



Massachusetts Arborists Association

Ellis Allen Receives Distinguished VISTA Award

On November 29, 2012 Ellis Allen, MCA, of Mashpee, MA was presented with the VISTA award. The award, presented during MAA's annual meeting, is the most prestigious honor that can be bestowed upon a MAA member.

The following is the VISTA award presentation given that evening by Ellis's longtime friend and colleague, Jim Ingram of Bartlett Tree Experts:

For over sixty years, Ellis Allen has been a vision of excellence within the tree care industry. Now, at age 82, the Massachusetts Arborist Association is bestowing upon Ellis their greatest honor, the VISTA Award (VISTA is an acronym for: Vision, Integrity, Service, Talent and Action). The award is given once a year to one tree care professional whose acts and deeds serve as a guide and challenge for all members of the industry.

As a Medfield, Massachusetts high school student, Ellis began his career in 1945, working for his first and best tree man mentor, his grandfather, where he learned how to remove, prune and spray — always properly tending trees. With keen vision for the future of tree care, Ellis excelled in arboriculture by graduating twice: once from Stockbridge in 1949 with an Arboricultural degree, and then he earned an Ornamental Horticulture degree from the University of Massachusetts in 1950.

After graduating, and armed with the latest science and technology, Ellis started his own company in 1950, Allen Tree Experts, where he quickly earned a reputation for quality work and Do-Whatever-It-Takes innovation. More importantly,

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MAA's 2011 VISTA Award recipient, Ellis Allen, MCA (center) is congratulated by MAA Past President Dick Stoner, MCA (left) and Jim Ingram of Bartlett Tree Experts. Jim, a friend and colleague of Ellis's, presented the award on behalf of the MAA.

NEWS

WINTER 2012

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Mike Maley, MCA was elected President of MAA on November 29, 2011. The following is an excerpt from his annual meeting speech:

I am honored to be elected president of the MAA. I am particularly pleased to take over the helm at a time when

our association is on such solid footing. 2011 was a banner year for the MAA. With nearly 40 new members, 37 new MCAs, standing-room-only crowds at our educational meetings, a brand new MCA Study Guide, and a strong financial picture things looks bright for our association.

I am pleased to welcome Jay Ippolito to our board of directors. He joins a group of very dedicated volunteer leaders who are committed to supporting our members through these challenging times.

The board of directors help to keep the MAA strong and our association is made even stronger by its involved members. We are grateful to the many MAA members who assist on the following committees: MCA Program, Education & Safety Saves, Green Industry Alliance, New England Grows, MAA Scholarship, Arbor Day of Service, ANSI Representation, and UMass Alliance. These volunteers are the backbone of our organization.

Every member who volunteers to help with an MAA project, no matter how big or how small, is a very important part of our association community. I urge all of you to get involved. The time you spend will come back to you many times over.... I guarantee it!

Thank you for electing me to serve as the president of this incredible association. I am humbled by those who have come before me and I look forward to a future that holds great promise for our industry and the MAA.

Mike Maley, MCA
President

The Massachusetts Arborists Association is a professional trade organization that serves the commercial arboriculture industry. The MAA advances the goals of its members through education, certification, networking, advocacy, research support and promotion of the value of arboriculture to the public.

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Allen Receives Distinguished VISTA Award

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Ellis married his wonderful and caring wife, Phyllis, in 1950, helping him realize every future success. Phyllis helped to develop the business by running the office as an ardent secretary and bookkeeper.

With Allen Tree Experts breaking new ground, Ellis also accepted the position of Tree Warden for the Town of Medfield, a responsibility his grandfather, George Allen had also carried before him for over 42 years.

Following in his grandfather's service-oriented footsteps in 1950, Ellis would go on to tend the trees of Medfield for another 34 years until 1984 — a family legacy of ethical and selfless tree care management — A record of 76 consecutive years that has never been matched in tree warden history.

In 1958, Ellis was among the first to become a Massachusetts Certified Arborist (MCA). For over 38 years from 1950 to 1988, Ellis continued to grow his business by working sometimes a demanding seven days a week. Ellis and Phyllis raised two fine sons, Jim and Jerry, who are excellent arborists, both becoming MCAs. Ellis also found time to serve as President of the Massachusetts Arborist Association, and he spent 15 years on the MCA Examining Board. Along his journey, Ellis became a proactive member of the highly revered National Arborist Association (now TCIA), the International Society of Arboriculture and American Society of Consulting Arborists, holding their highest credentials.

