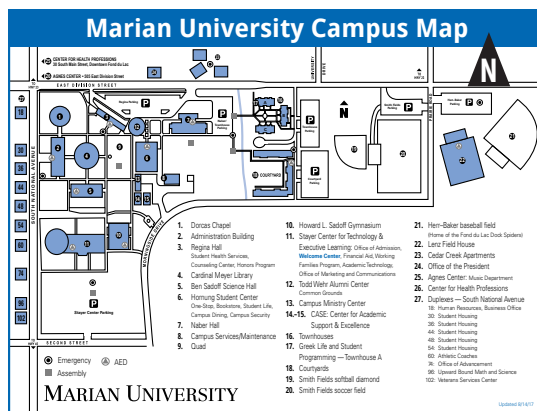


MARIAN UNIVERSITY, STAYER CENTER

45 South National Avenue, Fond du Lac, WI 54935
Park in Stayer Center Parking Lot off Second Street



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DIRECTIONS

From the north or south (U.S. 41): Take the U.S. Hwy. 175 exit (Exit 95). Take 151 north to the Johnson Street (Hwy. 23) exit. Take Johnson Street (23) west to National Avenue. Turn south on National Avenue; the campus is at the corner of South National Avenue and East Division Street.

From the northeast (U.S. 151): Take 151 to the Johnson Street (Hwy. 23) exit. Take Johnson Street (23) west to National Avenue. Turn south on National Avenue to campus.

From the east (Hwy. 23): Take Johnson Street (23) west to National Avenue. Turn south on National Avenue to campus.

From the southeast (U.S. 45): Turn north on U.S. 151. Take 151 to the Johnson Street (Hwy. 23) exit. Take Johnson Street (23) west to National Avenue. Turn south on National Avenue to campus.

From the southwest (U.S. 151): Take U.S. 151 Hwy. north to Fond du Lac. Take the Johnson Street (Highway 23) exit. Take Johnson Street (23) west to National Avenue. Turn south on National Avenue to campus.

From the west (Hwy. 23): Take Johnson Street (23) east to National Avenue. Turn south on National Avenue to campus.

2025 Wisconsin Arborist Association Program Committee

Todd Haefke, Chair & Exhibitor Chair
Kyle Babicky & Ryan Rodefer, Co-chairs
Gary Kohler, TCC Chair

Adam Alves	Fred Hoppe	Aaron Schauer
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Ron Gumz	Brian Pelot	Jay Weiss
Tim Harris II	Samuel Prestidge	Shelly Wollerman
Rich Hauer	Ryan Rodefer	
Anna Healy	Tracy Salisbury	

Wisconsin Arborist Association
PO Box 189
Eagle, WI 53119-0189



Summer Conference



Growing Together: Collaborative Relationships, Technology & Equipment July 31, 2025

Two Tracks of Education

- Wood Banks
- Advanced Drone Applications
- Tree Planting Considerations
- Working with Municipalities & Non-Profits
- Roadside Vegetation Management
- WI Recent Insect Trends
- Aerial Rescue
- Intro to UVM
- PHC and the Public
- New and Old Climbing Devices

Outdoor Demonstrations

- Advanced Drone Applications

*A Buffet-style Lunch will be Served
with Indoor and Outdoor Seating*

photo courtesy of Tina Johnson



2025 Summer Conference Registration Form

Name _____
WAA Member? ☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Student

Address _____

City _____

State _____ Zip _____

Organization _____

Telephone _____

E-mail _____

Additional Employees:

Name _____
WAA Member? ☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Student

Name _____
WAA Member? ☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Student

Name _____
WAA Member? ☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Student

• • • • •

Prices, if sent BEFORE July 17, 2025:

Conference Rates:

WAA Members: # _____ @ \$140 _____

WAA Non-members: # _____ @ \$160 _____

With one-year membership included # _____ @ \$185 _____

Student Member: # _____ @ \$ 0 _____

Late Registration

(all registrants postmarked after July 17, 2025, except students)

_____ @ \$ 25 _____

Vegetarian Meals Needed # _____

TOTAL PAYMENT ENCLOSED: \$ _____

Enclose a check for the total due, payable to the *Wisconsin Arborist Association*. **Return this form and payment to Wisconsin Arborist Association, PO Box 189, Eagle, WI 53119-0189.**

On-line registration available at
www.waa-isa.org

NO REFUNDS AFTER JULY 17, 2025

Substitutions are possible. Registration includes: break, lunch, networking and a great opportunity to increase your arboricultural knowledge. Vendors will be on site.

Join us for the WAA Summer Conference at the Stayer Center at Marian University in Fond du Lac on Thursday, July 31st. We can't wait to see you there!

Indoor Concurrent Sessions

Wood Banks & Urban Forestry: Exploring the Relationship

— Jay Dampier, Rick Harper

Firewood banks have emerged to provide free firewood to fuel-poor households offsetting winter heating costs. They also offer community benefits by repurposing urban wood waste from pruning and tree removals. Join Jay Dampier and Rick Harper as they highlight their research on existing firewood banks and explore the potential for collaboration opportunities between municipal and private arboriculture and urban forestry operations.

Advanced Drone Applications for Vegetation Management/ Outdoor Demo

— Leah Morris, Deborah Sheeler

New technology is constantly evolving, making unmanned aerial vehicles (UAVs) or drone services a value-added supplement to conventional spraying and inspections methods. This presentation will review geospatial and integrated remote sensing solutions and discuss latest developments, improvements, and system advances for utility vegetation management.

