

**Summer 2010  
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## 2010 Work Days

*by Bill Slaymaker, Work Day Chair*

WOW !!! What a great volunteer turnout at our annual Florida Chapter ISA Arborist Work Day events. Three events were held around the state on Saturday, February 13, 2010. Approximately 100 Florida Chapter volunteers representing 15 companies participated. The events were held at the Jacksonville Arboretum (Jacksonville), McKee Gardens (Vero Beach) and the Girl Scout Camp Telogia (Parkland).

We were fortunate to have dry, cool weather at all three locations. Each workday started at 7:30 AM with sign-in, site orientation, review of work scope and safety review. Arborists showed up with their buckets, chippers, loaders, stump grinders,



climbing crews, backyard lifts, bobcats and "squirt booms". It was a magnificent sight to see all the professional arborists rallying together with the tools of their trade. We saw many familiar faces; many of the volunteers were also involved with last year's workdays which drew similar turnouts.

[\*Work Day continued page 4\*](#)

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## 2010 Florida Chapter Tree Climbing Championship

*by Gabe Muzzone, FC-TCC Chair*

The 2010 Florida Chapter Tree Climbing Championship (FC-TCC) was held February 28, 2010 at Myers Park in Tallahassee, Florida. This year's event had many familiar faces as well as some new faces as volunteers to help out at the event. Thanks to everyone who made the event a great success.



The preliminary competition events started early on Saturday morning and included Aerial Rescue, Secured Foot Lock, Belayed Speed Climb, Throw-Line, and Work Climb with 5 rotations of 2 competitors each. By the middle of the afternoon the preliminary events were complete and the competition proceeded to the "Master's Challenge".

This year's "Master's Challenge" was set by our friends Bruce Duffy & Jonathan Royce from the New England Chapter ISA. The beautiful 110 foot tall Southern Red Oak had its highest bell set at 94 feet - 6 inches. The three talented competitors climbing the beautiful tree were Colin Kelly, Doug LaFortune and Tim Walters.

[\*FC-TCC continued page 6\*](#)

# A Message From the President



David Reilly, President, Florida Chapter ISA

Here we are well into spring and by the time this issue comes out we will be starting summer. It is time to hang up the jackets and long pants and break out the shorts and sandals. And please don't forget the sun screen. The Trees Florida 2010 Conference and Trade show is approaching fast. Make your reservations now. This will be my first trip to the Keys and I am looking forward to it with great anticipation. Hope to see you there! Speaking of conferences, the Florida Chapter will be host to the International Conference in 2015. This will be a great opportunity for the Chapter to showcase its members and the state. It may seem like a long way off but there will be a lot of work to do in the meantime. As the conference approaches there will be a need for volunteers. I know our members will step up and make this a truly unforgettable International Conference. A big thanks to staff for putting together a very enticing bid package.

Earth Day was recently celebrated as many of you know. I would be curious how many of our members participated in earth day events. Please forward some information and pictures about the event. This could be a great way for the Chapter and its members to get some exposure. Tampa took part in two such events and three of our Chapter members helped man the booths.

We also display the "Trees are Cool" specialty licenses plate at these events complete with flyers on how to purchase the tag. You can go to the following web site to see how over-

all sales are going and how your particular county is doing. <http://www3.hsmv.state.fl.us/apps/spectagsales/>. This is important because the Chapter has pledged a portion of the profits to the "Florida Chapter of the ISA endowment fund for Continued Education and Research in Arboriculture". Recently, I had the great pleasure to represent the Chapter at "Florida Tomorrow: Regional Kickoff and recognition Banquet hosted by the University of Florida. The Chapter was one of the honorees for our pledge to the Endowment Fund. We were in good company with the likes of The American Heart Association, AT&T, the 4-H Foundation, Bank of American and Honeywell, Inc just to name a few. There were Deans from every UF college and hundreds of Alumni. This was a huge accomplishment not only for our Chapter but also for the advancement of Arboriculture. If you have not purchased your tag do so soon and remember they make great gifts.

Finally, the Board of Directors reviewed and up-dated the Strategic Plan at the last meeting. We looked at three criteria as we reviewed each goal. Have we accomplished the goal? Should it be modified? And should it be removed from the plan. Several of the initiatives, such as education, remain on-going. We also added new educational goals such as distance learning and continued funding of the endowment fund. Some goals, like creating Public Service Announcements, have been accomplished and were revised from creating the PSA's to promoting their availability and use. And some goals like setting up network meetings were removed from the Strategic Plan. All in all the Strategic Plan is good, achievable and will guide the chapter over the next three years. As always it is a pleasure and honor to serve the membership as this year's president.

David Reilly

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[Work Day continued from page 1](#)

It is estimated that the volunteers produced roughly 2000 man-hours of work valued at approximately \$50,000. All three workday recipients were amazed at what the volunteer arborists were able to accomplish in a short time.

A special thanks to Wade Jollimore , Lee Mackin, Mike Robinson and Kris Stultz for their work coordinating the workdays in each of their regions. Their work was instrumental to the success of each event.

The tree companies represented at this years event has grown. Below is list of companies involved in Work Day 2010:

- |                                       |                                |
|---------------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Arbor Pro Service,                    | Lewis Tree Company (2 events), |
| Asplundh Tree Service (all 3 events), | Professional Tree Care,        |
| The Brickman Group,                   | Phil's Tree Service,           |
| Burford Tree,                         | Scott's Tree Service,          |
| Bushor's Tree Service,                | ValleyCrest Tree Care,         |
| The Davey Tree Expert Tree Company,   | Vermeer Corporation and        |
| Distinctive Landscape Management,     | Warming Tree Service.          |
| Island Arbor Tree Service,            |                                |

Thanks for your generous support and to all your hard working volunteers.

Please mark your calendars for next year's volunteer events. The tentative date will be Saturday, February 12, 2011. **If you know of any worthy non-profits interested in hosting an event please encourage them to fill out and submit an application; applications are accepted through August 15, 2010.** [Click here for Work Day Recipient Application Form.](#) The ISA workday committee and ISA Board will review and make selections for 2011 in the fall. ❖

## 2010 Work Day Photos





# Trees Florida 2010

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[www.treesflorida.com](http://www.treesflorida.com)

*FC-TCC continued from page 1*

Doug's face had a look of surprise when his name was called as the 2010 Florida Chapter Tree Climbing Champion! Congratulations, Doug, and good luck as you compete at the International Tree Climbing Championship in Illinois in July. Our sportsmanship award this year went to Shane Rogers, a great friend of the FC-TCC.

I would like to take the time to personally thank those who have gone above and beyond this year; head judges, techs, the FC-TCC committee, climbers and our sponsors and all those who showed up to help and show support to the climbers. Thank you for the endless contributions and great performances, not only that day, but throughout the year! We could not do it without you.

We are looking forward to and have already started planning for the 2011 Florida Chapter Tree Climbing Championship! ❖



A HUGE THANK YOU to Perry Odom, and the City of Tallahassee for their help in implementing this event. And THANK YOU to: (in alphabetical order)

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**2010 FC-TCC RESULTS**

**Master's Challenge**

Men's - Doug LaFortune

**Men's Aerial Rescue**

1st Place - Colin Kelly  
 2nd Place - Tim Walters  
 3rd Place - Doug LaFortune

**Men's Speed Climb**

1st Place - Colin Kelly  
 2nd Place - Tim Walters  
 3rd Place - Ron Price

**Men's Work Climb**

1st Place - Eli Villagran  
 2nd Place - Tim Walters  
 3rd Place - Glenn Peroni

**Men's Foot Lock**

1st Place - Colin Kelly  
 2nd Place - Tim Walters  
 3rd Place - Ron Price

**Men's Throwline**

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# 2010 FC-TCC Photos



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# Pruning Palms (Part 2)

by Donald Hodel

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*This article (part of a series discussing various topics about the selection and management of landscape palms) addresses pruning, perhaps the major management activity of established palms. [Pruning palms - Part 1](#) appeared in the Florida Arborist spring issue.*



## 4. Reduce Leaf Area During Transplanting

Reducing leaf area when transplanting palms by complete or partial removal of leaves is a common industry practice, purportedly to reduce water loss and desiccation until a new root system has developed. Hodel et al. (2003, 2006) showed that in most cases leaf removal during transplanting is not beneficial although it may have limited application in a few instances.

## 5. General Considerations

Avoid any pruning practice that creates unnecessary wounds because such wounds can provide entry sites for insects and disease and result in unsightly scars.