Moreover, with great integrity and talent, Ellis spent countless hours on the 8th and 9th Edition of the Guide for Plant Appraisal, serving as TCIA's Representative to the Council of Tree and Landscape Appraisers (CTLA).

Phyllis and Ellis sold Allen Tree Experts to Davey Tree in 1988. By 1990, Ellis decided to start his own arboricultural consulting firm, utilizing his expertise as a consulting arborist and working for Bartlett Tree Experts as a consultant to the Osterville Massachusetts office. He was soon promoted to Division Consulting Arborist, helping 38 arborists in 14 offices throughout New England.

Mentor, author and colleague: these are a few words that describe my friend Ellis. He depicts the saying that a very wise man once said to me, "There are five duties lining each mortal path that leads to life's far border — To live, to learn, to serve, to earn — To set one's house in order" ... Ellis has done them well. Vision, Integrity, Service, Talent and Action... Is it VISTA or is it Ellis Allen?

Save the Date! March 27, 2012

Safety Saves Program

March 27, 2012 • 2:30 – 4:30 p.m.
MHS Elm Bank Reservation • Wellesley, MA

Guidelines for Arboricultural Crane Use

Instructors: Dennis Ryan, MCA, University of Massachusetts Amherst;
Peter Gerstenberger, TCIA; and Dan Mayer, MCA, Mayer Tree Service

Come hear an introduction to the new Z-133 Standards for Crane Use, review OSHA Crane issues, and see a demonstration of proper crane use.

Dinner Meeting

March 27, 2012 • 5:00 p.m.
Ken's Steak House • Framingham, MA

Diagnosing Tree Soil Problems

Speaker: Richard G. Rathjens, Ph.D., Senior Agronomist, The Davey Institute, Kent, Ohio

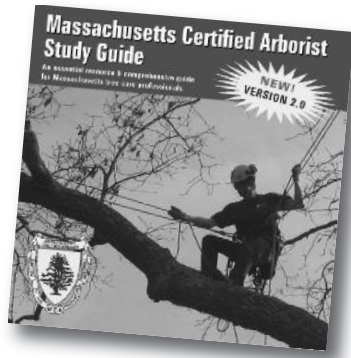
It has been estimated that 80% of shade tree disorders can be attributed to their soil environment. Unfortunately, because arborists do not have access to the root zone of plants, the true cause of many tree maladies go undetected. This presentation will discuss plant symptoms, diagnostic tests and treatments for seven soil-related tree problems.

Thank You to our Sponsor: The Davey Tree Expert Company • Kent, Ohio • www.Davey.com



New MCA Study Guide Version 2.0

An essential resource & comprehensive guide for Massachusetts tree care professionals.



MAA is pleased to announce that the newly updated Massachusetts Certified Arborist (MCA) Study Guide version 2.0 will be launched at New England Grows — February 1 – 3, 2012 in Boston, MA.

The updated and improved MCA Study Guide CD serves as a primer for MCA exam candidates, as well as a comprehensive resource for tree care professionals. The new study guide was developed by the MCA examining committee along with a team of experts from the University of Massachusetts including Mike Davidsohn, Dennis Ryan and Bob Childs.

“We are enormously grateful to the dedicated members of the MCA examining committee,” said MAA president Mike Maley, MCA. “This new study guide represents years of painstaking work on the part of our volunteers. Their professionalism and careful attention to detail really shows in the final product — it’s a fantastic industry resource!” he said.

The new study guide features updated tutorials, improved tree identification, best practices, user-friendly navigation, as well as two new chapters: *Wood Decay in Urban Trees* by Chris Luley, Ph.D. and *Plant Health Care & Integrated Pest Management* by Bob Childs.

“We are proud to have produced this effective study guide that will also serve as a reference guide with practical information on topics ranging from tree biology and identification to current safety regulations” said MCA Committee Chairman, Dennis Panu, MCA. “I tip my hat to everyone who served alongside me on the study guide revision committee — job well done!” he concluded.

Thanks to the MCA Study Guide Revision Committee who worked so hard to put together the new MCA Study Guide CD version 2.0.

Dennis Panu, MCA, Chairman
Dennis Panu, Arborist, Inc.

Natascha Batchelor, MCA
Davey Tree Expert Company

Dan McCarthy, CTSP, MCA
Mayer Tree Service

Ron Yapple, MCA
Race Mountain Tree Service

The MCA is a voluntary certification program initiated in 1957 by leading Massachusetts arborists. The MCA examination is designed to assess the fundamental knowledge and core competencies that all tree care professionals should possess, regardless of their area of practice. Currently, about 900 tree care professionals have earned the designation of Massachusetts Certified Arborists.

