

# PTCA NEWS

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

## UPCOMING PTCA GENERAL MEETING

### PTCA April General Meeting: Big Jobs with Mike Palat

Before our Summer Tree Walk series begins, we're closing out the season with a must-attend seminar. On Tuesday, May 6th, we hope you will join us for an evening with seasoned arborist Mike Palat as he dives into the topic of wide-scale tree management plans.

During this insightful seminar, Mike will unpack the complexities of managing large-scale tree projects. Drawing from years of hands-on experience, Mike will guide attendees through the critical components that contribute to the success of these ambitious undertakings. Whether you're new to large operations or looking to enhance your current approach, this seminar offers valuable insights, practical strategies, and lessons learned from the field.

This will be the last regular meeting before we kick off our Summer Tree Walk series, so don't miss this special opportunity to learn from one of the top professionals in San Diego. Registration is available online, and we look forward to seeing you there!

#### About Mike Palat

Michael Palat currently works as Vice President of West Coast Arborists Inc., overseeing public agency contracts and field operations in Southern California and Arizona. He is a former Associate Faculty instructor of Arboriculture at Mira Costa College. Michael is the current Vice-Chairman of the San Diego Regional Urban Forests Council and is active in the Professional Tree Care Association of San Diego as well as the Western Chapter ISA. He is also a founding Board member for Tree San Diego a local non-profit. He holds a bachelor's degree in Parks and Recreation Management with a minor in Environmental Science from California University of Pennsylvania. He is a graduate from the Municipal Foresters Institute and the American Society of Consulting Arborists Academy. He is also an International Society of Arboriculture (ISA) Board Certified Master Arborist with utility, municipal specialties and tree risk assessment qualifications. He is also a Tree Care Industries Association (TCIA) Certified Tree Care Safety Professional.



#### Monthly Meeting Details

Date: Tuesday, May 6  
5:00: Executive Meeting  
*All Members Welcome*  
6:00: General Meeting

Address: Cocina del Charro  
890 W Valley Pkwy  
Escondido, CA

Cost: \$15 – Members  
(*pre-registered*)  
\$35 – Non-members  
\$35 – Members (*not pre-registered at least 24 hours in advance*)

**Big Jobs**  
*Mike Palat*

#### Register Online

[www.ptcaosd.wildapricot.org](http://www.ptcaosd.wildapricot.org)

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AUG

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15-16

36TH ANNUAL  
SEMINAR & FIELD DAY

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### For membership applications

Please make request via e-mail  
[at ptca@epicentermgmt.us](mailto:ptca@epicentermgmt.us)

**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.



.....  
**EDUCATIONAL MEETINGS** are held on the first Tuesday of each month. The meeting site changes from month to month, please keep an eye on the newsletter for updated venue information. The cost to attend general meetings is \$15 for members (*who pre-register*), \$35 for members at the door, and \$35 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](http://www.ptcaosd.wildapricot.org).

CEUs are available!

## 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!](mailto:kathleen@epicentermgmt.us)

## Interested in Advertising?

Please Contact:  
[heather@epicentermgmt.us](mailto:heather@epicentermgmt.us)

## VISIT US ON THE WEB!

[www.ptcaosd.wildapricot.org](http://www.ptcaosd.wildapricot.org)

# Membership Information

## DID YOU KNOW....

### Organizational Membership Bundles

A membership bundle is a collection of members who are linked together and managed by one of their members – the bundle coordinator. The bundle coordinator is responsible for adding new members to the bundle. If your membership class is Commercial, Municipal Organization, Organizational & Professional Affiliate Organization or Vendor, you can add up to 4 additional members to your organizational membership

### License & Insurance Information

Commercial members are required to submit CSLB License information and proof of insurance (see below) This is required to be on the referral list. Submit yours today to [ptca@epicentermgmt.us](mailto:ptca@epicentermgmt.us)

### Annual Renewal

PTCA membership dues are renewed annually starting on July 15th. Invoices are sent electronically on July 1st each year. Invoices are due upon receipt. Failure to renew may result in a lapse of membership and forfeiture of membership discounts and other benefits.