### When to prune

There are usually economic considerations, contractual agreements, or maintenance schedules that dictate when palm pruning occurs. The time of year to prune might be important in terms of the health of the palm. Removing leaves, inflorescences and infructescences, and trunks exposes freshly cut tissue and can provide entry sites to diseases and insects. Many of these diseases and pests can be more active at certain times of the year, depending on weather conditions like temperature and humidity. An example in the San Diego area illustrates this situation. About 20 tall specimens of *Washingtonia robusta* at a private residence were heavily leaf pruned in November. By April of the following year most of the palms were exhibiting leaf deterioration and a few were even dead because of rot of the apical bud. The fungus *Nalanthamala vermoeseni* (formerly *Gliocladium vermoeseni*), which causes

pink rot, was associated with the diseased tissue. It is thought that the freshly cut, exposed tissue provided ample entry sites for this ubiquitous fungus, normally a weak pathogen and secondary invader. The several months of cooler, moister, winter weather following the November pruning would have favored growth of the pathogen but not the palm, resulting in disease. If possible, remove palm leaves in generally warmer and more arid periods. September pruning in California is advantageous because it removes leaves and inflorescences and infructescences that might be likely to blow down in fall and winter winds and storms. Remove inflorescences and infructescences in a timely manner, after they are fully emerged but before flowers open, if fallen flowers or fruits pose a hazard or are a nuisance. Where possible time leaf removal to coincide with removal of inflorescences and infructescences to reduce the number of trips up the palm, which saves time and money. Also, consider removing leaves and/or inflorescences and infructescences if they are nearly ready to fall and an exceptionally strong wind event is expected.

*Avoid any pruning practice that creates unnecessary wounds because such wounds can provide entry sites for insects and disease and result in unsightly scars.*

### Clean tools and sanitation

The potential for disease is always of paramount concern when pruning palms because pruning creates wounds that facilitate pathogen entry and pruning tools can spread the pathogen. Always thoroughly clean saws and other pruning tools before pruning each palm by vigorous brushing to remove sawdust and other particles and then disinfect for 10 minutes in a 1:3 pine oil to water solution or undiluted, full strength household bleach. The pine oil solution is less damaging to blades than the household bleach.

*[Pruning Palms continued on page 10](#)*



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### Pruning Palms continued from page 8

Saw blades can also be disinfected by heating for 10 seconds per side with a hand-held butane torch. Avoid using a chain saw for pruning palms because it cannot be thoroughly cleaned and disinfected and such powerful tools easily damage and wound non-targeted tissue (Fig. 23). Although requiring more labor, and,



Figure 23. Avoid the use of chain saws to prune palms because they can easily create wounds and spread disease.

thus, more expense and time, the use of manual saws is usually preferred because they are less likely to create unnecessary wounds, and they are less likely to spread disease as they can be adequately cleaned and disinfected (Fig. 24). Educate clients who might balk



Figure 24. Although requiring more labor, and, thus, more expense and time, the use of manual saws is preferred because they are less likely to create unnecessary

at the increased expense of pruning with manual saws. Explain the benefits that such saws and practices offer over chain saws. If clients insist on the use of chain saws, you will at least have provided them with the opportunity to make an educated decision on which

*Pruning Palms continued on page 12*

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### Pruning Palms continued from page 10

type of saw and practice to employ, and you will have performed your job completely. Avoid the use of spikes to climb palms for pruning because spikes create numerous and unsightly wounds that can serve as entry sites for diseases and pests and they can spread disease inoculum (Fig. 25). Instead use pole saws, ladders, and mechanical lifts



25. Avoid the use of spikes to climb palms for pruning because they create numerous and unsightly wounds that can serve as entry sites for diseases and pests.

or tower bucket trucks (“cherry pickers”) (Fig. 26). If spikes must be employed, limit their use to *Washingtonia filifera* and *W. robusta*, and use the shortest spike possible, typically one called a “pole gaff” that is 1.5 inches long. The protective use of fungicides on freshly exposed, cut surfaces might be beneficial in some cases but has not been investigated.



Figure 26. Where appropriate, the use of mechanical lifts and tower bucket trucks to prune even the tallest palms, such as these *Washingtonia robusta*, is safe, reliable, and non-damaging to the palm.

### Safety

As when pruning any trees, the potential for great harm or even death to workers and pedestrians and serious property damage is perhaps the primary concern when pruning palms. Indeed, the death and accident rate in palms is greater than in other kinds of trees (Magargal 2007b). In California alone 14 workers died from 1990 to 2006, 11 of them from 2002 to 2005, while pruning palms

[Pruning Palms continued on page 14](#)

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*Pruning Palms continued from page 12*

(Quinones 2006). Always follow standard industry and OSHA safety rules and recommendations when pruning palms. Wear appropriate safety equipment and employ necessary safety devices, inspecting them frequently for wear. Check for and locate potential hazards, such as electrical conductors, prior to entering a palm. Because of their large, often persistent leaves, palms often harbor animals, such as snakes, scorpions, raccoons, rats, opossums, ants, and bees and wasps that can attack or startle a worker, precipitating a serious accident. The obvious danger working at height is a worker mishap, such as a fall or saw wound. Rescue at height is more difficult and time consuming, and is especially so on palms because rescuer access is more limited and rescuers are mostly undertrained for dealing with the unique obstacles palms present; there are simply fewer alternate routes and attachments for ropes (Fig. 27). Also hazardous are falling pruned leaves and inflorescences and infructescences and falling tools or other equipment. Pruned leaves, because



Figure 27. Rescue at height is more difficult and time consuming, and is especially so on palms because rescuer access is more limited and rescuers are mostly undertrained for dealing with the unique obstacles palms present.

of their large blades, can “sail” for considerable distance from the palm. Always clear, secure, and block off the fall zone beneath palms to pedestrians and other workers when pruning. Work in pairs or teams with at least one worker remaining on the ground.

Of particular concern is pruning “petticoats” or skirts of old persistent leaves on *Washingtonia filifera* and *W. robusta*, which is dirty and especially dangerous work because of a phenomenon known as “frond-sloughing” (Magargal 2007a), where, through aging

and weathering, the entire skirt of old, dead, persistent leaves, or large portions of it, can naturally loosen its attachment to the trunk and fall with no warning, posing an extreme hazard (Fig. 28). Although only loosely attached to the trunk, the mass of dead leaves remains intact as a large unit because of the tightly overlapping

leaf bases. When the partially loosened skirt is disturbed by a tree worker removing leaves or jarring the trunk, causing vibrations, its sheer weight, literally hundreds of pounds, will slide it down the trunk with little or no warning. A worker tied into a tree below the loose, sliding skirt will

