

Winter 2018
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Fusarium Wilt on Washingtonia Palms

Henry Mayer, UF/IFAS Urban Commercial Horticulture Extension Agent

Are you noticing that the Washingtonia palms (*Washingtonia robusta*) are dying in the landscape lately? I have seen a lot of damage in Miami-Dade and Broward counties. The cause of the problem is a disease caused by the fungus *Fusarium oxysporum f. sp. Palmarum*. The common name is Fusarium wilt which is a host-specific disease. Primary it kills Queen palms (*Syagrus romanzoffiana*) and Washingtonia palms; it is close related to *Fusarium oxysporum f. sp. Canariensis* which kills Canary Island date palms (*Phoenix canariensis*).



Figure 1. Washingtonian palm leaf blade has half green and half dead or dying leaf segments.

Note the reddish-brown stripe on the petiole; it is on the same side as the dying leaf segments in the blade (courtesy Dr. M. Elliott)

The fungus causes a vascular wilt of the palm (figure 1). Specifically, it obstructs the xylem (water-conducting) tissue which results in the symptoms of leaf desiccation and quick death. As with most diseases, Fusarium wilt symptoms are progressive. For Washingtonia palms there will be at least one older leaf with a mixture of healthy, chlorotic and necrotic leaflet segments in the leaf blade (figure 2).

The disease symptoms normally begin

Marchitamiento por Fusarium en las palmas Washingtonias

¿Está notando que las palmas de la especie Washingtonia (*Washingtonia robusta*) se está muriendo en el paisajismo? Últimamente, estoy viendo mucho daño en los condados de Miami-Dade y Broward. La causa del problema es una enfermedad causada por el hongo *Fusarium oxysporum f. sp. Palmarum*. El nombre común es Marchitamiento por Fusarium y es una enfermedad muy específica para las palmas. En primer lugar, mata las palmas Queen (*Syagrus romanzoffiana*) y las palmas Washingtonia. Este patógeno está muy relacionado con *Fusarium oxysporum f. sp. Canariensis* que mata las palmas datileras Canary Island (*Phoenix canariensis*).

El hongo causa un marchitamiento vascular de la palma (figura 1). Específicamente, obstruye el tejido del xilema (que conduce el agua), lo que produce los síntomas de desecación de la hoja y muerte rápida. Como en la mayoría de las enfermedades, los síntomas del marchitamiento por Fusarium son progresivos. En las palmas Washingtonia, habrá al menos una hoja más vieja con una

Wilt continued on page 4

A Message From the President



This year is quickly coming to an end! This is my last “President’s Message” for 2018 before Adam Jackson steps in as your new Florida Chapter president in 2019.

But, what a great year it has been! I wanted to start off by thanking all of our current board members for their hard work and dedica-

tion.

We started off the year with a day of orientation and training at Disney’s Animal Kingdom. It was a great team building event as we got to know each other and learned techniques/ pointers on how to work together as a board.

Later on we were able to reorganize our policies and by-laws that govern all of our board activities. This will really streamline how we operate as we move forward and was a constructive improvement. Thank you Bonnie Marshall for orchestrating this effort!

We had a great Tree Climbing Championship in the spring at Moss Park. This is always a real highlight for our Chapter. Not only was it a great competition for our Florida climbers but we were able to introduce tree climbing skills to children with our Kid’s Climb. It was rewarding to see the next generation getting exposed to this part of our profession.

A big thank you to all the volunteers, judges, and participants who helped make this TCC one of the best ever! Adam Jackson, Chair of the TCC Climb and Bonnie Marshall, Chair of the Field Day events worked hard to make everything run smoothly. The event has been moved permanently to the Spring going forward.

Our Trees Florida Conference had some new events. Several board members hosted the “First-Time Conference Attendee” lunch. We had a great time exchanging ideas and information with our new guests! It’s encouraging to meet new people and see our organization growing! The other new event was the “Women in Arboriculture” lunch. Thank you Mary Edwards for speaking to an overflowing capacity crowd. Hopefully, we can have many more events like these in the future.

We had many more fantastic educational programs throughout the year. Thank you to Norm, Jan and Patty as they help us organize and plan all these events. Thank you to Lori Ballard and all the members of her Education Committee for the great job they have done not only this year but year in and year out.

It’s great knowing that we are all working together to build up the tree industry and ourselves through these educational programs. I’m am very grateful for what the Chapter has done to help me be more successful in my career. I have learned so much not only about trees but have met so many friends along the way. We have a great group of people that make up the Florida Chapter!

Thank you for giving me the opportunity to serve as your president for 2018!

Your Florida Chapter ISA President,

Scott Shultz

President, Florida Chapter ISA

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 Cell: 321-229-7492
Scott.Shultz@disney.com

Lori Ballard, Past President ('18)
 E Sciences
 12103 98th Ave.
 Seminole, FL 33772
 Cell: 727-403-5980
lballard@esciencesinc.com

Adam Jackson, Vice President ('18)
 Davey Tree Expert Company
 123 Atlantic Drive
 Suite 111, Maitland, FL 32751
 Phone: 407-331-8020
 Cell: 407-616-8618
adam.jackson@davey.com

Alison Summersill, Treasurer (18-'19)
 Advance Tree Pros
 7242 Gardner Street
 Winter Park, FL 32792
 Phone: 407-276-2459
ali@advancetreepros.com

Directors

Rob Calley, Commercial Arborist Representative ('18-'20)
 Backridge Tree Service Inc.
 11 Miracle Strip Pkwy, Ft. Walton Beach, FL 32548
 Office Phone: 850 240-2829
 Personal Phone: 850 699-2474
backridge17@gmail.com

Jordan Upcavage, Consulting Arborist Rep. ('16-'18)
 Independent Tree Service, Inc.
 PO BOX 4875
 Tampa, FL 33677
 Phone: 813-245-1566
Jordan.independenttree@gmail.com

Bonnie Marshall, Grower
 Davey Tree Expert Co.
 Regional Business Developer - FL
 Kent, OH 44240
 Phone: 352-316-0264
bonnie.marshall@davey.com

Dr. Ed Gilman, Educator Representative ('16-'18)
 University of Florida Emeritus
 12865 Mead Landing Court
 Jacksonville, FL 32232
 Phone: 352-262-9165
egilman@ufl.edu

Kimberly Pearson, Municipal Arborist Representative ('17-'19)
 City of Fort Lauderdale
 700 NW 19th Avenue
 Fort Lauderdale, FL 33311
 Phone: 954-828-5200
kpearson@fortlauderdale.gov

Ron Collins, Utility Arborist Representative ('17-'19)
 Lake City, FL 32055
 Phone: 352-333-9370
Rrcna@comcast.net

Carson Smith, Climbing Rep. ('18 - '20)
 O'Neil's Tree Service
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 Ozona, FL 34660
 Phone: 727-599-7548
carson@oneilstreeservice.com

Julie Iooss, FUFCA Representative ('16-'18)
 Oviedo, FL 32765
jiooss9@yahoo.com

Ryan Jones, Attorney Representative ('16-'2)
 Traub Lieberman Straus & Shrewsberry
 181 - 79th Street S.
 Petersburg, FL 33707
crj.esq@gmail.com

Dr. Andrew Koeser, At Large ('18)
 University of Florida
 14625 CR 672
 Wimauma, FL 33570
 Phone: 813-633-4150
akoeser@ufl.edu

Kris Stultz, At Large ('18)
 BrightView
 2395 Sabastian Street
 Mount Dora, FL 32757
Kris.stultz@brightview.com

Florida Chapter Trustee:
 Mr. Rick Joyce

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[Wilt continued from page 1](#)

on the lowest (oldest) leaves and move up the canopy, progressively killing younger leaves (figure 3 and 4). The spear leaf is the last leaf to die. Death from *Fusarium* wilt occurs very quickly, with palms often dying within two to three months after initial symptom development. Due to the quick decline, a characteristic symptom of this disease is the overall canopy appearance. The necrotic leaves do not droop or break and bend down around the trunk, but remain relatively rigid (Figure 5 and 6). The initial field diagnosis can often be made based on the symptoms described above. No other fungal disease kills the entire palm canopy so quickly.