### MEMBERSHIP CATEGORIES

#### Commercial *\$125.00 annually*

Commercial members provide tree-related services for municipal, commercial, residential, utility clients, and meet the following requirements: Minimum \$1,000,000.00 public liability and property damage insurance (combined single limit). California State Contractor's License with a classification of C-27 or C-61 (D-49). Worker's Compensation insurance certificate must specify a labor code of 0106 (tree pruning) and include coverage of tree work at heights exceeding twelve feet (12'). Current certificates shall be on file with PTCA annually. Members of this classification shall be entitled to refer to Association membership, including use of the Association logo in advertising and shall be entitled to vote on all matters pertaining to the Association, including changes to the Association's bylaws.

#### Vendors *\$125.00 annually*

Members who sell, rent or lease products utilized by the tree care industry or perform horticultural spraying, fertilizing, and consulting, etc. and are not involved in pruning or removal. Appropriate current state or ISA licenses or certificates shall be kept on file with the Association. Members of this classification shall be entitled to refer to Association membership, including use of the Association logo in advertising and shall be entitled to vote on all matters pertaining to the Association, including changes to the Association's bylaw.

#### Municipal – Organization *\$125.00 annually*

The governing body or representatives of government, agencies, and schools. Members of this classification shall be entitled to refer to Association membership, including use of the Association logo in advertising. Members of this classification shall be entitled to reduced admission fees for attendance at workshops and seminars for four representatives. One per entity shall be entitled to vote on all Association matters, except bylaw changes.

#### Municipal – Individual *\$40.00 annually*

The governing body or representatives of government, agencies, and schools. Members of this classification shall be entitled to refer to Association membership, including use of the Association logo in advertising. Members of this classification shall be entitled to reduced admission fees for attendance at workshops and seminars for four representatives. One per entity shall be entitled to vote on all Association matters, except bylaw changes.

#### Organizational and Professional Affiliate – Organization *\$125.00 annually*

Representatives of other related horticultural programs. Members of this classification shall be entitled to refer to Association membership, including use of the Association logo in advertising, reduced admission fees for attendance at workshops and seminars for three representatives. One per entity shall be entitled to vote on all Association matters, except bylaw changes

#### Organizational and Professional Affiliate – Individual *\$40.00 annually*

Representatives of other related horticultural programs. Members of this classification shall be entitled to refer to Association membership, including use of the Association logo in advertising, reduced admission fees for attendance at workshops and seminars for three representatives. One per entity shall be entitled to vote on all Association matters, except bylaw changes.

#### Student *\$35.00 annually*

Must provide evidence/proof. Members of this classification shall be entitled to attend monthly meetings and reduced admission fees for attendance at PTCA of San Diego workshops and seminars. No processing/late fee charges.

Want to check your member status, category, member listing or add additional team members? Contact Heather Crippen for assistance ([ptca@epicentermgmt.us](mailto:ptca@epicentermgmt.us)).

## PTCA EVENT RECAP

## Spring Blooms with Danny Simpson



Our April 1st meeting was all about Spring Blooms - and what a colorful topic it was! Spring is a great time for tree lovers, with vibrant blossoms popping up all over town. For those of us in tree care, it's also a perfect opportunity to notice which species really stand out and why.

Not every pink-blossomed tree belongs to the same genus, or even the same family! Our mild Mediterranean climate makes it possible for a wide variety of exotic species to thrive, many of which come from similar climates around the world.

One of the perks of knowing your tree species during bloom season? When a client points to a tree and asks, "Do you know what that is?" you'll be ready. Familiarity with what's growing in your area helps. And it's a great chance to show your expertise by asking them questions: "Did you notice the size of the tree?" "What did the bark look like?" "Were there seed pods or any distinct leaf shapes?" These details go a long way in identifying trees and impressing clients.

