

Montgomery Township Shade Tree Commission & Bartlett Tree Experts
present: Community Forestry Workshop

Date:	Thursday, November 2, 2017	
Location:	Montgomery Township Community Center	
Time:	8:00 AM – 4:00 PM ‘RAIN OR SHINE’	
8:00 – 8:30 AM	Registration – Beverages/Danishes	
8:30 – 8:45 AM	Welcome/Remarks	Stephen Hilbert, Arborist Representative Bartlett Tree Experts
8:45 – 9:00 AM	Safety in Arboriculture	Joseph C. Bones, Safety/Training Coordinator Bartlett Tree Experts
9:00 – 9:45 AM	Challenge of Urban Soils	Tom Smiley, Ph.D., Plant Physiologist & Soil Scientist Bartlett Tree Experts
9:45 – 10:30 AM	Insect Update	Emelie Swackhamer Horticulture Extension Educator Penn State Extension
10:30 – 10:45 AM	Break	
10:45 – 12:00 PM	Tree Risk Assessment	Tom Smiley, Ph.D. Plant Physiologist & Soil Scientist Bartlett Tree Experts
12:00 – 12:45 PM	Lunch	
12:45 – 1:15 PM	Disease Update	Emelie Swackhamer, Horticulture Extension Educator Penn State Extension
1:15 – 1:45 PM	Regulatory Update	Jessica Lenker, Pesticide Certification Specialist PA Dept of Agriculture
2:45 – 2:00 PM	Break	
2:00 – 3:30 PM	Afternoon Sessions (Choose One)	
	Pesticide Applications in Institutions and Schools	Sarah Pickel, IPM Education Specialist PA Dept of Agriculture
	Tree Risk Assessment	Tom Smiley, Ph.D. Plant Physiologist & Soil Scientist Bartlett Tree Experts
	Stormwater Management & MS4 Compliance	Valerie Liggett, Boucher & James, Inc.; and Krista Scheirer, Watershed Specialist Montgomery County Conservation District
	Challenge of Urban Soils	Stephen Hilbert, Arborist Representative Bartlett Tree Experts
3:30 – 4:00 PM	Evaluation & CEU Sign-up	Tree Commission Members

Instructors / Presenters

Joseph C. Bones, Div. Safety/Training Coordinator
Bartlett Tree Experts

Stephen Hilbert, Arborist Representative
Bartlett Tree Experts

Mr. Hilbert is an Arborist Representative for Bartlett Tree Experts. He attained a BS from Pennsylvania State University in Forest Management and has been active for four years in arboriculture and has experience in many of the facets of tree and shrub care. He is an ISA certified arborist and a PA Pesticide Applicator.

Jessica Lenker, Pesticide Certification Specialist
Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture, Bureau of Plant Industry

Ms. Lenker joined the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture, Bureau of Plant Industry, as the Pesticide Certification & Education Specialist in February 2015. Prior to the certification position she was the Botany and Noxious Weed Specialist with the Department.

Valerie Liggett, ASLA, R.L.A., ISA Certified Arborist®,
Planner/Landscape Architect, Boucher & James, Inc.

Ms. Liggett provides consulting arborist services and assists as Planner/Landscape Architect in a number of municipalities. She is involved with all aspects of consulting arboriculture, planning, and landscape architecture, including landscape inspections, landscape plan preparation, ordinance writing, plan reviews, environmental impact assessments, park and open space plans, trails master plans, municipal comprehensive plans and the design of park and open space systems. She has worked with a number of municipalities to retrofit and/or naturalize basins in order to meet MS4 requirements, and has been working with Montgomery Township to implement their basin naturalization program since 2010. Ms. Liggett is a graduate of the Pennsylvania State University with a Bachelor of Landscape Architecture, and is a graduate with Distinction and Honors from the Schreyer Honors College.

Sarah Pickel, IPM Education Specialist
Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture, Bureau of Plant Industry

Ms. Pickel has been with the PA Department of Agriculture's Health and Safety Division for over 12 years as part of the Integrated Pest Management Program. Her outreach areas include IPM in Schools for both facilities personnel and school students and IPM for Nurseries, specifically conifers. Ms. Pickel's outreach work involves presenting educational programs, staffing educational booths at industry shows, and scouting for and writing the PA Christmas Tree Scouting report, a weekly seasonal pest newsletter.

Krista E. Scheirer, Watershed Specialist
Montgomery County Conservation District

Ms. Scheirer is the Watershed Specialist for Montgomery County Conservation District, where she works to protect and improve the quality and quantity of our fresh water resources through restoration work, outreach, planning, and education. Krista helps to administer the TreeVitalize Watersheds grant program, provides technical guidance to watershed organizations and residents, coordinates the County's annual Envirothon events for grades 4-12, and partners with Penn State to offer the Master Watershed Stewards volunteer training program. Her experience includes stormwater and agricultural best management practices, stream bank stabilization, invasive species management, grant administration, and volunteer management. She has a background in nonprofit watershed work and holds a B.A. in Biology and English Literature from Swarthmore College.

