

Hoosier Arborist

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Details on page 5.**



WINTER

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Mission Statement

The Indiana Arborist Association strives to enhance the quality of life for Indiana residents by using scientifically based tree care practices. We endeavor to serve the needs of our members by fostering opportunities for training, education, and the exchange of ideas, while encouraging high ethical standards.



A note from the President...

President
Kristalle Wadsworth

Hello IAA Members,

Hello IAA Members,

I hope this note finds you and your loved ones safe and well.

I hope to see many of you, even virtually, January 26-29, 2021 for the 74th Indiana Arborist Conference! I am looking forward to the conference and I hope you are as well!

I also would like to take a moment to thank the IAA Board and many Committee Members, and especially our Executive Director, Lindsey Purcell. Serving as President for 2020 was challenging, but also a very rewarding experience. I highly recommend you

volunteer for a Committee or at least for one of the Special Events the IAA hosts.

Please join me in welcoming the new IAA President for 2021 - Cody Flint. I am confident Cody will do an amazing job and look forward to his leadership. Please reach out to the IAA Board Members if you need anything, we are always willing help.

I hope you and your families stay safe, well, and I look forward to the time we can be together again,

Kristalle

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Please join us for the 2021 Indiana Arborist Association Virtual Annual Conference

While we can't be together in person this year, we can continue to learn with each other and earn those continuing education units (CEU). Hear the most current research and information from internationally and nationally known experts about emerging trends and BMPs. Join us February 5th for a live Q and A session with our speakers.

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Ed Gilman



Duncan Slater

See internationally recognized pruning research expert and University of Florida professor Emeritus Dr. Ed Gilman(left) and world-renowned UK researcher Dr. Duncan Slater(right) among many others.

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The conference site will contain 3 full days of urban forestry and arboricultural content with CEU and CCH opportunities. Sign up as an IAA member and save on

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Please visit: www.indiana-arborist.org to register

Equipment Maintenance: Winterization

John Xanders, IAA Board Secretary

Fellow Arborists,

I hope you are all safe and well out there. I myself am looking forward to the end of the 2020 and hoping for some good outcomes with our world crisis in 2021. Hopefully... One thing is for sure, I will undoubtedly miss seeing all your faces and catching up at the annual conference. I really look forward to the days when we can get our conference back to the way it was. I know we will. Right now we need to make the best of every situation, play things safe, and make sure we end up on other side of this alive and healthy.

Part of living in the Midwest in this industry means the joy of winter and all that comes with it. Not only is it harder on our bodies to complete our daily grind, it is also hard on our equipment. Especially if you store your equipment outside. Hydraulics are a major component to our machinery and when it is bitter cold outside, it can majorly slow things down. Engine oil is also a major factor in how well our machinery will run during the winter months. It is recommended to use lighter oil for use in colder temperatures. Some of you have been doing this long enough to know these tips and could probably add a few more, but here are some tips for keeping your equipment running during the cold months:

- Use a low viscosity engine/hydraulic oil so it can flow faster. Be sure to change your oil before and after the winter season.
- Ideally, a 50/50 ratio of coolant and water will keep your engine running, however, in very cold climates you might want to use 70 to 30 coolant to water ratio to prevent



water from freezing.

- It is a good idea to check the alternator and test

the current of the battery. Your battery terminals need to be clean and rust free, otherwise, the battery will drain slowly and you will end up with a dead battery. We all know how frustrating that can be. When the equipment is stored and there are no plans to use it for an extended period of time, remove the batteries and store them inside a building or warehouse. If the battery is not being used for an extended period of time, then you will need to hook up a tender to the battery connected to prevent it from drain completely.

- Fuel and proper tire pressure are two important components that should be checked during and before the winter season. Tires should be checked for the proper tire pressure and look for wear marks on the tire. Low temperatures will reduce the tire pressure so if you have the option, consider to use track mounted equipment instead of tire-mounted equipment.
- Fuel tanks shall be maintained full, to prevent condensation inside the tank and along the fuel lines. You can use a fuel treatment that can be added to diesel or fuel tanks that will thaw frozen fuel filters, liquefy fuel and remove moisture from the lines and tank. Keep always a spare filter handy.
- Grease Points - Properly grease all areas to prevent moisture from building up. Remember to use low-temp lube as recommended by manufacturers.
- DEF - Newer equipment uses DEF, diesel exhaust fluid, but this one will freeze at 10 degrees or below. Make sure that there is a way to heat and thaw frozen DEF to keep your equipment running.
- Switch your chainsaws into “winter mode” to help keep the engine warm. If you are not sure how to do this check YouTube for some good videos.

