



## BITS & CHIPS

### ISAO Notices

#### Next Ad Deadline DECEMBER 21, 2009

The *Ontario Arborist* is the leading tree care publication in the province. Each issue is distributed to over 650 tree care professionals. We offer a print/web advertising combo for advertisers posting employment listings. Add \$50 to the price of any *Ontario Arborist* ad and display your ad on our popular website for two months. Contact Joy Black at 519-371-6818, [joy@npc-solutions.com](mailto:joy@npc-solutions.com) for details.

Each community presents their judges with a 50-page binder containing documents that relate to everything from littering bylaws to heritage preservation policies to how your waste is disposed of. The resulting document is an all encompassing gauge of your community's health.

The Communities in Bloom program certainly encourages all of the qualities that are found in vibrant, sustainable municipalities. Although Huntsville was not the winner of its population category, our scores in 7 of the 8 categories improved over 2008 results – and improvement is definitely good.

#### Blooming Awards

It was a drizzling Saturday morning October 3 at Canada's Wonderland Theatre. Representatives gathered from municipalities across Canada – and a few from beyond our borders. There were people on hand from as far away as Edogawa City, Japan. Individual municipalities were represented by elected councillors, volunteer committee members and staff persons.

The reason we were all gathered was to learn the results of the annual provincial, national and international competition of

Communities in Bloom. Judging had taken place in July and August. Months of anticipation had heightened the need to know – “Did we win?” and “How did we score?”

I was scheduled to attend in order to learn the results of our community's efforts in my new hometown of Huntsville, Ontario. I was also asked to present the Criteria Award for Urban Forestry on behalf of ISAO.

I have found that when most people learn that you are competing in Communities in Bloom, they assume that it is centred around your community's floral displays only. This year was my first experience taking part in the competition and it consequently was a huge eye opener in terms of all that is involved in both the judging and in the preparation for the judges' arrival.

Each community is scored in eight categories: 1) Tidiness, 2) Environmental Awareness, 3) Community Involvement, 4) Natural and Cultural Heritage Conservation, 5) Trees/ Urban Forest Management, 6) Landscaped Areas, 7) Floral Displays, and 8) Turf and Groundcovers. As you can quickly ascertain from this list, floral displays are but one of eight key criteria!



The Ontario Chapter of ISA is supportive of the concepts of what the Communities in Bloom program recognizes and encourages. We became a financial supporter at the “Two Blooms” level this year.

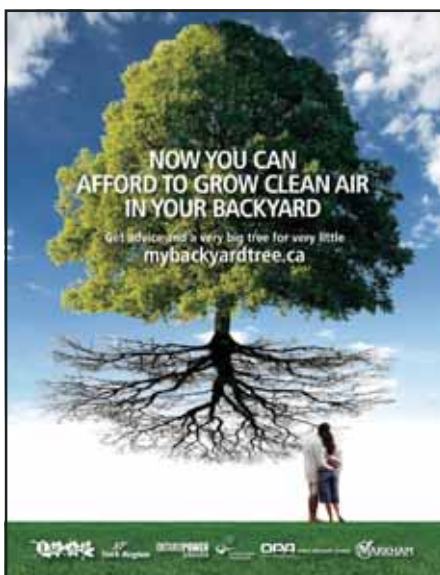
I was honoured to be on hand to present the Ontario Provincial Urban Forestry Award to the City of Cornwall on behalf of ISA Ontario. The slogan for Communities in Bloom is very profound and speaks volumes – *People, Plants and Pride. Growing Together.* It’s hard to argue with that!

Congratulations to all who participated in the program and grew within their own communities. For more information, visit [www.communitiesinbloom.ca](http://www.communitiesinbloom.ca).

— ISAO Board Member Colleen MacDonald

### Have You Seen This Ad?

It’s part of a striking new transit shelter campaign which launched mid-October in York Region. You may have also seen it around Toronto, as its initial run was focused on the City of Toronto starting September 14. The campaign, which runs for four weeks in each area, is designed to increase awareness of the benefits of trees in terms of clean air and conservation. It is sponsored by Ontario Power Generation’s Biodiversity 2009 Program, York Region, Town of Markham, Toronto Hydro and the Ontario Power Authority. LEAF’s Backyard Tree Planting Program is currently available to residents of Toronto, Markham, Vaughan and Richmond Hill. Visit [www.leafontario.org](http://www.leafontario.org) for more information.



## YES, WE LOVE OUR CHAINSAWS!

### Fall Workshop: October 22, Nobleton

ISAO’s Fall Chainsaw Workshop was so successful that we actually had a waiting list! If you missed out, don’t worry, as we plan to host a second event in 2010. Evaluation forms had comments such as:

- very experienced teacher; good approach to subject
- excellent maintenance training; good coverage on safety issues
- good location; great bush lot; good food
- all three assistants were excellent
- good feedback, especially in the practical aspect
- workshop could have been longer

It was great to receive so much positive feedback. If you have an idea for a future workshop, let’s discuss it further as we’re here to serve you – plus there are many steps to putting a successful day together! Send an e-mail to [info@isaontario.com](mailto:info@isaontario.com) or call the office, 1-888-463-2316, and Sue will start the process.

Thanks again to Bob and crew for a great day and the pictures to go with it!

— Linda Hawkins, Education Chair