



The Prairie Arborist

The Official Publication of the ISA Prairie Chapter Issue 2 2021



Cover photo by Keith Anderson



Bonnie Fermanuik
President

Summer has arrived and I'm enjoying the sights and sounds of everyone getting out. It is nice to see the lifting of some restrictions allowing people to enjoy their summer.

The Chapter just completed another successful full TRAQ Workshop and a requalification. Thanks to all who attended for following the required guide-

lines and thanks to Dwayne Neustaeter for his great instruction.

Thanks to all of you that have attended our webinar series supported by our sponsor Davey Tree Expert Company.

We are very excited to be hosting our first ever Prairie Chapter Women in the Trees (PCWT). Thanks to Charlene Scott, Peter LaRue, Keith Anderson for all your work to make it happens. Also, a big thanks to the sponsors: Arborist Supply-Calgary, Greendrop Tree Care-Winnipeg, Bartlett Tree Experts-Calgary, The Arborist Store-Mississauga, Olds College and Davey Tree.

We are busy planning for the fall conference, IN Person. It will be great to see you all again in St. Albert. If you are interested in the Chapter consider running for one of the board positions that will be open.

I can't close without a special thanks to Keith Anderson, our executive director that has been able to manage all the additional challenges that Covid 19 has presented. Changing regulations across the 3 provinces has meant a weekly or daily check on what we can do and not do.

Take time this summer to enjoy the outdoors and enjoy your family. Spending time outside helps us be better in both our family life and work life.



Jean Mathieu Daoust

Awards update Hello fellow chapter members, we have an update on a few awards that some of our region's municipalities have recently been granted.

St-Albert Ab. has been declared a tree city for the second year in a row. I am sure that if you have been to St-Albert you would be surprised at the green infrastructure's abundance within.

Regina Sk. Has also been declared a tree city. Like many of the municipalities throughout the prairie chapter most of the trees were planted as areas of the city were colonized and developed. Today we see many of those original trees and many new younger trees, this just goes to show how valuable trees are to our species.

Where people go, trees follow. I would like to invite anyone in the membership to share any type of award they have received or know someone who has been recognized for their efforts. Awards doesn't have to be limited exclusively to criteria and nominations, let's celebrate each other's achievements big or small.

Please don't hesitate to e-mail or call me with your success story so we can share it in our next newsletter.

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Join us July 13 for this exciting virtual event geared specifically for you! All educational sessions and CEU opportunities will be available for on-demand viewing for registered attendees for 60 days after the event.

For more information and to register for this event click the link below.

[ISA 2021 Virtual Tree Climber Summit!](#)



Save the Date

Tree Risk Assessment Requalification

Did you know that you can now renew your TRAQ designation on line?

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You can register with any Chapter that is hosting an online TRAQ renewal.

For upcoming TRAQ renewal go here:

<https://www.isa-arbor.com/events/eventscalendar/index?category=ISA+Qualification%20Renewal>

For more information please call the Prairie Chapter office at 866-550-7464



Save the Date

The Prairie Chapter is planning a live Conference to be held in St. Albert, AB October 25 & 26 2021

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Don't miss this long overdue opportunity to network and bump elbows with your Colleagues

More information to follow as the planning unfolds



ASCA's Tree and Plant Appraisal Qualification (TPAQ)

This course is being revised.

There are no workshops available this time.



The 2021 Prairie Chapter Tree Climbing Competition

planned for August 28, 29 in Regina, SK. has been Covid Cancelled

Things should start to get normal in 2022

Submitted by Jean Mathieu Daoust

The International Society of Arboriculture and the Prairie Chapter tries to recognize outstanding achievements in the arboriculture profession, as well as the efforts by individuals to make an impact on the urban environment.

International Society of Arboriculture True Professionals of Arboriculture Recognition Program
 The True Professionals of Arboriculture program recognizes members and certified professionals who are role models to their peers and positively represent the profession to the public.

Prairie Chapter

Gold Leaf Awards – Outstanding Arbor Day Activities

This award program recognizes individuals, organizations, and communities for outstanding Arbor Day programs that promote trees, tree care and tree planting. Recipients of this award are chosen regionally by a chapter of the ISA.

Outstanding Landscape Beautification Activities

This award program recognizes individuals, organizations, and communities for outstanding Landscape Beautification programs or community landscape beautification projects that have a significant impact on communities or regions. Recipients of this award are chosen regionally by a chapter of the ISA.

