

Massachusetts Tree Wardens and Foresters Association

Organized for the Protection and Preservation of Trees
March 27, 1913 ♦ Dr. George E. Stone, Founder

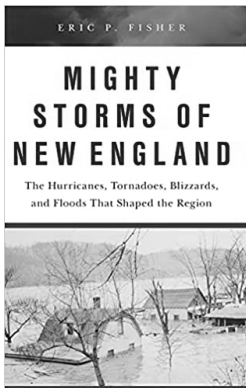


BARK

2022
Issue 4
Winter

Winter Conference Issue

It's hard to believe that just 10 years ago, we were celebrating 100 years of our organization. This coming January, we will be holding our 110th annual conference and hope you will join us. We have an exciting line-up of speakers to help you learn about the issues affecting Massachusetts trees and ways to work more efficiently and safely.



Keynote Speaker - Eric Fisher, WBZ-TV Chief Meteorologist

You've probably seen him on TV; now see him in real life!
In Sturbridge!

Come and hear this engaging keynote speaker. Author of the 2021 book, *Mighty Storms of New England: The Hurricanes, Tornadoes, Blizzards, and Floods That Shaped the Region*, Mr. Fisher will discuss weather science with a focus on current trends and weather forecasting and how these affect municipal tree care.



Nancy Buley, J. Frank Schmidt & Son Co, Planning and Planting for a Climate Resilient Future Forest



Nancy Buley is Director of Communications for J. Frank Schmidt & Son Co., wholesale tree growers of Boring, Oregon, where she has been "talking trees" for 27 years. A Lifetime Honorary member of the American Society of Landscape Architects, Nancy has earned national recognition for her tree advocacy and stewardship efforts including over a decade of service on the board of directors of Friends of Trees. She will be discussing the importance of planting a diverse palette of adaptable trees to help realize the full potential of ecosystem services and health benefits provided by our urban forests. Planning for and establishing climate resilient urban forests is a daunting task in this time of climate change that brings drought, flood, windstorms and weather extremes to our doorstep, regardless of geography. Learn about the importance of identifying, trialing and planting climate-forward trees today for a healthier, more resilient future urban forest.

**Hear from these great speakers and more at our annual
conference. Conference Details on page 10!**

The BARK Newsletter is made possible through a grant from the USDA Forest Service, Urban and Community Forestry Program and the Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation, Bureau of Forestry.

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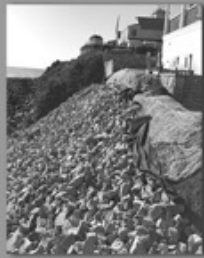
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From the President

Hello members and friends,

As the fall season ends and winter begins I like to take a moment for self-reflection and remind myself of how grateful I am to work in this industry, serve the public and serve this great, historic association. Massachusetts has always been my home and for that I am also grateful. I truly enjoy the change of seasons, the smell of wood burning stoves in the winter and all the natural resources the Commonwealth has to offer.



The other day, I saw on the news that Massachusetts was ranked the highest state in the American Dream Prosperity Index, a report compiled by the Milken Center. The index ranks states based on safety, healthcare, entrepreneurial opportunities, civil rights and a sense of belonging. Massachusetts ranked particularly high in the categories of education and physical health, two categories of which we as environmental stewards play an important role. The index did mention room for improvement, particularly in the area of mental health, an area in which we as environmental stewards can also make a positive impact. I did find the sense of belonging in this report interesting and have always thought Massachusetts was unique compared to other states in this category. Unlike other states, Massachusetts

residents seemingly identify less with the county in which they live and identify more with their landline telephone area code. So much so that a friend once gave me a button that reads, 'Represent the 413', a chant that I also heard once at a Boston Bruins game many years ago.

For this holiday season, I am most grateful for my sense of belonging within this association. As a new Tree Warden years ago, I was welcomed warmly by the association and gained confidence as a board member with valued support from members and friends. I deeply value and respect the work we do as professionals and collectively as an association. Never would I have imagined as a kid sweeping the side of the road in Shutesbury (yes, for fun) that I would become a Public Works Supervisor, nor would I have imagined becoming a Tree Warden after cursing the pile of firewood that needed stacking every winter season.

