Massachusetts Tree Wardens and Foresters Association Organized for the Protection and Preservation of Trees March 27, 1913 • Dr. George E. Stone, Founder 2023 Issue 1 Spring

Conference Highlights

ur 110th Annual Conference was our largest conference ever, with 473 attendees! Thank you to everyone who came to learn and network IN PERSON with fellow tree wardens, arborists, and others, for the first time since 2020.



Brande Tarantino, winner of the MTWFA chainsaw. with Tom Brady.



Lisa DeMeo, Salisbury, with Tom Brady and the carved bear sculpture she won as a door prize, donated by Favreau Forestry Products.

remaining door prizes, including chainsaws. Richard Parasiliti, Jr., won the Childs Raffle and this year, we had three chainsaws to give away - one purchased by the association, one donated by Read Custom Soil and one by Site One. Brande Tarantino won the MTWFA saw, Andrew Houle and Dave Theberge won the other two saws.

Thank you to our exhibitors, sponsors, speakers, attendees, and everyone who came to help make our 2023 conference a success.



Incoming President, Ed Olsen, presenting outgoing president, Art Goodhind, with a custom cutting board, thanking him for his service as President.



Tom Brady thanks keynote speaker, Eric Fisher, for presenting at the conference.

A Recap

In keeping with MTWFA tradition, Tom Chamberland, past president and retired Tree Warden in Sturbridge, led a moment of silence for members who passed away in 2022: Ed Budnick, Bob Reardon, and Paul Mazzerall. The business meeting continued with board members delivering reports on the past year. (Minutes of the 2023 meeting can be viewed on the Mass Tree Wardens' and Foresters' Association webpage.) The meeting was paused and the educational programs began. The day was anchored by an excellent keynote talk about forecasting weather for municipalities delivered by WBZ-TV chief meteorologist, Eric Fisher. Over the course of the day, attendees heard updates from state partners and others.

The business meeting continued at lunch where Jeremiah Pearson, of Falmouth, was named Tree Warden of the Year. Following the afternoon sessions, attendees gathered for a reception. Wednesday's roster included a variety of speakers and the popular Tree Warden Panel. This year's topic was managing private trees that endanger the public or public property and there was a lively discussion. The day's educational programming ended with a disease update.

That left two important events - the Childs Raffle and the

MTWFA Executive Board 2023 OFFICERS

President—Ed Olsen, Needham Vice President—Rich Parasiliti, Northampton Secretary—Chris Gonzalez, Eversource Treasurer—Brandon Schmitt, Wellesley Past President—Art Goodhind, Natick

COUNTY DELEGATES

Essex—Jonathan Fobert, Marblehead Middlesex—David Lefcourt, Cambridge Norfolk/Bristol—Blair Crane, Norfolk Plymouth—Peter Buttkus, Duxbury Western Mass—David Hawkins, Pelham Worcester—Paul Raskevitz, Athol

AT-LARGE

Joel Custance, Lexington Kyle Grendell, Westborough Scott Hathaway, Westfield Robert LeBlanc, Boston Paul Newell, Greenfield Paul Sellers, Eversource Alex Sherman, Springfield Alan Snow, Amherst Marc Welch, Newton

NEWSLETTER EDITORS

Heather Leff, MTWFA Executive Director Mollie Freilicher, News & Events Editor

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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Published Quarterly Spring-Summer-Fall-Winter

President's Message

Happy New Year! I want to start by thanking everyone for a great time at our 110th Annual Conference in Sturbridge, MA. It was great seeing and meeting so many of you in person. This year we had record attendance. As you all probably noticed we were a packed house with just under 500 total attendees on Day 1. It took a worldwide pandemic for many of us to truly realize what matters most to us. One thing that I realized is that I value my participation and time spent working with and for various professional organizations, especially this one. I personally forgot how much I missed our special group of professionals, students, educators, leaders, and commercial partners. Some of us don't get to see each other often. I realize that this conference offers many of us that opportunity, and for that I am grateful. I want to say thank you to our Past President Art Goodhind, Heather Leff our Executive Director, and all our incredible volunteer Board members for making this conference truly one to remember. Again, I want to thank all our commercial partners. It was nice to be able to spend some extra time with them as well this year catching up. Also, thank you to all our presenters. It will to be tough to match this year's line up of topics, presenters, and keynote speaker, but we are already on the case.