The MCA Examination is held twice a year — in early April and October. It is typically held at 8:30 a.m. at the MHS Elm Bank Reservation in Wellesley, Massachusetts. Registration is required at least two weeks prior to the examination. The first exam based on the material found in the new MCA Study Guide version 2.0 will be held on Friday, October 5, 2012.

The MCA Study Guide CD version 2.0 is available for \$95 to MAA members and \$195 for non-members. **Those who currently hold version 1.0 of the MCA Study Guide can upgrade to the latest version for \$35.00. This special upgrade offer is only available through March 30, 2012.** Examination fees are \$75 for MAA members and \$150 for non-members.

To obtain the new Study Guide, register for the MCA exam, or for further information please visit the MAA website at www.MassArbor.org or call (508) 653-3320.

MCA Dates to Remember

Thursday, February 2, 2012

3:30 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.

New MCA Study Guide &
Exam Overview

At New England Grows
BCEC Room 204-B
Boston, MA

February 15, 2012

MCA recertification tally sheets (RTS) are due. *Turn them in on time to avoid paying a late fee.*

March 30, 2012

Last day for Study Guide version 1.0 holders to upgrade to version 2.0 for \$35.00 discount rate

April 13, 2012

MCA Exam

(last exam to test on material from Study Guide Version 1.0)
MHS Elm Bank Reservation
Wellesley, MA
Pre-registration is required

October 5, 2012

MCA Exam

(first exam to test on material from new Study Guide Version 2.0)
MHS Elm Bank Reservation
Wellesley, MA
Pre-registration is required

MAA's 2012 Leadership Elected

MAA's annual meeting and election of officers was held on Tuesday, November 29, 2011 at Ken's Steak House in Framingham, MA. Outgoing President Dick Stoner, MCA was recognized for his leadership, and many contributions in 2011. MAA's new President, Mike Maley, MCA spoke of MAA's plans for 2012 and thanked the members for making MAA a strong and meaningful organization.

President

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MCA Representative

Ron Yaple, MCA
Race Mountain Tree Services, Inc.
Sheffield, MA
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Thank you Dick Stoner:
At the MAA's annual meeting, Mike Maley (right) said, "I would like to thank Dick Stoner for everything he has done for the MAA. His leadership as president in 2011, and his participation on the board of directors for the past few years, has set us on a clear course that will serve this organization well into the future."



MAA Board of Directors Front row (l-r): Virginia Wood, Executive Director; Mike Maley, MCA, President; and John Terault, Jr., MCA, Vice President. Back row (l-r): Jay Ippolito, MCA, MCLP, Director; Richard Herfurth, MCA, Director; Marc Hansen, MCA, Director; and Greg Mosman, MCA, Secretary/Treasurer. Missing from picture: Dick Stoner, MCA, Past President.

MAA's November Education Programs Draw Record Crowds

On November 29, 2011, MAA presented a *Safety Saves Seminar* featuring renowned industry expert Tom Smiley, Ph.D. of the Bartlett Tree Research Lab in Charlotte, North Carolina. Dr. Smiley's topic was *An Update on Tree Risk Assessment* and it attracted a record-breaking crowd for *Safety Saves* seminars. Later that night at the annual meeting, VISTA award winner Ellis Allen, MCA presented: *A Look at the Early Care of Trees*. Ellis allowed MAA members to take a step back in time to see how arborists once cared for trees and the equipment and tools with which they worked. It was an enjoyable and educational presentation for all. Many thanks to Bartlett for sponsoring the MAA's annual meeting.

In this feature, we get to know active MAA members from whose perspectives and experience we can all learn. Featured members have shown themselves to be great representatives of our profession and our association.



Lenny Cleaves
 Owner
 Cleaves Co., Inc.
 Needham, MA

When did you join the MAA? I joined the MAA in the early '70s when I started taking Arboriculture courses at night at Middlesex College and the Waltham Field Station. Professors Cliff Chater and Dr. Castonis were my teachers.

What was your first job in the industry? When I finished my four-year deployment with the U.S. Navy in 1970, I could not find a job because of a recession (sound familiar?). A friend of mine introduced me to Bob Greymont who hired me for a temporary, part-time job plowing snow. After the last snow storm of the year I still had not found a job in my field —

mechanics — and Bob made me an offer to come work for him in his tree business. He said, “Try it. You might like it.” He was right! I fell in love with the Arboriculture industry and worked for Bob Greymont for 15 years.

