

# 67th Annual Shade Tree Conference

January 18-20, 2023

Hotel: Hilton Garden Inn®. Manhattan, KS 66502

410 S 3<sup>rd</sup> Street

## WEDNESDAY (Jan 18) ADVANCED ARBORISTS TRAINING WORKSHOP

Registration opens at 7:30 am with the workshop beginning at 8:00 am. Lunch will be provided at noon and there will be breaks in the morning and afternoon. A social with exhibitors at 5:00 includes a 2 drink tickets and hors d'oeuvres.

7:30	Registration opens
8:00-9:15	Will Moore – Cutting Edge: an inside out approach to bolster safety and accountability in tree felling operations
9:15-10:30	Dave Stice and Bryan Brock – Aerial Rescue Techniques and Primary Care
10:30-10:45	Break
10:45-12:00	Dave Stice and Bryan Brock – Aerial Rescue Techniques and Primary Care
12:00-1:00	Lunch Provided
1:00-3:30	Dave Stice and Bryan Brock – Aerial Rescue Techniques and Primary Care
3:30-3:45	Break
3:45-5:00	Nicole ('Carni') Benjamin—Maintaining Your Body as an Arborist
5:00	Social with Exhibitors

## THURSDAY (Jan 19) SHADE TREE CONFERENCE

7:30	Registration Opens
8:00-8:15	Welcome – Skyler Delmott, President KAA
8:15-8:30	Introduction of Exhibitors
8:30-9:30	Dr. Richard Hauer – Tree Tolerance to Moisture Stress: Tree Tricks Up Their Leaves
9:30-10:15	Graham Herbst – Trees in the Multi-Purpose Landscape
10:15-10:30	Break
10:30-11:30	Panel: Diagnosing Challenging Tree Issues– Hauer, Herbst, McDonnel, Spurgeon
11:30-12:45	Lunch on your own
12:45-1:30	Kansas Arborists Association Business Meeting
1:30-2:30	Chelsi Abbott – Wood Decay
2:30-3:15	Nicole ('Carni') Benjamin— Promoting interactions among homeowners & their trees
3:15-3:30	Break
3:30-4:15	Dr. Richard Hauer – Advancements in Tree Injection Research and Technology
4:15-5:00	Chelsi Abbott – Oak Decline
5:00-6:30	Social with Exhibitors – Cash Bar
6:30	Banquet

## FRIDAY (Jan 20) SHADE TREE CONFERENCE

8:00	Registration Opens –
8:30-9:30	Dr. Fredric Miller – Our Woody Plants Face Many Challenges: The “Gloom and Doom” of Pest and Disease management Part 1
9:30-10:30	Dr. Ben Sikes – Two faced fungi: clues to tell the good from the bad
10:30-10:45	Break
10:45-11:45	Dr. Fredric Miller – Our Woody Plants Face Many Challenges: The “Gloom and Doom” of Pest and Disease Management: Part 2
11:45-1:00	Lunch on your own
1:00-2:00	Dr. Jason Griffin – Trees and Turf
2:00-3:00	Pesticide Regulations (Core Hour) – Kansas Department of Agriculture
3:00-3:15	Closing Remarks/Adjourn

Credits toward Pesticide Applicator Recertification  
KDA Pesticide Regs Update 1 core hour  
3A/3B credits will be available

ISA CEU'S will be available and  
announced for each session

## 2023 KAA - Shade Tree Conference - Speaker Biographies

**Dave Stice**—is the technical expert for Wesspur and travels to many events throughout the year as a judge and volunteer. He is the head instructor and technical expert for the Ascension Group and has helped many climbers improve their skills and safety.

**Will Moore**— Will Moore is a private contractor for state and federal hazard tree felling operations. He is a certified arborist, qualified tree risk assessor, and instructor for The Art of Felling Timber.

**Chelsi Abbott**—is a technical advisor and education specialist with the Davey Institute. She has her master's degree in plant pathology, is an ISA certified arborist, holds her TRAQ qualification, in is a certified forest therapy guide.

**Graham Herbst**—is a native Nebraskan and graduate of the Horticulture Program at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln. After working in the landscape and arboriculture industries, he moved to the Nebraska Forest Service to promote innovative Urban Forestry Projects as the Community Forestry Specialist for Eastern Nebraska. He is a certified arborist and the President of the MWISA.

**Dr. Richard Hauer**—is a professor of Urban Forestry at the University of Wisconsin—Stevens Point, teaching courses in urban forestry, nursery management, woody plants, dendrology, and introduction to forestry. Rich conducts research in tree biology, urban forest management, emerald ash borer management, trees and construction, tree risk management, and ice storms. He was honored as the 2018 L.C. Chadwick Award for Arboriculture Research. He is also the Director of Urban forestry at CNUC.

**Dr. Fredric Miller**—is a professor of horticulture in the Department of Agriculture and Horticulture Sciences at Joliet Junior College, Joliet, Illinois, and a Senior Scientist – Entomology at The Morton Arboretum, Lisle, Illinois. He received his B.S.F. in Forest Management from the University of Missouri, a M.S. in Forest Entomology from the University of Arkansas, and a Ph.D. in Urban Forest Entomology, with a minor in Plant Pathology, from Iowa State University. Dr. Miller currently serves as the Illinois DNR forest health specialist and is a Board Certified Master Arborist (BCMA). He is actively involved with the Illinois chapter (IAA) of the ISA. His applied research focuses on the host plant resistance of ornamental woody plants for major economic insect pests, biological control of the emerald ash borer (EAB), and EAB population dynamics.

**Dr. Benjamin Sikes**—is an associate professor of microbial ecology in the Ecology and Evolutionary Biology Department at the University of Kansas. He is cross appointed as an associate scientist in the Kansas Biological Survey. His research focuses mainly on soil and plant-associated fungi, exploring their community ecology and functions for improving restoration, agriculture, and stress resistance. His recent projects include working on soil fungi under perennial crops, fire-adapted fungi, and how management decisions impact ecology along property boundaries. He is a co-author of the recently released book, A New Guide to Kansas Mushrooms.

**Bryan Brock**—18 years in the industry. He has taught classes in advanced arboricultural techniques in France, Estonia, and all over the east coast, including a class with Dr. Ed Gilman on advanced pruning. He has participated in countless tree climbing competitions and won NAOM 2017, Appalachia TCC 2018, Natural State 2018, and Treepalooza 2021.

**Nicole ('Carni') Benjamin-Harden**—An ISA Certified Arborist and is the co-owner/operator of 2 Dog Crew, LLC. She chose to leave the corporate world as a project manager in 2015 with the desire to have a sense of challenge, accomplishment, and dirty hands at the end of the day. While she is primarily a contract climber working in the Charlotte area for various companies, she and her family (husband, daughter, & 2 dogs travel from the East coast to the West coast to work on specific tree work projects with friends, to extend vacations into "workcations," and to help with the Women's Tree Climbing Workshop (WTCW) and other trainings.