

## **The Importance of Making Correct Pruning Cuts of Appropriate Size**

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### **Description of Presentation**

Branch failure can be caused by wind, ice, snow or a climber aloft in a tree and can result in costly property damage, personal injury, power outages, or road blockage. In order to understand how a branch deals with loading, we will explore how loads move through the vulnerable region of a branch union/fork. Then discuss why biologically small cuts are better than larger cuts and impacts of decay after pruning.

### **Speaker Bio**

Greg Dahle is an Associate Professor at West Virginia University where he teaches courses in urban forestry & arboriculture. Dr. Dahle's arboricultural research utilizes biomechanical approaches to understand how trees grow and survive environmental loads. Greg was a practicing urban forester in California for seven years, working with municipal, commercial and utility clients developing and implementing short- and long-term urban forest management plans. Dr. Dahle is an ISA Board-Certified Master Arborist and Qualified Tree Risk Assessor.