To confirm the field diagnosis, a laboratory must isolate the pathogen from the affected leaf tissue and then conduct a molecular test on the isolated culture. There are numerous *F. oxysporum* isolates that do not cause disease that are still associated with palm material. Unfortunately, it is not possible to separate pathogenic isolates from nonpathogenic isolates based on their appearance in culture. Thus, isolation of a fungus that looks like *F. oxysporum* does not confirm the field diagnosis. The fungus growing on the culture plate is then subjected to a molecular test that can confirm if the fungus is *F. oxysporum* f. sp. *Palmarum*.

Once the palm is affected by this disease, there is no cure. Currently, there is no method for preventing this disease either. Based on observations in Florida, the pathogen appears to be spread primarily by airborne spores (*conidia*) moved by wind, or possibly birds or insects. Once the disease is established in a landscape or nursery, it is thought that the disease may be transmitted from palm to palm via pruning equipment. Since the fungal pathogen is located in the vascular tissue of the leaf, the equipment used to remove leaves from an infected *Washingtonia* palm like a chain saw, lopper, pruning shears or hand saw will possible carry the fungus. For that reason, the equipment should be



Figure 2. Affected leaf petiole/rachis with internal discoloration due to fungal infection, (courtesy Dr. M. Elliott)



Figure 3. Lower leaves dying first



Figure 4. Mid-canopy dying (Courtesy: H. Mayer/IFAS-UF)

mezcla de segmentos de folios sanos, cloróticos y necróticos en la lámina de la hoja (figura 2).

Los síntomas de la enfermedad normalmente comienzan en las hojas más bajas (más viejas) y se mueven hacia arriba en el dosel, matando progresivamente las hojas más jóvenes (figura 3 y 4). La hoja principal (spear leaf) es la última en morir. La muerte por el marchitamiento por *Fusarium* ocurre muy rápidamente, a menudo las palmas mueren en dos o tres meses después del desarrollo inicial de los síntomas. Debido a la rápida degeneración, un síntoma muy característico es la apariencia general del dosel. Las hojas necróticas no se caen ni se rompen, se doblan alrededor del tronco y permanecen relativamente rígidas (Figura 5 y 6). El diagnóstico de campo inicial a menudo se puede hacer en base a los síntomas descritos anteriormente. Ninguna otra enfermedad causada por hongos mata todo el dosel de la palma tan rápidamente.

Para confirmar el diagnóstico de campo, se debe aislar el patógeno de la hoja afectada en el laboratorio y luego realizar una prueba molecular. Existen numerosos aislamientos de *F. oxysporum* que no causan enfermedades y están asociados con la palma. Desafortunadamente, no es posible separar aislamientos patógenos de aislamientos no patógenos en función de su aparición en el cultivo. Por lo tanto, el aislamiento de un hongo que se parece a *F. oxysporum* no confirma el diagnóstico de campo. El hongo que crece en la placa de cultivo se debe someter a una prueba molecular para confirmar si el hongo es *F. oxysporum* f. sp. *Palmarum*.

Una vez que la palma se ve afectada por esta enfermedad, no hay cura. Actualmente, tampoco hay un método para prevenir esta enfermedad. Según las observaciones realizadas en Florida, el patógeno parece propagarse principalmente por esporas aéreas (*conidias*) movidas por el viento, y posiblemente aves o insectos. Una vez

que la enfermedad se establece en un paisaje o vivero, se cree que la enfermedad puede transmitirse de palma a otra a través de un equi-

[Wilt continued on page 6](#)



OUR TEAM

JOHN HOLZAEPFEL, CA, ACF, CF
(352)238-0917

ERIC HOYER, CA, RCA, CF
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Wilt continued from page 4

cleaned and disinfected using materials like bleach, alcohol or pine-sol (Table 1). It is important to note that a palm could be infected but appear healthy (symptomless) because the disease has not developed to the point that leaf symptoms are being expressed.

Pruning should be restricted to removal of dead or dying leaves only. Severe pruning weakens palms and may increase the risk of pathogen transmission. Pruning should be viewed as a risk factor for Fusarium wilt disease transmission and not as a benefit to the palm. ❖

Source: Fusarium Wilt of Queen Palm and Mexican Fan Palm, Dr. M. Elliott, FLREC/UF <http://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/pp278>.



Figure 5. Sequence of *Fusarium* wilt symptoms on Washington palms (Courtesy: H. Mayer/IFAS-UF)



Figure 6. Entire palm dies very quickly (Courtesy: H. Mayer/IFAS-UF)

po de poda. El patógeno se encuentra en el tejido vascular de la hoja. El equipo que se usa para remover las hojas como tijeras, serruchos y motosierra, posiblemente tenga el hongo. Por ese motivo, el equipo debe limpiarse y desinfectarse con materiales como la lejía, el alcohol y solución de pino-sol (Tabla 1). Es importante tener en cuenta que una palma podría estar infectada, pero parecer saludable (sin síntomas) porque la enfermedad no se ha desarrollado hasta el punto en que se están expresando los síntomas.

La poda debe limitarse solamente a la eliminación de hojas muertas o moribundas. La poda severa debilita las palmas y puede aumentar el riesgo de transmisión de patógenos. La poda debe considerarse como un factor de riesgo para la transmisión de la enfermedad del marchitamiento por *Fusarium* y no como un beneficio para la palma! ❖

Material	Percent solution	Soaking time
Household bleach (e.g., Chlorox®)	25% (1 part bleach + 3 parts water)	5–10 minutes
Pine oil cleaner (e.g., Pine Sol®)	25% (1 part cleaner + 3 parts water)	5–10 minutes
Rubbing alcohol (70% isopropyl)	50% (1 part alcohol + 1 part water)	5–10 minutes
Denatured ethanol (95%)	50% (1 part alcohol + 1 part water)	5–10 minutes

Table 1.

Suggested materials and soaking times for disinfecting pruning tools

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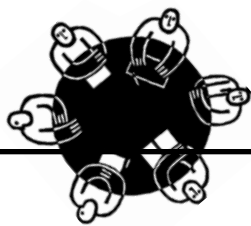


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Florida Chapter Board Updates

BOARD SHORTS:

BOARD REVISIONS TO FLORIDA ISA BY-LAWS AND POLICIES APPROVED



The Florida ISA board reviewed the proposed changes in the Chapter By-laws and voted to approve the revisions. This included revising the structure of the by-laws and adding a new policy while eliminating a few policies that

were no longer in use.

FLORIDA CHAPTER GRANT PROGRAMS APPROVED



Dr. Ed Gilman informed the board that the Grant Committee met via conference call and voted to recommend grant projects for the 2018 year. Dr. Gilman described both projects, noting that both fall within the Florida Chapter's list of priority topics. The Florida Chapter board voted to approve funding of both projects, listed below:

- Effects of Support Systems on Tree Failure
Likelihood: Dr. Brian Kane
- Continuation (2nd year) of research on Palm Lethal Bronzing: Dr. Brian Bahder (Dr. Bahder has already successfully determined the vector and is now researching how to control it).

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- The electronic quarterly newsletter, the Florida Arborist

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Ballots for three board positions for 2019 will be delivered to your in-box during the month of November. Please take a few moments of your time to read about the candidates and make your selection for the board positions that are open. Voting ends December 5, 2018.