Where did you go from there? I started out working in the field on tree jobs dragging brush, spraying and fertilizing trees, grinding stumps and maintaining the equipment. As Greymont Tree Service grew and became Hartney Greymont, I was more involved with managing the fleet of trucks and equipment. With my love for equipment, I found an opportunity to start Cleaves Company in 1985. It's all worked out quite well. With my past experience working in the tree care industry for 15 years and my mechanical knowledge of the equipment, I know what my customers need and how to help them.

Who was your mentor when you were first starting out in the business and why? Bob Greymont was one of my mentors. He was extremely tough on me but taught me so much about the arboriculture industry and business, in general.

What's the best business advice you've ever received? To develop systems to organize your business. “If you can't track it, you can't manage it!”

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Find Great Deals and Business Solutions at New England Grows

February 1-3, 2012

Boston Convention & Exhibition Center

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New England Grows is right around the corner! Make plans now to join fellow MAA members at this important green industry event and help celebrate the 20th anniversary of New England Grows.

Quality Education We've got some of the industry's brightest minds addressing the top issues of today and tomorrow. Some of the seminars you can attend include: Modern Techniques for Vegetation Management; Advanced Pruning Techniques for New England Trees; Arboriculture: Past, Present & Future; Right Tree, Right Place: Selecting Utility Trees; What's Wrong with that Tree?, and many more, including business topics to help you keep your organization competitive in today's challenging marketplace. For a full list of educational offerings, visit www.NewEnglandGrows.org.

Valuable CEUs New England Grows is one-stop shopping for your CEU needs. You'll find numerous opportunities to earn credits for ISA, CTSP, NOFA and pesticide recertification. If you are a Massachusetts Certified Arborist, you will receive one MCA credit for each day that you attend New England Grows. Visit the website and click on "CEU chart" under Education for complete information.

Energized Exposition At this year's show, you'll find veteran exhibitors, as well as a host of new suppliers with great deals and recession-defying ideas you'll find only at New England Grows.

New this year: Ask the Expert Power Sessions in the Expo Classroom, located just beyond the Common, will feature education right on the tradeshow floor presented by leading suppliers and frontline industry leaders.

Planning Your Stay in Boston On the New England Grows website, you can click on "Hotel/Travel" and you'll find information on parking, accommodations, and links to information about area attractions. Another way to customize your experience is to download a free mobile app called "myBCEC." It provides quick convention center, seminar, restaurant, parking and travel updates at the show.

Stay Connected Become a New England Grows' fan on Facebook for the latest information and follow us on Twitter for updates during the show.

New England Grows registration is \$45.00 per person before January 16, 2012 and \$65.00 thereafter. When 4 or more people from the same company sign up before January 16, the price per person is just \$39.00.

Low registration fees, world-class education, and exclusive deals on the tradeshow floor make New England Grows the best place to do business this winter. To learn more and to register visit: www.NewEnglandGrows.org.

New England Grows 2012 SCHEDULE

Wednesday, February 1

Seminars: 9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.
Exposition: 10:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Thursday, February 2

Seminars: 9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.
Exposition: 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Friday, February 3

Seminars: 9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.
Exposition: 8:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Find out more...

New & Improved MCA Study Guide & Exam Overview

Thursday, February 2, 2012

3:30 – 4:00 p.m.

Room 204-B

Boston Convention & Exhibition Center

New Badge Icons

Show us who you are!

As you look around this year's event, you'll see your colleagues wearing colorful badge icons designed to call attention to the many moving parts that make up today's green industry. Be sure to stop by the Sticker Station in Registration and choose your tree care icon...as well as any other icons that represent the roles you play. Ideally, the new badge icons will help spark conversation, facilitate collaboration, and illustrate the depth of our local green industry. So, "show us who you are" and have some fun along the way!

Grows! Icon Key



Great Flowering Landscape Shrubs

By Vincent A. Simeone

Flowering shrubs are indeed the backbone of the landscape offering a rich palette of textures, colors and forms. Each shrub can provide a diverse selection of ornamental features such as foliage, flowers, fruit and bark texture. They can also present year round interest when effectively combined with herbaceous plants and other desirable garden plants. A well-designed garden possesses a balanced mixture of plants that will provide a succession of horticultural interest throughout the year. If used correctly, flowering shrubs will provide years of enjoyment in the garden and enhance other plantings such as perennials, vines and trees while softening buildings and garden structures.