MTWFA is a diverse group and one that is constantly evolving. Change is not something most of us take lightly, but change is always necessary and part of life. I hope to be part of a positive change for this industry during my time as your president and I look to the support not only of our executive Board but also from all of you. For positive change to happen, we need action. I look forward to working with you all on actions to help strengthen and support us as a group. I stay hopeful and confident that better days are ahead and that from group action and leadership, we can all mold a better future for all of us. I encourage you all to share your thoughts and opinions on how we can do better. Those of you who took the conference survey, thank you. We do review every comment and value those opinions. This Board is changing. I remember being one of the new faces many years ago.

Well now, after a decade, I can say there are many more new faces that continue this great tradition of service and industry leadership. Many groups struggle to find new interested people; we do not. With this said, I hope to see and welcome even more new faces into our organization over the next two years.



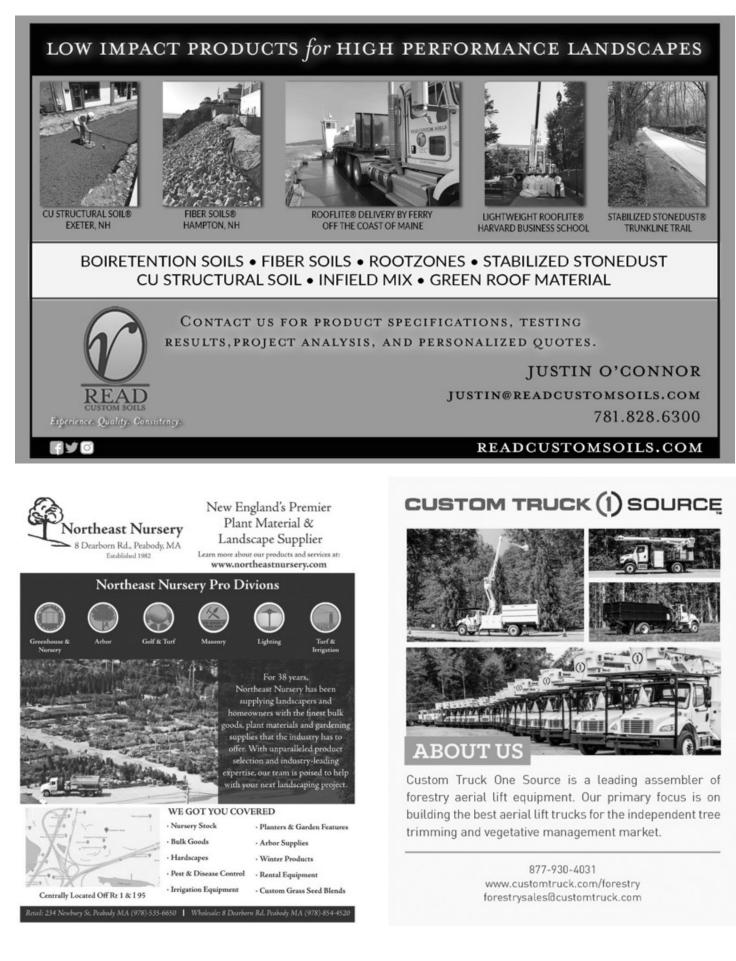
Typically, this time of year I have a chance to reflect, plan and get my ducks in a row for the new year. Typically, a little snow provides many of us a little relief from the daily demands upon our multifaceted operations. Seldom do I wish for snow, but I kind of want a little to hold people at bay and remind everyone that it is winter. As I write this, the temperature outside is nearing 60 degrees and is close to record high warmth for February. A couple weeks ago, our Forestry Division responded to a tree down on a Friday night. I believe it was 30 degrees below zero that night. Tomorrow, we have snow expected. Looks like we are off on another wild ride here again this year in New England.