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UF/IFAS-DEVELOPED \$50 DEVICE MAY HELP MULTIBILLION FOREST INDUSTRY

By: Brad Buck, bradbuck@ufl.edu

By developing a simple, \$50 trap, University of Florida scientists can gather spores from a pathogen of pine trees and hopefully help prevent diseases from causing more harm to the multibillion-a-year forest industry.

Millions of pine trees dot the southern landscape, and they're susceptible to many diseases, including pitch canker, said Tania Quesada, an assistant research scientist with the UF Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences.

Florida's forest industry generated \$12.55 billion in direct sales revenues in 2016, according to a UF/IFAS economic report released last year. Pines account for more than 90 percent of timber volume, and by extension, that share of the economic contributions to the Florida forest industry, said Alan Hodges, a UF/IFAS Extension scientist in food and resource economics.

Private tree owners would like to protect their product. Now, they can collect spores from areas near their pine trees, said Quesada, a researcher in the UF/IFAS School of Forest Resources and Conservation. While the UF/IFAS device lets tree owners collect specimens, they'll still need a scientist to find out if the pathogen is around in high enough amounts to pose a threat to

their trees, Quesada said. "We are aiming to develop a more user-friendly trap that would not require a lab or molecular biology techniques," Quesada said. Such a system would require more research, she said.

Quesada led a newly published study in which researchers used the inexpensive traps to gather airborne spores from pine forests near Gainesville, Florida, to see if they were infected with pitch canker. Though they conducted their research near Gainesville, researchers say their findings are applicable globally. Slash and loblolly pines are found in much of the southeast as well parts of New Mexico, Arizona, California, Nevada, Washington and Oregon, according to a UF/IFAS Extension document.

For the study, UF/IFAS researchers put the traps in areas where slash and loblolly pines were infected with pitch canker. Then they examined DNA from the spore samples and found that spore quantities varied through the season and among the sites. They saw a peak of greater spore abundance in late May and early June.

Slash is one of the pine species most susceptible to pitch canker, she said. When the disease strikes seedlings and young trees, it can kill them, but it also can kill grown trees. Because the fungus enters through wounds, pitch canker disease is common after hurricanes and storms.

Pitch canker outbreaks are episodic, and right now, growers are experiencing another outbreak, Quesada said. That's why they're looking for more efficient ways to diagnose and control the disease.

"Pitch canker is a serious disease, not only of slash pines, but for most pine species and Douglas firs," Quesada said. "In the South, it affects mainly loblolly, slash and longleaf pines, which are the most important commercial pine species in this area."

UF/IFAS continued on page 12



Utility Forester Supervisor

CNUC is currently seeking a Utility Forester Supervisor in the surrounding areas of Ocala and Orlando, FL. Individual must be a Certified Arborist, have a minimum of two years of experience in a management or leadership position, and a minimum of 5 years of experience in the utility line clearance industry.

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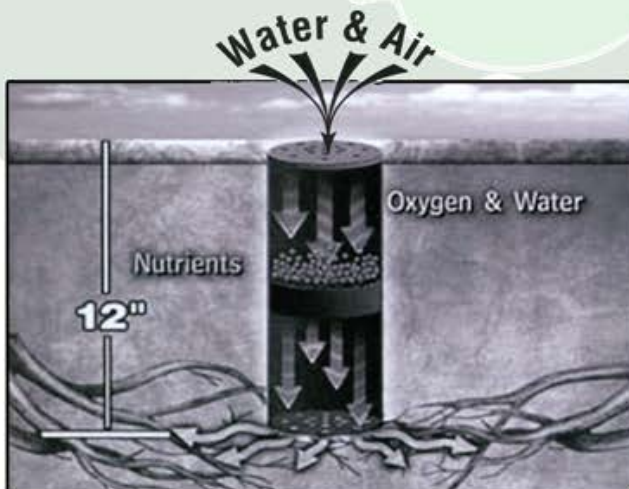
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UF/IFAS continued from page 10

Although scientists are not trying to commercialize their trap, Quesada said almost anyone can build it and modify it, depending on what questions they would like to answer, as the parts are easy to purchase and assemble.

“The device can be used for school science-fair projects, farmers, or scientists in low-income countries who want to survey small things like pollen, fungal spores and small insects,” Quesada said. “It is also being used by collaborators in Tennessee to quantify an insect that transmits a devastating viral disease of roses known as rose rosette. By monitoring these insects in nurseries, our trap is becoming vital to early detection and management of this disease as well.” ❖



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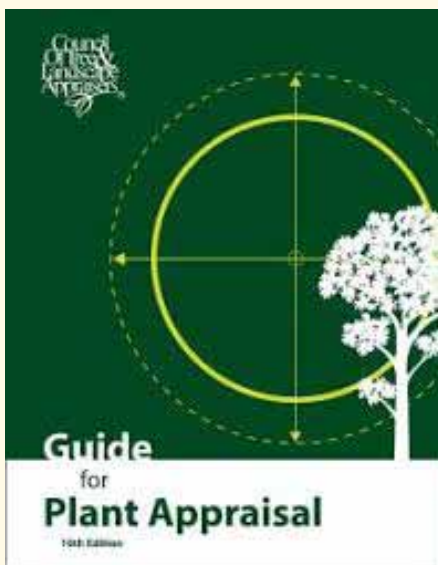
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Schoolyard Tree Cover Predicts Math Performance in High-Poverty Urban Schools

September 25, 2018

University of Illinois College of Agricultural, Consumer and Environmental Sciences

What if improving academic performance in some of the nation’s most disadvantaged and lowest-achieving schools was as easy as planting trees in the schoolyard? It’s not that simple, of course, but a new study suggests school greening could be part of the solution.

The study, published in *Frontiers in Psychology* and led by Ming Kuo from the Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Sciences at University of Illinois, investigated the link between greenness and academic achievement in 318 of Chicago’s public elementary schools. The district serves a predominantly low-income minority population, with 87 percent of third-graders qualifying for free lunch during the study year (2009-2010).

Previous studies have documented a positive relationship between greenness and academic achievement, but, until now, no one had examined the relationship in high-poverty schools.

“The goal was to see if the greenness-academic achievement relationship holds for poor, urban schools because



that’s where it matters. That’s where educators and policy makers are desperately trying to find ways to help kids reach their potential,” Kuo says.

The research team used high-resolution aerial imagery to quantify tree and grass cover in each schoolyard and its surrounding neighborhood, an improvement over previous studies that relied on coarse-grain vegetation imagery. “The older technology could basically tell us whether a 30-meter square was blacktop or green space, but the technology we’re using can tell us there’s a tree here, and a foot over, there’s grass,” Kuo explains.

The first step was to use a simple correlation analysis to identify relationships between tree and grass cover and academic performance, based on standardized test scores for math and reading. Schoolyard tree cover predicted academic performance, both for reading and math: the more trees, the better the performance. The same pattern showed up for trees in the adjacent neighborhood, but to a lesser extent. Grass, it turns out, does nothing for learning.

“There are consistent hints throughout the history of studying the effects of greenness on people that trees matter more than grass,”

Schoolyard continued on page 14



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Schoolyard continued from page 13

Kuo says. “So this finding was not a big surprise.”

The simple correlation tests helped the researchers evaluate the importance of other factors that could be related to academic performance: number of students in a classroom, student/teacher and gender ratios, and the percent of students that were bilingual. None of these showed strong ties to academic performance. But one other factor -- disadvantage -- did.

