



The School of Arboriculture at Morris Arboretum offers high-quality courses taught by world-renowned instructors and experts in the field.

[See inside for descriptions. Topics include:](#)

- Introductory Tree Climbing
- Native Wildflower Meadows
- Landscape Design for Professionals
- Single Rope Techniques



*Official arboretum of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania*

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# classes

Increase your tree and landscape knowledge! Our courses, which offer CEUs for arborists and landscape architects, keep you at the forefront of your profession!



**Morris Arboretum**  
UNIVERSITY of PENNSYLVANIA



**School of Arboriculture**



**fall 2015 classes**



# Morris Arboretum UNIVERSITY of PENNSYLVANIA School of Arboriculture



## **The Morris Arboretum of the University of Pennsylvania**

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is an educational institution that promotes an understanding of the important relationships between people and plants. Founded in 1887 as the private estate of John and Lydia Morris, brother and sister, the Arboretum today is an interdisciplinary center that integrates art, science, and the humanities. It is the official arboretum of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. It is listed in the National Register of Historic Places and is accredited by the American Alliance of Museums.

The 167-acre public garden, located in the Chestnut Hill section of Philadelphia, provides an idyllic setting for historical architectural features as well as provides a fine collection of contemporary sculpture. Specialty garden areas include the Rose Garden, Swan Pond, English Park, Asian gardens, meadows, and woodlands.

More than 12,000 labeled woody plants from around the world grow here along with superior plants for urban and community landscapes. The Arboretum provides internships, school tours, adult and professional education, lectures, and other special events.

## **The School of Arboriculture at Morris Arboretum**

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offers high-quality courses designed for arborists, landscape architects and designers, urban foresters, land managers, and other tree care professionals. Classes cover a wide range of topics including climbing techniques and safety, tree identification, pest and disease problems, tree health and land management practices. The School of Arboriculture is committed to providing first-rate educational and professional development opportunities led by world-renowned instructors and experts in the field.

## **International Society of Arboriculture Continuing Education Units**

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The Arboretum's professional training courses carry International Society of Arboriculture Continuing Education Units. If you are an ISA certified arborist and need to maintain certification by taking 30 credits over a three-year period, you may want to sign up for classes at the Arboretum. If you have questions or need more information, please contact Jan McFarlan at (215) 247-5777, ext. 156 or [jlm@upenn.edu](mailto:jlm@upenn.edu). The ISA category code for CEUs is as follows: Science=S, Practice=P, Management=M.

## Introductory Tree Climbing

Zach Shechtman

*Owner, Shechtman Tree Care*

Rob Thigpen

*Foreman, Shechtman Tree Care and ISA  
Penn-Del Chapter Climbing Champion*

This class provides an introduction to tree climbing and features the opportunity to have supervised climbing instruction in trees. It is ideal for tree companies looking to advance promising groundsmen, or gardeners and landscapers looking to expand into tree work. Effective methods for climbing trees will be demonstrated by instructors and practiced by students. Safety rules will be reviewed and stressed. Students will learn how to tie critical knots regularly used by arborists. Included in the fee, each student will receive a copy of *The Tree Climbers Companion*, by Jeff Jepson, a great resource for climbers. **Bring an arborist's rope and saddle, a hard hat, gloves, safety glasses, and insect repellent to the class. Wear boots, long pants, and dress for the weather. We will meet at Bloomfield Farm. Look for the paved road across Northwestern Avenue from the public garden entrance. Park in the lot and follow the signs to the Horticulture Center. This course carries 17.5 CEUs for ISA certified arborists (S=0, P=17.5, M=0).**

