

PTCA NEWS

Improving San Diego's quality of life through proper tree care.

PTCA GENERAL MEETINGS

February General Meeting: CARB/PERP Update

Our February Meeting will have PTCA Membership Chair, Gabe Jarvis, sharing the latest information on when CARB/PERP will be phasing out the different tier engines and what that means for tree care companies.

Gabe Jarvis is the CORE Product Account Manager for RDO Vermeer. He has been in the Landscaping, Tree Service and Construction Industry his whole working life. He knows about equipment needs, client service and changes. He has spent his last 18 years representing the Vermeer product line. He is also our membership chair and has been a long time supporter of PTCA monthly meetings and our Summer Seminar and Field day.

His topic will be covering engine phase-out dates for various Portable Equipment. CARB/PERP will be phasing out the different tier engines which in turn means you will no longer be able to run a chipper legally in the state. Gabe will have a few links in the

presentation for customers to turn to for answers. Then he will share a quick slide show on what Vermeer has lined up to offer the tree care customer these days.

The rules and regulations are always changing and if you know what to expect you can be prepared. If you must phase out a chipper you should have a replacement plan that includes the timeline of its manufacture as well as its budget impact. Gabe will get us up to speed on what to expect to minimize the shock and surprise factor. We may not all like surprises when we get a notice.

Meetings in 2022 will be free for PTCA members that register in advance, and \$25 for members at the door. Non-member registration is \$30. We will be meeting at Fillippi's Grotto in San Diego.

Registration can be completed on our website at www.ptcaosd.wildapricot.org. Contact our office with questions at 714.639.6516.



Monthly Meeting Details

Date: Tuesday, February 1

5:30: Executive Meeting
All Members Welcome

6:30: General Meeting

Location: Filippi's Grotto,
Scripps Ranch
29969 Mira Mesa Blvd
San Diego

Cost: Free for Members
(Pre-Registration Only)
\$25 for Members
\$30 for Non-Members

CARB/PERP Update
Gabe Jarvis

Register Online
www.ptcaosd.wildapricot.org

INDUSTRY NEWS

ISA and Vermeer continue OneTree Partnership

ISA is pleased to announce that Vermeer, a manufacturer of industrial and agricultural equipment, will continue to provide support through ISA's OneTree Program as a distinguished partner.

The OneTree Program is ISA's corporate sponsorship program designed to bring together companies dedicated to improving the community by promoting the professional practice of arboriculture. OneTree partners provide both financial and non-financial support that allows ISA to advance its mission to foster a greater worldwide awareness of the benefits of trees.

"We appreciate Vermeer's commitment to investing in our industry by maintaining their OneTree sponsorship," said Caitlyn Pollihan, the executive director and CEO of ISA. "With their support, ISA can continue to have a global impact by supporting arborists and tree workers who in turn help trees and the community."

Established in 1948, Vermeer distributes products globally and is headquartered in Pella, Iowa, United States. Vermeer serves the utility installation, environmental, surface mining, and forage markets domestically and internationally.

Through its OneTree relationships, ISA is able to provide arborists with programming, services, and research to better equip them to serve and educate the greater public, and advance the profession as well as the tree care industry worldwide. Additionally, the OneTree program helps to address critical environmental issues, impact decision and policy makers, spread valuable education and research while also staying on the cutting edge of industry trends, innovation and technology.

For more information about the ISA OneTree Program visit the ISA sponsorship program page or contact corporatesales@isa-arbor.com. For information on Vermeer, please visit Vermeer.com.

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For membership applications
Please make request via e-mail
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OUR MISSION is to improve our community's quality of life by making our urban forest safer and more beautiful through education and proper tree care.



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EDUCATIONAL MEETINGS are held on the first Tuesday of each month at Filippi's Pizza Grotto (Scripps Ranch), located at 9969 Mira Mesa Blvd, San Diego. The cost to attend general meetings is free for members (*who pre-register*), \$30 for non-members.

During the summer months, arboricultural tours ("Tree Walks") are featured throughout San Diego County. These are free to members and 25.00 to non members.

Information and registration for upcoming meetings is available at our website at www.ptcaosd.wildapricot.org.

CEUs are available!
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PTCA ANNUAL SEMINAR & FIELD DAY is held every August, featuring industry experts bringing the latest research and information to San Diego's historic Balboa Park. Cosponsored by the Professional Tree Care Association of San Diego and City of San Diego Parks and Recreation Department, this is your best local opportunity to get information or training in your field of tree care.
.....