As many plan for Spring, we look forward to celebrating Arbor Day. I look forward to planting trees and handing out seedlings, meeting, and educating youths and adults. Speaking of which, please remember to order and order soon. Our seedling sales are going quick. I wish you all a peaceful rest of your winter. If it wasn't 60 degrees out today, I would say I also look forward to warmer days ahead. Thank you all for your support and I look forward to a Great 2023. See you soon.

Eddie Ed Olsen President 2023-2024

About MTWFA

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.



New/Returning Members

Individual Memberships

Marcus Catlett - City of West Springfield Peter Curtin – Town of Stockbridge Cricket Class - Town of Wellesley Malik Drayton - City of Somerville Mark Faber - Town of Stockbridge Thomas Greco – Tree Masters Patrick Gustafson – Town of West Brookfield Joshua Hall - Town of Westminster Chris Lombardi – Chris Lombardi Certified Arborist Jacob MacKowiak – Town of Oxford Chris Martin - City of Fall River Jeffery Moore - Town of Westborough Travis Rininger - Davey Tree Expert Co. Corey Swistak - Town of Cheshire James Vincent – Town of Provincetown Tobin Zwicker – Town of Needham

Commercial Members

Carl Brodeur – Arborcare with Ropes and Saddles Moriah Day – Davey Resource Group Matthew Flanders – M.B. Flanders & Co., Inc. Jeffrey Hamilton – Hamilton Tree and Landscape Dana Miller – North-Eastern Tree Service Inc. David Rines – Rines ArborWorks

Student Members

Lilly Lombard – Northampton Tree Committee

Upcoming MTWFA Programs

Date	Program	
March 16	Western Mass Tree Wardens Dinner	
	Meeting, Northampton	
March 22	CPR, First Aid & AED with Stop the Bleed,	
	Worcester	
April 13	Chainsaw Safety and Storm Clean-Up,	
	Hadley	

In Memoriam - Paul Mazerall

Paul E. Mazerall, of Lexington, passed away peacefully surrounded by his family on November 8, 2022 at the age of 99 years.

A World War II U.S. Navy Veteran, Paul joined the Navy at the age of 17, following the bombing of Pearl Harbor, and



he always said "it was the best and the worst time of my life." Later he served as the Tree Warden for the Town of Lexington for 38 years.

A funeral was held at the Douglass Funeral Home, November 14th, followed by a Mass of Christian burial at St. Brigid Church, Lexington. Donations in his memory may be made to the Disabled Veterans National Foundation.

Internment Westview Cemetery, Lexington.

Cambridge Urban Forestry Plan Wins Award

The Connecticut Chapter of the American Society of Landscape Architects awarded a 2023 Landscape Planning and Analysis Honor Award to Reed Hildebrand for its Healthy Forest, Healthy City - The Cambridge Urban Forest Master Plan. Congratulations to all!



To view the plan, go to: www.cambridgema.gov/Services/ urbanforestry or scan the QR at right.

Date	Program	
June 7	Trees and Construction, Cambridge	
June 15	Western Mass Tree Wardens Dinner	
	Meeting, Northampton	
Sept. 6-	Mass. Qualified Tree Warden Class,	
Nov. 15	Worcester	
Sept. 21	Western Mass Tree Wardens, Northampton	

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2023 Professional Development Series

CPR, First Aid & AED with Stop the Bleed

March 22, 2023 | Clark University, Worcester

Don't miss this chance to get your American Heart Association Certificate and learn techniques to help your staff, family, friends, and anyone experiencing a medical emergency. This course will be taught by Heart Start CPR. 4 CEUs are pending. Limited to 20 participants. \$105 Member, \$125 Non-Member.