**Wednesday, Thursday and Friday,  
September 30, October 1, and 2  
9 a.m.—4 p.m.**

*Fee: \$525 (includes lunches)*

## Field Identification of Landscape Trees

Ken LeRoy

*Certified Arborist Representative, John B.  
Ward Tree Experts*

Join us for a two-day class on the identification of woody landscape plants for urban and suburban landscapes. The class will cover both deciduous trees and conifers. Arborist and horticulturist, Ken LeRoy, will show us how to use a dichotomous key to identify plants and will explain the terminology used in keys to describe plant characteristics. He will also discuss the physical characteristics used to group plants into families. We will go on a tour of the Morris Arboretum to see specimens of the plants we discuss. You may want to purchase the *Sibley Guide to Trees*, available in the Arboretum bookstore, and a good reference for tree identification. **Please dress for the weather. We will meet at the Horticulture Center at Bloomfield Farm on the first day. Look for the paved road across Northwestern Avenue from the public garden entrance. Park in the lot and follow the signs to the Horticulture Center. This course carries 11.5 CEUs for ISA certified arborists (S=5.5, P=6, M=0) and 6 CEUs for Pennsylvania landscape architects.**

**Thursday, October 8 and Friday,  
October 9  
9 a.m. — 4 p.m.**

*Fee: \$270 (includes lunch)*





## Native Wildflower Meadows: Let's Get Real

Larry Weaner

*Principal, Larry Weaner Landscape Design Associates*

Demand for native meadows, particularly as an alternative to lawn, is increasing, and yet few types of landscape plantings are more misunderstood than the native wildflower meadow, with many failures resulting from inadequate planning and the use of poorly adapted plants. Far better results can be obtained when the plants and processes used reflect the ecological character of our naturally occurring meadow communities. More than one-year wonders, meadows modeled on these ecosystems can provide long-term, easily managed landscapes that harbor a myriad of wildlife and provide color and texture throughout the year. In this all-day, in-depth workshop, Larry Weaner will discuss the design, implementation, and management of native meadows, using a series of case studies featuring large and small-scale meadows as well as projects ranging in age from initial establishment to more than ten years in existence. He will also illustrate how garden design principles can be used in the meadow for subtle visual effect and to create graceful transitions to more formal garden areas. Larry Weaner has been creating native landscapes since 1977. He founded Larry Weaner Landscape Associates in 1982 and has gained a national reputation for combining ecological restoration with the traditions of garden design. **This course carries 5.5 CEUs for ISA certified arborists (S=2, P=1.5, M=2) and 6 CEUs for PA landscape architects.**

**Wednesday, October 14**  
**9 a.m.—4 p.m.**

*Fee: \$125 (includes lunch)*

## Tree Climbing for Women

Rachel Brudzinski

*ISA Michigan Tree Climbing Female State Champion, 2012 and Arborist, New York Botanical Garden*

Women can be talented, successful climbers even in a field traditionally dominated by men. Novice to advanced women climbers are welcome. This course will demonstrate climbing techniques geared to female climbers and provides a basic understanding of tree biology critical for practicing arborists. The class will focus on how to create and maintain a safe working environment, develop fundamental arboricultural skills, and learn the professional techniques necessary to develop an approach for climbing a tree. You will learn some of the latest professional tree climbing advancements and have the opportunity to participate in supervised in-tree climbing. The second day of the course is designed for students who want to experience a deeper understanding of innovative arboriculture techniques. Students will learn essential knots, daily gear maintenance, and integrated safety regulations mandated for climbing arborists. The second day of the class will focus heavily on climbing skills and various ascension and positioning techniques meant to further your comfort within the canopy.



**Please wear appropriate clothing including long sleeves, flexible and durable pants, and high ankle/lightweight footwear. If you have regulation climbing gear including a rope, harness, hardhat with chin strap, and eye protection, please bring it. You may also want to bring gloves. We will meet at Bloomfield Farm. Look for the paved road across Northwestern Avenue from the public garden entrance. Park in the lot and follow the signs to the Horticulture Center. This course carries 6 CEUs for each day for ISA certified arborists. (S=0, P=6, M=0)**

**Saturday, October 3 and Sunday, October 4**

**9 a.m.—4 p.m.**

**Raindate: Saturday, October 10 and Sunday, October 11**

*Fee: \$125 for one day (includes lunch) or \$250 for both days (includes lunch)*