Have an event for our calendar?

Submit it to:

kathleen@epicentermgmt.us

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www.ptcaosd.wildapricot.org

Sad News to Share: In Memoriam, Jim Thompson

It is with a heavy heart I must inform our PTCA members that Jim Thompson passed away on 20 December 2021. Those who were present at our November meeting did indeed see him for the last time. At that time Jim announced he was stepping down from his multi-faceted leadership position within our organization. Chuck Morgan has assumed those duties and this change was announced in detail in our December newsletter and at our January meeting.

Jim will be missed by those of us who have worked with him over the years. There are so many duties and tasks that are required for a unique organization like the Professional Tree Care Association. He served as a president, on the Board of Directors, and ultimately as chairperson of the board. When something needed to be done, Jim would always be willing to step up and see that things got done. Jim was the firm steady force that provided di-



Jim Thompson, accepting the PTCA Certificate of Appreciation for his many years of service to the PTCA Board.

rection and completion of those tasks. It was his dogged determination that got us organized and legally compliant with current government requirements.

More than that, he recruited members and was an executive mentor for those who needed guidance. I personally will miss our conversations on direction and focus. He was a dynamic force and had a voice that was made to follow. 'Loud and Proud' of who he was and what he had done in his life. We and all of those around him benefited greatly.

Semper Fi, Marine! Thank you for all of your service and Bless you.

Per Jim's request, we will be working towards the dispersal of his personal library, perhaps at the summer seminar. If any members would like to submit comments or personal stories about Jim, we can share at that time as well. Contact Dan Simpson with memories of Jim Thompson.

PTCA 13th Annual Deciduous Fruit Tree Pruning Seminar

The coming of January 2022 brought the 13th Annual PTCA Deciduous Fruit Tree Seminar on Saturday Jan 15th, 2022. Thirty-four attendees and Instructors/Arborists Kurt Peacock and Dave Ephron arrived at the Stein Family Farm at 1808 F Avenue National City, CA 91950. Matt Smith, Arborist was along to give Kurt & Dave a hand with logistics/organizing the large group.

The weather was cool and a little drizzle happened throughout the day but did not dampen the enthusiasm of the attendees. Arborists, Tree Workers and Homeowners gathered for a 6 hour hands on pruning class. For the first time we were able to prune all trees needing attention. Pomegranates, Figs, Peaches, Nectarines, Apples, Persimmons, Plums and some multigrafted / planted trees were discussed and worked on by seminar attendees. Questions were answered throughout the day as they came from the class. We broke for lunch at 12 noon and were back pruning by 12:45PM. We also planted 2 new fruit varieties, Pluerries, which are crosses of Cherry and Plum, as a 2 in 1 planting for testing and pruning at future seminars. We finished at 2PM with 5 CEU's awarded to Arborist and Tree Workers for their effort. Dave Ephron had some prizes to give to attendees provided by Dave at A&B Saw in Lakeside and our own Jack Maloney in exchange for filling out comments about the survey and ways we can make it better in the future.

The Stein Family Farm is open most Saturdays free to the public. There is an assortment of farm animals to visit and benches to enjoy a picnic lunch after you walk the orchard & visit the animals. The Farm is available to rent for weddings / events. It is a 501 c3 nonprofit operated by the city of National City. If you come by June – September, there is usually some delicious tree ripe fruit to sample as well.



Are you ready to go Nuts!

Dan Simpson

Our nation is gripped by winter and their resident bare trees wait for rebirth. So how do we celebrate the seasons? Let just go nuts here in Southern California where we have lots of greenery and options for tree selection. We may forget how blessed we are with our Mediterranean climate and easy access to home grown food options. Recently, I was at a holiday gathering and had a discussion about fruit trees on a North County Property. Most questions dealt with Citrus and how they looked. But then the questions came around to Macadamia nut trees. I was told there were less than a dozen trees but they had piles of shells around the trunk. I said I was confident the shells were empty. Yes! That's because these are popular with rodents. The response was "Wait you mean I have rats"! The hard shells that enclose the tasty white nut is readily gnawed open by any rats or squirrels in the vicinity. It's not just for the nut but rodents which must gnaw on such hard items to control their constantly growing incisors. Macaw owners are significant commercial consumers since their birds also like these hard shelled nuts.