Outstanding Contribution to the Board Board Member

In recognition of a Board member’s sustained outstanding efforts or contribution to the advancement of the ISA Prairie Chapter and its goals, events or special projects.

Nominees must be serving on the Board currently or newly retired from the Board

Student Recognition Award

In recognition of sustained outstanding efforts or contribution to the advancement of the guiding principles of the ISA Prairie Chapter. Nominees must be a student enrolled in an arboriculture/horticulture program or newly graduated

Lifetime Achievement Award

In recognition of sustained outstanding efforts or contribution to the advancement of the ISA Prairie Chapter and the Arboriculture Industry on the prairies. Nominees must be retiring from active employment to qualify for this award.

If you would like to nominate anyone for any of these awards please contact:

Jean Mathieu Daoust jdaoust@bartlett.com



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From Tree Canada. Written by JANE O'FAHERTY

Trees have always been an intrinsic part of our lives, serving as sources of food, shelter, employment and much more.

However, the many ways that trees nurture us – from the sense of pride we feel when we plant them to the benefits of simply being around them – are not always obvious.

Although the numerous benefits of trees have been widely known for decades, they come into sharper focus as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic.

As we imagine what life will be like after restrictions are lifted, many of us will need the physical and mental nourishment that trees have provided for millennia.

Here are just some examples of how trees nurture us, and how they can continue to play a role in our collective recovery.

Trees nurture children from an early age

Do you remember the first time you planted, climbed or even noticed a tree? From the feeling of earth in your hands to watching a tree that you planted grow, these early memories can shape our attitudes to nature and ourselves.

Today, research is going further to support the positive influence that trees can have on children. One study from the United Kingdom showed that outdoor learning in forested areas can help young children develop vital skills such as negotiation, resilience, independence as well as a sense of social and environmental responsibility.

In addition, previous research has shown that children who spend time in natural outdoor environments experience a reduction in attention fatigue. In particular, children with ADHD may experience fewer symptoms after spending time in these settings.

Trees nourish us from the inside out

By growing edible fruit and nuts, trees are a key food source for humans and animals. However, trees can sustain much more than just our appetite!

Studies have consistently shown that spending time among trees can work wonders for our mental health – through forest bathing or simply taking a short stroll. Walking through a forest for just 15 minutes can lower symptoms of anxiety and depression while decreasing the body's level of cortisol – the stress hormone.

At a time when our ability to focus can be hindered, walking in nature can also help to restore our attention spans and help us feel grounded.

Trees improve our physical health

The power of trees in capturing carbon and purifying the air plays a key role in our sustainability goals. That, in turn, can have a powerful impact on our physical health. Spending time in forests has been shown to improve lung

function and boost the immune system – two top-of-mind issues during the pandemic.

In addition, neighbourhoods with more trees have been shown to have a lower prevalence of obesity.

Trees can even play a role in speeding up healing times and influencing better outcomes for people who are ill or injured. According to one study, patients with a window view of trees can recover significantly faster and with fewer complications than patients without access to such views.

Given the incredible capacity that trees have to reduce air pollution, the knock-on health benefits make sense. In 2010 alone, trees in 86 Canadian cities removed 16,500 tonnes of air pollution!

Trees help us to reconnect with our communities

The writer Richard Mabey, once said “To be without trees would, in the most literal way, to be without our roots.” Indeed, trees are crucial in shaping our sense of place and our connection to our local communities and cultures. This is especially true in urban areas, where the presence of more trees has been shown to foster a greater sense of belonging.

A larger number of trees in our communities can also lead to feeling safer. One study has indicated that a 10% increase in tree canopy can lead to a 12% decrease in neighbourhood crime. In addition, tree-lined streets can encourage safer driving as they make roads seem narrower.

Given their long lifespan, trees tend to become local historical monuments themselves – adding to our sense of identity.

Keep Alberta DED free

- Under the Alberta Agricultural Pests Act (APA) “Pest and Nuisance Control Regulation (PNCR)” the Dutch Elm Disease (DED) pathogens, smaller European elm bark beetle, and the native elm bark beetle are named declared pests.
- DED prevention/control measures for Alberta are enforceable under the APA and are found on the STOPDED website.
- Elm trees from a DED infected province cannot be shipped into Alberta.
- Elm Pruning Ban is April 1-September 30 annually.

