



THE CONNECTICUT ARBORIST

Volume XXXVI, Number 1

Connecticut Tree Protective Association, Inc.

Summer 2025

CTPA Summer Meeting - Thursday, July 17th

It's Summer Meeting time and this year it will be on Thursday, July 17th^h at the Farmington Polo Club. We are hoping mother nature will cooperate and give us sunny skies and cool breezes. We are pleased to let you know the pool is in operation so bring your bathing suit! Registration for exhibitors and attendees is open, and the flyers have been mailed. We encourage people to pre-register for the event. For exhibitors, that means registering before July 7th and for attendees it is before July 14th.

Educational Sessions (English)

The first talk of the day will start with Chelsi Abbott, Davey Tree

Experts, giving a talk on "*Wood Decay Fungi*". This talk will be in the Clubhouse at 9:00 am (repeated at 1:00pm). Chelsi will talk about how to identify characteristics of common wood decay fungi and recognize the potential dangers associated with each.

The second talk at 9:00am (repeated at 1:00pm) is taking place way in the back of the property by the horseshoe pits, Mark Moeske, Mobile Crane Instructor, New Jersey Crane Expert, will be giving a talk on, "*Key Factors of Safe Grapple Use*". The use of knuckle booms and grapple saws are becoming popular pieces of equipment for

arborists. Mark will review what factors and considerations should always be addressed prior to starting a job with these pieces of equipment.

The next set of talks starts at 10:30 am (repeat at 2:30pm). The first is in the Clubhouse by Dr. Susanna Keriö, CAES, with a talk giving a "*Forest Update and Drought*".

continued on page 7

📢 ANNOUNCEMENT! 📢

The CTPA continues to modernize the sign-in sheets for meetings and workshops. We will be moving to paperfree CEU's starting with the 2025 summer meeting. A QR code will be displayed, either on the projector screen on the inside meeting rooms (Clubhouse or Aqueduct) or on a display board at the outside areas (Sycamore Tree or Horseshoe Pit), at the END OF EACH TALK. You will need to register your name, email address and license(s) number(s). An email with the certificates will be emailed to you within 48 hours. TCIA CTSP and ISA are sign in only and no certificate will be issued. Directors are available to help you at each talk. We appreciate your patience as everyone learns this new way of doing CEU's. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Cathy Dvorsky at cathy@ctpa.org.



Summer Meeting 2024

Michael Almstead, CTPA President, Allan Fenner, Past President,
Charlie Iselin, Past President and Kevin Wyatt, Director

We Advance the Care of Connecticut's Trees

Spanish Electrical Hazards Awareness Program Workshop

The Safety Committee has picked up the mantle and restarted the Spanish EHAP Workshops. This year's workshop took place on February 19, 2025 at the CTPA headquarters in Wallingford. Led by Leo Roldan, the class of 25 students spent the day learning that electricity is not your friend, how to work around it and the hazards that can occur. Emmett Shutts, CTPA President and Safety Committee Chairperson, started the day welcoming the students in Spanish and introducing Leo. Leo did an amazing job interacting with the students and making sure everyone had a full understanding of the materials. Doug Pistawka, Eversource, made an appearance and gave the students a demonstration from the Eversource Sparkbox. It is always a valuable tool to "see" what the instructors are talking about with a simulation. Thank You to Eversource for allowing Doug to come and give the demonstration and for the Sparkbox demonstration. Thank you to Leo Roldan, Doug Pistawka and Emmett Shutts for helping people be safe.

The Safety Committee is dedicated to safety education and looks forward to hosting the Spanish EHAP workshop in the Winter of 2026. The committee meets three times a year. If you are interested in learning more about the Safety Committee or would like to come to a committee meeting, please contact Emmett Shutts at emmett-shutts@gmail.com. The next committee meeting will be this spring and they will start planning the safety talk for the summer meeting. If you have any suggestions for a safety talk, please email Emmett Shutts.

CONNECTICUT TREE PROTECTIVE ASSOCIATION

PO Box 1946
Wallingford, CT 06492
203-484-2512
info@ctpa.org

PRESIDENT
Emmett Shutts

VICE PRESIDENT
Sean Redding

SECRETARY - TREASURER
Gregory A. Foran

EXECUTIVE SECRETARY
Cathy Dvorsky

DIRECTORS

Bud Neal
Charlie Iselin
Allan Fenner
Michael Almstead
Claire Rutledge
Kevin W. Wyatt
Carter Peck
Stacey Marcell
Casey Tresp

*We advance the care of
Connecticut's trees.*

Newsletter Staff and Editor
Chris Donnelly and Cathy Dvorsky

The Connecticut Arborist
is an official publication of the
Connecticut Tree Protective
Association

CTPA's Web Site - www.CTPA.org



Announcement!