San Diego County is a large source for home grown macadamia nuts. No they are not native trees here. You might think they are from Hawaii because some many are brought home dipped in chocolate as gifts. Nope not native there. They actually originate in Australia rather than Hawaii. There are several different versions of when the macadamia arrived in California. One such story lists it as being planted in Coronado in about 1850. Regardless of where or when it arrived, it is well suited to our area. Surprisingly it is in the Proteaceae family. There are two different Macadamia species, *M. tetraphylla*, the rough shelled bush nut, and *M. integrifolia* the smooth shelled bush nut. The secret to identifying which one is which is how many leaves are arranged in a whorl around the bud. *M. integrifolia* has an average of three leaves, while *M. tetraphylla* has four or more leaves. This is good trivia for a diehard tree guy. Regardless of the species, either species of tree has the same rounded shape of evergreen foliage and each can reach over 40 feet tall with about a spread of 15 - 20 ft under average conditions. Most reach about half that size but are not considered good selections for below utility wires. I remember working on the large macadamia that grew at the exit gate of the San Diego Zoo. It was about 30 ft tall with a trunk diameter of about 18 inches and likely about 30-40 years old. These trees can be grown into a fairly dense visual screen but when grown for their nut crop, they will do better with wider spacing. As we face the impact of climate changes, drought tolerance is important. That and the ability to grow in a variety of well drained soils. One item of interest that may have led to planting Macadamia as a crop in San Diego, they were considered to be resistant to the *Phytophthora cinnamoni* that had caused the death of so many avocados. As a species of interest and a potential source of nutritious nuts these might a good addition to an average sized yard. You can also maintain it to a lower canopy if you need to avoid conflict with solar panels. The pendulous array of small fragrant blossoms range from cream to pink in color and will appear in the winter. After pollination, will be formation of the large green pods that contain the hard shelled seed inside. These nuts once harvested must wait for several weeks before starting the final steps to enjoyment. For added fun, I strongly suggest watching some of the DIY you tube segments on ways of opening these hard shelled wonders. Also if you do invest in a mac nut cracker, get a good one that is especially designed for the opening of macadamia nuts. The whole nuts look better for eating than the pieces and parts produce by some versions of the tool. The higher sugar content in one species does tend to burn when baked in cookies so be sure you choose which species you want to grow. There are many varieties available often grafted onto a parent rootstock.

If you have space and time to try growing macadamia trees, be sure and choose wisely before you go nuts. *As always the technical specs on these and other trees can be found on the Selectree website.*

INDUSTRY NEWS

Free Webinar Series from the TREE Fund



TREE Fund is pleased to announce its 2022 webinar series. These webinars bring you the latest in tree research, directly from the scientists themselves.

TREE Fund's one-hour webinars are free and offer 1.0 CEU (only for live broadcast) from the

International Society of Arboriculture (ISA), the Society of American Foresters (SAF), the National Association of Landscape Professionals (NALP) and sometimes the Landscape Architecture Continuing Education System (LACES). See webinar descriptions for specifics. Space is limited and pre-registration is highly recommended; in doing so, you'll receive a reminder email the day before the broadcast.

- **New insights on the epidemiology of a phytoplasma disease that affects urban trees in Bogotá, Colombia**
Feb. 9, 2022, 12:00 PM Central
Liliana Franco-Lara, PhD

- **The Cost-effectiveness of Integrated Vegetation Management**

Mar. 22, 2022, 12:00 PM Central

John Goodfellow

- **Enhancing the performance of urban storm water management schemes with tree selection: developing a new approach to accessing waterlogging tolerance of temperate trees**

Apr. 19, 2022, 12:00 PM Central

Andrew Hirons, PhD

- **Non-invasive tree root detection: What is the state of the art?**

Nov. 1, 2022, 12:00 PM Central

Andrew Millward, PhD

Justin Miron, PhD student

Missed a webinar? Watch it anytime on our website at www.treefund.org. Many thanks to our webinar host Alabama Cooperative Extension System.

INDUSTRY NEWS

2022 ASCA Consulting Academy February 15-18, 2022 | Indianapolis, IN

There's Only One Place to Get Started on the Path Toward Your RCA.

A lot of conferences claim to teach you how to be a great arborist. But there is only one conference where you can learn the essentials of being a successful Consulting Arborist AND begin the process of becoming a Registered Consulting Arborist® (RCA)—and that's ASCA's 2022 Consulting Academy.

During the Academy's three-day training you'll not only take your first step toward becoming an RCA, but also:

1. Learn from and interact with leading experts in the profession.
2. Form relationships with other attendees and coaches that you can access long after the Academy is over.
3. Increase your earning potential.

