



The Prairie Arborist

The Official Publication of the ISA Prairie Chapter Issue 1 2017



“The Crooked Trees”
near Speers SK.
Photo by
Keith Anderson



Kevin Cassells

Well spring is finally here and although the winter wasn't particularly brutal, it seemed long. I think there are many areas across some parts of the prairie and parkland that received less than there average snow cover. April showers will sure help, but if they don't arrive then the water trucks will be out in full force trying to keep the new tree plantings from drying out.

We had a great Board meeting back in January where we reviewed our policy manual, set some goals for the year, and created the operations budget for 2017. I'm pleased to report that through your positive support for our organization and events, we are now in a position to be able to and have budgeted to finish replacing the GIC's that were cashed to get us out of a financial crisis back in 2012. Thank you.

Plans are underway for the Tree Climbing Championship in Saskatoon August 25,26,27, headed up by Saskatchewan Director, Garrett Smith and his crew. The Prairie Chapter Conference will be in Moose Jaw, Saskatchewan for the first time ever October 23, & 24. Plan to come early and go through the famous tunnels of Moose Jaw and tread where Al Capone hid out in prohibition times.

Help keep Alberta Dutch Elm Disease free.

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The elm bark beetle, which transports the DED fungus, is attracted to fresh wounds on elm trees. The Alberta elm pruning ban prohibits pruning when the beetles are most active.

- Do not store elm wood
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Saskatchewan Elm Pruning Ban April 1st to August 31

Manitoba Elm Pruning Ban April 1st to July 31

Together again in Washington, DC

2017 ISA Annual International Conference and Trade Show with ITCC

28 July - 2 August 2017

The Prairie Chapter Tree Climbing Championship

will be in
Saskatoon's Kinsmen Park
August 25,26,27, 2017

Watch the website for registration forms,
volunteer forms, and
sponsorship opportunities



Thanks to the
City of Saskatoon's
Garrett Smith
for taking the lead on this event.



Thank you to the Sponsors of the 2016 Conference in Red Deer



Thank you

Save the Date The 2017 Prairie Chapter Conference and Tradeshow

will be in Moose Jaw
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October 23, 24

Home of
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a Chinese immigrant in early 1900s Canada.*

Details will be at:
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as they become available

Next Written Exam

is on
April 29, 2017 in Olds AB
Application Deadline:
April 12, 2017

Certified Arborist, Utility Specialist,
Municipal Specialist, and
Certified Tree Worker Written Exam

Note:
The time and date of the practical
exam for the Certified Tree Worker will
be determined after climbers have com-
pleted the written portion of the exam.

Hot Links
[view the calendar for a list of exam dates and locations
application](#)

Next TRAQ Workshop TBA

Call Keith at the Prairie Chapter
office to find out how you can
host a TRAQ Workshop
Phone 866-550-7464

Submitted by Katelynne Webb

Edmonton is getting greener! Tree seedlings are popping up throughout the city thanks to the continued dedication of volunteers and the Root for Trees program.

Root for Trees is an enhanced tree planting program that works to preserve and expand Edmonton's urban forest through partnerships with corporations, community groups, and individual residents. Edmontonians are invited to sign up and participate in tree planting events, in which they will be provided with all the materials required for an exciting day in nature.

With an annual goal of planting 16,000 trees and shrubs, Root for Trees is working towards doubling the size of Edmonton's urban forest.

Root for Trees offers two types of tree planting options: Guided Planting Events and Self-Guided Planting Events. Please visit edmonton.ca/rootfortrees to register as a volunteer and book your very own event, or drop-in to one of the special public events below:

Pollinator Planting

Date: Saturday, July 8

Time: 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

Location: Terwillegar Recreation Centre

Imagine living in a world without flowers, fruit, coffee, or chocolate. Thanks to the wonderful work of pollinators, you don't have to! Join Root for Trees to plant and learn about native wildflowers at the Pollinator Planting event.

Food Forest

Date: Saturday, August 26

Time: 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

Location: MacKinnon Ravine

Edmonton's Food Forest continues to grow! Join us in

planting an edible forest in Edmonton's river valley. A food forest is a self-sufficient perennial planting of native, food-producing trees and shrubs. Learn more about the urban forest, plant a tree, and enjoy the fruits of your labour!

