

## Save the Dates!

Visit [msa-live.org/events](https://msa-live.org/events) for more details regarding these and other MSA events happening around the state as they become available

March 14 : MSA Social at Shade Tree Short Course, St. Paul

Spring TBD : ISA TRAQ: Qualification & Requalification

May 19-21 : MSA Tree Climbing Championship, Buffalo

Aug/Sept TBD : Climbing Workshop, Minneapolis

Oct 3-6 : ISA TRAQ: Qualification



# Rochester Arborist Workshop

February 23, 2023

Rochester International Event Center

Featuring

Graeme McMahon

Gary Johnson

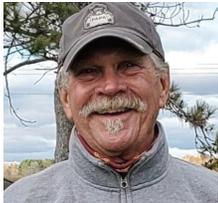


## Featuring:



### Graeme McMahon

During the last forty years Graeme has worked as a climber in the Dandenong Ranges east of Melbourne. In addition he worked as hand faller in the Central Highlands for high production logging. A steady diet of large tree removals created a focus on the need for the pursuit of excellence in regard to practical skills and problem solving. Despite the mechanisation for felling trees in logging operations Graeme is regularly called upon to conduct hand felling when harvesters are unable to operate and for “skyline” operations. As a mature age student Graeme achieved a Bachelor of Education with majors in Recreation and Biomechanics. Combined with his experience in removing large trees, the understanding of effective outdoor classrooms and an ability to discuss balance and objects in motion make Graeme ideal to present on a range of topics to the tree industry.



### Gary Johnson

Gary spent 30 years with the University of Minnesota as Professor of Urban and Community Forestry, was a licensed, practicing and then consulting arborist in Illinois and New Hampshire for 20 years, was a seasonal worker at three tree nurseries for 10 years, and was superintendent of grounds at Illinois Wesleyan University. His research and publishing has largely focused on tree stress physiology due to growing/planting practices, construction and storm damage to trees.



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### Exhibitors

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Trenchers Plus  
Tri-State Bobcat

8:00 : Welcome

8:15 : Safety Management Systems

(McMahon)

Regulations are becoming increasingly present in our industry, and we can either get on board, or get left behind. Exposure to litigation is a consequence of not having all your ducks in a row when it comes to documenting your safety training. This talk is about the good, the bad, and the ugly on how to organize and document your safety program.

9:25 : Why Do Trees Fail in Loading Events (Wind, Snow, Ice)?

(Johnson)

Like everything else in life, It's more complicated than just one reason. We will turn to the data collected over the past 30 years to identify the most common failures, what are the most common reasons why only a relatively small number of trees actually fail in loading events (other than tornadoes and other catastrophic events), and what we as arborist can do to minimize those failures.

10:45 : Training Young Trees To Become Productive (Green) Citizens

(Johnson)

Really, there isn't one single way to prune all trees! Some trees grow to be giants, some barely make it to 20 feet tall. Some are on boulevards, others are windbreak trees, others are lawn specimens or productive fruit trees. But there are some basic steps that help reduce the number of loading event failures due to poor tree architecture and still have good-looking, functional trees. We will also discuss some of the “architecturally interesting” pruning methods: espalier, pollarding, and pleaching.

11:45 : Lunch and Door Prizes

12:30 : Work Flow and Work Systems

(McMahon)

The adage “slow is smooth, and smooth is fast” really applies to arboriculture. This talk will review decision-making in arboriculture work sites and will provide practical skills and techniques for running an efficient tree work site.

1:30 : What's Planting Got To Do With It?

(Johnson)

Planting trees seems like it should be a relatively simple thing to do, and it is if some basic steps are followed. This will be another session filled with years of data that outline what those basic steps are, and what happens if they are not followed. Spoiler alert: it is closely tied to tree failures, and not necessarily during loading events.

3:00 : Planning for a Difficult Tree Removal

(McMahon)

Sometimes it is great to hear stories of big jobs. This talk will be about the planning and execution of a difficult tree removal. It involves reviewing the risk management plan, the set-up, preparation of the tree and the flow of work through the entire job.

4:00-6:00 : Social and Climbers Corner

(Grebe & Friends)

Breaks with vendors will happen between sessions throughout the day.  
ISA CEUs and MN Tree Inspector Recertification available