Thanks for your time as always and I hope you all have a safe and profitable winter. I will look forward to seeing you in 2021!

Stay Warm,

Jon Xanders, IAA Board Secretary

Reference:

Rodriguez, J. (n.d.). Use These Winter Care Maintenance Tips for Your Construction Equipment. Retrieved November 30, 2020, from <https://www.thebalancesmb.com/construction-equipment-winter-care-maintenance-tips-844967>

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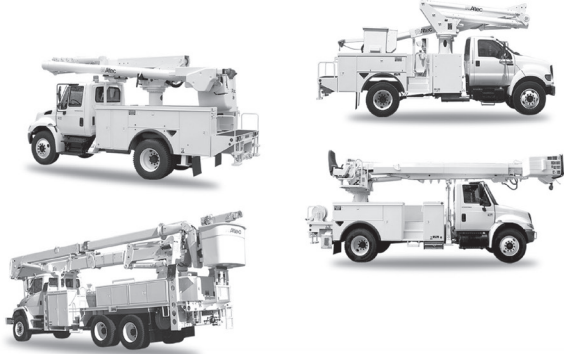


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Dormant-stem treatments: catching up & getting ahead

Stacie Songer, Supplier Representative

When unexpected factors impede your ability to complete planned treatment cycles, incompatible brush species can flourish, increasing maintenance costs and labor requirements for the next foliar season. By extending the treatment window, dormant-stem applications can effectively curb these potential setbacks.

At one point or another, most vegetation management professionals will encounter roadblocks that unexpectedly inhibit their ability to effectively treat managed lands during a foliar season. From weather complications to labor insufficiencies, a variety of factors can impede results for any planned treatment cycle and jeopardize the progress of incompatible brush control programs. When acres of utility rights-of-way or miles of roadside are left untreated, incompatible brush species are given the opportunity to develop, which only leads to more work and higher maintenance costs as time goes on.

Brush can grow between 20% and 40% from one year to the next, so utility and roadside managers must employ alternative methods of control to ensure the costly development of target plant species does not take place on untreated land. For professionals looking to optimize incompatible brush control beyond the growing season, dormant-stem treatments provide a viable and economical solution.

Extending the effective treatment window

When it comes to treating conifers like hemlock, cedar and pine, or hardwoods like maple and oak, dormant-stem treatments have been proven to increase incompatible brush control by 85% throughout roadsides and utility right-of-way corridors. Growth of untreated brush species only leads to more work and higher product inventory needs for the next foliar season, but dormant-stem treatments extend the treatment window to reduce future labor requirements and maintenance costs.

Limiting brown-out

The brown-out effect is often a subject of concern among the general public. While herbicide treatments

are effective in targeting incompatible brush species, the visual results, which may include brown-out, can alarm members of surrounding communities. That's what makes dormant-stem treatments all the more desirable for today's practitioners. This strategy is used to target a variety of species after fall leaf senescence, but most targeted plants — aside from evergreen species — won't leaf out in the spring. And while reducing the brown-out effect can help to reduce public visibility and subsequent scrutiny, the use of selective herbicides can help to ensure only targeted species are controlled, thereby supplementing spring greenup for grass and other desirable plants.

Application methods and timing

Once targeted brush species have completely lost their leaves, a variety of application methods can be used for effective brush control from late fall to early spring. Whereas low-volume pump sprayers and hydraulic units are best suited for individual stem treatments throughout utility sites, high-volume applications are recommended for areas in which increased stem densities are encountered. Thorough coverage is necessary for best results, and the use of basal oils is recommended to improve herbicide penetration into the trunk, branches and stems of each tree. For both high- and low-volume applications, start spraying at the crown of each stem and work all the way down to ensure effective treatment of the entire stem and all terminal buds.

For roadside applications, broadcast treatments can be made by air or ground-rig booms. For ground-based applications, keep booms high enough to provide thorough coverage, but low enough to mitigate the chance of drift. To ensure precise application, sound stewardship and economical herbicide use, ensure all equipment is properly calibrated.

It's important to note that all three of these application methods are recommended for brush no taller than 10 feet with stem diameters of 3 inches or less. For enhanced levels of efficacy, Garlon® 4 Ultra herbicide is recommended as it features a patented nonpetroleum-based, plant-derived seed oil solvent that helps reduce environmental impact. Recognized as the industry

standard for dormant-stem treatments, Garlon 4 Ultra delivers excellent broad-spectrum control of woody plants even after other products call it quits for the season. Like with most herbicides, rates will vary by target vegetation and brush density, so always read and follow product label directions. Once bud bearing occurs in the spring, applicators can employ methods of control normally used during each foliar season.