If facilitated planting events aren't your thing, there are other ways to engage in learning and growing Edmonton's urban forest, like the yegTreeMap and yegTree Explorers program.

yegTreeMap is an online database of trees in Edmonton. Individuals, community groups, and government work together to create an accurate and informative inventory of trees in their communities. Get involved by finding trees in your neighbourhood, adding trees in your yard, and uploading photos. Learn about the eco-benefits of a single tree or group of trees, like energy conservation, stormwater filtration and air quality improvement.

yegTree Explorers is a public education initiative to increase awareness about urban forestry. Aligning with the Grade 6 Science curriculum, the program teaches students about tree growth patterns, leaf shapes and types, and resident interaction with trees.

Students interact with City foresters and use technology like the yegTreeMap to explore the community and experience the diversity of our urban forest. The City is currently piloting yegTree Explorers to 30 classrooms in Edmonton, and the waiting list for next year is growing. This program is part of a larger initiative to increase awareness about Edmonton's tree canopy and the yegTreeMap interactive tool.

Learn more about Root for Trees at: edmonton.ca/rootfortrees.



Food Forest 2016



Stantec at National Tree Day 2016

A close-up photograph of tree bark, showing numerous small, dark, scale-like insects attached to the surface. The bark has a rough, textured appearance with some lighter-colored areas where the scale insects are more densely packed.

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BugFinder was specially designed for Ontario horticulturalists that produce or maintain woody ornamentals, with visual learning styles in mind.

The App is searchable by host or by pest. What really sets **BugFinder** apart from other IPM resources is that it also uses the concept of time (Growing Degree Days (GDD) and Plant Phenology Indicators (PPI)) in the database searches.

From the WEB
Posted on February 22, 2017
Written by Jen Llewellyn for ON Nursery Crops

[Dave Cheung](#) and I are thrilled to announce that our new app, [BugFinder](#), is now available for download at the Apple App Store. AND, its a free download!!!

BugFinder will help you detect and manage insect pests on trees and shrubs in Ontario, rapidly and with a high level of certainty.

BugFinder will automatically put you in the GDD/PPI time range according to the date on your device. Users can then use the *temperature icons* to fine tune the time range according to flowering and fruiting of common plant phenology indicators in your area.

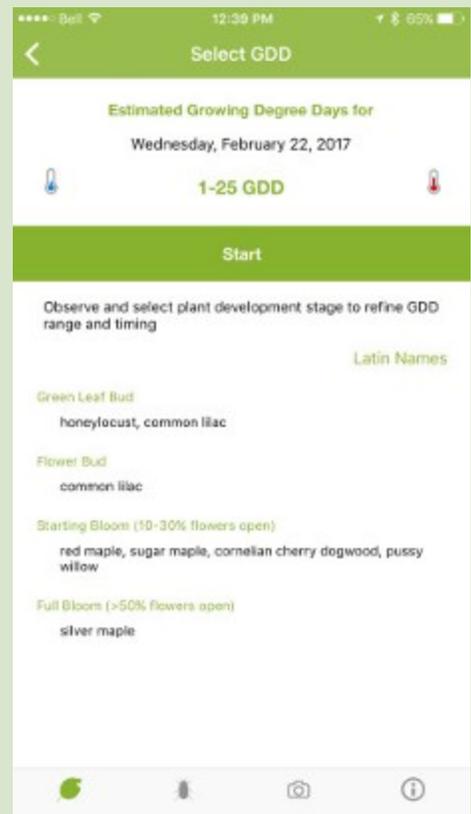
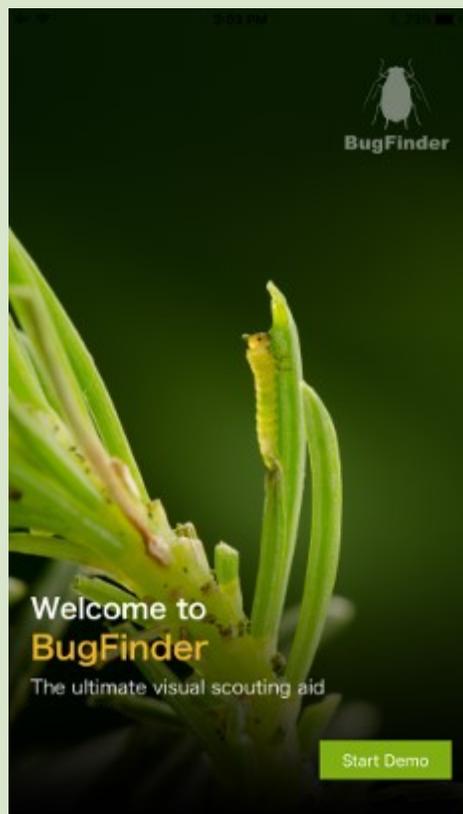
This means that **BugFinder** will provide you with information that is customized to your situation



At launch, **BugFinder** will feature over 800 high quality images of 82 species of insect and mite pests. It is the diagnostic, high quality photos that will make **BugFinder** so easy to use.