I used to tell my students to learn at least three key features about any tree. That way, they could build a mental reference library and start making accurate IDs on the fly. Even quizzing each other on job sites can be a fun way to build that knowledge.

Spring also gives us a chance to see tree structure, especially with deciduous species. And we can observe things like seed pod shape, size, and color. Some tree families tend to bloom at the same time, which makes comparisons easier. Take the *Bignoniaceae* family: *Handroanthus*, *Jacaranda*, *Tecoma*, *Kigelia*, and *Spathodea* all bloom in similar windows. But their flowers and seed capsules vary, which is helpful when dealing with organic litter or potential slip hazards from big, fleshy blooms on sidewalks.

We also touched on the *Fabaceae* family—trees like *Cercis*, *Acacia*, *Bauhinia*, and *Robinia*. Acacias have those fluffy, staminate blooms (either in a ball or a catkin form), while the others have more traditional petals. I grouped the slides by flower color to show which species share similar palettes.

From spring into early summer, our urban canopy puts on a colorful show. This is the time of year when trees grab people's attention, and nurseries are all about flowering varieties.

If you're curious about any species we covered or want to explore more options, don't forget to check out the Selectree website.

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The Jacaranda is a semi-deciduous to deciduous tree in the *Bignoniaceae*, or trumpet vine family, known for its dazzling display of purple-blue flowers. In late spring to early summer, this subtropical beauty bursts into bloom, blanketing branches in dense clusters of trumpet-shaped blossoms. These vivid blooms create a soft, dreamlike carpet as they fall, transforming streets and sidewalks into picturesque, petal-covered paths. While native to South America—particularly Brazil, Argentina, and Bolivia—Jacarandas have become signature trees in mild, Mediterranean climates, especially throughout Southern California and parts of the Southwest.

The bloom period typically begins in May and can last into June, depending on regional microclimates. Some Jacarandas may also put on a smaller secondary bloom in the fall. These trees thrive in full sun and bloom more prolifically when they receive sufficient winter rest with minimal frost. Though tolerant of a range of soil types, they prefer well-drained, sandy loam and benefit from occasional deep watering when young. Once established, Jacarandas are drought-tolerant and well-suited for low-water landscapes.

After the spring flower show, delicate, fern-like compound leaves emerge, adding a fine-textured, tropical feel to the landscape. These light green leaves can reach up to 20 inches (50 cm) long and provide filtered shade beneath the airy canopy. The tree's spreading, vase-shaped

crown and sculptural limbs add character year-round—even during brief periods of leaf drop.

Following flowering, woody, flat seed capsules appear. These round, disc-like pods, about 2 inches (5 cm) across, often persist into winter and may be collected for crafts or propagation. Jacarandas grow at a moderate rate and typically reach 25 to 50 feet (7.5 to 15 m) in height, with a similar spread. They are best suited for open spaces where their full canopy can develop, though they can be pruned to fit smaller landscapes.

While generally pest-resistant, Jacarandas can be sensitive to overly wet or compacted soils, which may lead to root issues. In urban settings, dropped blossoms can create temporary mess or slip hazards on hard surfaces, making placement important when selecting planting sites.

Jacarandas shine as street trees, focal points in public gardens, or as massed plantings where their spring bloom can be fully appreciated. Their graceful form and striking color also complement other Mediterranean-friendly species, such as olive trees, ceanothus, or drought-tolerant grasses.

Few trees offer the elegance, seasonal spectacle, and soft texture of the Jacaranda. Whether in full bloom or casting feathery shade in summer, this tree delivers beauty and character to any warm-climate landscape.

## What's the Best Investment You Can Make?

Looking for a smart investment with guaranteed returns? Try investing in the most valuable resource you have—yourself!

And one of the best ways to do that? Get involved with PTCA.

Let's face it: most tree care professionals have more time than extra cash lying around. Many of us are also thinking ahead—envisioning a future where we're leading crews, managing operations, or helping shape the industry rather than just climbing in it. But formal education and training can be expensive, especially when you're balancing work and family.