Agenda		
7:30 a.m8:00 a.m.	Registration, Coffee, Muffins	
8:00 a.m10:30 a.m.	Adult, Child, and Infant CPR, Obstructed Airway, and AED	
10:30 a.m12:00 p.m.	First Aid and Stop the Bleed	

Chainsaw Safety and Storm Clean Up

April 13, 2023 | Hadley

This course will review chainsaw safety features, proper personal protective equipment, proper tree felling, and storm clean-up techniques. This course will combine classroom time with an outdoor demonstration. **Hard hats, ear protection and safety glasses will be required** for the demonstration portion of the course. 6 CEUs are pending. Limited to 30 participants. \$75 Member | \$100 Non-Member

Agenda		
7:30-8:00 a.m.	Check-In	
8:00-8:30 a.m.	Chainsaw Safety Features	
8:30-9:00 a.m.	PPE for saw operators	
9:00-9:15 a.m.	First Aid Kit requirements-OSHA 1910.266	
9:15-9:30 a.m.	Break	
9:30-10:00 a.m.	Chainsaw Reactive Forces	
10:00-10:30 a.m.	Cutting Techniques	
10:30-11:00 a.m.	Danger Trees, Limbing, Pressures, Binds, Rolls and Splits	
11:00-11:30 a.m.	Swamper/Helper Activities and Placement	
11:30 a.m12:00 p.m.	Environmental Conditions Job Site Planning	
12:00-12:30 p.m.	Lunch (Provided)	
12:30-2:30 p.m.	Outside Demonstration	

Trees and Construction

June 7, 2023 | Cambridge

Trees are a valuable asset where people live, work, shop, and play. The preservation and protection of existing trees during construction can help ensure healthy trees at the end



Image: cambridgema.gov

of a project. Learn how the City of Cambridge manages trees and construction. See several examples during a 2-hour tree tour. 4 CEUs Pending. \$50 Members, \$75 Non Members.

Agenda		
9:00-9:30 a.m.	Registration and Refreshments	
9:30-10:00 a.m.	Welcome from City Staff	
10:00-11:00 a.m.	Engineering with Trees	
11:00-12:00 p.m.	Trees in the Built Environment	
12:00-12:30 p.m.	Lunch	
12:30-2:30 p.m.	Tree Walk	

To register for any of these workshops and to find out more, go to <u>www.masstreewardens.org</u> or scan the QR code below.



These workshops are 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.

In addition, financial assistance is available to register for this course through a grant provided by the USDA Forest Service, Urban and Community Forestry Program and the Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation, Bureau of Forestry.

If you need assistance, please contact <u>heather@masstreewardens.org</u> for details.

Grateful for a Great Run A Letter from Karen Doherty, MTWFA Retired Executive Director

Dear MTWFA friends and colleagues,

Although I had to miss this year's in-person conference, I have deeply appreciated the many messages that came to me via mail and video. It was so good to see and hear from so many of you! The newsletter editors have given me this opportunity to express my thanks to everyone in this association.

Let me first tell you how I came to know the Massachusetts Tree Wardens' and Foresters' Association. The MTWFA board officially hired me in 2006, but my inauguration with the association began several years before that. In 1998, as a UMass graduate student working with Dennis Ryan, the results of a survey I sent to tree wardens became the basis for my 1999 graduate thesis. That next winter, I presented the survey results in a talk to MTWFA annual conference attendees at the old King's Grant Inn in Danvers.

Two years later, I partnered with Melissa LeVangie (now Ingersoll) to create Trees New England LLC, an arboricultural consulting firm. Together we teamed up on projects that included municipal tree inventories and utility consulting work, and our company had an exhibit booth at several annual MTWFA conferences in Sturbridge. Although by 2006 we had each accepted other positions, and I was also in the middle of my term as president of New England Chapter ISA, I jumped at the opportunity to work on a more official basis with this familiar group of tree wardens. When the position of MTWFA executive assistant was posted, I was excited to be considered and selected for this new challenge. In May 2006, with Marc Welch as president, I took over from Kelly Woods and was eventually named executive director.