To learn more about effective application methods and products enhancing their efficacy, visit VegetationMgmt.com.

A group of seven workers in safety gear (hard hats, safety glasses, and high-visibility vests) standing in a wooded area. They are holding various tools like chainsaws and axes. The background shows trees with autumn foliage.

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Trees and History

Submitted by Rita McKenzie

What is the Indiana connection with the USS Constitution that fought in the War of 1812 and the Civil War?

During the War of 1812, when the USS Constitution won three battles against British warships, it became the nation's most famous naval vessel. Legend has it that a crew member, watching shot bounce off Constitution's thick oak hull, cried out that her sides were made of iron. Nicknamed "Old Ironsides", she is now the oldest commissioned ship afloat.

Old Ironsides was launched in 1797 and after proudly serving the United States it was designated a museum ship in 1907. It sits in Boston Harbor and is repaired

with the same type of wood with which it was built. This is sourced at the Navy-owned Crane's forest in Indiana, which has nearly 150 GPS-located mature white oaks set aside for future use by the Constitution. Every harvested tree is carefully selected by one of three foresters on station to ensure the 50,000-acre forest preserves its diverse, healthy ecosystem.



See you next issue for more on *Trees and History*.

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Avoid Common Hearing Protection Mistakes and Save Your Hearing

By Salvador Torres, Line Clearance Rep

Noise-Induced Hearing Loss (NIHL) is a progressive, debilitating, and preventable condition. While every effort to protect yourself can be made, here are some common hearing protection mistakes.

Ignoring the Problem

A brother of mine has two children, who I noticed were covering their ears pretty often around loud sounds. He willingly absorbs the full impact of loud noise as he plays loud music in the vehicle with his kids and also frequently works on his house using an assortment of power tools. It was obvious from his children's increased sensitivity (and better hearing) that the short-term pain/damage would have a long-term impact on their hearing. And yet when I shared my observation with him, he ignored the problem.

NIHL damage is cumulative and can be caused by a one-time exposure to an intense "impulse" sound such as an explosion or a loud bang or by continuous exposure to loud sounds over an extended period of time. The noise can be generated from power saws, pneumatic tools, and chains. Of all of the possible hearing protection mistakes, ignoring the situation is the worst.

Performing tree work is difficult enough already without increasing the risk by trying to have a conversation or communicate with a coworker while running loud equipment. When hearing issues are involved, then you must not only repeat yourself but get closer in order for them to hear what you are trying to say to them.

Tolerance

Almost all common power tools produce unsafe noise levels. A decibel meter will reveal how loud a sound is. A dosimeter gives a measure of how much exposure an individual is receiving. A good way to determine if the exposure is too much is to download free apps for Android and IOS. (While these are not calibrated, they do provide a good estimate of the level of noise.)

In an industrial environment, proper calibration and analysis are critical to determining the actual exposure for employees. That entails both using the correct mea-

suring device and understanding the actual exposure while using the equipment. For an example, a measurement next to a diesel engine is much different than the sound inside the operator's cab.

Sound is measured in units called decibels. Sound at or below 70-A weighted decibels (dBA), even after long exposure, are unlikely to cause hearing loss. However, long or repeated exposure to sounds at or above 85 dBA can cause hearing loss. In short, the louder the sound, the less time it takes for NIHL to occur. Remember that according to the National Institute of Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH), the safe exposure threshold for sound is 85 dba for 8 hours. Each three dba increase above that halves the daily exposure limits. Some examples of various decibel ratings are provided below:

- Normal Conversation
60-70 dBA
- Regen on a Bucket Truck
dBA 85 dBA
- Chipper
90-100 dBA

For some equipment at certain levels, no unprotected exposure is safe.

Drowning out Loud Sounds with Louder Sounds

Using loud music to cover up loud sounds is not a solution. This can cause an even bigger problem. Headphones or earbuds have the potential to deliver damaging sounds to your ears. Limiting usage and turning down the volume are two ways to address this issue. If other people can hear your music, you are probably at risk of causing long term damage. If you are around loud noises use hearing protection, not noise, to protect yourself.