The Safety Committee is please to announce the English EHAP Workshop will take place on November 13, 2025, at the Eversource Berlin Campus. Space is limited. Registration will open soon at www.ctpa.org.

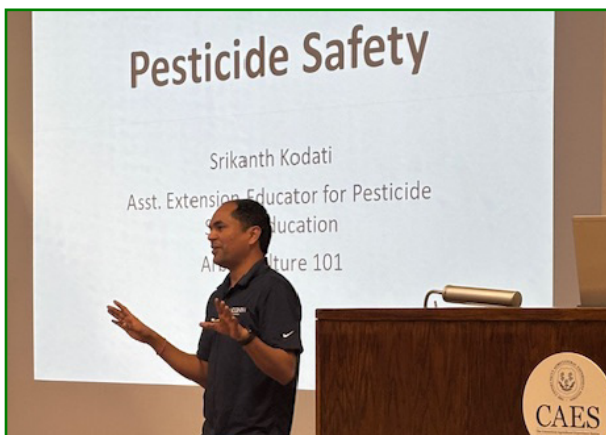
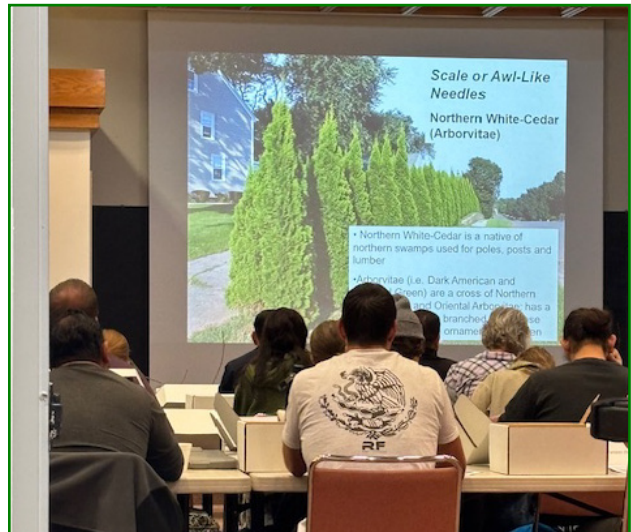


The CTPA was at ArborExpo in March.

We were able to speak to many students about a career in arboriculture, meet new people and catch up with old friends.

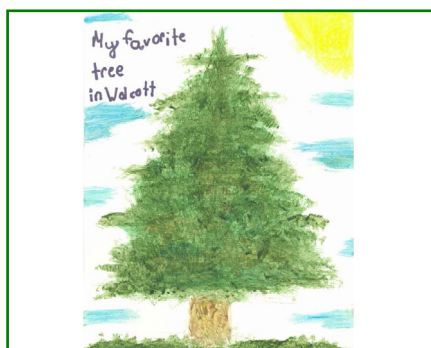
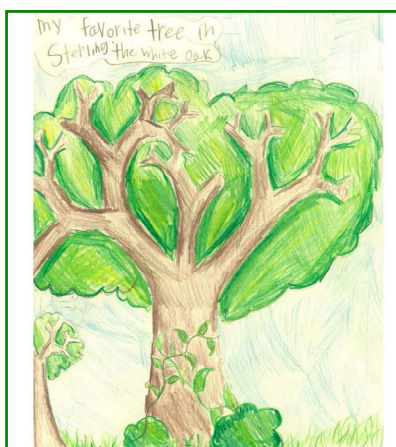
Arboriculture 101

The Winter 2025 session Arboriculture 101 classes started with a full class of 45 new students and 2 or more returning students. The class continues to fill and some students take the plunge and move forward with the written exam before the class ends. We are always thrilled to share the excitement of students passing and eventually getting their arborist license. We always support students and any student that has paid and gone through the class, is welcome back at any time, in the future, to either sit through one class they need to revisit or the entire curriculum. The sessions are 13 weeks in length with 2 of the classes being a hands on night and a review night. As an added bonus, Doug Pistawka gives a tree identification tree walk at Edgeton Park. This three hour walk is very valuable to help identify trees with and without leaves. Registration is open for the Fall 2025 session. Please go to www.ctpa.org to register.



Arbor Day 2025 - CT Agricultural Experiment Station

Arbor Day wouldn't be Arbor Day without the annual poster contest for State of Connecticut 5th graders. Thirteen schools and 221 posters were submitted, and the board of directors had the daunting task of narrowing the number of winners to seven. Those winners are from the towns of Burlington, Sterling (2), Hamden, Monroe, North Grosvenordale and Wolcott. The tree planting took place at the CT Agricultural Experiment Station in New Haven. The Walgren Tree (Elm) failed this past year, so the CTPA offered to replace the tree. The tree was originally planted in Paul Walgren's honor and since then, it has been replaced twice. We are confident, this tree will last! All the students were able to attend the ceremony along with teachers, family and friends. There were approximately 70 people in attendance. The tree was rededicated by Peter Moritz (CTPA Past President) and Karin Walgren (Paul Walgren's daughter). After the dedication, the kids were taught about trees, bugs and disease. We appreciate all the people and organizations that helped make this day possible. (Northeast Horticultural Services, Davey Tree Experts, Peter Moritz and CT Agricultural Experiment Station.)