And for all of you *Android* users out there, Dave will be developing the *Android* version of **BugFinder** for release later this year.

BugFinder was 100% funded by Growing Forward 2, a federal-provincial-territorial initiative.





By Kristen Bousquet
Submitted by Cathy Reed

This story originally ran on Sustainable City Network. Written by Randy Rodgers. Empowering citizens to acquire the right trees, and plant them in the right locations, can make an important contribution to a city's sustainability goals, and the Arbor Day Foundation recently made it a lot easier for local governments and organizations to get a tree distribution program up and running.

By now, most people know the benefits of trees: they can save energy by providing shade and wind breaks around buildings, they reduce soil erosion, mitigate stormwater, provide habitat for wildlife, cool and beautify neighborhoods, absorb

carbon, clean the air and water, and raise property values.

At the same time, as every utility and street department knows, the wrong tree in the wrong place can be a headache, cost money and even endanger lives. The answer: invest up-front to distribute trees and provide homeowners with tools for selecting, planting and nurturing the right trees in the right places.

The Arbor Day Foundation launched its Energy-Saving Trees program in 2011 and has since helped 43 partners in 36 states develop "community canopy" projects.

"The program provides both the mechanism and the strategy for growing your

urban canopy through private property plantings, which can be an excellent way to reach your canopy target... and can be coordinated with tree replacement programs in cases of tree removals or emerald ash borer losses," said Kristen Bousquet, business development manager at the Arbor Day Foundation in Lincoln, Neb.

Bousquet said the foundation's "turn-key" program provides a software program that helps with homeowner education, tree tracking and measuring the benefits per tree. As a result of strategically planting trees for shade in the summer and wind breaks in the winter, Bousquet said, homeowners in certain climates can achieve up to a 20- to 30-percent savings in annual energy con- ➔



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sumption.

The data used to compute these values comes from the i-Tree research project, developed over 20 years by the U.S. Forest Service, the Davey Institute and the Arbor Day Foundation. The calculations compare the costs of planting, watering and caring for trees with their respective quantifiable benefits, Bousquet said.

“What they figured out is that for every dollar invested, you can get back an average of between \$1.37 and \$3.09 per tree in benefits,” she said, depending on the type and location of the tree. “What we’ve found is that if we can educate and help people to plant trees strategically around their homes, it leads to an increase in that energy benefit, and by maximizing that energy savings, we can potentially triple those per-tree benefits to \$9 or more per dollar spent.”

In the first five years of the Energy-Saving Trees program, the foundation has distributed nearly 190,000 trees, generating \$106 million in combined energy and community benefits, Bousquet said. The amount of energy saved would be like taking 34,000 households “off the grid” for an entire year, she added.

The foundation’s program can be customized to fit any community’s needs. The number of trees distributed can range from 100 to 30,000 per season. Tree sizes and species can be selected to fit local needs. Homeowners use an online interface to order the trees, and distributions can be handling by mail, pick-up or a hybrid of both. Agencies can purchase an all-inclusive program, where the Arbor Day Foundation handles everything from start to finish, or they can purchase the software only, to work with an existing program, Bousquet said. Pricing is on a per-tree basis and varies from \$14 to \$50 per tree, depending on tree size, variety, and the delivery options. There are no separate software or user fees to participate in the program.

Many of the communities who use the program find local partners to help with funding, outreach and distribution of the trees. The web-based system can use the foundation’s Energy-Saving Trees brand or the branding can be customized to match a community’s new or existing brand.

Bousquet demonstrated the software features of the program in a Sustainable City Network webinar last week. An audio/video recording of that presentation is available for free download in the SCN content store.

Ian Jurgensen, sustainability project manager for the city of Orlando, Fla., joined Bousquet for the presentation and outlined how his city uses Energy-Saving Trees to manage its urban tree canopy initiative, One Person, One Tree. That project is part of Mayor Buddy Dyer’s citywide sustainability program, Green Works Orlando.