I soon discovered that this organization was even more unique than I knew. The teamwork, cooperation, and good will of board members at monthly and annual meetings has never failed to impress me. I believe that such dedicated board service has been and continues to be a hallmark of the association. I will never forget my several opportunities to be in the company of distinguished former board members whose interest and persistence over many years were essential to its preservation and growth.

It is impossible to distill fifteen years into a few lines, but I want to share some highlights that stand out for me.

• By far the most notable: our 100th anniversary in 2013, especially the annual conference in January and the UMass gala dinner in March. Our members and guests filled the celebrations with pride, nostalgia, and a lot of good partying.

• The annual conference was always for me the high point of the year. When the January days finally arrived, I loved seeing old friends, meeting new members, and greeting all the folks I talked and worked with throughout the year. When I received the 2010



Karen smiling at the registration desk at the 100th MTWFA conference in 2013.

President's Award from Kevin Weber, Town of Sharon, it was a recognition that MTWFA had reached a new level of growth and with it, success in its administration.

• The Tree Warden of the Year celebrations in May each year showcase the hometown achievements of the TWOY. It is always rewarding to see how our tree wardens are appreciated for the difference they make in their communities.

• Helping to facilitate the debut of the MQTW qualified tree warden program and innumerable PDS trainings has been a source of great satisfaction. I am proud to have had a small part in developing these significant educational opportunities.

I am deeply honored to be the recipient of the Dr. George E. Stone Award, the association's highest honor. The guidelines state that this award shall be granted to those who have "continually demonstrated a strong commitment to the industry, significant advocacy on behalf of public trees, dedicated volunteer service to the organization, and willingness to support and lend a helping hand to the association." I am grateful and humbled to be one among a company of distinguished recipients.

But know this: I have been blessed to have worked with ALL the members and associates of MTWFA – all you amazing people whom I have met, known, worked with, and admired over the past 20+ years.

Thank you for the memories, and most of all for the privilege of working with you and for you. Both as individuals and as a group, you are among the best people I have ever known, and you gave me fifteen years in a job I truly loved. It has been a great finale to a career, and I will miss you!





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2023 Seedling Program is Now Taking Orders

Order Deadline: April 13, 2023

The seedlings are a popular Arbor Day/Earth Day promotion tool for municipalities, garden clubs, businesses, arborists and other interested individuals and organizations.

Net proceeds from the seedling program support the MTWFA Scholarship Fund. Scholarships are awarded to students enrolled in arboriculture and urban forestry programs. For more information about our scholarships, please visit www. masstreewardens.org.

How do seedlings arrive?

The package includes seedling trees and printed plastic bags with planting instructions. Bags are shipped separately in early April for orders scheduled for delivery during Arbor Day/Earth Day week.

Upon delivery, the seedlings can be placed in the plastic bags along with potting soil or peat moss, for distribution to school children and other Arbor Day/Earth Day participants. (Does not apply to pre-bagged seedlings.) Seedlings are shipped via UPS. Please note that UPS does NOT deliver to P.O. boxes. Someone should be present when the seedlings arrive, especially during warm weather. Seedlings must be delivered by May 6th.

How can seedlings be distributed?

Check with your local school department or municipality to obtain approval and an estimate of the quantities you will require. Distribution of the seedlings may be accompanied by a ceremony or presentation promoting Arbor Day/Earth Day, trees, and their value to people and the environment.

How do I place an order?

Download the order form on our website. Only orders on the form will be accepted. Full payment is required with each order. Checks: Payable to MTWFA. Purchase orders: We will invoice you.

2023 Mass Qualified Tree Warden Class

Registration is Now Open!

This six-module course is designed to teach tree wardens what they need to know to fulfill their duties. The 2023 Mass Qualified Tree Warden (MQTW) course will run from September through November.

Calendar dates are: September 6 ~ September 20 ~ October 4 ~ October 18 ~ November 1 ~ November 15.

All six sessions will be held in Worcester from 8:30 am - 3:00 pm.

Offered every other year since 2017, the MQTW class has qualified over 150 Tree Wardens in Massachusetts.

Limited to 50 participants. Sign up today and reserve your spot! Registration deadline, August 15, 2023.