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The Silver Maple (*Acer saccharinum*) a Canadian native for zone 3

Submitted by Wilbert Ronald,
ISA Prairie Chapter founding member

Silver maple, in its native Canadian range, extends as far west in Ontario to near the Manitoba border. In its western limits it is closely associated with red maple (*A. rubrum*) and hybrid "swarms" (*Acer freemanii*) of the two species are often observed in these western distribution limits of the two species.

In all my explorations I have not seen the two species in eastern Manitoba but would not be surprised to hear of native plants along the somewhat rocky and more inaccessible west shore of the Lake of the Woods, an area not fully explored.

Native trees of these species have been seen south of this lake and are more commonly found along the east shores

where many plant collections have been made and tested.

The soils in these areas are quite acidic and most tree collections involving red maple hybrids do not perform well in the normally more alkaline prairie soils. The red maple imparts fall red foliage colour which is a valued characteristic in the Freeman hybrids and is lacking in silver maple.

Silver maple has been used as a valued prairie landscape tree especially in Manitoba. It prefers a moist site and does not like highly alkaline soils. It is often grown as a clump form but does also grow well as a single stem specimen.

Varieties

As a native tree found growing from northern zone 3 to subtropical U.S. zones, it is important for prairie landscapes that the most northern cold hardy seed sources are used. Sometimes the "Kenora strain" has been sold as a northern seed strain. The clonal 'Silver Cloud' is both a northern strain as well as a seedless male clone, so is highly recommended.



Silver maple at St. Charles Country Club, Winnipeg-August 18,1917, Ken Riske (right)



'Silver Cloud' maple (18 years old) at Jeffries Nurseries, Portage La Prairie, MB.

highly alkaline soils with pH above 7.8 are not found. In alkaline soils it may show chlorotic foliage and only highly modified soils or iron supplements will overcome the problem.

Pests

Two insect problems have been noted, leaf bladder gall mites and shoot tip borers. The gall mites are usually associated with stress and the shoot borers are most noticeable on young trees. Neither pest is more than a low grade unsightly problem which does not affect survival.

The largest single stem tree I have seen in prairie Canada has a trunk diameter of 40" (1 m) and a height of

75-80' (23-25m) and was discovered near the club house of the St. Charles Country Club in western Winnipeg. Here, the massive trunk is seen with me and my friend Ken Riske of Edmonton's Mill Creek Nursery. Ken is one nursery grower who has successfully used silver maple and clonal 'Silver Cloud' maple in many landscape settings.

Maintenance

Arborists should know that proper pruning of young trees, helps develop a good crown structure and this care makes for a long useful tree life. As a large growing tree, silver maple can serve as an alternative to ash and elms in the prairie provinces.

Great information.
Thanks Wilbert,

Editor

Propagation by softwood cuttings produces a uniform cultivar with zone 3 hardiness in this valued clone.

Some Alberta growers find better success when trees are started in southern Manitoba and then planted as caliper in Alberta landscapes.

Growing Conditions

As a moisture loving tree, Silver maple does best when it is planted where moisture is adequate and



The weekend of June 25 saw the culmination of many months of planning come together as, 17 women of the trees from Winnipeg MB to Spirit River, AB descended on Old College for the first ever Prairie Chapter Women in the Trees (PCWT) tree climbing workshop.

A program of climbing and learning was put together primarily by Charlene Scott with the assistance from a committee of volunteers from the industry. Sessions ranged from competing internationally to running a small business to working in the trees with a: Throwline station, Work Climb station, SRS station, Aerial Rescue and finishing the weekend off with a Speed Climb station where all 17 women completed the 40 foot climb.

The weekend was one of great fun with learning, mentoring, supporting, friendship building, and a lot of laughs including the creation of a motivational cheer inspired by the workshop "Women in Wood" tee shirt.

Olds College was a generous industry partner sharing their great, all weather facilities, climbing equipment, and allowing use of the grounds and trees. The women stayed in the residence and we were all sustained quite well with food prepared by the college caterer, Chartwells catering.

Sponsorship

The weekend was well supported by some industry partners including: Arborist Supply, Calgary, Universal Field Supply, Mississauga, Greendrop Tree Care, Winnipeg, Bartlett Tree Experts, Calgary, Olds College, Olds, Peter LaRue, Vegreville and Davey Tree, Edmonton. Thank you for your support.