Jurgensen said the Arbor Day Foundation’s software was easy to integrate into the city’s initiative, which has a goal of increasing Orlando’s tree canopy 40 percent by 2040. That will require the addition of 250,000 trees, or roughly one tree for every resident of Orlando – thus the name “One Person, One Tree.” Achieving that goal will save the same amount of ener-

gy as permanently removing 143 homes from the electrical grid, taking 1,000 cars off the road and removing enough water from the city’s storm water system to fill about 115,000 swimming pools each year, Jurgensen said.

Orlando used several funding sources to pay for the program, which gives trees away free to the public. The city controls the species of trees included in the program in order to meet its biodiversity goals and ensure the trees are appropriate for the local climate and the central Florida landscape.

He said the Energy-Saving Trees system helps the city track not just how many trees are being distributed, but exactly where they’re being planted, what species of trees are being used and how the city is progressing toward its environmental goals.

“The app that’s online is very helpful. It’s easy for residents to use, and all those benefits are automatically tracked from a 20-year cumulative standpoint,” Jurgensen said. “Orders come in and we can see them in real time, which is hugely helpful when tracking the effectiveness of marketing,” he said.

One of the customizations Orlando found helpful was the ability to upload its GIS boundaries into the system to manage and track the jurisdictions of the tree plantings. It also allowed the city to customize the terms of service with local rules and regulations – requiring tree recipients to notify the local utility before planting the trees, for example.

Since launching the program in November 2015, Orlando has distributed more than 3,700 trees to 2,537 homeowners and has accumulated \$1.9 million in benefits (about \$14 per \$1 invested), Jurgensen said.

Bousquet said about half the partner organizations currently utilizing the program are using pickup events to distribute the trees, while the other half use the direct delivery option. With both distribution methods, citizens order the trees online. The pickup event allows larger trees to be distributed and gives communities the opportunity to provide special programming, training and engagement at the event. The direct delivery option requires less planning and organization, but generally is limited to smaller potted trees.

For more information, visit ArborDay.org/ESTrees.



Submitted by Dwayne Neustaeter

Have you been frustrated by trying to cut with a dull chain?

Have you sharpened a chain and been unsatisfied with the results?

This short article will serve as a guide to help you sharpen your own chains so they cut like they did when they were new. It is possible to make an old dulled chain perform as well as it did as when it was brand new. In order to sharpen a chain two files are needed; a flat file and a round file. A chainsaw cuts by chiseling wood out of a kerf created by the left and right hand side plate cutters. When a saw stops cutting well it is because these cutter parts of the tooth have become dulled or blunted and need sharpening. A guide is also an important and needed sharpening component, file guides simply help ensure that we are getting the filing angles set by the manufacture back to their original after being dulled or blunted.

The first thing to consider in keeping your chain sharp is prevention. When someone dulls a chain it is often from cutting into the ground, known as 'grounding' the saw. Keep your saw chain away from abrasive materials like sand, asphalt, gravel, concrete, nails, metal, tin, drywall or charcoal. A chainsaw chain will keep its edge for many cuts, days or even weeks if you are only cutting wood that is free from abrasives.

It is best to hold your chainsaw firmly with both hands at all times and use your chain brake when not cutting and during starts. Use good posture and stay in a strong upright stance, when cutting low to the ground, remember to bend at your knees rather than bending over at your waist and straining your back. By using both hands and maintaining good posture and positioning you can avoid accidentally 'grounding' your saw. Finally, wear all necessary personal protective equipment; this includes safety glasses, chaps, helmet, gloves and work boots.

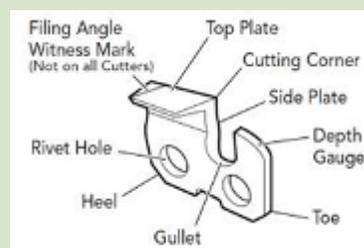
A good B.C. logger friend of mine and Arboriculture instructor always tells our students; **"sharpen your chain to keep it sharp, not to make it sharp"**. What Kyle means is that it is much easier to sharpen a chain that is only slightly damaged or dull, than to sharpen one that has been run on and on after being initially dulled. When a chainsaw is operated dull and forced to cut it causes more wear and deteriorates other parts of the saw as well. It is generally quite obvious or noticeable when your chain is getting or has gotten dull. When you notice this happening then it is time to stop and sharpen.