Arbor Day Ideas from the Arbor Day Foundation Arbor Day is Friday, April 28, 2023



Hold an Arbor Day ceremony and honor the good stewards in your community. Organize a Big Tree search within your community. Host a reception to honor the Tree Board members in your community. Schedule classes on tree pruning, tree selection, tree identification and tree planting. Sponsor a poster contest (like the DCR contest), poetry contest, or tree trivia contest.

Organize a tree identification hike.



Scholarship Recipients

This year, MTWFA awarded over \$11,000 in scholarships to students pursuing careers in arboriculture, urban forestry, and related fields. Scholarships were announced at the UMass Community Tree Conference on February 28th.

Congratulations to all our scholarship recipients!

Recipient	Scholarship
Teresa Siarnacki, UMass Amherst	Seth H. Swift
Keely Zuber, Paul Smith's College	Louis J. Casasanto
Stella Dee, UMass Amherst	Dr. Malcom A. McKenzie
Maeve Clark, Umaine Orono	Fred C. Burk
Logan Quinn, Umaine Orono	Professor Gordon S. King
Brandon Pokraka, Umass Amherst	Dennis Ryan Outstanding Arboriculture Student (MAA/MTWFA)
Taylor Sirios, Bristol Aggie High School	High School Scholarship

Thank you to our 2023 Conference Exhibitors

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MA Department of Labor Standards Massachusetts Highway Association New England Chapter ISA OESCO, Inc. RBG, Inc. **Rainbow Ecoscience Read Custom Soils** SiteOne Landscape Supply Shelter Tree /RBI Corp STIHL Tri State Power Equipment United Construction and Forestry, LLC USDA, APHIS, PPQ Valley Green, Inc. Vegetation Control Service

2023 Conference Stats: 473 attendees 31 Exhibitors





Western Mass Tree Wardens Spring Dinner Meeting

Thursday, March 16, 2023 | 5:00-7:30 p.m. Bluebonnet Diner, Northampton

Agenda		
5:00-5:15pm	Gathering	
5:15-5:45	Acorn to Arabella—Journey of a Wooden Boat & Utilizing Local Wood Resources, Steve Denette & Anne Bryant	
5:45-6:15pm	Dinner	
6:15-7:15pm	Modern Wood Heat for Municipal and Private Sector Buildings, Jonathan Parrott	

This meeting is co-

sponsored by the Mass Forest Alliance. \$40 per person. ISA and MCA CEUs are pending. Please register by March 10. Find out More and Register at masstreewardens.org or by scanning the QR Code.



DCR Update

Arbor Day Poster Contest

DCR is accepting entries for the 2023 Arbor Day Poster Contest. The contest is



open to fifth-grade students in the Commonwealth. This year's theme is: **It's Time for Trees!**

How it works: DCR can accept on poster per school. Home schooled and non-participating school students may enter the contest individually.

Check out the full contest rules on the DCR website (www.mass.gov/guides/annual-arbor-day-poster-contest)





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Announcing Tree Warden of the Year Jeremiah Pearson, Falmouth

The Massachusetts Tree Wardens' and Foresters' Association presented the 22nd annual Seth H. Swift Tree Warden of the Year award to Jeremiah Pearson, Tree Warden and Parks Superintendent for Falmouth. President Arthur Goodhind presented the elegant silver tree award to Mr. Pearson at the association's 110th annual meeting and conference on January 10, 2023.

Jeremiah Pearson has served as Tree Warden and Parks Superintendent since 2018, prior to this he was the Tree Warden for the Town of Barnstable from 2017-2018 and the Town Arborist and forestry crew leader for Falmouth from 2013-2017. He is currently responsible for a street tree population consisting of 260 miles of Town and County roads, as well as trees located within 250 acres of parks, public buildings, cemeteries, and school grounds. He is committed to the preservation and treatment of an inventory of over 200 municipal elm trees to combat Dutch elm disease and enjoys assisting the Conservation Department with removal and mitigation of invasive trees in conservation parcels and wetlands. Since he has held the role as Tree Warden, he has advocated and received \$70,000 in Capital funds for tree planting and has utilized the Department of Conservation and Recreation's Go Green Challenge Grant provided through Eversource. Mr. Pearson proudly hosts



annual, large Arbor Day events that incorporate several Town Departments, elementary school children, Eversource, and local tree companies to promote the benefits and importance of trees.