To all who have been my mentors, thank you for your encouragement and confidence in my abilities. Thank you to all of the MTWFA members, serving as your President has been a rewarding, honorable, humbling and unimaginable experience.

Representing the '413',

Your President

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Art Goodhind".

Art Goodhind

Tree Warden of the Year NOMINATION TIME! Deadline Extended to December 9th

The deadline for the January 2023 award will be here before we know it! Visit <https://masstreewardens.org/tree-warden-of-the-year/> to read the nomination criteria, see a list of past recipients, and access the link to the online nomination form.

MTWFA encourages members to share the criteria and nomination link with local tree committees and other community forestry advocacy groups, such as those who have worked with their local tree warden and can speak to their community involvement.

Nominations for Tree Warden of the Year may be submitted at any time during the year, but to be considered for the 2023 award, nominations must be received by December 9th.



Access the online nomination form.

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MTWFA Member Benefits

The Massachusetts Tree Wardens' and Foresters' Association was founded in 1913 as a forum for municipal tree managers to share their concerns and to promote the preservation of public shade trees. Today's members include tree wardens, city foresters, utility representatives, commercial arborists and companies, education professionals, and citizen tree advocates. Membership is open to all who care about trees. Find out more at www.masstreewardens.org.

Member Benefits

- Educational workshops each year in a Professional Development Series
- Annual, two-day winter conference with educational sessions and trade show
- Opportunities to earn arborist and pesticide recertification credits at workshops and conference
- Discounted member rates for all events
- Quarterly issues of the BARK newsletter
- Networking opportunities with fellow arborists
- Access to current technical information
- Website with valuable information and links to numerous industry resources
- Arbor Day Seedling Sale to help you spread the wisdom and practicalities of tree planting in your community
- Scholarships that help support students studying for a future in arboriculture

Welcome New Members!

New Members

Chris Casavant – Town of Norwood
 Donald (Deke) Clapp – Town of Ipswich
 Nick Pouliot – Town of New Bedford
 Kevin Thompson – Town of Great Barrington, RI
 Joseph Steline – Town of Ipswich

Congratulations David Lefcourt!

At the New England ISA Annual Conference in Framingham, past MTWFA president and current board member David Lefcourt was elected president.

Congratulations Brian Kane!

At the International Society of Arboriculture Annual International



Conference this fall in Malmö, Sweden, Dr. Brian Kane was awarded the L.C. Chadwick Award for Arboricultural Research Brian Kane. Brian is Massachusetts Arborists Association Professor at the University of Massachusetts-Amherst.

This award recognizes individuals whose research has contributed valuable information to arboriculture.

From ISA: The ISA Awards of Distinction, presented by Bartlett Tree Experts, are the highest honors given by ISA based on nominations submitted by members and industry professionals. Nominations are reviewed by the ISA Awards Committee, and the committee submits a roster of recommended award recipients to the ISA Board of Directors for approval.

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Proper Tree Planting Workshop

On Wednesday, October 26, 2022, the Massachusetts Tree Wardens' and Foresters' Association convened a Proper Tree Planting course. The Professional Development Series committee, led by Dave Lefcourt of Cambridge, arranged a half-day course at the Needham, DPW. Despite a little rain, 35 local tree wardens and tree crew workers started the day in the classroom and received step by step instruction in Proper Tree Planting Techniques including when to plant, how deep to plant a tree, and proper mulching techniques. Participants also learned about site selection.

The class culminated with several actual plantings of different types of nursery stock. MTWFA has been hosting tree planting workshops around Massachusetts since September 2013.

This workshop is made possible in part by a grant from the USDA Forest Service, Urban and Community Forestry Program and the Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation, Bureau of Forestry.



Attendees at the October 2022 tree planting workshop in Needham.

Tree Planting Resources



Trees Are Good - www.treesaregood.org



Swanson, Deborah. 2016. *Guidelines for Planting Trees and Shrubs*. UMass Extension.

Watson, Gary. 2014. *Best Management Practices - Tree Planting, Second Edition (2014)*. International Society of Arboriculture. www.isa-arbor.com/store. [Also available in Spanish]

Watson, Gary W. and E.B. Himelick. 2013. *The Practical Science of Planting Trees*. International Society of Arboriculture. www.isa-arbor.com/store.



