

*For Immediate Release*

## North American Tree Climbers Compete in Savannah

CHAMPAIGN, IL (February 18, 2011) - Forsythe Park, in Savannah, Georgia is the site for the Husqvarna North American Tree Climbing Championships. The competition will be held on February 19 and 20. The best professional tree climbers from the United States and Canada will be showcasing their skill and agility at maneuvering in the trees.

Preliminary events for The North American Tree Climbing Championship (NATCC) presented by Husqvarna will begin on Saturday, February 19th at 7:00 am. Events continue on Sunday, February 20th at 7:00 am. The finals known as the Masters' Challenge will begin at 12 noon Sunday following the preliminary rounds. This unique event is held in conjunction with the North American Tree Conference and Trade Show at the Savannah International Trade & Convention Center.

The tree climbing competition follows the rules established by the International Society of Arboriculture for International (ISA) for the Tree Climbing Championship. Events simulate working conditions of arborists in the field. Male and female competitors perform five different events during the preliminary round. Each event tests a competitor's ability to professionally, and safely maneuver in a tree while performing work-related tree-care tasks in a timely manner.

Competing will be 69 men and women from the United States and Canada. Many are current champions of regional competitions held by chapters of the ISA. The winners of the Masters' Challenge (one male and one female) of the NATCC will earn the honor of competing at the International Tree Climbing Championships (ITCC) held by the International Society of Arboriculture on July 23 and 24 in Sydney, Australia.

Showcasing the highest level of professional skills and safety, the events provide a competitive learning environment for those working in the industry. "Tree climbing competitions are an opportunity for arborists from around the world to learn new techniques from one another and to see the use of new and different equipment," says ISA Executive Director Jim Skiera. "Competitive tree climbing also introduces the public to the skills professional tree climbing arborists must use for safe, professional tree work."

Numerous sponsors including Husqvarna and SherrillTree help provide safety equipment for the event, as well as prizes and awards for event winners and the champions.

For a complete schedule of events and to learn more about the North American Tree Climbing Championships visit [www.northamericantcc.com](http://www.northamericantcc.com).

### *About ISA*

The International Society of Arboriculture (ISA), headquartered in Champaign, Ill., is a nonprofit organization supporting tree care research and education around the world. To promote the importance of arboriculture, ISA manages the consumer education web site, [www.treesaregood.org](http://www.treesaregood.org), which fulfills the association's mission to help educate the public about the importance and value of proper tree care. Also, as part of ISA's dedication to the care and preservation of shade and ornamental trees, it offers the only internationally-recognized certification program in the industry. For more information on ISA and Certified Arborists, visit [www.isa-arbor.com](http://www.isa-arbor.com)



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