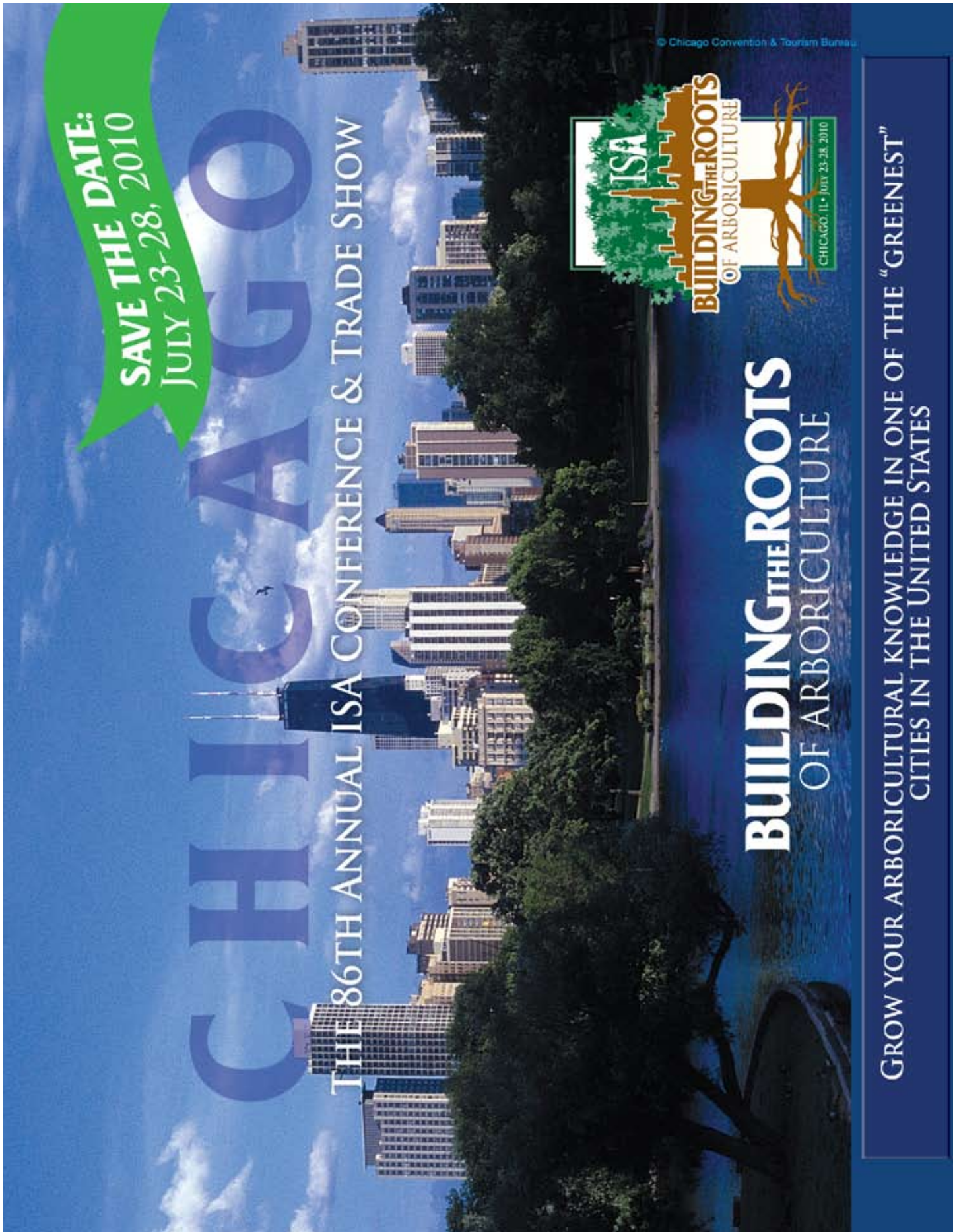


Figure 28. Pruning “petticoats” or skirts of old persistent leaves on palms like *Washingtonia robusta* is especially hazardous because of “frond-sloughing,” where, through aging and weathering, the entire skirt, or large portions of it, can naturally loosen its attachment to the trunk and fall with no warning, trapping, injuring, and often killing the unsuspecting worker.

be trapped, and, because of the immense weight, will be immobilized and unable to extricate her- or himself and will likely suffocate in a matter of minutes. Pushing the tied-in worker down and against the palm trunk, the force of the heavy leaves is primarily on the head and shoulders, and shoves the chin sharply into the chest, making breathing and self rescue nearly impossible (Magargal 2007b). Sometimes the skirt will slide onto the chest of the worker, pushing her or him out and away from the trunk also with sufficient weight to impede breathing and suffocate the worker. A portion of a skirt only four to six feet long is sufficiently heavy to suffocate a tied-in and trapped worker. Aerial rescues on palms require special training, and are difficult and dangerous under any circumstances but are especially so with a sloughed off skirt. Because of the weight and large number

*Pruning Palms continued on page 27*





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# TREE Fund Update



## TREE Fund Looks Forward to Tree Biomechanics Week

An exciting collaborative research opportunity, Tree Biomechanics Week, is being developed in conjunction with ISA, the Davey Tree Expert Company, BioCompliance Consulting, the Utility Arborist Association, and the TREE Fund. The event is scheduled for August 23-27, 2010 and will include a symposium of presentations by the researchers involved.



The TREE Fund has pledged \$10,000 in support of this unique research opportunity which originated with Davey providing a 40-acre section of its research arboretum in Shalersville, Ohio (due for thinning). Leading researchers in tree biomechanics and dynamics will be able to apply mechanical stress to a variety of mature, popular tree species growing in a uniform, controlled environment. With the support of technicians and volunteers, they will conduct field tests and gather data in an intensive week-long coordinated effort.

The safety and effectiveness of arborists in all corners of the arboriculture industry will benefit from the information to be gathered and presented at the Tree Biomechanics Week. The TREE Fund is pleased to be working with its partners to bring this vital information to practitioners and students of arboriculture. Details on the proposed study topics and researchers, as well as volunteer and sponsorship opportunities, will be posted on the [TREE Fund website](#).



## 2010 STIHL Tour des Trees Reminder

**America's Largest Fundraiser for Tree Research Rides a "Chicago Loop" this July!**

Registration is now open for America's largest fundraiser for tree research, the 2010 STIHL Tour des Trees to benefit the Tree Research and Education Endowment (TREE) Fund.

The weeklong cycling event launches from Chicago's magnificent Millennium Park on July 18, 2010 and travels westward to the Mississippi River and Iowa before looping back to the world famous Morton Arboretum in Chicago's western suburbs on July 24.

Cyclists interested in riding in the STIHL Tour des Trees can register online at [www.stihltourdestrees.org](http://www.stihltourdestrees.org). Riders can sign up for the full 7-day Tour or any portion thereof. The registration fee is \$100 until June 1 and \$125 from June 2 until registration closes July 5. To participate in the weeklong Tour, riders must raise a minimum of \$3,500, which will be

[TREE Fund News continued on page 17](#)



*TREE Fund News continued from page 16*

applied toward scientific research grants and educational scholarships administered by the TREE Fund. Full- and partial-Tour registrants receive all lodging, meals, snacks, beverages, and mechanical support for the duration of the Tour, along with an official STIHL Tour des Trees cycling jersey, wind jacket and t-shirt.

New for 2010 is a one-day "Ride for Research" on Saturday, July 24 featuring two of Chicagoland's most scenic and noteworthy research facilities, Fermilab and the Morton Arboretum. Local riders are invited to join the STIHL Tour des Trees for the day to help raise awareness of the need for tree research and professional tree care. The \$75 registration fee for the "Ride for Research" covers lunch,

a t-shirt, entrance to the Morton Arboretum and a donation to the TREE Fund.

Sponsors of the 2010 STIHL Tour des Trees include STIHL Inc., Wright Tree Service, ITC Holdings, APS, and Utility Lines Construction. More information on the STIHL Tour des Trees, including details on riding in the Tour or donating to the TREE Fund, is available at [www.stihltourdestrees.org](http://www.stihltourdestrees.org).

For more information, visit [www.treefund.org](http://www.treefund.org).

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## Consultant's Corner

by Joe Samnik, Consulting Arborist

### Of Trends, Science and Chickens

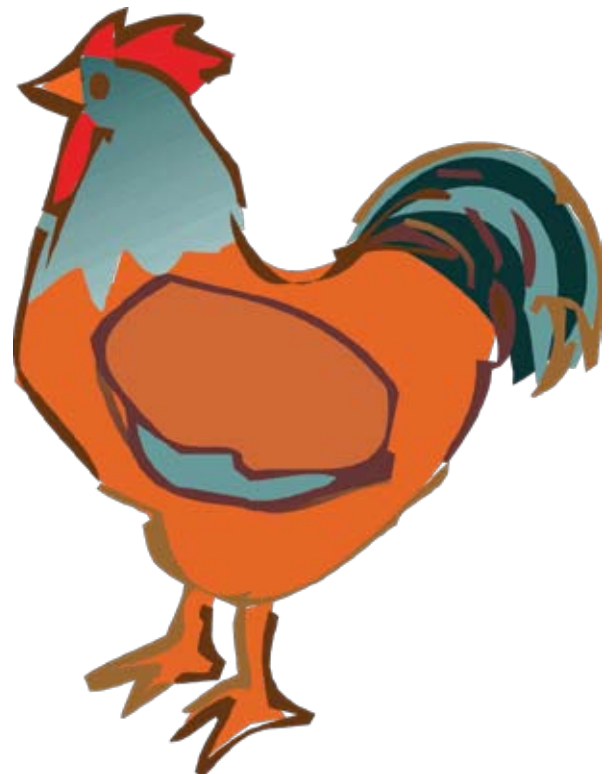
Trends are fascinating and exhilarating phenomena. They allow pundits the opportunity to pontificate upon things which may never happen but are nonetheless given great credence due to the expertise of the pontificator. Trends tend to focus on the minutia of a far greater whole, and more likely than not are short-lived. Trends are fun to watch and a delight to participate in. Trends define goals and give us hope to better ourselves and our communities. We want to become a trendsetter due to its elitism and social stature. We want to follow trendsetters because there's safety in numbers. But lurking in the hallowed halls of this intermittent euphoria lays danger. Nothing can disappear quicker than Elvis Presley sideburns then to follow a trend and ignore the science behind it.

