

# THE BUCKEYE Arborist

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*Ohio Chapter International Society of Arboriculture*  
[www.ohiochapterisa.org](http://www.ohiochapterisa.org)

## Meet the Member



Meet Meagen Kresge from Cleveland. Meagen received one of the Ohio Chapter's scholarships in 2018 to help her obtain her ISA Certified Arborist credentials. Meagen is a Cleveland Tree Steward, Tree Care Apprentice and TCA Tree Care Specialist.

Although Meagen has not been in the industry long, one of her favorite trees is the Shagbark Hickory. This native tree has stood out to her since childhood with its beautiful tall stance, shaggy bark, interesting leaves, hickory nuts that provide food for forest dwellers and "hickory nut pie", and bark shelter for bats and other creatures.

In 2018, Meagen participated in Holden Forest and Garden's pilot program, Tree Corps. This introduced her and seven team members to the arboriculture field. She previously had interest in and some general experience with tree protection and care. On a volunteer basis, she co-manages Gather 'round

Garden, an urban educational garden that includes some tree care on the property. This season their goal is adding several trees, with a "food forest" bend, and some additional educational components visible to the public.

In her spare time, Meagen enjoys continual learning, developing Gather 'round Garden, gardening with and in support of nature, participating in environmental and social justice activities, spending time with her partner, friends and family; time in wild areas observing and learning about flora and fauna, hiking, swimming, camping, cycling, travel, journaling, drawing, creative artsy stuff, yoga, peace walks, appreciating different people and cultures, singing, wood working, reading, hanging out with her chicken,

*cont. on page 2*

## President's Branch

By Tyler Stevenson



### On the Shoulders of Giants

It is an honor to be a part of this historic organization and continue the great traditions that have spanned generations. Thank you for this opportunity to serve our membership and work alongside the many passionate and dedicated individuals that produce inspiring educational and networking events like the Ohio Tree Care Conference (OTCC) each year.

This year's conference did not disappoint as Dr. John Ball enlightened us with his unique skill of edutainment that inspires us all to work safer and smarter. After one of his talks that covered everything from safety standards to species diversity to electric chainsaws someone mentioned, "I hope he doesn't retire anytime soon, who could replace that range of expertise?" The knowledge and experience of individuals like Ball, Gilman, Urban, and Shigo, to name a few, is mostly available at our fingertips through their tireless efforts to record their research and observations in books and peer reviewed journals. But the written words never seem to surpass the in-person interaction or off-the-cuff remark that stays with you for a lifetime. We all cherish those small moments at OTCC when a captivating speaker like Dr. Ball turns on a lightbulb in your head or after hours when ideas are drawn up on napkins and one can truly gain insight from some of the best in our industry. Our Chapter has an abundance of these knowledgeable and experienced individuals.

At the annual breakfast meeting I proposed developing a mentorship program to help circulate some of our members collective knowledge and professional skills for the benefit of our future generations. We will be discussing the design of that program at our next committee meeting in April and welcome your input on its structure. In the

*cont. on page 3*



Ohio Chapter International  
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# THE BUCKEYE ARBORIST

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Submit articles in Word format to the Editor at [info@OhioChapterISA.org](mailto:info@OhioChapterISA.org) for consideration. All articles are subject to technical review. Accepted articles may be edited for brevity, clarity and adherence to Chapter requirements and standards. Submissions must contain original work.

An ISA Certified Arborist in good standing may receive CEUs for work published in *The Buckeye Arborist*.

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## Ohio Chapter ISA

The **Mission** of the Ohio Chapter International Society of Arboriculture is to advance responsible tree care practices through research, technology and education, while promoting the benefits of trees.

The Ohio Chapter **Values** investing in the future of professional arboriculture through education, research, safety and communication, while maintaining integrity and credibility.

### *Meet the Member Cont. from page 1*

duck, and cat buddies... and, she does love to climb a tree now and then. She also has a recent fascination with pollinators and their host plants.

Meagen is pursuing a career in the field of conservation and ecology. Good luck with your journey, Meagen!

## Our Condolences

### **Patrick L. Tilt**

1954 – 2019

Patrick Tilt, passed away suddenly in February. Pat worked for the City of Beavercreek, the largest city in Greene County. He was a supporter of the Chapter and friend to many.

### **Ralph M. Veverka**

1921 – 2018

Beloved husband, father, and brother, Ralph Veverka, age 96, passed away in February. Ralph joined the Ohio Chapter ISA in 1970 to share experiences with others in the profession of arboriculture, learn of new trees available, and improved plantings and maintenance techniques. He served as president of the Ohio Chapter ISA in 1978.



# Meet the Board of Directors

The 2019 Board of Directors were announced during the Ohio Tree Care Conference. Elected by the membership, your board includes:

**Tyler Stevenson** serves as president. Tyler administers the State Urban Forestry Assistance Program for the Ohio Department of Natural Resources, Division of Forestry.

Vice president, **David Bienemann**, is municipal arborist/utility forester with the City of Hamilton. David previously served on the board and is active on the Ohio Tree Care Conference committee.

**Virginia Bowman** continues to serve on the board as a director. She is manager of forestry services for The Illuminating Company and works in the Brecksville office. **Scott Conover** is a new director. Scott is employed by the City of Upper Arlington. Also new to the board is **Dale Hopkins**. He is a forestry supervisor for AEP Ohio in Steubenville. **Kevin Jones** works for ACRT and is a member of Team Ohio. Kevin coordinates the Chapter's annual golf outing that raises funds for the TREE Fund. Kevin was elected for a second term as director. Landscape arborist for the City of Stow, **Sue Mottl** will continue to serve as director. **Steve Schneider** began his term on the board in 2018. He is the landscape planner at The Ohio State University.