Blast from the past! Attendees at the first-ever Professional Development Series tree planting workshop in Wellesley, September 12, 2013.

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2023 Annual Conference Schedule

Tuesday, January 10, 2023

- 7:45-8:30 Registration and Coffee**
- 8:35-8:50 Opening Session Annual Meeting**
- 8:55-9:15 Massachusetts Urban and Community Forestry Update - Julie Coop** - Learn about the State's Urban and Community Forestry Program and some of its program highlights.
- 9:20-10:10 Massachusetts Forest Health Update - Nicole Keleher** - Learn about the major forest health concerns and highlights in 2022, what to expect in 2023, and potential future invaders.
- 10:15-10:55 Break with Exhibitors**
- 11:00-11:50 Planning and Planting for a Climate Resilient Future Forest - Nancy Buley** - Compounded by exotic insects and diseases, restricted planting spaces and other challenges, today's extreme weather underscores the importance of identifying, trialing and planting climate-forward trees today for a healthier, more resilient future urban forest.
- 11:55-12:55 Luncheon—Banquet and Annual Meeting**
- 1:00-2:00 KEYNOTE — Weather Trends and Forecasting for Municipalities - WBZ-TV Chief Meteorologist, Eric Fisher** - Come and hear this engaging keynote speaker and author of *Mighty Storms of New England: The Hurricanes, Tornadoes, Blizzards, and Floods that Shaped the Region*. Mr. Fisher will discuss weather science with a focus on current trends and weather forecasting and how these effect municipal tree care.
- 2:05-2:45 Break with Exhibitors**
- 2:50-3:40 Spotted Lanternfly Update for Massachusetts - Elizabeth Barnes** - Spotted lanternfly is an invasive sap-feeding insect that has appeared in unexpected places across the Northeast. This presentation will cover spotted lanternfly biology, identification, and preferred host plants as well as the current state of spotted lanternfly in Massachusetts.
- 3:45-4:15 Pre-Trip Inspection and Load Safety for Tree Care - Michael Tucker** - MA State Police Sergeant Michael Tucker will share important information about roadway safety. He will discuss what the Truck Team focuses on for safety including securing equipment (chains and binders) and emergency break-aways. He will provide real life examples and how we can all be better stewards on the road.
- 4:20-4:30 Wrap-Up—Door Prizes**
- 4:35-6:00 Reception in Exhibit Hall. Join us for a social generously supported by our exhibitors.**

Wednesday, January 11, 2023

- 8:30-9:00 Registration and Coffee**
- 9:05-9:55 Examining Urban Tree Planting Efforts to Mitigate Heat Island Impacts and Foster More Resilient and Equitable Cities in Massachusetts and Rhode Island - Deborah Martin & John Rogan** - An overview of the research conducted by Clark University's Human-Environment Regional Observatory program, in collaboration with the USDA, DCR, Worcester Tree initiative and Groundwork Rhode Island.
- 10:00-10:55 Break with Exhibitors**
- 11:00-11:50 Work Zone Safety: A Review of a Temporary Traffic Control Area - Catherine Schoenenberger** - Brush up your Work Zone Safety set-up. The brief overview is based on Chapter VI of the Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (MUTCD). Get a better understanding of how to avoid becoming a work zone statistic, how to avoid legal action, and how to make sure everyone gets home safely
- 11:55-12:45 Lunch**
- 12:50-1:50 Managing Private Trees that Endanger the Public or Public Property - Tree Warden Panel** - Participate in this engaging discussion about private trees and the public.
- 1:55-2:45 Trees and Shrubs in the Landscape: 2022 Disease Review - Nicholas J. Brazee, PhD** - Dr. Brazee will cover the most important diseases affecting landscape trees and shrubs over this past year.
- 2:50 Childs Fund Raffle, Door Prizes and Closing**

***The conference educational program is funded in part by a grant from the USDA Forest Service through the Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation Urban and Community Forestry Program.**

In addition, if attending the Annual Conference is a financial burden, the USDA Forest Service through the Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation Urban and Community Forestry Program has provided grant dollars to support conference registration.

