



STS NEWSLETTER

A bimonthly publication of Street Tree Seminar
Your Los Angeles/Orange County Regional Forest Council

August Meeting Recap Managing Risk in the Urban Forest

Our August meeting was presented as part of the California Urban Forest Council City Forest Renewal Grant program. The speakers were Tim Crothers from West Coast Arborists, Inc, and Adrian Escamilla from the City of Ontario. The theme of proactive management was threaded through out the presentation which touched on working efficiently, reducing the risk and cost of operations and reducing infrastructure conflicts.

Tim Crothers, West Coast Arborists, Inc.

Tim started us off with a great dialogue on how to set your program up to succeed.



Tim began with Inventories. The benefits of a current inventory can be better budgeting, changing operation from reactive to proactive and increasing efficiency. One strong suggestion from Tim was to use the inventory to document actions - not only maintenance performed but also recommending any maintenance that is needed. Another

was to make sure to keep data inventory up to date. You will need about a 4 year inspection cycle. Documentation may help keep track of damage or decline of right of way trees.

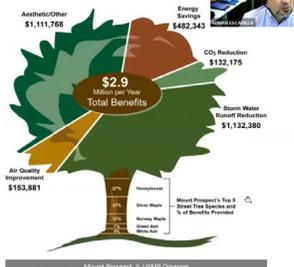
Tim then provided a definition of Risk vs Hazard. A hazard is a situation or condition in trees that is likely to lead to loss, injury, or likely source of harm. (The part of the tree identified as the source of harm). Risk Factors include: Targets, work zone, and occupancy or use. Also previous site failures. And lastly, tree vigor, health, defects (including structural) and decay.

Tim emphasized the importance of timely and thorough inspections. Goals of inspections should be to: gather information on the tree's health, condition and structure; attempt to identify hazards early, document concerns and perform follow up recommendations; and identify trends or consistent challenges.

He added great information on routine inspection cycles. There is no "one size fits all" system. Ask yourself (or your boss) if plans, policies, or ordinances exist that govern the trees Tim suggested the following steps: 1/ identify which trees should be inspected; 2/ determine how often the cycle should be; 3/ make sure the inspectors are qualified to perform the work; 4/inspect for leans, root problems, co-dominant stems, conks, cavities in the trunk, pests.

Return on Your Investment

- Growing asset
- Increase in value when properly maintained
- Meets city goals
 - Climate Action Plans
 - GHG & ecosystem goals
- General Plan Goals
 - Conservation and Environmental Justice Elements
 - Canopy Cover Goals



TRAQ certification is highly recommended for all arborists.

Adrian Escamilla, City of Ontario

Adrian's talk focused on "The right tree in the right place". Some of the things to consider are the tree's future growth, overhead spacing, climate conditions, watering needs, diversity of the urban forest, and underground considerations.

He also touched on pruning methods. Structural, cleaning, thinning, raising, restoration, reduction, utility pruning. In Ontario, the use a routine (grid) trim cycle and Adrian believes it improves the health of the tree. It reduces liability and maintains the capital asset efficiently.

And finally, Risk Management. Adrian emphasized that better management = greater urban forest benefits. It allows you to leverage funding and reduces risk. He shared CAL-JPIA Resource tree inspection and maintenance policy. Adrian strongly believes that Trees give us a return on our investment - They improve our air quality, provide energy savings, and stormwater runoff reduction.

The city utilizes the 10th edition Plant Appraisal Guide for measuring the value of a tree. It is important to establish the estimated value of a tree., though challenges exist with mature trees in small parkways that cause damage. An Inventory is a tool for measuring value! This is critical during budget hearings when the public has the opportunity to review and comment.

Thanks to CaUFC and the City Forest Renewal grant project for bringing this great program to us. For more information, visit www.caufc.org.



STS Scholarship Program

Know a student deserves this scholarship?

We are accepting applications from Southern California students currently studying Arboriculture, Horticulture or Plant Science fields. 2021 applications through November 1st. Go to www.streettreeseminar.com

What to help in a bigger way? Sponsor a scholarship this year! Donors will be recognized at our December luncheon when checks are presented to the students.

Contact Al Remyn (alremyn@aol.com) to invest in a student's future.

Thank you to our 2020 Scholarship Sponsors!



STS Board Accepting Nominations

Have you ever considered how you could make a difference in your community? Become part of the Street Tree Seminar leadership and find out just how easy it is when you join leaders in other communities. We're looking for fresh faces and new viewpoints!

