

CONFERENCE AGENDA AT-A-GLANCE

2026 INDIANA ARBORIST ASSOCIATION
79TH ANNUAL CONFERENCE



Tuesday, January 20, 2026

All sessions are in Waters A/B

Urban Forestry Program

Sponsored by Indiana Department of Natural Resources

7:30 a.m.	Registration Open
8:15 am – 8:45 am	Welcome and Introductions <i>Lindsey Purcell, Director and Rick Carter, President</i>
8:45 am – 9:30 am	Community & Urban Forestry in Indiana - Jacob Roos, IDNR, CUF Program Coordinator IAA Annual Awards Program, Richard Karber, Awards Chairperson
9:30 am – 10:30 am	Nursery Panel Discussion <i>Kyle Daniel Moderator</i>
10:30 am– 11:00 am	Break for Networking
11:00 am– Noon	Soundscapes from Around the World and at Home: Why What We Hear Matters <i>Bryan C Pijanowski, Purdue University</i>
Noon – 1:00 pm	Networking Lunch in the Main Lobby Dining Area
1:00– 2:00 pm	Fruit Tree Pruning <i>Miranda Purcell, Purdue University</i>
2:00 – 3:00 pm	The Economics of Maintaining Cemetery Trees and Landscapes <i>RJ Laverne, Davey Tree Expert Company</i>
3:00 – 3:30 pm	Break for Networking
3:30 pm – 4:30 pm	Beyond the Numbers: Transforming Tree Inventory Data into Results <i>Steve Lane, Response Growth Collective</i>
4:30 pm – 5:00 pm	IAA Business Meeting; open to all members <i>Conner Board Room</i>

WEDNESDAY, January 21

7:00 am – 4:00 pm	Registration Open	
7:00 am – 8:00 am	Breakfast in Main Lobby Dining Area	
8:00 am – 9:00 am	Healthy Soils for Healthy Trees – A Review of Expert Remediation Techniques & Engineering Solutions <i>Michelle Catania, The Morton Arboretum</i>	
9:00 am - 10:00 am	What's Killing Our Trees? <i>Lindsey Purcell, Lp Consulting Group</i>	
10:00 am – 11:00 am	Break with Exhibitors	
11:00 am – 12:00 pm	IDNR Nursery and Compliance Updates* <i>Eric Biddinger, IDNR</i>	
	New President Welcome and Past President Recognition	
12:00 pm – 1:30 pm	Networking Lunch in the Main Lobby Dining Area	
Track Selection	Program Topics Waters A/B	Program Topics Ditslear A/B/C
1:30 pm – 2:30 pm	Factors & Forces: Tree Risk Assessment for Tree Workers <i>RJ Laverne, Davey Tree Expert Company</i>	Cabling and Bracing Trees; How Can We Provide Supplemental Support Systems? <i>Marco Vargas, Bartlett Tree Experts</i>
2:30 pm – 3:00 pm	Break with Exhibitors on Tradeshow Floor	
3:00 pm – 4:00 pm	Beyond the Target: The Science Behind Herbicide Injury and Plant Prognosis* <i>Kyle Daniel, Purdue University</i>	7 Questions to Ask Before Buying Gear <i>Alex Julius, Davey Tree Experts</i>
4:00pm – 5:00 pm	Perception versus Reality: Which Tree Pests Matter? * <i>Joe Boggs, Ohio State University</i>	Chainsaws: The Not So Silent Killer <i>Jamie Chambrelli, SavATree</i>

Wednesday and Thursday will include Climbers Corner flash talks on various topics from special guests.

THURSDAY, January 22

7:30 am – 4:00 pm	Registration Open	
7:00 am – 8:30 am	Breakfast	
<i>Track Selection</i>	Program Topics Waters A/B	Program Topics Ditslear A/B/C
8:00 am – 9:00 am	Branch Pruning Research <i>Kelby Fite, Bartlett Tree Experts</i>	Getting to know all the pretty weeds in the ROW* <i>Andrew Mertz, Duke Energy</i>
9:00 am - 10:00 am	Invasive Pest Management* <i>Joe Boggs, Ohio State University</i>	Team Building and Ethical Practice <i>Matt Hogarth and Lindsey Purcell</i>
10:00 am – 10:30 am	Break with Exhibitors on Tradeshow Floor	
10:30 am – 11:30 am	Urban soil challenges and strategies to remediate* <i>Kelby Fite, Bartlett Tree Experts</i>	Rigging to Compression on Vacation and Why it Matters <i>Wes Tregilgas, Wright Tree Service</i>
11:30 am – 12:00 pm	ISA Update, Randall Miller, ISA Board of Directors Raffle Wrap-Up Waters A/B room	
12:00 pm – 1:30 pm	Networking Lunch in the Main Lobby Dining Area Final Break with Exhibitors	
1:30 – 2:30 pm	This Might Shock You <i>Randy Miller, Eocene</i>	Utility Storm Work – Unloading Wires Under Tension a Teaspoon at a Time <i>Wes Tregilgas, Wright Tree Service</i>
2:30 – 3:30 pm	What Does OISC Do?* <i>Aaron Kreider, OISC</i>	How Efficient is Your Operation? <i>Sarah Cummings, SavATree</i>
Travel safely!	Conference Closed; Thank you for attending!	

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