That's where investing your time can make all the difference.

Volunteering with PTCA isn't just about giving back; it's about growing forward. When you step up and get involved, you're not only helping strengthen the organization, you're building your own skills, expanding your network, and developing leadership experience that can take your career to the next level.

Look around at industry events—you'll recognize some familiar faces. Ever wonder how they became the go-to professionals everyone knows? Simple: they showed up, got involved,

### INDUSTRY UPDATE

#### Book Drive for Fire-Affected WCISA Members

The Western Chapter is continuing its Book Drive initiative for members who were affected by recent wildfires in Southern California.

##### How to Donate:

- *What to Give:* New or gently used reference books, textbooks, and educational materials.
- *Register Your Donation:* Use our Google form to list the books you're donating so we can match them with requests.
- *Questions?* Contact Executive Director Rose Epperson at [repperson@wcisa.net](mailto:repperson@wcisa.net).

Your contributions will help rebuild our community's knowledge base and provide much-needed support to those recovering. Thank you for your generosity!

and stayed committed. Serving on a board or a committee isn't about having all the answers—it's about being willing to learn, contribute, and connect.

Yes, this is a recruitment pitch. But it's also a genuine invitation. PTCA has been powered by a small but mighty group of volunteers for years. If you've ever thought about getting more involved, now is the time. There's room at the table, and we're here to help you find your place.

Balancing work and family is a challenge we all share. But getting involved doesn't mean giving up what matters—it means stepping into a future where you help shape what matters most. Many of the original founders are still active and ready to welcome the next wave of leaders... you could be one of them!

So go ahead and take that first step. Reach out, ask questions, and see where your time and energy could make a difference. PTCA is growing, and we'd love for you to grow with us.

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## Help Prevent the Spread of Invasive Pests

April is Invasive Plant Pest and Disease Awareness Month, and the U.S. Department of Agriculture is highlighting how citizen-driven, cost-efficient strategies can protect healthy, abundant crops.

The campaign highlights four ways folks can make a difference:

- **Stay informed:** Learn about local quarantines by visiting your State department of agriculture's website. Learn about what you can do to help by visiting HungryPests.com.
- **Inspect and Clean:** Before traveling, check your vehicle and any outdoor furniture or gear you're taking for signs of invasive pests. Clean your car and outdoor patio furniture regularly to help reduce invasive pest populations and reduce their spread.
- **Source Domestically and Shop Smart:** Wood can spread tree-killing beetles. Avoid moving firewood to new places and use locally sourced wood or buy certified, heat-treated firewood. When purchasing agricultural products online, verify the product's origin and follow import regulations. Buy the item domestically or learn how to safely and legally import plants, seeds and other agricultural products before purchasing them online. Also, avoid mailing home-grown plants, fruits and vegetables, which can also spread invasive pests to new areas.
- **Report and Declare:** If you notice unusual signs of



Some invasive insects, like the Gold Spotted Oak Borer shown here, hitchhike in firewood. Buy wood where you'll burn it to avoid spreading invasive insect pests to new areas.

pest activity in your garden, on your outdoor gear or in your community, report them to your local Extension office or state department of agriculture. It's also essential to declare all agricultural items, including seeds, soil, and handicrafts to U.S. Customs and Border Protection officials for inspection when returning from overseas travel.

By staying informed, making smart choices, and taking simple preventative steps, we can all play a part in protecting our landscapes, gardens, and food supply from invasive pests. This April—and all year long—your actions matter. Help keep our ecosystems healthy by staying vigilant and doing your part to stop the spread.

## Western Tree Failure Database Program Update

By Katherine Jones, WTFD Database Manager

As of March 27 we have 26 failure reports entered in 2025. It's a bit of a slow start...don't forget about the prize!

UCANR is in the process of revamping the websites under their control. It's taking a while to get everything going smoothly. For example, if you've tried to "Post a Question" on the tree failure website and were unable to, please send the question directly to me and I'll send you the answer.