In my book, *Great Flowering Landscape Shrubs* (Ball, 2005) I celebrate the renaissance of many old fashioned favorites such as Hydrangea, Viburnum, Spirea and Lilac while offering some new and improved cultivars and lesser-known selections. These versatile shrubs offer desirable ornamental characteristics, cultural adaptability, pest resistance (including deer resistance), drought tolerance and function in the landscape. All of these factors have a considerable influence on the availability of the plant in the horticultural community. Superior varieties of shrubs that are both attractive and versatile are

steadily gaining in popularity on the retail market. This new breed of plants requires less maintenance and offers superior horticultural interest for longer periods of time.

Although flowering shrubs are often thought of as spring bloomers, a considerable amount of shrubs also bloom in the summer and fall months. These garden gems often possess attractive foliage, fall color, fruit and bark interest. I am truly excited about the ongoing research and selections of genera such as *Abelia*, *Callicarpa*, *Hydrangea*, *Rosa* and *Viburnum*. Glossy *Abelia* (*Abelia x grandiflora* – Zone 6) blooms in the Northeastern United States from June until the first hard frost in October. The red fall foliage and star shaped flower stalks that persist after the flowers fade provide added fall and early winter interest. But now, there are also many new and exciting cultivars and species of *Abelia* such as ‘Rose Creek’, ‘Canyon Creek’ as well as *Abelia chinensis* (Zone 5) and *Abelia mosanensis* (Zone 4). These superior selections offer compact habit, fragrance, and fall interest. Many consider *Viburnum* the royalty of garden shrubs and they are treasured for their unsurpassed beauty and versatility in the landscape. Depending on the species chosen, these prized shrubs frequently provide three

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* New membership rate of \$195 is available to first-time, new members only. Limited time offer, call Brenda or David for details.

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TREE CARE INDUSTRY ASSOCIATION • 136 Harvey Road, Suite 101, Londonderry, NH • 1-800-733-2622 • membership@tcia.org

Hand-Held Phone Use Banned for Drivers of Heavy Commercial Vehicles

Effective January 3, 2012, drivers of buses and heavy commercial motor vehicles (over 26,001 pounds) on interstate routes, may not use hand-held mobile devices while driving.

The latest in the effort to end distracted driving, this ruling was published in early December by the Department of Transportation.

The rule does allow the use of “compliant” phones such as hands-free mobile devices, but it restricts drivers from the following:

- Holding a mobile telephone to conduct a voice communication
- Dialing a mobile phone by pressing more than a single button
- Reaching for a mobile phone in an unacceptable and unsafe manner

For more information, visit the Department of Transportation website, www.fmcsa.dot.gov.

The information above was provided by the MAA's insurance advisor, McSweeney & Ricci Insurance Agency, Inc. For more information, contact Tim Kane at (800) 643-8143 or visit www.mcsweeneyricci.com.

Stockbridge School “Fund for the Future”

This past fall, Stockbridge School Director, Bill Mitchell, spoke to MAA members at a dinner meeting regarding the school's accomplishments, goals, and needs.

He told them about the newly formed Stockbridge School Advisory Board, created by a group of alumni committed to supporting the mission of the school. The board's first major project is establishing the “Fund for the Future” to support current students at risk of leaving school because of financial hardships. The goal of the fund is to raise a minimum of \$300,000 to ensure that over the next ten years at least \$30,000 per year will be available to students in good academic standing who need aid. An initial commitment of \$80,000 has been made by the members of the Stockbridge School Advisory Board.

The MAA has pledged \$10,000 in support of the Stockbridge Fund for the Future. Bill Mitchell thanked the MAA for their generous donation and encouraged MAA members to follow their association's lead and make a contribution to help support Stockbridge students in need.

For more information about this fund, or to contribute, contact Rick Robar in the College of Natural Sciences at (413) 577-1692 or rrobar@cns.umass.edu.



Massachusetts Arborists Association

Maltby & Company Helps Transform Dorchester Athletic Facilities – The company, along with ESPN's RISE UP program, helped Dorchester Education Complex (previously Dorchester High School) transform their athletic fields and outdoor track. ESPN's original series, RISE UP, chose the Dorchester school as one of four nationwide to receive a renovation of its athletic facilities. The story of the transformation was aired on ESPN in September. Maltby & Company donated crews to prune and remove trees for the high school's outdoor track and athletic fields. Congratulations to Maltby & Company for their accomplishment and generosity.

MAA Supports Stockbridge School and UMass Amherst – MAA was recently invited to participate in the dedication of the school's new Founders Circle Wall in Amherst. In addition to being a Founders Circle member, MAA was recognized as a Patron for establishment of the MAA's Endowed Chair of Commercial Arboriculture at UMass-Amherst.



Past MAA President Mike Lueders, MCA represented the MAA at the Founders Circle Dinner at UMass-Amherst on November 4, 2011.