**Eric Davis** will serve one more year on the board as past president.

If you are interested in leadership, contact any member of the board or the Chapter office; you will greatly benefit from the experience.

# Calling All Climbers!

The **Ohio Tree Climbing Championship** provides a competitive but educational opportunity for working arborists to demonstrate and exchange new climbing techniques and equipment, as well as, safe work practices. The competitions simulate working conditions of arborists in the field. Male and female competitors perform five different events during preliminary rounds. Each event tests a competitor's ability to professionally, and safely maneuver in a tree while performing work-related tree-care tasks in a timely manner. Competitive tree climbing also introduces the public to the skills professional tree climbing arborists must use for safe, professional tree work.

The first-place winners for both the men's and women's divisions will represent Ohio at the 2019 ITCC in Knoxville, TN. To represent the Ohio Chapter at the ITCC, the first-place winners must have completed three (3) of the five (5) preliminary events within the maximum allotted time and advanced to the championship round.

Mark your calendar for the **2019 Ohio competition on Saturday, April 13**. Whether you want to compete or come to watch, support and learn, the competition will take place at Ault Park in Cincinnati.

Competitors can register on-line or call the Chapter for registration information. **Don't delay, space is limited.**



## *President's Branch Cont. from page 1*

meantime, I encourage you to lend your expertise to your colleagues and other aspiring arborists that stand to benefit from your life experiences. You may think to yourself, "I'm not a mentor, I have nothing important to share." We all have a story to tell, we all can be a window to the world of professional work and help individuals gain confidence in exploring their interests and career choices. So, whether it's staying a few minutes after work to share specifics about your climbing system or answering a question on a TreeBuzz thread, there's always a morsel of knowledge you can pay forward. To that end, I will be visiting the OSU Forestry Forum students this month to share information about our Chapter and the diversity of careers in arboriculture. This is a great opportunity to introduce traditional forestry students to arboriculture and potentially develop a student chapter. Please join me in visiting universities, technical colleges, and career-technical centers for high school students around the state.

Although arboriculture, urban forestry, and other related programs are available at several Ohio colleges and career-tech centers, our state and profession could benefit from a few more. Institutional decision makers often seek economic impact and jobs data to justify developing a certificate or degree program. However, quantifying the economic impact specific to the arboriculture and urban forestry industry, as opposed to the broader green industry, has been difficult to obtain. The Ohio Chapter and ODNR Division of Forestry have committed to gathering this data for Ohio by partnering with 15 Northeast and Midwest states and 11 industry, academic, and non-profit organizations on a U.S. Forest Service Landscape Scale Restoration grant project. The three-year project will conduct an economic impact analysis of the urban forestry industry and the financial contributions of the urban forest resources specific to each state. Deliverables will aim to increase awareness and information accessibility among the public and policy makers on the importance and impact of our industry and the environmental services provided by the urban forest resource. The results will also provide a catalyst for further investment in certificate and degree programs and federal, state, and local urban forestry programs.

Over the next few years, we will collaborate with a contracted economist and project partners on providing input on the scope of the economic analysis, defining the urban forestry industry, developing survey questions and an industry contact database, conducting resource valuations with i-Tree, creating state factsheets, and sharing results through presentations, webinars, and other communication platforms. Please let us know if you would like to be involved in this effort or if you have other ideas on supporting the needs of our membership through relevant and accessible educational programming and targeted public outreach.

# Certification Corner

Carrie Paulus, Education/Public Outreach Committee

Have you made certification or qualification goals for 2019?

And just like that, we are well into the new year! Have you made an intentional goal of personal and professional development for 2019? Well the Ohio Chapter ISA education committee is here to assist you in achieving your certification or qualification goals.

Upcoming opportunities include certified arborist preparation courses, ISA certified arborist, utility specialist and municipal specialist certification exams, one tree risk assessment qualification course with exam and one more TRAQ renewal course with exam for those already TRAQ qualified and needing to renew. Current TRAQ holders can complete the abbreviated renewal course as early as 18 months prior to the expiration of their qualification.

Additional programs may be added throughout the year, visit the Ohio Chapter website for the most up to date course listings and to register for any of the following programs. If you are interested in hosting a certification course at your business, agency, municipality, or metro parks location, please contact the Ohio Chapter.

Please note that you must apply to take the ISA certified arborist or other exams separately from the course registrations. Contact the ISA office at (888) 472-8733 or [cert@isa-arbor.com](mailto:cert@isa-arbor.com)

Applications can be obtained at [www.isa-arbor.com/certification/becomeCertified](http://www.isa-arbor.com/certification/becomeCertified) You must be approved in writing by ISA upon submitting your application to be eligible to sit for an exam.