There's been a few changes in the order of our 50 plus species group. Here they are as of 3/1/25. I'll get them onto the website soon.

- *Quercus agrifolia* 791,
- *Pinus radiata* 593,
- *Hesperocyparis macrocarpa* 556,
- *Eucalyptus globulus* 375,
- *Quercus lobata* 361,
- *Pinus pinea* 194,
- *Liquidambar styraciflua* 171,
- *Quercus kelloggii* 154,
- *Pinus halepensis* 132
- *Sequoia sempervirens* 131,
- *Acacia melanoxylon* 123,
- *Eucalyptus sideroxylin* 111,
- *Pyrus calleryana* 107,
- *Quercus wislizenii* 106,
- *Ulmus parvifolia* 105,
- *Pseudotsuga menziesii* 91,
- *Umbellularia californica* 83,
- *Calocedrus decurrens* 80,
- *Pinus attenuata* 67,
- *Eucalyptus viminalis* 55,
- *Eucalyptus camaldulensis* 54
- and *Quercus douglasii* 53.



*Quercus agrifolia*

Happy spring!

# How Can Tree Care Businesses Deal with Labor Shortages

By Tim Greifenkamp, CPCU

Labor shortages are a growing challenge for tree care businesses across the US. Why is there a labor shortage? Well, from visa issues to the seasonal nature of the work, the industry faces unique hurdles. An aging local workforce, the dangerous and tedious nature of the job, and a heavy reliance on immigrant workers further compound the labor shortage problem. High turnover rates are common, as injuries or physical strain often force workers to leave. Additionally, the male-dominated nature of the field and the lack of demand for such physically demanding work make it harder to attract and retain talent.

In this article, we'll explore how tree care businesses can become more attractive employers, retain employees, and ensure contract renewals—even in the face of labor shortages.

## Step 1: Understand What You're Dealing With

To address labor shortages, it's important to first take a step back and get the root of what motivates people to work (or avoid certain jobs). It's easy to understand when you think about it: People work because they enjoy their tasks, seek recognition, or simply need to make ends meet.

However, personal safety is always a top priority. Workers want to support their families today and also in the future. This means that jobs that appear dangerous or risky are less appealing. Tree service worker job descriptions pretty much spell out dangerous in large capital letters. That's why tree care jobs, unfortunately, lose points when it comes to desirability. (We're just adding up points, we don't make the rules!)

Additionally, jobs that could lead to legal trouble or expensive accidents are unattractive. Tree care, with its potential for costly mishaps, suffers in this regard. Finally, jobs that seem overly difficult or complex—like operating heavy equipment or navigating intricate harnesses—are also less appealing.

Chainsaws appear in tree care workplaces, and horror movies. Of course, people are afraid. Anyone would want to be a janitor rather than operate something that could take their arm out.

## Step 2: Display Seriousness About Worker Safety

One of the most effective ways to attract and retain workers is by demonstrating a commitment to their safety. This means investing time and resources into:

### 1. Training

Comprehensive training programs are non-negotiable. Newbies are sure to feel overwhelmed by the complexity of operating a chainsaw, and even getting into harnesses correctly. By offering hands-on training sessions, you can build confidence and competence.

Consider certifications like ISA (International Society of Arboriculture) or OSHA-approved courses to ensure your team is well-prepared. Training shouldn't stop at onboarding—regular refreshers and safety drills can keep skills sharp and reduce accidents.

### 2. PPE (Personal Protective Equipment)

High-quality safety gear is a must. Imagine a worker climbing a 50-foot tree without a proper harness or helmet—it's a disaster waiting to happen.

Equip your team with essentials like helmets, gloves, eye protection, and chainsaw-resistant clothing, and mandate utilization. Hold surprise checks to ensure rules are being followed.

Tree care companies have reduced accidents by 40% after investing in top-tier PPE and training their team on proper use.

By prioritizing safety, you not only protect your workers but also make your business more appealing to potential employees. A safe workplace is a productive one, and word gets around—skilled workers are more likely to join a company that values their well-being.