The researchers knew that race and socioeconomic status are strongly tied to academic achievement, and that they are strongly correlated with one another. Using innovative statistical techniques to simultaneously account for both factors, the team combined them into one they called disadvantage. After discovering that disadvantage strongly predicted low academic achievement in the correlation tests, the researchers included the factor in a more sophisticated analysis that accounted for disparities related to geography within the city.

That test confirmed that schoolyard trees positively

predicted math scores. Reading scores tended to be better with more schoolyard trees, but the effect fell just short of statistical significance.

At almost 90 percent free-lunch eligible and only 10 percent white, schools in the Chicago Public School system are, on the whole, disadvantaged. But there were differences: The most disadvantaged schools in the sample had roughly half the number of trees as the least disadvantaged schools.

While Kuo is quick to point out that the study is purely correlational -- it wasn't designed to show cause-and-effect -- she is optimistic about the results.

“Early math skills are one of the best predictors of later success, not just in math, but in school in general. So what we have here is a very exciting clue that maybe simply greening -- planting trees in school yards -- could potentially have a significant impact in math achievement and school success down the line for these kids. And you don't have to plaster the schoolyard with trees -- just bringing schools up to average looks like it could have a substantial effect.”

Kuo has spent her career quantifying the effects of nature on human health and behavior, but she understands people have a hard time accepting just how necessary nature is to the human experience.

“What I really want to do is figure out what helps for these schools. If trees didn't work, then I would not want people spending money on trees. I want the money to be spent where it will make a difference. The outcome matters to me.

“As a society, we have not bothered to green our poorest, low-income minority schools. It might just seem like, well, that's too bad, it would be nice for poor kids to have nice schools, but we can't afford it,” she says. “The larger body of research is suggesting that, in fact, some of the reason for the disparities we see in low-income schools versus more affluent schools may actually be due, in part, to the physical facilities we're providing. It's not a surprise to anyone that if you don't provide air conditioning or heating in a school then maybe the kids aren't going to do as well. But this is the first time we've begun to suspect that the lack of landscaping, such as trees, may help explain, in part, their poorer test scores.” ❖

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Credential holders who are approved for the recognition program receive the following benefits:

- Retirement of Cert ID to ensure it is never used again.
- Certificate of Appreciation and recognition from ISA verifying your achievement.
- Name included in the ISA Credentialing Hall of Fame December Arborist News issue.
- Name included on the ISA website Credentialing Hall of Fame.

The following individuals are the first to be recognized in the Credentialing Hall of Fame:

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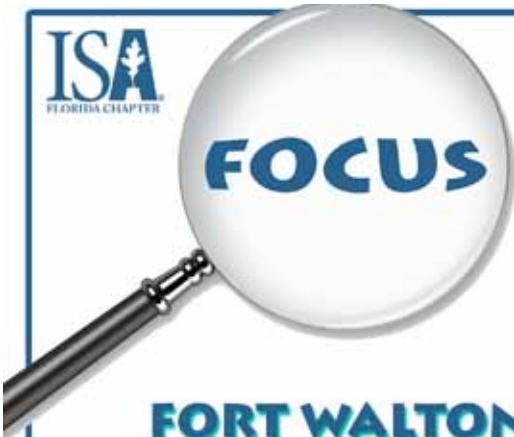
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Dear TREE Fund Friends:

It's a simple fact: people need trees as an essential component of their healthy, sustainable communities. But like anything worth having, the trees we live with require special care. Trees did not evolve to coexist with people, buildings, roads, and modern community infrastructure, so if they are to thrive in our urban forests, they need the best care possible, provided by professional arborists, drawing on fact-based, replicable research. That's where TREE Fund comes in – with your help.

TREE Fund has been a leading source for tree science funding since 2002, with hundreds of projects funded and countless valuable results shared across the global tree care community. As we write to you today, TREE Fund researchers are studying ways to mitigate the effects of root cut-back in the built environment, are working on techniques to enhance soil quality in vacant urban lots selected for afforestation, and are testing and documenting the integrity of trees under various rigging conditions to keep both personnel and property safe – to just cite a few examples from the two dozen research grants currently underway.

Many practices in arboriculture and urban forestry will change in the years ahead as urban environments evolve. TREE Fund remains one of few organizations that supports ongoing applied research that can help today's tree care professionals anticipate tomorrow's burning questions and issues before they detrimentally impact our trees – and the people and communities who benefit from them.

Can we count on your help as we work together to sustain our urban forests and empower the skilled professionals who care for them? You may make a contribution to support our work at treefund.org or by mailing a check to the TREE Fund address at the left. Your gift will truly make a difference, now and for years to come.

Sincerely,

J. Eric Smith
TREE Fund
President and CEO

Brian Kane, PhD
TREE Fund Researcher
Massachusetts Arborists Association Professor
University of Massachusetts, Amherst

P.S. Need some extra inspiration? Then check out the latest quarterly Research Report featuring Brian's work in the September issue of TREE Press at treefund.org/newsletter. That's what it's all about. That's why we do what we do!

From Your TREE Fund Liaison Chair - Eric H. Hoyer



2019 Tour des Trees: Save the Dates



On the heels of a very successful 2018 Tour des Trees in Ohio, TREE Fund is pleased to announce that next year’s Tour will be held from **September 15 to September 21, 2019**, with a planned hub in Nashville, and a route that will take our riders through Kentucky and Tennessee. ISA’s Southern and Kentucky Chapters will jointly be collaborating with TREE Fund on the 27th annual staging of our most important community engagement event, with our gratitude for their commitment to our cause.

After three particularly long Tours in a row (580, 560 and 620 miles), future route designs will have a target distance of ~425 miles over five full days of riding, slightly shortening the travel commitment required to participate in the event. Next year’s opening check-in and dinner will be on Sunday afternoon/evening, September 15th, with a closing dinner celebration on Friday the 20th followed by check-out and bike shipping on the morning of Saturday, September 21st. A full

route announcement will be made in December 2018, and registration to ride the Tour will open in early 2019.

Full-time riders will again commit to raising \$3,500 for research and education programs, with Tour expenses (including six double occupancy hotel nights, 16 meals for each rider over the course of the Tour, Tour apparel, plus ancillary support and program activities) defrayed by TREE Fund’s generous corporate

partners. This structure will again allow funds raised by riders to be fully applied to TREE Fund’s next year budget for new research and education awards, payments on multiple year research grants, and/or endowment gifts to fund future research or education. Part-time and virtual Tour options will again be available.

Our long-time Tour Director Paul Wood of Black Bear

Adventures will be returning to plan and manage the 2019 Tour, and he has been engaged for 2020 and 2021 as well; we are in the early planning and conversation stages for those years, with a focus on the Rocky Mountain and Great Plains regions of the country. This event is an extraordinary rolling celebration of community that participants often describe as “life changing” . . . so we hope that this early announcement may inspire veteran and new riders alike to begin planning, training and fundraising for the next installment of our epic annual adventure! ❖



New U.S. Forest Service Chief

U.S. Secretary of Agriculture Sonny Perdue announced that Vicki Christiansen will serve as the 19th Chief of the U.S. Department of Agriculture's (USDA) Forest Service. Christiansen has been serving as Interim Chief since March of this year. Following the announcement, Secretary Perdue issued the following statement:

“As a former wildland firefighter and fire manager, Chief Christiansen knows what’s needed to restore our forests and put them back to work for the taxpayers. Vicki’s professional experience makes me confident that she will thrive in this role and hit the ground running.”

Vicki Christiansen has been serving as the interim Chief at the U.S. Department of Agriculture’s Forest Service in Washington, D.C. Prior to that she was Deputy Chief for State and Private Forestry where she had oversight of Fire and Aviation Management, Tribal Relations, Forest Health Protection, Cooperative Forestry, Grey Towers and Conservation Education. She joined the Forest Service in 2010 as the Deputy Director of Fire and Aviation Management. Vicki has worked extensively on the National Cohesive Wildland Fire Management Strategy bringing her experience as a line officer, land manager, wildland fire fighter and State Forester to the effort.