## Upcoming Courses

### Certified Arborist Preparation Courses

April 17, 24, May 1, 8 – 9:00 am-4:30 pm  
ISA Exam Date: May 15 – 9:30 am-1:30 pm  
Exam Registration Deadline – April 29  
ODOT Office of Aviation/Don Scott Airfield, Columbus, OH

September 9, 10, 11, 12 – 9:00 am-4:30 pm  
ISA Exam Date: September 13 – 9:30 am-1:30 pm  
Exam Registration Deadline – August 27  
Ohio Department of Natural Resources, Columbus, OH

**Tree Risk Assessment Qualification Renewal**  
August 20 – 8:00 am-5:00 pm  
Course Registration Deadline – July 23  
Ohio Department of Natural Resources, Columbus, OH

**Tree Risk Assessment Qualification Course**  
October 29-31 – 8:00 am-5:00 pm  
Course Registration Deadline – October 1  
Ohio Department of Natural Resources, Columbus, OH 43229



To apply for a TRAQ exam RETAKE only, you must contact [qual@isa-arbor.com](mailto:qual@isa-arbor.com) or call ISA at (888) 472-8733.

Don't delay, take control of your professional development strategy today! Earn your professional credentials and become ISA certified or qualified in 2019! And may the force of knowledge be with you!

**We are honored to recognize the following individuals who recently received new credentials. Congratulations to all!**

### ISA BOARD CERTIFIED MASTER ARBORIST

Kevin Lester, Cincinnati

### ISA UTILITY SPECIALIST

Joseph DeLong, Westerville

### ISA CERTIFIED ARBORIST

Sarah Ackerman, Cincinnati	David Hupman, Waynesville
Michael Ashe, Ravenna	Shawn McMullen, Akron
Evan Ford, Oxford	Stuart Moats, Beavercreek
Daniel Harrington, Columbus	Austin Montgomery, Zanesville

### TRAQ

Brian Goodall, Stoutsville



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# Dollar\$ and \$en\$e

By Thomas Munn, Treasurer

## Leave a Legacy

Who was John Endicott? He was an early settler in Massachusetts. He became governor of the Massachusetts Bay Colony. He is famous today not because of his long political career, but for a European pear (*Pyrus communis*) he planted in the 1630's. The pear is still living and was named a U.S. national monument in 2011. It is considered to be the oldest living cultivated fruit tree in the U.S. Thank you, Mr. Endicott!

Who was Adeline Crabb? In 1877 she transplanted a tree. Her girl friend moved away, and she wanted the newly planted tree to continue living. She transplanted the Moreton Bay fig (*Ficus macrophylla*) cutting to the corner of Montecito and Chapala Streets in Santa Barbara, California. It is now considered the largest and oldest Moreton Bay fig in the U.S. Thank you, Ms. Crabb!

Who was William Smith? He was a lawyer and sheriff on the islands of Kauai and Maui. On April 24, 1873 he planted an Indian banyan (*Ficus benghalensis*) in Lahaina, Maui near the courthouse. It is now the largest banyan in Hawaii. The downtown park known as Lahaina Banyan Court features this one massive spreading tree. Thank you, Mr. Smith!

Imagine how many trees you have planted, pruned and nurtured. Imagine what your trees will look like in the future. Which of your Arbor Day trees will become famous? Arborists leave an impressive legacy. What we do matters greatly. This Arbor Day, why not follow the advice from Dr. John Ball, Ohio Tree Care Conference keynote speaker? Select a monotypic tree (only species of its genus) or a tree with few close genetic relatives. For example, choose Ginkgo, Maackia, Catalpa, Osage-Orange, Katsura or Kentucky coffee-tree. Monotypic trees have few pest problems. They are a low risk / high yield investment for the future. Who knows? Plant one in the right location, and you may be remembered 100 years from now!

## Parting Words of Wisdom

Read to increase your financial IQ. It's free! Search the public library under Personal Finance or use the Hoopla app on your phone or tablet. This free app downloads books from the library and returns them automatically. All you need is a library card. Find a book you like and read the best parts.

Saving money is like losing weight. It takes goal setting and self control. The miracles of compound interest work best when we start saving early and let time grow the money. Yes, we work for money, but money should WORK FOR US! Pay off high interest debt as soon as possible. Know the difference between good and bad debt. Good mutual funds are low cost and pay dividends. Warren Buffett found that index funds over the long run make more money than picking individual stocks and investments. Success is the journey and not the destination. Enjoy the ride even when it gets bumpy. Surround yourself with intelligent and talented people (your association network).

OCISA educates by lectures, conferences and programs. Face it, some things you learn by doing. You can read and study about ascending a tree or large tree removal, but until you do it – that's when

you learn. If you have not served on an OCISA committee or board, you are missing out on an educational opportunity. Email [dixie@ohiochapterisa.org](mailto:dixie@ohiochapterisa.org) and see what opportunities exist.

Always shop the loan or mortgage before shopping for a house or car. Use an online calculator to figure out interest rates and monthly payments so the salesperson doesn't give you a bad deal. Focus on what you can control. Life Happens! Control the controllables. Don't sweat the small stuff!

*Tom Munn retired from the City of Hudson in January and as treasurer of the Ohio Chapter's Finance Committee in February. Thank you, Tom, for your years of service. We will miss your words of wisdom and Dollar\$ and \$ense articles.*



*Kudos for Arborists!*



*Shade Trees Rule!*



## SAFETY IN NUMBERS

**SAFETY IS MORE THAN JUST A NUMBER. BUT IF WE STRIVE FOR ONE, IT'S 0.**

Programs like Davey Performance Excellence and The Road to Zero focus on holistic training, team goal setting and encouraging our industry professionals to proactively identify and correct unsafe behaviors and conditions towards achieving annual injury-free workplace goals.