Please contact staff@masstreewardens.org to apply.

2023 Annual Conference Registration Form

Names					
A					
B					
C					
D					
E					
Contact Affiliation					
Organization					
Address					
City/State/Zip					
Phone			Email		
PRE-CONFERENCE REGISTRATION before Jan. 6	Name A	Name B	Name C	Name D	Name E
Member Fee \$220*	\$				
Non-Member Fee \$235*	\$				
Full-Time Student (Free)*	\$				
Optional 2023 Dues					
Individual \$85	\$				
Commercial \$120	\$				
Student or Senior \$25	\$				
CURRENT MQTW (Place check in box)					
CURRENT TREE WARDEN (Place check in box)					
LATE REGISTRATION after Jan. 6					
Member Fee \$245					
Non-Member Fee \$260					
Subtotal Per Attendee					
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Updates from the Department of Conservation and Recreation

Tree City USA

Application Deadline is December 31, 2022

Tree City USA is a program that recognizes towns and cities of all sizes for their work in managing community trees and provides a mechanism to help communities maintain or expand their urban forest.

It's free to apply! The DCR reviews Tree City USA applications from Massachusetts to ensure that the information is current, accurate, and complete. They then recommend applicants for the award to the Arbor Day Foundation.

The Arbor Day Foundation now makes the entire application process available on-line. The DCR prefers that Cities and Towns use this on-line tool for the application process.

Already a Tree City USA? Check out the Growth Award. The Arbor Day Foundation has completely overhauled the award criteria. Urban and community forestry efforts in five categories are eligible for the Growth Award: Building the Team; Measuring Trees and Forests; Planning the Work; Performing the Work; and the Community Framework.

Interested in recognition opportunities for schools in your community? Check out Tree Campus Higher Education and Tree Campus K-12.

dc
Massachusetts



TREE CITY USA
Arbor Day Foundation

Arbor Day Poster Contest Theme Announced: It's Time for Trees!

Contest deadline: March 15, 2023

Please go to www.mass.gov/service-details/urban-and-community-forestry for details.

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UMass Extension's Invasive Insect Webinar Series 2023

Join UMass Extension's Landscape, Nursery, and Urban Forestry Program and UMass Extension's Fruit Program presents for this series of FREE webinars focusing on the impact, monitoring, and management of invasive insects in Massachusetts and the nation!

Wednesday, January 25

9:00-10:15 a.m. Forest Pest Risk is Heating Up with Climate Change

Audrey Barker-Plotkin, Senior Scientist and Site & Research Manager, Harvard Forest

10:30-11:45 a.m. Spotted Lanternfly Updates for Massachusetts from MA Department of Agricultural Resources

Elizabeth Barnes, Forest Pest Outreach Coordinator, MA Department of Agricultural Resources

Wednesday, February 8

9:00-10:15 a.m. Spotted Lanternfly Management in the Landscape

Brian Walsh, Extension Educator, Ornamentals, PennState Extension

10:30-11:45 a.m. Entomopathogens of Spotted Lanternfly, Biopesticides, & Scouting Egg Masses in Vineyards

Dr. Eric Clifton, Research Scientist, BioWorks

Wednesday, February 22

9:00-10:15 a.m. Beech Leaf Disease: and the Newly Described Nematode That Causes It

Dr. Robert Marra, Associate Agricultural Scientist, Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station

10:30-11:45 a.m. Invasive Forest Insects in Massachusetts

Nicole Keleher, Director, MA Department of Conservation and Recreation, Forest Health Program

Pesticide and Continuing Education Credits Available. Go to <https://ag.umass.edu/landscape/events/umass-extensions-invasive-insect-webinar-series-2023> for details and to register.



Invasive Plant Certification Program

Certificate in Invasive Plant Management

2023 will be the last year this certificate is offered.

The certificate may be obtained by attending all four sessions and obtaining a passing grade for each.

Those who have taken some of the classes in this series in the past and still wish to earn the certificate of completion are advised to finish up any remaining classes in 2023.

Thursday, March 16, 2023 - 8:45 a.m.-2:30 p.m.

State Regulations Pertaining to Invasive Plant Management (A2)

Thursday, March 23, 2023 - 9:00am-2:30 p.m.