*Note: You may sign up for day one and not day two, but to sign up for day two only, you must have previous climbing experience.*

## **Advancing Your Climbing Skills: Pruning, Rigging, and Removal with a Crane**

**Zach Shechtman**

*Owner, Shechtman Tree Care*

**Rob Thigpen**

*Foreman, Shechtman Tree Care and ISA Penn-Del Chapter Climbing Champion*

This class, taught by experienced professionals, consists of three days of training in advanced arboricultural techniques. Instruction will cover the theory and practice of large tree pruning, including a component on tree physiology, structural pruning, and the latest ANSI standards. Each student will have an opportunity for hands-on experience using proper rigging techniques to safely lower wood from a standing trunk. Safe felling techniques and proper use of the latest equipment as well as the critical knots involved will be

demonstrated. The last day of this course will consist of instruction and demonstration of the safe use of a truck-mounted crane for tree removal. Emphasis will be given to site selection, weight calculation, load distribution, and safe cutting techniques. Each student will receive a copy of *How to Fell a Tree* by Jeff Jepson, a book with step-by-step methods for taking down a tree and a copy of the ANSI Z133.1 standards. **Bring your climbing gear. We will meet at the Horticulture Center at Bloomfield Farm. Look for the paved road across Northwestern Avenue from the public garden entrance. Park in the lot and follow the signs to the Horticulture Center. This course carries 17.25 CEUs for ISA certified arborists (S=2, P=2, M=13.5).**

**Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday October 13, 14, and 15**

**9 a.m.—4 p.m.**

*Fee: \$525 (includes lunch)*

## **TRAQ – Tree Risk Assessment Qualification Course**

**Jim Flott**

*Certified TRAQ Instructor*

**Scott Sjolander**

*Penn State Extension*

The TRAQ training course was created by the International Society of Arboriculture (ISA). This training opportunity is sponsored by the New Jersey Chapter of the ISA and hosted by The Morris Arboretum at Meadow Lakes Retirement Community in Hightstown, New Jersey. The course will provide a high level of training for arborists, landscape architects and landscape management professionals in the fundamentals of tree risk assessment. This qualification promotes the safety of people and property by providing a standardized and systematic process for assessing tree risk. TRAQ is a two-day course followed by a ½ day exam. The course prepares the

participant to take the TRAQ assessment to become ISA Tree Risk Assessment Qualified. It is required that you attend the course and successfully complete the assessment in order to receive the ISA Tree Risk Assessment Qualification. The content of this course will focus on the following areas: Tree Biology and Mechanics, Tree Inspection and Assessment, Data Analysis and Risk Categorization and Risk Reporting. The Tree Risk Assessment Qualification is valid for five years from the date the exam is passed. The qualification holder is required to retake the course and pass the exam every five years in order to maintain the qualification. To be able to register for the course and take the exam, you must have earned one of the following credentials:

- ISA Certified Arborist or BCMA
- A national certification or certificate in Arboriculture
- Licensing or certification from an approved state program
- SAF Certified Forester
- ASCA Registered Consulting Arborist
- A degree in arboriculture, urban forestry, traditional forestry, or horticulture from an accredited college or university.

Participants will receive course materials two weeks prior to the start of class. Bring these materials with you to the class. **The class takes place at Meadow Lakes Retirement Community, 300 Meadow Lakes Road off of Etra Road, Hightstown, NJ 08520. Use the main entrance opposite Ward Street. Turn right into the main parking lot. This course carries 14.5 CEUs for ISA certified arborists (S=2.5, P=6, M=6).**

