Tree Tenders Volunteer Training Agenda
June 23rd – June 30th 2020

Virtual Classroom via Zoom Conference
Video links to be sent out prior to each class.

Cost $60 +HST with ISA Citizen Arborist Manual
Paid registrants who cancel at least three weeks (21 days) prior to the event date will receive a 75% refund. Registrants who cancel with less than three weeks’ notice will not receive any refund. Please note that payments cannot be deferred to a future event or transferred to other individuals/organizations.

Course Facilitator Lam Tran, Education Coordinator, LEAF
lam@yourleaf.org | 416-413-9244 x 15

Instructors See last page for instructor biographies.

DAY 1 | TUESDAY JUNE 23 | 6:00PM – 9:00PM

Format: Lecture and group discussion

Instructors:

- Cheryl Post
  *Natural Environment Specialist, Natural Environment & Community Programs, City of Toronto, Urban Forestry*

- Lam Tran
  *Education Coordinator, LEAF*

6:10 – 6:15 Introductions
Goals of Tree Tenders
Participant introductions

6:15 – 6:30 The Urban Forest
What is the Urban Forest?
Benefits of trees
Overview of urban forest issues

6:30 – 7:45 Tree Biology
Biological functions
Tree parts

7:45 – 8:00 BREAK

8:00 – 9:00 Tree growth
Compartmentalization

Readings: Citizen Arborist, Chapter 1

Readings: Citizen Arborist, Chapter 3
**DAY 2 | THURSDAY JUNE 25 | 6:00PM – 9:00PM**

**Format:** Lecture, discussion, small group activity

**Instructors:**
- **Tooba Shakeel**  
  *Sustainable Neighbourhoods Coordinator, Credit Valley Conservation*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Activity</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>6:00 – 7:00</td>
<td><strong>Tree and Shrub Identification</strong></td>
<td>7:50 – 8:10</td>
<td><strong>BREAK</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Basic classifications</td>
<td>8:10 – 9:00</td>
<td><strong>Tree ID Practice</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Identifying trees by features</td>
<td></td>
<td>Dichotomous keys</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Identifying trees by site/habitat</td>
<td></td>
<td>Breakout session</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7:00 – 7:50</td>
<td><strong>Tree ID Workshop</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Simple tips and tricks to identifying</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>common trees</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Readings: Citizen Arborist, Chapter 2*

**DAY 3 | SATURDAY JUNE 27 | 10:00AM – 3:00PM**

**Format:** Lecture, case study, group discussion

**Instructors:**
- **Alex Satel**  
  *Consulting Arborist, Urban Forest Innovations*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Activity</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>10:00 – 11:15</td>
<td><strong>Soils</strong></td>
<td>1:00 – 2:00</td>
<td><strong>Tree Selection, Planting, and Care</strong></td>
<td>2:00 – 2:30</td>
<td><strong>Tree Stress Case Studies</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Physical, biological, and chemical properties</td>
<td></td>
<td>The right tree in the right place</td>
<td></td>
<td>Real-life examples</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Nutrient cycling</td>
<td></td>
<td>Site assessment and preparation</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Soils and micro-organisms</td>
<td></td>
<td>When to plant</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Care of young trees</td>
<td>2:30 – 3:00</td>
<td><strong>Breakout Session</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11:15 – 12:30</td>
<td><strong>Tree Stress and its Management</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td>Tree stress and management</td>
<td></td>
<td>Tree stress and management discussion</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Types of tree stress</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Symptoms and signs of tree decline</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Stress Prevention</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12:30 – 1:00</td>
<td><strong>LUNCH BREAK</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Readings: Citizen Arborist, Chapters 4 & 10  
Readings: Citizen Arborist, Chapters 5, 6, 7 & 12*
Format: Lecture and group discussion

Instructors:

- Mark Ventresca  
  *Supervisor, Urban Forestry, Tree Protection & Plan Review, City of Toronto Parks, Forestry & Recreation*

- Lam Tran  
  *Education Coordinator, LEAF*

6:00 – 6:30 Introduction to tree protection

6:30 – 7:45 Toronto Tree-Related By-Laws and Policies
Role and structure of the Urban Forestry Dept.
Tree by-laws and policies
Public vs. private trees
Dead and hazardous trees
Ravines

