

Why should Tree Risk Assessment training be important to you?

Municipalities, park districts, counties, and State agencies are charged with managing public spaces (e.g., highways, streets, sidewalks, preserves, and parks). The trees associated with these areas also fall under the management responsibilities of public agencies. This is due, in part, to the duty to provide a safe environment for users of their public spaces. With this duty comes heightened responsibility and liability.

Arborists also have heightened liability because an expectation exists that all arborists have been educated about the risks that are associated with their field. Moreover, arborists may be called upon to inform a client about managing risk without the knowledge to do so.

Public entities and arborists can increase their control regarding tree risk liabilities and accountability by implementing a reasonable tree risk management program. Staff training is a crucial part of a proactive tree risk management strategy.

Illinois Arborist Association
PO Box 860
Antioch, IL 60002
Toll Free: 877-617-8887
Fax: 262-857-6677
www.illinoisarborist.org

The Illinois Arborist Association
Presents...

TREE RISK ASSESSMENT



Two-day workshop chose your location

September 13 & 14 in Oak Park

September 15 & 16 in Oak Park

September 21 & 22 in Springfield

September 23 & 24 in Edwardsville

This course trains staff to identify and make informed mitigation choices on trees that may pose a potential risk of failure. An informed staff demonstrates one component of due diligence that makes for a safe environment and a defensible program.

Day 1:

- 7:30 Registration
- 8:00 Tree Biology and Mechanics: Review wood structure and the affect of decay on that structure. Discussion will also cover the different applied forces and their resulting affects on tree mechanics.
- 9:30 Break
- 9:45 Structural Defects: Eight categories of defects will be discussed in detail. From cracks to decay the identification and interaction between multiple defects will be reviewed.
- 10:45 Decay Fungi: Discussion will detail five primary decay fungus found on urban trees in Illinois. Their identification and relevance on tree structural integrity will be covered.
- 11:30 Tree Risk Assessment Guidelines: Review the methodology behind the assessment of an individual tree. Numerous assessment procedures currently being used by the profession will be discussed. A protocol for participants will be defined.
- 12:00 Lunch
- 12:45 Structural Defects and Their Affects: This exciting component of the workshop will be centered around three stations where the following topics will be discussed in detail:
- 12:45 Station 1: A large diameter Silver Maple with a know cavity of unknown size, will be cut in vertical cross section while still in place. Discussion will focus on understanding the extent of decay; measuring the extent of decay vertically through the system and its consequence.
- 1:30 Station 2: A measured force will be applied to an American Linden with a significant appressed fork to gauge the forces required to cause failure.
- 2:15 Break and Station 3: During a working break, a Red Maple with know basal decay will be analyzed. The complete root system of the tree will be exposed and dissected to determine the extent of decay from the basal portion of the trunk into the root system.
- 3:00 Target: Discussion on assigning target values on both private and residential properties. How to use target rating to prioritize actions will be outlined.
- 3:45 Field Assessment: Will center around evaluating a tree on both public and private property. The focus of dialogue will be on mitigation strategies.
- 4:30 Adjourn

Day 2

- 8:00 Risk As it Applies to Trees: Review the main components of risk management program and how it applies to the management of trees for both public sector agencies and private sector businesses.
- 8:45 Risk Zone Map: Hands on exercise where participants will develop a risk zone map for a municipality and a residential property. The risk zone map is the basis for the development of a long-term inspection program.
- 10:00 Break
- 10:15 The Court Arena: This discussion is separated into two topics. The first covers three recent cases in Illinois that highlight many of the numerous issues confronted by arborists and municipalities in litigation. The cases will act as a backdrop for a review of the primary elements of the litigation process.
- 11:15 Elements of a Defensible Program: A discussion centered on a decision matrix defines a range of options for six element of a defensible tree risk management program.
- 12:00 Adjourn

This comprehensive workshop covers one and a half days and twelve hours of instruction. The course will be divided between time in the class and field. The primary focus of discussion will be centered on providing participants with the high level of competency in understanding tree biology; tree mechanics, the different forces applied to trees; structural defects and the interaction of all factors on determining failure potential. An additional focus will be on developing achievable and defensible tree risk management strategies. Subject matter was developed for both municipal foresters and private sector arborists in mind. Numerous thought-provoking failure and analysis demonstrations have been created specifically for this course.

These classes are worth 11.25 CEUs. You do NOT have to be a certified arborist to attend these classes.

Cost: \$150 per person

(Cost includes all materials, CD of presentations and handouts, lunch for the first day and breaks.)

Please sign me up for:

- September 13 & 14 in Oak Park
- September 15 & 16 in Oak Park
- September 21 & 22 in Springfield
- September 23 & 24 in Edwardsville

Name: _____

Company: _____

Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Phone: _____ Fax: _____

e-mail: _____

Check #: _____

Purchase Order#: _____

Enclose your payment and make payable to:

Illinois Arborist Association
PO Box 860
Antioch, IL 60002
or fax this form to: 262-857-6677

Visa or MasterCard is accepted

Card Number: _____

Expiration Date: _____

Name on Card: _____

Signature: _____