Prior to joining the Forest Service, she served as the Arizona State Forester and Director of the Arizona Division of Forestry. Vicki also served as the Washington State Forester where she had a 26-year career with Washington State Department of Natural Resources (DNR).

Vicki has been a wildland fire fighter and fire manager for 36 years. She has numerous credentials in the wildland fire program with a special expertise as a fire line-blasting advisor. Vicki has a B.S. in Forest Management from the University of Washington (1983, cum laude). ❖



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MRS. STANDFORD'S
PECAN PIE

And so, it came to pass that I found myself at trial. Not just any trial. This was eminent domain, the government's, or any condemning authority's, right to take your property if it can demonstrate the taking serves the most good for the most people. The authority retains experts to assess the value of what shall be taken to ensure that the offer is just compensation in the marketplace. Article 5, the Bill of Rights.

Of course, one side's opinion of just compensation differs from the other side's idea of just compensation. And that is where the rubber meets the road, and where the mischief begins in many situations.

In this matter, I was retained by the property owner's attorney. At issue was the value of pecan trees in a grove located in the deep South. These were not just any pecan trees. No siree. These pecan trees were the pride of the South, and the joy of one Mrs. Stanford.

Yep. The Mrs. Stanford. Best of Show pecan pie for the last 10 years running at the state fair. No one made a better pecan pie than the celebrated Mrs. Stanford. There were those who attempted to make a better pie; however, nobody ever produced the product that judges at the

state fair declared better than Mrs. Stanford's.

The moment I drove onto the pecan grove I knew this matter was

going to trial. The pecan grove itself was of the highest order. Very well maintained. The equipment, although old, was in top-notch shape, including the paint job. Inside the barn where the harvest was made ready for the marketplace hung all of the blue ribbons awarded to her singularly delicious pecan pies. Pictures of her family working in the grove were posted in prominent view. There was no way Mrs. Stanford would accept any offer made by the government. And I realized this before I even spoke with her.

It took me a few days to inventory and analyze the grove. I then returned to my office for the laborious task of valuing the trees and the product by comparable pricing in the marketplace. In front of me was a long drive home. Also, in front of me, just prior to my departure, was Mrs. Stanford, holding that which I could only hope she was holding: yes, one of her celebrated pecan pies for me to take home. Admittedly, I did not get past the first convenience store without procuring a spoon to dispatch in short order Mrs. Stanford's delicious product. The pie was amazing. Never before and never since have I eaten a pecan pie of that singular quality and taste.

Two years passed, and I found myself sitting in the courtroom. As if announced by Gabriel himself, sounding his finest horn, the man who was to cross-examine me at trial entered. I had never seen anything quite like this gentleman, from his two-tone, brown-and-white fine-leather shoes, to his three-piece seersucker suit, adorned by a matching bowtie and topped with a straw hat. A southern gentleman's straw hat, may I add.

This was going to be a long afternoon.

My direct examination having been concluded, the attorney in the three-piece seersucker suit stood and asked permission from the judge to approach me. That request having been granted, he strolled with the air of total confidence and assurance that I was about to be reduced to rubble.

An expert can pretty much tell at the onset of cross-examining questions just exactly how strong his opinion is. When a cross-examining attorney immediately sets out to assassinate my character in front of the jury, I know that I have made a very good case based upon my

Samnik continued on page 23



Samnik continued from page 22

research, marketplace activity, and resultant opinions.

Questions came regarding my net worth. Questions regarding how much I charge an hour. Questions regarding at what brand name hotel did I spend the night before trial. Receipts from that hotel displaying for all to see if I consumed alcohol the night before trial. What did I eat? How much did the meal cost? All of these questions are meant to sway the jury to believe that I am a hired gun. The tactic seldom, if ever, works. Juries are not stupid. On the contrary, they are very smart and quite intuitive. The matter for which they find themselves sitting in a jury box, away from their families and jobs, has nothing to do with how much I make an hour or what my net worth is. Nonetheless, many attorneys still use this approach to discredit the expert, rather than attacking that which is defensible, his or her opinions.

The southern gentleman pivots on his heel and, looking at the jury straight in their eyes, and asks me if I am a friend of Mrs. Stanford's. This question hopefully discredits me as being an advocate for Mrs. Stanford. Of course, I am not a friend of Mrs. Stanford. Whatever would have given you that idea? Well, did I know that Mrs. Stanford's

pecan pies won blue ribbons at the state fair 10 years running? Yes, I knew that, but it had nothing to do with my opinion of value.

“And you state again, suh, that you are not a friend of Mrs. Stanford?”

“Of course, I'm not a friend of Mrs. Stanford's; I hardly know the woman. Met her for the first time in my life a couple of years ago and spent no more than an hour or so interviewing her regarding her grove.”

“I see, well, I don't know what you boys in Florida call a friend, but in these here parts if someone gives you a homemade pecan pie, most especially if that pecan pie was baked by Mrs. Stanford, you'se a friend. Isn't that right, ladies and gentlemen of the jury?”

He folds his arm and looks the jury straight in their eyes. It seems that a whole lot of people wish they had one of Mrs. Stanford's blue-ribbon pecan pies. Folks who live locally. Folks who see Mrs. Stanford shopping at the Piggly Wiggly every week. And here is an old Florida boy who receives from Mrs. Stanford that which many have coveted?

Samnik continued on page 24

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Sammik continued from page 23

“And you’re trying to tell these hard-working gentlemen and gentle ladies of the jury that you ain’t a friend of Mrs. Stanford? That you wouldn’t inflate, maybe just a little bit, the value of her pecans, having tasted the end product? The blue-ribbon-awarded pies for the last 10 years at our state fair?”

Perfect. Just where I hoped I would be found one day at trial!

Well, three days later the jury returned a verdict whose amount matched my opinion of value. I must confess it was a long three days for me and my thoughts. And while I may never fully understand the meaning of a pecan pie, I certainly look at them now differently than I ever looked at them before I met Mrs. Stanford. And every time I see a pecan pie, my thoughts go to a brilliant attorney, dressed as though from a novel steeped in the deep South, and how close he came to dispatching me and my opinion of value in front of that jury in a courtroom located in the deep South.

I went by Mrs. Stanford’s grove a few months ago on the way to another assignment. I stopped in to say hello and pay my respects to her and her family. She and I both laughed while reminiscing about the events at her trial. Saying my goodbyes, I got into my vehicle and proceeded on to my next assignment. It being a summer day, my windows were up and my air conditioning was at full blast. It suddenly became apparent that some mischief was at hand – the aroma of a fresh-baked pecan pie arrested my senses. And, sure enough, in the backseat of my truck, lying on the floor, covered in a red-and-white checkerboard cloth, was one of Mrs. Stanford’s award-winning blue-ribbon pecan pies.

As I stopped at the nearest convenience store for some eating utensils, my mind drifted to the gentleman in the three-piece seersucker suit. I could not help but wonder if he had ever tasted one of Mrs. Stanford’s pecan pies.

But then again, pecan pies do not go well when served up with crow. ❖



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Workers’ Comp Rate to Fall: 2nd Year in a Row!

Here’s some very welcome business news: Florida’s Office of Insurance Regulation has officially approved an overall 13.8 percent decrease in workers’ compensation insurance rates for 2019! This is even slightly better than the 13.4 percent decrease proposed three months ago. And, this follows this year’s 9.5 percent rate drop. Among the reasons driving this rate decrease is the low unemployment rate. With more people working, the pool is bigger so more insurance premiums are being collected. At the same time, the number of workers’ comp claims has apparently declined which is a reflection of safer workplaces. So, be sure to check with your insurance agent as we barrel toward the new year. ❖



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News From International

ATLANTA... HERE WE COME!