Include all of these measures in a note accompanying your tree service worker's job description.

## Step 3: Reduce On-the-Job Stress

A stressful work environment can drive employees away. To reduce stress, consider:

### 1. Clear SOPs (Standard Operating Procedures)

Clear guidelines are essential for minimizing confusion and errors. For example, a tree care team faced repeated delays and accidents because workers weren't sure how to handle emergency situations. After implementing detailed SOPs for tasks like tree removal, storm cleanup, and equipment maintenance, productivity increased by 25%, and stress levels dropped significantly. SOPs should be easy to access—consider laminated checklists for quick reference.

### 2. Onsite Supervisors

If you have a largely immigrant team, language barriers can add unnecessary stress. Hiring bilingual supervisors or providing language training can improve communication and support. For instance, a tree care company hired a Spanish-speaking supervisor for their predominantly Hispanic crew. This small change led to a 20% reduction in workplace misunderstandings and a noticeable boost in team morale.

### 3. General and Professional Liability Insurance

Accidents happen, and without proper coverage,

they can lead to legal and financial nightmares. If a tree falls on a client's property and damages their roof, general liability insurance can cover the repair costs. Similarly, if a client sues for negligence after a botched pruning job, professional liability insurance can handle legal fees and settlements. Nobody wants to spend the day stressed that doing their job just might cause an accident that sends a giant bill to their boss. On the other hand, countless tree care businesses have avoided lawsuits thanks to their liability coverage, which also gives their teams peace of mind to focus on their work.

By reducing stress, you create a more positive work environment where employees feel supported and valued. This not only improves retention but also enhances productivity and focus.

#### **Step 4: Pay Fair Wages**

Most people work to get paid. Few have the luxury of working out of passion instead of need. Fair wages are a cornerstone of attracting and retaining skilled workers in the tree care industry. While the job is physically demanding and often dangerous, competitive pay can make it more appealing. Let's break down hourly arborist labor rates by state/ city:

- *California*

Hourly Mean Wage: \$31.45

Arborists in California earn some of the highest wages in the country, with an annual mean wage of \$65,420.

- *Michigan*

Hourly Mean Wage: \$24.98

With a strong demand for tree care services, Michigan offers competitive wages, averaging \$51,960 annually.

- *New York*

Hourly Mean Wage: \$28.92

Tree care professionals in New York earn an annual mean wage of \$60,160, with higher rates in metropolitan areas like NYC.

- *Florida*

Hourly Mean Wage: \$19.95

While wages are lower compared to other states, coastal areas may offer higher pay due to increased demand. The annual mean wage is \$41,490.

- *New Jersey*

Hourly Mean Wage: \$23.86

New Jersey arborists earn an annual mean wage of \$49,630, reflecting the state's higher cost of living.



Paying fair wages isn't just about attracting workers—it's about showing respect for their skills and the risks they take. Companies have halved turnover (and minimized lost business, errors etc, alongside) after increasing the base wage. Fair pay also helps workers cover living expenses, especially in high-cost areas, and reduces financial stress, which can improve job performance and morale.

If you're not sure about wages, check government websites to get a fair idea of hourly arborist labor rates by state or city. Share your wage rates as part of the tree service workers' job description and invitation to apply. If you pay well, it will act as a magnet for talent.

#### **Step 5: Consider Also Attracting Daredevils and Adrenaline Junkies**

You know this: some people thrive on adrenaline. Adventure sports enthusiasts, for example, often pay for training and experiences that offer thrills. Similarly, some young workers might be drawn to tree care jobs for the excitement and extra cash. Others simply thrive on active, physically demanding jobs "in the great outdoors."

However, this demographic is often savvy about their rights and safety. They'll expect proper training, PPE, and fair treatment. If things go wrong, they're also more likely to speak up (and they can get really loud on social media). So, while targeting this group can help fill labor gaps, ensure you're fully prepared to meet their expectations.