2010 promises to promote trends in: Sustainability; Frugality; "Blue Gold"; "Water Wars"; Edible Urbanism, and Walkable Neighborhoods. Making a reappearance, if not resurgence, from previous years will be anything that's organic. We all know that organic is both good and better - our moms told us so. So do the vendors hawking organic anything in the hallowed passageways of our conventions and seminars. This is especially true of fertilizers, and we are being led to believe that if it is organic it is superior to chemical fertilizers. But as it relates to organics, specifically in fertilizer, just because it came out of the end of a chicken does not make it more environmentally efficient or friendly.

Fertilizers and fertilization are arguably one of the most misunderstood components of arboriculture specifications, and in landscape maintenance specifications and implementation. While there are a plethora of components to understanding and writing specificity for fertilizers (e.g. soil pH, Cation Exchange Capacity, percent of organic matter, estimated nitrogen release, analysis versus ratio, derivations of elements, runoff probabilities, and much, much more) the focus here is directed to the mathematics and science of fertilizers as it relates to organic components. Specifying fertilizers and applying them is a great matter of mathematics.

In order for something to be labeled organic it must contain the molecule of carbon. If it has carbon it is organic. Plants need at least 16 different elements for their growth processes. They require large quantities of carbon, hydrogen, and oxygen, which they obtain from the air and water. Nitrogen, potassium, phosphorus, calcium, magnesium, and sulfur also are used in considerable quantity by a plant. These elements may not be present in sufficient supply or in the proper form. For example, air is 4/5 nitrogen gas, but only the clovers and similar leguminous plants with nodule bacteria in their roots can use it. All other plants must have nitrogen in combined form such as is found in nitrate salts, ammoniacal salts, and certain other fertilizer materials. Additionally, there is a group of elements (referred to as micro elements) iron, copper, manganese, zinc, boron, and molybdenum that are all essential for normal plant growth. Whenever

*[Consultant's Corner continued on page 19](#)*



*Consultant's Corner continued from page 18*

any element is in short supply for plant growth, it must be furnished by some type of fertilization.

The derivation of organic compounds most often are associated with natural organics and include: cottonseed meal; castor pomace; hoof meal; dry fish scraps; activated sewage sludge; bone meal; hull meals, and garbage tankage. Animal manures are used primarily for their soil-conditioning value, and only secondarily for their plant food content. Typical examples of animal manure include horse, cow, sheep, and chicken. About 4 pounds of fresh manure equals one pound of dry fertilizer. Following are the nutrient breakdowns of nitrogen, phosphorus, and potash for the aforementioned animal manures:

pound of actual nitrogen. If you want to apply four pounds of actual nitrogen, then 68 pounds of actual fertilizer must be applied on 1000 ft.<sup>2</sup> to give you 4 pounds of actual nitrogen. Naturally, you would not want to apply that much fertilizer at one time, and practically it would be almost impossible to do so. Applying 15 pounds of actual fertilizer to 1000 ft.<sup>2</sup> is indeed a remarkable accomplishment. But the take-home lesson is that if you were going to apply processed organic manure, say cow manure, (which contains 4 pounds of nitrogen), you would have to apply 25 pounds of this fertilizer to achieve 1 pound of actual nitrogen.

The fertilizer analysis is the weight representation of nitrogen, phosphorus, and potassium found in the

<b>Percentage Composition on Dry Basis* (litter free)</b>				
	Nitrogen	Phosphoric Acid (P2O5)	Potash (K2O)	Rate of Nitrogen Availability
Horse	3.2	1.1	2.5	very slow
Cow	4.2	1.1	3.2	slow
Sheep	3	1.1	3.1	slow
Chicken	6.2	4	2	rapid
*about 4 pounds of fresh manure equals 1 pound of dry.				

You will note that chicken manure has a very rapid rate of nitrogen availability, and can “burn” a landscape if applied at the proper rate.

All plant species require a certain amount of fertilizer to be applied per 1000 ft.<sup>2</sup> to correct deficiencies or for optimum performance. As an example, tree fertilization may typically call for 4 pounds of nitrogen to be applied annually per 1000 ft.<sup>2</sup> of area. The application problem becomes how much actual fertilizer should be applied on 1000 ft.<sup>2</sup> to ensure that 1 pound of actual nitrogen is applied. The answer is to divide the first number on the bag of fertilizer into 100. The answer gives you how many pounds of that actual fertilizer must be applied on 1000 ft.<sup>2</sup> to ensure that 1 pound of actual nitrogen has been applied. As an example, let's take the fertilizer analysis 6-6-6. If you divide the first number (which represents the pounds of nitrogen in 100 pounds of fertilizer) into 100, the answer is 17 pounds. So, 17 pounds of the 6-6-6 fertilizer must be evenly distributed on 1000 ft.<sup>2</sup> of root area to apply 1

material which you are applying. 6-6-6 is an example of a fertilizer analysis. The mathematical relationship of the fertilizer analysis is known as the fertilizer ratio. The ratio of the 6-6-6 analysis fertilizer is 1-1-1. Which means that if you apply 1 pound of nitrogen you are also applying, by default (like it or not), 1 pound of potassium and 1 pound of phosphorus. In the example of the cow manure, which has an analysis of 4-1-3, if you apply 25 pounds of actual fertilizer material you would only be applying about 1/4 pound of phosphorus and 3/4 pound of potassium. Typically, this would not nearly be sufficient amounts to correct deficiencies of phosphorus or potassium in soils.

Organic fertilizers are considered natural and more environmentally friendly; however, defining the benefits of natural versus manufactured fertilizer components and derivatives becomes a rapidly moving and elusive target. Whether a fertilizer is natural or manufactured it must go through a chemical conversion process in

*Consultant's Corner continued on page 20*



*Consultant's Corner continued from page 19*

soils to become available to plants. A natural fertilizer is thought of as a slow release fertilizer and therefore embraces the vision of low run-off probabilities. But slow release and run-off are not necessarily linked at the hip. A slow release fertilizer, natural or manufactured, can be applied to a slope where runoff is likely to occur during heavy rainfall or irrigation pressures. A manufactured, organic fertilizer can release exponentially slower than a natural fertilizer. A classic example is the fertilizer Milorganite (a 6-2-0 analysis fertilizer from the acronym Milwaukee organic nitrogen). Everybody recognizes this fertilizer as organic, safe, and slow release. The organic part is correct as it is processed sewage from the good people of the City of Milwaukee, Wisconsin. The safe part is negated by the warning not to use it on edible crops, and the slow part (as in slow-release) is accurate when compared with other organic fertilizers. However, a manufactured organic nitrogen fertilizer, ureaformaldehyde (UF, 36-0-0), is approximately 6 times "stronger" than Milorganite, is safer to use, and 2/3 of it releases as slow as or slower than Milorganite. Further, Milor-

ganite takes approximately 16 pounds of material applied on 1000 ft.<sup>2</sup> to equal 1 pound of actual nitrogen whereas UF takes only 3 pounds to equal 1 pound of actual nitrogen. When it comes to run-off issues, 3 pounds is more desirable than 16 pounds applied on 1000 ft.<sup>2</sup>. Another way to look at this issue of run-off, or for that matter groundwater contamination, is that it would take over 700 pounds per acre of Milorganite to accomplish what 132 pounds per acre of UF would accomplish.

The issue of the remaining elements needed for proper plant performance is seldom, if ever addressed in terms of organic, yet run-off from the nutrient phosphorus is a looming problem in our environment. Potassium leeches as readily as or more readily than water insoluble organic nitrogen, yet the only method to produce slow release potassium is to coat it with, as an example, sulfur. Phosphorus and potassium from natural sources, such as chicken manure, leach as quickly as if chemically processed from sulfate of potash or from ammonium phosphate, yet the latter chemically processed nutrients are applied at far less a rate of application than their organic counterparts.

There is also the issue of odoriferous assaults on the senses of our urban end users checking the bottom of their shoes as they trespass through our urban landscapes. Organic fertilizers applied at proper rates also attract undesirable wildlife - not an oxymoron when applied to the damage done by these creatures when foraging into turfgrass and landscape ornamental beds in search of the organic sources. The negative byproducts of organic fertilizers, including nauseous smells and uninvited wildlife, can remain for weeks in a landscape setting.