ISA Welcomes New Directors to the Leadership Team

As the move to Atlanta is approaching, ISA welcomes our newest departmental directors. Here's a little background information on each of them:

Curtis Conner—Director of Financial Services

Curtis Conner is a results-driven senior financial management professional with cross-functional areas of expertise. He has a total of 18 years of experience in non-profit trade associations with 16 years in the Chief Financial Officer role. He graduated from Tennessee Technological University with a Bachelor of Science in Accounting and a Master's in Business Administration and currently holds an active license as a Certified Public Accountant. Curtis has also worked as a Certified Internal Auditor.

Tip Tucker Kendall—Director of Membership Services

Tip Tucker Kendall has worked in association management for nearly two decades as a membership specialist. Her pre-

vious experience includes serving the National Tour Association, the American Association of Equine Practitioners and the Women's Basketball Coaches Association. Additionally, she has been a speaker, writer and volunteer of the American Society of Association Executives as a member of the Membership and Marketing Section Councils. Tip is a graduate of Rhodes College in Memphis, Tennessee.

Linda Martinez—Director of Marketing Services

Linda Martinez brings more than two decades of experience to her new role at ISA. Recently, Linda served as the marketing manager for the Southern Regional Education Board. Linda managed marketing, content development, branding, print and digital (web, email and social) communications and WCAG 2.0 digital remediation for the School Improvement division. Linda earned a Master of Science degree in corporate and organizational communication from Northeastern University, a Master's Certificate in internet marketing from the University of San Francisco, and a Bachelor of Science degree in communications media from Indiana University of Pennsylvania.

Luana Vargas—Director of Credentialing Services

Luana Vargas has been working in arboriculture and education for the past 15 years. She studied under Dr. Kim Coder at University of Georgia and upon graduation joined the ISA team working in the Educational Goods and Services Department. For the past 6 years, Luana has worked at Desert Botanical Garden in Phoenix, AZ providing leadership, design, and strategic vision for their Desert Landscape School credential program. She is passionate about human development and arboriculture. She has been an ISA Certified Arborist® since 2005 and became a Board-Certified Master Arborist® in 2011. Luana She speaks four languages and believes that learning languages allows her to interact with people of diverse view points and cultural backgrounds. She is excited to re-join the ISA team and continue helping advance the professional practice of arboriculture.

These positions, along with current directors **Eduardo Aliskevich (Director of Educational Products and Services)** and **Sheilah Trail (Director Human Resources and People Services)** will round out ISA's staff leadership team that supports the organization's mission delivery.

Aside from these positions, ISA is also making great progress filling the additional open staff positions. ISA will continue to share information on new team members during the transition process. ❖

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2018 Certification Exam Schedule

The FLORIDA CHAPTER of ISA is pleased to announce our 2018 schedule of Certification exams. See the chart below for the site nearest you.

Date	Exam/ Class	Location	Time	Last Date to Register	Cost Member/ Nonmem
December 8, 2018	ISA Certified Arborist English/Spanish and Specialist Exams	Miami Dade County Extension Homestead, FL	9:00 AM to 1:00 PM	12 business days prior to exam: November 20, 2018	\$170/ \$280
February 23, 2019	ISA Certified Arborist and Specialist Exams	Broward County Extension Davie (Ft. Lauderdale), FL	8 AM to 12 PM	12 business days prior to exam: February 7, 2019	\$170/ \$280
April 13, 2019	ISA Certified Arborist and Specialist Exams	Broward County Extension Davie (Ft. Lauderdale), FL	8 AM to 12 PM	12 business days prior to exam: March 28, 2019	\$170/ \$280

There are currently 3 exams available for registration – exams are scheduled throughout the year so make sure to [check back on the website](#) when they become available. The test schedule is subject to change as additional tests and review sessions may be added.

Can't wait? Remember that most ISA credentials are conveniently available. at Pearson Vue Testing Centers throughout Florida for an additional test center fee. See the [ISA International website for more information.](#)

First-time applicants can apply online on the [International ISA website.](#)

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

The pdf of the application form (to mail in) is part of the [Certified Arborist Information pdf.](#)

The ISA International office in Champaign, IL must receive your application and exam fees AT LEAST TWELVE BUSINESS DAYS before the exam date. NO EXCEPTIONS. (The ISA International office is closed New Year's Eve, New Year's Day, Good Friday, Memorial Day, Independence Day, Labor Day, Thanksgiving Day and the day after, and Christmas week)

To purchase an ISA Certification Study Guide, call the Florida Chapter ISA at 941-342-0153 [or order online](#)

Florida Chapter ISA - 2018 Education Schedule

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

Date	Seminar/Class	Location (s)	Open for Registration
December 7, 2018	Master Class (featuring Dr. Ed Gilman)	St. Augustine	Register Online
December 14, 2018	Focus on Arboriculture	Ft. Walton Beach	Register Online
January 23, 2019	Advanced Arboriculture	Tampa	
January 25, 2019	Advanced Arboriculture	Ft. Lauderdale	

Welcome!

New Florida Chapter Members

Here are the individuals that joined the Florida Chapter during the second and third quarter of 2018. 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.

Stefan Babjak, Largo, FL
 Dennis Bell, Port Charlotte, FL
 Robert Boyd, Naples, FL
 Martin Broadnix, Jupiter, FL
 Kenneth Carlton, Crawfordville, FL
 Michelle Charrez Perez, Kathleen, GA
 Harry Childers, Saint Petersburg, FL
 James Corby, Davie, FL
 Salvatore Cumella, Fernandina Beach, FL
 Bradford Davis, Santa Rosa Beach, FL
 Jasper Dempsey, Tampa, FL
 Aaron Dobies, Coral Springs, FL
 Ben Dolan, Jupiter, FL
 Erin Downey, Tampa, FL
 Victor Edwards, HALLANDALE BEACH, FL
 Ron Faberman, Delray Beach, FL
 David Fraker, Grand Rapids, MI
 Eduardo Garcia, Tampa, FL
 Luis Garcia, Saint Petersburg, FL
 Horacio Garcia Baldizon, DAVIE, FL
 Laura Gibson, Bonita Springs, FL
 Jacob Gilliam, Sarasota, FL
 Patrick Glennon, Jupiter, FL
 Jacob Grosso, Port Orange, FL
 David Holley, Callahan, FL
 Albert Jaques, Ave Maria, FL

Terry Kincaid, Kissimmee, FL
 Spencer Kube-Ereshan, Alachua, FL
 Gregory Lahr, ORLANDO, FL
 Alejandro Lopez, O Brien, FL
 Kaydie McCormick, Sanford, FL
 Ariane McCorquodale, Micanopy, FL
 Matthew Mears, Austin, TX
 Pete Nabor, Sarasota, FL
 Dianne Pacewicz, Fruitland Park, FL
 Caitlyn Porter, Zephyrhills, FL
 Justin Porter, Miami, FL
 Wayne Prudhomme, Orlando, FL
 Jason Richardson, Saint Petersburg, FL
 Samantha Robles, Lake Worth, FL
 James Seemann, Dade City, FL
 Matt Shipley, Delray Beach, FL
 Derek Silver, Tarpon Springs, FL
 Chad Stall, Valrico, FL
 Andrew Stansell, Chuluota, FL
 Kyle Stoudenmire, Jacksonville, FL
 Eric Stroble, Hialeah, FL
 John Tedder, Tallahassee, FL
 Curtis Velsor, Woodbury, NY
 Theresa Wymer, Miami, FL
 Shaun Young, Sarasota, FL
 John Zwart, Lake 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:
jan@floridaisa.org

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 2019 Board Meeting - Dates & Locations
 March 1, 2019 - Orlando
 May 17, 2019 - Orlando

Arborist Certification Committee Report

By Norm Easey, Florida Certification Liaison

There are currently three ISA certification exams scheduled in Florida during 2018/2019. [Click here to watch for future dates.](#) The ISA Certified Arborist exam is also available at Pearson Testing Centers throughout Florida. See the ISA International website www.isa-arbor.com for more information about the various ISA arborist credentials and how to earn them.