Principles and Fundamentals of Weed Science (A1)

Thursday, April 6, 2023 - 9:00am-2:30 p.m.

The Invasive Plant Issue and Invasive Plant Identification (A3)

Thursday, April 13, 2023 - 9:00am to 2:30 p.m.

Developing an Invasive Plant Management Program (B)

This 4-day program is intended to help participants meet these challenges when attempting to develop an invasive plant management program as part of their business.

Find out more at <https://ag.umass.edu/landscape/upcoming-events>



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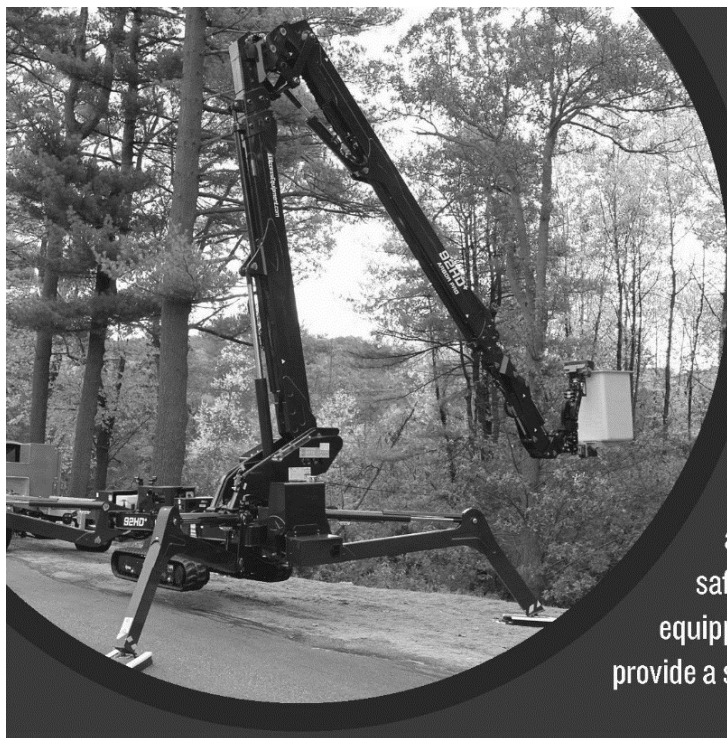


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EQUIPMENT**

The City of Boston Announces the Completion of its Urban Forest Plan

Planning for Boston’s Urban Forest Plan began in spring 2021 and involved many partners and stakeholders from the community. The City established a Community Advisory Board that developed the plan, with input from the community as well.

The result is a long-term strategic plan “to create a sustainable and equitable urban forest in Boston.”

The plan identifies four goals:

- 1. Equity First** - Focus investments and improvements in under-canopied, historically excluded and socially vulnerable areas;
- 2. Proactive Care and Preservation** - Ensure trees/tree canopy are proactively cared for;
- 3. Community-led** - Ensure community priorities drive urban forest decisions and management;
- 4. Prioritize and Value Trees** - Increase awareness and buy-in regarding the importance of trees in Boston across the public and private sectors. These four goals are supported by recommendations and action items that comprise the bulk of the plan. The city plans to evaluate progress every five to ten years.

“It sets a vision not only for the care, management, and expansion of the urban forest but also for how the Boston community works together to plan for its future.”

The plan utilized existing data, such as the Urban Tree Canopy Assessment data from 2014 and 2019, newly-collected street tree inventory data from 2021, Heat Resilient Solutions for Boston data, city GIS-data, and community input.

The plan has already borne positive results, with 11 new staff positions funded and organized in a new Forestry Division of the Boston Parks and Recreation Department. This division will have 16 staff members dedicated to management of the city’s trees.

Every tree warden knows that trees face a variety of challenges in communities - from restricted planting space, salt, soil, heat, drought, insects, disease, conflicts with other infrastructure, development, not enough staff or funding, and more. Assessing what is in the community (and where!) and planning to maintain it for the short and long haul can benefit communities of all sizes.



