



FALL SEMINAR: TREES & BEES

Saturday, October 12, 2024
1:00 - 4:00 pm



1:00 pm - Light refreshments

1:15 Main program begins:

- Welcome
 - Andy Smolen, *Sustainability, Forestry, Parkways and Facilities*
Director Village of Franklin Park
- Introductions

We will have a brief Q&A session following each speaker

- 1:30-2 pm *Metropolitan Water Reclamation District*
- 2-2:30 pm Steve Lane, *Illinois Arborist Association*

Steve Lane is an Urban Forestry Consultant and Ecologist who is currently the acting Commercial Director of the IAA. Steve is also the Chairman of the IAA's Advanced Training Qualification Program, and also teaches classes for the program. He has worked in the fields of Urban Forestry Consulting, Commercial Arboriculture, Restoration Ecology, Wetland Permitting, and also performs analysis of Urban Tree populations and Natural Resource systems using GIS. Steve holds a double major in Ecology and Geography from the University of Oregon, and a GIS Certification from Elmhurst College. He is also active in the Illinois Parks and Recreation Association, where he teaches GIS classes for beginners.

- **BREAK 2:30-2:35**



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- **2:35-3:05 Brandie Dunn, Xerces Society Ambassador**

Brandie was honored to become a volunteer Ambassador for Xerces Society in 2022 and join them in their mission to engage and inspire people to establish meaningful connections with invertebrates. With a soft spot for bumble bees, she welcomes any opportunity to share her passion and enthusiasm for pollinators. She is Volunteer Site Steward at a conservation site in McHenry County, hosting monthly ecological restoration days in the community. In addition, she is a Wisconsin & Illinois Master Naturalist continuing to volunteer in many capacities in her community to cultivate partnerships which promote conservation, restoration, education, and connection with the land.

- **3:05-3:30 pm Colette Copic, CRTI/Morton Arboretum**

Colette Copic focuses on helping communities build capacity within their forestry programs through funding opportunities, resources, and training. Copic holds a MS from Loyola University Chicago and is an ISA-certified arborist. Their background includes work in tree protection policy, community organizing, and ecological restoration.

- **3:30-4 pm Connor Shaw, Owner, Possibility Place Nursery**

Connor Shaw founded Possibility Place in 1983. Starting with traditional balled and burlapped growing methods and common landscaping species, as the company grew, he came to the realization that he wanted to do something other than grow the standard plant species. He wanted to grow something unique that contributed to improvement of biodiversity and function in our local ecosystems. He had no idea that his love of native plants was shared by so many people. Connor has a B.S. in Forest Hydrology and a M.S. in Hydrology. During his first 10 years out of graduate school, he wrote environmental reports on zone changes in the Chicago area. Connor has taught numerous classes and seminars on native plants and nursery production, and has written several articles for various publications.

- **4:00 pm Program concludes**