The Correct Level of Protection

Being aware of the noise environment is the first step in the important task of choosing what to use for the correct level of protection. Zero protection should never be the first choice. It is flawed thinking to assume that in the short term, when mowing the lawn or using a power tool, protection is not important. Other than in a real emergency, lack of protection should never be a fallback solution. Secondly, some sounds require dual protection. If

you are in an extremely loud environment, it might be important to use both plugs and earmuffs. If dual protection is needed to reach the correct level of protection, then use it.

Third, don't overprotect. If you need to take off your safety equipment to hear other employees, then you are probably using too much protection. Realize, should you need to take off your equipment to hear, you are also less likely to hear safety warnings or other dangers in your environment.

Proper Use and Fit

One of the biggest mistakes is improper equipment use or fit. The proper use of earplugs requires that they securely fit in the ear canal. If the plugs are not properly seated, they may provide almost no protection. When muffs are used, you need to make sure that there is a tight seal around the ear. Glasses and other equipment can cause leaks in the seal. Again, without a proper fit, the hearing protection is significantly compromised.

Replace Worn Equipment

If the muffler on your mower or chainsaw is broken, the level of noise is significantly higher. The mufflers are designed for both proper operation and noise control of this equipment. Replace them when they no longer function properly. Similarly, when your hearing protection is worn out, it is time to replace it with new equipment. Worn out plugs or muffs no longer provide the level of protection you need to safely operate in a loud environment.

Realize Damage is Cumulative

When thinking about hearing protection, it is important to remember that the damage is cumulative. Each damaging exposure slowly reduces the quality of hearing. While hearing aids allow for communication, they do not cover the entire range of sounds you once heard. It is important to protect your hearing and avoid these common hearing protection mistakes. It's never too late to start.



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Demystifying Wood Decay Fungi- Part Two

Andrew Mertz, Utility Representative

This is the second part of a two-part series on wood decay. In the last article, I mentioned that there over 60 wood decay fungi stated by name in the ISA Tree Risk Assessment Manual. However, many of these do not occur in Indiana, or even North America. There are also a few species that were excluded from the list that are common wood decay fungi in Indiana and of significance to arborists.

I went through the entire list noted in the ISA Tree Risk Assessment Manual and by using various web-based databases, was able to whittle down the list to 40 species relevant to arborists working in Indiana. These are included in the accompanying table. Keep in mind that there are many other fungal diseases that impact trees, sometimes fatally. Examples include Verticillium, bur oak blight, and oak wilt. There are fungal diseases, but not wood decay fungi.

The format of the table is similar to Appendix 2 (Common Wood Decay Fungi) of the Tree Risk Assessment Manual, except for the addition of a column that contains host information for each species of fungi. Species in bold are those that, in my opinion, are more important for arborists in Indiana to know how to identify. I recommend starting with these and then becoming familiar with the others on the list. Fungi species in red font were excluded from the ISA list, but are common wood decay fungi in Indiana, *Xylaria polymorpha* in particular.

Many of these species look terribly similar (especially the polypore fungi). The fact that some wood decay fungi only use a genus or specific species for a host can make identification easier. For instance, *Phellinus robineae* will only be found on black locust in Indiana. Also, there are incredibly good photos of each of these fungi on the web, but when in doubt about identification it may be best to send a sample to the Purdue Pest and Diagnostic Lab for identification.

There are very few websites that contain user-friendly information about wood decay fungi and none that I could find that have accurate range maps. MUSH-ROOMEXPERT.COM, created and maintained by Dr. Michael Kuo, is by far the most useful website I found to date.

There is a need for a more concise wood decay database designed for the arborist instead of for those seeking edible or medicinal mushrooms. Ideally, this database would have better regional information about the ranges of these fungi. Stay tuned... there will be a publication from Purdue Extension coming your way!

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Common Wood Decay Fungi in Indiana