Florida Chapter currently has 1979 Certified Arborists.

The Florida Chapter would like to congratulate the following 24 Florida or Florida Chapter individuals for earning their certifications as Certified Arborist, Municipal Specialist and Utility Specialist :

Certified Arborist

Jason Chappell, Gainesville, GA
 Michelle Charrez Perez, Kathleen, GA
 Harry Childers, Saint Petersburg, FL
 Anthony Deleon, Plantation, FL
 Robert Dexter, FORT LAUDERDALE, FL
 Randy Gonzalez, Davie, FL
 Justin Hall, Ruskin, FL
 Andrew Marquis, Gainesville, FL
 Alfonso Martinez, Stuart, FL
 Nicholas Matthews, Tavernier, FL
 Kaydie McCormick, Sanford, FL
 Forrest McCullough, Apopka, FL
 Shelby McCullough, Longwood, FL
 John Munro, Hollywood, FL
 Pete Nabor, Sarasota, FL
 Justin Porter, Miami, FL
 Matt Shipley, Delray Beach, FL
 Chad Stall, Valrico, FL
 Andrew Stansell, Chuluota, FL
 Felicia Taylor, Yulee, FL

Municipal Specialists

Melinda Mohrman, Tallahassee, FL
 Joshua Willeby, Hosford, FL

Utility Specialist

Abby Emery, Tallahassee, FL
 Christopher Pardee, Gulf Breeze, FL



Are you thinking about becoming certified?

[Visit the International ISA website](#)

To access the certification application handbook with further information.

[CLICK HERE TO VIEW EXHIBITOR RULES](#)

EXHIBITOR FORM: Saturday only
Florida Chapter Tree Climbing Championship

See www.floridaisa.org for full details on dates, location and due date.
 Fill out and send this Exhibitor Form; the park may require further items.



Please PRINT or TYPE:

Contact Name _____
 Company _____
 Address _____
 City _____ State _____ Zip _____
 Phone # _____ EMail Address _____

Please list the names of the individuals (and tee shirt sizes) who will be representing your company (registration is for two representatives per exhibitor booth for **Saturday only**)

Name on badge 1 _____ Tee Shirt size _____
 Name on badge 2 _____ Tee Shirt size _____
 Lunch preference: Regular lunch Vegetarian lunch

TREE CLIMBING CHAMPIONSHIP & FIELD DAY EXHIBITOR OPPORTUNITIES

Outdoor Exhibitor space for Equipment/Trucks/Displays \$ 400.00
 (payable with a monetary payment, appropriate gear or prizes, of combination of both)

- Exhibitor SETUP will be from 8:00 am to 9:00 am on Saturday, the morning of the climbing preliminary event.
- Exhibitor BREAKSOWN is when competition ends or 30 minutes before sunset
- Exhibitors provided space for one (1) large truck or two (2) small pieces of equipment, or an outdoor display.
- Exhibitors will be provided on-site signage and recognition in the Field Day program
- Each park has its individual rules regarding active selling of goods and services; please inquire.

*see Exhibition rules attached to this form or at www.floridaisa.org

I have read the terms and conditions of this application and the attached Florida Chapter ISA Tree Climbing Championship & Field Day Exhibition rules and agree to them accordingly.

Print Name _____ Signature _____ Date _____

MONETARY PAYMENT

Payment: Charge to Visa, MasterCard or Discover Check enclosed (payable to Florida Chapter ISA) Check # _____
 Card Number _____ Exp Date _____ CV Code _____
 Name on Card _____
 Card Billing Address (if different than above) _____
 Card Billing City/State/Zip _____

*** IN-KIND EQUIPMENT, GEAR OR PRIZES ***

If you plan to include gear or prizes for the TCC as part of your payment, or in addition to your exhibitor space registration, please describe your item(s) below and include a monetary value (**required**). Please contact the Florida Chapter prior to shipping items: jan@floridaisa.org

MAIL FORM OR ITEMS TO: Florida Chapter ISA - 7853 S Leewynn Court - Sarasota, FL 34240
 or SCAN/EMAIL or FAX to: jan@floridaisa.org FAX: 941-342-0463 PHONE: 941-342-0153



[CLICK HERE TO VIEW SPONSOR BENEFITS](#)

SPONSOR FORM: Sponsorship Levels listed on next page
Florida Chapter Tree Climbing Championship

See www.floridaisa.org for full details on dates, location and due date.
 Fill out and send this Sponsor Form.
 Read details regarding sponsor benefit levels.



Please PRINT or TYPE:

Name _____
 Company _____
 Address _____
 City _____ State _____ Zip _____
 Phone # (_____) _____
 EMail Address (for contacting and to send a receipt) _____

MONETARY DONATION

Amount \$ _____

- Check enclosed (Make out to Florida Chapter ISA)
- Cash Enclosed
- Credit Card VISA MasterCard Discover

Card Number _____
 Exp. Date _____ 3 or 4 digit Card Code _____
 Exact name on card _____
 Card billing address _____
 Card billing City/State/Zip _____

Your receipt will be emailed to you (please provide an email address above).

PLEASE SEND YOUR MONETARY DONATION WITH THIS DONATION FORM TO:

MAIL: Florida Chapter ISA - 7853 S Leewynn Court - Sarasota, FL 34240
 PHONE: 941-342-0153
 FAX: 941-342-0463
 EMAIL: floridaisa@comcast.net (you may submit this form as an email attachment)

DONATION OF EQUIPMENT, GEAR OR PRIZES

Please describe your donation below. Include a monetary value if you would like a receipt to be emailed to you (please provide an email address above).



PLEASE SEND YOUR DONATED ITEM(S) WITH THIS DONATION FORM TO:

BY MAIL, FED EX or UPS: Adam Jackson - 2111 Edmands Place - Apopka, FL 32703

CLIMBER ENTRY FORM (Limited to 40 climbers: max of 4 from out-of-state)
Florida Chapter Tree Climbing Championship and Field Day
 See www.floridaisa.org for full details on dates, location and due date.
 Fill out and send **BOTH** this climber form **AND** the climber waiver.



SPACE IS LIMITED/First-come, First-serve! **CHECK DUE DATE ON www.floridaisa.org**

Name _____
 Company _____
 Address _____
 City _____ State _____ Zip _____
 Phone # (_____) _____ T-Shirt size (register early so we can provide your requested size) _____
 EMail Address (for contacting and to send a receipt) _____
 Gender: Male Female
 Lunch preference: Regular lunch Vegetarian lunch

OPTIONAL EDUCATIONAL EVENT

The Outdoor Tree School is being offered on Friday (the day before the climbing event) **FREE OF CHARGE** to all registered competitors. Space may be limited - we cannot always guarantee available space.
See www.floridaisa.org for location and time.
 Registration fees for non-competitors to attend class: \$55-Florida Chapter Member or \$65-Nonmember)

- YES! You plan to attend the Outdoor Tree School on Friday for free as a climber.
 Regular lunch Vegetarian lunch
- NO, you do NOT plan to attend the Outdoor Tree School.

