

Tree Talk

Education, Training, Communication, Professionalism & Public Awareness in Arboriculture

Last words from our outgoing President Todd Reese

Greetings members:

It's that time of year again, the holidays are here and everyone's schedule is full of activities. The board and I wish you all a safe and joyful holiday season.

We partnered with the DNR and had another successful workshop in November, EAB bus tour of Burlington. Hats off to the DNR and the IAA board for putting on a great workshop. The only down side of the tour is we had to turn away people due to the fact it filled up so fast.

The board has been busy working on several things that we feel will strengthen our association. These items will be presented to the body for a vote during our annual meeting at Shade Tree. The first thing is: Discontinuing mailing the newsletter, instead we would email the newsletter. The second item is that the board is looking into partnering with Iowa Arboretum. We are in the process of vetting this partnership. The board will meet with the Arboretum this month. If you have any concerns or questions about these two subjects, please give me a call. Both of these items will call

for a change in the bylaws. We will have a comprehensive break-down for you to study and that will be handed out the first day of Shade Tree so you may make an intelligent decision when you vote.

I want to take this opportunity to thank my board, these are some of the finest people I have ever had the opportunity to work with. They come from all areas of the Arboriculture field and are passionate about the positions that you the body have elected them to. It has been my pleasure to serve as their president.

I encourage each and every one of you to join our team, elections are just around the corner. Check this newsletter for the positions that are coming open. If you are interested in becoming a board member or officer, contact any current member.

Also, check out the Association's web site and if you are attending the MWISA conference, stop by our booth-we will have a slide show of all the activities and workshops the IAA has put on this year. Who knows, you may see yourself in the presentation.

Cedar Rapids EAB Workshop recap

On November 7th an Informational meeting on the Emerald Ash Borer was held at the Ladd Library in Cedar Rapids. Two slightly different presentations were given. An afternoon session was offered to green industry professionals. This session covered topics such as Ash ID, EAB ID, Pesticide options and concerns and an update on the new quarantine for the Eastern half of the state. The evening session was geared more towards homeowners and differed slightly from the afternoon meeting in that replacement tree options were also explored.

Vermeer was on site with a promotional trailer as well as lunch for attendees. There were also representatives from Big Country Seeds/Brandt,

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(CR EAB Recap continued)

John Deere landscapes and Tree Savers on hand to discuss different treatment options and pesticide delivery technology with interested attendees.

The event was attended by nearly 150 people, far exceeding our expectations. I would like to thank the following vendors for coming to the event: Vermeer of Iowa and Northern Missouri, Big Country Seeds, John Deere Landscapes, TreeSavers and Tree Care L.L.C..a big thank goes out to Mark Vitosh from the Iowa DNR, State Entomologist Robin Pruisner and Mark Shour from the ISU Extension for taking a day from their busy schedules to speak at the event.

By Todd Fagan, Cedar Rapids City Arborist

Burlington EAB Bus Tour recap

More than 100 Urban Forestry Professionals from across Iowa toured EAB infestations in Burlington, Iowa on November 14th and saw firsthand some of the signs and symptoms of EAB. Attendees were comprised of tree enthusiasts from municipalities, commercial tree care companies, tree boards, universities and nonprofits.

Presentations were given from Tivon Feeley and Emma Hanigan for the Iowa Department of Natural Resources and Mike Kitner from the Iowa Department Of Agriculture and Land Stewardship. Additionally, participants engaged in a question

and answer panels with Burlington City Arborist, Casey Chadwick, Fairfield Councilman and Arbor Committee Member, Michael Halley and Extension Sustainability Coordinator, Scott Timm.

This was a great opportunity to see symptoms such as woodpecker flecking and bark peel infested trees. Mark Vitosh who helped with the event said, "For years, they've (participants) been seeing it on the computer. They've been seeing it on paper. To actually be able to see the larvae, it gives them more sense of urgency". The tour was hosted by the City of Burlington and was sponsored by the IAA, Iowa DNR and the US Forest Service. Thank you to all that made this bus tour and workshop possible.

By Emma Hanigan, Urban Forester, Iowa DNR



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