7:45 – 8:00 BREAK

8:00 – 8:45 Stewardship in the City
Need for citizen stewards
Actions you can take
Volunteer opportunities
Building an urban forest community

8:45 – 9:00 Conclusion and Evaluation

Readings: *Citizen Arborist, Chapter 11*  
Readings: *Citizen Arborist, Chapters 8 & 9*
INSTRUCTOR BIOGRAPHIES

Lam Tran  
*Education Coordinator, LEAF*

Lam holds a Master of Forest Conservation (MFC) degree from the University of Toronto, where the focus of her capstone was on inequitable tree distribution within cities. She used the [TCHC Planting and Stewardship Initiative](#) as a case study in Toronto to demonstrate the need and opportunity for tree planting in low-income communities. She is passionate about environmental justice, sustainable living, connecting with like-minded individuals, and teaching tree facts.

---

Cheryl Post  
*Natural Environment Specialist, Natural Environment & Community Programs, City of Toronto, Urban Forestry*

Cheryl has an Honours Bachelor of Science in Forest Conservation Science and Environmental Studies from the University of Toronto, where her particular focus was on the urban forest. She has inventoried TDSB trees using the Neighbourwoods Protocol and has taught Tree Tenders for LEAF for the past 8 years. Cheryl has worked for the City of Toronto, Urban Forestry in the Natural Environment and Community Programs unit, for the past 12 years, currently as a Natural Environment Specialist, where she is responsible for capital improvements and restoration plans for natural environment areas within the Don Watershed, including Don Valley Brick Works Park. In addition, she has a strong background engaging the public in maintenance and monitoring activities in City of Toronto Natural Areas.

---

Tooba Shakeel  
*Sustainable Neighbourhoods Coordinator, Credit Valley Conservation*

Tooba is an ISA certified arborist and holds a Master of Science from University of Toronto where she contributed original research to the fields of urban forestry and urban planning. Since 2007, she has led collaborative community programs in the Greater Toronto Area having engaged 15,000+ people primarily from underserved communities, including through her work at LEAF. Currently, she works at Credit Valley Conservation as the Sustainable Neighbourhoods Coordinator. She volunteers as a STEM mentor for young women at [EcoSparks’s Sparking Science Conference](#) and as a director on the governing board for [Oakvillegreen Conservation Association](#).
Alex Satel
*Consulting Arborist, Urban Forest Innovations*

Alex is an ISA Certified Arborist, and holds a Master of Forest Conservation (MFC) degree from the Faculty of Forestry at the University of Toronto. Since joining Urban Forest Innovations in 2009, he has been involved in the preparation of arborist reports, arboricultural specifications and strategic planning documents. He also has experience with tree establishment, maintenance and inventories, as well as silvicultural surveying. Alex has also been involved in the development of strategic urban forest management plans, urban tree canopy studies and Emerald Ash Borer management strategies for a number of communities in Ontario and beyond.

Mark Ventresca
*Supervisor, Urban Forestry, Tree Protection & Plan Review, Toronto
Scarborough District, Parks, Forestry & Recreation*

Mark has a Bachelor of Science in Botany and a Certificate in Arboriculture from the University of Guelph. He is member of the International Society of Arboriculture, an ISA Certified Arborist and has the Tree Risk Assessment Qualification. Over his career he has a worked for numerous employers in a range of positions including; Pest and Disease Specialist with the Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Tree Climber and Crew Leader with private tree companies, Horticulturist with the National Botanic Garden of Wales in the U.K., Arborist at the Dominion Arboretum in Ottawa (Agriculture Canada), and for the last 17 years the City of Toronto.

At the City, Mark started out with Forestry Operations crews working on Street and Park trees, then for 4 years reviewed Development Applications (part of the planning process) and other permits in an effort to reduce the impact of the construction and infill on our Urban Forest. For the last 13 years he has been a Supervisor of Tree Protection and Plan Review responsible for the reviewing internal and external plans for their impact on Street, Park and Private Trees.

---

This project was funded (in part) by Ontario Power Generation.

---

LEAF 601 Christie St., Suite 253 Toronto, Ontario, M6G 4C7
416 413 9244 | yourleaf.org