Tree Planting: Costs & Considerations

— Rick Harper
Urban Tree Planting may be a high-profile activity conducted at scale to increase canopy cover, beautify a neighborhood, or combat climate change. To derive these benefits, trees must be permitted to establish and grow for many years. Harsh urban environments present notoriously challenging growing conditions, and practices ranging from nursery production methods to tree selection and installation should receive careful thought. Join Rick as he discusses some of these important considerations to help promote tree health and longevity.

Working with Municipalities and Non-profits: Best Practices for Arborists and Consultants

— Jay Dampier, Nicolle Spafford

The DNR's urban forestry grant program funds projects to enhance urban tree canopy. Many municipalities, tribes, and non-profits lack technical expertise, leading them to hire arborists and consultants. DNR Urban Forestry Team members Nicolle Spafford and Jay Dampier will guide you through engaging potential grantees early, understanding the selection processes and building successful collaborations. Learn best practices to maximize project impact and support sustainable community forestry goals.

Roadside Vegetation Management

— Mark Renz

Dr. Renz will discuss the importance of managing roadside vegetation and a new approach that incorporates low rates of an herbicide that reduces the growth of grass. This method reduces the frequency of mowing events needed and improves invasive plant management. It is currently used on a third of Wisconsin roads. He will overview how to use this technique effectively and what challenges exist.

WI's Recent Insect Trends

— PJ Liesch

Wisconsin's tree care professionals face unique insect challenges each year. We'll review insect trends in the state ranging from established pests like the spruce moth and emerald ash borer, to newcomers such as the elm zigzag sawfly. We'll also discuss insects to have on your radar for 2025.

Outdoor Concurrent Sessions

Aerial Rescue Preparation/Real Scenario Application

— Gary Kohler, EMS Services

How to better prepare for an aerial rescue emergency. Tools and tips for climbers and ground personnel while working with EMS—Fire Rescue Services. Real scenario application will be emphasized in the afternoon session.

Intro to UVM: Why, How and What Not to Touch

— Samuel Prestidge
Utility Vegetation Management has existed since the first power lines were hung, but is not a frequent topic. We will discuss some reasons why UVM is performing the way it is and how utilities decide what should be done, with a focus on safe practices for non-qualified individuals. Existing utility lines and vegetation near the campus will be the focus of the conversation.

PHC Treatments and the Public

— Joseph Crawford

PHC is a core part of tree care. Correctly prescribed and properly applied treatments of fertilizers, micro-nutrients, and pesticides can maintain and improve the health of trees and shrubs, however, the roadblock to treatment is often client and public ignorance on the products used, application methods, and concerns about effects to people and the environment. An effective PHC program requires treatments that work, as well as arborists trained to communicate with clients and the public about the treatments and their benefits. We will review terminology that should and should not be used, ways to improve the public's perception of PHC, and how to respond to concerns about PHC treatments.

Climbing Devices: New and Old

— Ryan Rodefer

With 2025 promising to offer a handful of new and upgraded climbing devices, we think it's time to cover them to help you decide which device works best in particular scenarios like rescue, MRS and/or SRS.

Seminar Questions: Call Tina Johnson (262) 899-0060 or admin@waa-isa.org

Program

7:30-8:15 am Registration

8:15-8:30 am Welcome — Ian Brown, WAA President

Track 1 — Concurrent Indoor Sessions

8:30-9:30 am *Wood Banks & Urban Forestry: Exploring the Relationship* — Jay Dampier, Rick Harper

9:30-10:30 am *Advanced Drone Applications for Vegetation Management* — Leah Morris, Deborah Sheeler

10:30-11:00 am *Morning Break with Vendors*

11:00-12:00pm *Tree Planting: Costs & Considerations* — Rick Harper

12:00-1:00 pm **Lunch**

1:00-2:00 pm *Working with Municipalities and Non-profits: Best Practices for Arborists and Consultants* — Jay Dampier, Nicolle Spafford

2:00-3:00 pm *Roadside Vegetation Management* — Mark Renz

3:00-4:00 pm *WI's Recent Insect Trends* — PJ Liesch

Track 2 — Concurrent Outdoor Sessions

8:30-9:30 am *Aerial Rescue Preparation* — Gary Kohler

9:30-10:30 am *Intro to UVM: Why, How and What Not to Touch* — Samuel Prestidge

10:30-11:00 am *Morning Break with Vendors*

11:00-12:00pm *PHC and the Public* — Joe Crawford

12:00-1:00 pm **Lunch**

1:00-2:00 pm *Climbing Devices: New and Old* — Ryan Rodefer

2:00-3:00 pm *PHC and the Public* — Joe Crawford

3:00-4:00 pm *Aerial Rescue: Real Scenario Application* — Gary Kohler, EMS Services

Outdoor Demonstrations

11:00 am & 1:00 pm

Advanced Drone Applications for Vegetation Management — Leah Morris, Deborah Sheeler

CEUs are available.

ISA Arborist Certification and CTSP credits will be provided for all qualifying conference sessions.

Conference Speakers

Joseph Crawford — Sales Rep/PHC Dept. Leader, Crawford Tree & Landscape Services, Inc.

Jay Dampier — Grants Specialist, WI DNR

Rick Harper — Professor and Extension Urban Forestry Specialist, University of Massachusetts—Amherst

Gary Kohler — Owner, GJKohler Trees & More

PJ Liesch — Extension Entomologist, UW-Madison

Leah Morris — FAA Certified Small Unmanned Aircraft Systems Pilot, Davey Resource Group, Inc.

Samuel Prestidge — Project Developer, Davey Resource Group, Inc.

Mark Renz — Professor and Extension Weed Specialist, UW—Madison

Ryan Rodefer — Lead Arborist Engineer, Arbession

Deborah Sheeler — Production Manager for UAS Services, Davey Resource Group, Inc.

Niccole Spafford — Grants Specialist, WI DNR

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