**Thursday, October 22 and Friday, October 23**

**8 a.m.—5 p.m.**

**Exam—Saturday, October 24**

**8 a.m.—12 noon**

*Fees: ISA Members: \$650 (includes lunches)*

*Non ISA Members: \$750 (includes lunches)*

*Exam retake only, \$150*

## Single Rope Techniques

**Rob Thigpen**

*Foreman, Shechtman Tree Care and ISA Penn-Del Chapter Climbing Champion*

Climbing techniques for arborists have advanced significantly in the last 20 years, with the adaptation of practices that were first developed by rock climbers and cave explorers. These techniques have made tree climbing easier and safer, and have brought a greater degree of professionalism to arboriculture. The use of throw balls to advance the lead into the tree canopy has introduced the use of a single line as a means of ascension into a tree rather than the more traditional double line technique. The use of one line in climbing is known as Single Rope Technique (SRT) and has become a skill that has proved invaluable to many working arborists. Please join us for a day with one of the masters of SRT, Rob Thigpen of Shechtman Tree Experts. This course will include some in-the-tree climbing, and is open only to arborists with field experience. Personal Protection Equipment (PPE) and individual climbing gear are mandatory. **We will meet at Bloomfield Farm. Look for the paved road across Northwestern Avenue from the public garden entrance. Park in the lot and follow the signs to the Horticulture Center. This course carries 11.5 CEUs for ISA certified arborists (S=.0, P=11.5, M=0).**

**Tuesday, October 27 and Wednesday, October 28**

**9 a.m.—4 p.m.**

*Fee: \$285 (includes lunches)*

# Landscape Design for Professionals

Paul D. Orpello

*Horticulturist, Morris Arboretum*

The world of landscape design is continually evolving. Meeting the needs of your clients while keeping your design integrity intact can be challenging to say the least. Hitting the design target for critical customers has become increasingly difficult as well. In this ever-changing world of landscape design integrated with customer satisfaction, it helps to have an experienced guide. Award-winning landscape designer and ASHS certified professional horticulturist, Paul D. Orpello will demonstrate how to successfully navigate these complex waters. Paul will cover all phases of the design process from client

meeting to project completion. There will be an informative two-hour lecture discussing the essential components of the design process and client interaction. The lecture will be followed by a one-hour shortened studio session. We will work on meeting specific client needs in a designed environment. Come and learn how to increase your effectiveness as a designer while increasing your profitability as a professional! **This course carries 3 CEUs for ISA certified arborists (S=0, P=1, M=2) and 3 CEUs for PA landscape architects.**

**Thursday, October 29  
9 a.m.—noon**

*Fee: \$60*







## Electrical Hazard Awareness, Aerial Rescue, and Chain Saw Safety

Gary Lovallo

*NJ Committee for the Advancement of Arboriculture*

Al Saharic

*Electrical Safety Instructor, Retired Electric Lineman*

Proper tree felling techniques and job site safety will be covered in this class. We will focus on the Electrical Hazards Awareness Program (E.H.A.P.) and aerial rescue. We will cover the critical safety precautions that must be taken when performing tree work in close proximity to electrified wires. The identification and distinction between voltages carried in distribution and transmission lines will be emphasized, along with the ANSI standards that apply to this work. The effects of live current will be demonstrated by the instructors. You will have the chance to see an in-the-field demonstration of aerial rescue techniques. Each student will have a “hands on” opportunity to practice safe lowering methods. The safe operation and maintenance of chain saws will be demonstrated in the field by experienced arborists. Each participant will have an opportunity to use a chain saw to make practice cuts and will have a chance to participate in an aerial rescue using some of the latest techniques. **Students should come**

equipped with chaps, a hard hat, ear plugs, work gloves, and steel-toed work boots.

On both days this course meets at the Horticulture Center at Bloomfield Farm. Enter the Arboretum on the road opposite from the public garden entrance. Park in the parking lot and follow the signs to the Horticulture Center. This course carries 11.5 CEUs for both days for ISA certified arborists (S=2, P=5.5, M=4).