REGISTRATION FEES

- \$75 - Florida Chapter ISA member price
- \$125 - nonmember price **includes membership in Florida Chapter ISA for 1 year
- Check enclosed (Make out to Florida Chapter ISA)
- Cash Enclosed
- Credit Card VISA MasterCard Discover

**If you are not comfortable emailing your credit card information, please fax, mail or phone it in.

Card Number _____
 Exp. Date _____ 3 digit Card Code _____
 Exact name on card _____
 Card billing address _____
 Card billing city/state/zip _____

Submit this Entry Form, the Climber Waiver form and payment to:

MAIL: Florida Chapter ISA ♦ 7853 S Leewynn Court ♦ Sarasota, FL 34240
 PHONE: 941-342-0153 FAX: 941-342-0463
 EMAIL: jan@floridaisa.org



**FC-TCC Tree Climbing Championship
Competition Waiver Form**



Please PRINT Clearly

Contestant's Name: _____ Age: _____

Address: _____ Zip: _____

Employed by: _____

Phone: (___) _____ Email: _____

Number of years you have climbed: _____

Waiver and Hold-Harmless by Contestant

In consideration of acceptance of my application for entry as a contestant in the Climbing Championship, I hereby waive any and all claims I may have at anytime, and any and all claims which might otherwise be made by, or on behalf of, or on account of me, or by me, or by any person or entity in any way as my subrogee against the property owner and the International Society of Arboriculture, its officers, directors, employees, agents, members, guests, invitees, and any person who would be lawfully entitled to indemnification from them for any liability to, or on behalf of, or on account of me, for any injuries or damages of any kind whatsoever arising on account of or in consequence of my activities or participation in the Climbing Championship, or in any other way related to the Climbing Championship. I further agree to hold the property owner and the International Society of Arboriculture, its officers, directors, employees, agents, members, guests and invitees, safe and harmless from any expense for defense, settlement, payment of damages, or other expenses related in any way to injuries sustained by me in any way related to the Climbing Championship. I recognize and assume all risks and danger involved in my participation, and will not under any circumstances rely upon the care, attention or assurance of anyone other than myself for matters relating to my safety.

Dated _____ Signature of Contestant _____

Certification and Waiver by Employer of Contestant

I hereby certify that I am the employer or a duly authorized representative of the employer of the above-named individual planning to participate in the Climbing Championship, and that the employer has encouraged this participation. I further certify that I have satisfactorily confirmed that the employee will be covered by statutory protection levels of Workers Compensation Insurance or the equivalent, for any injuries sustained in the course of participation. The employer hereby waives any and all subrogation claims it may have against the property owner and the International Society of Arboriculture, its officers, directors, employees, agents, members, guests, or invitees, as a result of any compensation or their benefits or expenses incurred or paid by it, its insurance carrier, or otherwise on its behalf, in the event any claim or injury results from this participation, and will hold the property owner and the International Society of Arboriculture, its officers, directors, employees, agents, members, guests, and invitees safe and harmless from any expense for defense, settlement, payment of damages and other expenses relating in any way by this employee. I further certify that I am duly authorized to execute this Certification and Waiver on behalf of the employer and that any and all necessary resolutions have been duly passed and adopted by the employer.

The exact name and address of the employer, and state of incorporation (if applicable):

Dated _____

Signature of Employer or Authorized Representative _____

**Mail, fax or email (you may submit as an email attachment) this completed competition waiver form
along with the competition registration form and payment to:
Florida Chapter ISA ♦ 7853 S Leewynn Court ♦ Sarasota, FL 34240**

JUDGE & VOLUNTEER FORM
Florida Chapter Tree Climbing Championship

See www.floridaisa.org for full details on dates, location and due date.
Fill out and send BOTH this volunteer form AND the volunteer waiver.



Please PRINT or TYPE:

Name _____

Company _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone # (_____) _____ T-Shirt size (volunteer early so we can provide your requested size) _____

E-Mail Address (for contacting) _____

Allergies? Yes No Please list if yes: _____

Have you ever volunteered at any TCC event before? Yes No

List year(s): _____

Are you First Aid/CPR Certified? Yes No

Do you have experience as a gear check technician? Yes No

List any specific qualifications or past experience: _____

Lunch preference: Regular lunch Vegetarian lunch

THANK YOU FOR YOUR OFFER TO VOLUNTEER!

I am able to help:

- as a judge
- with site pre-pruning
- with site preparation the week prior to competition
- with registration
- with timing and record keeping
- with awards
- at the FC-TCC dinner on day of the competition
- other _____

Submit this Volunteer Form and the Volunteer Waiver form to:

MAIL: Florida Chapter ISA - 7853 S Leewynn Court - Sarasota, FL 34240
 PHONE: 941-342-0153
 FAX: 941-342-0463
 EMAIL: jan@floridaisa.org (you may submit this form as an email attachment)



**FC-TCC TREE CLIMBING CHAMPIONSHIP
VOLUNTEER WAIVER FORM**



Please PRINT Clearly

Volunteer's Name: _____

Address: _____ Zip: _____

Employed by: _____

Phone: (____) _____ Email: _____

Waiver and Hold-Harmless by Volunteer

In consideration of acceptance of my offer to be a volunteer for the Climbing Championship, I hereby waive any and all claims I may have at anytime, and any and all claims which might otherwise be made by, or on behalf of, or on account of me, or by me, or by any person or entity in any way as my subrogee against the property owner and the International Society of Arboriculture, its officers, directors, employees, agents, members, guests, invitees, and any person who would be lawfully entitled to indemnification from them for any liability to, or on behalf of, or on account of me, for any injuries or damages of any kind whatsoever arising on account of or in consequence of my activities or participation in the Climbing Championship, or in any other way related to the Climbing Championship. I further agree to hold the property owner and the International Society of Arboriculture, its officers, directors, employees, agents, members, guests and invitees, safe and harmless from any expense for defense, settlement, payment of damages, or other expenses related in any way to injuries sustained by me in any way related to the Climbing Championship. I recognize and assume all risks and danger involved in my participation, and will not under any circumstances rely upon the care, attention or assurance of anyone other than myself for matters relating to my safety.

Dated _____ Signature of Volunteer _____

Certification and Waiver by Employer of Volunteer

I hereby certify that I am the employer or a duly authorized representative of the employer of the above-named individual planning to volunteer at the Climbing Championship, and that the employer has encouraged this participation. I further certify that I have satisfactorily confirmed that the employee will be covered by statutory protection levels of Workers Compensation Insurance or the equivalent, for any injuries sustained in the course of participation. The employer hereby waives any and all subrogation claims it may have against the property owner and the International Society of Arboriculture, its officers, directors, employees, agents, members, guests, or invitees, as a result of any compensation or their benefits or expenses incurred or paid by it, its insurance carrier, or otherwise on its behalf, in the event any claim or injury results from this participation, and will hold the property owner and the International Society of Arboriculture, its officers, directors, employees, agents, members, guests, and invitees safe and harmless from any expense for defense, settlement, payment of damages and other expenses relating in any way by this employee. I further certify that I am duly authorized to execute this Certification and Waiver on behalf of the employer and that any and all necessary resolutions have been duly passed and adopted by the employer.

The exact name and address of the employer, and state of incorporation (if applicable):

Dated _____

Signature of Employer or Authorized Representative _____

Mail, fax or email (you may submit as an email attachment) this completed volunteer waiver form along with the volunteer registration form to:
Florida Chapter ISA ♦ 7853 S Leewynn Court ♦ Sarasota, FL 34240

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.



Florida Arborist
Florida Chapter ISA
7853 South Leewynn Court
Sarasota, FL 34240