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- TELECOM CONSTRUCTION

# Ohio Tree Care Conference – Success Begins with Safety

By David Bienemann, OTCC Committee Co-Chair

Considering the lousy weather Ohio experienced this winter, the 2019 Ohio Tree Care Conference (OTCC) was a huge success! Not only did 400 professionals from throughout the state attend the 3-day annual conference in Sandusky, but many brought their families to enjoy the environment at Kalahari. Thank you 2019 OTCC planning committee for your hard work!

The conference kicked-off on Sunday with Certified Arborist Review/Arboriculture Plus sessions. Chad Clink had a very interesting and informative presentation on Tree Biology and Tree Identification. Andrew Freeman shared data related to soil analyses. Jim Chatfield continues to be a wealth of knowledge and is always entertaining. Steve Cothrel had a great presentation on Tree Risk Assessment and Risk Management.

Dr. John Ball, South Dakota State University, presented a workshop on “The New Z: Paragraphs to Live By”. Dr. Ball spoke about the current study on incidents and accidents in arboriculture that helped make changes to the Z-133 Safety Standards. Tree work is the second most dangerous work in the U.S. The new updates to the Z-133 will help make tree work safer and the goal is that everyone goes home.

The keynote presentation by Dr. Ball was given to a packed house. He discussed how trees have evolved and adapted over centuries to survive due to environmental changes in the ecosystem. Change is normal for trees. Dr. Ball stated arboriculture professionals should focus on the planting genera and not species or families. Global trade is moving pests across continents. This causes catastrophic issues because native trees in North America have no defense against pests from Europe and Asia.

The commercial track received great reviews on behalf of the presentation lineup. Dr. Ball led Monday’s Commercial session on *The Rise of the Machine*, the new electric chainsaws. Deb Bailey, Ohio Bureau of Workers’ Compensation, followed with *Injuries Related to Tree Care*. Scott Lucas with the Ohio Department of Transportation taught a session on *ODOT Tree Work Zone Traffic Safety Controls*. Alan Siewert, ODNR Division of Forestry, discussed tree risk assessment and taking it to the next level. Alan followed up with a talk on tree defects and what they mean. Roy Montan with Davey Tree wrapped up the program with bucket truck safety.

Municipal sessions were focused on the current issues facing urban forestry such as sidewalk repair and enforcement, bat management, tree diversity, design and installation, native tree planting and life after ash. Thank you to the following presenters for their contributions: Steve Cothrel (City of Upper Arlington), Levi Miller (ODNR), Richard Webb (Logan Tree Commission) and Joe Puperi (Advanced Tree Health).

Utility speakers included Dr. Mimi Rose, OSU Extension, who covered many aspects of pesticide regulations. Keith Pancake, ACRT, discussed safety on the job. Dave Kraus with Asplundh spent time on herbicide innovation and stewardship. Robert Flores with PennLine covered unlocking your team’s greatest potential and Virginia Bowman, The Illuminating Company, focused her talk on circuit reliability

improvements. Ken Venzke with Wright Tree Service, focused on the upcoming disruptions in the utility markets and why the customer has to be at the center of what we do. Following the sessions, there was a short Utility Arborist Association (UAA) meeting. The new Ohio UAA chairman is Frank McGraw with The Illuminating Company.



The 2019 OTCC was an exciting year for the climbers’ corner. Talks were led by Phillip Kelley with North American Training Solutions, an all-around arborist extraordinaire. The presentations focused on key



concepts for executing safe, efficient tree work practices. You can count on the climbers’ corner as a resource for production arborists and management alike to help review established work practices as well as learn the latest innovations in rigging and climbing gear, work positioning and techniques. A very special thank you to Jerry Western for “locating a tree”, Ahlum & Arbor for setting and securing the tree, and all of the volunteers who made the tree possible.

On Tuesday afternoon, Jonathan Shields, Ohio Department of Agriculture, spoke on the state of the Asian Long-horned Beetle and David Bienemann, City of Hamilton, finished the OTCC program with a talk on drones.

Thank you to the following for making the 2019 OTCC an awesome experience:

- o **Sponsors** – Asplundh, Bartlett Tree Experts, Davey Tree Expert Co., Integrity Tree Services, PennLine, and Tree Care Inc.
- o **Presenters** for sharing their knowledge and experiences
- o **Exhibitors** for showing us the latest products and services
- o **OTCC committee co-chairs** David Bienemann and Lola Lewis for their coordination and dedication

OTCC continued on page 8

## Awards Presented

- o **OTCC Committee Members:**
  - Arboriculture Plus Track – Lola Lewis, Sue Mottl and Carrie Paulus
  - Climber's Corner – Ernie Brinker and Tom Bartman
  - Commercial Track – Lola Lewis, Bob Meoak, Sue Mottl and Carrie Paulus
  - Municipal Track – Ann Bonner, Steve Cothrel, Joyce Reier and Craig Schaar
  - Utility Track – Virginia Bowman, Kevin Jones and Frank McGraw
- o **Ohio Chapter Staff** for their leadership and direction:
  - Dixie Russell, Executive Director
  - Jennifer Clegg, Assistant Director

Make sure you mark your calendars for the 2020 Ohio Tree Care Conference, February 25-27 (Tuesday through Thursday). The event will return to the Dayton Convention Center.



The annual member meeting was held in Sandusky on February 23. During the meeting, several members were recognized for their undying efforts on behalf of the industry.

