA

- TBD

Tree Line USA

- TBD

Tree Campus USA

- TBD

1:30 PM

Break

1:45 PM

Workshop Session 3

Forest Health Update

Barbara Schultz, Forest Health Program Manager, VT Department of Forest, Parks & Recreation

Why are the white pine trees brown every spring? Will the forest tent caterpillar be a problem again in 2017? Come learn about these and other trends in forest health and the outlook on forest pests throughout the state with Forest Health Program Manager, Barbara Schultz. *0.75 - ISA credits, 0.5 SAF credits.*

16,673 Trees and Counting

Elise Schadler, Technical Assistance Coordinator, UVM Extension, VT Urban & Community Forestry Program

In 2013 the VT Urban & Community Forestry Program received a multi-year grant from the USDA Forest Service to support 20 priority Vermont communities in moving their urban and community forestry programs forward. The project focused on a three-pronged approach: 1) inventorying the public trees, 2) develop (or update) a management plan, and 3) provide training in basic tree care best practices. To date, data has been collected on 16,673 trees along residential streets, in downtowns, in parks and cemeteries, and at schools in 27 municipalities. Join Elise Schadler, Technical Assistance Coordinator, as she shares her analysis of the trees that make up Vermont's urban forests, as well as our VT-specific tree inventory tool and lessons learned from engaging with the municipal leaders, staff, and citizens that manage and care for public trees. *0.75 - ISA credits, 0.5 SAF credits.*

VT Open Meeting Law

Christopher Winters, Deputy Secretary of State, Vermont

Secretary of State Jim Condos often states, "Good government is open and transparent government!" This overview of Vermont's Open Meeting Law is designed to advise Vermont's public officials on the ins and outs of the open meeting law and when and to whom it applies. Join Christopher Winters, Deputy Secretary of State to learn the basics of what constitutes a "public body" and "meeting" under the law; cover executive sessions, notices and agendas; and will address some of the most frequent asked questions we get on things like social media and the rights of the public to enforce the law. After the presentation, there will be a chance for Q&A and a general discussion with the audience.

Tree Cabling and Alternatives

Mike Fallis, Arborist, Owner of Limbwalker Tree Service

The practice of cabling helps provide support and stability for overextended and weakly attached limbs. Join Arborist, Mike Fallis, to discuss various tree defects that may be corrected through cabling, how trees respond to that strain on their own, and how cabling systems may or may not be appropriate and why. *0.75 - ISA credits, 0.5 SAF credits.*

2:30 PM

Break

2:45 PM

Workshop Session 4

What's Wrong With My Tree?

Josh Halman, Forest Health Specialist, VT Department of Forest, Parks & Recreation

What's wrong with my tree? That's a tough question to answer, but join Forest Health Specialist, Josh Halman, for an **outdoor walk** to learn where to begin! Learn how to assess tree health and identify some basic signs and symptoms of common diseases and pests. *0.75 - ISA credits, 0.5 SAF credits.*

Growing Tomorrow's Tree Stewards

Lynn Wild, Montpelier Tree Board

We plant trees today to develop healthy tree canopies for the future. Similarly, we can inspire our younger students to grow into our next generation tree stewards and tree board members. Join Montpelier Tree Board member, Lynn Wild for an overview of her programs and then a 10-minute **walk to St. Paul Street** to explore the outdoor classroom where some of Montpelier's elementary and middle school students learn to care for their community's canopy.

Basics of Tree Pruning

VJ Comai, Arborist Representative, Bartlett Tree Experts

Proper pruning is important to ensure the long-term structural integrity of your trees. Properly pruned trees are not only more aesthetically pleasing but stronger. Join VJ Comai, Arborist Representative with The Bartlett Tree Expert Company, for an **outdoor walk** to learn about the different types of pruning, proper pruning techniques, and how to determine when and what tool will meet your pruning needs. *0.75 - ISA credits, 0.5 SAF credits.*

Tree Cabling and Alternatives Walk

Mike Fallis, Arborist, Owner of Limbwalker Tree Service

Join Arborist, Mike Fallis, for an **outdoor walk** examining structural defects and discussing alternative support systems for trees of different sizes, species, and forms. *0.75 - ISA credits.*

Registration Deadline: Monday, May 2
Cost \$40
VTarborday.eventbrite.com
Questions? Contact Gwen at gwen.kozlowski@uvm.edu

To request a disability- related accomodation to particpate, please contact Gwen Kozlowski at gwen.kozlowski@uvm.edu or 802-651-8343 by April 17, 2017.

