

Donald F. Blair, Arborist and Author



As an arborist, author, lecturer and photographer, Donald F. Blair has informed and entertained arborists around the world for over forty years. MTWFA is pleased to welcome Don as our double-keynote speaker, as he shares two vastly different presentations on separate days of the 2018 conference.

Blair has been a member of the International Society of Arboriculture (ISA) for over 45 years and the Tree Care Industry Association (TCIA) for over 35 years, and he is a proud recipient of many of their prestigious awards. Don resides in Maryland with the true love of his life, Laurie and their dogs Duncan and Dolly.

Sign up for 2018 Conference
Optional: Pay your 2018 membership dues at the same time.

Member Benefits

- ✓ Professional Development Series helps you stay up-to-date in your field
- ✓ Annual, two-day winter conference with educational sessions and trade show
- ✓ Discounted member rates for all events
- ✓ Quarterly newsletter with timely articles
- ✓ Opportunities to network with colleagues
- ✓ 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
- ✓ Student scholarships that help support the future of arboriculture

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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

105th Annual Conference

January 9-10, 2018
Host Hotel and Conference Center, Sturbridge, MA

KEYNOTE SPEAKER
Donald F. Blair, Arborist and Author

Room reservations 800.582.3232
Recertification Credit Available:
MCA, ISA, Pesticide, MCLP, SAF, CTSP

www.masstreewardens.org

2018 Conference Schedule

Tuesday, January 9, 2018

- 7:45-8:30 am Registration and Coffee
 8:30-8:45 am Opening Session—Annual Meeting
 8:45-9:15 am State DCR Update: Urban & Community Forestry
Julie Coop, Massachusetts DCR Urban & Community Forestry Coordinator, will speak about Urban Challenge Grants, the application process and examples of projects available for funding, the Greening the Gateway Cities Tree Planting Program and more.
- 9:15-10:15 am Selecting Production Methods That Suit your Urban Tree Planting Objectives
Rick W. Harper, UMass Department of Environmental Conservation and *John Kinchla*, Amherst Nurseries. Learn what the research has to say about the benefits and drawbacks of field-grown vs. containerized growing systems, and why it's important for urban forest managers to consider this component when procuring commercially produced trees.
- 10:15-11:00 am Break with Exhibitors
 11:00-11:50 am EVERSOURCE Utility Arboretums: Demonstration Sites for “Plan Before You Plant”
Robert D. Allen, Manager Vegetation Management, Massachusetts and New Hampshire, will share how a recent partnership with the University of Massachusetts has resulted in an outdoor facility that demonstrates the impact of the various growth habits of different tree species underneath and near power lines, to help tree wardens and others plant the right tree in the right place.
- 12:00-1:10 pm Luncheon—Banquet and Annual Meeting conclusion
 1:10-2:00 pm State DCR Update: Forest Health in the Commonwealth
Jeff Enochs, Massachusetts DCR Forest Health Program, will present the latest on insects and diseases impacting the condition of the Massachusetts trees and forests.
- 2:00-2:45 pm How Arboricultural Practice Affects the Likelihood of Tree Failure
Brian Kane, PhD, UMass MAA Professor of Commercial Arboriculture, will discuss current research that gives helpful insights into the effect of pruning and cabling on the likelihood of tree failure.
- 2:45-3:00 pm Break with Exhibitors
 3:00-4:15 pm KEYNOTE 1: Anatomy of a Catastrophic Rigging Failure
Don Blair, Blair’s Arborist Equipment LLC. There’s nothing better than a job in which everything comes together. There’s nothing worse than a job in which everything falls apart. With video footage of the incident as it happens, Don Blair goes step by step through the decisions that led to this disaster and more importantly, details all of the missed opportunities in the ANSI-Z133 Standards that would have prevented it in the first place.
- 4:15-4:30 pm Wrap-up—Door Prizes
 4:30-6:00 pm Reception in Exhibit Hall Join us for a social get-together, graciously supported by our exhibitors.

Wednesday, January 10, 2018

- 8:30-9:00 am Registration and Coffee
 9:00-10:15 am KEYNOTE 2: A Condensed History of Arboriculture
Don Blair, Blair’s Arborist Equipment LLC. looks back at how much the profession has changed over the past 150 years or so and to marvel at how much has stayed the same. Come and enjoy a trip through history, learning what the first generation of chainsaws looked like and what our predecessors thought in 1881 about the use of spurs in trees and in 1907 about the practice of topping. Be amazed at how much work was done, by so few, with so little, for so many years.
- 10:15-11:00 am Break with Exhibitors
 11:00-12 noon Insect Pests of 2017: Significant Species and Minor Creatures of Interest
Tawny Simisky, Woody Ornamental Entomology Specialist, UMass Extension, will discuss significant insect pests of trees and shrubs and their activity in 2017, including gypsy moth and a quick overview of new 2017 detections of emerald ash borer in the state. Although their impact is relatively minor by comparison, other insects of interest will be mentioned, including but not limited to localized activity of euonymus caterpillar and munching by the imported willow leaf beetle.
- 12:00-1:00 pm Lunch
 1:00-2:00 pm Wires Down
Christopher Rooney, Lead Supervisor, National Grid
 Dealing with downed wires during storm conditions can be challenging. Understanding how utilities carry out this important part of storm restoration can be very helpful in planning community or property cleanup. This talk will shed light on some of the roles, responsibilities, and procedures that utilities use to resolve these issues.
- 2:00-3:00 pm Pests and Pathogens of 2017
Nicholas Brazee, PhD, Plant Pathologist, UMass Extension. The year 2017 was a challenging year as earlier environmental conditions such as the 2016 drought and abundant spring season precipitation created ideal conditions for the development of certain tree and shrub diseases. Dr. Brazee will review the most important pathogens over the past year and what management strategies are available to protect against disease and insect outbreaks in the future.
- 3:00 pm Door Prizes and Closing

The conference educational program is funded by a grant from the USDA Forest Service, Urban and Community Forestry Program and the Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation, Bureau of Forestry

2018 CONFERENCE REGISTRATION

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Member \$155	\$				
Non-member \$175	\$				
Full-time Student no charge	\$				
OPTIONAL - 2018 DUES					
Individual \$85	\$				
Commercial \$120	\$				
Student or Senior \$25	\$				
CURRENT TREE WARDEN? (place check in box)					
LATE REGISTRATION after Jan. 6					
Member \$175	\$				
Non-member \$195	\$				
SUBTOTAL PER ATTENDEE:	\$				

Please advise us of any special dietary needs.

GRAND TOTAL FROM ABOVE FOR ALL NAMES	\$ _____
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