**Mark Webber** received the **Award of Merit**, the highest honor the Chapter can bestow. It recognizes outstanding meritorious service in advancing the principles, ideals, and practices of arboriculture, and to someone who has contributed materially to the promotion of the Chapter. Mark was recognized for his efforts in forming a marketing committee that in 2018 wrote and submitted monthly articles to Ohio newspapers; developed Trees4Ohio.org, the Chapter's new consumer website; and worked to get legislation passed in Ohio to offer the Trees4Ohio specialty license plate to increase awareness and direct consumers to Chapter members for qualified service.

The **Award of Achievement** is granted to an individual or firm who has, through specific projects, programs, or research, contributed to the advancement of the use and/or maintenance of shade trees and other landscape plants in Ohio. This year's award was presented to **Lola Lewis** for her years of service coordinating, proctoring and educating Ohioans about the benefits of credentials through the Chapter's certified arborist preparation courses.

Upon leaving office, the president is automatically granted honorary life membership. In addition, it may be granted to someone who has contributed materially and substantially to the progress of arboriculture

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and have given unselfishly of their efforts in supporting and promoting the objectives of the Chapter. **Thomas Munn** was granted **honorary life membership** in the Chapter for his years of service as treasurer. He protected the membership through organizational management changes and the 2018 ISA conference in Columbus.

The **ISA Gold Leaf** traditionally recognizes individuals, groups or businesses for outstanding Arbor Day recognition activities or community beautification projects. The award is an internationally recognized ISA award. **Wendi Van Buren** was presented the award in recognition of the 2018 Great Ohio Planting Day (arbor day event) at East Fork State Park co-sponsored by Keep Ohio Beautiful and ODNR divisions of forestry and parks & watercraft. The project involved many partners and volunteers who planted 70 trees throughout the park's campgrounds. The campgrounds were hit especially hard by both the Emerald Ash Borer and the Asian Longhorned Beetle. Wendi played an integral role in the project's planning, species and site selection, procurement, site preparation, volunteer coordination, planting demonstration, and planting of the trees.

Chapter executive director **Dixie Russell** was presented the **President's Award** for services deemed significant and substantial in the coordination of volunteers, planning the Toast with the Host party and overall assistance in working with the ISA and Ohio volunteers to produce a very successful 2018 ISA International Conference and International Tree Climbing Championship in Columbus.

Following the presentation of awards, the 2018 annual meeting minutes were approved, and Treasurer Munn presented the financial update noting that the Chapter remains in good standing and the annual tax returns are available on the Chapter website as required by IRS for non-profit 501(c)3 organizations.

Mark your calendar for the 2020 annual meeting, Thursday, February 27, in Dayton. It's never too early to start thinking of deserving individuals, firms and organizations who should be recognized through the Chapter's awards program. Details on Chapter awards are available on the website under About.



## Safety Corner

By Brian Goodall

Winter is almost over for most of us in Ohio. With multiple snow and ice storms under our belts, I think we can all agree that we are ready for spring to arrive. This year's winter has also brought us more rain. It seems we are about to continue our trend for more and more wet years.

With all that being said, safety can be greatly impacted by weather, especially these types of weather events. It is important for all of us to keep this in mind when we are out working in the trees. From branch failure to whole tree failure, to slips, trips, and falls, winter can bring about a whole host of issues we may forget about during the nice warm spring and summer days.

Awareness is key in preventing almost all accidents. Risk awareness and mitigation should be at the top of everyone's job site preparation. The more aware you and your crew are, the better prepared you will be to prevent an accident and the more prepared you will be if and when something happens.

At times the best safety practice may be to just not work that day. We are all under pressure to work and get the job done. We all have deadlines, obligations, and finances to manage. None of these things can supersede the safety and wellbeing of you and your crew. You and the people around you are your most important asset.



# Specialty License Plate Approved

The Ohio Chapter is established in Ohio as a 501(c)3 educational foundation whose mission is to **advance responsible tree care practices** through research, technology, and education; while promoting the benefits of trees.

As you know, trees provide many benefits to people and the communities they live in. Proper long-term care is essential to maximizing those benefits and professional tree care providers are individuals who have knowledge and training in the care needed to sustain a tree's life and long-term benefits. More and more communities are beginning to recognize the tangible benefits that trees provide in the urban environment. Healthy trees reduce air and noise pollution, provide energy-saving shade and cooling, furnish habitat for wildlife, increase property values, and are an important contributor to a community's image, pride, and quality of life.

**Thanks** to the efforts of the Chapter's **marketing committee led by Mark Webber, Ohio legislation** was introduced and **passed in December** approving a **TREES 4 OHIO** specialty license plate. Thank you to those who signed the petition required to prove your support of the initiative. \$15 from each plate sold will be used to support education for both members and consumers to preserve and expand Ohio's urban trees.

The plate displays a healthy tree and directs readers to a new consumer website, [Trees4Ohio.org](http://Trees4Ohio.org), designed specifically for consumer's looking for everything from proper pruning to how to find and hire

an Ohio tree care professional. **Chapter members must login to [OhioChapterISA.org](http://OhioChapterISA.org) and update your profile. You must check "available for hire" and each of the services you provide.** Your email address associated with your membership record is your user name. If you forgot your password or have not logged in before, use the "forgot my password" and an email will be sent to you with instructions. If you have questions or problems logging in, please contact the Chapter office.