Past-president Emina Darakjy is now accepting nominations to serve on the 2022 Street Tree Seminar Board/ We Have 2 open directors positions. Please contact emina@earthlink.net with nominations. Ballots will be sent electronically in November.

President – Lucas Mitchell, City of Rancho Cucamonga

Past President - Emina Darakjy, member at large

Vice President - Rachel Malarich, City of Los Angeles

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Director - Alex Lopez, Los Angeles Conservation Corps

Director – Open

Director – Open



News from CaUFC



Connect with municipal arborists, urban forest managers, urban wood enthusiasts, landscape design professionals, planners, & non-profits from across California for this unique event. Be immersed in this unique educational & networking experience. Join the virtual sessions to gain insights, strategies, and inspiration.

Keynote speaker Dr. Matt Ritter talks about underutilized species for the future of urban wood and the urban forest. Then, catch our interview with Richard Louv on shifting the climate narrative. Plus a panel discussion on urban wood policy, lightning rounds, virtual tours & much more.

VIRTUAL CONFERENCE

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 14
8.00 AM — 3.30 PM

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 15
9.00 AM — 12 NOON

See caufc.org for full schedule and to register for the event.



URBAN WOOD
NETWORK™



Great Trees of the LA/OC - Emina Darakjy

Jacaranda mimosifolia, commonly known as Jacaranda

Family: Bignoniaceae

Origin: Brazil and Argentina

The jacaranda is a very spectacular tree when in bloom. It is fast growing with a height of 25 to 50 feet, a spread of 50+ feet and is considered partially deciduous.

The leaves are light green and up to 2 feet long, each leaf is composed of dozens of ¼ inch leaflets. The leaves are delicate and fernlike.

The trunk bark is grayish brown, smooth at first turning rough as the tree matures. (photo 1)



Photo 1



In late spring the jacaranda tree gets covered with clusters of fragrant rich violet/blue trumpet shaped flowers that are 2 inches long. The tree continues to bloom sporadically throughout the summer. After that brown disk-shaped seed pods appear. (photo 2)

There is also a white flower variety which is rare called: *Jacaranda mimosifolia alba*. You can find one growing at the corner of south Lake Avenue and Del Mar in Pasadena. (photo 3)

The Jacaranda prefers a soil with good drainage, is drought tolerant when mature, does better in a sunny area but tolerates partial shade.

The Jacaranda requires a minimum parkway width of 5 feet. The damage to sidewalks from its roots is moderate.

The tree is susceptible to aphids and Phytophthora root disease.



Photo 3

Photo 2

In his 1988 book titled “Exceptional Trees of Los Angeles”, Donald R. Hodel describes a Jacaranda tree at 1870 South Los Robles in San Marino as “*The largest and most outstanding specimen in the area*” with a 50 feet height and a spread of over 50 feet.



I visited this tree recently with Mr. Hodel’s book in hand and found the tree to be even more spectacular than it did in 1988. (photo 4) The homeowner came out and was very happy to see her tree featured in a book. She moved into the house 13 years ago and heard from her realtor that the tree is famous!

You will find the jacaranda trees gracing many neighborhoods and parks in southern California, and if your plane happens to be landing at LAX in late spring, don’t forget to look out of your window, you will be rewarded with a breathtaking view of a sea of purple flowers.

Article and photos by Emina Darakjy

Photo 4





MEETING SCHEDULE 2021/22

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Oct 21	STS– Palm Pests w/ Ricardo Aguilar	online
Dec 16	STS Scholarship Awards/Officer Installation	TBD
TBD	Winter WTMS - Pests	TBD
Mar 17	TBD	
May 19	TBD	
TBD	Summer WTMS	
Aug 18	TBD	

Interested in hosting a program in your community? We are interested in hearing from you!
Contact heather@streetreeseminar.com

INDUSTRY EVENTS

Sept 30-Oct 1	Desert Green Annual Conference www.desert-green.org	Las Vegas, NV
October 6	Cavity Nesting Wildlife Webinar www.wcisa.net	online
October 14-15	CaUFC Annual Conference - Trees/Wood www.caufc.org	online
October 21	El cambio climático - Climate Change - Offered in Spanish www.wcisa.net	online
October 27	IUFC - Managing Risk to Promote a Safe and Healthy Urban Forest www.inlandurbanforestcouncil.org	online

MISSION

“To provide a forum for professionals to share their experience, knowledge and expertise for the benefit of the membership and the enhancement of Southern California’s Urban Forest”.



**Street Tree Seminar is your
Los Angeles / Orange
County Regional
Forest Council**

VISION

“To enhance the health and beauty of Southern California’s Urban Forest”.