CT Climbing Competition May 3, 2025

On May 3, 2025, the CT Climbing Competition took place at Hollow Park in Woodbury. The day started out sunny, but everyone was on the lookout for forecasted, stormy weather. Hollow Park was the perfect location for the competition. The trees were close together, and the pavilion lent a great cover with lots of picnic benches. And as an added bonus, there was a playscape for children. The day started at 6:30 am for both climbers and volunteers. Everyone got through gear check, volunteers were assigned, and the national anthem was played. After touring the trees and having a safety talk, the day began around 8:30am. There were 20 climbers (2 women and 18 men) in total, which worked out to be 4 climbers per group. We had many new volunteers and welcomed back many more. After all the groups competed in each event, the winners were announced. Jake Slade, Sam Schunk and Tim Reynolds made it to the Master's Challenge to represent Connecticut at the [New England ISA Climbing Competition](#) taking place June 26-28, 2025, Buttonwood Park, Warwick, Rhode Island. The Climbing Committee was unable to sponsor a woman for the New England ISA Competition due to both ladies being out of state. The skies were threatening as the Master's Challenge was set up and the three climbers were sequestered. Jake Slade and Sam Schunk were able to compete, but mother nature had other plans, and the storm front descended on the park. Thunder, lightning, strong winds and rain make it impossible for Tim Reynolds to compete. The final decision was to use the preliminary scores to determine the winner of the Master's Challenge, and the honor went to Jake Slade. We wish him the very best in June! A special thank you to those who helped get the park in top shape for the competition on Work Day and Set Up Day. (Bart's Tree Service, Emmons Tree Service, Davey Tree Experts, Bartlett Tree Experts and Neal Tree Service.) A big thank you to the companies that helped on the Competition Day. (Bart's Tree Service, Emmons Tree Service, Bartlett Tree Experts, Neal Tree Service and Eversource). And an extra special thank you to Bud Neal, for arranging the competition to be in his hometown. We are looking forward to 2026!



Branching Out Together Two Day Workshop

The Branching Out Together Workshop was the first time The Connecticut Urban Forest Council, The Tree Wardens' Association of Connecticut and The Connecticut Tree Protective Association came together to put on a two-day workshop at Connecticut College in New London, March 19 and 20, 2025. The first day, March 19, started very early with a native plant collection tour followed by talks in the auditorium. The talks covered were Embracing Innovation and Partnerships in Urban Canopy Projects by Keynote Speaker C. Eric Rains, New York Oak Wilt Experience by Robert Cole, Municipal Management Considerations by Annie Mixsell, and Diagnosis of Oak Wilt in CT by Dr. Susanna Keriö. After lunch attendees got to choose from three concurrent sessions. A. Storms and the Urban Forest: Steps for your community to be ready by Matt Lee, and Trees as Stormwater Solutions: Options for Planting Trees in Limited Green Space by Al Key. The next concurrent session was B. Tree Risk Assessment by Moriah Day and the last set of sessions were C. Establishing and Using a Tree Inventory System: Methodology, Software and Devices by Matthew Verry and Technology for Arborists and Urban Foresters by Andrew Ulman. After a brief break and a visit to exhibitors, the attendees gathered in Evans Hall to hear more lectures. Implementing a Citizen Pruner Program by Marissa Nolan, DEEP Urban Forestry Program and Grants Overview by Danica Doroski, and PhotoVoice Protect by Teresa Verellen. The day wrapped up with a social hour with "The Voices of Nature" Exhibition.

Day two, March 20, was just as packed with interesting talks and walkabouts as the first day. Darryl Newman from Planter's Choice was the first to talk and he talked about Choosing the Right Tree, followed by a talk on Tree Planting Science and Best Practices. Next, Jeff Thrasher spoke on Post-care Recommendations. After lunch, attendees were again able to choose from a selection of concurrent sessions that got the groups outside in the fresh air. The three sessions were a Tree Planting Lab followed, Native Plant Collection Tour or a Downtown New London Urban Forestry Tour. After a break and shuttling back to the auditorium, the workshop ended by a talk on the Miyawaki Forest Method by Caseylee Bastien. There were approximately 110 people in attendance on the first day and 90 on the second day. People were very pleased with the talks and arrangements at the college. We would like to give a special thank you to The DEEP Division of Forestry for its support and Connecticut College for hosting this great event.



