Obtaining Quality Trees: What We Need to Know

Wednesday, May 27, 2015
Merrifield Garden Center Fair Oaks, 12101 Lee Highway, Fairfax, VA 22030
(Please park in signed “More Parking” area to left after entering)

This Roundtable looks at the steps necessary to ensure tree sustainability before the shovel breaks ground at a planting project. First, understanding current practices of the nursery industry is necessary as that 2” caliper oak to be planted most likely started as a small acorn on the other side of the continent with several transplantings. Second, procuring quality trees is greatly dependent on knowing what to require in writing beyond the size and costs of the trees. Third, examining the trees to ensure they meet the written specifications for quality needs to happen before planting. What are the time and money barriers that prevent us from doing all of these steps and what strategies are effective to overcome them?

9:30 – 10:00  Sign-In and Networking

10:00  Welcome – Michael Fahey, Merrifield Plant Specialist & ISA Certified Arborist

10:15- 11:00  From Seed to Whip to Wholesale to Retail Nursery: The Early Years of Trees
Matt Shreckhise, Past President Virginia Nursery & Landscape Association, Danny Shreckhise, Shreckhise Nurseries, Grottoes, VA

11:00 – 12:00  Defining Quality: How to write contract specifications to obtain the best tree specimens for your project  Presenter: Matthew Landes, PLA - Senior Landscape Architect at Wetland Studies and Solutions, Inc Gainesville, VA

12 – 1:00  Lunch and Networking

1:00 – 1:40  Examining trees for your project: What to look for above and below to ensure quality
Jay Banks, Urban Forester, Fairfax County

1:40 – 2:00  Strategies and Discussion

Please register with Trees Virginia at www.treesvirginia.org no later than May 25. The registration fee for everyone is $5.00. If you would like a box lunch provided the total registration fee is $15.00.
Questions?
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Directions: http://www.merrifieldgardencenter.com