

# UConn | COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE, HEALTH AND NATURAL RESOURCES

## Ratcliffe Hicks School of Agriculture Major in Urban Forestry and Arboriculture

Urban and roadside tree and forest management is a booming business and employment category in Connecticut and throughout the eastern United States, but the industry workforce is aging and needs future supervisors and leaders. The Urban Forestry and Arboriculture major within the Ratcliffe Hicks School of Agriculture at the University of Connecticut provides students with needed vocational skills to pursue a career in arboriculture and urban forest management, including knowledge required to sit for the CT Arborist licensure exam. The program also grant students an opportunity for a broader education and additional professional skills that will allow them to grow in responsibilities and into management positions within the industry.

Urban Forestry and Arboriculture majors in the Ratcliffe Hicks School of Agriculture receive an Associate of Applied Science (AAS) degree. The Urban Forestry and Arboriculture program is offered by the Department of Natural Resources and the Environment.

### Objectives

The goal of the Arboriculture and Urban Forestry major is to prepare students for employment, management, or entrepreneurial positions in arboriculture, urban, and community forestry fields. Students completing the program will be able to:

1. Envision, specify, and carry out safe, effective arboriculture work.
2. Recommend management actions and plans for urban forests and green spaces.
3. Take the Arborist license exam offered by the CT DEEP.
4. Identify trees, tree structural and health issues, and common tree diseases and pests.
5. Communicate and act based on a broad perspective on the urban forestry and arboriculture industry and understand potential career trajectories.



### Career Opportunities

Graduates will have the knowledge and skills to allow them to pursue a career in the private or public sector. Potential employers include tree care companies, utilities, municipalities, state and federal agencies, and non-profits. Graduates may also continue their education in baccalaureate and graduate programs.

**Contact:** NRE Department – Email: [nre@uconn.edu](mailto:nre@uconn.edu); Phone: 860-486-2840

**Web:** <https://rhsa.uconn.edu/>

**Major: Urban Forestry and Arboriculture  
Sample Course Sequence**

*60 Credits required for AAS degree; Students should take 15 credits/semester; minimum 40 RH credits*

**First Semester**

<b>Requirements:</b>		<b>Credits</b>
SAAG 250	Freshmen Seminar	1
Math or Writing	MATH 1011Q, 1020Q or 1030Q or ENGL 1010	3-4
SANR 215	Dendrology	3
SAPL 120	Intro to Plant Science	4
SANR 325	Fundamentals of Arboriculture	3

**Second Semester**

<b>Requirements:</b>		
Civic & Comm. GenEd	SARE 450 (recommended) or other pre-approved course	3
Math or Writing	MATH 1011Q, 1020Q or 1030Q or ENGL 1010	3-4
Arts & Hum. GenEd	NRE 1235 (recommended) or other pre-approved course	3
<b>Recommendations (options) to meet RH credit requirements:</b>		
SAPL 550	Urban Plant Systems Construction and Maintenance	3
SAAG 316	Intro to Agricultural Mechanics <sup>4</sup>	2
SANR 991	Professional Internship <sup>1,3</sup>	2-3

**Third Semester**

<b>Requirements:</b>		
SANR 255	Forest Ecology	3
SAPL 810	Plant Pest Control	3
SARE 460	Fund. of Accounting and Mgmt. for the Agribusiness Firm	3
<b>Recommendations (options) to meet RH credit requirements:</b>		
SAAG 350	Hispanic Culture & Communication in Agriculture <sup>1</sup>	3
SANR 310	Introduction to Wildlife Management	3
SAPL 300	Introduction to Soil Science	3
SAPL 410	Woody Plants: Common Trees, Shrubs, Vines <sup>2</sup>	3

**Fourth Semester**

<b>Requirements:</b>		
Social Science GenEd	COMM 1000 (recommended) or other pre-approved course	3
SANR 425	Urban and Community Forestry	3
<b>Recommendations (options) to meet RH credit requirements:</b>		
SANR 310	Introduction to Wildlife Management	3
SAPL 550	Urban Plant Systems Construction and Maintenance	3
SAPL 840	Integrated Pest Management <sup>2</sup>	3
SANR 991	Professional Internship <sup>1</sup>	3

<sup>1</sup>These courses can be taken either first OR second year

<sup>2</sup>Course has prerequisite

<sup>3</sup>Internship course can also be extended during summer session with SAAG 681

<sup>4</sup>Availability may vary