Volunteers

Last but not least, you can't hold these events successfully without volunteers on the ground, in the trees and the support from their families who enable them to share their time with us..

Thank you to our instructors: Charlene Scott, Peter LaRue and Toni Newsham, to our Tree Techs: Dan Smart, James Hamilton and the Guru of the Arb program at O.C. -Laurie Newsham, also to the woman who knows everyone and where everything, that you could possibly need is, on the whole campus, complete with the most random humour and a big smile, Karman DiLisio, and to my daughter Kellyn and of course President of the Prairie Chapter Bonnie Fermanuik who looks after details that the rest of us forget.

Photography

All photos taken by Karman DiLisio and Dan Smart

(Continued on page 8)

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Hands-on training



The women of 2021 at the first ever Prairie Chapter Women in the Trees (PCWT) climbing workshop. What a great bunch of climbing arborists to spend the weekend with.



Head Instructor Charlene Scott talkin about the ropes she's learned so far

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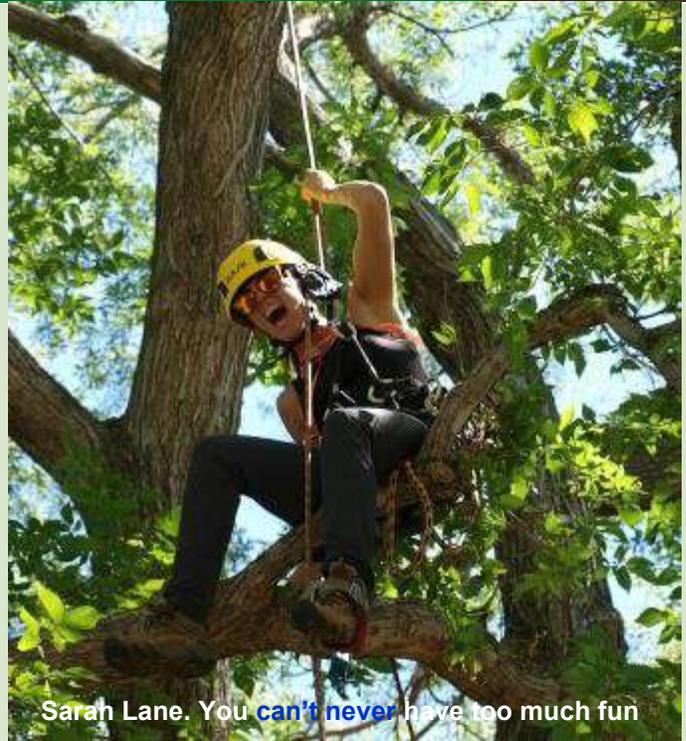


Instructor Peter LaRue talkin Bizzness

7)



Laura Wilson gets 9.8 for style and 10 points for nailing the throwline target



Sarah Lane. You **can't never** have too much fun



Knot knowing is not an excuse
Karman DiLisio and Nikki Romeril



Work Climb
Top: L. Sarah Lane, R. Whitney Renney
Bottom: L. Laura Wilson W, R. Sheila Gonty



The safety crew at the Speed Climb
All 17 women completed the 40' Speed Climb
Ladybug and Laurie



