

For More Information

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For Immediate Release

Tree Climbing Competition as part of Columbus Arbor Day Celebration

ATLANTA, GA (JANUARY 6, 2015) –The 17th Annual Georgia Tree Climbing Championships (GTCC) will be held on February 21 and 22 at Coopers Creek Park in Columbus, GA. The best professional tree climbers from the Southeast will compete for a spot at the International Tree Climbing Competition held by the International Society of Arboriculture (ISA) in mid-March. The event is hosted by the Georgia Arborist Association, and is open and free to the public.

The GTCC gives public exposure to the professional arborist as climbers showcase their skill and agility in the treetops, demonstrating how they properly climb trees. It also provides an educational opportunity for working arborists in Georgia to exchange new climbing techniques, equipment, and safe work practices.

Preliminary events for the GTCC will begin on Saturday, February 21st at 7:00 am. The finals, known as the Masters' Challenge, will begin at 3 pm, following the continuation of the preliminary rounds.

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 separately in five different timed events during the preliminary round. Those with the highest scores from the preliminary events will compete in the Masters' Challenge.

Eric Gansauer, GTCC 2015 Chair and Forestry Administrator for the City of Columbus, invites the public to attend and even come out early on Friday, which is Arbor Day in Georgia. They can enjoy Cooper Creek Park and get a sneak peak as the events are being set-up. This year's event will also include a "Fun Climb" where "children" of all ages can safely try rope-and-saddle tree climbing for themselves. A food truck will also be available for food and drink.

In addition to the event's platinum sponsor, Metroquip, the event is supported by Davey Tree, Downey Tree Service, Appleseed, ArborEquity, Sturdevant-Beach, Sherrill Tree, Trees Columbus, and Vermeer Southeast. For a complete schedule of events and to learn more about the North American Tree Climbing Championships visit <http://www.georgiaarborist.org/event-903692>

About GAA

The Georgia Arborist Association (GAA) was established as an organization to bring together tree care professionals and enthusiasts for the betterment and protection of Georgia's trees. The GAA promotes fellowship, education, training and networking among Georgia arborists, while acting as an advocate for issues facing our trees and the arboriculture industry. Safe and proper tree care practices are the cornerstones of the GAA and its activities. For more information on ISA and Certified Arborists, visit [georgiaarborist.org](http://www.georgiaarborist.org).



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