Before signing onto the trend of using organic fertilizers and specifying them in your arboriculture specifications, or actual practice look into the research-back data, science, and mathematics of fertilizers and fertilization. Understand and realize that the successful and environmentally friendly approach to fertilization includes applying the right material at the right time, in the right manner, and at the right rate. ❖



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**Conference registration is now open at** <http://www.isa-arbor.com/conference/default.aspx>. ❖

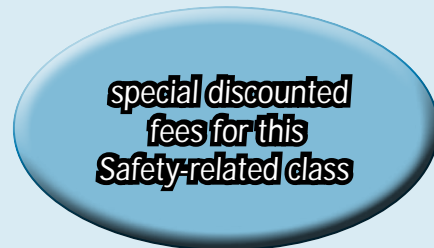


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The following article is provided in English and Spanish

## Florida's Urban Forests and Soils

*Francisco Escobedo and Donald Hagan,  
School of Forest Resources and Conservation,  
University of Florida, Gainesville  
and Henry Mayer, Miami Dade IFAS Extension Agent  
and ISA Hispanic Committee*

When we think of an "Urban Forest" we think of the sum of all the trees and shrubs in a community. Yet when we think of "urban soils" we think of lawns, gardens, individual tree planting sites, and fill material. While healthy soils are key to agricultural and forest productivity in rural areas, most urbanites (save the occasional backyard gardener, civil engineer or soil scientist) are unaware of the many important ecosystem services provided by urban soils –and urban forests- in urban watersheds. A recent set of studies in Gainesville, Tampa and Miami-Dade are providing us more information on the role of soils in the urban environ-

ment, as well as the effects of urbanization on soils and the benefits they provide to communities.

There are 5 factors – climate, organisms, topography, parent material, and time – that determine the development of soils. Urban soils are mostly influenced and modified by humans (organisms) which do so by way of their activities in the built environment and by changes in land use and land cover. Soils may also vary spatially across the urban landscape/watershed due to differences in socioeconomics and/or time since urbanization, which are often tied to differences in land management practices. Most urban soils also have some natural variability in parent material, which in concert with human activities, can have significant implications for soil properties. Topography is likely not a major soil forming factor in most Florida urban areas. Likewise, while climate is an important factor at the regional level, there is not enough variability within a city to affect urban soil formation.



Parent material can however, have significant implications for a soil's fertility, waste retention capacity, drainage and suitability for engineering purposes. Florida soils formed on sandy parent materials, for example, are typically more acidic (i.e. pH less than 7) and better drained (i.e. water infiltrates more rapidly) than those formed over clays. Soils formed over clays are better at retaining soil nutrients, making them more fertile than sands. Assuming adequate drainage and aeration, clayey soils are also better than sands at retaining wastes, chemicals and heavy metals. Their shrinking and swelling nature, however, may make them unsuitable for some engineering purposes like building and roadway construction. South Florida soils formed over limestone parent materials typically have higher pH values than other soils due to the de-acidifying properties of the parent material. This, in turn, can change soil fertility requirements for certain plants, as soil nutrient availability is typically highest in pH neutral or slightly

*Urban Forests and Soils continued on page 23*



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*Urban Forests and Soils continued from page 22*

basic soils. These materials, however, are often very near the soil surface, and since they constitute the upper confining layer of the Floridan aquifer, there is often risk of groundwater contamination.

With increasing human modification, urban soils become more compacted and less acidic, the latter likely being due to the “liming” effect of concrete, which is more prevalent in heavily developed urban areas. Soil nutrient concentrations are variable, ranging from very low in transportation right-of-ways to very high in some residential areas. Because of these factors, the suitability of urban soils for “green infrastructure” purposes depends greatly on their location within the city, as well as the current land use. In general, vegetated areas like parks and urban forests are less compacted than areas where the soil surface is exposed. These areas, therefore, can serve as important infiltration and filtration zones, especially in high density development areas where there much of the soil is covered by impervious surfaces. This pattern, however, does not hold true for urban grass cover, which is associated with compacted soils.

Time since a site was urbanized is another factor that can affect the properties of urban soils. Two different sites, for example, could have the same degree of urbanization, but one site could be much older than the other. As such, it is possible that this site has had more time to “accumulate” urbanization effects like soil compaction, nutrient depletion/enrichment and contamination. In Tampa, Miami and Gainesville, soil physical properties did not appear to be affected by time since urbanization. However, soil nutrient concentrations, which typically are depleted in recently urbanized areas, appear to stabilize or recover to pre-disturbance levels after 60 years. Phosphorus, for example, tends to accumulate in some soils and is found at the highest levels in older urbanizations. All of these factors suggest that urban soils in Florida become more suitable for plant growth as they age. While phosphorus is a plant essential nutrient, high phosphorus levels in older urbanizations may increase the risk of surface and groundwater contamination. Contamination by heavy metals is also an area of concern, as older soils often contain traces of consumer products (e.g. paints and insecticides) that are no longer commercially available.



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Fortunately for these cities, heavy metal concentrations are far below Environmental Protection Agency maximum allowable concentrations, and do not appear to be affected by time since urbanization.

Urban soils provide a variety of important ecosystem services, but remain largely overlooked. It is increasingly clear, however, that urban soil types are complex and affected by numerous human and environmental factors. Understanding these factors is a first step for interpreting soil surveys, effective urban forest planning, improved decision making and the sustainable management of the urban soil resource. ❖

*The Spanish version of this article begins on page 24*





El siguiente artículo está escrito en Inglés y en Español.

## Suelos Urbanos en la Florida

*Francisco Escobedo and Donald Hagan,  
School of Forest Resources and Conservation,  
University of Florida, Gainesville  
and Henry Mayer, Miami Dade IFAS Extension Agent  
and ISA Hispanic Committee*

Cuando pensamos en un “Bosque Urbano” pensamos en la suma de todos los árboles y arbustos de una comunidad. Cuando pensamos en “Suelos Urbanos” pensamos en céspedes, jardines, sitios de siembra, y material de relleno. Mientras que los suelos fértiles son importantes para la productividad agrícola y forestal en zonas rurales, la mayoría de las personas no están conscientes de los beneficios que los suelos proporcionan al bosque urbano y cuenca hidrográficas. Un estudio reciente en las ciudades de Gainesville, Tampa y Miami-Dade nos proporcionó información sobre el papel de los suelos en el ambiente urbano, así como los efectos de la urbanización sobre los suelos y las ventajas que proporcionan un buen suelo a las comunidades.

Hay 5 factores – el clima, los organismos, la topografía, el material parental, y el tiempo - que determinan el desarrollo de los suelos. Los suelos urbanos son influenciados y modificados sobre todo por los seres humanos (organismos) con sus actividades y por los cambios en la designación del uso de los suelos. Los suelos pueden también variar a través del paisaje y en las cuencas hidrográficas debido a las diferencias socioeconómicas y/o en el tiempo de urbanización, debido a las diferencias en prácticas de manejo del suelo. La mayoría de los suelos urbanos también tienen cierta variabilidad natural debida al material parental, lo cual conjuntamente con la actividad humana puede tener implicaciones significativas en las características del suelo. La topografía no es probablemente un factor importante en la formación del suelo en la mayoría de las zonas urbanas de la Florida. Asimismo, mientras que el clima es un factor importante a nivel regional, dentro de la ciudad no hay bastante variabilidad para afectar la formación del suelo urbano.

El material parental tiene implicaciones significativas en la fertilidad del suelo, el drenaje y la conveniencia para proyectos de ingeniería. Los suelos de la Florida formados de material parental arenosos, por ejemplo, son típicamente más ácidos (es decir pH menos de 7) y con mejor drenaje (es decir el agua se infiltra más rápidamente) que aquellos formados de arcillas. Los suelos formados de arcillas retienen mejores nutrientes, siendo más fértiles que los arenosos. Asumiendo que los suelos arcillosos retienen más desechos químicos y metales pesados. Debido sus características que se contraen y expanden son inadecuados para algunos proyectos de ingeniería como la construcción de edificios y proyectos vialidad. Los suelos del sur de la Florida han sido formados sobre material parental rico en piedra caliza, tienen típicamente valores de pH más altos que otros suelos. Esto, hace que cambien los requisitos de fertilidad del suelo para ciertas plantas, influenciando la disponibilidad de nutrientes. Estos materiales están a menudo muy cerca de la superficie del suelo, y ya que constituyen la capa superior que confina al acuífero Floridan, existe un gran riesgo de contaminación del agua subterránea.

Con el aumento de nuevas construcciones, los suelos urbanos se tornan más compactos y menos ácidos, esto último debido al efecto del concreto en zonas urbanas y fuertemente desarrolladas. La disponibilidad de nutrientes en el suelo es muy variable, siendo muy baja en zonas adyacentes a carreteras y vías de vehículos y más ricos en zonas residenciales. Debido a estos factores, la conveniencia de los suelos urbanos para los propósitos de la “infraestructura verde” depende grandemente de su localización dentro de la ciudad, así como la utilización del suelo actual. En general los suelos en parques y bosques urbanos se compactan menos que las áreas donde se expone la superficie del suelo. Estas áreas, por lo tanto, pueden servir como zonas importantes para que el agua infiltre. Lo contrario ocurre en áreas muy desarrolladas donde la su-



*[Suelos Urbanos continued on page 25](#)*

*Suelos Urbanos continued from page 24*

perficie son impermeables. Este patrón, sin embargo, no es verdad para áreas con grama, las cuales pueden estar muy compactadas.