Species	Common Name(s)	Sap Rot	Heart Rot	White Rot	Brown Rot	Root/Butt	Root Rot	Trunk	Branches	Cankers	Affected Species of Note
<i>Amillaria sp.</i>	Honey Fungus			X			X		X		<i>Quercus, Platanus, Acer,arya</i>
<i>Biscogniauxia (Hypoxylon) atropunctata</i>	Hypoxylon Canker	X		X			X			X	<i>Quercus, Platanus, Salix, Populus, Acer,arya, Tilia</i>
<i>Bjerkandera adusta</i>	Smoky Bracket	X		X				X		X	Deciduous trees
<i>Cerrena unicolor</i>	Mossy Maze Polypore	X		X				X		X	<i>Acer, Betula</i>
<i>Chondrostereum purpureum</i>	Silver Leaf										<i>Acer, Aesculus, Alnus, Betula, Crataegus, Fagus, Larix, Malus, Ostrya, Picea, Populus, Prunus, Salix, and Sorbus</i>
<i>Climacodon septentrionalis</i>	Northern Tooth Fungus		X	X				X	X		<i>Acer, Fagus</i>
<i>Daedaelopsis Confragosa</i>	Blushing Bracket			X		X					<i>Cornus, Salix, Ulmus</i>
<i>Daedalea quercina</i>	Oak Mazegill		X		X	X		X			<i>Quercus, Fagus</i>
<i>Fistulina hepatica</i>	Beefsteak Fungus		X		X			X			<i>Quercus</i>
<i>Fomes fomentarius</i>	Hoof Fungus	X	X	X				X			<i>Fagus, Betula</i>
<i>Ganoderma applanatum</i>	Artist's Conk		X	X		X		X			Deciduous trees
<i>Globifomes graveolens</i>	Sweet Knot			X							Hardwoods, specifically <i>Quercus</i> and <i>Fagus</i>
<i>Grifola frondosa</i>	Hen of the woods			X		X					Deciduous trees, particularly <i>Quercus</i>
<i>Hericum erinaceus</i>	Lion's Main			X				X			Deciduous trees, particularly <i>Quercus</i>
<i>Inonotus andersonii</i>	Canker Rot	X	X	X				X			<i>Quercus</i>
<i>Inonotus dryadeus</i>	Oak Bracket			X		X					<i>Quercus</i> in the east, <i>Firs</i> in the west
<i>Inonotus dryophilus</i>	None	X	X	X				X			
<i>Inonotus obliquus</i>	Chaga									X	<i>Betula</i>
<i>Irpex lacteus</i>	Milk-white Toothed Polypore			X					X		Dead hardwoods, live <i>Prunus</i>
<i>Kretzschmaria deusta</i>	Brittle Cinder fungus			X		X		X	X		<i>Fagus, Acer, Quercus, Tilia</i>
<i>Laetiporus sulphureus</i>	Chicken of the Woods		X		X			X	X		Quercus, other hardwoods
<i>Lenzites betulina</i>	Birch Mazegill			X							Hardwoods, once associated with <i>Betula</i>
<i>Meripilus sumstinei</i>	Black-Staining Polypore			X		X					Hardwoods. Especially <i>Quercus</i>
<i>Oxyporus latemarginatus</i>	Oxyporus Root Rot			X			X				<i>Platanus, Populus</i>
<i>Oxyporus populinus</i>	Mossy Maple Polypore		X	X				X			<i>Acer, other hardwoods</i>
<i>Perenniporia fraxinophila</i>	NA			X				X			<i>Fraxinus</i>
<i>Phellinus everhartii</i>	NA		X	X				X			<i>Quercus</i>
<i>Phellinus gilvus</i>	Mustard Yellow polypore		X	X				X			Hardwoods
<i>Phellinus igniarius</i>	Willow Bracket Fungus		X	X				X			<i>Salix</i>
<i>Phellinus robineae</i>	Cracked cap polypore		X	X				X	X		Robinia
<i>Phellinus spiculosa</i>	Spiculosa canker		X	X						X	<i>Quercus,arya</i>
<i>Phellinus tremulae</i>	White Trunk Rot		X	X				X			<i>Populus grandidentata</i>
<i>Phytophthora sp.</i>	Phytophthora Root Rot							X	X		Hardwoods and softwoods
<i>Piptoporus betulinus</i>	Birch Bracket Fungus		X		X			X			<i>Betula</i>
<i>Pleurotus ostreatus</i>	Oyster Mushroom			X				X			Deciduous Trees
<i>Polyporus squamosus</i>	Dryad's Saddle		X	X				X			Deciduous Trees, in particular <i>Acer saccharinum</i> and <i>Acer Negundo</i>
<i>Schizophyllum commune</i>	Split Gill fungus	X		X				X		X	Hardwoods
<i>Sparissus crispa</i>	Cauliflower Mushroom				X	X					Hardwoods, especially <i>Quercus</i>
<i>Stereum gausapatum</i>	Bleeding Conk Fungus		X	X				X			<i>Quercus</i>
<i>Xylaria polymorpha</i>	Dead Man's Finger's			X		X					<i>Quercus, Fagus, Acer, other hardwoods</i>



Indiana Arborist Association

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