Mr. Pearson began his forestry career at the age of 17 working summers for a local tree company as a tree climber. He has worked in the tree care industry since 1995 and has obtained an A.S. in Environmental Technology, certificate degree in outdoor leadership, and became a certified arborist in 2006 and Massachusetts Qualified Tree Warden in 2021.

Since 2018, he has orchestrated the cleanup efforts of several large scale tropical storms, an EF1 tornado, and Nor'easters that caused widespread damage throughout Cape Cod, most notably the tropical storm Wanda in October of 2021 that was responsible for tree damage unseen since Hurricane Bob in 1991. Mr. Pearson recognizes the importance of building a strong team with continued education and utilizing the newest and safest techniques the industry has to offer. Jeremiah Pearson is most deserving of the Seth H. Swift Award.

Mr. Pearson works to maintain Falmouth's Tree City USA status. The Town of Falmouth has been recognized as a Tree City USA for the past 23 years. The Tree City USA program provides communities with a four-step framework to maintain and grow their tree cover. Municipalities must maintain a tree board or department, have a community tree ordinance, spend at least \$2 per capita on urban forestry, and celebrate Arbor Day.

The Tree Warden of the Year award was created in 2002 to honor the late Seth H. Swift, a longtime tree warden for West Springfield and an active member of the association.

The association plans to hold a commemorative tree planting in the Town of Falmouth in honor of Mr. Pearson's award. Details will be posted on www.masstreewardens.org.

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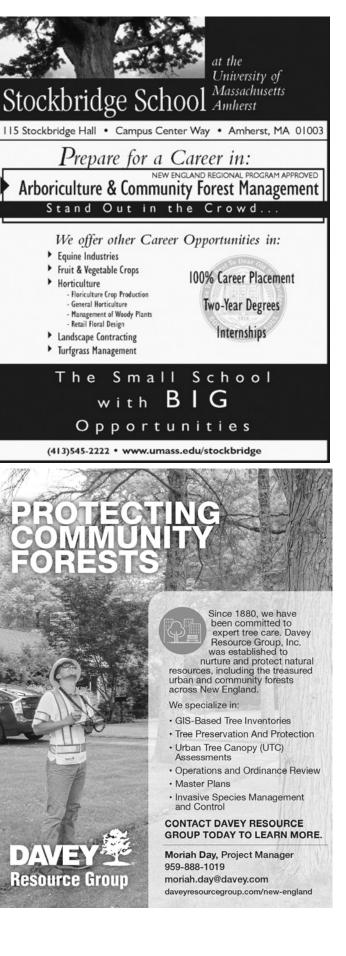
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The Bark is made possible by a U.S. Forest Service grant, facilitated through Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation Urban and Community Forestry Program.

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(3) email: program.intake@usda.gov

This institution is an equal opportunity provider.



Massachusetts Tree Wardens' and Foresters' Association P.O. Box 5141 Norwell, MA 02061

	Calendar of Events	
March 15	Deadline for DCR Arbor Day Poster Contest	www.mass.gov/dcr/ucf
March 16	Urban Forestry Today Webcast	www.urbanforestrytoday.org
March 16	Western Mass Tree Wardens Dinner, Northampton	www.masstreewardens.org
March 22	PDS – CPR, First Aid, AED, and Stop the Bleed, Worcester	www.masstreewardens.org
April 13	PDS – Chainsaw Safety and Storm Clean Up , Hadley	www.masstreewardens.org
June 7	PDS – Trees and Construction, Cambridge	www.masstreewardens.org
June 15	Western Mass Tree Wardens Dinner, Northampton	www.masstreewardens.org