Eastern U.S. Forests Not Keeping Pace with Climate Change – According to Science Daily, more than half of eastern U.S. tree species examined in a massive new Duke University-led study aren't adapting to climate change as quickly or consistently as predicted. To read more about this study, visit www.sciencedaily.com/releases/2011/10/111.

Advertise in the MAA Newsletter

The MAA's quarterly newsletter is now accepting advertising. The newsletter is mailed to 650 tree care professionals. For more information, visit www.MassArbor.org, or contact Advertising Manager Diane Zinck at dzinck@MassArbor.org. Get your name out there!



MASSACHUSETTS ARBORISTS ASSOCIATION
ARBOR DAY of SERVICE

April 27, 2012

It will be here before you know it! MAA's Arbor Day of Service (ADoS) will be celebrated on Friday, April 27, 2012. Have you picked a volunteer project in your community yet? The possibilities are endless and your project can be big or small...it's up to you.

Is there a local school playground that could be made safer with some pruning? How about a senior center that could benefit from tree plantings? What could you do to improve the trees at your town hall, Common, or library? In these times of deep budget cuts, community leaders are forced to make difficult decisions and community trees are often neglected. Professional tree care provided by MAA volunteers goes a long way toward turning the tide. When you participate in ADoS, you're creating awareness about the importance of proper tree care while giving back in your own community. Everybody wins!

Right now, it's time to help us ramp up for the Arbor Day of Service 2012 by visiting the project ideas listing at www.MassArbor.org and:

- Add any new project(s) you plan to take on in April 2012
- Check out the available projects (if you're looking for ideas) and sign up for your 2012 choice
- Update any project ideas that you may have previously posted
- Remove any projects that have already been completed
- Add any new project ideas for consideration by fellow members

As you start your preparations, the ADoS project idea listing is a great place to gain inspiration. Here's a sampling of a few projects ideas you'll find when you visit:

Hancock

Hancock Shaker Village

Hancock Shaker Village is a 750 acre non-profit national historic landmark founded in 1960. The museum opened in 1961 and continues to preserve and restore 20 significant buildings, farm, meadow and woodland, a watershed and hiking trails. Any donated service to remove large Blue Spruce trees which are posing danger to this oldest and most comprehensively interpreted Shaker site in America would be publicly recognized and very much appreciated.

Contact Person: Maribeth Cellana

Phone: (413) 443.0188 x115

Millis

Cedariver

Cedariver boasts beautiful frontage along the Charles River, and serves as a prime spot for paddlers to land their boats and take a hike. The mile-long cart path loop lets you explore the more than 50 acres of open fields, woodlands, and pristine riverbank. Situated within a river environment serving both as a wildlife corridor and as part of Army Corps of Engineers' flood-control efforts, this 55-acre reservation achieves multiple conservation goals. Work requested includes pruning champion oak tree for health, felling a large pine, and pruning a few remaining apple trees and planting 8-10 more. Also, pruning encroaching trees along edge of field and stonewalls.

Contact Person: Mike Francis

Phone: (508) 785-0339

Natick

Dell Park Cemetery

The Dell Park Cemetery is located along the banks of Fiske Pond, on the north side of Pond Street. Natick's oldest operating cemetery, Dell Park was originally founded as the town burying grounds in 1849. Vice President Henry Wilson led the dedication of the Old Dell. In 1890 "Lakeside Cemetery" to the west was purchased and became known as New Dell. Work requested includes removing seven (7) white pines, safety pruning numerous shade trees in old and new areas of park, and planting 5-10 new shade trees.

Contact Person: George Fiske

Phone: (508) 395-3332

Sponsors Welcome!

The MAA Arbor Day of Service program offers many opportunities for industry vendors to show their support. For more information, visit the website or contact Jenn Barich at jbarich@MassArbor.org.

Committee

Mike Maley, MCA, *Chairman*
Cedarlawn Tree
Ashland, MA

John Terault, Jr., MCA, *Co-Chairman*
Asplundh Tree Expert Co.
Shutesbury, MA

Mike Lueders, MCA, MCLP
Lueders Tree & Landscape
Medfield, MA

Richard Herfurth, MCA
Bartlett Tree Expert Co.
Lyndeborough, NH

Greg Mosman, MCA
Boston Parks & Recreation
Boston, MA

Dick Stoner, MCA
Stoner Trees & Shrubs
Sherborn, MA

The Beacon Hill Report

By Stephen A. Boksanski
MAA's Legislative Agent



The Legislature concluded formal business on Wednesday, November 16th with a hectic pace and high level of activity that typically precedes the end of year deadline. While this deadline helps create an environment where it forces action on some urgent matters, it doesn't mean it's the end of the road for the vast majority of bills pending at various stages of the legislative process. In 1995, the Legislature's Joint Rules were

changed to allow for bills to carry-over from one calendar year to the next with the exception of appropriation bills.