ASCA is excited to be able to meet safely in-person this February for the 2022 Consulting Academy. Due to the fluid COVID-19 situation across the country, ASCA leadership is proactively monitoring health protocols based on guidance from the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and the State of Indiana to ensure a safe meeting for all attendees. We are also working with the team at Omni Severin Hotel for local guidelines and Omni's Safe and Clean Program to see the steps that are taken for attendees health and well-being while in Indianapolis.

Registration is open now! Visit the ASCA website at www.asca-consultants.org for more information and to sign up!

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Arborist Environmental Stewardship in Vegetation Management

By Tom Doherty, NIP Group



Utility arborist companies heavily rely on vegetation management programs to keep power lines clear of tree-related hazards and ensure their services are reliable long-term. However, simply chopping down woody plants is not always the most socially responsible approach.

Over the past decade, environmental stewardship and sustainability have become key concerns in the arboriculture industry, leading many tree-care businesses to reevaluate their practices. Traditionally, utility vegetation management has been focused on ensuring safety, reliability and legal compliance, according to the Utility Arborist Association, but growing public interest in ecosystem conservation is changing the way arborists deal with trees, brush and other plants.

Tree Pruning: Maximizing Environmental Stewardship

Although there are many cases when cutting down a tree is unavoidable, the UAA believes that proper pruning is the best approach to vegetation management near utility lines. Pruning is not only beneficial for a tree's overall health, but also accomplishes utility companies' goals while minimizing harm to the surrounding environment. This can make managing deciduous trees a bit more tedious, as they tend to quickly regrow after being pruned. While tree-care professionals may end up working on the same trees as they re-encroach on power lines, the long-term impact of pruning outweighs the more direct approach of cutting them down.

To help establish a consensus about pruning best practices, the Tree Care Industry Association developed a series of voluntary standards that many tree businesses and utility companies adhere to. The ANSI 300 national pruning standards offer a wide array of recommendations for managing risk and

maximizing tree health for right-of-way workers. Rather than simply chopping down encroaching trees and branches, the TCIA believes that thoughtful pruning promotes desirable branch spacing that will reduce future interference. Some of the goals of these national standards include:

- Improving branch and trunk architecture
- Discouraging tree growth in particular directions
- Restoring plants that have been damaged
- Ensuring safe and reliable utility services

Knowing when to prune, and how much, is nevertheless a case-by-case consideration. The UAA suggests that the length of time between prunings depends on the amount of clearance obtained and the rate of tree growth. As such, utility arborists should have a firm understanding of the species and size of the trees they work on, along with local worksite and weather conditions.

Brush Maintenance: An Integrated Approach to Vegetation Management

While trees are often the primary concern in residential areas, utility arborists working in electric transmission and pipeline corridors must deal with a more diverse range of vegetation. Rather than focusing on individual plants, tree-care professionals seek to convert vegetation into a more sustainable ecosystem. This is especially crucial along high-voltage transmission lines, as electricity can arc from transformers to tall trees, according to the UAA. That means areas dominated by tall-growing vegetation are a major concern for utility companies.

Much like with tree pruning, the TCIA has developed a national standard (ANSI A300 Part 7) for managing plant

communities that emphasizes integrated vegetation management (IVM) strategies. Under this framework, utility managers start by setting clear objectives, such as increasing line clearance or controlling invasive plant species. Next, they must identify compatible and incompatible vegetation to help create a more holistic management plan, and select the most appropriate control methods. According to the Environmental Protection Agency, IVM practices can help reduce the need for pesticides, promote healthier ecosystems and provide greater species diversity along right-of-way corridors. By promoting the growth of lush shrub or grassy areas, utility arborists can prevent interference with overhead power lines, reduce fire hazards and improve access to remote infrastructure.

Another common approach is the use of a wire-border zone strategy, according to the North American Electric Reliability Corporation. The "wire zone" refers to right-of-way areas that are directly below power lines, where low-growing plants, shrubs and grasses (under 3 feet) can be allowed to flourish. The "border zone" constitutes the rest of the right-of-way, which can accommodate the growth of small trees and tall shrubs (under 25 feet at full maturity). By optimizing the plant communities in these areas, utility arborists are able to reduce long-term maintenance while also promoting healthy forest ecology and environmental stewardship.



About Tom Doherty

Tom serves as the Senior Vice President of Specialty Programs with over 12 years of experience in the insurance industry, specializing in the business development and client growth sectors. Tom earned his degree in History & Economic at Monmouth University.

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