El factor tiempo que un lugar ha sido expuesto a la urbanización es otro factor que puede afectar las características de los suelos urbanos. Dos lugares por ejemplo, podrían tener el mismo grado de urbanización, pero uno podría ser mucho más viejo que el otro. Como tal, es posible que este sitio ha tenido más tiempo “para acumular” los efectos de la urbanización como la compactación de suelo, el agotamiento de nutriente y la contaminación. En Tampa, Miami y Gainesville, las propiedades físicas no parecen ser afectados por el tiempo desde la urbanización. Sin embargo, las concentraciones nutrientes, que se agotan típicamente en áreas recientemente urbanizadas, aparecen estabilizarse o recuperarse a los niveles de pre-desarrollo después de 60 años. El fósforo, por ejemplo, tiende a acumularse en algunos suelos y se encuentra en niveles más altos en urbanizaciones más viejas. Todos estos factores sugieren que los suelos urbanos en la Florida lleguen a ser más convenientes

para el crecimiento vegetal mientras mas envejecen. Mientras que el fósforo es un nutriente esencial para la planta, los niveles altos en zonas más viejas pueden aumentar el riesgo de contaminación de aguas superficiales y subterráneas. La contaminación por metales pesados es también un motivo de preocupación, pues suelos más viejos contienen a menudo mas productos de consumo como pinturas e insecticidas. Afortunadamente para estas ciudades, las concentraciones de metales pesados están por debajo de los niveles críticos estipulados por la Agencia de Protección Ambiental, y no se han incrementado con el tiempo.

Los suelos urbanos proporcionan una variedad de servicios importantes al ecosistema, pero siguen pasando desapercibidos. Está cada vez esta más claro que los suelos urbanos son complejos y están afectados por numerosos factores tanto humanos como ambientales. La comprensión de estos factores es un primer paso para interpretar las encuestas, planeamiento de un bosque urbano eficaz, y el manejo de este importante recurso . ❖

*The English version of this article begins on page 22*



**John P. Davis**  
 Consultant, Author, and Coach  
 "to the tree care industry"  
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# TREE SAVER

*The exclusive providers of OTC Tree Injection Formula for the Control of Phytoplasma Disease in palms.*

## Lethal Yellowing Texas Phoenix Palm Decline

These two fatal Phytoplasma Diseases are thriving in Florida and they are preventable.

36 species of palm trees are susceptible and many are common in our Florida landscape: Coconut Palm, Adonidia Palm, Sylvester Date Palm, Dactylifera Date Palm, Canary Island Date Palm, Sabal Palm  
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*Pruning Palms continued from page 14*

of leaves pushing down on the victim and hindering rescuer access, it may be impossible to remove a victim sufficiently soon to save her or his life. Working from below a skirt (really underneath it), is not only dangerous but dirty. Typically the skirt envelops the worker down to at least the knees, obstructing vision and creating a dark, cramped work space with a nearly constant shower of dust, dirt, vermin, leaves, and other debris.

“Frond-sloughing” typically occurs on *Washingtonia filifera* and *W. robusta* more than 25 feet tall. With much experience and training a worker can usually determine if a skirt poses a threat. However, because such determinations are imprecise and difficult to make, the worker should always enter a palm at the top and work downward, staying on the top or the outside of the skirt (Fig 29). Use tower bucket trucks or mechanical lifts if they can be positioned appropriately and are

sufficiently tall. If not, use one of the recently developed alternative procedures, which resourceful arborists in southern California and Arizona have developed, to enter the palm safely. These procedures and techniques position the worker at the top of the palm and/or above the skirt, relying primarily on the creative use of new equipment and new techniques (Magargal 2008). Not only are they safer than climbing the palm trunk, but they eliminate the use of climbing spikes that leave permanent, unsightly wounds, which can serve as disease and pest entry sites. The basic procedures and techniques are outlined below and can be modified to suit individual arborist preferences:



*Figure 29. Because it is imprecise and difficult to determine if a skirt is capable of sloughing off, always enter a palm at the top and work downward, staying on the top or the outside of the skirt.*

1. Position a throw line with a weight at one end over and through the crown of the palm, using standard throw-line techniques or, if the palm is too tall, using a sling device, such as The Big Shot, so that once positioned through the crown of the newly emerging leaf spear, otherwise it may slide off, and sufficiently long so that both ends are accessible on the ground.



*Figure 30. Use standard throw-line techniques or, if the palm is too tall, a sling device, such as The Big Shot shown here, to place a throw line through the crown of the palm.*

2. Attach a ½-inch static line to one end of the throw line and pull it through the crown. The ½-inch static line should also be sufficiently long so that both ends are accessible from the ground and, for safety, it must be placed through the center of the crown, so it will not slide off during the worker’s ascent (Fig. 31). Although the weight-bearing, ½-inch static line through the center of the crown may damage the newly emerging leaves, such damage is typically minor and of little consequence.



*Figure 31. Once the throw line is in place, use it to pull the ½-inch static line through the center of the crown. It should be positioned next to or near the newest emerging leaf so it will not slide off during the worker’s ascent.*

*Pruning Palms continued from page 27*

3. Attach an arborist's block to one end of the 1/2-inch static line and install and pull a climbing line half way into the block. The climbing line should be sufficiently long so that both ends are accessible from the ground when the block is pulled to the top of the palm. Using the 1/2-inch static line, pull the block with attached climbing line up to the top of the palm, positioning it near the lowest green leaves (Fig 32).



Figure 32. Attach an arborist's block or similar device with the installed climbing line in it to one end of the 1/2-inch static line and pull it to the top of the palm.

4. Securely terminate the 1/2 -inch static line used to pull the arborist's block and attached climbing line to the top of the palm. Although discouraged from use on palms because of their potential for making wounds and spreading disease, chain saws are, nonetheless, frequently used to prune palms; thus, to prevent accidental severing, terminate and tie off the 1/2-inch static line well away from the palm trunk if this line will remain in place while the palm

is pruned.

5. Attach a friction hitch to the climbing line. The worker can now ascend the palm using one of several traditional climbing techniques (Figs. 33-34). Ground workers can assist with the ascent. Once at the appropriate height, usually at eye level with the lowest green leaves, the worker can cut and remove sufficient leaves, inflorescences, and infructescences with a hand saw to provide initial unobstructed working space.



Figure 33. With a friction hitch attached to the climbing line the worker can now ascend the palm using traditional climbing techniques.

6. Once working space has been cleared, the worker can then pull up one end of the climbing line and "feed" it around the base of the center leaf spear and several of the newest emerging leaves to



Figure 34. Ascent of tall palms can be physically taxing and assistance from ground workers is appreciated.

*Pruning Palms continued on page 29*



**Florida Chapter ISA - 2010 Education Schedule**  
**See what is in store for educational opportunities in 2010...**

*\*The schedule below is tentative and subject to changes.*

<b>Date</b>	<b>Seminar/Class</b>	<b>Location (s)</b>	<b>Open for Registration</b>
June 13-15, 2010	Trees Florida	Key West	<a href="#">Click here</a>
July, 2010	Safety and Climbing	Ft. Lauderdale	<a href="#">Click here</a>
August, 2010	Pest Management	Jacksonville, West Palm Beach, Naples	
September, 2010	Tree Risk Assessment	Ft. Lauderdale, Tampa	
October, 2010	Safety and Climbing	Orlando	<a href="#">Click here</a>
October, 2010	Grades & Standards	Homestead, Clermont	
November, 2010	Coast Series	West Palm Beach, Orlando, Miami	



*Pruning Palms continued from page 28*

tie into the palm. The arborist's block can now be disconnected, removed, and lowered from the palm using the ½-inch static line if this line will no longer be used. A second tie-in point should be used at all times and it can be a wire-core flip line to lessen the chances of accidental severing with a chain saw.

7. Remove leaves and inflorescences and infructescences first, working down the trunk. If desired, "peeling" or "skinning" can be done after leaf removal. Sometimes simply the weight of the worker standing on the top of the skirt and moving around the trunk is sufficient to dislodge leaves and push them down and off, including the attached leaf bases, attesting to the often loosely attached nature of the skirt and the danger it presents.