The last 48 hours of the legislative session was marked by several major policy accomplishments that received final approval and were sent to the Governor for his consideration, including: allowing the development of three resort style casinos and one stand alone slot facility, establishing new congressional districts, implementing new public employee pension reforms, lifting the cap on the number of alcoholic beverage licenses chain food stores can own, and protecting transgender people from discrimination in housing and the workplace.

Looking ahead... The Legislature formally got underway on the first Wednesday in January and the committee deadline to make a recommendation on bills is the second Wednesday in March. The annual budget, health care reform, habitual criminal offenders, energy costs, and an economic development package are shaping up as priorities for 2012.

Below is a summary and update of the issues on the Green Industry Alliance's agenda:

- **Fertilizer Pre-Emption (Senate Budget, S.333)** This bill would give the Department of Agricultural Resources sole authority over the regulation of fertilizer. The DAR would also be directed to work with the UMass Extension School on all written materials published by the state. The Senate included this language as part of its budget but it did not survive conference committee. The legislation had a public hearing before the Joint Committee on Environment, Natural Resources and Agriculture on July 21, 2011 and a redrafted bill out of committee favorably on October 19, 2011. The bill (now S.2046) was referred to the Senate Committee on Ways and Means for further consideration. Given that the Senate has endorsed this by inclusion in its FY12 budget, we expect favorable action on this in early 2012.
- **Pesticides Legislation (H.228)** that establishes a pesticide advisory committee and authorizes them to develop a priority toxic pesticide list and ban the use of products on said list. The bill also calls for the establishment of a pesticide use reporting system that would include new requirements for applicators.

This bill had a public hearing before the Joint Committee on Environment, Natural Resources and Agriculture on July 12th and remains pending before the committee. We will continue to monitor this and reiterate GIA's opposition.

- **Landscape Architect (H.2027, H.3266)** These bills had a public hearing on Tuesday, June 21st before the Joint Committee on Consumer Protection and Professional Licensure. These are competing bills relative to a landscape architect practice law and have the potential to disrupt current market boundaries and create an unlevel playing field. Monique Allen, on behalf of the Massachusetts Association of Landscape Professionals (MLP), took to the stand and offered comments questioning the need for either bill. Proponents turned out to support the bill but the committee appeared concerned with the lack of consensus on this issue.
- **Safer Alternatives to Toxic Chemicals** Two bills (H.1136, S.397) had a public hearing before the Joint Committee on the Environment, Natural Resources and Agriculture on June 12, 2011 and a committee redraft (S.2079) was recently reported out of committee with a favorable report. The bill has been sent to the Senate Committee on Ways and Means for further consideration. Given the broad-based coalition, the multi-year effort to educate legislators and offer opposition, and the economic environment, we are optimistic that by continuing to vigorously oppose, this matter can ultimately be defeated again. However, the Senate has approved similar legislation in recent years and this issue will require a great effort from stakeholders.
- **Small Group Health Purchasing Cooperatives** The Division of Insurance has qualified 45 organizations as approved associations and continues to review the applications from organizations that hope to become qualified purchasing cooperatives. There is no firm deadline for the Division to complete the approval process and therefore no timetable for us to expect the cooperatives to be functional. We will continue our dialogue with the Division and monitor this situation.
- **Water Conservation (S.83, S.327)** Legislation to license irrigation contractors (S.83) had a public hearing before the Joint Committee on Consumer Protection and Professional Licensure on May 17th and members of the IANE were on hand to provide testimony. We have had numerous conversations with staff and we expect the committee to look at moving this forward. The GIA also submitted testimony in support. Legislation requiring system interruption devices for all new irrigation systems (S.327) had a public hearing before the Joint Committee on Environment, Natural Resources and Agriculture on July 14, 2011. The GIA submitted testimony in support and representatives of the IANE were on hand to deliver oral testimony and answer questions of the members. GIA representatives met with Chairwoman Gobi and staff to discuss S.327 in greater detail and requested a favorable recommendation.

Member Spotlight

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What advice would you share with people starting out in arboriculture today? Go to work for a large, full service tree care company that has a good training program to learn how it's done the right and safe way. It's easier than trying to learn it the hard way, or by trial and error on your own.

