

For Immediate Release

Arbor Day Followed by Tree Climbing Competition

CHAMPAIGN, IL (March 4, 2013) – Branch Brook Park in Newark, NJ is the site for the 2013 North American Tree Climbing Championships (NATCC). The competition will be held on April 27 and 28. The best professional tree climbers from the United States and Canada will be showcasing their skill and agility at maneuvering in the trees. The event is free and open to the public.

Preliminary events for the NATCC presented by Husqvarna will begin on Saturday, April 27th at 7:00 am. The finals known as the Masters' Challenge will begin at 12 noon Sunday following the continuation of the preliminary rounds. This unique event is part of the International Society of Arboriculture's (ISA) Tree Climbing Championship Series and is hosted by the New Jersey Arborists, a chapter of the ISA.

The NATCC provides a competitive but educational opportunity for working arborists in North America to demonstrate and exchange new climbing techniques, equipment and safe work practices. The competition also provides positive public exposure for the profession, demonstrating how professional arborists properly care for trees.

The competition follows rules established by ISA and includes events that test a competitor's ability to professionally, and safely maneuver in a tree while performing work-related tree-care tasks in a timely manner. Male and female competitors compete in five different timed events during the preliminary round. Those with the highest scores from the preliminary events will compete in the Masters' Challenge. The champions (one male and one female) of the NATCC will earn the honor of competing at the International Tree Climbing Championships (ITCC) of the ISA to be held August 3-4 in Toronto, Ontario, Canada.

The public is encouraged to attend and even come out early on the Friday which is National Arbor Day. They can enjoy Branch Brook Park and get a sneak peak as the events are being set-up.

In addition to the event's presenting sponsor, Husqvarna, the event is supported by the Society of Commercial Arboriculture as the Masters' Challenge sponsor, equipment sponsor SherrillTree, and event sponsor Buckingham Manufacturing, Inc. The sponsor support helps 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 <http://www.itcc-isa.com/events/regional/natcc/natcc.aspx>.

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, 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 isa-arbor.com.



International Society of Arboriculture

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