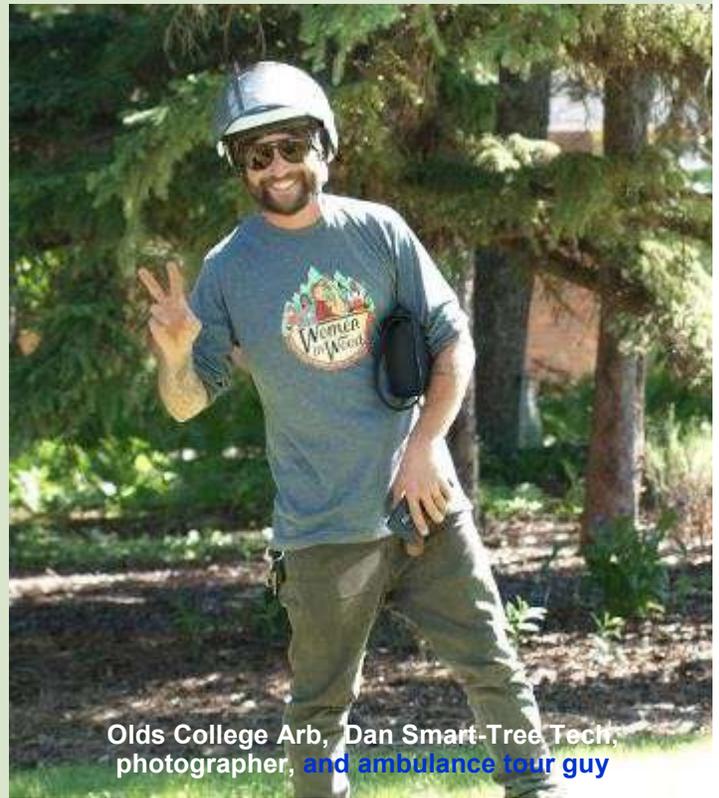
Ladybug's Mikalyn Irwin rockin the ropes



Amanda McNutt completes a 40 foot Speed Climb



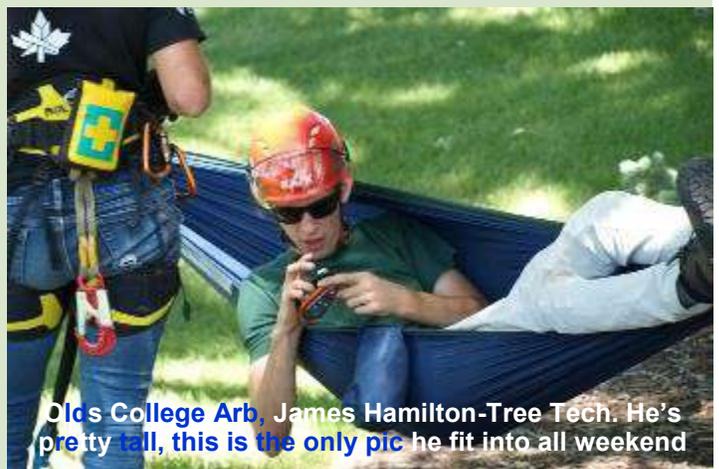
Thanks to Arborist Supply for the prize donation of the chainsaw, equipment bag, ropes and Zigzag and to Peter LaRue for the books



Olds College Arb, Dan Smart-Tree Tech, photographer, and ambulance tour guy



Best friends, Declan and Charlene winding down together after a busy weekend



Olds College Arb, James Hamilton-Tree Tech. He's pretty tall, this is the only pic he fit into all weekend

New evidence that city trees reduce crime.

By Kaid Benfield from Smart Cities Dive

One of my first articles as a blogger was to [celebrate the replacement of fallen trees in our neighborhood](#). We [humans instinctively resonate to nature](#), and street trees and other kinds of city forests add all sorts of emotional and cooling benefits to our neighborhoods.

But that's not all: new research from Baltimore finds that city trees also reduce crime. Writing in *Grist*, Rachel Nuwer [summarizes the findings](#):

"In addition to housing squirrels, [trees] also reduce lawless activity. This is the conclusion drawn by a team of researchers who teased

apart the relationship between tree canopy and crime in and around Baltimore.

They used aggregated crime data from [Spotcrime](#) and overlaid it with high-res satellite imagery to conduct



Charlotte, North Carolina Photo by Victor Brandon Dover

probably the largest analysis of its kind to date.

"According to the study, a 10 percent increase in trees roughly equaled a 12 percent decrease in crime. It's

*really pretty striking how strong this relationship is,' says Austin Troy, director of the University of Vermont's Transportation Research Center and lead author of [the study](#), published in the June issue of the journal *Landscape and Urban Planning*."*

Given the amount of publicity given recently to [another study showing that wealthier neighborhoods have more trees than poorer ones](#), one might surmise that the apparent crime-reducing ability of trees is really masking something more important: that wealthier neighborhoods have less crime. According to

Nuwer, though, the researchers controlled for this:

"In their models, they controlled for all kinds of socioeconomic factors,

(Continued on page 12)

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*(Continued from page 11)
including income, housing age, and owner race, plus adjusted for other variables associated with tree cover, like ruralness and population density. After holding all of these points steady, trees still wound up on top."*

The new research adds to a plethora of findings and wisdom about trees. In [a fascinating, extended essay in *The Wilson Quarterly*](#), Jill Jonnes examines the history of city trees and research on their benefits, noting that a breakthrough study was conducted in Chicago in 1994. The researchers found that the city's trees could improve air quality by as much as 15 percent, removing measurable

to be worth \$402 over its life span, over twice the average cost.