Since the beginning of your career, what is the biggest change you've seen in the tree care industry? There are a lot more tree care companies today than when I first started out. Also, the tools and equipment have become more efficient and safer.

What is the next "game-changer" you see on the horizon for the tree care industry? Technology is changing the way we perform tree care today and will continue to progressively change the way we do business in the future.

What's your favorite tree? Why?

European cutleaf weeping birch, single stem. Although they are very high maintenance, they are so beautiful with their long spindles and sharp cut leaves.

What's your favorite/most useful:

Equipment? Our heavy-duty ramp truck. We use it for so many different jobs.

Product? My daily cup of coffee to help keep me going.

Technology? The computer systems and software saves us so much time, and the wireless communications.

What have you enjoyed most about being an MAA member? I enjoy the continuing education programs that keep us up-to-date on the latest industry technology and the camaraderie of our fellow members over the years.

Is there anything else you'd like to share with your fellow MAA members? Be vigilant, stay aware of you environment, and be safe.

Great Flowering Landscape Shrubs

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seasons of interest with spring or summer blooms, excellent rich green foliage, ornamental fruit and brilliant fall foliage color. Among my favorites are cultivars 'Conoy', 'Mary Milton' and Cardinal Candy™. Similarly, while Hydrangeas have been largely overlooked over the past two decades, in recent years hundreds of exciting species and new varieties now blanket local garden centers, nurseries and public gardens. Hydrangea varieties these days come in a wide variety of flavors too numerous to mention. The expanding world of Hydrangeas is better explored in the local nursery field, garden center or public garden.

Since my book on shrubs was published in 2005, I have encountered many new and underutilized genera along the garden path that thrive in northeastern gardens including *Adina*, *Camellia*, *Edgeworthia*, *Heptacodium*, *Illicium*, *Indigofera* and more. And let's not forget about the incredible surge of landscape roses onto the market!

With so many outstanding shrubs available today, professionals and home gardeners alike have a myriad of possibilities in creating the perfect landscape. Whether your goal is to establish a colorful shrub border, functional foundation planting or simple mass planting, incorporating flowering shrubs into the landscape is essential. Flowering shrubs present us with endless possibilities in an ever-changing garden environment.

Vincent A. Simeone will be speaking at New England Grows on Friday, February 3, 2012 at 9:00 a.m. His seminar topic is: Everything Old is New Again: Great Flowering Landscape Shrubs. Vincent is a Horticulturist, Garden Writer, and Lecturer from Oyster Bay, NY. For the past 18 years, he has worked in public horticulture as Director of the Planting Fields Arboretum State Historic Park in New York. He is the author of four books.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

February 1-3, 2012
New England Grows!
Boston Convention &
Exhibition Center
Boston, MA
www.NewEnglandGrows.org

February 2, 2012
New MCA Study Guide &
Exam Overview
3:30 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.
Boston Convention &
Exhibition Center
Room 204-B

February 21-24, 2012
ASCA 2012
Consulting Academy
Crowne Plaza
Philadelphia, PA
www.asca-consultants.org

March 27, 2012
MAA Safety Saves Seminar
2:20 – 4:30 p.m.
Arboricultural Crane Use
With Dennis Ryan, MCA,
Peter Gerstenberger, and
Dan Mayer, MCA
MHS Elm Bank Reservation
Wellesley, MA
www.MassArbor.org
and
MAA Dinner Meeting
5:00 p.m.
Diagnosing Tree Soil Problems
with Richard G. Rathjens,
Ph.D., The Davey Institute,
Kent, OH
Ken's Steak House,
Framingham, MA
www.MassArbor.org

April 13, 2012
MCA Exam
(Study Guide version 1.0)
8:30 a.m.
MHS Elm Bank Reservation
Wellesley, MA
www.MassArbor.org

April 24, 2012
MAA Dinner Meeting
5:00 p.m.
Ken's Steak House
Framingham, MA
www.MassArbor.org

April 27, 2012
MAA Arbor Day of Service
www.MassArbor.org

Welcome New Members

The MAA would like to welcome the following new members:

Christopher Gallagher
Franklin, MA

Justin Haggerty
Crystal Brook Landscaping
Wilbraham, MA

Nathan Harlow, MCA
Harrison &
Associates, Inc.
Norfolk, MA

Robb Morrison, MCA
Morrison Tree Service
North Chatham, MA

Lawrence Sortwell, MCA
Cicoria Tree &
Crane Service
Topsfield, MA

Christopher Turner, MCA
Forest Keepers Tree Care
Hyannis, MA



Massachusetts Arborists Association

8-D Pleasant Street South

Natick, MA 01760

WINTER 2012