The biggest mistake I see made by people sharpening chain is not using guides. Anyone can sharpen a chain very well if they use a quality guide. Your local chainsaw dealer has a selection of guides and there is one model in particular that I have found makes sharpening fast and easy. This sharpener requires no power source and has simple instructions etched right into the handles so you'll never lose them. In addition the guide itself acts as a storage case and protects your file from damage when not in use.

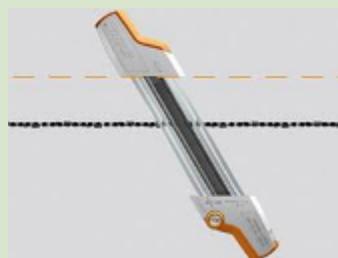
This is the Stihl 2-in-1 Easyfile. This new system allows you to sharpen your cutters and set the depth gauge with every stroke which saves you time. It is important to ask your dealer which size of file you need for your saw chain. They will give you the help you need to get you the correct sized sharpening system.



A well sharpened chainsaw cutter has three areas that require attention when sharpening; 1) top plate chisel, 2) side plate cutter and 3) depth gauge chisel height. How much is chiseled is controlled by the depth gauge. When these angles and height are filed to manufactured specifications until sharp then your chain will cut like new regardless of how old it is.



Hold the guide flat (no angle necessary). This ensures the depth gauge flat file will work properly. Next match the angle of the guide with your bar as illustrated, this ensures you at the correct top plate angle. Then to sharpen the cutters push the round file through the gullet of the cutter, while simulta-



(Continued on page 11)



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neously dressing the depth gauge with the flat file.

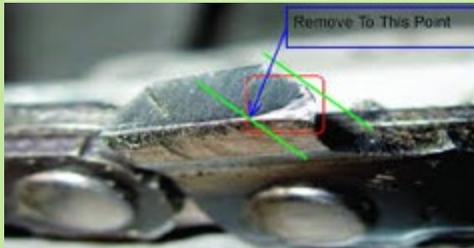
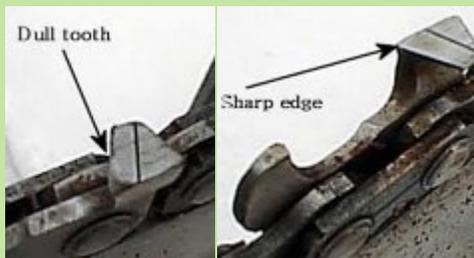
Remember these files work only on the push stroke; never draw the files back with pressure as this will dull your files. Always file on the push stroke and only use moderate pressure; an old friend of mine always says; "chainsaw filing is not a muscle



sport, let the file do the work."

The guide helps you ensure the angles are correct and then all you need to do is know when it is sharp. Sharp cutters will show no glare or glint on their leading edges, if there is

shine or glare visible it means that the leading is bent or blunted and therefore still dull. When sharp they



will be straight until they reveal no glare or reflection off of bent edges. There are many myths, legends and facts that go around about sharpening chain, and I cannot dispel or speak to them all in this short article. I have been a professional arborist

for 30 years and have been professionally training people in the safe use of chainsaws, their maintenance and care for over twenty years. When it comes to sharpening I come back to the same conclusions over and over, and my best guidance when it comes to sharpening chains is to use a guide.

Dwayne Neustaeter is president, curriculum programmer and lead instructor of Arboriculture Canada Training & Education Ltd., an organization focusing on meeting the training and business needs of arborists and



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By Liam Casey *The Canadian Press*
 Tuesday March 21, 2017
 Shared from Facebook

A group of Canadian researchers say they have, for the first time, successfully raised wasps that will be used this summer as a weapon against an insect that is ravaging forests.

Natural Resources Canada decided to rear their own wasps, named *Tetrastichus planipennis*, in order to increase their number in an escalating battle with the destructive emerald ash borer beetle that has killed millions of ash trees in Canada and the U.S.

Since 2013, the federal organization had been importing the wasps from their counterparts at the United States Forest Service in Brighton, Mich., and releasing them in 12 areas in Ontario and Quebec, said Krista Ryall, the lead researcher on the project.

"We're hoping to raise about 10,000 for this summer," Ryall said. "That will be enough to do five or six more sites across Ontario and Quebec."

The wasps are part of a "bio-control" program out of a laboratory in Sault Ste. Marie, Ont. — and the only "large scale attempt to manage the emerald ash borer," Ryall said.