**Thursday, November 5 and Friday, November 6**  
**9 a.m.—4 p.m.**

*Fee: \$275 (Includes lunch)*

## Understanding Tree Appraisal Problems

Scott Cullen

*Registered Consulting Arborist, CT Licensed Arborist*

Scott Cullen has taught tree appraisal internationally and has written about the origins and evolution of this specialized discipline. In his first workshop in five years, Scott comes to the Morris Arboretum to present new material that is essential for anyone – including arborists, landscape architects, foresters, urban foresters, nursery professionals, lawyers and others who perform or rely on tree appraisals. This course is equally applicable to the current *Guide for Plant Appraisal* 9<sup>th</sup> Ed., the forthcoming 10<sup>th</sup>

Ed., i-Tree, or any of the various international systems. Topics include defining the appraisal problem, value, and reasonableness. The course is highly interactive and designed for class participation. **This course carries 5.75 CEUs for ISA certified arborists (S=1, P=2.25, M=2.5).**

**Thursday, November 12**  
**8 a.m.—5 p.m.**

*Fee: \$150 (Includes lunch)*

## Pruning Conifers and Broad-leaved Evergreens

Vince Marrocco

*Chief Horticulturist, Morris Arboretum*

Evergreens, more than any of the other plant

groups, can be seriously disfigured or destroyed by careless pruning. For this reason, it is important for the landscape professional or homeowner to understand when to prune and where to place pruning cuts. The morning session will be a lecture and demonstration. The afternoon session will feature supervised, hands-on pruning. **Please bring a hand pruner and small pruning saw for the afternoon session. This course carries 4.5 CEUs for ISA certified arborists (S=1, P=2.5, M=1).**

**Tuesday, December 1**  
**9 a.m.—2:30 p.m.**  
**Raindate: Friday, December 4**

*Fee: \$125 (includes lunch)*

## Upcoming Conference

Join us on **January 14 and 15** for the 27th annual Winter Landscape Design Symposium. This two-day symposium held at Montgomery County Community College in Blue Bell, PA, is an in-depth examination of state of the art naturalistic landscape design. Speakers represent a diverse and accomplished group of designers, horticulturists, ecologists, and artists in an interactive and informal setting. Continuing education units for landscape architects will be available. Brochures will be available in November. To request a brochure, please call (215) 247-5777, ext. 125 or e-mail [ilm@upenn.edu](mailto:ilm@upenn.edu). **Sign up online at [online.morrisarboretum.org/LDS](http://online.morrisarboretum.org/LDS).**



# general class information

The Morris Arboretum is located in the Chestnut Hill section of Philadelphia. For further information or directions, call (215) 247-5777 or check the Arboretum website at: [www.morrisarboretum.org](http://www.morrisarboretum.org). Go to “Plan Your Visit.”

## The Green Choice

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We need your input. In the interest of sustainability, if you would like to opt out of receiving our course brochure, please e-mail us at [education@morrisarboretum.org](mailto:education@morrisarboretum.org) with the subject line, “Opt out.” We always offer our spring and fall course brochures on our website under the Education tab.

## Location of Classes

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**All classes will be held at the George D. Widener Visitor Center unless otherwise noted.**

Parking areas may be reached by entering the Arboretum on Northwestern Avenue. Students should arrive at least ten minutes before the start of the class to allow time to check in.

Please note: Parking adjacent to the Visitor Center is sometimes at full capacity on nice weather weekends. If you visit after noon, you may be required to park at the bottom of the hill and be shuttled into the garden.

If you are a person with a disability and require an accommodation to participate in classes, please contact Jan McFarlan at (215) 247-5777, ext. 156, Monday through Friday, to discuss accommodation. For people who use TTY, please call PA Relay at 1-800-654-5984.

## Refund and Cancellation Policy

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In order to receive a refund for a class you must call (215) 247-5777, ext. 125 at least two business days before the class start date. There will be a \$5 processing fee associated with refunds. The Arboretum reserves the right to cancel any program if necessary. Refunds take approximately three to four weeks to process. There will be no refunds after a class begins.

## Weather Information

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In case of inclement weather conditions on the day of your class, please call the Education Department, (215) 247-5777, ext. 156, for information on possible cancellation or rescheduling of the class.

# School of Arboriculture

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☐ Member ☐ Non-member  
☐ My check or money order payable to the Morris Arboretum is enclosed.