View the Boston Urban Forest Plan: <https://www.boston.gov/departments/parks-and-recreation>

Urban forest planning can take place at many scales and fit a variety of budgets. Learn more about urban forest planning by contacting the DCR Urban and Community Forestry Program and check out the Urban Forestry Toolkit at Vibrant Cities Lab (www.vibrantcitieslab.com).



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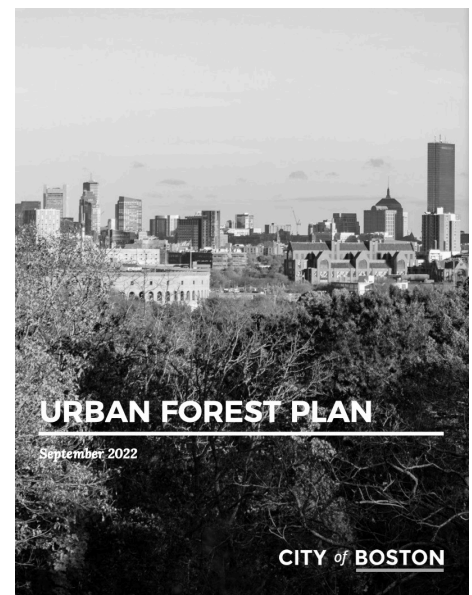
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Survey Alert

Delia Mahoney, a graduate student in arboriculture at UMass-Amherst is preparing a survey to assist with her research on street tree preservation and protection during construction and development processes. This survey is part of an initiative by the University of Massachusetts in Amherst, MA (UMass Amherst) on behalf of the Massachusetts Department of Transportation (MassDOT) to understand best practices for tree preservation nationwide. The information gathered in this process will help to guide the creation of a manual to inform future actions to preserve and protect our urban forests.

The online survey will be made available in December. It will cover topics of tree protection, infrastructure development, and site remediation for transportation corridor projects. Any questions on the survey may be directed to Delia Mahoney:

deliamahoney@umass.edu.

The Massachusetts Tree Wardens' and Foresters' Association will share the link to the survey with you so you can share your valuable knowledge and help inform the creation of a manual.



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Arbor Day Seedling Program

Our 2023 order form will be available in January

The MTWFA sells seedlings to fund its scholarship program and to promote Arbor Day and tree planting.

Municipalities, garden clubs, private firms, arborists, non-profits, and others have all purchased seedlings in the past.

Seedling orders are due in April for delivery in time for Arbor Day. Stay tuned for details!

MTWFA Scholarships

Last year, the Massachusetts Tree Wardens' and Foresters' Association awarded scholarships to students actively studying arboriculture, community forest management, urban forestry, or a related field. Scholarships range from \$500-\$1,500 per student.

An applicant must be either:

- A student attending an accredited college or university in Massachusetts; or a Massachusetts resident attending an accredited out-of-state college or university; or
- A high school senior who will be attending an accredited college or university in the fall of the application year.

An applicant must be enrolled or planning to be enrolled in a program of arboriculture, community forest management, urban forestry, or a related field.

A college or university applicant must have completed at least one college semester in one of these programs. High school seniors granted an award must request the payment after submitting their first-semester college transcript.

Award decisions are based on financial need and an acceptable grade point average.

Applications are due by February 15th.

Find out more: www.masstreewardens.org/scholarships

Arbor Day Grants from New England ISA

This grant from the New England ISA awards up to \$1,000.00 to a municipality, non-profit



organization, or institution that demonstrates a need to promote and support their Arbor Day celebration.



Grant applications must be submitted by the March 31st.

Find out more and apply at www.newenglandisa.org.

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and Foresters' Association
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Calendar of Events

December 6	TREE Fund Webinar - Engaging Underserved Populations in Tree Management Activities	www.treefund.org/webinars
December 8	Urban Forestry Today Webcast: Pruning Update	www.urbanforestrytoday.org
December 13-14	ISA 2022 Virtual Conference	www.isa-arbor.com
December 31	Tree City USA, Tree Campus Higher Ed, Tree Campus K-12, Tree Line USA Application Deadline	email: mathew.cahill@mass.gov
January 10-11, 2023	MTWFA 110th Annual Conference, Sturbridge, MA	www.masstreewardens.org
January 25	UMass Extension Invasive Insect Webinar	www.ag.umass.edu/landscape