It is a targeted approach, she said.

The female wasp will seek out trees infested with larvae of the emerald ash borer and lay 50 to 60 eggs on the larvae itself. The wasp's larvae then feasts on the emerald ash borer larvae.

"The wasps will eat and kill the larvae and then you get more wasps coming out instead of the emerald ash borer," Ryall said. "Over time the wasp population builds up and we hope that they will help kill a fair number of emerald ash borer out there."

The wasps then fly out, breed, lay more eggs and die within a month of taking flight. The cycle repeats a few times during the summer, Ryall said.

The wasps, which are native to China, have no effect on humans or other organisms, according to American research, she said.

Read more:

[Emerald ash borer could decimate the urban forest](#)
[Time to celebrate and protect Toronto's trees: Editorial](#)

The emerald ash borer, a beetle native to Asia, was first detected in Canada in Windsor in 2002 and by 2007 it had spread to Toronto, according to Natural Resources Canada research.

"The spread is a major concern," Ryall said. "We're find-

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ing that 99 per cent of ash trees are killed within five-to-seven years of emerald ash borer getting into an area and causing extensive mortality.”

The beetle has continued its slow spread east and north and entered western Quebec in 2008 and reached Montreal by 2011.

It was also detected in Thunder Bay, Ont., last summer, Ryall said,

About 60,000 wasps targeting the emerald ash borer have been released so far, Ryall said, noting that the successful Canadian breeding program means Natural Resources will be able to ramp up the numbers needed to try to save ash trees.



Photo is from Natural Resources Canada



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Alberta - 2017 Spring Schedule

Chainsaw Safety & Cutting Techniques: Edmonton - May 8, Calgary - May 12

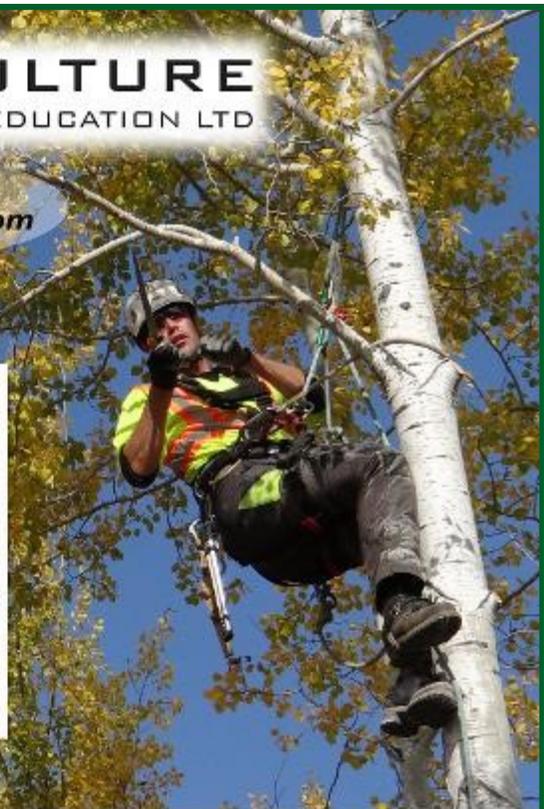
Tree Pruning: Edmonton - May 9, Calgary - May 11