The new plate will soon be available at BMV locations across Ohio. **Show your support by purchasing new plates for your vehicles and don't forget to update your profile so that consumers can find you!**



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# Richland Correctional Institution Arborist Training

By Tyler Stevenson

Leave your cell phone in the vehicle. Empty your pockets in the bin. Remove your shoes, belt, and jacket. Roll up your sleeves to show you're not wearing a smartwatch. Walk through the metal detector and turn your pockets inside out. No, you're not going through heightened airport security. You are entering the medium security, Richland Correctional Institution in Mansfield, Ohio. Unless you were caught climbing a cell phone tower at OTCC, you may be wondering why. This has been the experience of several of your fellow Chapter members since they began helping inmates, nearing the end of their sentence, develop skills that will help them gain meaningful employment when they are released.

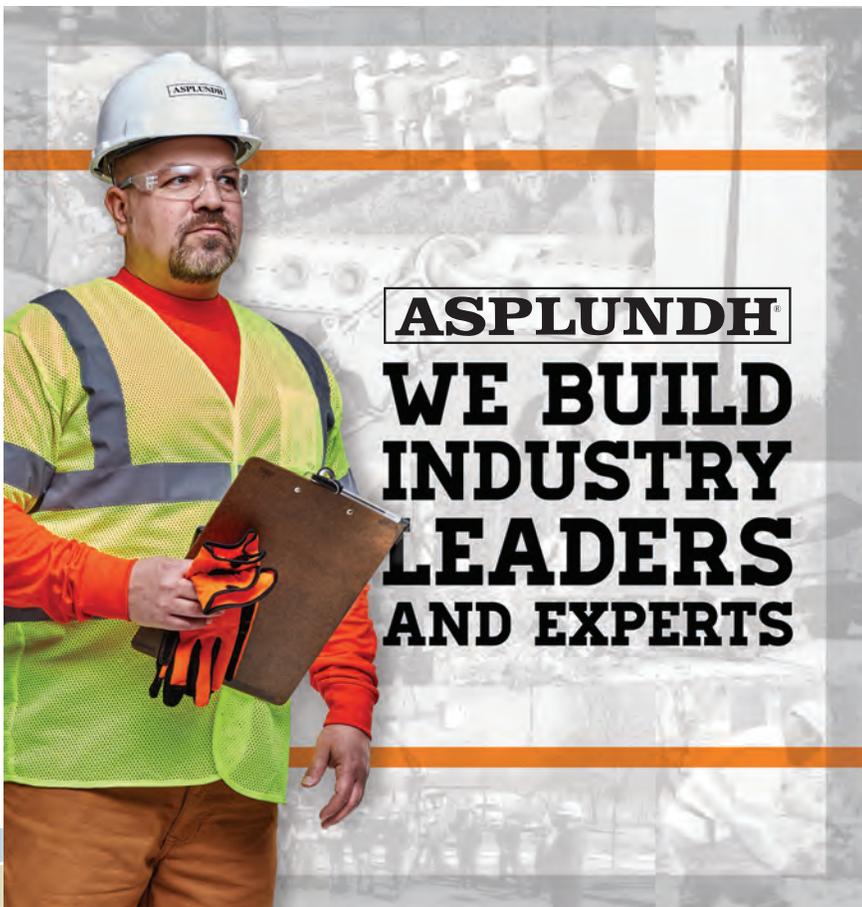
The Ohio roots of this program began in April 2018 when the U.S Forest Service connected us with Shea Zwerver, the community engagement coordinator for the Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources. Shea spearheaded a successful new arborist training program at a Pennsylvania correctional institution to give the tree care industry a non-traditional and more diversified workforce pipeline. In fact, one of the trainees released earlier that year successfully landed an arborist job with Asplundh in Virginia. Asplundh was now interested in replicating the training program in the Detroit and Cleveland areas to help fill the many vacant positions in the field of arboriculture. The idea was viable as the structure of Shea's program, which was modeled after Penn State Extension's Arborist Short Course, reminded us of our Chapter's certified arborist prep course. Furthermore, the Ohio Division of Forestry had recently assisted the Ohio Department of Rehabilitation and Corrections

(ODRC) with a tree nursery project and had several connections in place to get the log rolling.

On one of our first conference calls, Bev Baxter from the Richland Correctional Institution expressed great interest in offering this program to their inmates and assured us that there were many hard-working, talented individuals that would be knocking down her door to be included. Bev had already established several ongoing training programs in other disciplines with eligibility requirements that included a high-school diploma or GED, 18-24 months left on their sentence, no conduct reports for six months, and no Rules Infraction Board (serious conduct reports) for the last twelve months. Bev's expressed interest and established system, coupled with the industry demand, made our decision to move forward very easy. We decided to model the course after the Ohio Chapter's successful certification prep course to provide the inmates a comprehensive education in arboriculture. Similar to the prep course, we engaged active members to teach each class based on the material presented in ISA's Arborists' Certification Study Guide. The ODRC was able to secure grant funding to purchase twenty study guides as a resource for students to review and study the material outside of the classroom.

The day finally came in early February of this year when several of us navigated Richland's security apparatus to attend a volunteer training and teach the first day of the course. Despite the necessary security precautions, we found the whole experience to be very rewarding and the students were bright, inquisitive, and engaged. Many of them work in their community

*Richland Correctional continued on page 13*



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Ohio State ATI proudly presents Hawk's Nest Golf Course, a beautiful 18-hole, par 72 championship course that's the favorite of golfers near the junction of I-71 and I-76. On June 14, regardless of your handicap, Ohio Chapter enthusiasts will be there enjoying the beautiful conditions while challenging peers.