Pro tip: This demographic consists of youngsters from the neighborhood and local community who might want to supplement beginner salaries. Or they may need work experience to speak of. Or a weekend (non-desk) job during higher studies. The tree service worker job descriptions that you send to this talent market would focus on different aspects from your immigrant talent market—words like independence, thrill, adrenaline would make sense to this market.

**Consulting Arborists Roundtable**



Cabling, Bracing, and Propping: Language, Liability, and Logistics

led by Nick Araya, BCMA

May 27, 2025

5:00 - 6:00 pm on Zoom.

1.0 CEU -

CA/CUFP/CTC/BCMA/P

WESTERN CHAPTER  
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**UPCOMING INDUSTRY WEBINAR**  
**TREE Fund Webinar Series:**  
**Enhancing collaboration amongst urban forest stakeholders – An assessment of natural hazard risk perceptions in relation to the services and disservices of city trees**

TREE Fund webinars bring you the latest in tree research, directly from the scientists themselves. These 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). Space is limited and pre-registration is highly recommended; in doing so, you'll receive a reminder email the day before the broadcast.

The next webinar is on Wednesday, May 6, titled "Enhancing collaboration amongst urban forest stakeholders – An assessment of natural hazard risk perceptions in relation to the services and disservices of city trees." Mysha Clarke and Stephanie Cadaval will present their findings from their 2020 Bob Skiera Memorial Fund Building Bridges Initiative Grant Program.

This webinar is part of the TREE Fund's educational series, offering professionals insights into urban forestry and the opportunity to earn Continuing Education Units (CEUs).

**INDUSTRY EVENT**

**Join the Tree Treks Program with Tree San Diego**

Tree Treks is a community engagement and building program designed to connect San Diego residents with their local parks and trails while fostering a shared interest in trees and native plants. The program's primary objective is to cultivate a sense of community by encouraging neighbors to bond over learning about the diverse flora within their local parks. As participants embark on the monthly Tree Trek, they will have the opportunity to engage in an arborist-led conversation that will focus on the identification and characteristics of trees, their benefits, and the history of the parks where they grow.

The selected Tree Trek parks are located throughout San Diego County, ensuring accessibility for a broad audience. Utilizing publicly-available TreePlotter mapping software, this platform will inventory walk routes and provide tree eco-benefits information "live" at any time.

**More Than Just a Trek**

All attendees will receive a free tree seed packet.

If you complete 6 Tree Treks events you will receive your own tree sapling.

Complete 10 Tree Treks to receive a TSD t-shirt.

Your Tree Passport will be stamped at each Tree Trek to verify attendance.

TREE TREKS 2025 SCHEDULE		TREE SAN DIEGO	RSVP HERE
Every 2nd Saturday of the Month from 10:00-11:30AM			
JAN 11		LINDO LAKE PARK 12660 Lindo Ln, Lakeside, CA 92040	
FEB 8		ROHR PARK 4548 Sweetwater Rd, Bonita, CA 91902	
MAR 8		GRAPE DAY PARK 321 N Broadway, Escondido, CA 92025	
APR 12		BALBOA PARK Park Blvd & Presidents Way	
MAY 10		LAKE MURRAY COMMUNITY PARK 7001 Murray Park Dr, San Diego, CA 92119	
JUN 14		BF CANCELLED 1200 W Bonita Ave, San Diego, CA 92084	
JUL 14		BUDDY TODD PARK 2800 Mesa Dr, Oceanside, CA 92054	
AUG 9		KATE SESSIONS PARK 5115 Soledad Rd, San Diego, CA 92109	
SEP 13		SHADOW HILL PARK 9161 Shadow Hill Rd, Santee, CA 92071	
OCT 11		LA MESITA PARK 8855 Dallas St, La Mesa, CA 91942	
NOV 8		BALBOA PARK Corner of Quince St. & Balboa Dr.	
DEC 13		MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. PARK 6401 Skyline Dr, San Diego, CA 92114	