

University of Minnesota - U&CF Program Update, January 2023

2023 MN Shade Tree Short Course

The 60th Annual MN STSC will be held on March 14th & 15th at Bethel University. The program currently consists of 47 speakers who will conduct six general sessions and over 70 concurrent session throughout the two-day event. Thanks in part to the generous support of MnSTAC, the STSC was able to invite Mark Chisholm as a featured speaker. Mark will provide a general session on *Unique Tree Removal Scenarios* and a one-day concurrent session on *Crane Use for Tree Removals*.

Registration is now open. Early bird registration (\$225) runs through 2/24/2023.

MN Tree Care Advocate

The MN Tree Care Advocate programs had a successful 2022. This included the onboarding of a new volunteer and partnerships coordinator, Sonja Tosteson. Volunteer hour reporting for 2022 increased to 3,579 hours. The volunteer hourly equivalent rate for MN is \$32.33/hr, bringing total contributions of our MN Tree Stewards and MN Tree Care Advisors in 2022 to \$115,717.80.

MN Certified Tree Inspector Program

- 195 new Tree Inspectors were certified in 2022.
- There is a new UMN Tree Inspector website at <https://mntreeinspector.umn.edu/> and new UMN Tree Inspector email at MNTreeInspector@umn.edu
- There are currently 784 certified tree inspectors.

2022 MnSTAC Forums

- 01/20/22 - Tree Nursery Industry Update, presented by Shane Brockshus - 104 attendees (Zoom)
- 02/12/22 - Growing Shade Project, presented by Eric Wojchick and Ellen Esch - 57 attendees (Zoom)
- 04/21/22 - Green Communities Leadership Institute, Jeremy Barrick, Karen Zumach, Philip Potyondy, and Kent Honl - 40 attendees (Zoom)
- 05/19/22 - Plant Disease Clinic Update, Brett Arenz - 65 attendees (Zoom)
- 06/16/22 - Integrated Pest Management, Vera Krischik - 40 attendees (Zoom)
- 07/21/22 – Climate Impact Corps member presentations - 42 attendees (Zoom)
- 08/18/22 – UFOR Field Day – UMN St. Paul Campus -127 attendees (in-person)
- 09/15/22 – Conservation Corps of MN & IA – 17 attendees (Zoom)
- 10/20/22 – County Extension Perspectives on Community Forestry – 41 attendees (Zoom) & 7 attendees (in-person)
- 11/17/22 – Oak Wilt and City Ordinances – 79 attendees (Zoom) & 15 attendees (in-person)
- 12/18/22 – Listening Session + Benefits and Use of Tree Trenches In Green Infrastructure – 194 attendees (Zoom)

UMN Professor of Urban & Community Forestry Search

The search for the next Urban & Community Forestry professor is progressing. Two finalists have been identified by the hiring committee. Teaching and research seminars will take place at the end of January. These sessions will be open to the public. More details will be forthcoming:

- Dr. Abigail Sullivan, Assistant Professor, Boston University, will be interviewing January 23-24.
- Dr. Alicia Coleman, Postdoctoral Research Associate, University of Connecticut, will be interviewing January 30-31.