Proceeds from this event benefit Team Ohio and their fundraising efforts for the TREE Fund's 2019 Tour des Trees. Great way to treat your team or show appreciation to customers. And of course, one of the greatest ways to support Team Ohio!

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*Contributions may be tax-deductible within the limits of the law. Estimated tax-deductible portion: tournament fee less \$64 cost of goods/services per person.*

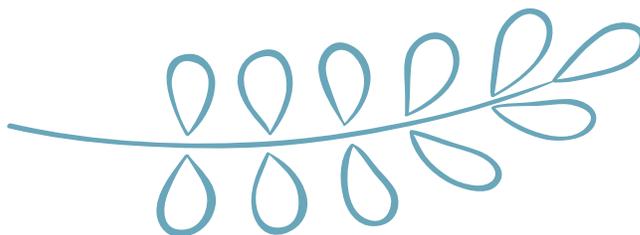
Visit the Chapter's website at [www.ohiochapterisa.org](http://www.ohiochapterisa.org) for complete registration details.

*Richland Correctional continued from page 11*

garden, have taken complimentary courses like turfgrass, or are enrolled in other courses to further their knowledge base and learn new skills and trades to help them upon release. Several of the students also have previous experience working with trees.

We are planning to supplement the existing and future courses with guest speakers from the utility, commercial, and municipal arboriculture industry to provide students with an impression of a career path they could enter upon release. We are also planning a graduation ceremony for the students in early April that will include a job fair-like atmosphere with potential employers. If you or your company would like to participate in this program as an instructor, industry representative, or potential future employer please contact us soon.

We would like to thank all the individuals that have made this exceptional program possible: Beverly Baxter, Jacqueline Langhals (ODRC), Julie Mawhorter (USFS), Kris Keefer (Asplundh), and all the instructors that graciously volunteer their time and expertise: Ann Chanon, Jim Chatfield, Andrew Freeman, Roy Montan, Andrew Petrarca, Richard Rathjens, Steve Schnieder, and of course, Shea Zwerver for planting the seeds in Ohio.



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## An Early-Season Pesticide Update

Mary Ann Rose, Ph.D.  
Pesticide Safety Education Program, Ohio State University Extension

A good time to review safety principles and regulatory compliance with your crew is in the late winter or early spring before pesticide applications get under way. You may have newly hired employees that will serve as trained servicepersons (TSPs). TSPs can legally apply or assist in the application of pesticides under the direct supervision of a licensed pesticide applicator. The licensed applicator is responsible for TSPs and may be no more than 2 hours travel time, or 25 miles travel distance from the TSP while they are applying pesticides. For this reason, application businesses need more than one licensed applicator on hand, unless they want work to stop when that person is sick or on vacation.

TSPs require training before their first occupational exposure to pesticides. Right now, the training requirement is simple. We can expect TSP training requirements to increase in the next few years, but for now, the employee can read Ohio's Trained Serviceperson Safety Training Guide and attest that they have received safety training by signing the verification page.

You must provide the TSP with all label-required personal protective equipment (PPE), and make them aware of any special hazards and necessary precautions associated with the pesticides they use. The TSP also must have pesticide labels readily available whenever applying pesticides in the absence of the licensed applicator.

Spring is also a good time to be sure that you have the required personal protective equipment (PPE) on hand, and that it is in good working order. Replace any equipment that appears worn or cracked. Review the list of chemicals you expect to use for the season and compile a list of required PPE. Read the label PPE requirements carefully; depending upon the task, different PPE may be required. For example, compared to spraying a dilute tank mix, mixing and loading concentrated chemical may require additional PPE, e.g., chemical resistant apron or eye protection. At the same time you check PPE, make sure first aid and spill kit supplies on the trucks are adequate. If you are using pesticides that require eye protection, also be certain to have an eyewash kit onboard.

A good safety training exercise for your crew is to review a pesticide label for a product you use regularly. The first thing I point out on a pesticide label is the signal word. Signal words correspond with one of four categories of acute toxicity, a harmful effect that develops in 1-2 days or less. Danger and warning indicate highly toxic and moderately toxic, respectively. Caution may indicate the slightly or practically non-toxic categories. (Strictly speaking, manufacturers do not have to put a signal word on the pesticide label if the product is category 4, practically non-toxic, but often do). Point out the signal word on the front page of the pesticide label, and then review the Precautionary Statements section to learn how the material can be hazardous to humans. This section also will describe environmental hazards, such as potential risk to ground or surface waters, or to living organisms such as aquatic life or bees.

The PPE requirement also appears in the Precautionary Statements section. Review the PPE and note how it offers protection from the hazards described in the Precautionary Statements. Emphasize how the pesticide label is written specifically for the pesticide user, and that it is not just an expectation, but a legal requirement to follow the label instructions, especially wearing the PPE. All professional products will require, at a minimum, long-sleeved shirt, long pants, shoes plus socks. A few products may not require gloves, but wearing gloves is always smart to reduce pesticide exposure. Research studies indicate that gloves reduce applicators exposure by at least 70 to 80%. Remind your crew that it's just as important to wear the gloves when handling equipment with pesticide residues as spraying. The tight-fitting disposable nitrile gloves are useful for working on equipment.