Training and practice in these and other procedures and techniques are essential. Under no circumstances should an untrained worker ascend a palm.

## Recycling Palm Green Waste

Consider chipping and/or grinding pruned leaves, inflorescences and infructescences, and even

trunks of palms, and returning them to the landscape as mulch rather than going to a landfill. Avoid recycling diseased and/or insect-infested material. While thorough composting at high heat typically destroys diseases and insects, such thorough composting may not always be achieved. ❖



**Acknowledgements:** *Richard W. Magargal and Jose Mercado* critically reviewed this article and offered helpful suggestions.

**Author Donald R. Hodel** is Environmental Horticulturist for the University of California Cooperative Extension in Los Angeles, a position he has held for 26 years. Don develops and implements applied research and educational programs for the professional tree management and landscape industries. A world-recognized leader in the horticulture and taxonomy of palms, Don has authored four books and over 250 articles about the selection and management of landscape palms, a group of plants with which he has worked for over 35 years. <[drhodel@ucdavis.edu](mailto:drhodel@ucdavis.edu)>.

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# Florida Chapter Board Updates

## Board Member Changes

Recent events have resulted in several changes to the Florida Chapter ISA Board of Directors.

Ms. Tammy Kovar resigned as Secretary and TREE Fund Liaison; the Secretary position will be filled by Mr. Ron Litts, pending board approval.

Congratulations to Mr. Michael Marshall in being elected to the newly restructured International ISA Board of Directors. This election results in his need to resign from the Florida Chapter Board as the Florida Chapter International Representative.

Mr. Don Winsett (currently the Florida Chapter President-Elect) will replace Mike Marshall as the Florida Chapter International Representative for the remainder of that term, pending board approval.

Welcome aboard in your new capacities. The Chapter members appreciate your dedication and energy in making the Florida Chapter the best it can be.

## Trees Florida 2011 Conference Site Chosen

The Trees Florida Planning Committee recommended, and the Florida ISA Board approved, the next Trees Florida Conference will be held in Jacksonville at the Wyndham Jacksonville Riverwalk. The Conference Chair will be Florida Chapter Past President, Mr. Mike Robinson. This will be the first Trees Florida Conference held in North Florida. Be sure to mark your calendar now for June 11, 12, 13, 2011 and join us at Trees Florida 2011 in Jacksonville!

## John White Scholarship Reminder

The John White scholarship application is available at [www.floridaisa.org](http://www.floridaisa.org). The deadline for submittal for the Fall 2010 semester scholarship is June 15th.

## ISA International Conference to be Held in Florida in 2015

The International Society of Arboriculture (ISA) is pleased to announce that Orlando, FL will be the host city for the 2015 ISA Annual Conference & Trade Show. Volunteers from the Florida Chapter of ISA (FC-ISA) will make up the local host committee that will work with ISA staff in the planning and implementing of the annual conference as well as the International Tree Climbing Championship.

The official selection was announced at the ISA board meeting held March 14th in Atlanta, GA. "On behalf of the Conference and Events Committee and the ISA conference team, I want to congratulate the Florida chapter, and thank them for the hard work invested in producing an outstanding bid packet," commented Sharon Lilly, ISA conference and education director.

The ISA international conference attracts more than 2000 attendees from around the world. With members throughout the US, Canada, Europe, and the Asia-Pacific, the organization impacts the tree care profession through research and education. ISA also administers the only internationally recognized certification for those individuals working in the arboriculture profession.

Orlando with its numerous attractions is an appealing destination for conference attendees and their families. The Gaylord Palms Hotel and Convention Center, selected as the headquarters hotel and site for ISA conference activities, offers competitive rates and abundant meeting and trade show space. Mead Garden, a short distance away in Winter Park, is being considered for the International Tree Climbing Championship. Orlando is expected to be friendly, affordable, and easily accessible to attendees.

Florida has never previously been the site of the annual conference, however; FLISA, along with its over 1400 members, is looking forward to having a large conference attendance. Norm Easey, Florida Chapter ISA Executive Director stated, "We are excited about this opportunity to bring the world's arborists to our beautiful state, and to show them some good old southern hospitality." ❖

With Florida's unique environment, extra attention must be paid to preserving our natural resources, especially our trees. By purchasing a TreesAreCool license plate you help underwrite programs that directly benefit trees of Florida which help keep our state the uniquely beautiful place we all call home.

Healthy trees benefit wildlife, increase property values and help cool and clean the air. The Florida Chapter of the International Society of Arboriculture, a non-profit organization, is committed to serving the needs of Florida's professional arborists and tree-care consumers. The TreesAreCool license plate revenues benefit our urban environment of Florida through tree research, the on-going education of tree-care practitioners, and by providing public education programs about tree care and preservation.



You do not need to wait for your current plate to expire. Do your part and order your TreesAreCool plate today!



**How to Order Your TreesAreCool Specialty Plate**

**In person:** You can select and pay for your TreesAreCool specialty license plate in person at your county tax collector office.

**By mail:** Complete and return this form with your vehicle registration renewal notice and your check including an additional \$58 (\$25 annual donation, \$5 annual state fee and a one-time new plate fee of \$28). If your renewal notice indicates that it is time to replace your license plate, do not include the \$28 new plate fee.

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 City: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

The TreesAreCool program is administered by the Florida Chapter of the International Society of Arboriculture (ISA).





**Trees4Florida Public Service Announcements Available at [www.treesarecool.com](http://www.treesarecool.com)**

With the devastation to trees in Florida by hurricanes, storms and fires, millions of dollars in valuable tree resources have been lost, particularly within the past several years. Jointly, the Florida Urban Forestry Council (FUFC) and the Florida Chapter of the International Society of Arboriculture (FC-ISA) developed the Trees4-Florida program which focuses on making the public more aware of the need to be vigilant in safeguarding our trees and preserving Florida's greatest green resource.

The Trees 4 Florida program has produced a variety of Public Service Announcements (PSAs) available for anyone to free of charge. Included in the campaign are English and Spanish print-quality and broadcast-quality PSA ads and spots. Include them on your website, flyers or any promotional material.

Access these FREE PSAs by visiting [www.treesarecool.com](http://www.treesarecool.com); hover on 'Trees4Florida' in the menu box to the left to make your choice of ad style.





*Expand your horizon...*

*... with one of the  
ISA Certification Credentials*

- In a recent ISA member study, arborists reported their income increased because they earned an ISA Certification.
- Certification exams are given throughout the world including all US states, Canada, Mexico, Austria, Australia, Singapore, Malaysia, United Kingdom, New Zealand, Norway, Brazil, and Hong Kong.
- Through ISA's extensive public education efforts, more homeowners look for ISA Certifications when looking to hire someone to work on their trees.
- More and more tree care companies, utilities and municipalities are requiring the ISA Certified Arborist credential for employment.
- Many federal, state, county and municipal contracts require ISA certification.

**Certified Arborist:** Would you like to boost your career and make yourself a more valuable arborist? You too can join the 25,000 arborists who have already received the Certified Arborist credential. Our research shows ISA Certified Arborists significantly increase their income with their credential.



**Certified Tree Worker/Climber Specialist:** Do you like a physical challenge? This ISA Credential specializes in all aspects of tree climbing and aerial tree work.

**Utility Specialist Certification:** Do you work in utility vegetation management? If so, you may be a candidate for the Utility Specialist Certification.



**Municipal Specialist Certification:** Are you an ISA Certified Arborist who has chosen municipal arboriculture or urban forestry as a career path? If so then this certification is for you! The Municipal Specialist Certification specializes in managing the complex aspect of trees in an urban environment.

**Sign up now and learn what 25,000 other arborists already know.  
ISA Certification is the mark of the professional arborist!**

If you are interested in any of the ISA certifications please contact the International Society of Arboriculture for an application, test dates and locations. You may also do so by sending in this form, calling 1-888-ISA-TREE or e-mail us at cert@isa-arbor.com.



[www.isa-arbor.com](http://www.isa-arbor.com)

# Arborist Certification Committee Report

*By Norm Easey, Florida Certification Liaison*

Arborist Certification is still moving ahead worldwide; there are now 24,876 ISA Certified Arborists, 926 ISA Certified Tree Workers, 1570 Utility Specialists, 386 Municipal Specialists and 311 Board Certified Master Arborists. The Florida Chapter currently has 1572 Certified Arborists.

