



TREE CANOPY CONFERENCE 2022: LOSS AND RESTORATION
OCTOBER 14, 2022
HAVERFORD COLLEGE, STOKES HALL

Philadelphia's trees make our communities livable. They filter our air, regulate water flow, reduce carbon emissions, improve our mental health, and so much more. Unfortunately, our urban tree canopy faces several stresses and pressures, including pests and disease, storm events, residential development, climate change, and more.

Join your colleagues for the 9th Annual Tree Canopy Conference where you'll learn from experts in the field about loss and restoration in the urban forest, including case studies demonstrating a variety of local efforts at work to ensure that the city of the future remains green, livable, and ecologically sustainable.

Registration and more information can be found here: [Morris Arboretum - Conferences](#)

This conference carries 5 CEUs for ISA certified arborists and municipal specialists (S=1.5, P=1.5, M=2), and 1 CEU for ISA certified utility specialists. The program has also been approved by LA-CES to carry 5 Professional Development Hours (PDH) for Landscape Architects. The conference has also been approved by the Pennsylvania Landscape and Nursery Association to carry 3.50 PCH and 4.50 SLC CEUs.

CONFERENCE AGENDA & SESSION DESCRIPTIONS

Session 1: 9:10—10:00 am

Silver Linings and Lemonade: An Arboretum Post Natural Disaster

Kathy Salisbury, Director of the Ambler Arboretum of Temple University

On Sept 1, 2021, an EF2 tornado with winds up to 130 mph directly and catastrophically struck the Ambler Arboretum and the surrounding community. More than 500 trees from the Arboretum's collections were lost to the storm. As the Arboretum has cleaned up and recovered, they have learned a lot and have new stories to tell and new lessons to teach.

Morning Break: 10:00—10:20 am

Session 2: 10:20—11:20 am

Utility Vegetation Management: Challenges and Public Perceptions

Brice Dorwart, ISA-Certified Arborist/Utility Specialist, Davey Resource Group

Jonathan Rizzo, Senior Program Manager of Vegetation Management at PECO Energy



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Join arborists Brice Dorwart and Jonathan Rizzo as they discuss PECO's utility vegetation management programs. In this talk they will cover the removal programs that keep the lights on and the power flowing. Additionally, they will cover the programs and partnerships that work to achieve PECO's canopy restoration mission. Some topics will include hazard tree selection criteria, PECO capital vs. non-capital programs, and targeting of non-compatible vegetation. The session will conclude with a live Q&A.

Session 3: 11:20—11:50 am

Human Health and Safety Benefits of Urban Forests

Michelle Kondo, Research Social Scientist, USDA Forest Service, Philadelphia Field Station

Dr. Michelle Kondo will describe the state of research on urban trees and human health and will describe results from studies—including her own work in Philadelphia and beyond—that demonstrate benefits of the urban forest, and on urban greening practices, for mental health and violence prevention.

Dr. Kondo is a Research Social Scientist with the USDA Forest Service, stationed in Philadelphia, PA. She holds academic training in urban planning and epidemiology. Her research examines nature- and place-based strategies, and clinical interventions, for disease, violence, and injury prevention with a focus on underserved urban communities.

Lunch and Tours: 11:50 am—1:20 pm

Haverford College Arboretum Tree Tour

Join the staff of Haverford College Arboretum for a behind-the-scenes tour of their historic tree collection. Dating back to 1834, Haverford College is the oldest planned collegiate landscape in the nation. The 216-acre campus is home to over 5,000 accessioned trees. Located on the busy Main Line and nestled in Philadelphia's suburbs, the Arboretum is a significant green space that provides abundant tree canopy to the busy Lancaster Avenue commercial corridor.

Session 4: 1:20—2:20 pm

Achieving Equity in Urban Forestry

Merissa MacDonald, Tree Program Coordinator, Bartram's Garden

Kiasha Huling, Project Manager, Deeply Rooted, U. Penn's Urban Health Lab

Moderator: Tim Ifill, Director of Trees, Pennsylvania Horticultural Society

With a total canopy coverage of 8.2% in Philadelphia's Southwest neighborhood, over 17,000 new trees are needed to reach a goal of 30% canopy in 30 years. The city's 'Philly Tree Plan' has identified Southwest



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Philadelphia as one of its high priority areas for investment in new urban forestry initiatives due to its low canopy coverage. This panel will delve into the importance of tree planting and urban forestry workforce development efforts in Southwest Philadelphia to create environmental equity. Attendees will also learn about greening impacts in Southwest Philadelphia through new partnerships between Bartram's Garden, the Pennsylvania Horticultural Society (PHS), and the Deeply Rooted project from University of Pennsylvania's Urban Health Lab which will work to restore tree canopy, clean and green vacant land, and create public green spaces.

Afternoon Break: 2:20—2:40 pm

Session 5: 2:40 –3:30 pm

Shade Tree Ordinances: Challenges and Opportunities

David Ruyak, Executive Director at Penn-Del Chapter of the ISA

A tree ordinance provides the framework for managing the community forest. It provides legal authority for conducting forestry programs, defining municipal responsibility for public and private trees, and passing regulations and setting minimum standards for management.

A tree ordinance is not an end unto itself; it is a tool in the successful management of a healthy community forest. There is no single ordinance that works for every community. Each community should determine its unique needs and how its tree ordinance will fulfill those needs. It is often useful to look at tree ordinances of neighboring municipalities and talk to people from those municipalities to find out what in their ordinance has worked well and what needs improvement. A provision for a municipality may be a stand-alone ordinance or it may be incorporated in the tree ordinance.

Session 6: 3:30—4:20 pm

Southern Comfort: Native Trees, Shrubs and Vines for a Warmer Future

Bill Cullina, F. Otto Haas Executive Director, Morris Arboretum of the University of Pennsylvania

Native trees, shrubs and vines are not only beautiful and versatile, but they are also cornerstones of local ecosystems, offering food and shelter for a host of birds, mammals and insects. However, many of the native species we are familiar with are no longer good landscape choices as the climate changes. We must be proactive, promoting and planting species that will thrive in this new environment. In this talk, Bill will showcase beautiful southern natives that show great promise in the rapidly warming Northeast and Mid-Atlantic.

Closing Remarks: 4:20—4:30 pm