**E. Thomas Smiley, Ph.D., Plant Physiologist & Soil Scientist
Bartlett Tree Research Laboratory**

Dr. Smiley is an arboricultural researcher at the Bartlett Tree Research Laboratory in Charlotte, NC. He is active in the arboriculture industry and has co-authored the ISA's Best Management Practices for Tree Risk Assessment, Lightning Protection, Fertilization, Support Systems, Soil Management and Construction Management. Dr. Smiley's research has led to improved methods of increasing sidewalk longevity near trees, protecting more trees from lightning damage, improving tree root growth in compacted soil using the patented Root Invigoration process, and predicting tree failures.

**Emelie Swackhamer, Horticulture Extension Educator
Penn State Extension, Montgomery County**

Ms. Swackhamer has worked with Penn State Extension as a horticulture educator for 21 years. She specializes in disease and pest management on ornamentals.

Program Content Summaries

8:45 – 9:00 AM **Safety in Arboriculture**

Speaker: Joseph C. Bones, Safety & Training Coordinator, Bartlett Tree Experts

Mr. Bones will open the conference with a safety message about the state of safety in arboriculture and share how a successful safety program is developed.

9:00 – 9:45 AM **Challenge of Urban Soils**

Tom Smiley, Ph.D., Plant Physiologist & Soil Scientist, Bartlett Tree Experts

Dr. Smiley will introduce the challenges faced with trees growing in the landscape. Tree soil needs will be covered and how deficiencies can impact tree health and stability. He will review the various methods of alleviating soil compaction on existing sites and research from the Bartlett Lab on new builds.

9:45 – 10:30 AM **Insect Update**

Emelie Swackhamer, Extension Educator, Penn State Extension

Ms. Swackhamer will highlight several invasive insects that are of concern in southeastern Pennsylvania. We will include the spotted lanternfly, the Japanese cedar longhorned beetle and ambrosia beetles.

10:45 – 12:00 PM **Tree Risk Assessment**

Tom Smiley, Ph.D., Plant Physiologist & Soil Scientist, Bartlett Tree Experts

Dr. Smiley will cover the how and why's of tree risk assessment. This session will cover basic tree risk assessment technique and key factors to observe in regards to a basic tree risk assessment. The basic tree risk assessment form will be introduced and examples of how the form is to be used.

12:45 – 1:15 PM **Disease Update**

Emelie Swackhamer, Extension Educator, Penn State Extension

Ms. Swackhamer will review thousand cankers disease of walnut and boxwood blight will be highlighted in the disease update.

1:15 – 1:45 PM **Regulatory Update**

Jessica Lenker, Pesticide Certification Specialist, PA Dept of Agriculture

Ms. Lenker will review key pesticide regulations applicators need to be aware of to safely and legally apply pesticides. This presentation will also include any new information pesticide applicators need to learn.

Afternoon Sessions (Choose One):

2:00 – 3:30 PM **Pesticide Applications in Institutions and Schools**

Sarah Pickle, Research Tech, PA IPM Program, PA Dept of Agriculture

A review of the PA regulations regarding Integrated Pest Management and pesticide applications in school buildings and properties, as well as IPM tips for pest issues in schools, including bed bugs.

2:00 – 3:30 PM **Tree Risk Assessment: Risk, Hazard and Mitigation**

Tom Smiley, Ph.D., Plant Physiologist & Soil Scientist, Bartlett Tree Experts

The afternoon session will further explore the basic tree risk assessment form and how it relates to the likelihood matrix and the risk matrix. Several examples will be used to help the attendees interactively understand basic tree risk assessment and recommendations to mitigate these risks from pruning, cabling or necessary removals.

2:00 – 3:30 PM **Stormwater Management & MS4 Compliance**

Krista Scheirer, Watershed Specialist, Montgomery County, Conservation District

Most of the pollution in our streams is carried there by rainwater running off our landscape. This stormwater pollution is threatening the quality of aquatic habitats, as well as our drinking water resources. The good news is everyone can be part of the solution. Ms. Scheirer will present options for improving local streams, including pollution prevention techniques and several stormwater best management practices for communities and homeowners. She will also discuss the Conservation District's TreeVitalize Watersheds grant program, which funds tree planting projects that improve water quality.

Valerie Liggett, Boucher & James, Inc.

Ms. Liggett will discuss some of the rubber-meets-road issues involved with retrofitting and naturalization. She will discuss some real-life examples with descriptions of the different naturalization/retrofit methods used, before and after photos, and positive and negative aspects of each method. She will then provide an in-depth discussion of Montgomery Township's basin naturalization program including the basin inspection process, public education, ongoing monitoring and maintenance, issues encountered, and before and after photos.

2:00 – 3:30 PM **Challenge of Urban Soils: Healthy roots, health crown**

Steve Hilbert, Arborist Representative, Bartlett Tree Experts

Stephen will further explore the challenges of trees and shrubs growing in the landscape and review corrective measures based on site conditions and soil amendments of existing landscapes.