Jonnes details a large volume of more recent research in cities such as Sacramento, New York and Los Angeles. For example, researchers in New York City have found that each year the city's street trees deliver \$122 million in benefits, or about \$209 a tree. The city spends about \$14 million each year on its tree program, suggesting a hefty return on their investment.

Jonnes also points to a ["Tree Benefit Calculator"](#) developed by Casey Trees. Borrowing an idea from



Photo by Dan Burden



Photo by Rubber Dragon creative commons

PolandTripCo.uk

amounts of carbon monoxide, sulfur dioxide, nitrogen dioxide, ozone, and particulate matter. Moreover, Chicago's trees sequestered about 155,000 tons of carbon per year and could absorb far more over time with more planting. Including the benefits of shade in reducing energy needs for air conditioning, each Chicago tree was found to be worth \$402 over its life span, over twice the average cost. the benefits of shade in reducing energy needs for air conditioning, each Chicago tree was found

Jonnes's essay, I input a bit of information about a Norway maple in my back yard and learned that, roughly, it generates \$235 in benefits each year, a strong majority in the categories of stormwater management, [contribution to property value](#), and electricity savings.

Walkability guru Dan Burden has written a well-documented [publication on 22 benefits of street trees](#) that go beyond those cited in Jonnes' essay. Burden cites traffic and pedestrian safety, improved business productivity, lower temperatures, positive effects on human health, and more.

Which brings us back to the Baltimore findings on crime. If poor neighborhoods are the ones with the most crime, as well as the ones with the most need for reduced utility bills and better health, we should begin to focus more attention to tree-planting in them. Looks to me like it could bring multiple benefits at bargain prices.

Kaid Benfield writes (almost) daily about community, development, and the environment. For more posts, see [his blog's home page](#). Please also visit NRDC's sustainable communities video channel.



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By Dan Burden, Senior Urban Designer Glatting Jackson and Walkable Communities, Inc.
From the Web.

1. Reduced and more appropriate urban traffic speeds
Urban street trees create vertical walls framing streets, providing a defined edge, helping motorists guide their movement and assess their speed (leading to overall speed reductions).

2. Create safer walking environments, by forming and framing visual walls and providing distinct edges to sidewalks so that motorists better distinguish between their environment and one shared with people.

3. Trees call for placemaking planting strips and medians, which further separate motorists from one another, pedestrians, buildings and other urban fabric.

4. Increased security. Trees create more pleasant walking environments, bringing about increased walking, talking, pride, care of place...

5. Improved business. Businesses on treescaped streets show 12% higher income streams

6. Less drainage infrastructure. Trees absorb the first 30% of most precipitation through their leaf system, allowing evaporation back into the atmosphere.

7. Rain, sun, heat and skin protection. For light or moderate rains, pedestrians find less need for rain protection.

8. Reduced harm from tailpipe emissions . Impacts are reduced significantly from proximity to trees.

9. Gas transformation efficiency. Trees in street proximity absorb 9 times more pollutants than more distant trees, converting harmful gasses back into oxygen and other useful and natural gasses.

10. Lower urban air temperatures. Asphalt and concrete streets and parking lots are known to increase urban temperatures 3-7 degrees. These temperature increases significantly impact energy costs to homeowners and consumers. A properly shaded neighborhood, mostly from urban street trees, can reduce energy bills for a household from 15-35%.

11. Lower Ozone. Increases in urban street temperatures that hover directly above asphalt where tailpipe emis-

(Continued on page 14)

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(Continued from page 13)

sions occur dramatically increase creation of harmful ozone and other gasses into more noxious substances impacting health of people, animals and surrounding agricultural lands.

12. Convert streets, parking and walls into more aesthetically pleasing environments.

13. Soften and screen necessary street features such as utility poles, light poles and other needed street furniture.

14. Reduced blood pressure, improved overall emotional and psychological health. People are impacted by ugly or attractive environments where they spend time.