Healing Garden Update

The Healing Garden continues to bring joy and be a place of beauty to the veterans at the Rocky Hill Veterans home. Spring is always a great time of year to see the flowers come up and bloom. Sandy Ingellis has dedicated countless hours and labor making sure the garden is kept in top shape and is loving care for. She opened the beds and put some landscaping lights under the trees to light them up at night. The trees have grown so much!! Sandy planted a beautiful lilac from the historical Bellamy-Ferriday Garden, and it looks like it will be in bloom this year! Each year Sandy puts in new perennials to keep things fresh and new. The upkeep of this garden is a labor of love from Sandy Ingellis and we appreciate her unwavering commitment to this incredible garden and the veterans that can sit and enjoy the splendor.

This presentation will provide an overview of drought trends, effects of trees and the best management practices.

The last talk is by Kevin Brewer, Arborjet, at the Sycamore Tree. “*Benefits and Drawbacks of Various Means of PHC Delivery*”. In PHC, a common question arises: What is the best way to treat a pest or disease? There is not usually a one-size-fits-all answer. It’s often decided based on a variety of factors. There may be a practical solution that could be foliar-sprayed, trunk-injected, or bark-drenched. It usually comes down to environmental impact, location, life cycle, and regulations that help us narrow down the best option. In this session, we will discuss the pros and cons of different application methods, then discuss several pest and disease issues and how they may be addressed in various scenarios.

Session in Spanish

There will be two sessions in Spanish. These talks will take place in the Aqueduct Room, at 10:30am and 1pm, for 1 hour and 15 minutes and will not be repeated. At 10:30am, Jhoanna Oliveros will talk about her experience coming from Columbia and her personal journey as a Latina in the tree industry. “*Challenges of Latina Women Face in the Tree Industry.*” At 1:00pm, Ruben Mendoza will talk about the “*The Importance of Collaboration, Communication and Teamwork in Tree Work.*” Ruben will discuss strategies to foster teamwork and mutual respect on job sites. He will give real life examples of how effective teamwork can lead to safer tree care.

As promised at the Annual Meeting, there will be a QR code given at the end of each talk. The QR code will be on the screen in the Clubhouse and Aqueduct Rooms, and on a large poster board at the Horseshoe Pit and Sycamore Tree. With your smart phone, please go to your picture icon, open the icon and point the camera at the QR code. These will show a link that you will click on and follow to a simple sign in with your First and Last Name, email address and licenses you wish to sign in for. Please have your license numbers available as well. The office will review the sign-in information and email the CEU sheets to you. ISA and TCIA CTSP are sign in only. State of CT, Forest Practitioner, and Tree Wardens’ Association of CT

will be emailed to you. Please see Cathy Dvorsky at the registration area if you have any questions.

We are offering many educational opportunities and know it is not possible to attend every single one. Based on the schedule, the maximum number of talks one person can fully attend is four. We hope you can find four talks that interest you and understand that CEUs will be allowed only for this maximum number of four talks.

Please be sure to visit the field and tent exhibitors and see the latest and greatest in equipment and arborist supplies. The tent exhibitors are where you can find many educational exhibitors, including The CT Agricultural Experiment Station, USDAPPQAPHIS, CONN OSHA, Federal OSHA, DMV and The Tree Wardens’ Association of CT.

While in the tent, stop by the CTPA booth and OPS Raffle. And don’t forget to purchase a raffle ticket before 3pm. It is always exciting to see who wins the chainsaw and all the other generously donated items from our vendors. The CTPA Board continues to keep up the Oscar P. Stone Scholarship and Research Fund, and that includes the annual student scholarships. The funds raised through the raffle are crucial to this Research Fund remaining active. It is the donations of the exhibitors and the purchase of tickets by the rest of the attendees that make this a great resource in the support of our industry.

The Farmington Polo Club has always been a favorite location for our summer meeting because of the food that is available all day (chili and clam chowder in the morning, Steamship Round, Ham, Chicken, salads, potatoes and vegetables for lunch and in the afternoon, cheeseburgers and hotdogs with ice cream to top the day off. We are looking forward to seeing everyone at the summer meeting!

CEU's are available for the following:

CT Arborist License 3D - 5.0 Ceu's
ISA - 5.0 Ceu's, Forest Practitioner - Pending
Advanced Certified Tree Warden - 5.0 Ceu's
TCIA CTSP - Grapple Saw - 1.25 CEU's
TCIA CTSP - Wood Decay Fungi - 1.25 CEU's
TCIA CTSP - Spanish Talks - 1.25 CEU's Each



Summer Meeting 2024
Chainsaw Winners!
Purchase a raffle ticket to
help support the Oscar P.
Stone Research Trust.