Tree Climbing, Fall Protection & Work Positioning: Calgary - May 23 & 24

Technical Tree Falling & Cutting: Calgary - May 25 & 26

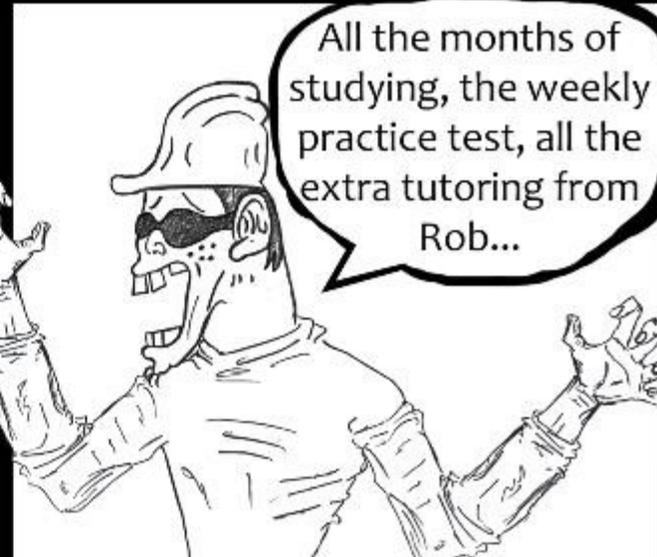
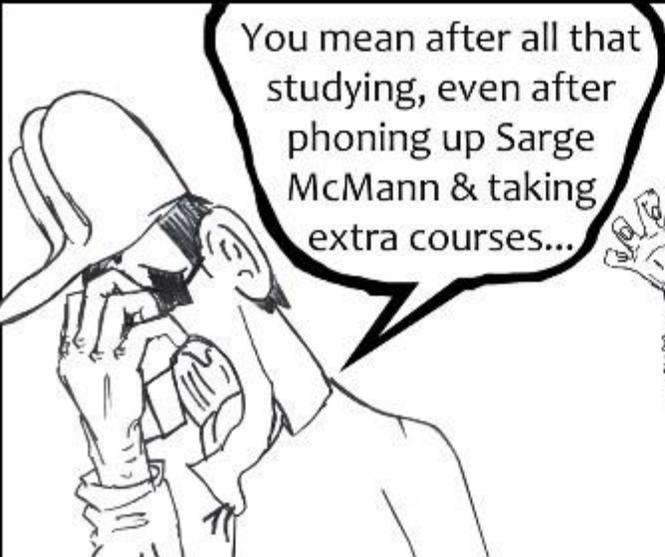
Tree Dynamics & Integrated Risk Assessment - Red Deer, June 12 & 13

Tree Appraisal Qualification - Red Deer, June 14 - 16



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Issue Dates:	Submission Deadline
July	June 15
October	September 15
December	November 15
March	February 15

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Submit articles, ads, letters and written requests to:

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The ADVANCE combination of lightweight design, excellent fit, breathability, water resistance and flexibility make it the perfect choice for any physical task. The pants and jacket were designed for professionals, by professionals and use the latest technology in materials to ensure maximum comfort and protection.

ADVANCE Plus Safety Pants

STIHL is excited to introduce to you, the latest in high-performance safety apparel; ADVANCE Plus. Made with today's arborist and forest worker in mind, these pants offer the ultimate in comfort and protection. If you're ready to feel the difference and take your game to the next level, get yourself into these pants today.

- Schoeller® Dryskin® outer fabric is water-repellent, breathable and stretchable; allowing you to perform all the daily acrobatics that come with the job
- Durable nylon on the knees will protect you from rough bark in the trees and obstacles on the ground
- The lightweight of these pants will reduce fatigue and increase your manoeuvrability and comfort
- Convenient cargo pocket with snaps on the left leg and tool pockets on the right leg
- Exceeds cUL/BNO and meets WCB-BC standards for cut protection with 3,600 feet per minute threshold chain speed; making these the ultimate safety pant right across Canada
- Front and back (below the knee) chain saw protection
- Chain saw protection comes up to waistband

ADVANCE X-Shell Jacket

What do an arborist sixty feet up a tree, a landscaper blowing leaves for fall clean-up and a cyclist enjoying their favourite trail on the weekend have in common? They're all wearing the ADVANCE X-Shell Jacket from STIHL. This jacket is extremely versatile and comfortable due to its 4-way stretch material, fleece lining and water-repellent properties. It is wind-resistant and breathable and does a great job of transferring moisture away from your body, keeping you warm and dry during any work / recreational activity. Whether your next adventure involves a STIHL power tool, or an ATV, X-Shell will have your back.

- 4-way stretch comfort
- Wind/water-repellent and breathable
- Fleece lined
- Hip and chest zip pockets
- Abrasion resistant nylon on forearms
- Rubber protection on shoulders for carrying tools



ADVANCE
PLUS SAFETY
PANTS



ADVANCE
X-SHELL JACKET

QUALITY AT WORK FOR OVER 90 YEARS.

For over 90 years, STIHL has been a world market leader and innovator in outdoor power equipment. German engineered products featuring the latest pioneering technologies make STIHL the preferred choice for professionals, consistently providing uncompromising quality. STIHL products are only available at independent STIHL Dealers who provide personal advice and expert service. Thank you for the continuous support and for making STIHL the brand you trust.

* #1 Selling Brand in Canada* is based on an independent market share analysis of gasoline-powered handheld outdoor power equipment from 2016. Source: TraQline Canada.

STIHL®

#1 SELLING BRAND IN CANADA



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