15. Time in travel perception. Other research and observations confirm that motorists perceive the time it takes to get through treed versus non-treed environments has a significant differential.

16. Reduced road rage . Although this may at first seem a stretch, there is strong, compelling research that motorist road rage is less in green urban versus stark suburban areas.

17. Improved operations potential. When properly positioned and maintained, the backdrop of street trees allow

those features that should be dominant to be better seen, such as vital traffic regulatory signs.

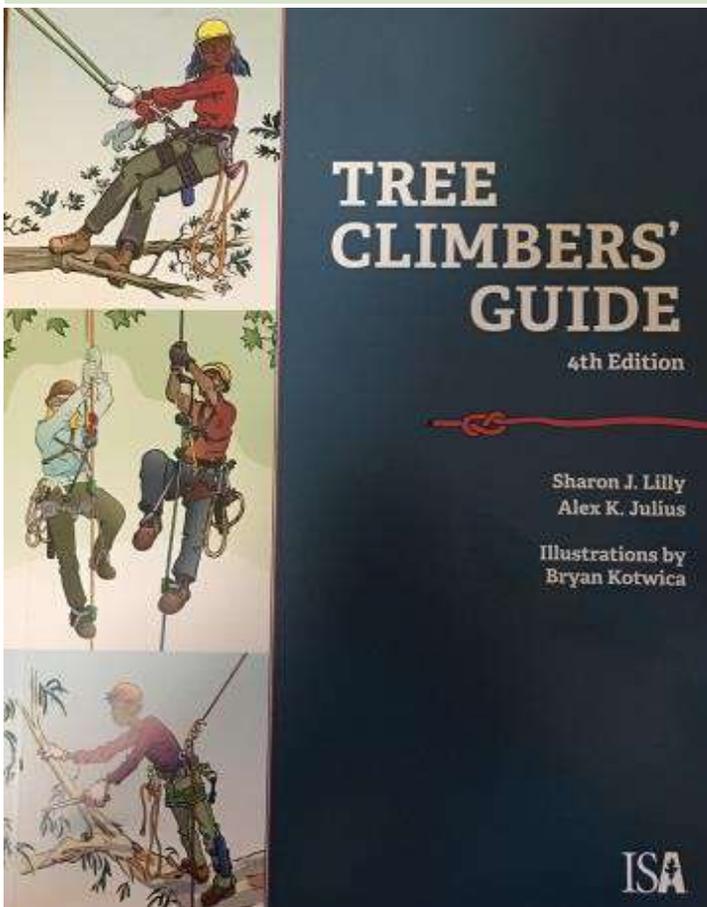
18. Added value to adjacent homes, businesses and tax base. Realtor based estimates of street tree versus non street tree comparable streets relate a \$15-25,000 increase in home or business value.

19. Provides a lawn for a splash and spray zone, storage of snow, driveway elevation transition and more.

20. Filtering and screening agent. Softens and screens utility poles, light poles, on-street and off-street parking and other features creating visual pollution to the street.

21. Longer pavement life. Studies conducted in a variety of California environments show that the shade of urban street trees can add from 40- 60% more life to costly asphalt.

22. Connection to nature and the human senses. Urban street trees provide a canopy, root structure and setting for important insect and bacterial life below the surface; at grade for pets and people to pause; they act as essential lofty environments for song birds, seeds, nuts, squirrels and other urban life.



The Newly Revised Tree Climbers' Guide, 4th edition is Now Available

Written specifically from the tree climbers' perspective, the newly revised Tree Climbers' Guide by Sharon J. Lilly and Alex K. Julius, helps arborists learn safe climbing and aerial tree work principles.

This guide is a basic text for tree climbers, as well as a study guide for the ISA Certified Tree Worker Climber Specialist® and Aerial Lift Specialist® exams. Each chapter includes a list of key terms and concludes with a workbook section.

Featuring more than 270 illustrations by artist Bryan Kotwica, the fourth edition includes three new chapters: Moving Rope Systems (MRS), Stationary Rope Systems (SRS), and Climbing Equipment.

Each chapter consist of a list of key terms and concludes with a workbook sections. Additionally, the *Tree Climbers' Guide* comes with appendices with answers to the workbook questions, a glossary and resources for further reference.

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March	February 27
June	May 31
September	August 31
December	November 30

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Submit articles, ads, letters and written requests to:

Keith Anderson

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