The Florida Chapter would like to congratulate the following 11 Florida individuals for earning their Arborist Certification during the first quarter of 2010:

Certified Arborist

- Russell Alexander, Pembroke Pines, FL
- Richard Aurelian, Ormond Beach, FL
- Harold Douglas, Hobe Sound, FL
- Charles Flemming, Hobe Sound, FL
- David Hansson, Miami, FL
- Robert Jans, Hialeah, FL
- Robert Korynas, Land O'Lakes, FL
- Roger Maciel, Davie, FL
- William Nichols, Lehigh Acres, FL
- Robert Osborne, Ft. Myers, FL
- Henry Perdomo, Miami, FL



## 2010 Certification Exam Schedule

The **FLORIDA CHAPTER** of ISA is pleased to announce our revised 2010 schedule of Certification exams. See the chart below for the site nearest you.

Date	Exam/ Class	Location	Time	Proctor or Instructors	Last Date to Register	Cost Member/ Nonmem
Sun. June 13, 2010	Certified Arborist Exam	Casa Marina Resort 1500 Reynolds Key West, FL 33040	7:30 AM to Noon	Mr. Larry Figart Mr. Michael Pettay	Minimum 12 business days prior	\$150/ \$250

This schedule is subject to change as additional tests and review sessions may be added. Visit [www.floridaisa.org](http://www.floridaisa.org) for updates.

For an application form to register for an Exam call the ISA Office in Champaign, IL at 888-472-8733

To purchase an ISA Certification Study Guide, call the Florida Chapter ISA at 941-342-0153 or fax an order form to 941-342-0463.

The ISA Illinois must receive your application & exam fees **A MINIMUM OF TWELVE BUSINESS DAYS** prior to the exam date. **NO EXCEPTIONS!** (ISA Illinois is closed New Year's Day, Good Friday, Memorial Day, Independence Day, Labor Day, Thanksgiving Day and the day after, and Christmas Day). First-time applicants can apply online at [www.isa-arbor.com](http://www.isa-arbor.com).

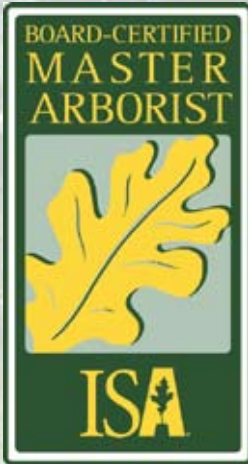
**\*\*\*PREPAYMENT IS REQUIRED\*\*\*** VISA/MC/AMEX accepted. US FUNDS ONLY

Are you thinking about becoming certified?

[Visit the International ISA website](http://www.isa-arbor.com)

to access the certification application handbook with further information.





## Let your surroundings inspire you to REACH the Top!

- ✓ Professional, peer & chapter recognition
- ✓ Potential job advancements/salary increase
- ✓ Client preferred
- ✓ Commitment to Arboriculture
- ✓ Self-fulfillment

### What is the BCMA?

This is the highest level of Certification that will be offered by the International Society of Arboriculture. It is intended to recognize Certified Arborists who have reached the pinnacle of the arboricultural profession. In addition to passing a computer based test, applicants will need to abide by a Standard of Practice which is intended to insure work quality.



### Join the top of your class!

In a recent survey to eligible ISA Certified Arborists we discovered that many of them either didn't know they met the requirements or didn't have enough information about this certification.

#### REALIZING THE POTENTIAL

- ✓ The BCMA credential is the highest certification that the ISA has to offer.
- ✓ Exams are held in a convenient PearsonVue testing facility near you.
- ✓ You must be an ISA Certified Arborist in good standing.
- ✓ Have obtained a total of eight points from any or all of the four categories that include measurable experience, formal education, related credentials or professional experience.

#### UNIQUE EXAM OFFERED

- ✓ The test will consist of 150 scenario based questions.
- ✓ Examples given with photographs, description of a tree, landscape or arboricultural activity.
- ✓ Anywhere from 1-20 questions about the scenario or related general arboricultural knowledge.
- ✓ All questions are multiple choice.

#### COST INVOLVED

The cost of the exam is \$450 USD for an ISA member and \$550 USD for a non-member. Membership information is included when requesting the application packet.

#### ISA MARKETING SUPPORT

- ✓ BCMA mailers.
- ✓ Inserts for media packets.
- ✓ Credential awareness to consumer.
- ✓ We apply valuable feedback from current BCMA credential holders to target the right people.
- ✓ Increase involvement with (ASCA) American Society of Consulting Arborists.



# Welcome!

## New Florida Chapter Members

Here are the individuals that joined the Florida Chapter during the of the first quarter of 2010. If you see a name from your area of the state, look up their phone number online\* and give them a call. Introduce yourself and find out what aspect of arboriculture the new member is involved in. Let's make the Florida Chapter friendlier. We're all working in different ways for the same goals. Get to know other chapter members. You might make some helpful connections for the future.

First Name	Last Name	City	State	First Name	Last Name	City	State
Carlos	Acosta	TAMARAC	FL	Laurie	Mann	NILES	MI
Carlos	Alonso	PORT SAINT LUCIE	FL	Bonnie	Marshall	MORRISTON	FL
Lauren	Barber	NAPLES	FL	Juan	Masson	MIAMI	FL
Greg	Bear	ORLANDO	FL	Harry	Maxime	GREENACRES	FL
Todd	Cabral	RIVERVIEW	FL	Matthew	McIntosh	JUPITER	FL
Stephen	Camp	DACULA	GA	Peter	McKay	SEFFNER	FL
Ryan	Clark	JACKSONVILLE	FL	Jorge	Parada	DE LEON SPRINGS	FL
Christopher	Conner	VERO BEACH	FL	Henry	Perdomo	MIAMI	FL
Joseph	Dunbar	BOYNTON BEACH	FL	George	Pittman	BONITA SPRINGS	FL
Rich	Ebersold	LAKE WORTH	FL	Gregory	Polidora	OAKLAND PARK	FL
Kelly	Gibson	FERNANDINA BEACH	FL	Jeff	Price	ESTERO	FL
Charles	Grantham	OVETT	MS	Jeff	Sampson	LAKELAND	FL
Jay	Guilds	WINTER PARK	FL	Brian	Schatz	TAMPA	FL
David	Hansson	MIAMI	FL	Jeremy	Smith	BOCA RATON	FL
Belle	Harvey	BOCA RATON	FL	Inga	Smith	STUART	FL
Brian	Huffman	LEESBURG	FL	Daniel	Sorrow	JACKSONVILLE	FL
David	Jaeger	GENEVA	FL	Dennis	Spellicy	INVERNESS	FL
Lisa	Johnston	NORTH MIAMI BEACH	FL	Mark	Stevens	WINTER HAVEN	FL
Carl	Kallicharan	MIAMI	FL	Eli	Villagran	W HENRIETTA	NY
Bobby	Keller	SANFORD	FL	David	Watford	SUMTERVILLE	FL
Paul	Klens	NAPLES	FL	Israel	Williams	LAKE BUENA VISTA	FL
Matthew	Lukoff	DADE CITY	FL				

\*Go to <http://www.isa-arbor.com>, then go to "Members Only" and log in. Then go to ISA membership directory. If you do not know your log in for members only, contact ISA headquarters at (888) 472-8733. Once you log in, you can update your address, check your CEU's, edit or verify Certified Arborist information and search the membership list.

### Letters to the Editor

We welcome your thoughts about Florida Arborist articles, about your Florida Chapter, or about tree issues in general.

Email your letters to:  
floridaisa@comcast.net

or mail to:  
Florida Chapter - ISA  
7853 S. Leewynn Court  
Sarasota, FL 34240



Please remember:  
Letters should be no longer than 300 words.  
We reserve the right to condense letters, or to edit as necessary.

An invitation to all members  
to attend a  
**Board of Directors Meeting!**  
Call 941-342-0153  
for specific times and locations

Up-coming  
2010 Board Meeting  
Dates & Locations  
July 16, 2010 - Orlando  
September 10, 2010 - Orlando  
November 5, 2010 - Orlando

# International Society of Arboriculture Florida Chapter

Our Mission: "To Promote and Improve the  
Scientifically Based Practice of Professional Arboriculture"



## Arborist Code of Ethics

Strive for continuous self-development by increasing their qualifications and technical proficiency by staying abreast of technological and scientific developments affecting the profession.

Not misuse or omit material facts in promoting technical information, products or services if the effect would be to mislead or misrepresent.

Hold paramount the safety and health of all people, and endeavor to protect property and the environment in the performances of professional responsibilities.

Accurately and fairly represent their capabilities, qualifications and experience and those of their employees and/or agents.

Subscribe to fair and honest business practices in dealing with clients, suppliers, employees and other professionals.

Support the improvement of professional services and products through encouraging research and development.

Observe the standards and promote adherence to the ethics embodied in this code.



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