Point out the User Safety Recommendations, found on all pesticide labels. These instructions tell you to wash your hands after using pesticides and before eating, drinking, chewing gum, using tobacco, or using the toilet. Failure to do so leads to unnecessary exposure to pesticides.

See if your employees can find the Restricted Entry Interval (REI) on the pesticide label. This is how long after an application that unprotected people must stay out of the treated area. Often there are two REIs on the label, one in the Agricultural Use Requirements box and another in the Non-Agricultural Requirements box. Arboriculture is a Non-Agricultural Use. Most, but not necessarily all of the pesticides used in arboriculture, only require others to stay out of the treated area until the sprays have dried.

Your safety exercise would not be complete without reviewing the First Aid section of the label. On older pesticides, this section was called "statement of practical treatment." The instructions in this section tell you what to do in case of accidental pesticide exposure. There may be instructions for immediate treatment, for example, flushing the eyes. If someone requires medical assistance due to pesticide exposure, be sure to take the pesticide label to the doctor because there is specific information for treatment.

This safety exercise will help your employees gain more comfort reading, navigating and comprehending pesticide labels. Have a safe and profitable season!



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## Test Questions

To receive continuing education unit (CEU) credit for home study of this article after you have read it, circle the appropriate answers on the test below. A passing score is 8 correct answers. Next, complete the registration information above, *including your certification number & signature*, on this answer form and send it to **Ohio Chapter ISA, P.O. Box 267, Baltimore, OH 43105-9998**. The answer form must be postmarked no later than **April 30, 2019** to be valid. **You may also submit CEU Test Questions on-line at [www.OhioChapterISA.org](http://www.OhioChapterISA.org) under myProfile**. Only one test will be accepted. Please do not mail the test page if you submit it on-line.

**A photocopy of the answer form is *not* acceptable. You must be a current member of the Ohio Chapter ISA for your CEU test to be processed.** You will be notified only if **you do not pass**. If you do not pass, you may not re-take the test. **This test will qualify for ISA CEUs.**

**ISA Credits: Certified Arborist-0.5, Utility-0.5, Municipal-0.5, BCMA Management-0.5**

- When a trained service person is applying pesticides in the absence of the licensed pesticide applicator, they must have access to Safety Data Sheets for all the pesticides they are using.
  - True
  - False
- During the spraying task, direct supervision of trained servicepersons (TSPs) requires a licensed applicator to:
  - be no more than 2 hours travel or 25 miles from the trained serviceperson
  - assist in the spraying
  - read the trained serviceperson training guide
- Which task typically may require more PPE?
  - Spraying the pesticide
  - Mixing and loading the pesticide
- The signal word on a pesticide label corresponds with the category of:
  - Chronic toxicity
  - Acute diagnosis
  - Acute toxicity
- All professional products will require these, at a minimum:
  - Long-sleeved shirt, long pants, boots and gloves
  - Long-sleeved shirt, long pants, shoes plus socks
  - Long-sleeved shirt, long pants, shoes plus socks and gloves
- Which signal word indicates moderately toxic?
  - Caution
  - Warning
  - Danger
  - Danger-poison
- Wearing gloves when using pesticides:
  - can reduce your exposure at least 20-30%
  - is not required with any professional products
  - is always recommended
- Repairing spray equipment:
  - is expensive
  - can lead to pesticide exposure
  - is too difficult to do with gloves
- The Restricted Entry Interval that applies to arboriculture is usually found:
  - in the non-agricultural use requirements box
  - in the agricultural use requirements box
  - in either a or b
- The Restricted Entry Interval is
  - How long the applicator must stay out of the treatment area
  - How long it takes for sprays to dry
  - How long anyone without protective equipment must stay out of the treated area

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# The Buckeye Arborist

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April – September  
1st Monday of Each Month  
**BYGLive! Diagnostic Walk-Abouts**  
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April 2  
**Chainsaw Specialist Training**  
Cleveland, OH

April 9  
**Herbicide Applicator  
Recertification Program**  
Columbus, OH

April 12  
**Oak Wilt Seminar**  
Cincinnati, OH

April 13  
**Ohio Tree Climbing Championship**  
Cincinnati, OH

April 17, 24, May 1, 8  
**Certified Arborist Preparation  
Course**  
Columbus, OH

April 23  
**Why Trees Matter – Benefits of Trees**  
Hamilton, OH

April 27  
**Keep your Woods Working:  
Managing your Woodland for Forest  
Health & Timber**  
Kirtland, OH

April 27-28  
**Fids & Fibers Splicing Class**  
Canton, OH

May 9  
**From the Carboniferous Period  
To the Anthropocene**  
Leetonia, OH

May 15  
**ISA Certification Exams**  
Columbus, OH

June 6-7  
**ANSI Z133 Safety Standards  
& Procedures**  
Columbus, OH

June 14  
**Team Ohio Annual Golf Outing**  
Creston, OH

July 1  
**Deadline to Apply for  
Ohio Chapter Scholarships**

August 20  
**TRAQ Renewal Course**  
Columbus, OH

September 9-12  
**Certified Arborist  
Preparation Course**  
Columbus, OH

September 10-12  
**Trees & Utilities Conference**  
Cincinnati, OH

September 13  
**ISA Certification Exams**  
Columbus, OH

October 29-31  
**TRAQ Qualification Course**  
Columbus, OH

February 25-27, 2020  
**Ohio Tree Care Conference**  
Dayton, OH

Visit [www.OhioChapterISA.org/Events](http://www.OhioChapterISA.org/Events) for details.