Hard Core
Arboriculture fundamentals & breakthroughs

Featuring
Don Blair
Arborist, Author, Lecturer

Don Blair has been actively involved in all aspects of commercial tree care, arborist supplies and associations for over 40 years.

A founder of ISA’s ITCC and the Certification program, he was the first arborist to lecture and demonstrate advanced arborist skills throughout the US, Canada, Australia, Germany and the UK. The author of Arborist Equipment and recipient of the Author’s Citation and the first recipient of the Excellence in Practical Arboriculture Award, Blair is among the most honored members in the ISA.

Hands-on Practical Application

Featuring
Dr. John Ball
University of South Dakota
Professor of Forestry

Dr. Ball is a perennial Minnesota arboricultural favorite. He has authored over 120 articles concerning arborist safety, pruning, plant health care and diagnostics to name only a few. Dr. Ball has been around the world speaking about a huge variety of arboricultural related topics. This is his fourth time speaking at a RAW event, we guarantee you will not be disappointed.
In the beginning Man climbed trees and he saw that it was good, but he kept falling out of trees and he saw that that was not so good. Arborists have been trying to keep from falling out of trees for as long as they have had to climb them. The current state of the art in climbing techniques and equipment is at the highest level in history. It hasn’t always been the case as Don Blair clearly demonstrates in this presentation on how far tree climbing and safety have come in the past 130 years. (2 CEUs)

Donald Blair has devoted over 30 years to the study of two arboreal sub-species: Homo sapiens eucalypti and Homo sapiens quercusi. Being able to discern the difference is essential to maintaining the quality, safety and production of any tree care entity. (1 CEU)

Over 30 years ago, the first tree care industry pioneers changed tree rigging techniques forever. In all too many cases accidents and fatalities may be traced directly to a disregard for proven safe work practices or a complete lack of knowledge. John Ball and Don Blair are here as a team to share some actual situations and analyze what was wrong and what techniques and skills may have avoided the accident. Of particular interest is explaining the true purpose behind a 10:1 safety factor, why we adopted the formula, and why too many arborists in the newest generation are getting it completely backwards with fatal results.

Everyone is encouraged to stay for the 4-6 pm social after the workshop to visit with the speakers and network.

$95 for standard registration by Thursday, February 9. Groups of 7 or more receive 15% discount.

Registration includes:
- Full program
- Continental breakfast
- Buffet lunch
- Afternoon refreshments

Register by January 20 to be eligible to win a Stihl 192 Chainsaw. Other great door prizes will be available to all.

Questions should be sent to jryg@rochestermn.gov or call Jacob Ryg at 507-328-2515. Vending information contact Jay Maier at jay@forestandtree.com.

When attending RAW workshops, you’re not only getting innovative information but you’re creating opportunities for future caretakers of urban trees and supporting urban forestry. Funds raised go towards scholarships for arboriculture students and to RNeighborWoods, which empowers and educates the community to grow a sustainable urban forest. www.RNeighbors.org

Join us on the following day, Friday, February 17, for Electrical Hazard Awareness Program (EHAP). This workshop certification helps you fulfill OSHA safety requirements for working near utility lines. www.Rneighbors.org/?p=6393

Save the date for Thursday, June 28, an exciting one-day workshop with Jim Urban.

When one of the most photographed trees in the United States has to be removed without damaging the most famous private residence in the world, failure is not an option. Consulting arborist Donald Blair tells the fascinating story of how a team of arborists and crane rigging experts came together to pre-plan, plan and execute one of the most high-profile removals in the history of arboriculture.

Minnesota Society of Arboriculture (MSA) Social. Stick around and network with other tree care professionals. Drinks and appetizers provided by MSA.